



THIS BROCHURE IS FOR
PRESENTATION TO

THE
NORTH AMERICAN
INDIAN



THE
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INDIAN

Written, Illustrated and Published by
EDWARD S. CURTIS

Edited by
FREDERICK WEBB HODGE

Foreword by
THEODORE ROOSEVELT

Field research conducted under the Patronage of
J. PIERPONT MORGAN

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The North American Indian



THE most gigantic undertaking in the making of books since the King James Edition of the Bible is what the bibliophile of the future will know and cherish as "The North American Indian," a splendid edition de luxe limited to five hundred sets.

The author of this stupendous work is Edward S. Curtis, whose work as an "Indianologist" and artistic photo-historian of a vanishing race is unique in ethnology. This research is being pursued under the patronage and support of the late J. Pierpont Morgan. Mr. Curtis is giving the result of a lifetime of study and labor to it.

This enterprise differs so largely from anything that before has been undertaken in the publishing world that Theodore Roosevelt did not hesitate to write the Foreword and to manifest his keen interest in appreciation of the importance of the work.

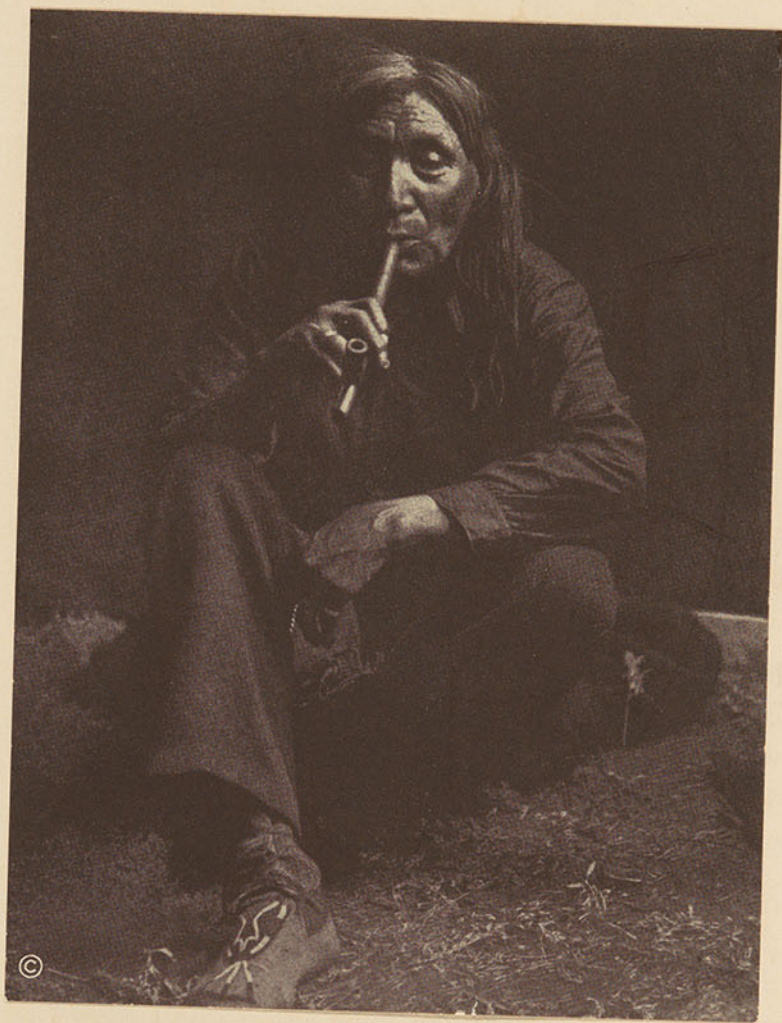
The Indian, in his primitive setting, is on the point of passing away. His life has been lived under conditions through which our own race passed so many ages ago that scarcely a vestige of their memory remains. It would be a veritable calamity if a vivid and truthful record of these conditions were not kept.

In Mr. Curtis we have both an artist and a trained observer, whose pictures are pictures, not merely photographs; whose work has far more than mere accuracy, because it is truthful.

