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By the nineteenth century, the fur trade had declined and the Potawatomi became increasingly dependent of manufactured goods: many went deep into debt to local traders. Seeking income to support their families, the Indians began selling tribal lands. Clifton writes that between 1789 and 1867 the Potawatomi negotiated nearly sixty treaties, parting with a large percentage of their former territory. The General Allotment (Dawes) Act of 1887 nearly completed the process. Today, groups of Potawatomi cling to small holdings in Oklahoma, Kansas, Wisconsin, Michigan, and various locations in Canada.

Although dispossessed of much of their land, Potawatomi culture is still vibrant. The Drum religion, introduced in the late nineteenth century, revitalized the tribal culture and gave many Potawatomi hope, even in times of severe crisis. Clifton points out that the Drum religion serves to reinforce Potawatomi culture even today; four times a year the faithful gather to renew tribal customs and ways.

The Potawatomi provides clear descriptions of tribal customs, clan networks, and other Indian culture traits; the author also presents an adequate sketch of Potawatomi history. The numerous black-and-white and color illustrations are excellent. Young adult readers, however, might misunderstand the author's application of such words as myth and magic to refer to Indian religious beliefs. Clifton's use of the terms marginals and *Métis* (the French word for half-breed) to refer to those of mixed Indian and white heritage also seems inappropriate to this reviewer. In general, however, the book stands as a fairly good addition to the series on Indians of North America.

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General George Wright: Guardian of the Pacific Coast. By Carl P. Schlicke. Norman and London: University of Oklahoma Press, 1988. 418 pages. \$29.95 Cloth.

General George Wright, a career officer of forty-three years of service in the United States Army, had a long and varied military career. Wright's tours of duty during those four decades, beginning in 1822 after his graduation from the United States

Military Academy at West Point at the age of eighteen to his untimely death at sea in 1865, are examined by Carl P. Schlicke, a retired surgeon and Clinical Professor Emeritus of Surgery at the University of Washington.

Wright is best known in western history for his involvement in the Indian wars of 1856–1858 in the Pacific Northwest. Schlicke's coverage of the 1858 campaign in eastern Washington Territory demonstrates how Wright thoroughly planned and executed operations against the Spokane, Coeur d'Alene, and Palouse Indians. It was a harsh campaign that Wright conducted and won, resulting in sixteen Indians hanged as "war criminals," a large Indian horse herd killed, and hostages taken. Wright's actions were considered appropriate by his superiors. In fact, some complained he had been too lenient towards the Indians.

What is not so well known, however, are Wright's views regarding Indians. He believed that Indians were mistreated by whites and were usually forced into acts of aggression. He proposed that the only way Indians could avoid extinction was by being separated from whites and being protected by the War Department on remote reservations where Indians would not be exposed to white vices. Wright criticized the way the Department of Interior managed Indian affairs through the Indian Bureau and believed the War Department could do a better job of running the Indian Bureau. He also locked horns on several occasions with Washington Territorial Governor Isaac I. Stevens, who negotiated a number of treaties with the Indians and condemned frequently the way the army responded to Indian problems.

Wright's other assignments before his involvement in the Indian wars in the Pacific Northwest in 1856–1858 included gathering information on the Pawnees in 1829, recruiting duty in the East, leading scouting expeditions against the Seminoles in Florida in 1840 and 1841, and fighting and being wounded in the Mexican War. These assignments and several others Wright had prior to the Civil War are generally covered very well by Schlicke, who emphasizes how Wright successfully performed his duties and received breveted promotions (honorary ones based on recognition of bravery and distinction) and regular army promotions. During the Civil War, Wright was a regular army colonel, commanding the vast Department of the Pacific, which included all the territory west of the Rockies from the Canadian and Mexican borders.

The Civil War years were not pleasant ones for Wright. He resented being away from the major actions in the East and being bypassed for promotion. Seventeen of his former junior officers passed Wright on the promotion ladder. Finally in December 1864, Wright was appointed a breveted brigadier general, which was some consolation but not the regular army promotion to general that he coveted. Again, Wright performed his duties admirably, preventing Confederates from reaching the coast, controlling secessionists, dealing with foreign threats and Indian issues, and maintaining the flow of supplies and gold eastward. On July 30, 1865, Wright died at sea when the vessel taking him to his new assignment as commander of the Department of the Columbia struck an uncharted rock and sunk.

Schlicke's study falls short of being in the same category as other books done on military officers such as Paul Hutton's book on Phil Sheridan, Joseph Porter's book on John Bourke, and Richard Ellis' book on John Pope. The book contains a good number of illustrations and maps. Schlicke has provided readers with the details of a military officer who, despite being overlooked and underrated, served his country well.

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