

is probably the spring that supplies water for the Norman and Morgan ranch, now owned by T. M. Wilson.

(Mrs. James Norman says that the water of the spring was warm when they first came to the ranch).

January 3, they were camped seven leagues north of the spring called San Francisco. In the words of Mendoza: "It is a watering place consisting of a beautiful reservoir supplied by rains. The passage through the rocks forms two steep crags on the sides, and on one of them I had a holy cross placed. This place we call San Nicolas (San Esteban—Judge Bogel's pasture). The next stop was where the water was brackish, with the exception of a little spring of fresh water. This place they named Nuestro Padre San Antonio (Antelope Springs—Tom Mitchell's pasture).

Onward the expedition traveled until they reached the buffalo country.

MENDOZA'S EXPEDITION

It required thirteen days for the Mendoza party to travel from the Alamito to the Pecos River. Leaving the Pecos, the party headed east across the unwatered plain, and after several days travel reached the Conchos River. After a six week's sojourn in the Conchos and Colorado rivers in Texas, Mendoza returned to La Navidad en Las Cruces (Presidio del Norte vicinity), and took possession of the north bank of the Rio Grande as a part of New Mexico, and delivered rods of justice to four native chiefs. Leaving Assevedo and Zavaleta to continue missionary work, Mendoza and Lopez returned to Paso del Norte by way of the Conchos and Sacramento Rivers (Oñate's route), because the Suma Indians were in revolt along the Rio Grande.

Hodge in his handbook of the American Indian writes: "Jumano, a tribe of unknown affinity were first seen about the beginning of 1535 by Cabeza de Vaca and his companions in the vicinity of the junction of the Conchos with the Rio Grande."

Later, the records began to carry the Comanche, Lipan and Apache tribal names.

The Apaches were a war-like tribe, raiding white and Indian settlements alike. They were nomadic and buffalo hunters, constantly on the move, cultivating little from the ground, and living in skin tepees. They were the finest horsemen of the plains. Doubtless the Apaches and Comanches destroyed and absorbed the Jumanos.

"From the very discovery of America the spiritual welfare of the native tribes was a subject of concern to the various colonizing nations, particularly Spain and France, with whom the christianization and civilization of the Indians were made a regular part of

the government scheme. The missionary was frequently the pioneer explorer and diplomatic ambassador."

First in chronological order, historic importance, number of establishments, and population come the Catholic missions conducted in earlier period chiefly by Jesuits among the French and Franciscans among the Spanish colonies. The earliest missions established with the present United States were those begun by the Spanish Franciscans, Fathers Padilla, Juan de la Cruz, and Descalona of the Coronado expedition among the Quivira (Whichita) Pecos, and Tegua in 1542, in New Mexico. In 1565 San Augustine, Florida, was founded by the Jesuits."

We have the record of the establishment of seven missions at the junction of the two great waterways of the Big Bend. These missions were founded in the latter part of the 17th century. There are not any records giving much light on the missions until the 18th century, when the Presidio system was flourishing and La Junta or La Navidad en Las Cruces became Presidio del Norte, in 1778. A mission was located up the Rio Grande from Presidio this same year at Pilares. San Vicente was established the latter part of the 18th century on the south banks of the Rio Grande, between the Boquillas and the Grand Canyons of the Rio Grande. The ruins are still visible. Fortin de San Jose is down the river from Presidio.

The Spanish military authorities succeeded in sowing seeds of deep distrust in the Indian's mind, and Catholic Padres interfered with the Indian's Medicine men. This combination caused the great uprising in New Mexico in 1681, but the uprising caused the development of the Presidio system from Paso del Norte to San Vicente.

In the meantime the La Salle expedition had landed on the Texas coast. This incident caused the government in the New Spain (Mexico) to look to that section of her possessions. Being so occupied she neglected the Rio Grande Frontier.

Four Things

Henry Van Dyke

Four things a man must learn to do
 If he would make his record true:
 To think without confusion clearly;
 To love his fellow-men sincerely;
 To act from honest motives purely;
 To trust in God and Heaven securely.