

Roosevelt's time in the badlands of Dakota Territory and "Portugee" John Phillips's ride in minus 30-degree temperatures from Fort Kearny to Fort Laramie in December 1866, are well known to fanciers of western lore. Others are not. Dary recounts the James Philly family's overland trail experience with their cat Jip as well as a history of singing cowboys. All in all, this is an entertaining collection readers will enjoy.

American Indian Nonfiction: An Anthology of Writings, 1760s-1930s, edited by Bernd C. Peyer. Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 2007. ix, 401 pp. \$26.95 paper.

Reviewer Lee Schwenger is professor of English at the University of North Carolina Wilmington. His most recent book is *Listening to the Land: Native American Literary Responses to the Landscape* (2008).

In this anthology Bernd Peyer gathers four dozen pieces of nonfiction, spanning almost two centuries, by 36 different American Indian writers (including six women), many of whom will be familiar to students of American Indian literature. One of the strengths of the collection, though, is that there are many more authors whose names are not so well known but whose contribution to American Indian literature is also valuable. Another of the collection's strengths is that a concise bibliography of primary and secondary sources and a brief biography follow the prose selection(s) of each author, making the anthology ideal for scholars and for American Indian literature survey courses.

In an introduction, Peyer contextualizes the writings by providing a geographical-chronological overview of American Indian history, suggesting how the selected writers participated in and responded to that history. He is willing to make a few generalizations, arguing, for example, that although educated in English-speaking missions or schools, most of the authors remained in contact with and committed to their communities, most spoke their native languages, and most were familiar with and wrote about tribal matters. Herein lies what is perhaps most valuable about the collection: The cumulative effect of the essays suggests an American Indian literary tradition in English with a very long and complex history of intercultural awareness and insight wherein these writers address important issues concerning religion, culture, and politics, as well as other Indian and non-Indian relations.

In that the anthology includes writings only through the 1930s, it begs for a second volume.