

MEXICO'S REDSKIN FOES

History of the Remarkable Indian Tribe
Reported on the Warpath.

WARRIORS WITH A LONG PEDIGREE

Three Centuries of Fighting Behind Them, Another Row Before Them—
Story of the Unconquerable Yaquis.

The present hostile attitude of the Yaqui Indians, in the mountain districts of northwestern Mexico, receives interest in what is probably the most remarkable tribe of aborigines known to history. The Yaquis differ materially from the numerous other tribes inhabiting this section of the globe, relates the St. Louis Globe-Democrat. While the roughly partaking of the ferocious nature of the Apaches of the American frontier and entertaining quite as pronounced a hatred for all people of more civilized tastes, they are characterized by a very distinct predilection for intelligent forms of government. But that any restrictions or obligations should be placed upon them by an alien people, such as they have ever been disposed to regard all mankind not of their tribe, they are disposed to consider as unwarranted interference with their hereditary customs and hence intolerable. The Yaquis have been a constant source of dread to the Mexicans ever since the first attempt at civilization, the northward extension of the republic, to which movement the former have been most strenuously opposed. Like other North American tribes, they hold that the territory they inhabit is theirs by right of inheritance from their forefathers and every foot of land that has from time to time been wrested from them has ultimately been paid for by the life's blood of the invaders.

When the Spaniards first came to Mexico, in 1519, the Yaqui nation numbered a population of 350,000. The territory controlled by them was bounded on the south by Durango, and stretched away to what is now known as the northern boundary of Colorado. They were absolutely independent, owing allegiance to no power other than their own, and were looked upon as the most formidable of all the tribes of Mexico. Like all uncivilized natives at that period, the Yaquis were given to strange customs and rites, many of which were appalling in the extreme. One of these was their practice of destroying, at birth, all puny or deformed infants, which cruel custom is claimed to account for the superior physical development characteristic of them even to this day. The first war with the Yaquis was participated by Coronado, who, during the period of Spanish occupation, led an armed expedition into their territory. The progress of the invaders was strenuously opposed by the Indians, but, owing to their inferior arms and equipment, they eventually succeeded in retreating through their country. This war lasted a year, during which period the Yaquis lost 20,000 of their warriors and were forced to abandon a large amount of their territory to the invaders.

Ancient Hate.

The intense hate held for the Spaniards, cherished even to the present time, was engendered in the Yaquis at that remote date. Throughout the succeeding centuries they have been almost incessantly at war with the Spaniards and their Mexican descendants, and by degrees their once powerful tribe has been reduced, until at the present day it numbers less than 15,000 members. Of their former broad domain all the possessions that now remain to the Yaquis are a few leagues of land, situated in the lower valleys of the Rio Yaqui, in the southern portion of the state of Sonora. After fighting the brief peace which they had availed themselves occasionally experienced, they have made their homes, following their natural pursuits of farming, stock raising and mining. This is the land that has been officially assigned to them by the Mexican government. Back of it, however, in the fastness of the great Sierra Madre, lies a territory that is theirs by right of their exclusive ability to penetrate, and, where necessary, to inhabit it. This is the war home of the Yaquis. Here, in the conflicts of later years, they have proved invincible, unconquerable. It is a country of rugged mountain steeps, of deep, furnace-like defiles, and desolate, sweltering mesa lands—a country inaccessible, intolerable to anything human, save only the Yaquis. Such is the record of which this fierce fighter is intrenched today.

