

seized Sitting Bull. They were on their way back to Standing Rock when a son of the famous chief urged his comrades to recapture the old man. The women and children were left in the bushes, and then, with yells, the hostiles charged upon the police, firing as they came. A hand-to-hand struggle ensued, during which Sitting Bull, who was not shackled, gave his orders in a loud voice.

For several minutes the firing was heavy and deadly. In the furious fusillade Sitting Bull fell out of his saddle, pierced by a bullet, but it is not known whether it was fired by the charging party or by one of the police. The son of Sitting Bull was slain almost at the first volley of the police. The hostiles fired with great accuracy, and slowly drove the police from the field. If the cavalry had not come at this time it is probable that the force would have been annihilated. The soldiers were quick to enter into action. A skirmish line was thrown out and then, kneeling and firing as they advanced, the troops, with the machine guns playing over their heads, poured a withering fire into the savages. Sitting Bull's body, which had been abandoned by the police, was secured, as well as that of his son, and taken to Standing Rock. After the fight was over the followers of the dead chief struck out for the Bad Lands.

CHICAGO, Dec. 15.—At 9 o'clock tonight Assistant Adjutant-General Corbin of General Miles' staff received an official dispatch from St. Paul saying that Sitting Bull, five of Sitting Bull's men and seven of the Indian police were killed in a fight today following an attempt by the police to arrest Sitting Bull.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15.—Indian Commissioner Morgan this evening received from Indian Agent McLaughlin the following dispatch: "The Indian police arrested Sitting Bull at his camp, fifty miles northwest of the agency, this morning at daylight. His followers attempted to rescue him and a fight commenced. Four policemen were killed and three wounded. Eight Indians were killed, including Sitting Bull and his son, Crowfoot, and seven others were wounded. The police were surrounded for some time, but maintained their ground until reinforced by United States troops, who now have possession of Sitting Bull's camp, with all the women, children and property. Sitting Bull's followers, probably one hundred men, deserted their families and fled west up the Grand River. The police behaved nobly, and great credit is due them. Particulars by mail."

Commissioner Morgan showed this telegram to the President late this evening. The President said he had regarded Sitting Bull as a great disturbing element in the tribes, and now that he was out of the way, hoped a settlement of the difficulties could be made without further bloodshed.

General Schofield this afternoon received two telegrams from General Ruger, commanding the Depart-

ment at Dakota, in one of which he says he hoped to get in all the Indians who turned back from the Bad Lands. Two Strike's party is trying to induce them to come along with them. He says the Indians are moving slowly on account of their poor stock. The other telegram includes a dispatch received yesterday from the commanding officer at Oelrichs, Dakota, saying interpreters just in from White river report fifty lodges in the Bad Lands trying to work their way to the Cheyenne river Agency. General Ruger adds that necessary steps will be taken to intercept them if possible.

The Associated Press report was communicated to General Schofield and Secretary of War Proctor, and was the first information they had about the battle in which Sitting Bull was killed. General Schofield was disinclined to discuss the matter. He indulged in the hope expressed by others, that it would hasten a settlement of the trouble. He thought it would make a more definite line between the friendly Indians and those inclined to be hostile. Secretary Proctor said he did not think the killing would prove of any bad effect on friendly Indians. They had not been kindly disposed toward Sitting Bull and had no love for him.

CHICAGO, Dec. 15.—Gen. Brooke, in charge of the troops at Pine Ridge, telegraphed the situation to Assistant Adjutant-General Corbin at army headquarters tonight, as follows:

"All the Indians who can be brought in are now here or near, leaving about 200 bucks in the Bad Lands, who refuse to listen to any one or any thing. Against these I will send a sufficient force to capture or fight them. All has been done that can be done. The Indians now out have a great many stolen horses and cattle with them. I hope to be able to end this matter now."

The following official telegram was also received:

ST. PAUL, Dec. 13.

To Colonel Corbin, Assistant Adjutant-General, Chicago:

Sitting Bull was arrested this morning at daylight by the Indian police. Friends attempted his rescue and a fight ensued. Sitting Bull, his son, Blackbird, Catch Bear and four others were killed, also seven Indian police. Captain Feschet arrived just in time with his two troops, Hotchkiss and Gatling guns, and secured the body of Sitting Bull.

COMMANDING GENERAL MILES.

ST. PAUL, Dec. 15.—A dispatch to the *Pioneer Press* from Dickinson, N. D., about today's fight, says it is estimated there are 150 warriors in the band which fled up Grand River after the killing of Sitting Bull. Several troops of cavalry are after them in different directions, and it is expected they will be quickly headed off. A general outbreak on the Sioux reservation is not feared, and these disaffected bands which are now giving trouble will soon be placed where they will cease to be cause for alarm for the settlers. The Sioux reservation is surrounded by troops thoroughly equipped for a winter campaign.

It is expected before another sun has set that Sitting Bull's celebrated chorus of dancers will be good Indians or prisoners.

CHICAGO, Dec. 15.—The story of the last visit paid by a white man to Sitting Bull's camp prior to the tragic events of today is told in a report received this afternoon by Assistant Adjutant General Corbin. The narrative throws a flood of light on the old chief's wily character and strongly depicts the circumstances existing in the isolated camp. The document is addressed to Commissioner of Indian Affairs Morgan, by United States Indian Agent McLaughlin, of Standing Rock agency, and is in part as follows:

Learning that a ghost dance was in progress in Sitting Bull's camp and that a large number of Indians of the Grand river settlement were participating, McLaughlin concluded to take them by surprise. Sunday morning he left for that settlement, accompanied by Louis Primeau, and got there unexpectedly and found the ghost dance at its height. A majority of the boys and girls participating were, until a few weeks ago, pupils of the Indian schools at the Grand river settlements.

McLaughlin did not attempt to stop the dance but remained over night and next day had a long talk with Sitting Bull and a number of his followers. He spoke very plainly to them, pointing out what had been done by the Government for the Sioux people and how this faction, by their present conduct, were

#### ABUSING THE CONFIDENCE

that had been reposed in them by the Government in its magnanimity in granting them full amnesty for all past offenses when from destitution, and imminent starvation, they were compelled to surrender as prisoners of war, and dwell at length upon what has been done by the Government for their own industrial advancement and assured them of what this absurd craze would lead to if these demoralizing dances and disregard of department orders were not soon discontinued.

Sitting Bull, while very obstinate and at first inclined to assume the role of "Big Chief," finally admitted the truth of McLaughlin's reasoning. He had a proposition to make, which, if the Indian agent would agree to, and would carry out would allay all further excitement among the Sioux over the ghost dance. Sitting Bull stated his proposition, which was that McLaughlin should accompany him on a journey to trace from this agency to each of the other tribes of Indians through which the story of the Indian Messiah has been brought, and when he reached the last tribe, or where it originated, if they could not produce the man who started the story and did not find the new Messiah as described upon earth, together with the dead Indians returning to re-inhabitate this country, he would return convinced that they (the Indians) had been imposed upon,