

page

hair, mourning for their kinsmen. The body of the boy might rest upon a lonely scaffold on the prairie, but his spirit would not be lonely. Killer Dear Mr. Weygold was dead. Little Chief would not go unattended to the Happy Hunting Grounds. Many thanks for your criticism, on my Glacier Park chapter. Although all the details of my description were gathered from accounts of eyewitnesses, I am glad to have them checked over by one who really has an eye for such things, and can remember what he has seen and sketched.

I have completed all my notes except that regarding the "bones", for which Brinton's book will be of use, no doubt. I certainly thank you for sending it. Among these notes I have incorporated one very like that you suggested regarding the snow face. I suppose you will use your own judgement about the face in the illustration.

I do not see why the printer need be the one to insert the initials in the shields of the chapter heads. Why not do it yourself. I am sure your lettering would be an improvement on the usual type. And the type might disfigure the drawing. I would follow the practice of Wm Morris and do it myself. He always prepared his initials himself.

If the changes you are making on account of the shields are making you redraw the heading of chapter IV, it might be just as well to reverse it, as the warriors are parading counter-sunwise. I just noticed this. It does not matter, though. So don't trouble, if you are satisfied with the drawing in other respects. Perhaps you meant it so.

As regards the authority for the Blackfoot Thunder Bird, I have two excellent ones to offer. 1. Grinnell..Lodges of the Blackfoot, American Anthropologist, n.s. October-December 1901- vol 3 # 4 page 657. and Plate xx Fig. 1. There he describes the "Thunder Bird Tipi, and his photograph clearly shows the yellow disk and the blue thunder bird painted on the back of the tent"with a red zig-zag line running upward from its head." I have accordingly changed "beak" to "head" in my text. I recommend this photo to your attention, as the thunder bird depicted there is quite different from that on Ironshirt's shield.

2. McClintock's Old North Trail..appendix..where he gives a brief account of a thunderbird which fell into a Blackfoot camp during a snowstorm long ago. It had feathers all the colors of the rainbow, etc. In my version you will note that the bird is blue, though I make Thunder Maser describe it as having feathers of all colors(meaning in the markings). His account and that at the end of chapter VII may be combined.

Both my story and my design are authentic. I have merely transferred the design on the back of the tipi to the shield.

I prefer to keep the thunder in the form of a bird...for the following reasons...1. to be consistent, and avoid too great strain on the readers credulity. Having been accepted once thus, it might be welcomed more readily so again.

2. because the design and the story are both authentic.

3. because we have no authentic design of a thunder Man.

4. because the thunder bird was typical of many tribes, and this story is planned to exhibit typical Plains Indian life, primarily.