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## A TRADE-INVOICE OF 1638

*For Goods Shipped by Governor Rosas from Santa Fé*

RECENTLY documents of great interest to the early history of New Mexico have been found in Parral, State of Chihuahua, Mexico, by Sr. José G. Rocha, editor of a newspaper in that old city—the state capital during the War of 1846. On a visit to Santa Fé in April, Sr. Rocha very kindly gave to the editor transcripts of several of these old records, one of which has to do with the capture and trial of the murderer of Luís de Rosas, governor of New Mexico from 1637 to 1641.

Another, the one which is here translated, has to do with a shipment of goods from Santa Fé to Parral in 1639 on the personal account of Governor Rosas, there to be disposed of at retail. The invoice of this shipment gives insight into the kind of goods which were being produced in New Mexico in the seventeenth century, and the accompanying papers show how they were handled in the trade which had already developed with Nueva Vizcaya to the south. The caravans which arrived from the south every three years were operated primarily for the bringing of supplies to the missions of this region, and instead of allowing the oxcarts to return empty, successive governors took advantage of them for such trade ventures as this one of Rosas.

It would be interesting, for example, to know by whom, and under what conditions, nineteen pieces of *sayal*, each a hundred *varas* in length, were produced. Possibly the wool was prepared and the weaving done in the various pueblos, but more probably an *obraje*, or workshop, was operated in Santa Fé with weavers secured from the pueblos under the *encomienda* system.

L. B. B.

In the *real* of San Joseph del Parral, Nueva Vizcaya, on the 25th day of the month of January, 1640, before me the present clerk and witnesses and in the presence of Captain Francisco de Escovar Treviño, *alcalde mayor* and war

captain of this *real* and its jurisdiction for His Majesty, there appeared as party of the first part Alférez Miguel de Vertiz, citizen of this said *real* in the name and with the authority which he holds from Captain Luis de Rosas, governor and captain general of the Provinces of New Mexico, given him in the Villa of Santa Fé on the 27th day of the month of September of the past year 1639 before Francisco de Anaya Almazán, notary public; and as party of the second part Enrique López, merchant residing in said *real*, whom I certify that I know, and in that manner and form which are according to law:

and they said that inasmuch as the said Don Luis de Rosas had delivered to him [Vertiz] a quantity of various fabrics of New Mexico for him to bring to this *real* and that here the said Enrique López should sell it at retail, formal written receipt for which had been given before the said notary, Francisco de Anaya Almazán; and he [López] has been selling [the goods] in accord with the said order and the proceeds therefrom have been remitted to the said Don Luis de Rosas and what he has not been able to dispose of under the said authority he has delivered to the said Miguel de Bertis (Vertiz) and they have made and adjusted the said accounts of debit and credit to their mutual satisfaction, of which they declared themselves to be content and entirely satisfied; and as to the delivery of the said goods and satisfaction therefor, the first to the second and the second to the first under the said authority, they give and grant, up to the present day, a letter of payment and release in ample form so that there may be no asking nor demanding anything now or at any future time nor in any manner, and if they should make or attempt anything of the above said, they wish and consent that they be not heard, in law nor out of law, and to the same end let this writing and letter of payment and release be approved and ratified; and to this end the said Alférez Miguel de Vertiz by virtue of the said authority obligates the person and goods of the said Captain Don Luis de Rosas on his part, and the said Enrique López obligates his person and effects, had or to be had; and they give complete power to all and whatever justices of His Majesty wherever found to compel and require them by all rigor of the law and social action as if there should be a specific sentence of a competent judge given against them and each of them, assented to and not appealed from, and pro-

nounced upon a matter adjudged; and each of them in so far as he was affected renounced all laws in his favor and defense in ample form and they gave a letter of payment and release, the first to the second and the second to the first, up to the day of this date and the delivery of this writing as stated.

And for the greater protection and security of the said Enrique López, the said Miguel de Vertiz delivered to him a copy of the writing which he had supplied in New Mexico in favor of the said Don Luís de Rosas and another of the authority under which they have made and adjusted the accounts and received the effects which remained over; and they did [all this] in the manner stated and signed their names together with the said Señor Alcalde Mayor who, for its greater validation, interposed his authority and judicial decree under the law, the witnesses being Captain Francisco de Montalban and Captain Domingo Reynoso and Captain Melchor de Torreblanca, [all] pertaining to this *Real*.

