

# Cossacks, Indians and Buffalo Bill

## Chapter four

1906 Wintering in Marseilles, France

*Buffalo Bill's troupes wintered over in Marseilles, France, from November, 1905 to March, 1906, except for the Indians. During the winter season, Jake Posey had the task of taking twelve horses to an incinerator, ten miles out of town, each day. New horses and six mules, for the stage coach, and all their equipment were brought over. The arriving horses were the worst looking Jake Posey had ever seen, and some were so weak they had to be hauled to the lot, but by show time looked fairly well. The showmen wintered under canvas, meaning they used their traveling tents to house the animals and men. The cookhouse and horse tents were up all winter, and repair and painting was done under the side show tent. This was a first for Buffalo Bill and the tent show business. On February 9, Chief Iron Trail and fifty-two Sioux, including five women and two papooses, were escorted by William McCune, a Cody agent, onboard the SS La Gascogne for France. Colonel Cody followed on February 15, sailing on the SS St. Louis.*