

The Plains Indian Wars: Indian War of 1864, War-Path & Bivouac, Ab-Sa-Ra-Ka Or Wyoming Opened, & Northwest Indian Fights & Fighters' (4 Volumes In 1) (Interactive Table of Contents & Illustrations)

Eguene F. Ware, John F. Finerty, Henry B. Carrington, Cyrus T. Brady

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Book I, "The Indian War of 1864" by Eugene F. Ware is an eyewitness account of his duty during the Indian Wars in which he portrays the harrowing life of the US cavalry on the frontier during the American Civil War. The Indians used the strife, with the encouragement of the Confederacy, to try to stop white settlement on their ancestral hunting grounds. In 1864, the Indian could still hold his own militarily; the repeating rifle, which gave the decisive edge to the white man, would not become common until 1870 & military supply was confined to ox-drawn wagons, as the Transcontinental Railroad would not be completed until 1869. His account of this struggle, the Indian way of life, & the overwhelming western emigrant flow illustrates the impeding doom of the various Plains Indian cultures that occurred in the 1870s.

Book II, "War-Path & Bivoauc" by John F. Finerty is an eyewitness account of the major Indian war on the Great Plains in 1876 and a smaller follow-up campaign in 1879 against Sitting Bull, the last Sioux holdout.

John E. Finerty, a reporter for the Chicago Times, was assigned by his paper to accompany the expedition to force the remaining Plains Indians onto reservations. It began in 1876, under the command of General Alfred Terry. It was in this campaign that Custer suffered his famous defeat at the Little Big Horn. Finerty gives a complete picture of campaigning in the 1870s and records the sights & sounds of Indian warfare. He also covers the 1879 campaign to force the surrender of Sitting Bull the last hold out from Custer's defeat.

Finerty's account of the Battle of the Rosebud which preceded the Custer massacre, is a clear picture of the spirit of resistance of the Plains Indians facing the destruction of their traditional way of life. The book is a clear picture of both Indian warfare and U. S. Army policy in this last great Indian war.

Book III, "Ab-Sa-Ra-Ka" by Colonel Henry Carrington was written by Carrington & his wife Margaret, based on her daily journal & his records during his time in the Wyoming Territory. Margaret Carrington recorded her impressions of the scenery and the inhabitants of "Absaraka,"; present-day Wyoming, Montana, and western Dakotas. As the wife of the commander of Fort Phil Kearny, she experienced the sequence of events and heightening of tensions that led to the bloody day in December 1866 when Captain William Fetterman & his entire command were lured into an ambush by famed Sioux Indian chief Red Cloud & wiped out. The "Fetterman Massacre," caused by the captain's own recklessness, put Colonel Carrington's career at stake, in fact destroying it, by the army's subsequent need for a scapegoat.

A close up look at the life of troops, by the officer in charge & his observant wife. It portrays the undaunted spirit of both the settler pioneers and the soldiers in some of the final struggles with the Plains Indians.

Book IV, "Northwest Indian Fights & Fighters: Chief Joseph and the Nez Perce War & Captain Jack and the Modoc War" by Cyrus T. Brady deals with two Indian Wars of the 1870's; the Nez Perce led by Chief Joseph & the Modoc led by "Captain Jack," so named due to his cast off army clothing dress. Brady does an unusual thing in writing this history; he incorporates the writings on each war by actual eyewitness participants. In this way he adds muscle and sinew to the skeleton of the wars' events.

All four books in one inexpensive e-book--containing over 476,000 words & 72 illustrations originally contained in the four volumes--that gives a view of the Great Plains Indian Wars.



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