(signed) Don Francisco de Escovar Trebiño

Miguel de Vertiz  
Miguel López

before me: Lorenzo Libran, notary public

In the Villa of Santa Fé, New Mexico, on the 6th day of the month of October, 1638, before me the present notary public and witnesses there appeared the Adjutant Enrique Lopes, resident in this Villa, and said that among the merchandise which he is taking for the Señor Governor and Captain General Don Luís de Roças to New Spain he is taking the following:

- Nineteen pieces of *sayal* containing 1,900 *varas*<sup>1</sup>
- also: five bales of buffalo hides, painted (*cueros de civola, pintados*), containing 122 hides
- also: two bales containing 92 shammy skins (*queros de gamuças*)
- also: 12 doublets (*jubones*), and jackets (*queras*) which go with the said bales
- also: another bale containing 100 shammies and 2 jackets

<sup>1</sup>. A *vara* was about thirty-three inches, or a short yard. *Sayal* was a coarse woolen cloth, then in common use as a cheap dress-goods.

- also: two large boxes (*cajones*) of candles (*belas*) containing 900
- also: a bale containing 24 cushions (*cojinillos*), 12 doublets (*soletos*) and 6 shammies
- also: another bale containing 32 doublets (*coletos*)
- also: a box No 1, containing 12 hangings (*reposteros*)<sup>2</sup>
- also: another No. 2, with 11 hangings
- also: another No. 3, with 13 hangings
- also: another No. 4, with 63 small blankets (*mantas*)<sup>3</sup>
- also: another No. 5, with 63 small blankets and 6 drapes (*antepuestas*)
- also: another No. 6, with 13 hangings
- also: another No. 7, with 68 blankets
- also: another No. 8, with 68 blankets
- also: another No. 9, with 33 drapes
- also: another No. 10, with 30 blankets
- also: another No. 11, with 60 blankets
- also: another No. 12, with 60 blankets
- also: another No. 13, with 64 [blankets]
- also: another No. 14, with 11 hangings
- also: No. 15, with 7 drapes, 8 overskirts (*faldellines*), 19 large doublets and 2 small ones

All of which the above said [López] is taking to sell at retail and to account for with payment therefor at the prices at which he may sell them for which, dead or living, he makes the present [invoice] and obligates himself in due form with his person and effects. He authorizes the officials of His Majesty to require the same of him and he renounces all laws in his favor and in general, and he gave it and signed, witnesses being the Captains Pedro Lucero de Godoy and Francisco de Madrid. [signed] Enrique Lopes [before me] Francisco de Anaya Almazán, notary public. Of which receipt and delivery as made in my presence, I give faith.

2. The word *repostero* as here used was not a confection but a square piece of woven stuff, sometimes with the coat of arms of the prince or lord, which was used as a covering for the loads on pack-animals, and also as a hanging in antechambers or over balconies.

3. The word *manta* has various meanings. Most commonly it meant a woolen shawl or blanket, but it might also indicate a domestic cotton shirting, or a kind of tapestry.

The which said blankets were painted [in colors?] More-over there were delivered 36 fanegas of piñones in baskets: Francisco de Anaya Almazán, notary public. plus: nine shammies, two hides which he received later in Senecú and twelve baskets (*gicaras; jicaras*), witnesses being Sebastián Gonçalves and Francisco Gomes, of which said delivery I give faith: Francisco de Anaya Almazán, notary public.

[The above] agrees with its original which passed before me and remains in my hands, of which I give faith: Francisco de Anaya Almazán, notary public.

[This copy] is certain and truthful and agrees with its original from which I made this copy, in testimony whereof I gave the present [certification] in the Real of San Joseph del Parral, Nueva Vizcaya, on the 24th day of January, 1640, and the Sr. Alcalde Mayor for its validation interposed his authority and signed it, the witnesses to see it drawn, corrected, and collated being Juan de Artiaga and Pablo Muñoz, [both] present in this Real.

