

of the artillery," "leaving Don Tristan de Arellano with the rest of the force," he <sup>had</sup> ordered the latter "to set out twenty days later, and when he reached the Valley of <sup>Hearts</sup> (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 ~~which~~ which had stayed with Don Tristan de

Footnote \*Winship's Translation <sup>of Castañeda's</sup> Eth. Ann. XIV, 484.

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, <sup>or</sup> about the beginning of the summer rainy season, that ~~the army~~ "with no slight labor from day to day, they reached a province <sup>[the Valley of Ures]</sup> 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."\*

*Footnote* \*In ~~the~~ 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 <sup>droves</sup> of ~~big and~~ little cattle." The four horsemen who were in charge of the footsore sheep that Coronado 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 then~~ was then about ten days slow, in its 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,

Footnote \*See Early Far West Papers, 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."

Footnote

\*The Seri have long been reputed a tribe of giants. Dr. McGee describes them, in ~~the~~ 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 ~~the~~ ~~town~~ ~~was~~ ~~transferred~~ ~~to~~ ~~a~~ ~~valley~~ ~~which~~ ~~had~~ ~~been~~ ~~called~~ ~~Señora,~~ ~~(so,~~ ~~he~~ ~~explains,~~ ~~the~~ ~~Spaniards~~ ~~called~~ ~~it)~~ "where the town of Señora was afterward <sup>located</sup> ~~located~~, because there were provisions in that region, so that they were able to wait there for orders from the general."

went on

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

Footnote

\*Winship's Translation, Eth. Ann. <sup>Rep. XIV,</sup> 515.

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

Footnote

\*"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 every 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 midst, and cast ouer a mans head: both flaps hang one before and another behinde, and in the midst 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, <sup>Rep. cit.</sup> 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 ~~was~~ 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 ~~was~~ 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 ~~once~~ a tall "pine" ~~or~~ ~~cedar~~ tree into which, the Comanche war parties were accustomed, in passing, to shoot arrows, leaving its trunk bristling with them, as a ~~panacea~~ 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 mountain~~ the vicinity of this ancient shrine is still called "Palo Flechado" or on some maps "Palo Flechado." This religious ceremony, common to the Comanche and Ojate nations, is the more interesting because of the linguistic ~~relationship~~ <sup>relationship</sup> between the Shoshonean and Piman families, to which these two nations respectively belong. (On this relationship, see *Nath. Am. Inds.*, 1. 768.)

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 ~~misspelled~~ spelled "Comupas"; but if the place was the present one of that name, it was somewhat away from Coronado's route. The Cumpas may <sup>or may not</sup> have changed their location since 1541. "Comupatrico" may be a crude ~~mispronunciation~~ 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, ~~and~~ 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 Fernaux version of Castañeda, the four names are given, according to Winship (*Eth. Ann.* XIV, 515), as follows: "Upatrico, Mochila, Guagarispa, El Vallecillo." That Mochila, or Mochilagua, was quite close to Arispa, there is some indication; for, the Ojate word, mochila, is said to mean "ants," and, according to Hardy (*Travels in the Interior of Mexico*, p. 442), the original Ojate name of Arispa was Arispa, "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 Ojate names, for a certain red species of ant, arit; and for a certain black species, mocho.

are others which we did not see."



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, <sup>some thirty times or more</sup> [evidently within about two leagues below the Portal of Concepcion, ~~which is probably the~~ <sup>or the</sup> Puertecito] ~~at no less than~~ ~~some thirty times or more~~ 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."

*Relation del Suceso*  
*1719*



## Chapter IV.

## A. Forgotten Capital of Sonora.

In the <sup>Papers</sup> ~~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.

<sup>Presumably it was projected</sup> ~~It seems to have been intended~~ not only as a place where the lieutenant's command should await farther orders from Coronado, and <sup>sort of or half-way station</sup> ~~and~~ as a <sup>base</sup> 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.

It was ~~at~~ first located near <sup>the Sonora River town of</sup> ~~present~~ Ures; but ~~it was found~~ <sup>the lieutenant found</sup> that the ~~place~~ <sup>place</sup> 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 "Señora," or Sonora, above the Ures gorge, on the same river. With this removal in view, it is not likely that Arellano had built ~~any more~~ <sup>many adobe</sup> substantial than temporary rain-shelters, in the valley of Ures-Corazones. <sup>It is even quite probable that part of his men were</sup> ~~those~~ <sup>quartered in</sup> ~~the~~ <sup>the</sup> ~~huts~~ <sup>huts</sup> ~~of~~ <sup>of</sup> ~~the~~ <sup>the</sup> ~~native~~ <sup>native</sup>.

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. ~~It~~ Though not first nominally, this town of Señora may be regarded as the first real town and seat of authority ever established by Caucasians in what is now the state of Sonora; <sup>as already noticed, the earlier Spanish</sup> for, <sup>or,</sup> a location in Ures Valley, though called a town by courtesy, <sup>can have been little</sup> ~~being~~ <sup>in</sup> ~~reality~~ <sup>no</sup> more than a camp of ~~the~~ ~~Spaniards~~ ~~at~~ ~~the~~ ~~time~~ ~~of~~ ~~its~~ ~~founding~~.