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Native American Indians, 1645-1819

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and explain abstractions (digital religion, lived religion) as well as concrete varieties of religious belief and practice (hijab, canon law). More than 120 religious institutions and groups, ranging from the well known (Catholicism, Hinduism) to the more obscure (Caodaism) get individual entries, forming a minencyclopedia of their own. Religions' connection to a range of current social issues (the environment, ethnicity,

international development) are explicated. Posthumous biographies of 23 male "classic theorists" include W.E.B. Du Bois and Ibn-Khaldun. An intriguing article on secularization interrogates the "modern" label of the United States, noting that in a 2016 survey, 42 percent of Americans rejected evolution. The entries on the African diaspora, among many others, usefully suggest future lines of scholarly inquiry. The editors note

that a third volume could be added, and indeed, however wide ranging, the current work does not exhaust the topic. **VERDICT** An impressive scope and depth will make these volumes illuminating the interaction between religion and social structures valuable to students, academics, administrators, counselors, journalists, and other researchers in the field.—**Patricia D. Lothrop, formerly of St. George's Sch., Newport, RI**

Native American Indians, 1645–1819

Readex; Readex.com

■ *By Rob Tench*

CONTENT Native American Indians, 1645–1819, is a comprehensive collection of more than 1,600 publications on the relationship between Native Americans and European settlers on the eastern seaboard of North America during the American Colonial and Early Republic eras, although coverage extends to Indians of Mexico and the Sioux of the American Great Plains. Among the many primary documents are treaties, transcribed letters from Native American leaders, minutes of tribal meetings, histories of numerous tribes, missionary reports, captivity narratives, firsthand accounts of battles, trading records, military rosters, expedition logs and maps, trial records, legislative bills, books on Native American languages and grammar, military rosters, governors' and legislators' reports, ballads, songs, plays, and more.



The great depth, scope, and variety of the documents will please researchers. Content comes from a variety of sources including holdings of the American Antiquarian Society and the Library Company of Philadelphia. Text analysis tools, author biographies, and suggested search paths enhance browsing and discovery.

USABILITY Though the database is simple and user friendly, it's also rich and laden with features. Five tabs are located at the top of the landing page: "home," "advanced search," "text explorer," "other databases," and "share feedback." A basic search box is prominently displayed in the middle of the home page with a notable "go!" button next to it. A "suggested searches" drop-down menu of-

fers eight general subject categories (e.g., treaties, wars and conflicts) and multiple subfields within those topics (under Indian and white relations, for instance, conversions to Christianity, education, and missions).

Advanced search opens a page with more options (limit search by full text, date, citation text, and more); the suggested searches can be found here, too. Three rows of advance searches are available with an option to add more rows. Searches can be sorted by best, newest, or oldest.

Clicking on the text explorer links leads users to a simple three-step outline on using data visual tools. Users can visually analyze documents at a glance to see the most commonly used terms. Though complex, these features yield meaningful data.

Finally, the "other databases" retrieves links to Readex databases to which institutions are subscribing, while "share feedback" offers a survey about the product.

Under "view details," users can find basic info on an entry, such as date, title, author, document type, place of publication, and physical description. Clicking the "view more" adds language, subject headings and notes. A "back to results" link is at the top of entry pages. Researchers can zoom in or out of a document, rotate it, or make the document full screen. They can also cite, email, print, or save entries.

Searches are quick and results are detailed. A basic search for "Seneca" returns 150 entries. Users can sort results, choose the number of records to be displayed on the page (up to 50 titles), and narrow selections by era in American history, U.S. presidential era, decade, and year.

Clicking "suggested searches," then "literature, poetry, and addresses," and selecting "children's and juvenile literature" yields 39 results, including the 1819 children's book *The Robin's Nest, and the Decayed Merchant's Dutiful Daughter*. Choosing "captivity narratives" brings up 178 entries, including the 1786 "Narrative of Mrs. Scott and Capt. Stewart's Captivity."

Navigating within the database is seamless, and the quality of the digital documents is excellent. However, moving from page to page within a document when viewing full screen is cumbersome, as users must click "full screen" each time they pull up a new page.

Pages generally load without a problem, although occasionally there is a slight delay.

PRICING Native American Indians, 1645–1819, is available via a range of purchase models. Fees are based on multiple factors. Please contact sales@readex.com for details.

VERDICT Readex creates outstanding primary historical source databases, and this collection is no exception. The quality and comprehensiveness of its coverage are first-rate, and features and search options are excellent. This is a stellar resource for researchers of Native American and colonial American history as well as for scholars of military history, political science, linguistics, and natural history of the period.

Rob Tench is a Librarian at Old Dominion University Libraries, Norfolk, VA.

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