Life Of George Bent Written From His Letters

George Bent argues that the fort grew and prospered because of ritual and that ritual shaped the subsequent history of the region to an astonishing extent. At Bent's Old Fort, rituals of trade, feasting, gaming, and cover several continents.

Ritual Ground

In the late 1860s, between the Civil War and the closing of the American frontier, the horrific 1864 Sand Creek Massacre, rode and killed for revenge with the ferocious Cheyenne Dog Soldiers, and later became a prominent interpreter and negotiator for whites and adviser to tribal leaders.

Life Of George Bent Written From His Letters

Bent's Old Fort was a center of trade and commerce for the Plains Indians, but it was also a place where representatives of the United States Army and the United States government worked to control and exploit the region.

George Bent, the son of William Bent, one of the founders of Bent's Fort on the Arkansas near present La Junta, Colorado, and Owl Woman, a Cheyenne woman, was born in 1843. He was raised as a Cheyenne but educated in white schools, and he fought for the Confederacy in the Civil War, became a Cheyenne warrior and survived the horrific 1864 Sand Creek Massacre. Bent's own life, but of life on the Plains and into the Rockies. It has never before been published. It is not often that an eyewitness of great events in the West tells his own story. But Bent's narrative, accompanied by his letters, provides a unique and intimate perspective on the history of the region.

Limerick, Thomas J. Noel, and many, many more. Book jacket.

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As the Cheyennes began to feel the westward crush of white civilization in the nineteenth century, a great burden fell to the peace chiefs. Reconciliation with the whites was necessary if the Cheyenne Nation was to survive. As Stan Hoig writes, "be a man of peace, to be brave, and to be of generous heart," writes Stan Hoig. "Of these qualities the first was unconditionally the most important, for upon it rested the moral restraint required for the formation of the future."

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The political and social landscape of the Forty-Niners' era was a place of extremes. The California gold rush brought a flood of prospectors to the region, and with them came a host of new opportunities and challenges. Life Of George Bent Written From His Letters

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