The history of the Yaquis during the present century is especially conspicuous, from the fact that in the second quarter thereof the tribe settled down to an apparently permanent peace. The manifestation of a trait so utterly at variance with the previous disposition of the tribe was the occasion of quite as much wonderment as relief on the part of the Mexican people. In justice to the Yaquis, however, it is said, that, had the tribal rights been respected by a more advanced civilization in the beginning, not only would nearly three centuries of perpetual warfare have been avoided, but Mexico itself would have avoided an aboriginal element without a peer among her present population. Porfirio Diaz, himself an Indian, has always entertained the profoundest admiration for the Yaqui character and recently characterized them as the "arms of the state of Sonora." In 1820 the Yaquis numbered upward of 30,000 and during the ensuing year rallied to the standard of General Iturbide, taking a prominent part in the war for independence against their natural enemies the Spaniards. When, in September, 1821, the war ended and the freedom of the camp was secured, the Yaquis were compelled to return to their remote haunts in the northwest and entered upon their long unprecedented interval of peace. Therein was experienced the first prosperity they had known since Cortes' time. Then came the war between Mexico and the United States, in 1847. Even a quarter century of peace had not banished the Yaquis' inherent propensity for war and immediately 3,000 of their braves joined the Mexican forces. But when peace was again restored, in February of the following year, the Yaquis who had served throughout the war did not return to their peaceful paths. They clung to the Mexican government but often with faith in them relative to certain lands that had been promised them as a reward for their participation in the war. The result was the precipitation of a series of hostilities, lasting throughout a period of more than fifty years and the end of which has not yet been reached.

Lives Sacrificed.

Within that sanguinary interval the Mexican government has sacrificed 25,000 soldiers and many millions of dollars in its fruitless endeavor to effectually subdue the Yaquis and restore a permanent peace. The tribe apparently refuses to become reconciled to the loss of its extensive territory and are resolved upon fighting out their grievances to the death. Their protracted warfare has cost them over 20,000 members of their tribe, besides many towns and haciendas that fell before the war. Of the 20,000 Yaquis to be seen in Sonora at the present time, it is impossible to correctly estimate the proportion of actual fighters. The boys are instructed in warfare from their very infancy, and at the age of 14 one is seldom found who is not an expert in the use of every weapon known to their craft. The fine ambition of every Yaqui youth is to possess a Winchester rifle, and to acquire this he will toil incessantly in the fields for 12 centavos per day, putting by his money and subsisting upon scant rations of parched corn until he has accumulated the price of the coveted weapon. In the late wars the Yaquis numbered many youths of

this early age among their ranks. Once in possession of a rifle, which he would contrive to purchase from some one of the many American prospectors who were continually passing through the country, the lad would hasten to join the hostiles in their mountain rendezvous. Nor were the fighting forces recruited only from among the men and boys. In the summer of 1882 thirty Yaqui women in men's attire were discovered on different occasions among the slain after the night battles. Oftentimes the women were entirely depended upon for ammunition and supplies, which they would secretly convey to the warriors in their mountain strongholds. The principal food on which the Yaquis subsist in times of war is pempe, a nutritious mixture, consisting of ground parched corn, sugar and spices. When mixed with water this compound is both palatable and nourishing, and a single pound of it will furnish subsistence to a Yaqui brave for days.

The most noted Yaqui chief of the present century was Cajemi. He was born in Sonora in 1837, and during his boyhood attended a local parochial school. At the age of 19 Cajemi joined the Mexican army, in which he rapidly advanced, becoming a captain at 21. At 23 he was made colonel, and shortly afterward was detailed for duty as governor of the territory occupied by the Yaquis. In this capacity he continued for three years, at the expiration of which time he was ordered to rejoin his regiment at Vera Cruz. Cajemi, however, had wearied of military honors, and developed ambitions of another character. Hence, instead of complying with his recall, he issued a proclamation, declaring the Yaquis a free nation under his leadership. At this, General Pesqueira, governor of Sonora, immediately dispatched a large body of troops against him. This was met by the Yaquis, with Cajemi at their head, and a terrible battle ensued, though vastly outnumbered, and ultimately obliged to retire to the mountains. The Yaquis inflicted great punishment on the Mexican forces, who were unable to follow them. For the succeeding three years General Pesqueira kept up a desultory warfare against Cajemi, at the expiration of which time another powerful army was sent to annihilate him. This latter force the Yaqui chieftain intercepted with 4,000 warriors at Capetoma, a crossing on the Mayo river. Here another fierce engagement took place, resulting in the advance of the Mexicans being stopped.

Famous Battles.

The most celebrated of the battles waged against this remarkable chief, however, was fought in a small valley near Caliente. In this conflict, though outnumbered four to one by the Mexicans, Cajemi and his warriors came out victorious, the former losing 300 men while the Yaquis lost but half that number.

For two years subsequent to this crushing defeat, the Mexicans did little more than act on the defensive, and Cajemi was practically in control of the entire region, which he terrorized by a constant guerrilla warfare.

