

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

The University of Oklahoma
Norman, Oklahoma

There is, you understand, no immediate hurry about your doing either of these things/. I am quite busy now, and shall be employed for a few weeks to come. But, when you have thought these things over, I would be very glad of your opinion on both.

I am filled with enthusiasm for both projects, and, with my typist back again in September, I think I shall be able to do something worth while on both. If well written and illustrated, both these books, it seems to me, should be steady sellers for years to come/.

The mythical monsters and beings of American Indian mythology have never, to my knowledge, been drawn at all (except in crude picture-writing of the Indians themselves) and therefore, you have a chance to create creatures along the lines vaguely suggested by the Indians which will quite depart from the thread-bare and now conventional monsters of European legend. There is room for all the poetry, symbolism, and romance conceivable. It seems to me that such a book will demand all that any writer and illustrator can give to it. And surely you are the man to do the illustrating, for you are the only artist of Indian subjects known to me who has any real appreciation of the Indians religion and the mind of the Stone Age Man.

Of course, it will require a lot of research on my part, and a very careful and simple style in handling ~~stories~~ stories so as to make them clear and interesting and vivid to the modern man without losing their native beauty or falsifying the native emphasis, but - as I have thought of the book- it is certain that it will receive my best efforts.

But I must not write on forever about this. I am so interested that I am tempted to. For nothing of the kind has been done before, and it is certainly worth doing.

Yours most sincerely

Walter S. Campbell

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