

old warriors of just that type. In fact, it is my experience that Plains Indians are a much more gentle and kindly people than we are, more courteous, incredibly generous and hospitable even to complete strangers, and very soft-spoken and obliging. George Bird Grinnel, the great authority on the Cheyennes, says as much. And though you sometimes find hot-tempered Indians such as the Sioux Crow King, I believe most of them are and were naturally of a very kindly and considerate type. No doubt Oakerhater was more so than others, and his conversion may have worked some change in the man. But as Sitting Bull said, "the Indians were better Christians before they ever heard of Christ than the white men are now." Crime, murder, were almost unknown among them, and the stories of torture of captives were nearly all manufactured propoganda. For cruelty, devastation, vice and crime, and the abuse of captives, and the slaughter of women and children, no savages could touch the white men in the World War. I think this is no new thing, either. Anyone who will study the record of Europeans in contact with native peoples anywhere will find that the natives were almost uniformly less savage than the whites. Certainly this is true of the American Indians of the Plains.

Yours very truly,

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