

'Before entering actively upon the execution of these orders, I insisted that a sufficient military force be ordered into the field to afford ample protection to settlers, in the event of an emergency. General Kautz, commanding the Department of Arizona, hesitated, but upon receipt of orders from the War Department at Washington, D. C., sent the entire Sixth Cavalry into southern Arizona. Within a week, I was in Tucson with an escort of fifty-four Arivaipa and Coyotere braves. While waiting for the cavalry to arrive, the citizens of Tucson had an excellent opportunity to observe the character and conduct of my Apache police at close quarters. Reports of their efficiency and dependability had spread throughout the territory, but the citizens of Tucson had visualized them only at long range. Hence, when this company of fifty-four stalward Apaches, fully armed with government rifles and equipped for war, marched into Tucson, they presented an impressive spectacle, and the citizens were fully persuaded that the reports of their prowess were not mid-Victorian hokum.

'A committee of Tucson's leading business men came to me with a request for an Apache war dance. I consulted my Indians, and found them not only willing, but enthusiastic. A load of firewood was hauled to the center of the old military plaza. As soon as it was dark, the campfire was kindled. Under a full moon, spectators filed into the plaza by hundreds, until we had an audience of three thousand. Appeared the actors, thirty-five redskins stripped to their waists, bodies and faces hideous with smears of war-paint; fantastic headgear; bearing lances and shields, bows and arrows, or rifles, according to the act assigned. Redskin chanters; musicians with tom-toms. First came the "instigation scene," in which one lithe dancer performed gracefully with lance and shield. Gradually the number of participants increased, until the campfire was circled by a score of wildly gesticulating Apaches, of ferocious aspect. The night