

Francis A. Walker & the Indigenous Peoples of North America

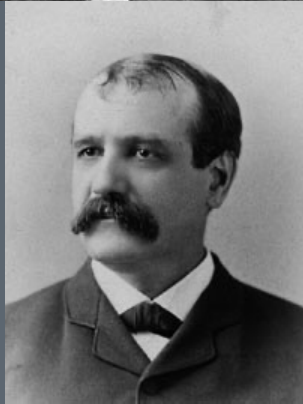
The United States will be judged at the bar of history according to what they shall have done in two respects, by the disposition of negro slavery, and by their treatment of the Indians.

(Walker 1874c, 146)

Ross B. Emmett

ASSSA -- January 7, 2022

Francis A. Walker



- Civil War -- Served on staff of Generals Couch & McClellan
- Chief - Bureau of Statistics (1869-1870)
- Superintendent - US Census (1870)
- **Commissioner, Indian Affairs (1871-1872)**
- ***The Indian Question & Statistical Atlas* (1874)**
- Professor - Sheffield Scientific School, Yale (1872-1881)
- President - MIT (1881-1897)
- First President ASSA (1886-1892)

Walker & OIA

- Cherokee Tobacco Case (1870)
- Superintendent - US Census (1870)
- Commissioner, Indian Affairs (1871)
- Indian Appropriations Act (1871)
- *The Indian Question* (1874)

“Provided, That hereafter no Indian nation or tribe within the territory of the United States shall be acknowledged or recognized as an independent nation, tribe, or power with whom the United States may contract by treaty ...” (*Indian Appropriations Act of Mar. 3, 1871, Ch. 12 1871*)

Walker's OIA Report (1872)

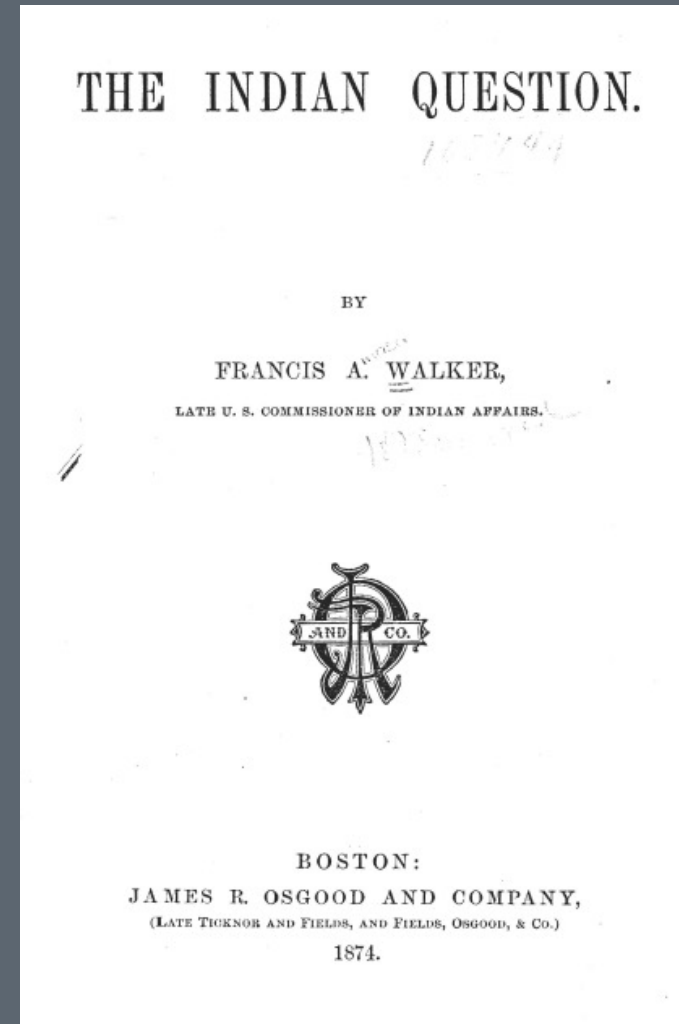
“... thrown together as much information as possible relating to their present condition, habits, and temper, giving ... prominence to ... the practical questions: **What shall be done with the Indian as an obstacle to the progress of settlement and industry?** What shall be done with him as a dependent and pensioner on our civilization, when, and so far as, he ceases to oppose or obstruct the extension of railways and of settlement?”

Three essays

"The Indian Question"
(1873 – *North American Review*)

"Indian Citizenship"
(1874 – *International Review*)

"An Account of the Tribes"
(revised extract from 1872
Census Report)



THE INDIAN QUESTION.

BY

FRANCIS A. WALKER,

LATE U. S. COMMISSIONER OF INDIAN AFFAIRS.



BOSTON:

JAMES R. OSGOOD AND COMPANY,

(LATE TICKNOR AND FIELDS, AND FIELDS, OSGOOD, & Co.)

1874.

Walker's Question: What is necessary to traverse the distance between savagery

...



... and civilization/
citizenship?

