The Chiefs Wapahasha: Three Generations of Dakota Leadership, 1740-1876

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with frustrations, and Ruud carefully recounts the history and effects of these obstacles, complementing Tyler’s text well.

Most of the book is an exhaustive catalog of the 81 Bodmer prints from Maximilian’s *Travels*. Detailed annotations by Joslyn Art Museum curator Marsha Gallagher accompany the extensive illustrations, including the original field drawings and various states (versions) of the prints. Bodmer’s copper and steel plates survive today at the Joslyn, and these are meticulously examined, revealing a wealth of information about the many versions and printmaking more generally. Works from private and public collections are considered in addition to the Joslyn’s own images, and Gallagher’s detailed analyses, as well as the complete technical information (such as paper stock, measurements, inscriptions, etc.), will be invaluable to connoisseurs and scholars of print culture. The appendixes offer additional tools: the locations of related Bodmer images, a cross reference to the original atlas, biographies of the engravers, a bibliography of period publications with prints after Bodmer’s work, and a list of original subscribers to Maximilian’s *Travels*.

Of special interest to readers of the *Annals of Iowa* are the several portraits of members of the Sauk and Fox (Meskwaki) tribe, and of course the Missouri River views depicting scenes along the waterway that is the state’s western border. The book lacks an index, and the brilliantly white paper is not as aesthetically appealing as the light cream stock used in the 1984 Joslyn book, but these are minor distractions in a remarkable book. Like its companion volume of a decade ago, *Karl Bodmer’s North American Prints* is a monumental achievement.

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Reviewer John P. Bowes is the Andrew W. Mellon Postdoctoral Fellow in Native American Studies at Dartmouth College. His dissertation was “Opportunity and Adversity: Indians and American Expansion in the 19th-Century Trans-Mississippi West” (UCLA, 2003).

With *The Chiefs Wapahasha*, Mark Diedrich adds to his long list of works on Indians of the western Great Lakes region. In this study he focuses on three successive headmen named Wapahasha within the Lower Dakota bands. Through the experiences of these three Mdewakanton leaders, Diedrich traces the chronological history of the Dakota Indians from the mid-eighteenth to the late nineteenth centuries and explores their changing responses to American expansion in
the region. Both Indian-white and inter-Indian relations receive attention as the author uses critical events such as the Santee Uprising of 1862 to frame and at times to compare the decisions made by each man. For Wapahasha III especially, Diedrich seeks to redeem the reputation of a leader who signed away large tracts of land and struggled to support his people in the aftermath of the 1862 conflict.

This study is written and organized within a strict chronological structure framed primarily by the hereditary ties of the three men. Although this narrative style presents ample information about events, it fails to advance a strong thematic argument. As a result, although those unfamiliar with the history will find much to satisfy their appetite, this book will not appeal to those looking for a more comprehensive analysis of three generations of Mdewakanton leadership.


Reviewer Michael L. Tate is professor of history and Native American studies at the University of Nebraska at Omaha. He is the author of *The Frontier Army in the Settlement of the West* (1999).

Henry H. Sibley was a true "founding father" among the pioneer generation of Minnesota history. He was a successful businessman, territorial representative, first state governor, treaty negotiator, commander of militia forces, author, president of the Minnesota Historical Society, and senior statesman who helped guide his state through the late nineteenth century. Yet, in more recent decades, Sibley's celebrated reputation has come under blistering attack from historians who have questioned his treatment of the Santee Sioux and his role in their forced removal from Minnesota. Rhoda Gilman now challenges both views as too extreme. She portrays Sibley as a man with a "divided heart." On the one hand, he admired Santee culture, "married" into it, and worked to safeguard tribal lands. This proclivity contrasted sharply with his other persona, which championed America's westward movement, financially profited from the destructive tendencies of the fur trade, and led troops against his Indian friends during the Santee Uprising of 1862.

Sibley was born in Detroit in 1811, amid the entrenched French-Canadian and British fur-trading families whose influence pervaded the western Great Lakes region. He not only experienced firsthand the fierce competition among the companies and the importance of direct relations with the Indians, but he also found worthy role models in