

Brave Oregon Warrior on Last Visit to Friends

PENDLETON, Ore., Dec. 22.—Tullix Halliquilla is a Warm Spring Indian, with a name so decidedly Roman that it could easily pass for that of an officer under Caesar or Hannibal. But Tullix knows nothing or cares nothing about ancient history and, on the contrary, is very proud of the fact that he lived to help make modern history.

Tullix's pilgrimage to Pendleton a few days ago was the first in many years. In making inquiries he found that many of his old friends and survivors of the Modoc war had passed over the "Great Divide," among them being the late T. J. Blair, the centenarian who died during the year. He spent the most of the time while here with relatives at the Umatilla reservation, saying that he was getting old now and desired to make this, his last visit, one of special importance. His wife and daughters accompanied him.

For 30 years Tullix has been industriously engaged in stock raising on the Warm Springs reservation, about 75 miles south of The Dalles. He has become wealthy, and while not educated, has business ability and is appreciative of the advantages of civilization. One of his daughters is an accomplished pianist, and both were graduated from the Chemawa Indian school. Though quite old he has a splendid physique, with broad shoulders, and is six feet in height.

Friendly Toward Whites.

Tullix is the nominal chief of the Warm Springs Indians, a tribe especially noted for friendliness towards the whites at all times. Nowhere in Oregon history can it be said of the Warm Springs Indian that he had a treacherous heart or ever bore hostility against his pale-face brother, and in this respect Tullix was an excellent representative of his people. He points with pride to the past, when he and his men figured so prominently in the uprisings of other tribes against immigrants, serving as scouts for the government and proving of incalculable assistance to the army.

In 1865 Tullix and a band of his men under the command of the famous Donald McKay fought with the soldiers against the Snake and Plute Indians in the Owyhee country. After a few skirmishes these tribes were defeated and captured, with small loss

of life to the scouts and soldiers. But it was in the Modoc war that Tullix and McKay made themselves especially useful and it was largely through these scouts and their aids that the war was concluded in a comparatively short time.

Joins Whites Against Modocs.

Tullix is so closely identified with the stirring events of the early '70s that his name recalls an interesting bit of Oregon history. The year 1873 was memorable because it marked the last campaign of any consequence against the Indians, during which several fierce and bloody battles were fought. The Modocs as well as the Rogue River Indians had bad feeling against all whites. Their fighting spirit was aroused, and in a measure, justly so. The cause of the war was the same as that that can be usually assigned to early uprisings of the Indians. Two miners from the California gold fields were on their way north and were passing through the Modoc country. While in camp one evening, they were paid a friendly visit by two Modocs. After a short exchange of greetings, the Indians started to take their leave, when the miners insisted that they should remain in camp all night. But the visitors declined with thanks and again started to go when the miners deliberately shot and killed them both. Not long after the Modocs learned of the tragedy and swore vengeance upon the murderers as well as all whites who might enter their country. During the few months following this incident many immigrants met horrible deaths at the hands of the Modocs and the depredations continued to such an extent that it was necessary for the government to intervene. A detachment of soldiers was sent into the stronghold of the Modocs to capture the hostile Indians and establish peace terms. But the army had not reckoned with the strength, prowess and cunning of the red warriors. The struggles of the following six months were bloody, resulting in considerable loss of life to both regulars and volunteers.

Captain Jack, leader of the Modocs, proved to be one of the greatest fighters in Oregon history, exercising

strategy, diplomacy and tact so exceedingly well that the army officers were unable to cope with him. It remained for Donald McKay, Tullix and about 40 other Warm Spring Indian scouts to use counter tactics with such telling effect that, with the assistance of the soldiers, the Modocs were finally defeated and captured. For cruelly murdering General Canby, Dr. Thomas and other members of the peace commission who had met Captain Jack and his advisers under a flag of truce, the leaders of the Modocs were given a trial immediately after their capture, were found guilty and hanged at Salem. With this incident, the hostilities ceased, the Indians recognizing that their cause was lost and that they must submit to the authority of the government.

Bad Red Good at Heart.

In referring to Captain Jack, Tullix declared that here was an Indian with a white man's heart and that he wanted to remain peaceful, but was compelled by others of the tribe to either prosecute the whites or abdicate his leadership. Between the two conditions, Captain Jack finally decided to remain at the head of the Modocs and continue his warfare against the whites, regardless of consequences. But deep down in his heart he wanted peace. After his capture he was permitted to talk with Tullix, to whom he repeatedly stated that he was sorry for the murders he had committed, but that he dare not lay down lest he be called a coward by the Modocs. And that would be worse, according to Indian logic, than to kill peace commissioners unarmed.

Tullix enlisted three months during the bloodiest battles of the campaign. He escaped with a wound on his left arm, and as he showed the scar he remarked, "I'm much glad to dodge Modoc bullets. But many Warm Spring Indians not so lucky." At the

close of the campaign he received an honorable discharge from the army, returning to his home on the Warm Spring reservation. He brought the document of dismissal with him and when exhibiting it he said that that was one thing he was very proud of. It was given at Fort Dalles in 1873 and is signed by the first lieutenant and adjutant of the post.

Disposition Is Retiring.

Like nearly all Indians, Tullix is very secretive, does not like to talk to strangers, and what things he told came out after much questioning. He was asked if he were the scout who during the Modoc campaign, advised an officer to discard the use of trumpets.

"No that was Pia-noose," he replied. "Pia-noose say too much music. He say take away all the music, all the big guns, all the soldiers, and tell the Warm Springs, 'Whip the Modocs;' all right. Some days we get two men, some days we get more, by and by we get all the Modocs."

Tullix said that the regulars were not good Indian fighters, as they "minded the officers too much." Evidently he meant that there was too much red tape in their methods of fighting the Modocs.

The old Indian scout then drew back quietly from the party of interested listeners, saying he would not talk any more about the war. The troubles had ended so long ago, he said, that it was not wise to discuss them now. "I'm getting old now, and my memory not very good any more," he concluded as he moved away.

Tullix is a long time friend of Major Lee Moorhouse, who was superintendent of the Umatilla agency a number of years ago, and was his guest during the few hours he was in the city. After a little persuasion he consented to "stand" for his photograph, a copyrighted reproduction of which appears herewith

Tullix Halliquilla Comes to the Umatilla Reserve for Final Leave Taking—
Fine Old Redman Who Fought With Whites in Pioneer Days.



—Photograph by Lee Moorehouse, Pendleton, Ore.
Tullix Halliquilla, Chief of Warm Spring Reds.