Falch

Indian etiquette

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January 28, 1949

Mr. J. A. Falch
86 First Avenue
New York 3, New York

Dear Mr. Falch:

I was pleased to learn that you have found my books readable and that you are interested in the Indians.

My book WARPATH, the story of Chief White Bull, is now out of print and will probably not be re-issued in the near future. The best way of getting a copy would be to run down to Brentano's Bookstore, 586 Fifth Avenue, and ask them to advertise for a copy. This costs little and though it takes some time, should result in locating one for you.

I think you will find the books of George Bird Grinnell informative on the points you mention, particularly that two-volume books put out by the Yale University Press entitled THE CHEYENNE INDIANS.

Indians are polite, soft-spoken people. Their manners are not quite the same as ours, but they are very considerate of one another. The head of the family normally sleeps and sits opposite the door of the tipi, though he makes way for an honored guest. It is impolite to pass between the fire and another person and apologies are offered when it must be done by mentioning the relation between the parties as brother, uncle, grandfather, as you pass. Men never speak to their mothers-in-law or brothers to their sisters. Most things among the men are governed by military rank--that is to say, by the relative war rating of the individuals.

I regret that I have no copy of WARPATH which I can spare to send you.

Cordially yours,

W. S. CAMPBELL

WSC:m

COPY