

**INDIAN SKETCHES: TAKEN  
DURING A U.S. EXPEDITION TO  
MAKE TREATIES WITH THE  
PAWNEE AND OTHER TRIBES OF  
INDIANS IN 1833**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649612680

Indian Sketches: Taken During a U.S. Expedition to Make Treaties with the Pawnee and Other Tribes of Indians in 1833 by John Treat Irving

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.  
Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

[www.triestepublishing.com](http://www.triestepublishing.com)

**JOHN TREAT IRVING**

**INDIAN SKETCHES: TAKEN  
DURING A U.S. EXPEDITION TO  
MAKE TREATIES WITH THE  
PAWNEE AND OTHER TRIBES OF  
INDIANS IN 1833**



# INDIAN SKETCHES:

TAKEN DURING A U. S. EXPEDITION TO MAKE  
TREATIES WITH THE PAWNEE AND OTHER  
TRIBES OF INDIANS IN 1833

BY

JOHN TREAT IRVING  
" "  
AUTHOR OF "THE VAN GELDER PAPERS," ETC.

LIBRARY OF  
CALIFORNIA

NEW YORK AND LONDON  
G. P. PUTNAM'S SONS  
The Knickerbocker Press

1888

## PREFACE.

---

**T**HESE Indian sketches were written more than fifty years ago.

The writer had just returned from a lengthened sojourn in that portion of our country, which was then a region of romance and mystery, inhabited by a hospitable but warlike people.

The great plains were teeming with game and gorgeous with flowers.

As yet civilization had not advanced thus far, and all that the settlers who were scattered along the line of frontier States knew of the vast regions beyond them, was gleaned from the trappers and fur-traders, who occasionally stopped at their log cabins on their way to and from the Rocky Mountains.

The "sketchy" form of this work arises from the fact that several portions of it, at first, appeared in one of the New York newspapers, and as they seemed to excite some interest,

and were copied in different journals throughout the country, the author collected them in a volume, adding enough of narrative to explain the object of the expedition.

They were not intended to form a continuous narrative, but to give an idea of the habits and customs of the Indian tribes whom the author visited, and who, at that time, lived in their pristine simplicity, uncontaminated by the vices of the lawless white men, who usually drift in advance of civilization ; but who had not as yet reached the tribes inhabiting the borders of the Platte River.

## CONTENTS.

---

### INTRODUCTION.

	PAGE
Introductory Account of the Objects of the Expedition, and of the Persons Who Composed It—Written in 1835 . . . . .	I

### CHAPTER I.

Journey to Independence . . . . .	9
-----------------------------------	---

### CHAPTER II.

Rangers—Kansas River—Shawnees—Delawares—Leav- enworth . . . . .	13
--	----

### CHAPTER III.

The Sac Indian . . . . .	26
--------------------------	----

### CHAPTER IV.

A Band of Kansas . . . . .	30
----------------------------	----

### CHAPTER V.

The Forest—The Kickapoos . . . . .	43
------------------------------------	----

### CHAPTER VI.

Departure for the Pawnees—Prairie Life . . . . .	49
--	----

### CHAPTER VII.

The Party of Sac Indians . . . . .	59
------------------------------------	----

### CHAPTER VIII.

The Journey—Saline River . . . . .	67
------------------------------------	----



	PAGE
CHAPTER IX.	
The Otoe Messengers—An Otoe Warrior—The Iotan Chief . . . . .	75
CHAPTER X.	
Iotan and His Brother—Indian Revenge . . . . .	81
CHAPTER XI.	
The Reception—The Town . . . . .	85
CHAPTER XII.	
Indian Habits—The Escape . . . . .	95
CHAPTER XIII.	
The Rival Chiefs—Indian Feasts . . . . .	100
CHAPTER XIV.	
Domestic Grievances . . . . .	106
CHAPTER XV.	
A Man of the World—The Chase . . . . .	112
CHAPTER XVI.	
The Metamorphosis . . . . .	120
CHAPTER XVII.	
Indian Dogs . . . . .	123
CHAPTER XVIII.	
Indian Life . . . . .	127
CHAPTER XIX.	
The Otoe Council . . . . .	134
CHAPTER XX.	
Distribution of Presents . . . . .	139
CHAPTER XXI.	
Departure of Otoes for the Hunting-Grounds, and our Departure for the Pawnee Villages . . . . .	147

*Contents.*

vii

	PAGE
CHAPTER XXII.	
Preparations for Reception—Reception by Grand Pawnees . . . . .	159
CHAPTER XXIII.	
Journey to the Grand Pawnee Village—Old Indian Female—Chief's Lodge—Indian Feasts—Kioway Female . . . . .	168
CHAPTER XXIV.	
Grand Pawnee Village—The Council . . . . .	179
CHAPTER XXV.	
Receiving Horses—Departure from Grand Pawnees—Crossing the Platte—The Iotan's Wife . . . . .	189
CHAPTER XXVI.	
Journey to the Republican Village, and Reception . . . . .	199
CHAPTER XXVII.	
Indian Mischief—Crossing the Loup Fork of the Platte—Entrance in the Republican Village . . . . .	206
CHAPTER XXVIII.	
Indian Females and Feasts . . . . .	212
CHAPTER XXIX.	
The Doctor's Adventure—Indian Dirge . . . . .	221
CHAPTER XXX.	
Leaving Republican Village—Prairie between That and Tappage Village—Reception by Tappages—Departure—White Cranes—Black Chief of the Loups—Reception—Chief's Lodge—Soldier Chief's Feast . . . . .	233
CHAPTER XXXI.	
Exploit of the Black Chief—Alarm in the Town—Departure from Grand Pawnees—Delegation Death Song . . . . .	248

CHAPTER XXXII.	
Storm—Dog Feast . . . . .	PAGE 255
CHAPTER XXXIII.	
Hunting—Prairie Dogs . . . . .	260
CHAPTER XXXIV.	
Deer Hunt—Encampment—Indian Night-Fires—Lost Horses—Doctor's Mule . . . . .	264
CHAPTER XXXV.	
Elk Chase—Wandering from Party—Herd of Elk— Night Camp—Hill of Bones—Raccoon—Indian— Return to Party—Wild Horse . . . . .	272
CHAPTER XXXVI.	
The False Alarm . . . . .	285
CHAPTER XXXVII.	
Elk Chase—Indian Sagacity—Indian Camp . . . . .	290
CHAPTER XXXVIII.	
Separation from Party—Burning Prairie—Wolves— Journey . . . . .	300
CHAPTER XXXIX.	
A Hunted Deer—Deserted Encampment—Distant In- dians—Night Camp—Owls—Burning Sycamore . . . . .	311
CHAPTER XL.	
Wild Turkey—Squirrel—Paroquets—Trail—Kansas In- dian—Night Camp—Deserted House—Kansas Agency—Reaching Leavenworth . . . . .	321
CHAPTER XLI.	
The Relief Party . . . . .	340