

CATTLE BRANDED  LEFT SHOULDER.

 LEFT SIDE.

 LEFT HIP.

HORSES BRANDED  LEFT SHOULDER.

THE ANGUS V V RANCH.

JAMES E. CREE.

HUGH D. HENDERSON, MANAGER.

FORT STANTON, N. M., 189

Statement of Louis Herrera

I went to live at the ranch of Fernando Herrera on 29th ~~August~~ ^{August}. I fained sickness, & stayed there 3 days. I then worked for Mr. Hale 1 week. I then went back to Fernando Herrera and stayed there 1 day. He wouldn't let me in the house. From there I went to Yeguin's Chavez or ~~Rendon~~ and stayed there 1 week. Then I went to the Junction with the two Chavez boys. We stayed at the Junction 1 day. I then went to Sabino Guerra's house on the ranch of F. Herrera and staying with him ~~since the~~ now (7th Oct.)

On the 2nd of October Optisio Apodaca and Antonio Apodaca came to do Felipe Montoyas' house also on the ranch of Fernando Herrera. I did not know them. On the ~~evening~~ ^{afternoon} of 2nd they left saying they were going to hunt a horse, and late in the evening I saw them coming back with some beef on their horses. They came to Sabino's house which is adjoining Montoyas' house and said that they had not found the horse. Sabino told them that the

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horse was there (in the canon above Herreras) the day before.

Optisio Apodaca then asked Sabino Guerra to come aside - he wanted to talk to him. It was then I saw that he had beef. He had the Kidneys and the loins and the Sallow.

He carried it in to Montoye's house.

Sabino was there with him about 1/2 an hour.

When Sabino came out he told me that the two Apodacas had invited him to go with them and help to bring back the beef they had killed. Sabino said he didn't want to go and that it was an awful thing for him to do. I said "it is all right let us go I will go too." he said "no" it is raining too much and I haven't got my horses here. well then I said let them go on horse back and we will go on foot. We were then all talking together that is to say the two Apodacas, Sabino and myself. Antonio Apodaca said that it wasn't necessary for us to go on foot that they had horses there for them to go on.

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(3) FORT STANTON, N. M., 189

Sabinio then saddled one of Apodaca's horses and we both got on the it. He went up the cañon to where the beef was killed.

This was about a mile from Montoyes house when we got there the beef was already butchered. The two fore quarters were still together and the two hind quarters were laid on top of a rock. The head was still attached to the hide. It was a red and white spotted cow about 5 years old and had large horns. It was very fat. I did not see the brand on the hide at that time, it was dark, but I went and to the cars and felt the mark; it was in this mark .

Optisio then took an axe and separated the fore quarters, and then Antonio Apodaca told me to cut the ears off and the brand out - and to take them away and put them in the fire. I told him it was very dark and we couldn't see the brand that I would return in the morning and take them off. We then took the beef and put it on the

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(4)

horses and returned to the house of Montoya

I said to Antonio Apodaca that his horse was going to fall, he had too much of a load. He replied ~~that~~ Oh no, the horse is used to carry a whole beef but subsequently he ~~gave~~ put $\frac{1}{2}$ of the beef on Optisio's horse.

Sabino walked back as also the two Apodacas who were leading their horses that were loaded with beef. I rode but carried none of it. While the beef was being loaded on the horses the Antonio Apodaca handed me a rifle (44 caliber) and told me to have it ready in case any one came upon us.

Sabino never spoke a word.

The cow had been shot through the shoulder. When we left Montoya's house to go for the beef he ~~said~~ (Montoya) said, I am not going, but you fellows bring the beef and I'll eat it.

When we came back to his house with it he said, I ~~am~~ ^{am} ~~never~~ hungry for beef as long as these boys are with me.

Antonio Apodaca said "you don't kill beef

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FORT STANTON, N. M.,

189

because you dont want to; all these cattle belong to me they are all at your disposal - ~~be~~ pointing out on the range.