In testimony of truth I affixed my accustomed signature Don Francisco de Escovar Trebiño: [before me] Lorenzo Libran, notary public.

In the Villa of Santa Fé, New Mexico, on the 27th day of the month of September, 1639, before me the notary public and witnesses there appeared the Señor Captain Don Luís de Roças of the Council of War of His Majesty in the States of Flanders, Governor, Justicia Mayor and Captain General of these said Provinces for the King Our lord, whom on my faith I know and he said that he was giving and he gave all his power complete and what under the law is requisite and necessary to Alférez Miguel de Bertis who is present so that, for his Lordship and in his name representing his own person, he may receive and collect from Enrique Lopes the quantity of his goods which the said Enrique Lopes has, as will appear by the acknowledgment in writing which the said Enrique Lopes made and delivered before the notary public in this Villa of Santa Fé, the which, for the said object, he delivers to him with this power [of attorney]; and to effect the said collection, before officials of his Majesty he may make petitions, requisitions, citations and presentations, arrests, sales and closing of accounts and all other acts, statements and proceedings which may be neces-

sary until the said collection has had due effect, upon receipt of which he may give and deliver the letters of payment and conclusion as may be proper as if the said Señor Governor were giving them and for the said object he gives him this said power with free and general administration and exemption in form and faculty to bring suit, to take oath, and to substitute and, had and received the said goods or the maravedis<sup>4</sup> which the said Enrique Lopes may have secured for them under the obligation which the said Enrique Lopes has made to sell them at retail in his store in Parral, and those which he may not have been able to sell he may discharge by returning them. And the said Alférez Miguel de Bertis, as to what maravedis there may be, may hold it in charge until the said Señor Governor Don Luís de Roças may order differently, and as to merchandise, he may dispose of it by sale in his store, for the which the said Señor Governor declares himself content with what the said Miguel de Bertis may be able to get in maravedis for the said goods, and so likewise in the accounts of the said Enrique Lopes, receipt is to be given him [Bertis] for what he would seem to have given by two letters of his, since it was with authority of the said Señor Governor, the which two letters are delivered to the said Miguel de Bertis for this effect, together with a memorandum of certain things which the said Enrique Lopes remitted to these Provinces for the use of the house of the said Señor Governor, which are to be included in his accounts, all that may appear and proves actually to be in the hands of Juan de Agreda;

for all of which he gives him [Bertis] this complete authority, and he delivered and signed it, witnesses being Captain Pedro Luçero de Godoy and the Adjutant Pedro de Montoya and Alonso Rodriguez Sisneros, citizens and residents in this said Villa.

[signed] Don Luís de Roças [before me] Francisco de Anaya Almazán, notary public.—It agrees with its original which passed before me and remains in my power, of which I give faith. Francisco de Anaya Almazán, notary public.

Also the Señor Governor Don Luís de Roças gave power and authority to the said Alférez Miguel de Bertis in order

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4. The *maravedi* was a small Spanish coin, similar to the English farthing. It varied greatly in value, according to locality and period. The thought indicated here is that the goods which were sent to Parral would be disposed of in small amounts, and the receipts would be in small money.

to receive from the said Enrique Lopes a boy of the Napaize nation called Antonio León, aged thirteen to fourteen years, which boy belongs to the said Señor Governor Don Luís de Roças who sent him with Matías Romero to be taught the Christian doctrine and that he should be served of him until the Señor Governor might order otherwise. And the title to said boy remains in the power of the Señor Governor and, after receiving him, the said Miguel de Bertis may hold him in his power until his Lordship may order otherwise. And he signed it in the said month and year, witnesses being the said Don Luís de Roças, [and] Francisco de Anaya Almazán.—It agrees with its original, of which I give faith, Francisco de Anaya Almazán, notary public.—It is certain and true and accords with the original from which I took this copy, in testimony of which I gave the present [document] in the Real de San Joseph del Parral on the 24th day of the month of January, 1640, and the Señor Alcalde Mayor for its validation interposed his authority and signed it, witnesses being Juan de Artiaga and Pedro Cortes, belonging in this Real.

In testimony of truth I affixed my accustomed signature: Don Francisco de Escovar Trebiño. [before me] Lorenzo Libran, notary public.