

Buffalo Society. From the birds he would get singing. He was a great singer. The old-timers say he likes to sing a good deal, sometimes making his own songs. He would imitate the songs of the birds. He also imitated meadowlarks, called the Sioux bird. He was said to understand what the meadowlarks say. He was particularly fond of the yellow-hammer. Every warrior has a certain charm (^{wotawe} wotie?) they call it.

It may be a bird or an animal. If it is a bird it may be the feather or whole bird. The charm is passed upon by medicine man and so long as this bird is respected so long the holder could have nothing but good luck, but if while this charm is in their possession they are reckless and don't do right the holder would be punished and the charm would cease to have any effect. They say SB wore shed buffalo hair. Not certain. They wear this if on the verge of an attack by the enemy. Generally on their head. Sometimes around their neck.

One Elk had an idea he had a Sioux section or allotment, including place where SB was living. But 40 acres of place where SB used to live was taken out for a park. He was paid for this, but it still makes him angry and he doesn't like to talk about SB.

49 The parents of a warrior who has returned may put a feather on him. After they learn that the young man was wounded then they give a feast and invite all the prominent warriors. They all understand why they are invited and one is chosen to place a feather on the young man's head. They have talks and songs in his honor. It may be very elaborate, before the whole band or may be before the whole tribe or a number of bands.

The shield should have some drawing on it. It may be the picture of a bird or some figure that the giver may choose to put on it. Then through the power of that object on the shield he has to go forward and face the enemy with the shield. At the same time he should have his charm in mind all the time. The making of a shield is something on the order of making a buckskin shirt. Certain medicine men who claim power through the medicine were the only ones who had a right to suggest the kind of figure to place on there. Then they got certain ones to make the drawing. If a man was wounded he didn't blame the charm. If he had done his part in the