

## THE ABORIGINES OF ARIZONA.

Now that the Territory of Arizona is coming into prominence as a field for agricultural and mining industries, being pierced by a railway and populated by many immigrants, it is timely to recur for a moment to the people who are being supplanted, and whose wild life is daily being curbed and checked. One of the Indian tribes inhabiting Arizona is the Apaches, known everywhere as among the worst, the most treacherous and relentless of the Indian race. Their raids have brought grief to many travelers or settlers in their domain, and their bad name has been spoken with execration in many quiet neighborhoods at the East, as their murders have robbed peaceful firesides of those who have gone out on ventures or in the service of the country.

Our engravings show typical forms of the Apache Indians as secured by Mr. E. Conklin for his "Picturesque Arizona," and engraved by the Continent Stereoscopic Company of New York. In connection with these engravings we cannot do better than to compile a few interesting statements concerning the traits of these Indians, as they were gained by Mr. Conklin, chiefly by his conversations with Ex-Governor Safford of Arizona, who was a leader in the early negotiations by which peace was finally secured between the Apaches and the people of the Territory.

The Apaches are of medium size, physically quick and active, and are capable of enduring great hardships. Their muscles of locomotion have been developed to the fullest extent, and they are capable of moving with great rapidity. Intellectually they are very shrewd, have good command of language, are quite witty and fond of joking.

Governor Safford was present at the first attempt to make a general peace between them, and the whites, and the friendly Indians. The conference lasted two days; and the chiefs who spoke for the Indians argued their points with great ingenuity, and far excelled in shrewdness the tame Indians. The principal spokesman upon that occasion, and who is now chief of the Apaches, is named Eakimenzen. I shall never forget with what pride and pomp he rode down to the place of meeting on his noble charger, with his favorite squaw seated behind him. He was then about 35 years old; tall and straight, and moved with the dignity and independence of a king.

Cochise was the greatest war chief the Apaches ever had. He never was whipped in a fight, and was a natural born chief. He was kind to his men, and never tasted food until they were first supplied. But he exacted in return, implicit obedience to his commands, and a very slight deviation cost the offender his life. He had no more hesitation in plunging his spear through the heart of one of his own men, than in killing an enemy in battle. He was a man of great energy, of superior ability and firmness of purpose, and was generally faithful to his promises. He was tall, straight and commanding in appearance, and his features were regular with a placid, though rather sad countenance. He rarely ever smiled, and was thoughtful and studied in all his expressions. I talked to him of the superior advantages of civilization, but he replied, "I am too old to adopt new customs." He had captives with him who could speak and read the Spanish language, and he was well advised of everything the newspapers said about him. He expressed a desire that his children should learn to read and write, "but of us old people" he said, "you can make nothing of us but wild men." He died a natural death three years ago. During the last three years of his life he and his people lived at peace with the citizens of Arizona, but carried on a relentless war against the Mexicans across the frontier.

Since the Apache Indians have been

brought on the reservation, and have become tame, and acquainted with civilization, they have undergone a great change, and appear like a different people. They have commenced to labor, and seem desirous many of them, to earn their own living. They have accumulated some property, and it would now be difficult to drive a large majority of them on the war path. They have for several years been self-governing; the police duties have been entirely performed by men belonging to the tribe, and these policemen have in every instance been vigilant and true. In one instance an Indian attempted to kill the U. S. Agent at the reservation, but was almost instantly killed himself by his brother, who was acting as a policeman.

By Indian custom the woman is the property of the man. When an Indian desires to marry, he purchases his wife from the father. A man

EGOTISTIC TALKERS.—Almost every circle is blessed with the egotist, who exercises a kind of dictatorship over it. Are you in mistake as to a matter of fact? He cannot suffer you to proceed until you are corrected. Have you a word on the end of your tongue? He at once comes to your relief. Do you talk bad grammar? He quotes rules and gives examples like a pedagogue. Does he discover there is a link wanting in the chain of your argument? He bids you stay till he has supplied it. Do you drop a word to which he has devoted much research? He inquires its primitive signification, and directly inflicts upon the circle a long philological disquisition. When you relate an incident which you suppose new and affecting, your friend listens without emotion. When you have done, he observes that he has heard the same long ago, and adds a very material circum-



AN APACHE CHIEF.

is allowed as many wives as he is able to purchase. She is thus his property to do with as he pleases. He can beat her at will, and even kill her if he so inclines. Of course she is treated according to the disposition of her husband. Some are kind and indulgent, while others are brutal and cruel. There is nothing in Indian custom to which they cling with more tenacity than this supreme power over their wives; and no Indian, however unjust or cruel another may be, ever thinks of interfering to protect her; and the sentiment of a whole tribe has often been united against the efforts of agents who have tried to correct these abuses.

A CHOICE OF EVILS.—Mamma: "Now, Arthur, be a good boy, and take your medicine, or mamma will be very angry!" Arthur (after mature deliberation): "I would rather mamma was very angry!"

stance which you omitted. He is never taken by surprise, and it is impossible to give him any information. And yet he never takes the lead in the conversation, nor advances an original thought. It is his business to come after, and pick up the words which others let slip in a running talk, or to check their impetuosity, that he may point out to them their mistakes. Had he lived in the days of Solomon, he would have flattered the royal sage with an intimation that some of his proverbs were plagiarisms; or had he been a contemporary of Solomon's father, he would have felt himself bound to give the slayer of Goliath some lessons on the use of the sling, and hinted to the sweet singer of Israel his private opinion that the shepherd bard did not perfectly understand the use of the harp.

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