

wilderness." So late at 1775, they were still referring to themselves as the "Real People" or the "Leading People." Now much has been written about the plains Indians and perhaps this is because we contacted the plains Indians largely in the historic period. And much has been written about the Northeastern and the Eastern Indians and the Northern Indians, whom do we give credit for that? James Finmore Cooper, I guess, but very little is known about the Southeastern Indians, the Cherokees in particular, compared to other tribes. There's a great deal of similarity between the Indians. Creeks are best known, the Chickasaws, we think of them as being perhaps less warlike than the others, yet, their history is that of a very warlike people. Seminoles are a branch of the Creeks and the Choctaws. Obviously, the customs in most of these Southeastern Indians were very similar. Traditions were very similar. And the writing in some of the historians and some of the visitors, travelers in the Southeast is such as to make it difficult to distinguish what is Cherokee, what is Creek, what is Choctaw, and Chickasaw, etc.

There's a very interesting article by Oliver LeFarge, he was a noted authority, perhaps the most outstanding authority of the American Indians in the country. In his pictorial history of the American Indian, he writes about what he calls the "Kings of the South." Now I am going to read this because the wording is very choice: "The exploration of North America began with the Spanish expedition along the Gulf Coast from Florida to Texas and inland Northwards into Georgia and Tennessee between 1521 and 1543. Among them was the famous Ponce De Leon, seeking the Fountain of Youth, and De Soto who was described as much given to the sports of slaying Indians. They were rough and high-handed lot and the Indians they met with, were competent to give them in return a discouragingly rough reception. Those Indians knew nothing of war