

Nebraska
State Historical Society
Lincoln

Oct. 30, 1924.

George Bird Grinnell,
238 East 15th st,
New York, N.Y.

Dear Sir:

I have just returned from a trip to the south east corner of the state, and find your letter.

The chain was plowed up in a potato patch on a farm just west of Genoa; it was not far below the surface. My determination is based upon my recollection of like ornaments seen in the National Museum at Washington, and is simply a "spur of the moment" determination of the possible use of it-- I shall take the matter up with the authorities for a final determination -- I certainly will not depend upon my own "impression" for the final decision, and, when time allow will get some real "expert" to tell what it probably is-- then I shall be glad to report to you.

The complete report of my study at Genoa is promised in the next copy of our magazine, and when it comes, will forward you a copy.

Possibly, this chain came here with the Spanish Caravan of 1720. It might, however have come in many other ways either before that date or long after that date, as there was a constant traffic between the Mexican area and the Indians of this region. It can never be "proven" just when or just how it came -- it is "possibly a relic from the Spanish Caravan of 1720"-- this is all that can ever be said.

The exploration of the "Mound house" ruin near Genoa, has more certainty back of it -- just a little reasoning on accepted statements determining this ruin to be the FIRST habitat of the Skidi when they came to this area-- they were "Grass house builders"-- this is a grass house ruin The Skidi came about 1341 (reasoning from accepted data. I found nothing to disprove this theory -- and it may have been much earlier, as a few hundred years do not change human "dust" four feet deep in a grave. The artifacts are Skidi. There are a lot of question to settle yet, but a good start is made. There was certainty in the archeological evidences, if not in the Spanish trinkets.

Yours very truly,

O. E. Blackman

Saint Paul

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(JAN. 1ST 1914)
WICHITA KAN., *June 16-24*

*George Bird Grinnell
New York*

Goodland

Dear Sir

*I am enclosing clippings from North
Champion that might interest you
on the mass of stuff printed in
Nebraska papers after the old scouts
met the Editorial association at Norfolk.
I read that the North Book was to be
published by "Yale University Press".
This in answer to your letter of last
autumn.*

I am still in fading health

Respect yours

F. M. Lockard

A Suit Against Zane Grey

An injunction suit to prevent Zane Grey, author, selling any more copies of his book, "The Thundering Herd" was filed in federal district court Jan 5 by Charles A. Maddux of Los Angeles. The petition also demanded an accounting of profits and alleged infringement of copyright.

Maddux asserts that Grey's book bears a marked resemblance to one entitled "The Border and the Buffalo," written by the late John R. Cook and published in 1907. He declared Cook died intestate in 1917, his widow assigned to Maddux all rights to the book. The petition seeks to restrain Grey from receiving any more cash returns until an accounting is made.

Frank M. Lockard first exposed Zane Grey as a plagiarist in this paper by showing the story of "The Thundering Herd" to be the same incidents recorded in John R. Cook's "The Border and the Buffalo," published by Sol Rees of Jennings—stocks of the books were in Rees' coal shed in Jennings when he died. During Cook's writing he stopped at King's Cottage Hotel (now the Wayside Inn) and Lockard had to furnish the author whiskey to keep him at the story.