

# Once their home;: Or, Our legacy from the Dahkotahs; historical, biographical, and incidental, from far-off days, down to the present

Frances Chamberlain Holley

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This historic book may have numerous typos and missing text. Purchasers can download a free scanned copy of the original book (without typos) from the publisher. Not indexed. Not illustrated. 1890. Excerpt: ... CHAPTER IV. CHARLES F. PICOTTE, THE GREAT PACIFICATOR AND LEADER OF THE YANKTON-SIOUX. In the contents of this chapter will be found records calculated to awaken special interest, on the part of the reader, in those that participated in the exciting events, prominent among whom, is Mr. Charles Picotte, an intelligent Yankton "half-breed," and educated gentleman. To him the United States Government owes a great debt of gratitude for service rendered, such as no other person could have rendered, nor had the power to do. Mr. Picotte was born at the mouth of the Big Cheyenne river in 1830. He was the son of Mr. Henore Picotte, of St. Louis, for years an active member of the American Fur Company, and a member of the aristocratic "Picotte family," but his mother was a full-blooded Yankton-Sioux. When the lad reached the age of eight years, Mr. Picotte wished him placed in school. And accordingly Father De Smet, who was then a much revered worker among the bands along the Missouri river, took the boy to St. Louis, and there placed him in school. He remained until 1854, when he returned to his people or peoples; for he labored equally among those of both his father and mother. But let us see what Mr. Picotte was engaged in, immediately prior to the commencing of work which has distinguished him. A Reservation between the Menominies had been alloted to the half-breeds of the Omaha, Otoes, Sacs, Iowas, Yankton-Sioux and Poncas, the latter a tribe of Omahas. And an agent had been sent out to transact the business. who in the opinion of Charles Picotte, was a genuine swindler. Being himself eligible to a share of the land, he naturally took some interest in how it was being disposed of. And on learning the true state of affairs, he says: "I went out to chastise Com....



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