

of the artillery," "leaving Don Tristan de Arellano with the rest of the force," he ^{had} ordered the latter "to set out twenty days later, and when he reached the Valley of ^{Hearts} (Corazones) to wait there for a letter from him, which he would send after he had reached Cibola, and had seen what was there; and this was done."

It must therefore have been on the 12th of May that ~~the army~~ "the army ~~remained~~ which had stayed with Don Tristan de ^{of Castile,} *Winship's Translation. E&H, Ann. - XIV. 484.

Winslow's translation ^A *Eccl. Ann.* XIV., 184.

Arellano started to follow their general, all loaded with provisions, with lances on their shoulders, and all on foot, so as to have the horses loaded." *

It was probably in the fore-part of July, ^{or} about the beginning of the summer rainy season, that [] "with no slight labor from day to day, they reached a province which Cabeza de Vaca had named Hearts (Corazones), because the people here offered him many hearts of animals. He founded a town here and named it San Hieronimo de los Corazones." *

In ~~1582~~ 150 leagues between Culiacan and Corazones, it is not likely that they averaged more than 3 or 4 leagues a day, being encumbered with large droves of "big and little cattle." The four horsemen who were in charge of the footsore sheep that Gómez had left at Yaqui River, made with their flock, from that river to Cibola, the general tells us, only 2 leagues a day. If Arellano's force and droves averaged 4 leagues a day, they would have reached Corazones in about 38 days, or on June 18th, Old Style. But the Julian calendar, ~~which was~~ was then about ten days slow, in relation to events of the solar year, and June 18th, Old Style, therefore corresponded to June 28th of what, later in the 16th century (1582), was adopted as the Gregorian calendar, or New Style; or nearly to the beginning of the summer rainy season.

"From here a force went down the river to the seacoast, to find the harbor and find out about the ships." That is, they went down Sonora River to Seriland, — the same route, doubtless, by which the Seri Indians had been summoned from the seacoast a few weeks before by Coronado in quest of similar tidings, and in part at least that by which Friar Marcos had summoned them to Vacapa a year earlier for information of a pearl-oyster fishery.* "Don Rodrigo Maldonado,

* See Early Far West Paper, No. 1.

who was captain of those who went in search of the ships, did not find them, but he brought back with him an Indian so large and tall that the best man in the army reached only to his chest. It was said that other Indians were even taller on that coast."

*The Seri have long been reputed a tribe of giants. Dr. McGee describes them, in the 17th Report of the Bureau of American Ethnology, as of "noble stature and erect yet easy carriage." Again he writes, "Naturally this striking stature, especially that of the warriors, has been much exaggerated by casual observers." Dr. McGee found a number of comparative photographic measurements to "indicate that practically all of the fully adult males and several of the females overtop the Caucasian unit." He remarks, "The mean stature of the adult Seri may be estimated at about 6 feet (1.825 meters) for the males, and 5 feet 8 inches (1.727 meters) or 5 feet 9 inches (1.73 meters) for the females, these estimates resting on visual comparisons between Caucasians of known stature and about forty adult Seri of both sexes at [Rancho San Francisco de] Costa Rica in 1894."

After Arellano's town of San Hieronimo de los Corazones had been started in the Valley of Hearts, "it was seen that it could not be kept up here, and so it was....transferred" and ~~probably~~ ^{in September}, "after the rains ceased," ~~about the end of August~~ ^{"the army} ~~went on~~ to a valley which had been called Señora, "(so, he explains, the Spaniards called it) "where the town of Señora was afterward ~~located~~ ^{located}, because there were provisions in that region, so that they were able to wait there for orders from the general."

"Señora," says Castañeda*, "is a river and valley thickly settled by

*Winship's Translation, Eth. Ann. ^{Rep.} XIV, 515.

able-bodied people. The women wear petticoats of tanned deerskin, and little san benitos* reaching half way down the body. The chiefs

**Captain John Stevens's New Dictionary says the sanbenito was 'the badge put upon converted Jews brought out by the Inquisition, being in the nature of a scapula or a broad piece of cloth hanging before and behind, with a large Saint Andrew's cross on it, red and yellow. The name corrupted from Saco Benito, answerable to the sackcloth worn by penitents in the primitive church.' Robert Tomson, in his Voyage into Nova Hispania, 1555, in Hakluyt iii, 536, describes his imprisonment by the Holy Office in the city of Mexico: 'We were brought into the Church euery one with a S. Benito vpon his backe, which is a halfe a yard of yellow cloth, with a hole to put in a mans head in the middest, and cast ouer a mans head: both flaps hang one before and another behinde, and in the middest of euery flap, a S. Andrews crosse, made of red cloth, sowed on vpon the same, and that is called S. Benito.'

