

# "HANG THEM ALL"

## George Wright and the Plateau Indian War, 1858

By Donald L. Cutler

Foreword by Laurie Arnold

 UNIVERSITY OF  
OKLAHOMA PRESS

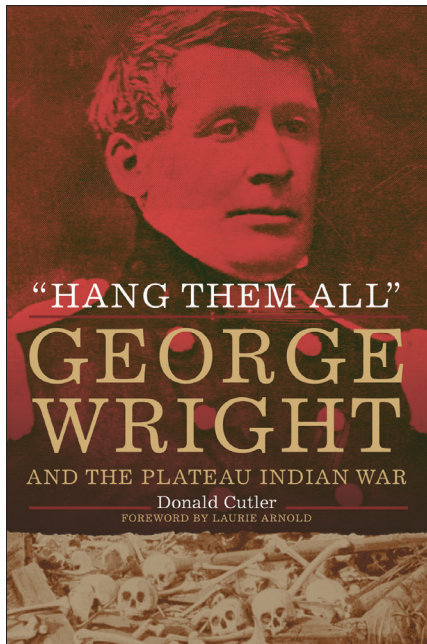
JULY 2016

\$29.95s CLOTH 978-0-8061-5337-7

392 PAGES, 6 X 9

42 B&W ILLUS., 3 MAPS

U.S. HISTORY/MILITARY HISTORY



### *A probing look at Wright's actions and legacy*

Col. George Wright's campaign against the Yakima, Spokane, Coeur d'Alene, Palouse, and other Indian peoples of eastern Washington Territory was intended to punish them for a recent attack on another U.S. Army force. Wright had once appeared to respect the Indians of the Upper Columbia Plateau, but in 1858 he led a brief war noted for its violence, bloodshed, and summary trials and executions. Today, many critics view his actions as war crimes, but among white settlers and politicians of the time, Wright was a patriotic hero who helped open the Inland Northwest to settlement. *"Hang Them All"* offers a comprehensive account of Wright's campaigns and explores the controversy surrounding his legacy.

Over thirty days, Wright's forces defeated a confederation of Plateau warriors in two battles, destroyed their food supplies, slaughtered animals, burned villages, took hostages, and ordered the hanging of sixteen prisoners. Seeking the reasons for Wright's turn toward mercilessness, Cutler asks hard questions: If Wright believed he was *limiting* further bloodshed, why were his executions so gruesomely theatrical and cruel? How did he justify destroying food supplies and villages and killing hundreds of horses? Was Wright more violent than his contemporaries, or did his actions reflect a broader policy of taking Indian lands and destroying Native cultures?

Stripped of most of their territory, the Plateau tribes nonetheless survived and preserved their cultures. With Wright's reputation called into doubt, some northwesterners question whether an army fort and other places in the region should be named for him. Do historically based names honor an undeserving murderer, or prompt a valuable history lesson? In examining contemporary and present-day treatments of Wright and the incident, *"Hang Them All"* adds an important, informed voice to this continuing debate.

Donald L. Cutler, retired from a career in banking and finance, is an independent historian of the Columbia Plateau and Pacific Northwest. Laurie Arnold (Lake Band, Colville Confederated Tribes) is Director of Native American Studies and Assistant Professor of History at Gonzaga University, Spokane, Washington.

### ORDER

"HANG THEM ALL"  
George Wright and the Plateau  
Indian War, 1858  
By Donald L. Cutler  
Foreword by Laurie Arnold

PRICE EACH	QTY	SUBTOTAL
\$29.95 Cloth		

SHIPPING & HANDLING\* \_\_\_\_\_

TAX \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL \_\_\_\_\_

UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA PRESS • 2800 VENTURE DRIVE • NORMAN, OK 73069-8216

OR CALL: (800) 627-7377 OR (405) 325-2000 • FAX: (800) 735-0476 OR (405) 364-5798 • ORDER ONLINE AT OUPRESS.COM

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ENCLOSED IS MY

☐ MONEY ORDER

☐ CHECK (TO OU PRESS)

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE CHARGE MY



CARD NO. \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_

EXPIRATION DATE \_\_\_\_\_

STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

DAYTIME PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_

\*PAYMENT MUST ACCOMPANY ORDERS FROM INDIVIDUALS. FOR DOMESTIC ORDERS, PLEASE ADD \$5.00 USPS SHIPPING FOR THE FIRST BOOK AND \$1.50 FOR EACH ADDITIONAL BOOK. FOR UPS/PRIORITY SHIPPING, ADD \$8.00 FOR THE FIRST BOOK, AND \$2.00 FOR EACH ADDITIONAL BOOK. INTERNATIONAL ORDERS, INCLUDING CANADA, ADD \$15.00 USPS SHIPPING FOR THE FIRST BOOK, AND \$10.00 FOR EACH ADDITIONAL BOOK. RESIDENTS OF OKLAHOMA MUST INCLUDE 8.25% SALES TAX. CANADIAN ORDERS ADD 5% GST. WE ACCEPT CHECKS, MONEY ORDERS, VISA, MASTERCARD, DISCOVER, AND AMERICAN EXPRESS. PRICES AND AVAILABILITY SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE.

THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA IS AN EQUAL-OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER. WWW.OU.EDU/EOE

UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA PRESS OUPRESS.COM

