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Albuquerque Weekly Citizen, 06-01-1895

T. Hughes

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Albuquerque Weekly Citizen.

VOLUME 5.

ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO, SATURDAY JUNE 1, 1895.

NUMBER 28.

ANCIENT NEW MEXICO.

A SKETCH OF ITS EARLY HISTORY AND OLD TRADITIONS.

The Severe and Continued Struggle Between the Spaniards and the Native Indian Races—Doings of the Haughty Old Spanish Indian Fighter De Vargas—Sacred Fire of the Aztecs—Turquoise Mines.

(CONTINUED FROM THE LAST WEEK'S NUMBER.)

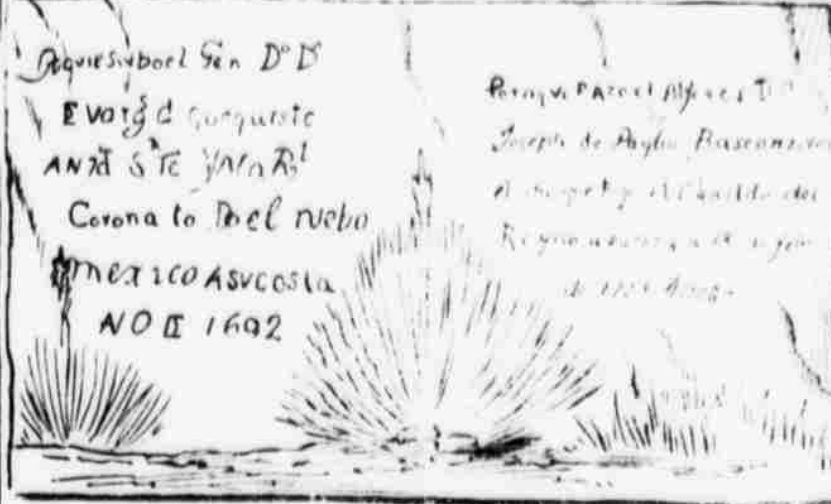
The Spanish soldiers of fortune of the sixteenth century were warriors from Spain to plume, and enthusiastic in loyalty to the king and in devotion to the holy mother church. The promise of the world, who, at the present day, has little thought about the deity, save to use his name to gild his profanity, and grows at even paying toll-tax, can scarcely realize that the Spanish cavalier of the early times brought with him to America the sincerest conviction that to shed his blood for his king and to die for the faith, were not merely duties but privileges. In that remote period, before Cervantes had "laughed Spain's chivalry away," the fire, the poetry and the genius of the great Spanish nation expended itself in the arts of war and in expressions and acts of fealty to the cross. The love of adventure and the spirit of conquest caused brave and accomplished Spaniards to turn their eyes to the New World which the science of the Genoese sailor had shown them to discover.

Among these knightly adventurers was Francisco Vazquez Coronado, who, in 1540, undertook his northward march from the City of Mexico, searching for the seven golden cities of Cibola, and really founding New Mexico. He had no difficulty in securing followers. Fifty years of success had given European unbounded confidence in the warlike capabilities of Spanish leaders, and the victories of Chaco, V. over France, Spain and Turkey made the name of Spain the greatest of any country of that age. In addition to their military prowess, the Spaniards were collectively the wealthiest of all the nations. Milton's famous couplet did not apply, for it was in this instance from the Occident, and not the Orient, whence came the showers of "barbaric pearl and gold." The accumulated treasures of the generations of the high, though out-civilized of the Montezumas were being poured into the coffers of the Spanish crown, while in South America Pizarro and Almagro had just begun a no less expert looting of the surpassing resources of the Inca dynasty of Peru. At no time within the circle of history had gold so nearly ceased to have commercial value as at this time in Spain; the very peasantry were rich. Coronado and his followers were not, therefore, so much allured by the possibility that the Seven Cities of Cibola might be really golden as they were charmed at the novelty and proportions of an expedition into a great unknown interior—an expedition that might give them distinction as brave and skillful servants of the king, extend his dominion and add the aborigines of those new portions of the country to the number who had looked to Rome for spiritual instruction no less than to Madrid for political control. The clergy were well represented in that sturdy band, as, indeed, at that day in all their military expeditions, for to the Spaniard his religion was a part of himself, and not put on with his Sunday clothing; for he devoutly believed, with Constantine the Great, that in the sign of the cross he would conquer. Coronado's expedition was not a success so far as its immediate results were concerned. The seven cities dwelt in misty fables of imagination, and the utensils reported to be of massive gold were found to be made of clay. Crocuses and other indications found by him pointed to the previous visits of Cabeza de Vaca and Niza. The natives were too poor to be robbed and too peaceful to be fought. The expedition was neither gainful nor glorious, and Coronado, after two years, returned to Mexico with heavy loss of men, money and prestige. An old historian says he was the handsomest man of his time, enormously rich and possessed of a wife of marvelous loveliness. Let us indulge the hope that he found in these advantages consolation for his chagrin.

