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Donald C. Cutter

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AN ANONYMOUS STATISTICAL REPORT
ON NEW MEXICO IN 1765

TRANSLATION AND INTRODUCTION BY DONALD C. CUTTER

ANY serious consideration of New Mexico's early development depends upon appropriate documentation. In recent years increased attention has been shown to study of population growth, racial mixture in society, and distribution of people within the area. Demography has become important as a study in itself as well as a strong complement to regional historical research. Relative growth and decline of settlements, division of people into social and ethnic groupings, and even some idea of occupational status can be gleaned from select documentation. Even concepts of regional defense, areas of advance and contraction of the Indian frontier line, and sketchy ideas of vital statistics can be approached, given good fortune in archival research.

Below, in translation, is a statistical report recently discovered in the Archivo del Servicio Histórico del Ejército in Madrid. The statistical section forms a fractional part of a lengthy manuscript, only a portion of which concerns New Mexico in the 1760s. These significant details are included almost at the end of the manuscript as if they had been somewhat of an afterthought more closely related to an earlier portion of the long hand-written document than to the immediately preceding section which is dedicated to exploration.

A satisfactory series of circumstantial dating places the origin of the report at circa 1765, and upon inspection the statistics are closely associated or perhaps are a hitherto unknown part of an alternate version of Nicolás de Lafora's report which has been studied by Lawrence Kinnaird and printed as Volume XIII of the Quivira Society Publications.¹

Association of the statistical report with Lafora is evident, though published versions of that captain's *Description* contain neither this report nor any of the material to be found closely connected to the subjoined material. In the expectation that this brief census will be useful to the study of New Mexico, it is presented as it appears in Documento 5-3-9-8.

The anonymous report is contained in the lengthy manuscript in two parts, separated by some ten folios of nonrelated manuscript material. The first section of the report follows a transcription of an endorsement by New Mexico Governor Tomás Vélez Cachupín concerning activities totally foreign to the census, while the second portion directly follows part of a diary of an exploratory sortie carried out probably in the same year in which the census was compounded. The second statistical section is followed very abruptly in the manuscript by a section entitled "Various notes taken from some decrees of Don Felipe de Rábago y Terán, Captain of the Presidio of San Sabá [Texas]," and at no place does Document 5-3-9-8 subsequently return to a consideration of New Mexico. Notwithstanding, the entire document of over 180 folios is in the same anonymous hand, and was written very probably as an overview of affairs on the northern frontier of New Spain.

A perusal of the Kinnaird volume of Lafora's report indicates that the figures presented below are the same as those which the captain of the Spanish Royal Corps of Engineers utilized in a summarized fashion in a subsection entitled "Description of the Kingdom of New Mexico."² This much more detailed census could even have been done by or for Lafora. It is here reproduced with only the editorial changes necessary for clarity, with any additions in brackets.

Certain specific bits of information in the census are noteworthy. *Genízaros*, those detribalized Indians who were later to play such a role in frontier advance, were neither very numerous nor were they as yet poised on the outskirts of civilization to play their traditional role. This document indicates that ten such *genízaro* families had acquired the status of citizens at El Paso—a reflection

of upward social mobility for Indians who were originally non-Pueblo late arrivals in New Mexican society. Of the persons in the categories of Spaniards, citizens (*vecinos*), and *gente de razón* (civilized people), it is evident that not many had ventured far from the valley of the Río Grande, with only those persons at Abiquiu, Pícuri, San Rafael, and San Fernando having left the greater safety of the valley. Finally, from this listing it is clear that El Paso and its adjacent settlements were considered part of New Mexico rather than Nueva Vizcaya.

