FRANK NORTH — A LEADER OF MEN   (L.H.N.)

Maj. Frank North was not only one of the greatest scouts that the West ever saw; but he was a leader of men, and any one of our Pawnees would have died for him at any time.   I always had great admiration for him, not because he was my elder brother, but because he stood out as a leader, no matter what crowd he was in.   In the army of course he expected to be obeyed; but the Pawnees always obeyed him through confidence and love — not fear.

I never knew any man so universally liked as he was; Frank was a sentimentalist, and remained to the end of his life a great deal of a boy.   He always owned a good horse or team, and in the winter would go out with his sleigh and gather in the boys and girls with their hand sleds; sometimes he would have eight or ten hitched on behind.   The Major would haul them up and down the street, laughing and shouting as loud as the best of them, which of course made him a great favorite with all the young people.

In 1878 he and I were stopping at the old Sherman House, Chicago.   We got up early and came down into the lobby; Frank was suffering considerably from asthma, and it was hard for him to talk.   Going out to the door for some fresh air, a bootblack came down the street and said, "Mister, let me shine your shoes?"   Frank began to make signs to the bootblack, who dropped his box and came back at the Major with deaf-and-dumb signs of his own.   Frank motioned the boy to shine his shoes, and he started on one of them.

Another bootblack came along and said, "Mister, let me shine the other shoe?"   The first boy replied, "Oh, go 'way — this feller is deaf-and-dumb!"   When the shining was done, Frank North took a handful of change from his pocket and motioned for the boy to take his pay; this the bootblack did, and as he turned to walk away, a man from North Platte, Nebraska, came down the street, and said, "Hello, Major, when did you get in?"   Frank answered "Last night."   The bootblack dropped his box, stared at the Major for a minute, then picked up the box, said "I'll be d — — ," and went along