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Indian Wars of the Red River Valley. Edited by William Leckie. Sacramento: Sierra Oaks Publishing Company, 1986. 135 pp.

Indian Wars of the Red River Valley is a small collection of papers originally published in a special issue of the *Red River Valley Historical Review* marking the centennial of the last Indian wars on the Southern plains. William Leckie, the author of standard works on the black soldiers in the Indian wars and the military conquest of the Southern plains, serves as editor, contributing an introduction and one of the nine essays. Two others are on the 1868-69 campaign, the other seven are on aspects of the Red River war of 1874-75. The surrender of Quanah Parker's Kwahadi Comanches in May, 1875 after over a year of intensive campaigning by the U.S. Army ended effective Indian resistance and traditional ways of life for the Comanche, Kiowa and Southern Cheyenne. The army had exerted relentless pressure in a total war that involved less bloodshed than destruction of property as camp equipment, ponies and food supplies were abandoned or captured. Eventually the Indians' capacity to resist was so reduced the various bands had no choice but to surrender at the agencies and accept a reservation existence. To make certain there would be no further flare-ups, tribal leaders and others were imprisoned in Florida far from their people, an experiment that had the side effect of inspiring Captain Richard Pratt's Indian boarding school at Carlisle, Pennsylvania.

Leckie's collection is directed at students of military history rather than Indian historians. Individual essays examine the work of various commanders in the field, and are only passingly interested in the Indian cultures involved. What we have here are command decisions, interchanges among officers, marches made and results obtained. Some of the essays work well, some seem perfunctory. Joseph G. Dawson, III, on the "The Alpha-Omega Man: General Phil Sheridan" and Joseph A. Stout, Jr., on "Davidson's Campaign" are thin; Charles W. Harris's summation, "The Red River War of 1874-75: The End of an Era on the Great Plains," is portentous. William Leckie's essay on "Buell's Campaign" highlights Colonel George Buell's neglected contribution to the total military victory in 1875, while Paul H. Carlson's "William R. Shafter, Black Troops, and the Finale to the Red River War" details the intensive, exhaustive campaigning that swept the traditional Indian strongholds clear of resistance.

Both emphasize the strategy of hot pursuit that characterized the war. No area was free from military incursion; no safe refuge remained. The papers by Michael Tate on "Indian Scouting Detachments in the Red River War, 1874-1875" and Arrell M. Gibson on "The St. Augustine Prisoners" do get at issues of concern to Indian historians. Gibson's discussion of the prisoners at Fort Marion covers familiar ground. It is more focussed on the army's decision in imprisoning them and subsequent pressures within the command structure to return them to their homes than on the Indians themselves. Tate's paper is useful. It discusses the service of the Delaware scouts in the campaign, showing them to be shrewd negotiators and good fighters. Tate provides balance in assessing the government's later neglect of their service, and that of the Tonkawas, Seminole-Negroes, and others, by establishing that the white scouts in the same campaign fared little better. At the end of his essay he calls for a comparative treatment of the role of Indian scouts in the frontier wars, a call since answered by Thomas W. Dunlay's *Wolves for the Blue Soldiers* (1982).

Indeed, a problem with *Indian Wars of the Red River Valley* is that it now seems outdated in some of its specifics and perhaps in its perspective as well. However, two papers that exemplify its predominantly white perspective are among the most revealing for Indian historians: Lonnie White's "The Nineteenth Kansas Cavalry in the Indian Territory, 1868-1879: Eyewitness Accounts of Sheridan's Winter Campaign" and Ernest Wallace's "The Journal of Ranald S. Mackenzie's Messenger to the Kwahadi Comanches." Both offer primary sources for students of white attitudes. The newspaper letters collected by White are notable for their frontier disdain of Indians and a straining after an often crude humorous effect, à la Mark Twain, Bill Nye and Bret Harte. Dr. Jacob J. Sturm's journal of his mission to locate Quanah Parker's Comanches and escort them to Fort Sill has moments of empathy, but shows for the most part a man bent on his task and unwilling to go beyond conventional reflections on what his success will mean for the Indians:

I know these Indians bid adieu to these their old haunts with many regrets. Some offered pretty stern resistance to going in and I can not much blame them for it. . . . But they are learning the ways of their white

brothers and sisters and are fond of dress, feathers, and ribbons, coffee and sugar and they have given up their old haunts, leaving their great vast plains to go down to live in the lower ground and learn the ways virtues and vices of their white brothers. (P. 99.)

Indian Wars of the Red River Valley has useful maps, but the illustrations are dimly reproduced and some of the choices curious. Charles M. Russell's *Joy of Life* is the final picture in the book. What is it supposed to represent? The old-time life of the Indians with an Indian man and two children sitting outside a tipi? Or is the editor aware of what is going on behind that tipi flap? Patrons of the Great Falls bar where Russell's painting used to hang could lift that flap and see a cowboy taking his pleasure with an Indian woman. Given what happened to the tribes once they surrendered, perhaps this is the right image on which to conclude a history of the Red River wars after all.

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Indian Reservations: A State and Federal Handbook. Compiled by The Confederation of American Indians. Jefferson, North Carolina: McFarland & Company, 1986. 329 pp. \$45.00 Cloth

Occasionally a book is published which has a title that suggests it contains all the information you want or need to know about a subject. *Indian Reservations: A State and Federal Handbook* is such a title. A glance at the pages shows that this handbook contains only thumbnail sketches of reservations and federal trust lands. A closer look indicates that the book is organized by states listed alphabetically from Alaska to Wyoming. Reservations under each state are also entered alphabetically by name.

Each entry is about a page long and contains a paragraph on the following topics, though a few short discussions of some reservations omit some headings: "Land Status," information primarily on the area of the reservation or trust area; "History," a very short account which may be repeated verbatim for the individual divisions of such tribes as the Apache, Navajo, or Sioux; "Culture," a statement describing lifestyle during pre-contact