

The early summer of 1876 was uneventful. We taught our Chiricahuas how to make and lay adobes, and they developed into good Apache citizens. Late in June, I got a bit restless. Things were running along too smoothly. I was very much interested in a young lady back in Ohio, and now that my savages were civilized, I felt warranted in asking her to become a life partner. She was a courageous girl, and accepted. That meant a trip back East for the wedding. The Centennial Exposition was being held in Philadelphia, and then, as now, tourist-minded folks flocked to expositions. So I conceived the idea of taking with me a bodyguard of real red-blooded Apaches. The people back East had never seen an Apache, and for many years had been told that they were the most fiendish and ruthless of all Indians. I thought it would be a great scheme to present the Apaches in person, and permit the effete East to see for itself that Apaches were human, and susceptible to human influences. Then, too, I wanted my Indians to see the greatness of our United States and become impressed by the progress of their white brothers.

'I suggested the idea to the Indian Bureau at Washington, but no one seemed to be interested. On my salary of sixteen hundred dollars per annum, I could not afford to pay the expenses of a carload of Apaches, particularly in view of my impending wedding. So I became an impresario. I decided to organize quite an impressive group of Indians, stop off en route at principal cities, give a "Wild Apache" show at each stop, and pay our expenses out of our proceeds as Thespians.

'The idea went over big with the Indians. In fact, my entire family of forty-five hundred wanted to go. But I selected only chiefs and other leaders of various tribes, feeling they would become more influential propagandists upon their return to Arizona, and that their absence, with me, would be a guarantee that their people would behave themselves while I was away. Also, I knew if I could advertise as my actor-headliners, some of