~~On the morning of the 3rd they came (the two Apodaca's) came~~ On the morning of the 3rd I rose early and walked to where the beef was killed. I then ~~took the~~ ~~beef~~ examined the hide and took the brands & color. The cow was branded V on left side and another V on the side. I left the hide just as I had found it, and I then returned to Sabino's house.

On my return I met Optisio Apodaca at the door of Montoya's house. He asked me "How was everything up there is it all right" and I answered "yes". Antonio Apodaca came out then and said ^{"well my friend"} we are going to Socorro ^{4 days} to be gone about 15 days; be ready when we come back and we'll kill another fat cow.

They then left about 10 o'clock. Antonio Apodaca took a fore quarter to Sabino's house. Sabino's wife was there, & I was there also Sabino had gone off with some horses.

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(6) FORT STANTON, N. M., 189

On the morning of the 3rd Felipe Montoya cut a piece of beef and took it over to Theodoro Herrera about a mile from ^{his} (Montoya's) house. I heard him tell Sabino that.

I saw the Apodacas start and they took some of the beef with them.

Antonio told me he had frequently killed beef in the same neighborhood at all times of the day & night.

I am now regarded by Fernando Herrera as a good friend and can go to his house at any time. He said to me that when the roundups were over it would be a good time to have fresh beef and jerk a lot of it.

The Angus VV Ranch
Fort Stanton New Mexico
1895
7th October

Statement of Louis Herrera

I went to live at the ranch of Fernando Herrera on 29th, August. I fained sickness, & stayed there 3 days. I then worked for (JW) Hale 1 week. I then went back to Fernando Herrera and stayed there 1 day. He wouldn't let one in the house. From there I went to (Yqinio Chavez or Ruidoso) and stayed there 1 week. Then I went to the Junction with the two Chavez boys. We stayed at the Junction 1 day. I then went to Sabino Guerra's house on the ranch of of F. Herrera staying with him now (7th, Oct.).

On the 2nd of October (Opfisis Apodaca) and Antonio Apodaca came to Felipe Monsoya's house also on the ranch of of Fernando Herrera. I did not know them. On the afternoon of 2nd they left saying they were going to hunt a horse and late in the evening I saw them coming back with some beef on their horses. They cam to Sabino's house which is adjoining Montoya's house and said that they had not found the horse. Sabino told them that the horse was there (in the canon above Herrera's) the day before.

It was then I saw that he had beef. He had the kidneys and the loins and the sallow.

He carried it into Montoya's house.

Sabino was there with him about ½ an hour.

When Sabino came out he told us that the two Apodacas had invited him to go with then and help to bring back the beef they had killed. Sabino said he didn't want to go and that it was an awful thing for him to do. I said "it is all right let us go I will go too". He said "no" it is raining to much and I haven't got any horses here. Well then I said let them go on horse back and we will go on foot. We were then all talking together, that is to say the two Apodacas, Sabino and myself. Antonio Apodaca said that it wasn't necessary for us to go on foot that they had horses there for them to go on.

Sabino then saddled one of Apodaca's horses and we both got on it. We went up the canon to where the beef was killed.

When we got there the beef was already butchered. The Two fore quarters were still together and the two hind quarters were laid on top of a rock. The head was still attached to the hide. It was a red and white spotted cow about 5 years old and had large horns. It was very fat. I did not see the brand on the hide at that time, it was dark, but I went to the ears and felt the mark, it was in this mark (see original letter).

(Optisio) then took an ace (axe?) and separated the fore quarters, and then Antonio Apodaca told me to cut the ears off and the brand out - and to take them away and put them in the fire. I told him it was very dark and we couldn't see the brand that I would return in the morning and take them off.

We then took the beef and put it on the horses and returned to the house of Montoya.

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Sabino never spoke at all.

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When we came back to his house with it he said, I never go hungary for beef as long as these boys are with me.

Antonio Apodaca said "you don't kill beef because you don't want to, all these cattle belong to me they are all at your disposal - pointing out on the range.

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