REPORT OF THE FAMILIES AND THE NUMBER OF PERSONS THAT COMPRISE
THE POPULATION OF THE KINGDOM OF NEW MEXICO

FAMILIES		PERSONS
53	San Francisco Nambe, Teguas	223
20	Pojuaque, Teguas	157
103	San Ildefonso, Teguas	309
292	Santa Cruz de la Cañada, Spaniards and other classes	1,306
5	Santa Cruz de la Cañada, genizaro Indians	13
37	Pueblo of San Juan de los Caballeros, Tiguas	259
104	Pueblo of San Juan de los Caballeros, Spaniards on haciendas and ranchos	674
63	Santa Clara [Teguas]	252
41	Santo Tomas y Santa Rosa de Abiquiu	127
76	Santo Tomas y Santa Rosa de Abiquiu, families of Spaniards and other classes	482
77	Pecuries	288
33	Pecuries, Spaniards and other classes	177
136	San Geronimo de Taos of the same nation	506
25	San Geronimo de Taos, citizens	150

138	Pecos of the Pecos nation	532
63	Galisteo of the Tano nation	235
56	Santo Domingo, Queres [Keres]	267
35	San Buenaventura de Cochiti, Queres	181
115	San Felipe, Queres	411
92	San Diego, Gemes [Jémez]	309
128	Cia, Queres	479
99	Santa Ana, Queres	408
53	Sandia, Tiguas and Moquinos [Hopi]	205
35	Sandia, citizens	229
133	San Jose de la Laguna, Queres	534
14	San Jose de la Laguna, citizens of the settlement of San Raphael	83
33	Zuñi of the Zuñi nation	1,593
325	Acoma	1,184
18	Alameda, Spaniards, gente de razon	132
68	Albuquerque, Spaniards, gente de razon	412
39	San Fernando del Rio Puerco, Spaniards, gente de razon	154
25	Atrisco, Spaniards, gente de razon	168
24	San Miguel Laredo	148
71	Nuestra Señora de la Concepcion de Fonclara [Tomé]	462
15	Las Nutrias	98
76	San Augustin de la Isleta, Tiguas	375
76	San Augustin de la Isleta, citizens	480
3,084	[TOTAL]	11,726

Note

Two leagues from Taos in the Arroyo de las Trampas live twenty families of unconverted Indians of the Jicarilla Apache nation who contribute to everything that is ordered of them by the Alcalde Mayor.

Information about the population of the Kingdom of New Mexico continues.

FAMILIES		PERSONS
55	Indians of El Paso del Rio del Norte	222
87	El Paso del Rio del Norte, genizaros	309
420	El Paso del Rio del Norte, citizens	2,068
10	El Paso del Rio del Norte, genizaros with the status of citizens	36
49	El Paso del Rio del Norte, [presidial] company	230
20	San Lorenzo el Real, Sumas	62
36	San Lorenzo el Real, citizens	202
95	Senecu, Piros	382
9	Senecu, Sumas	25
23	Senecu, citizens	115
91	La Isleta, Tiguas	339
3	La Isleta, Sumas	10
26	La Isleta, citizens	126
40	Piros in Socorro	123
15	Socorro, Sumas	58
50	Socorro, citizens	242
21	Settlement of Triburcios [Tiburcios]	157
10	Los Triburcios, genizaro Indians	44
4,144 families with		16,876 people
89	Families of Indians, Villa de Santa Fe	
274	Families of gente de razon and 80 of the soldiers in the Villa de Santa Fe	2,324
	The Pueblo de Tesuque is missing but it is included in the summary of the total	19,200
	Summary	
247	Teguas	1,032
191	Genizaros	677
210	Tiguas	875
41	Abiquiu	127
77	Pecuries	288

136	Taos	506
138	Pecos	552
63	Tanos	235
330	Zuñis	1,593
325	Acomas	1,184
10	Moquinos	44
606	Queres	2,280
92	Gemes	309
47	Sumas	155
135	Piros	505
55	Indians of El Paso	222
1,487	Spanish citizens and gente de razon together with the two [presidial] companies	9,580
4,196	Families with a total of	20,104 persons
The number of Indian families is 2,703 with 10,524 persons.		

NOTES

1. Lawrence Kinnaird, *The Frontiers of New Spain: Nicolás de Lafora's Description, 1766-1768* (Berkeley, 1958).
2. *Ibid.*, pp. 93-95.