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**Neglected Catholic Indian
Tribes Throughout Arizona.**



AMONG the many Indian tribes who have come under the benign influence of the Gospel, the names of which, however, do not appear in the annual report of the "Indian and Negro Missions," are the Pima Indians, of Maricopa county, Territory of Arizona. Yet there are hundreds of them who consider themselves Catholics, ignorant though they are of the Faith.

At the request of the Rt. Rev. Bishop Bourgade, now most Rev. Archbishop of Santa Fe, the Franciscan Fathers of Sacred Heart Province, of St. Louis, Mo., have taken charge of all Catholics living in Maricopa county, since January, 1896, and have also given the Indians of the county as much attention as possible. Through entreaties of the Fathers residing at Phoenix, the Very Rev. Father Provincial was prevailed upon in January, 1901, to send a Father exclusively for the work among the Indians.

Within Maricopa county there are three reservations, namely: Gila River Reservation, sixteen miles southwest of Phoenix; Salt River Reservation, fourteen miles east of Phoenix; Gila Bend Reservation, sixty-four miles from Phoenix, near S. P. R. R.

There is no doubt that in all these reservations there is sufficient material for building up flourishing parishes in the course of time. Although means were very limited, still, thanks to private charity, something had already been accomplished, as the following facts will show:

At St. John's Mission, Gila River Reservation, the Indians, assisted by the Fathers residing at Phoenix, built for themselves, in 1897, a small adobe church. Ever since they