

3

Immediately after the surrender, the Indians were placed between the Post and the steamboat landing and there remained secure in Major Brotherton's charge until a few months after, when they were transferred to Standing Rock Agency.

On the evening of my arrival at Ft. Yates I made the acquaintance of several officers at the club room, among whom was Capt. McDougal of the 7th Cavalry, who was with Major Benteen at the time of the Custer massacre, and who, with his commanding officer, attacked the Indians so savagely that Sitting Bull was compelled to retreat. I also met Lieutenant Brennen, of the Seventeenth Infantry, also Captain Greene, Captain Howes, Colonel Stewart and others. Announcing to them the object of my visit they volunteered their services to make my trip a successful one.

On the following morning I was introduced to Mrs. McLoughlin, wife of Major McLoughlin the Indian agent. This excellent lady is official interpreter for the government, and her influence with the Indians at the post is almost equal to that of Sitting Bull himself. Her services to me were invaluable, of which I shall speak hereafter.

Shortly before noon a government team was placed at my disposal, with a driver, and accompanied by Captain McDougal and Lieut. Brennen, I drove down to Sitting Bull's camp, one mile south of the Fort. Upon reaching the teepees we learned of a funeral which was then taking place, the body being that of Sitting Bull's nephew, ⁵⁷⁸ ~~574~~ sixteen years old, who had died the day previous of lung trouble contracted while he was attending school in the southern part of the territory. This opportunity I could not forego, so at my solicitation we drove over the hills two miles or more, and came upon the funeral procession, if such it can be called, just as the body was being deposited. It is the custom of the Sioux to hang their dead up on the branches of trees, when in a wooded country, but when their camp is on the prairie they erect scaffolds about ten feet in height, upon the top