In 1883 Cajemi took up a position in the San Miguel mountains, and every effort on the part of the Mexicans to dislodge him therefrom proved futile. Finally, General Martinez, then in command of the Mexican troops, resorted to subterfuge in order to decoy the Yaqui chief from his stronghold. One day a priest, the godfather of Cajemi's children, appeared in the camp of the hostile tribe. Going before the chief, he represented that the church had been won over to the side of the Yaquis. Cajemi was weary of the prolonged struggle and was willing to make satisfactory terms with the Mexicans, provided he would meet him in council. At first the wily chief declined to take the risk, but eventually, after much persuasion and every assurance of security, he consented to accompany the priest under a flag of truce into the valley for the purpose of conferring with Martinez. No sooner had he arrived there, however, than he was seized and thrown into prison. A court martial followed, in which Cajemi was condemned guilty of treason and sentenced to be shot. The execution took place at a point where fifty Mexican soldiers whom his followers had slain lay buried. Four days afterward the scene of his death was marked by a wooden cross.

When the Yaquis learned how their chief had been betrayed and put to death they were frantic with rage, and swore everlasting vengeance, not only against the perpetrators of the deed, but against every member of their race. In Cajemi's stead they chose a subchief known as Tetabato, who was distinguished for his redness of hair and a ferocity that exceeded even that of the old man. The Indians, the memory of which to this day inspires the settlers of that region with horror. In every direction within a radius of 150 miles of their mountain retreat, the unsparing hand of the Yaqui fell. During the terrible months that followed the lives of hundreds of ranchmen, miners, travelers and soldiers paid the forfeit of Martinez's treachery and for the first time in the history of the Yaquis it was reported that women and children were numbered among the slain.

Massacre Precedes Peace.

Not long after his succession to the leadership of the hostile tribe, Tetabato laid a company of eight Mexican soldiers at Batimatlan, within less than six miles of Guaymas, and slew every member of the party. He then killed the soldiers and moved on, dragging their bodies over the rocks of the Mexican captain. To crown his audacity he next raised the body on a pole and conveying it to a point within plain view of Guaymas proceeded to taunt the garrison by exhibiting his ghastly trophy.

The termination of the last war against the Yaquis in May, 1897, was characterized by much ceremony. Satisfactory negotiations having passed between the late General Torre, commanding the Mexican troops, and Chief Tetabato, the latter appeared at the village of Tepatitlan on the appointed day at the head of 800 warriors chosen to take part in the demonstration. An immense stand had been erected in the center of the plaza and a great concourse of people were assembled from all over the surrounding country to witness the great event. The government was represented by General Torres, at the head of 2,000 Mexican troops. After the signatures of the Yaqui chief and the Mexican general had been affixed to the treaty, each made a speech to the assembled multitude. General Torres in his address complimented the Yaquis for their bravery and endurance and Chief Tetabato in return paid a high tribute to the qualities of his erstwhile opponents. Governor Sanchez of Sonora then delivered a patriotic oration, after which the Mexican troops and Yaqui braves marched around the grand stand, exchanging many salutes and otherwise overwhelming each other.

The exercises were succeeded in the evening by a grand ball and gorgeous pyrotechnic display; on the following day a barbecue was given, and thus, with feasting, dancing and general merrymaking, ended one of the bloodiest wars recorded in Mexican history.

Building Permits.

The following building permits have been granted in the city during the past week:

Omaha Savings bank, 1318 South Thirty-first street, addition, \$1,000; Robert Rosengren, South Thirty-third street, frame dwelling, \$4,000; S. D. Dalton, 2304 South Fifteenth street, addition, \$500; Mrs. Miller, South Twenty-fifth street, repairs, \$100; Borden Reed company, 620 South Thirtieth street, repairs, \$75; Carl Witt, South Twenty-eighth street, dwelling, \$500; Byron Reed company, 616 South Thirteenth street, repairs, \$75.

There is no better dinner wine than Cook's Imperial Extra Red Champagne. It helps digest your food.

WHAT POLITICIANS ARE DOING

Burbank Reluctant to Call Republican County Committee Together.