THE FIRST SETTLEMENT.

The first really permanent Spanish settlement in New Mexico was near the beginning of the seventeenth century. This settlement was eminently successful. The Spaniards were kept at bay and the peaceful ones Christianized and put to labor at cathedral building, agriculture and mining. If tradition can be relied on, enormous amounts of gold and silver were extracted and vast sums forwarded to Spain to swell the revenue of that potentate whose least was that new Spain had made him "the richest prince in Christendom." Navajos, Comanches, Apaches and Utes gave just enough war to keep the people in training, and the Aryan lords of the soil grew rich in cattle, sheep and precious metals until the fatal year 1680 ushered in a sweeping change. The Indians then rose in rebellion. It was a verification of the adage that "the worm will turn." The Spanish soldiers for the welfare of the Indians' souls had never been accompanied by a correspond-

ent, sometimes pursuing the savages and sometimes pursued by them. At last the contest centered at the ancient capital of Santa Fe. Thither De Vargas turned his column, inscribing on the smooth face of a cliff as he passed the inscription visible to this day, a drawing of which is here copied.



The inscription to the left is that made by De Vargas and is in the peculiar lettering of that time.

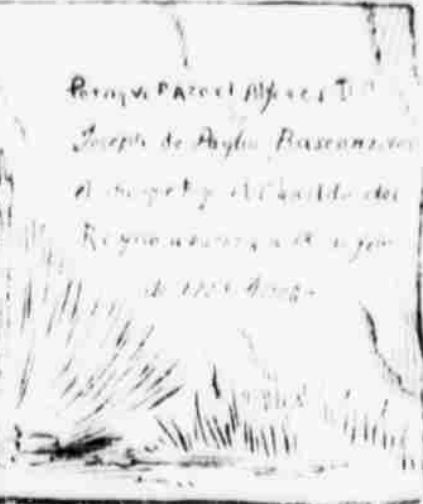
The inscription appearing in the cut to the right of the above was made at a later date.

