
Emphasizing interactions among the Anglican Church, the St. Andrew’s Red River Settlement Parish, and indigenous peoples, Coutts describes the evangelizing influence the Anglican Church exerted in transforming the area from a frontier mission to an Anglican outpost. Attention is also focused upon the relationship between the church and the economic imperatives of the Hudson’s Bay Company.

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Cochran, Bucko, and Brokenleg illustrate the religious career of Nebraskan Harold E. Jones. After serving a variety of Native American missions throughout the Northern Great Plains, Jones became the first Native American Episcopalian bishop in the United States. The biographical treatment of Jones reveals the tensions between Native religions and Christianity and the discrimination Jones experienced and overcame during his religious training.

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Artists such as George Catlin, Kicking Bear, Mary Hallock Foote, and John James Audubon record their impressions of Western landscapes alongside reproductions of their artwork. Culled from diaries and travel journals, the writings provide an additional view of frontier life during the nineteenth and twentieth centuries.

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Using unorthodox transportation on the Missouri River, Brig. Gen. Henry Atkinson and Indian Agent Benjamin O’Fallon attempted to negotiate with Indian tribes in the 1820s in order to preserve American fur trade interests. Wheel boats created a variety of technological and navigational challenges for Atkinson and O’Fallon on their diplomatic adventure. The text also highlights the more mundane aspects of river travel, such as river etiquette. Illustrations by Karl Bodmer and others enliven the text.