IGNORES REQUEST OF THE COMMITTEEMEN

Populists File Lists of Delegates Preliminary to Their Primaries Thursday Night—Contests in the Fourth and Sixth Wards.

CREATE NEW DISTRICTS

Sanson's Subject Rounding Up New Members and Meeting with Splendid Results.

Although the campaign is yet in its infancy there is not a little activity apparent on the part of local politicians, and the preliminaries are rapidly taking shape for what is expected to be a red-hot county fight.

The comparative strength of candidates is becoming evident and most of those who are actively interested are ready to consider the question of calling the county convention and getting in line for the final contest.

Last Monday a petition, signed by thirty-nine members of the county central committee, being two-thirds of the body, was presented to Chairman Burbank requesting him to issue a call for a meeting of the committee. The failure of the chairman to comply with this request was followed by another request, signed by a majority of the committee, directed to the secretary, Mr. Tucker, to issue a call for the committee to meet in Washington hall on next Saturday at 2 o'clock for the purpose of fixing a day and calling a meeting to nominate a county ticket. This convention will also choose delegates to the state convention to be held in Omaha, September 11. The call was issued last evening and copies were mailed to all the members of the committee.

One of the paradoxes that are created by the painful effort of some anti-republican politicians to continue their calamity how long the face of the present prosperous condition can exist is a humor light in a downtown resort, where a well known ward politician who is a member of the democratic county central committee was discussing on the evils of a republican government in particular and on the shortcomings of the McKinley administration in particular. In the course of his animadversions he declared that the workingmen will never be prosperous as long as the republicans are in power. "Look at this country today," he vociferated. "See how poor we are. Look at the way the poor man is getting poorer every day." He proceeded to declare that another four years of McKinley will make every workingman a pauper and no man who is without capital will be able to make a living for his family.

Then the conversation switched and turned to the prospective primaries, and the anti-administration man voiced another grievance. "Never had such a time in my life," he wailed. "Here I have been plugging away for the last four years, trying to get a man who is willing to act as judge or everybody is working, and when I try to get them to take a day off they insist that their employers have so much business on their hands that it is useless to ask for a layoff. I have lived in the First ward for twelve years and this is the first time I ever knew when every man in the ward was working every day in the week."

The kicker was entirely unconscious of the fact that both his grievances did not have a common base, but the joke dawned on the rest of the crowd and after they had given him a bad fifteen minutes he escaped from his difficulty by declaring: "Well, it is all wrong when a man has to work all the time to get a living, anyhow."

POPULIST PRIMARIES TODAY.

The populist primaries to select delegates to the county convention, which will be held at the populist headquarters on Howard street Saturday afternoon, will occur between 7 and 9 o'clock Thursday evening.

There are no contests in six of the Omaha wards, nor in South Omaha, but in the Fourth and Sixth wards of Omaha the administration crowd has thrown down the gauntlet for a straight issue with their opponents. Each has put up a delegation and there will be a trial by combat before the election of supremacy is settled.

There is also a contest in the Eighth ward, but this is purely a question of individuals, the tickets are the same, except that W. J. Welshans and A. W. Tidd go on one ticket to oppose L. F. McGuire and George B. Cornwith.

Of the delegations that are uncontested the Second ward is conceded to the administration. The antis claim the First, Third, Fifth, Seventh, and a part of the Ninth, while half the men on these delegations are from the First and Ninth wards.

Howard Ward is the complete list of the delegates to Omaha and South Omaha.

First Ward—M. J. Bennett, Otto Wendl, Dave Ronden, C. Young, J. Boyles, J. H. Crow, C. H. Cowley, A. J. Anderson.

Second Ward—Ted Morrow, P. L. Quinlan, Thomas Bennett, M. Quinlan, T. C. Kelsey, J. B. Jones.

Third Ward—L. V. Guye, J. E. Ryan, M. McGuire, C. Vincent, F. S. Horton, J. Blake, H. Church, J. Kenney, J. McBride.

Fourth Ward—Anti-administration: Frank Cochran, E. D. Miller, Joseph Mcarty, Henry Miller, J. G. T. Thompson, H. D. Morgan, John Mock, Joseph Kelly, C. G. Stevenson.