Arriving within a few miles of Santa Fe, De Vargas made an encampment, erected a shrine to the Holy Virgin, and prepared to besiege the city. He found that the Indians had attempted, in so far as possible, to restore it to its original character as an Indian pueblo, had dismantled the even then ancient chapel of San Miguel, and had entrenched themselves in the Santa Fe plaza, that eventful spot where all New Mexico's notable events seem to center. The first attack of De Vargas resulted unsuccessfully, and he retired after the battle to the chapel erected to the virgin at Los Palacios, and vowed to her that if she would crown his arms with victory on the following day he would carry her image in solemn procession around Santa Fe plaza, singing her praises, and that the same honor should thereafter be shown to that same image upon each returning anniversary of the day till time should be no more. The attack made by De Vargas on the day following that of the making of this vow ended in the total overthrow of the Indians and the flag of Spain was once more raised above the old palace fronting the plaza, long before built by the viceroy of the king as the official residence. It was agreed, however, that the Indians should never be compelled to work in mines. De Vargas had, like Othello, "done the state some service," but the jealousy of the more local men of influence caused his incarceration for three years, he being deemed even means of conveyance to the viceroy at Mexico intelligence of his disgrace. The viceroy finally learning through a priest of the abuse and ingratitude shown by De Vargas, made an order that he be allowed to give bail and leave the prison, but the indignant old Indian fighter refused to accept his liberty on such ignominious conditions, declaring that it was beneath him, in view of his rank and service to give a bail bond like a criminal. One likes to think of this high-spirited soldier preferring the walls of his cell to the waiver of a puntillo. It is also pleasant to know that later on he was released, his enemies overthrown and himself advanced to yet higher rank. It is worthy of mention that De Vargas kept his vow to the Holy Virgin and that the identical statue is still honored annually as indicated by him. The image can be seen at Santa Fe, and is called "Santa Maria Conquistadora."

THE SECOND FIGHT.

The re-conquest was only nominally complete. The Indians remained for generations, and, indeed, still retain in certain degrees, independence of political and religious sentiments in direct conflict with those inculcated by the dominant race. At Pecos there stands the ruins of an ancient temple of that faith, which, for lack of a more accurate name, we call the Aztec. Within the memory of many now alive, there still was kept up the sacred flame which had burned there since a time of which the tradition of man runs back to the contrary. The Indians said that the temple had been built in remotest antiquity, by white men of great stature, and that the care of the sacred fire had been entrusted to their distant ancestors to be maintained until Montezuma should come again to overthrow the oppressors and restore the vanished greatness of the olden times. Some years ago these Indians ceremoniously carried away their sacred fire and abandoned the temple and their homes, declaring by the finders to be human remains and of persons at least ten feet in height. New Mexico is more than any other part of the country, a land of mystery, full of vestiges of former civilization and relics which delight the antiquarian and puzzle the historian. The intelligence of the native races of New Mexico is more than ordinary, and the resentment of the weak race against the strong and masterful one smoldered long, and in some degree yet smolders. They avail themselves in numerous cases of the opportunities of gratuitous education for their children by

sending them to the schools provided by the government, but frequently, if not universally, with the mental reservation that this is only partial reparation made by the pale-faced robber for wresting their country from them. However unjust and unfounded this feeling may be, it has had practical and tangible results.



It is unquestionable that many places now totally or nearly destitute of water, have been, as a matter of fact, rendered so by former generations of Indians. This was accomplished by the following manner: Desiring to stop the flow of a spring or divert the waters to some subterranean under current or passageway, they would dig through the sand or dirt to the place where the water came up through crevices in the rock, these crevices they would fill tightly by hand tamping with dry bark stripped from a species of mountain cedar. They would then replace the earth. The bark used is indestructible when so buried and as it became wet, it would swell and distend so as to almost close every crevice in which it had been tamped. This is the explanation of the absence, at this day, of water from localities where the ruins of extensive improvements show that human habitation once flourished. It is no infrequent thing to find places of hundreds of acres in extent covered by remains of broken pottery and near the almost obliterated rows of dirt that mark the lines of large populations and yet of no visible trace where they obtained water. Some day these waters will be found.

INTERESTING ANECDOTE.