[Footnote by Winship, ibid. cit., p. 507.]

of the village go up on some little heights they have made for this purpose, like public criers, and there make proclamations for the space of an hour, regulating those things they have to attend to. They have some little huts for shrines, all over the outside of which they stick many arrows, like a hedgehog. They do this when they are eager for war.* All about this province toward the mountains there is a large

Footnote

*As I have been told by an old and ~~very~~ reliable resident of San Fernandez de Taos, Señor Ignacio Santistevan, a similar custom, formerly practiced by the Comanches in their war expeditions against the Jicarilla Apaches and Spanish settlers of Taos valley, gave origin to the name "el Flechao" (a contraction of *el Palo Flechado*, "the tree ~~which~~ shot with arrows, or stuck full of arrows"), which is still used by the inhabitants of that valley to designate the summit of Taos Pass. On that summit ~~of the pass~~ was ~~which~~ a tall "pine" ~~was~~ tree into which the Comanche war parties were accustomed, in passing, to shoot arrows, leaving its trunk bristling with them, as a ~~symbolic~~ medicine offering or prayer for the success of their expedition. At the same time and for the same purpose, they deposited beads and other offerings in a bowl-shaped receptacle hollowed out of a stone at the foot of the tree. The small creek descending eastward from ~~the~~ the vicinity of ~~the~~ this ancient ~~shrine~~ is still called "Palo Flechado" or, on some maps, *Palo Flechado*. This religious ceremony, common to the Comanche and Opata nations, is the more interesting because of the linguistic relationship between the *Uto-Aztecan* and *Piman* families, to which these two nations respectively belong. (On this relationship see N. J. Am. Inds., I, 763.)

alleged

population in separate little provinces containing ten or twelve villages. Seven or eight of them, of which I know the names, are Comupatrico, Mochilagua, Arispa, and the Little Valley.* There

Footnote

*The Little Valley was presumably Suya Valley. Comupatrico may have been a hamlet of the people now known as Cumpas, a name which on some maps is ~~mis~~ spelled "Comupas"; but if the place was the present one of that name, it was somewhat away from Coronado's route. The Cumpas ^{or may not} may have changed their location since 1541. "Comupatrico" may be a crude ~~mis~~ or corrupted spelling of *Comupa-chic*, the termination, *chic*, signifying "place." Of Suya, Castañeda says, "The town was situated on a little river;" and it was therefore presumably in a little valley, ~~which~~ in which there may have been several native hamlets, making up, with Comupatrico, Mochilagua, and Arispa, the "seven or eight" villages of which he speaks. In the Ternaux version of Castañeda, the four names are given, according to Winship (Eth. Ann. XIV, 515), as follows: "Upatrico, Mochila, Guagarispa, El Valleccillo." That Mochila, or Mochilagua, was quite close to Arispa, there is some indication; for, the Opata word, *mochila*, is said to mean "ants," and, according to Hardy (Travels in the Interior of Mexico, p. 442), the original Opata name of Arispa was *Aripa*, "of which the Spaniards, by converting it into *Arispa*, have destroyed the etymology," and which means, "the great congregation of ants." The Rudo Ensayo gives, as Opata names, for a certain red species of ant, *arit*; and for a certain black species, *mocho*.

are others which we did not see."

If now we examine Herbert's Map of Sonora*, we see that, at the elbow

*Mapa Oficial del Estado de Sonora; 1884-1904.

Tracing Coronado and his advance army up the Sonora river from the valley of Ures-Corazones, Jaramillo, who was with them, tells us, "We went on from here, passing through a sort of gateway, to another valley very near this stream, which opens off from this same stream, which is called Señora. It is also irrigated, and the Indians are like the others and have the same sort of ~~family~~ settlements and food. This valley continues for 6 or 7 leagues, a little more or less."

