

# The Fus Fixico Letters: A Creek Humorist in Early Oklahoma

By Alexander Posey



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At the turn of the century, Muscogee (Creek) journalist, poet, and political humorist Alexander Posey (1873-1908) was widely read in Oklahoma and throughout the nation. His most enduring literary legacy is the persona of Fus Fixico (sometimes translated as "Heartless Bird"), whose "conversations" with other fictional characters brilliantly satirized local and national politics and politicians at the turn of the century, especially the government's Indian policy.

This richly annotated edition features a foreword by A. LaVonne Brown Ruoff, which is a tribute to Carol A. Petty Hunter, long a champion of Posey's writings. Hunter had begun editing this project when her life was cut short in 1987.

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#### The Fus Fixico Letters: A Creek Humorist in Early Oklahoma By Alexander Posey Bibliography

- Rank: #927133 in Books
- Brand: Brand: University of Oklahoma Press
- Published on: 2002-03-15
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 8.50" h x .50" w x 6.00" l, 1.04 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 324 pages

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#### **Editorial Review**

#### From Library Journal

A Creek journalist and poet living and writing in Indian Territory at the turn of the century, Posey wrote these letters under the pseudonym Fus Fixico ("Heartless Bird"); they appeared in the Indian Journal, the newspaper he ran from Eufala, Creek Nation, from 1902 to 1908. Written in Indian-English dialect, the letters captured readers' imagination with their humor and commentary on contemporary events, making Posey "one of the best Indian humorists of all time." An excellent introduction by Littlefield, the author of a recent biography on Posey (Alex Posey: Creek Poet, Journalist, and Humorist, Univ. of Nebraska Pr., 1992), places the letters in context. The editors provide extensive end notes for each of the 73 letters, giving a great deal of useful information about Creek life in Indian Territory at the time of its transition into statehood. An important contribution to the study of Indian literature.

- Mary B. Davis, Huntington Free Lib., Bronx, N.Y.

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About the Author

**Daniel F. Littlefield Jr.,** is the author of numerous books on American Indians, including Alex Posey: Creek Poet, Journalist, and Humorist and Africans and Creeks.

Carol A. Petty Hunter was Professor of English at the University of Oklahoma.

#### **Users Review**

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#### **Shawn Francis:**

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#### **Tommie Payton:**

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#### Sena Meyer:

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