As time went on the wild Indians made many depredations and shed much blood. An accomplished resident of Albuquerque some months ago, in searching for another purpose, the church records at Albuquerque, discovered the following entry, of date May 26, 1777:

"In the parish of San Felipe Neri de Albuquerque, diocese of Durango, on the 26th of May, 1777, were given interment in the chapel of our lady of the Conception of Tome the following: Jose Miguel Pino, 25 years of age, leaving his wife, Maria de la Trinidad, and a daughter of 2 years; Jose Antonio, 30 years, leaving a wife, Maria Catalina, and a daughter, Ygnacia Barrera, 23 years old, leaving wife, Francisco Padilla, and two children, Jose Garcia, 30 years, leaving wife, Catalina Montoya, and four children; Juan Manuel Analla, 12 years, son of Juan de Analla and Margarita Chavez, his wife; Antonio Serna, 25 years, leaving wife, Josefa Montoya; Bernardo Serna, 20 years, leaving wife, Barbara Montoya and two children; Pedro Barata, 27 years, leaving wife, Maria Baca, and two children; Marcos Garcia, 27 years old, bachelor, son of Loreto Garcia and his wife, Francisca Barata; Francisco Peralta, 40 years, leaving wife, Juana Gonzalez, and two children; Cristobal Baca, 48 years, leaving wife, Barbara Ballejo, and seven children; Juan Montoya, 23 years, leaving wife, Ana Maria Baca; Jose Antonio Barata, 20 years, bachelor, son of Maria Barata; Francisco Silva, 16 years, son of Francisco Silva and his wife, Gertrudis Chavez; Bartolo Oguin, 40 years, leaving wife, Rosa Antonio, and six children; Santiago Gonzalez, 25 years, leaving wife, Gertrudis Garcia, and a son; Santiago Barata, 25 years, leaving wife, Maria Berillo, and four children; Bernardo Berillo, 32 years, leaving wife, Barbara Benavente, and four children; Francisco Ballejo, 20 years, leaving wife, Manuela Gringo, and one son; Jose Antonio Gutierrez, 70 years, leaving wife, Legarda Tufillo, and five children; and Maria de la Encarnacion, 13 years, maiden. All of these died without receiving the last sacraments before their death, which came at the hands of their enemy, the Comanche, but the previous day they all confessed and received the communion of our holy mother church."

"When you read these simple words of the holy father," while the graceful pen of H. R. Whiting, you can read between the lines. You can see the whole story. A battle with the Comanches was imminent; these tender boys, these young men in the flower of their youth, these stalwart frontiersmen in their prime, he with his three sons and ten years, and the little maiden of 13, made their peace with their lord and marched bravely to their fate and died as became the heroes of Spain and the cross. (The foregoing is quoted from the Southwest Illustrated Magazine published at Albuquerque.) The present writer, however, is inclined to think that the above account of the murder of twenty-one persons is the record of the famous massacre of Tome, which came about in this way: A certain Comanche chief having a young son, and a resident of the mission of Tome, having

slaughtered of similarly tender years, the Indian chief proposed to the father that when these children grew to maturity they should marry. The Spaniard, from motives of prudence, seemed to acquiesce, but as his daughter grew into womanhood, was unable to endure her union with a savage, and secretly sent her to another part of the territory. When the expectant bridegroom came to claim the maiden, he and his father were informed that she had died of smallpox. Believing this report, they retired with great sorrow, but afterward learning that she had surreptitiously been carried away, the Comanche fell upon the people of Tome while celebrating a series of religious festivals and killed a large number of them.

A FOUR-DAYER.

The governors of New Mexico had usually been selected from local men by the people, but in 1845 Santa Ana sent Alvaro Perez to be governor, the appointment being by the central power at the City of Mexico, in place of local selection by the New Mexicans. Gov. Perez thus incurred the enmity of many of the people. This hostility was intensified by some law levies which he instituted and finally, after he had been governor about a year, an insurrection was begun against him. Gov. Perez marched with his forces to meet the insurrectionists at Agua Fria, a point some five miles from Santa Fe. He had a small cannon which would probably have given him the day but for the unfortunate circumstance that the cannon was intrusted to Senor Vigil as gunner. Vigil received the requisite ammunition and a pair of red flannel drawers to use as wadding. When he reached the field of battle and was ordered to load the cannon and fire on the advancing enemy, he, in his haste, rammed the red flannel drawers into the cannon before putting in the powder; the cannon failing to go off, the insurrectionists charged over it, routed the governor's troops, killed Perez and many others, among them the two brothers Santiago and Ramon Albero, and took possession of the capital city of Santa Fe. They brought the head of Alvaro Perez to Santa Fe and planted it on the end of a lance in the plaza, and made an Indian from Tome governor in his stead. This Indian was soon displaced.