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KEY FEATURES OF RESERVATION PLAN

- 1** **Permanent:** "principle of separation and seclusion"
- 2** **Consolidated:** "one or two grand reservations"
- 3** **No Intrusion:** "intrusion of whites upon lands reserved to Indians should be provided against by legislation"
- 4** **No Abandonment:** "more than a 'pass system'"; "arrest and return" procedures should "be fixed and prescribed by law"
- 5** **Reform:** "rigid reformatory control should be exercised by government over the lives and manners of the Indians ... to learn and practice the arts of industry"
- 6** **Compensation:** "liberal and generous" "provision made by government for the partial subsistence of Indian tribes through the long and painful transition from the hunter life to the agricultural state..."
- 7** **Endowment:** "endowments ... should be capitalized and place in trust for their benefit, out of reach of accident or caprice"

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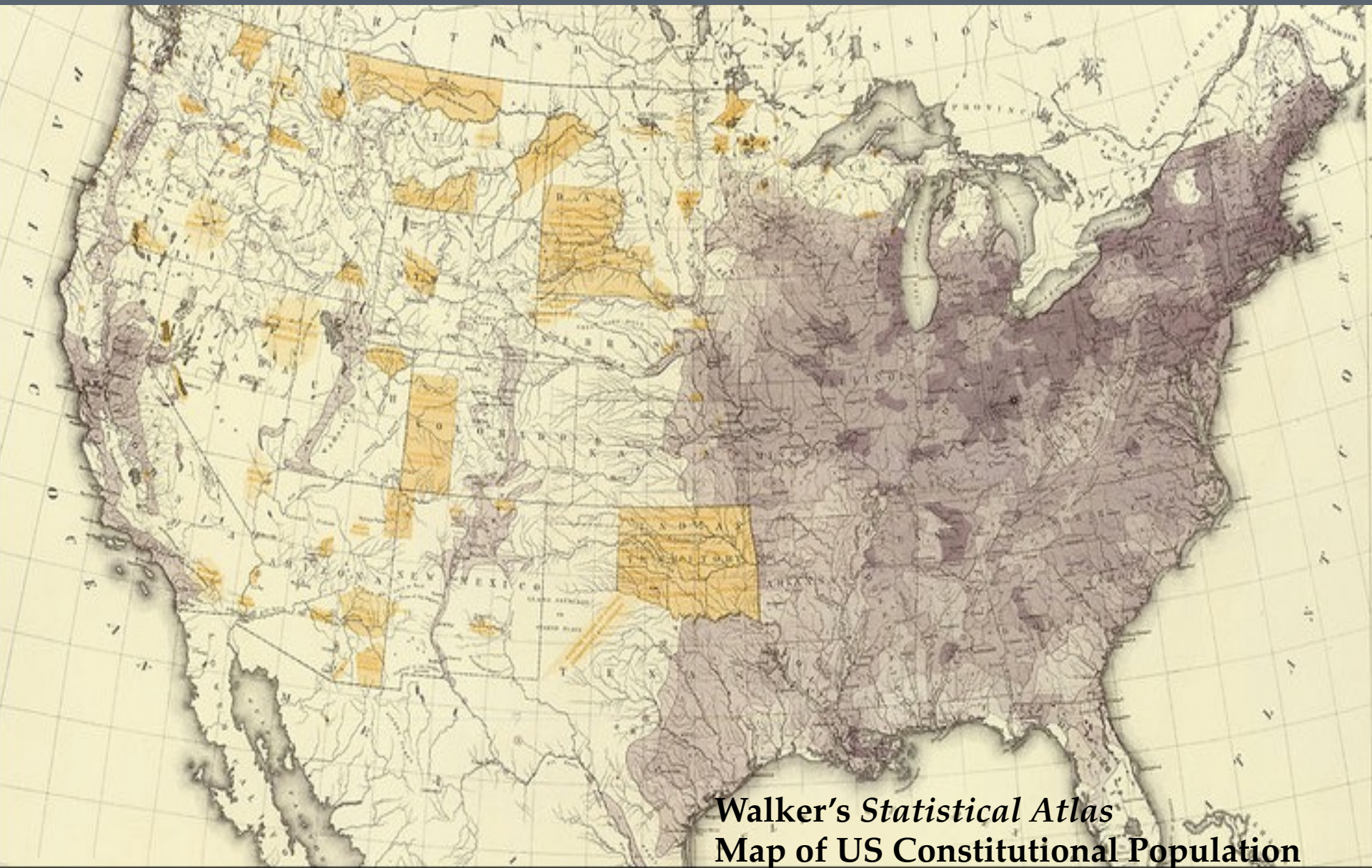
JAMES R. OSGOOD AND COMPANY,

(LATE TICKNOR AND FIELDS, AND FIELDS, OSGOOD, & Co.)

1874.

Walker's Conclusion:

"We conclude, then, that Indian citizenship is to be regarded as an end, and not as a means; that it is the goal to which each tribe should in turn be conducted, through a course of industrial instruction and constraint, maintained by the government with kindness but also with firmness, under the shield of the reservation system." (p. 143)



**Walker's *Statistical Atlas*
Map of US Constitutional Population**

Colorized version Frontspiece: The Indian Question

