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The work of the Bureau of American Ethnology is conducted under act of Congress "for continuing ethnologic researches among the American Indians under the direction of the Smithsonian Institution."

Two series of publications have been issued by the Bureau under authority of Congress, viz, annual reports and bulletins. The annual reports were hitherto authorized by concurrent resolution from time to time, and were published for the use of Congress and the Bureau. The present report is published by authority of section 73 of the act of Congress approved January 12, 1895, entitled "An act providing for the public printing and binding and the distribution of public documents." The publication of the series of bulletins was authorized by concurrent resolution first in 1886, and more definitely in 1888, and twenty-four numbers of this series have been issued for the use of Congress and the Bureau. In addition, the Bureau has supervised the publication of a series of quarto volumes bearing the title, "Contributions to North American Ethnology," begun in 1877 by the United States Geographical Survey of the Rocky Mountain Region. This series comprises Volumes I to VII and IX.

The above publications are distributed primarily by Congress, and the portions of the editions printed for the Bureau are used for exchange with libraries and scientific and educational institutions and with special investigators in anthropology who send their own publications regularly to the Bureau.

The exchange list of the Bureau is large, and the product of the exchange forms a valuable ethnologic library independent of the general library of the Smithsonian Institution. This library is in constant use by the Bureau collaborators, as well as by other anthropologists resident in or visiting Washington.

Most of the volumes of the annual reports and all of the volumes of the "Contributions to North American Ethnology" are out of print.

Exchanges and other contributions to the Bureau should be addressed,

*Bureau of American Ethnology,
Washington, D. C.,
U. S. A.*

FIFTEENTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

BUREAU OF ETHNOLOGY

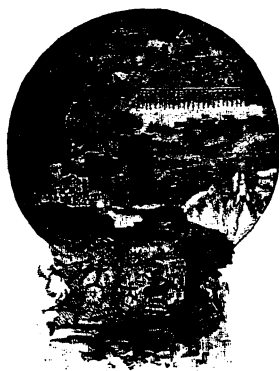
TO THE

SECRETARY OF THE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION

1893-'94

BY

J. W. POWELL
DIRECTOR



WASHINGTON
GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE
1897

LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION, BUREAU OF ETHNOLOGY,
Washington, D. C., July 1, 1894.

SIR: I have the honor to submit my fifteenth annual report as Director of the Bureau of Ethnology.

The first part consists of an explanation of the plan of the Bureau and its operations during the fiscal year 1893-'94; the second part comprises a series of special papers setting forth certain results of the work of the Bureau relating to archeology and the social organization of the American Indians.

I desire to express my thanks for your earnest support and your wise counsel relating to the work under my charge.

I am, with respect, your obedient servant,



Director.

Honorable S. P. LANGLEY,
Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution.



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