Vigil, the gunner just named, was a prominent citizen, but he never had any luck with gunpowder. It is related that in later years he kept a store, and being desirous of making a small opening in a wooden keg full of powder, thought it an excellent idea to burn a hole with a red-hot poker. The plan worked well until the tip of the poker reached the powder, when an explosion took place, out of which Vigil emerged with only severe contusions, but the store building was a total wreck.

THE WASHINGTON ORE TEST.

The delay in running the railroad of Washington ore through the reduction works south of town is caused by lack of suitable screens to meet the test in a manner satisfactory to the management. New screens were wired for to San Francisco and are expected at the earliest possible moment. The present screens in the mill are a fifty mesh and it is thought a coarser screen of thirty mesh will give better results in the present test. The delay of a day or two in such an important matter amounts to nothing. If the test proves successful a new plant of big dimensions will be added to Cochiti.

HUNTER OF WANDERERS.

T. A. Scottgate has added to his collection of curious and well preserved specimens of what he believes to be the teeth of a mastodon, which were excavated by some Mexicans over in the Jornada del Muerto. Other massive bones kept these company, but they were too crumbly for removal. The largest tooth measures six inches in length, four inches in width, and its thickness is perhaps three inches. San Marcos News.

A REMARKABLE FAMILY.

Rev. Geo. F. Boyard, superintendent of the Methodist Episcopal church in Arizona, is in the city, looking after the interests of the church in co-operation with Rev. Pearson, the pastor. Another brother is superintendent of the New Mexico mission of the Methodist church, located at Albuquerque. A third brother is pastor of the Methodist church in Alameda, Cal. A fourth is pastor of the Methodist church in Utica, N. Y. A fifth is presiding elder of the San Francisco District M. E. church. A sixth is a local preacher and a seventh was a prominent minister in the Methodist church and president of the University of Southern California, but died some two or three years since. Seven preachers in one family. Rather a remarkable record. Phoenix, Arizona, Herald.

REPUBLICAN DELEGATES.

Judge A. Morrison, chairman of the Republican League club of New Mexico, has appointed the following delegates to the national convention of league clubs to be held at Cleveland, Ohio, on the 15th of June next.

Ex-officio delegates—A. L. Morrison, president of New Mexico league; L. A. Hughes, vice president New Mexico league; R. E. Twissell, secretary New Mexico league; E. W. Johnson, executive committee New Mexico league.

Delegates at large—T. B. Catron, W. S. Williams, Karl A. Snyder, W. H. H. Kelly, L. Bradford Prince, Nicholas Galles, Max Frost, John H. Riley, Ben M. Road, D. C. Holbert.

WILL MACHINERY AT WALLACE.

Now that the machinery for the Beckman mill is at Wallace—ten car loads—the sound of the stamp mill will be heard in Pima canon very soon now. The smelter man need not hesitate to put up his plant on the river, there will be an abundant supply of ore to keep him busy as soon as he is ready for it. It is expected that the Avelar and other mines will put on a good force of men in about ten days. There will be no idle mills in the camp for want of ore.

NEW MEXICO.

Brief Paragraphs Culled from the Territorial Press.

Alfalfa is now being brought into the country in large quantities.

Incendiarism destroyed M. J. Cava, tonight's barn near Las Vegas.

By the fall of aerrick at Las Vegas S. Dugues received fatal injuries.

U. S. Bateman has been appointed city attorney at Elby, by the board of trustees.

Hon. N. Galles says that his wife is now enjoying much better health at her home in Minnesota.