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CROW EAGLE—PIEGAN

All scientific students are to be congratulated because Mr. Curtis is putting his work in permanent form, as our generation offers the last chance for doing this. It is probably safe to say that no one knows more about the real Indian than Mr. Curtis, for he has eaten and lived and slept with him, and as a result has succeeded in presenting, by pen and picture, an authentic and lasting record of the primitive life of the North American Indian.

Mr. Curtis does not see or think photographically; hence the story of Indian life is not told in microscopic detail, but rather is presented as a broad and luminous picture. And while his observations among these bronzed people have given no shallow insight into their life and thought, neither the pictures nor the descriptive text will be found lacking in general interest.

The author is aided by Frederick Webb Hodge, formerly Ethnologist-in-charge of the Bureau of American Ethnology, editor of the *American Anthropologist*, and now a member of the staff of the Museum of the American Indian, Heye Foundation. Mr. Hodge is the editor of the work.

It is a kind of solemn justice to a dying race thus to make known to future ages what manner of men and women were these whom we have displaced and despoiled.

My dear Mr. Curtis:

I regard the work you have done as one of the most valuable works any American could now do. You are making a record of the lives of the Indians of our country, which in another decade cannot be made at all, and which it would be the greatest misfortune, from the standpoint alike of the ethnologist and historian, to leave unmade. You have begun just in time, for these people are at this very moment rapidly losing the distinctive traits and customs which they have slowly developed through the ages.

The Indian as an Indian is on the point of perishing . . . You are doing a service which is much as if you were able suddenly to reproduce in their minute details the lives of the men who lived in Europe in the unpolished stone period. The publication of the proposed volumes and 'folios, dealing with every phase of Indian life among all tribes yet in a primitive condition, would be a monument to American constructive scholarship and research of a value unparalleled.

Wishing you all success, I am

Sincerely yours,

THEODORE ROOSEVELT

I want to say a word or two in commendation of your interesting and valuable work on the North American Indian. . . . I regard it highly for its effective illustrations and its wealth of information concerning the home life, traditions, mythology, customs and language, arts and beliefs of this picturesque people. The work is admirable also in the typographical excellence of the text, the quality of the paper, and the very handsome and tasteful outer apparel which the volumes wear. I have greatly enjoyed looking the volumes over and am very glad to have them on my library shelves.

HENRY E. HUNTINGTON

THE NORTH AMERICAN INDIAN cannot be compared with any publishing venture in the annals of American bookmaking, or indeed in those of any other nation . . . Had he [Mr. Curtis] put off the task even for a few years he would have been too late to record many of the tribal customs and religious observances that form the subjects of some of the most interesting photographs that he has secured . . . Not only are his photographs superior to any previous attempt to picture life, but the accompanying text is illuminating and helpful as an interpretation of the Indian character.

Review of Reviews

The finish, style and perfection of these volumes far surpass anything we have ever seen in this library. These books are of such immense value and unique character that they will not be placed on the shelves of the library in the ordinary way, but students and others can, of course, have access to them on application being made. The volumes are bound in the finest brown levant morocco, and printed on the best hand-made paper. We cannot too fully appreciate Mr. Morgan's generosity in giving these books to the Guildhall. They are among the finest specimens of the printer's art in the world.

BERNARD KETTLE, *Librarian,*
Guildhall Library, London

. . . Your technical skill combined with the scientific knowledge of Dr. Hodge, is an indication of the artistic merit and ethnological value of this monographic production.

H. C. BUMPUS, (*then Director*)
American Museum of
Natural History

Your idea is a grand one—the preservation for the far future of an adequate record of the physical types of one of the four races of men, a race fast losing its typical characters and soon destined to pass completely away. The only means of preservation available is by publication in permanent coloring materials and on paper of the very best quality. The ordinary book of today will last but a few generations. This publication should last a thousand years . . .

WILLIAM H. HOLMES, (*then Chief*)

*Bureau of American Ethnology
Smithsonian Institution*

No matter how alien a race, there always seems to be one person whose vocation it is to give to the world the underlying motives that govern it. Mr. Curtis is the interpreter of the Indian par excellence . . .

Baltimore Evening Sun

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