Of the distance apart of the two ~~villages~~^{towns}, we read in the Relacion del Suceso, "The best settlement of all is a valley called Señora, which is 10 leagues ~~26.5 miles~~ beyond the Hearts, where a town was afterward settled." Here the settlements ^(gradually) ~~of the whole valley~~ are referred to collectively.

Valley, ~~which is in the middle of the river~~, the Jesuit author of that most interesting treatise on ~~Minas~~ the Province of Sonora, says, "two leagues further on [below Guepaca] is the mining settlement of Sonora; one league further, the town of Acotzi; three leagues below, the town of Bavicora; another three leagues on, the Port [or Portal] of Concepcion and the house of Nuñez, all on the eastern bank or to the left. From here the river turns toward the West for some twelve leagues, and leaves the town of Ures on the left";* and ~~is~~ on another page, in

*Guiteras' Translation, in Records of the American Catholic Historical Society, Vol. V., page 123.

his itinerary of a trip down the same part of the valley, he says, "going on four leagues more [below Guepaca] we are at Acontzi. The Natives say Acotzi, which means 'on the wall'. One league before reaching Acontzi lies the fort of Sonora. Acontzi is the chief place

of the Mission of this name, administered to by Father Nicolas Perera.

..... Its visiting town, some leagues further South (which is the main direction in which we go in passing through this valley), is called Baviacora. The natives say Bavicori, from a certain plant which grows in the river. Four leagues further on we leave, on our left and on a slight hill, a small place inhabited by Spaniards, called La Concepcion, and also further down, another named Casa de Nuñez after the name of a neighbor who lives here with his family and servants.

"Here the Sonora river commences to turn Westward towards Ures. Following the road we have to cross the river, ^{some thirty times or more} evidently within about two leagues below the Portal of Conception, which is probably the ~~or the~~ Puertecito ~~at the lower end of the valley of the river~~ among the passes of the mountains, and before coming to level land, we have to go over a rough, stony hill for a distance of some ten leagues. Ures, head of this Mission, lies on the left bank of the river on the most level land we have met up to this place." *

Footnote: *Ibid., pages 220, 221.

In this "ten leagues" of "rough stony hill," we doubtless have the "10 leagues" mentioned in the Relacion del Suceso as separating "the Hearts" (Corazones) from "the best settlement of all," or "valley called Señora."

That the ~~first~~ ^{first} Spanish name of this valley was Señora, is clear. In his letter of August 3, 1540, to Mendoza, Coronado says, "There was no corn for food among them [the Indians of the Valley of Hearta], but I heard there was some in another valley called Señora."* This is

Footnote *Eth. Ann., XIV., 554.

the earliest written reference to "Señora" as the name of this valley. Castañeda refers to it as "a valley which had been called Señora"; and adds, "the Spaniards called it Señora, and so it will be known by that ~~name~~" name."

Footnote ~~See~~ ^{ibid.}, 484.

But why these Spanish soldiers of 1540 called it Señora, ~~is not known~~; ~~the valley this name in account of some person, as some~~ ~~Spanish authors have erroneously explained, as there have evidently~~ ~~been many names of this kind in the Spanish~~ ~~country, unless they did so as a factitious rendering of an~~ ~~aboriginal place-name that~~ ~~bore some real or fancied resemblance to the word, señora,~~ ~~not easy to determine.~~

An interesting discussion of the matter is ^{discussed in detail} ~~given~~ by H. H. Bancroft in Volume XV of his Works, pages 241-242. In this he says:

"The origin of the name Sonora is a curiously complicated subject, respecting which the truth cannot be known.... ~~the Spanish~~ ~~word with some probability are the Spanish word señora and the~~ ~~native word sonot, forming in its oblique cases sonota; but the latter~~ ~~is further confused by the claim that the two words were identical in~~ ~~meaning, or that~~ ~~... I append a note which brings out the various~~ ~~aspects of the problem, and shows that while a connection is probable~~ ~~between Sonora and Señora, it is not easy to decide whether the present~~ ~~name is a Spanish corruption of a native word or the reverse." The~~ ~~note to which he refers, is as follows:~~

