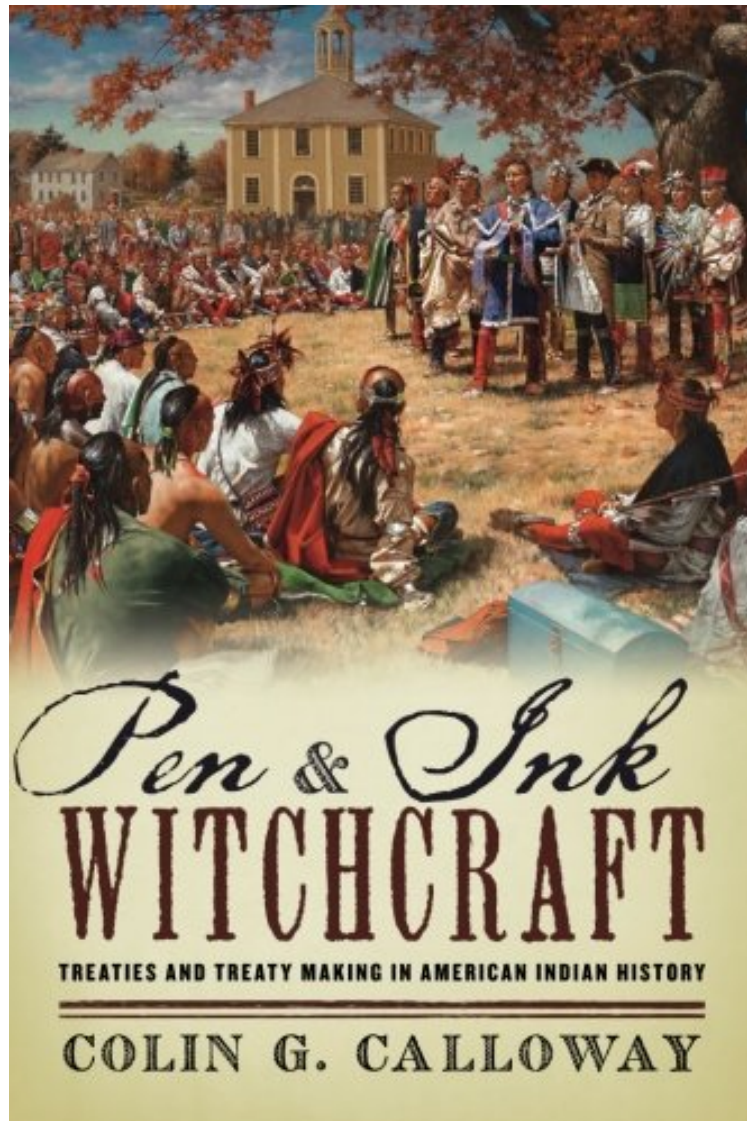


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Pen and Ink Witchcraft: Treaties and Treaty Making in American Indian History

Colin G. Calloway

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Colin G. Calloway : Pen and Ink Witchcraft: Treaties and Treaty Making in American Indian History before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Pen and Ink Witchcraft: Treaties and Treaty Making in American Indian History:

2 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Calloway has done an excellent effort in his research that it enables

the reader ...By Patrick J. Baier
Colin G. Calloway has written so many books relating to the history of the colonies this is not expectation. Mr. Calloway has done an excellent effort in his research that it enables the reader to get the complete picture. the reader will not be disappointed in Mr. Calloway's recent work. A Must read.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Best Book on American Indian Treaties - no longer the "subject nobody knows"By
Along Red River of the NorthIn 1995, Vine Deloria Jr. wrote a book review entitled, The Subject Nobody Knows. He lamented that despite a profusion of books on Native American Indian legal rights, it seems peculiar in the extreme that scholars did not jump at the opportunity to do a book on Indian treaties until the present time. While every treaty has its own complex story to tell, the ones selected by Professor Calloway remind us that each one is notable because even if it was unfair, fraudulent or violated, it created a government-to-government relationship between the United States and an American Indian nation. This is why Native peoples have asserted consistently to this day that their inherent sovereign status and accompanying legal rights have been recognized explicitly by the United States through their treaty relationship. With this book, the history of American Indian treaties should no longer be the subject nobody knows.My only "quibble" with the book is the need for more and better maps. While the use of actual historical maps (e.g., facsimile of a 1768 Fort Stanwix treaty map) may be more "scholarly," they are almost impossible to decipher even when the reader has some general geographic knowledge of the depicted region.