Mrs. Nichols, of Hermosa, is in Santa Fe on a visit to her daughter, Mrs. Amado Chavez.

Thos. Nelson, formerly of Kingston, has opened a boot and shoe making and repair shop in Hillsboro.

Hon. E. A. Levy has returned to National, after winning his point in the prosecution of law breakers at Socorro.

The fourteenth annual commencement of the Las Vegas academy will take place at Tamm's opera house, Thursday evening, May 30.

The ice cream supper at Hillsboro, by the children's Temperance League, was a very enjoyable affair and netted that organization over \$20.

The board of regents of the New Mexico Military Institute held a meeting at Roswell on the 23d, and transacted some important business in the interest of the school.

Judge J. B. Cosens, of Hastings, Neb., attorney for claimants in the Juan Val grant in the Mesita valley, was in Santa Fe on business before the United States land court.

The Elby ice factory, which is operated in connection with the electric light plant, has a capacity of fifteen tons per day, which is sufficient to supply the entire Pecos valley.

Jose V. Casades, against whom the jury brought in a verdict of guilty of stealing a horse from the probate judge of Colfax county, will soon be sentenced to the pen by Judge Smith.

A new postoffice has been established at the Chienega del Macho ranch, on the north side of El Capitan mountain, and is named Richardson, in honor of A. M. Richardson, the manager of El Capitan Cattle company.

The Hillsboro public school term has virtually closed, yet Prof. Carleton is teaching an advanced class of pupils to enable them to graduate. He is doing this voluntarily, without the hope or prospect of financial reward.

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WHY SUFFER WITH Sick and Nervous HEADACHE? You may be easily and quickly cured by taking

AYER'S PILLS

"I have been a victim of terrible headaches, and have never found anything to relieve them so quickly as Ayer's Pills. Since I began taking this medicine, the attacks have become less and less frequent, until, at present, I have had none."—G. E. NEWMAN, Ding Spout, Va.

"Having used Ayer's Pills with great success for dyspepsia, from which I suffered for years, I resolved never to be without them in my household. They are indeed effective."—Mrs. S. L. H. MOUNTS, 125 Willow St., Philadelphia, Pa.

"I always use Ayer's Pills, and think them excellent."—Mrs. G. P. WATKINS, Jackson, Fla.

Ayer's Pills

Received Highest Awards AT THE WORLD'S FAIR

Secrecy of Camphor

London, May 29.—Consumers of camphor are warned of an impending famine in that commodity, owing in part to a recent forbidding the cutting down of the camphor trees, and desiring that in future they shall be tapped only. The most potent cause of the scarcity, however, is the late war between Japan and China. Notwithstanding the uninterrupted success of the Japanese armies and navies, the industries of the island have been greatly crippled, and it will probably be many months before affairs are restored to their normal condition. The demand for camphor shows that during the four months ending April 30 last only 4,500 packages of camphor were shipped from Japan to England, against nearly 15,000 during the corresponding period of last year. As Japan is practically the only large producer of camphor, and as it will be several months before the new crop is gathered, the price of the drug is expected to be doubled or trebled during the present year.

The Motte.

Motto of the Irrigation Congress: "Water we here for." Demoral.

Mistake. The motto is "Let us irrigate."

W. L. McManis, secretary of the Western Homestead and Irrigation company, returned to the city from the Rio Puerco country late yesterday. He states that the river is very high, and some little damage was done to the dam, which will be repaired as early as possible.

H. E. Fox, of the jewelry firm of G. W. Hicks & Fox, who is out over the Atlantic and Pacific, writes that he finds business very good and that he is pleased with the trip from a financial point of view.

The closing exercises at the Albuquerque Academy are being held this afternoon.

Weak, Irritable, Tired

"I Was No Good on Earth."

Dr. Miles' Nervine strengthens the weak, builds up the broken down constitution, and permanently cures every kind of nervous disease.

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