"Coronado in 1540 named the valley of Señora near the one called Corazones by Niza a few years earlier. Here was founded, or hither was transferred, a little later San Gerónimo. Coronado, Relacion, 147-9; Jaramillo, Relacion, 156; Castañeda, Relacion, 41; Herrera, dec. vi, lib. ix, cap. xi. It seems that the name was Señora and not Nuestra Señora. Arricivita, Crón. Sarif., prologo, 4, says the valley was named for a rich native widow who entertained the army, adding ~~that~~ that it was perhaps in order to forget her kindness that the name was changed to Sonora. Mange, Hist. Pim., 392, tells us that the ~~word~~ word señora heard by the Spaniards (in 17th century) was an attempt to say ~~señora~~ and thus to show that they had not forgotten the teachings of Cabeza de Vaca about the virgin. They could not pronounce the 'n', and the Spaniards changed Señora to Sonora in order to be able to derive it from sonota 'maize-leaf.' Ribas, Hist. Triunfos, 292, on the contrary seems to imply that the original native word was Sonora, and that the Spaniards corrupted it into Señora. 'El valle de Sonora, de que tuvieron noticias los primeros descubridores de la Provincia de Cinaloa, y corrompiendo el vocablo ~~llamauan~~ llamauan ~~llamauan~~ valle de Señora.' Alcedo, Dicc. Geog., iv. 574, regards Sonora as a corruption of Señora. According to the author of Sonora, Estad., in Sonora, Materiales, 625, writing in 1730, the oldest Indians said that a rancheria of natives living about a muddy spring near Huepaca built their huts of reeds and maize-leaves, and called them sonota, which the Spaniards changed to Sonora. Hernandez, Geog. Son., 5-6, favors the last derivation, but notes an opinion of some that the settlers called the country son-ora, wishing to express in one word the richness of soil and the numerous quality of gold! The au-

Chapter IV.

6 Forgotten Capital of Sonora.

In the ~~Papers~~ on Coronado's expedition, we have seen that the first Spanish town within the limits of the present state of Sonora, Mexico, was that of San Hieronimo de los Corazones; and that it was founded in the summer of 1540 by Coronado's lieutenant, Don Tristan de Arellano, in pursuance of instructions from his general.

Presumably it was projected not only as a place where the lieutenant's command should await farther orders from Coronado, and as a ^{sort of or half-way station} _{base} for the latter's remoter projects, but also ~~perhaps~~ with the hope that it would be the nucleus of a new colony, and ultimately, perhaps, the capital of a province.

perhaps, the capital of a province.

It was ~~the~~ first located near ^{the Sonora River town of} present Ures; but ~~the~~ lieutenants found that the ~~place~~ did not hold out promise of sufficient support for the army, and as soon as the rains ceased, or in less than two months, the intended town was transferred to the valley of "Sonora," or Sonora, above the Ures gorge, on the same river. With this removal in view, it is not likely that Arellano had built ^{many adobe} ~~anything~~ more substantial than temporary rain-shelters, in the valley of Ures-Corazones. It is even quite probable that part of his men were ^{then} quartered in the thatched huts of the natives. ^{In the Sonora Valley were} better means of subsistence here.

In the Señora Valley were better means of subsistence: here

"In the Señora Valley, were better means of subsistence; here Arellano's command was to await orders from Coronado; here it was supposed a part of it was to remain more or less permanently; and here therefore, — doubtless in a more substantial form than at the earlier locality, and presumably with a few adobe buildings, erected at least before the season of winter rains arrived, — the "new town of Corazones," or second San Hieronimo, was founded, called also the town of Señora.

This town was occupied for perhaps a month and a half by Arellano's entire command, and during the subsequent months of autumn, winter and spring by a smaller company which was to constitute the town proper; and the period of its existence --altogether some nine or ten months-- was longer than that of either its predecessor or its successor. Though not first nominally, this town of Sennbra may be regarded as the first real town and seat of authority ever established by Caucasians in what is now the state of Sonora; ^{as already noticed, the earlier Spanish} not, ^A location in Ures Valley, though called a town by courtesy, ^{we have seen little} ~~being in reality no~~ more than a camp of ~~the power of the momentary command~~