

too much like a desertion, and they returned that afternoon.

By that time it was learned that the Winnebagoes, finding that the captives had escaped beyond recovery, made no attempt to retake them, but devoted their energies to securing The Serpent, who had played them one of the most audacious tricks ever known. They would have given a dozen warriors for him.

But they never laid hands on the daring warrior. He remained in the settlement for some weeks, but he was so discontented that he finally bade the pioneers good-by, assuring the Moravian that he would strive for the rest of his life to be as good a follower of the Great Spirit as Deerfoot had been. Then he left, but instead of going east or north, he faced the setting sun.

No one in the settlement ever saw him again, so that his final fate could only be conjectured. The general belief was that he affiliated with some of the tribes in the far West, where his prowess and skill as a warrior must have made him welcome.