

The Original American Suffragette



Torevio Governor of Acama



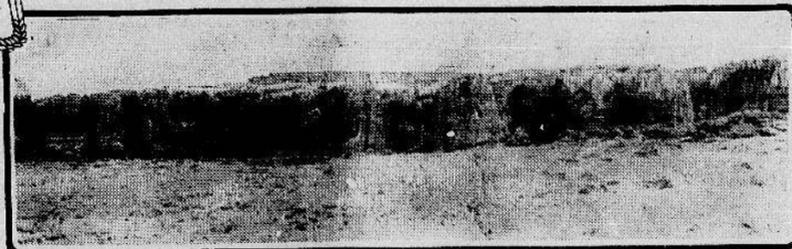
The Pueblo of Laguna



Laguna Home Life



Indian Girl
the Whorls Signify
Maidenhood



Acama, the "City of the Sky"

Has the original American suffragette been found? Some people think so and that her home is in those strange Indian pueblos of our southwest where the children inherit from the mother's side of the house and where the women are handsome, finely developed and wield a powerful influence in home and village affairs. As far back as the coming of the Spaniards these strangers found the women of the Indian tribes of Arizona and New Mexico having a voice in the election of war chiefs, governors and other village officials and it is still the custom. Another queer thing about these intelligent women is that in some mysterious way their ancestors have had intercourse with the women of the orient. The pueblo women use the same symbols on their pottery that are found in the decorations of orientals. How this happens no one knows for the Indians of the southwest are silent, mysterious creatures, but one can guess that at some time intercourse took place by way of Bering straits. These pueblo Indians are of interest since the treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo in 1848. It is a remarkable fact that these Indians have for hundreds of years maintained their own form of government, electing a governor, war chief and assistants and putting to shame the lawlessness of the white man in the early days of the settlement of the southwest. More than this and standing out prominently as a feature in their communal life, the women have had suffrage. In every particular the domestic life is in the hands of the women. They are consulted on all affairs of state, have a voice in questions pertaining to the pueblo's government and the children inherit from the maternal side. As a result they are of magnificent physique. They have the grace of the orientals, but also have what many oriental women lack, the dignity that springs from self-respect. One is instantly impressed with their nobility of countenance and fine presence.

The Spaniards carried the citadel by assault. Afterwards the strangers were driven from the land, but coming later were treated in a friendly manner, cordial and sympathetic which in a measure has lasted until this day. In this strange village, high up toward heaven, is a graveyard that took generations to build for the dirt was carried on the backs of Indians from the plains below. There is also a church, one of the wonders of the southwest, a strange adobe structure with walls 60 feet high and 10 feet thick. In this old partially decaying building there are held strange religious ceremonies, a combination of Catholic and Indian rites, for the priests of early times recognized that it was unwise to deprive these Indians of all their customs and religious rites. There are still signs of the barbaric splendor with which this ancient church was decorated and in its lofty tower are bells that came from Spain. The reservoir on the top of the hill is another interesting sight and it is of the utmost importance to the Indians who depend on it for water when they are cut off from the plains below. Of course, as Acama is built on a rock it is necessary that agriculture be carried on in the fields below.

One passes the Mesa Encantada or Enchanted Mesa on the way to the "City of the Sky." This is a high elevation, at least 450 feet above the valley. According to an ancient legend the City of Acama once stood on this, but a cliff fell and separated the few who were at home from those who were working in the field and the survivors unable to return home built the present pueblo of Acama. This theory has been partially verified by ethnologists who have visited the place and found relics of pottery and household utensils. Whether or not there has been two pueblos of Acama, it is safe to say the home life in both has been conducted in the same manner. The homes are of terraced form three stories high and between them are long, narrow streets of rock. One of these widens into a plaza in the center of the village and here all dances and public meetings are held. Curious cone-shaped ovens, a survival of Spanish times, are situated at intervals. It seems somewhat odd to climb a ladder to the second story in order to enter an Acama house, but once there the rooms on the second terrace are easily reached and another ladder leads to the third story.

Some one has said that if all the rest of the world were blotted out these Indians would still go on their way peaceful and undisturbed. They take much pleasure in their daily games and modest labors. They know each other by their Indian names, but to an outsider they will often give a Spanish name or a sort of composite English and Spanish cognomen. This name is always dignified and frequently complimentary. Occasionally in the homes one can see evidences of American civilization, some patent to make work easier, a tin dishpan on the wall decorated with crude paintings, but as a rule the chief ornament is the metate or grinding stones between which the women grind their corn. Often two or three are set in the floor of a house, with pottery receptacles nearby in which the ground corn is placed. These metates are made in two parts. One is a slab of stone placed at an angle. The other part takes the place of the white

woman's rolling pin, is shaped similarly, and is rolled up and down over the corn which is placed on the inclined stone. The effect is much like washing. The Indians are susceptible to music and as they grind, the large, finely developed women sing happy songs. Sometimes these chants tell of running water, of butterflies, of green fields, of the legends of their fathers, but always the tune is suited to the sentiment and the voice rises or falls to symbolize the thought. Every hearthstone is clean, every metate is spotless. When dirt and refuse appear it is swept on to a huge pile of debris outside the village and no waste is allowed to accumulate. As the women sweep with wisps of reeds they bend gracefully, every motion full of charm. These women have no "household cares."

One sees the same home life in Laguna which is about twice the size of the Keresan pueblo of Acama. It numbers about 1,000 people and has been the subject of a painting recently exhibited by Albert Groll in the New York Academy of Design. A small group of artists love these pueblos and there are a few truthful and remarkable paintings showing their charm. Laguna proper consists of nine villages, but the pueblo which is typical and best is the largest, as it is the winter home of the tribe. Laguna (the lake) was founded as far back as 1699 by refugees from Acama and Zuni, and several battles with the Navajos and Apaches were fought here. As we walked under a dazzling sun on its ancient, barren and inclined rocky streets, for Laguna is built on a hill, it

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Anyone interested in the treatment of Consumption should get one of the booklets telling of recoveries by the use of Eckman's Alternative. Coughs, Stubborn Colds and Pneumonia may be the beginning of more serious troubles—Eckman's Alternative is the effective remedy. Read Mr. Kanaly's statement—

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CASE OF COLD FEET BOTHERS PUG

JACK JOHNSON TRIES TO LAND IN HOSPITAL WARD BY FEIGNING ILLNESS.

Chicago, Nov. 9.—Attorneys for Jack Johnson, who is held in the county jail in default of a \$30,000 bond on a charge of violating the Mann act, will go to the United States supreme court in an effort to obtain the release of the negro, they announced tonight. The contention will be set up that the Mann act is unconstitutional in that it deals with a crime over which states alone have jurisdiction.

Meantime Johnson will remain in his cell. Late today he was placed in a cage with James Brown, a negro cook charged with murder. The fight-er's incarceration followed his vain effort to obtain a place in the hospital ward by feigning illness. A physician examined Johnson and thus diagnosed his case.

"His only trouble is cold feet,"

Immediately Johnson was ordered to vacate a comfortable chair in which he had been lying. Handcuffs were placed on his wrists and he was transferred to a cell in the negro section of the jail.

Power for a new fire proof machine for rewinding motion picture films is provided by a tiny electric motor.

Manager "Kid" Elberfeld is signing new players in the hope of building up the Chattanooga team.

A motorboat of 200 tons register recently was launched in England for the use of British consular officers in Africa.

A simple siphon with which milk can be drawn from a bottle without disturbing the cream has been designed by a Connecticut man.

GINK AND DINK :: :: By C. A. Voight



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