Indian peoples made some four hundred treaties with the United States between the American Revolution and 1871, when Congress prohibited them. They signed nine treaties with the Confederacy, as well as countless others over the centuries with Spain, France, Britain, Mexico, the Republic of Texas, Canada, and even Russia, not to mention individual colonies and states. In retrospect, the treaties seem like well-ordered steps on the path of dispossession and empire. The reality was far more complicated.In *Pen and Ink Witchcraft*, eminent Native American historian Colin G. Calloway narrates the history of diplomacy between North American Indians and their imperial adversaries, particularly the United States. Treaties were cultural encounters and human dramas, each with its cast of characters and conflicting agendas. Many treaties, he notes, involved not land, but trade, friendship, and the resolution of disputes. Far from all being one-sided, they were negotiated on the Indians' cultural and geographical terrain. When the Mohawks welcomed Dutch traders in the early 1600s, they sealed a treaty of friendship with a wampum belt with parallel rows of purple beads, representing the parties traveling side-by-side, as equals, on the same river. But the American republic increasingly turned treaty-making into a tool of encroachment on Indian territory. Calloway traces this process by focusing on the treaties of Fort Stanwix (1768), New Echota (1835), and Medicine Lodge (1867), in addition to such events as the Peace of Montreal in 1701 and the treaties of Fort Laramie (1851 and 1868). His analysis demonstrates that native leaders were hardly dupes. The records of negotiations, he writes, show that "Indians frequently matched their colonizing counterparts in diplomatic savvy and tried, literally, to hold their ground." Each treaty has its own story, Calloway writes, but together they tell a rich and complicated tale of moments in American history when civilizations collided.

"In a comprehensive survey of 'hybrid diplomacy' across a kaleidoscopic diplomatic landscape, Calloway guides his readers through Native negotiations with British, French, Spanish, and American colonial governments. Orators, politicians, interpreters, and scalawags inhabit these lively pages as Calloway illuminates how each side brought its history, ritual, protocols, and expectations to the table. From the 1768 Treaty of Fort Stanwix to musings on the contemporary legal arguments and public opinions that swirl around treaties, *Pen and Ink Witchcraft* is a must-read account by a superbly accomplished historian." --K. Tsianina Lomawaima, author of "To Remain an Indian": Lessons in Democracy from a Century of Native American Education"Colin Calloway has done it again. With expansive coverage and insight, *Pen and Ink Witchcraft* historicizes American Indian treaty-making within the currents of North American imperial history and underscores the centrality of American Indians in the diplomatic history of the United States. A powerful achievement." --Ned Blackhawk, author of *Violence over the Land: Indians and Empires in the Early American West* "Indian treaties were major historical events, and today they are still important sources of legal rights. *Pen and Ink Witchcraft* is a masterful overview of the complex processes by which these treaties were created." --Stuart Banner, author of *How the Indians Lost Their Land: Law and Power on the Frontier*"This extraordinary analysis of Indian treaties and treaty-making reveals the complexity and objectives of the United States government in negotiating nearly 400 ratified agreements. In a book wide in scope--addressing political ceremony, kinship alliances, council meetings, native law, oratorical power, gift-giving diplomacy, and sovereignty--Colin Calloway has produced a masterpiece for Indian treaties to be understood by everyone. This leading scholar of Indian history explains the historical development of Native American legal rights today." --Donald L. Fixico, editor of *Treaties with American Indians: An Encyclopedia of Rights, Conflicts, and Sovereignty*About the AuthorColin G. Calloway is Professor of Native American Studies and John Kimball Jr. Professor of History at Dartmouth College. His books include *One Vast Winter Count: The American West before Lewis and Clark*, for which he won the Merle Curti Award and the Ray Allen Billington Prize, *The Shawnees and the War for America*, *The Scratch of a Pen: 1763 and the Transformation of North America*, and *New Worlds for All*. He recently won the 2011 American Indian

History Lifetime Achievement Award.