Luddington Family

Susie Van Kirk

Follow this and additional works at: https://digitalcommons.humboldt.edu/svk
Part of the United States History Commons

Recommended Citation
https://digitalcommons.humboldt.edu/svk/28

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Special Collections at Digital Commons @ Humboldt State University. It has been accepted for inclusion in Susie Van Kirk Papers by an authorized administrator of Digital Commons @ Humboldt State University. For more information, please contact kyle.morgan@humboldt.edu.
Luddington Family citations

Jack Irvine, via email 7/27/14

“Our Own Country” was published as a ‘weekly magazine of fine arts’ beginning with Series 1, no. 1, March 12, 1894 and continued at least up to Series 1, no. 20, July 23, 1894. At least one of the issues is noted to have 16 pages. If we assume all had 16 pages, then p. 127 would be in no. 8, published April 30, 1894. The book, “Our Own Country” was published in 1894 and is what was digitalized by Google. It must have been late in 1894 and no. 20 may have been the last issue published. This would all make sense as the digitalized book has 320 pages (16 pages x 20 issues = 320 pages). It was published again in 1913 as a revised edition. Both of these publications are available on ABE Books for about $150. One of the images in the book, on page 97, identified as a ‘Digger’ Indian was published in Overland Monthly in August, 1893, (attributed to Ericson) which, to me, suggests that many/all of the images may have been available before 1894, and given the delays between writing and publishing, may have been available in 1892. How Cox came about them is not known to me. The fact that so many of them are mistakenly captioned suggests that Cox did not obtain them from the sale at the conclusion of the World’s Fair as I would think that Ericson’s stamp and/or identifying caption or logo would have been present below the image or on the verso of the photo. Peter acknowledges that many of Ericson’s photos were used in a variety of places without credit being given. Copies of images could have been widely circulated and used without credit being given with little recourse by the photographer.


Pg. 88. Chicago World’s Fair opened to public May 1st and closed on Oct. 30, 1893.
Pg. 91. Ericson’s World Fair photographs were purchased by the H. Manz Company of Chicago and published in several versions of a book titled, Our Own Country (1894). A reprint, “revised b William S. Bryan” in 1913, contained 18 photographs taken by Ericson; pages 57, 95, 113, 121, 124-128, 131, 133, 135, 227, 233, 237-238, 241 and 243. Some of them were misidentified as being taken at “Eureka Springs, Arkansas.”


Introduction: “Of the 226 photographic illustrations in the book, Ericson can be credited with having taken at least ninety percent.”


Pg 19. In the same year [1893] 200 of his pictures represented Humboldt County in the 1893 Chicago World’s Fair….[sold off] The prints are believed to have been bought by the J. Marz Company, publishers, of Chicago, who evidently sold them to the Vandawalker Publishing Co. of ST. Louis, publishers of a book, Our Own Country, A Complete Picturesque America by James Cox. This book had “Manz” photographs of many Humboldt County subjects, definitely
taken by Ericson. Too, there are Ericson photos from other parts of the country—such as redwood logging in Arkansas.

Cox, James. *Our Own Country.* Representing our native land and its splendid natural scenery, rivers, lakes, waterfalls, geysers, glaciers, mountains, canons and entrancing landscape, reproduced in a series of five hundred superb original photographs in royal purple colors with graphic historical descriptions and character sketches, constituting a complete historic and geographic picturesque America. Published by Imperial Publishing Co., St. Louis, Missouri, 1894. Digitized by Google; original at University of Minnesota. catalog, hathitrust.org Caption of photo:

“Happy Indian Family” Missionary and civilizing work among the Indians is not always a failure, and we have here a pleasing illustration of the good results which are sometimes attained. Both the man and woman have adopted the clothes of their white relations, and although neither of them has acquired that difficult art of wearing good clothes well, each shows a desire to conform, as far as in them lies to the edicts of Ward McAllister. [Wikipedia. Ward McAllister, self-appointed arbiter of New York society, 1860s-1890s. Said to become a tastemaker among New York society’s “Knickertocracy,” snobbish society’s schoolmaster] The children have before them at least a prospect of growing up as useful citizens, although the baby is being treated to a liberal dose of the peculiar idea of dress which has prevailed for generations. The features of the members of our happy Indian family should be scrutinized, and the effect of civilization and refinement on the younger members used as an argument in refutation of the claim so frequently made that the only way to reform an Indian is to shoot him.

**Online:** Technically, Native Americans received the right to vote in 1870 with passage of 15th amendment. However, it wasn’t until 1924 with passage of Indian Citizenship Act in which Congress granted citizenship to Native Americans that they began exercising their right to vote.