

**NORTH AND SOUTH AMERICAN
INDIANS; CATALOGUE:
DESCRIPTIVE AND INSTRUCTIVE
OF INDIAN CARTOONS**

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North and South American Indians; Catalogue: Descriptive and Instructive of Indian Cartoons
by George Catlin

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GEORGE CATLIN

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OF INDIAN CARTOONS**

US 10243

CATALOGUE

DESCRIPTIVE AND INSTRUCTIVE

OF

CATLIN'S

INDIAN CARTOONS.

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PORTRAITS, TYPES, AND CUSTOMS.

600 PAINTINGS IN OIL,

WITH

20,000 FULL LENGTH FIGURES

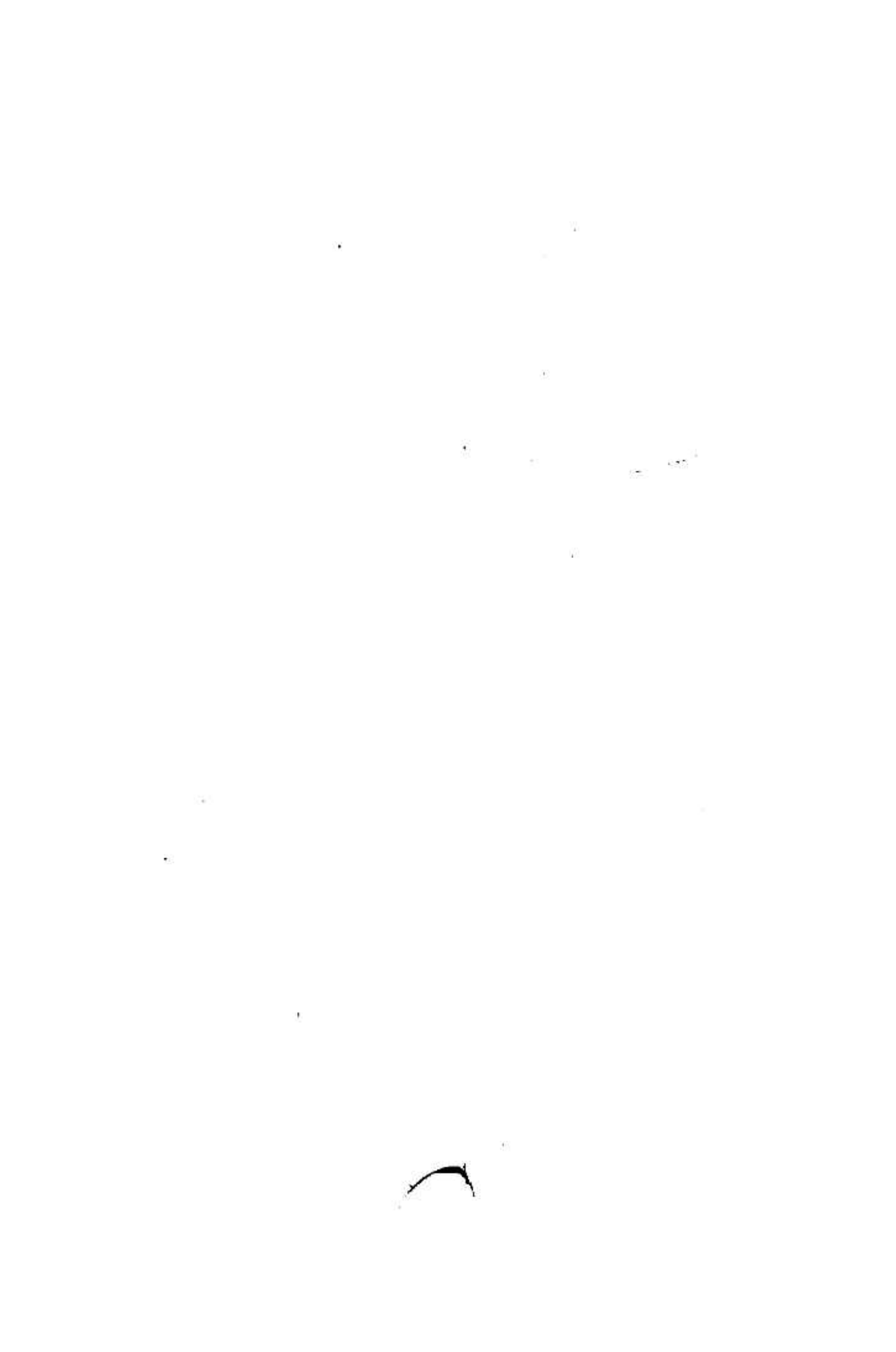
ILLUSTRATING THEIR VARIOUS GAMES, RELIGIOUS CEREMONIES, AND
OTHER CUSTOMS,

AND

27 CANVAS PAINTINGS

OF

LASALLE'S DISCOVERIES.