Fifth Ward—Joseph Redman, Peter Kiewitz, Frank C. John, C. H. Embrey, James W. McCarthy, Frank McGuiken, James W. McCarthy, Francis Hayes, Brice Niles.

Sixth Ward—Administration: T. G. Kellogg, J. H. Abbott, C. W. Henning, J. C. Smith, F. W. Marlin, V. C. Wilson, G. W. Woolsey, N. Stevens.

Sixth Ward—Anti-administration: E. R. Rutherford, A. G. Gale, Silas Robbins, J. M. Robinson, C. Johnson, N. E. Adams, J. C. Smith, Alfred Fawcett, John Barrett.

Seventh Ward—J. D. Everingham, E. F. Morearity, Joseph Powers, Hamlin Barnes, J. C. Whipple, Martin Langdon, H. R. Newcomb, John O'Neal, Nels C. Peterson.

Eighth Ward—C. F. Erickson, L. F. McGuire, John Jeffcoat, D. Clem Doaver, George A. Murphy, E. D. Kelley, A. V. Spalding, George B. Cornwith, Jeppie Rasmussen, W. J. Welshans, W. Tidd.

Ninth Ward—John O. Yeiser, August Cline, Herman Cohn, E. Rawcliff, James McCloud, C. L. Sanders, Hugh McIntosh, P. Condit, E. E. Thomas.

South Omaha.

First Ward—James Graham, T. G. Smith, L. F. Abbott, O. Y. Witzell, Charles C. Curtis.

Second Ward—Lowell Sorenson, Sam Morrison, A. J. Cohn, P. A. Barrett, W. A. Beckett.

Third Ward—Jay Tropp, James Enright, James Gillespie, Charles Fields, William Grace.

Fourth Ward—W. A. Adams, G. W. Payworth, C. F. Llewellyn, George Chapin, James Salero.

South Omaha.

BOLD SNEAK THIEF.

A nervous thief entered the room of a sleeping woman Tuesday afternoon and stole a purse containing money and jewelry valued at \$100 from a bag lying beneath her head without惊动ing the sleeper. He was caught early the following morning at the Keyser and Sullivan's. The jewelry was recovered, but the money, a small amount, had been spent for drink. The thief's name is Franklin.

The room he entered was in the lodging house at 308 North Sixteenth street. Its occupants were Mr. and Mrs. Miller, lawmen who have moved to the city to live.

Mr. Miller was absent at the time of the theft, 3 o'clock. His wife lay down for a nap and slept until supper time. Beneath her pillow was a purse containing \$2.00, a gold ring, and some rings. When she awoke the purse was missing.

Mrs. Miller suspected Pease, a waiter who worked in the house, and communicated to the police and acting on the information the detectives found Pease in one of his haunts, a saloon at Eleventh and Jones streets. The money had been spent for drink, but the watch was found in his possession.

Mr. Miller was absent at the time of the theft, 3 o'clock. His wife lay down for a nap and slept until supper time. Beneath her pillow was a purse containing \$2.00, a gold ring, and some rings. When she awoke the purse was missing.

Mrs. Miller suspected Pease, a waiter who worked in the house, and communicated to the police and acting on the information the detectives found Pease in one of his haunts, a saloon at Eleventh and Jones streets. The money had been spent for drink, but the watch was found in his possession.

Mr. Miller was absent at the time of the theft, 3 o'clock. His wife lay down for a nap and slept until supper time. Beneath her pillow was a purse containing \$2.00, a gold ring, and some rings. When she awoke the purse was missing.

Mrs. Miller suspected Pease, a waiter who worked in the house, and communicated to the police and acting on the information the detectives found Pease in one of his haunts, a saloon at Eleventh and Jones streets. The money had been spent for drink, but the watch was found in his possession.

Mr. Miller was absent at the time of the theft, 3 o'clock. His wife lay down for a nap and slept until supper time. Beneath her pillow was a purse containing \$2.00, a gold ring, and some rings. When she awoke the purse was missing.

Mrs. Miller suspected Pease, a waiter who worked in the house, and communicated to the police and acting on the information the detectives found Pease in one of his haunts, a saloon at Eleventh and Jones streets. The money had been spent for drink, but