

and the band was sent to Florida. The subsequent history of these as well as the other Chiricahuas is recorded in Senate Executive Documents No. 117 of 1887, and No. 35 of 1889, and in other official publications, all of which will well repay their reading.

After the surrender, Gatewood, presuming upon his ten years of unbroken Indian service and the impairment of his health due thereto, applied for a staff corps appointment, but this was denied, and he was detailed instead as an aide to General Miles. Upon release from four years of this duty, he rejoined his troop at Fort Wingate, New Mexico, and was almost immediately ordered with his regiment to the Dakotas to take part in the Sioux War of 1890-'91. But his health, already undermined, broke down after a few weeks of the severe winter campaign and he was practically an invalid for a year. Recovering sufficiently to report for duty at Fort McKinney, Wyoming, he saw a bit more field service when the military quelled the so-called Cattle War in the Big Horn and Jackson's Hole country. Shortly afterward, he was seriously injured in leading the fight against a fire which destroyed nearly half the post. With health gone and body crippled, he was ordered home for retirement, and died in May, 1896.

His reward, for services that have often been described as unusual, was like that of many another soldier who has given his all that his country might grow and prosper: for himself a free plot of ground in Arlington Cemetery, and to his widow a tardy seventeen dollars a month.

For several years there was an unfortunate controversy as to the bestowal of credit generally in the Geronimo campaign, but in this Gatewood took no part. But finally, he was prevailed upon by the editor of a leading magazine to write his story of the surrender of Geronimo. He died before final arrangements for publication could be made; but his story was written; and his manuscript, just as he wrote it, has been preserved all these years. Proofs of every essential statement contained therein have been painstakingly collected and assembled, and they are now complete. General Lawton, himself, gave to Gatewood the credit for having effected the surrender of Geronimo.

Lieutenant Gatewood's narrative follows:

THE SURRENDER OF GERONIMO*

By LIEUTENANT CHARLES B. GATEWOOD
6th U. S. Cavalry

I

In July, 1886, General Miles, after an interview with some of the friendly Chiricahuas at Fort Apache, Arizona, determined to send two of them, Kayitah and Martine, with myself to the hostiles under Natchez and Geronimo, with a message demanding their surrender and promising removal to Florida with their families, where they would await final disposition by the President. General Miles gave me written authority to call upon any officer commanding United States troops, except those of a few small columns operating in Mexico, for whatever help was needed. And, to prevent my possible capture as a hostage, he particularly warned me not to go near the hostiles with less than twenty-five soldiers as an escort. He ordered the soldiers to be furnished me by the commanding officer of Fort Bowie.

Our party was organized at Fort Bowie, Arizona: the two Indians; George Wratten, interpreter; Frank Huston, packer, and myself. Later, "Old Tex" Whaley, a rancher, was hired as courier. We were furnished with the necessary riding and pack mules; but upon mention of our twenty-five soldiers, the commanding officer showed so little desire to part with so large a portion of his command that we forbore to insist. Whereupon he seemed much relieved and promised cordially that my escort should be supplied from the command of Captain Stretch, south of us at Cloverdale near the Mexican line.

We set out, and in three days arrived at Cloverdale. There we found that a company of infantry at very reduced strength, ten broken-down horses and a six-mule team comprised the whole outfit. Captain Stretch having been my instructor at West Point, it did not seem right that I should rob him of his whole command. Instead, we merely accepted his invitation to dinner, and then journeyed on into Mexico.

Soon after crossing the line, we fell in with a troop of the

(*Copy slightly condensed from the original manuscripts and notes.)