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of Winston.
(No. 16. 1851)

REMARKS.

The 600 paintings in oil enumerated in this Catalogue, containing 470 full-length portraits of Indians of the two Americas, and more than 20,000 full-length figures illustrating their various games, dances, religious ceremonies, hunting scenes, &c., were made from nature, in the Indians' countries, during the fourteen years which the author spent in the midst of the vast solitudes of those remote regions, contending with fatigues and expenses which the conviction of the approaching extinction of those races alone induced him to encounter.

It has been with that conviction, and without any assistance, Governmental or individual (but, on the contrary, discountenanced by both), that he was the first to commence a pictorial history of these people, and has devoted the best part of a long life in endeavoring to save from oblivion the types and customs of a numerous, and purely American race, decimated and driven from their countries by civilization, and who will soon be known only in history.

By the dates given throughout this catalogue, it will be seen that I was lucky enough to visit these people whilst they were, in their primitive condition—in their primitive costumes, and practicing their primitive modes—that my portraits were made, forty, thirty, and twenty years ago, when the Indians were on their own ground, and before they were put in ruffled shirts and frock coats with velvet collars; which facts should give to the paintings a peculiar interest and value.

It is to be hoped that in this encyclopædia of illustrations, representing each tribe and remnant of tribes still existing in North America, as well as thirty distinct tribes in South America, the visitors will find enough of historical interest excited by a faithful resemblance to the physiognomy and customs of these people, to compensate for what may be deficient in them as works of art.

THE AUTHOR.

NOTE.—A synopsis of the author's wanderings is given in Appendix B.

NOTE.

INDIAN NAMES.

Nothing is more embarrassing for the traveler through the Indian Countries, both of North and South America, than the difficulty of obtaining the real names of Indians, owing chiefly to the singular fact that no Indian in either country will tell his name, but leaves it for occasion or other Indians, to reveal.

The Indians have generally their family names in the idiom of their tribe, and having no Christian names, they often attach to them significations which are wrongly supposed to be their interpretations. A great proportion of Indian names (like Jones, Bailey, Roberts, &c., in English) admit of no translation. In these cases, the interpreters give their family names, joining to them the qualifications for which the individuals are celebrated—as Oon-disch-ta (the Salmon Spearer), Oon-disch-ta (the Tiger Killer); as we would say, Jones (the Shoemaker), Jones (the Butcher), &c.

And yet another difficulty still more embarrassing, that most Indians of celebrity have half a dozen or more of names, which they use according to caprice or circumstances.

THE AUTHOR.

INDIAN PORTRAITS.

Cartoon No. 1.

Kónza.*

- a.— Sho-me-kós-ee (*The Wolf*); head chief of the tribe, dressed in a rich costume of skins; on his Buffalo robe is curiously painted a Buffalo chase, and in his hand he holds a handsome pipe.
- b.— { Wa-hón-ga-shee (*No Fool*).
- c.— { Chesh-oo-hóng-ha (*The Man of Good Sense*).
- d.— { Meach-o-shín-gaw (*The Little White Bear*); three distinguished warriors of the Konza tribe, dressed and painted for war; their heads shaved and ornamented with red crests, made of the hair of deer's tails, dyed red, and horse hair; the uniform mode of the warriors of that tribe.
- e.— Din-dée (——); wife and child of the Chief.

The remnant of a numerous and warlike tribe, decimated by rum and whiskey and the small pox, on the Kansas river west of Missouri. Painted in 1831.

Cart. No. 2.

Iowá.

- a.— Notch-e-ning-a (*No Heart*); Chief of the tribe, called, also, the "White Cloud." A celebrated warrior, carrying his shield and lance; and his necklace made of the claws of the grizzly bear.
- b.— Mu-hú-she-kaw (*The White Cloud*); oldest son of the Chief, and heir apparent.
- c.— Pa-ta-cóo-chee (*The Shooting Cedar*).

A small tribe at present, on the eastern bank of the Missouri, much reduced by small pox and whiskey. 1832.

* The acute is used to denote the accent.