

tonwood Springs on the west side of the mountains. From several sources we had heard that Geronimo had surrendered and was with Lawton's command, north of San Bernardino. So taking Bannister, Bullard and an orderly with me I started out to find him.

Riding down Cottonwood Canyon toward the plain we saw at a distance a herd of horses, which we believed without doubt to be Lawton's. Presently we neared a place where the stream entered a ravine on the edge of the plain. Here to my great surprise, Geronimo with whom I was well acquainted, passed, riding a while mule and, apparently ignoring our presence. Going a little further we entered the ravine or more properly speaking, canyon. It had been selected by the Indians as their camp and it was with feelings of astonishment and some trepidation that we saw the bucks, seated up on the walls of the canyon, with their rifles in their hands, eyeing us grimly.

Nevertheless affecting to not notice them we passed through the canon to the further end. Looking out over the plain we saw no signs of Lawton's camp, so we retraced our steps through the canyon again. It was only when we emerged that we breathed freely.

Several miles to the northward we found Lawton with his men, and I had a long conversation with him in which he described the situation. What it was can best be judged by a recent typewritten statement sent me two weeks ago by Brig. Genl. Abiel Smith, who at that time was with Lawton's column. The correctness of Smith's account is vouched for by General R. D. Walsh, who also was with Lawton. It also agrees generally with Lawton's and Gatewood's official reports which I have in my possession.

"The first intimation that Lawton had of a desire on the part of the hostile Indians to surrender, came from Wilder, who interviewed two squaws from Geronimo's band that came into the town where Wilder was encamped."

"When Lawton received this information he directed Gatewood, with his two friendly Indians that Miles had sent down from the reservation in Arizona, along with R. A. Brown and his U. S. Indian Scouts and a few regular soldiers, to push ahead on the trail, so that the two Indian Messengers from Miles could join the hostiles. This was

done and after traveling about thirty-five miles Gatewood and Brown went into camp on the Bavispe River. The two Miles Indians had by this time joined the hostiles."

"The next morning one of the Indian Messengers returned to where Gatewood and Brown were encamped and asked Gatewood to go out a short distance and meet representatives of Geronimo's band for a talk. This, Gatewood did with an interpreter and one or two others of his party. During the talk Geronimo, himself, appeared. He told Gatewood that they would not come in as Miles' Indians had requested. Gatewood, after informing Geronimo that he could not add anything to what the Miles messenger had brought them, returned to his camp where Brown and the rest of his party were."

"By this time Lawton with one officer, A. L. Smith, and a couple of civilian guides, arrived at the camp. Gatewood reported the result of his visit and interview with the hostiles and announced his mission was ended and he would report back to Miles."

"Lawton decided that the party should remain where they were on the Bavispe River with the hope that the hostiles would again seek an interview."

"The main part of Lawton's command with the supplies were back on the trail thirty-five or forty miles at this time. Lawton directed one of the officers, A. L. Smith, with him to go back and hurry forward a few mules loaded with food."

"The next morning a request from Geronimo came into the camp for Lawton, himself, to come out and meet him. Lawton went out and was greeted most affectionately and effusively by Geronimo. This time the principal topic of conversation seemed to concern the question of food. Lawton told Geronimo that they had little or nothing with them in the advance camp, but that one of his officers had gone back to hurry forward rations. Geronimo then said when the food came in he would come back and have a talk with Lawton."

"The following day early in the morning, six pack mules with supplies arrived, and almost at the same time Geronimo and Natchez, and a couple of his warriors joined Lawton in camp."

"After eating a hearty meal they all sat around, A. L. Smith was present, and listened to the terms on which Geronimo was willing to surrender. Lawton told Geronimo