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him, to ~~occupy~~ the place near which
all this jargon of basterous, in-
harmonious sounds had proceeded
& sitting down in the grass, awaiting
the result. A large fire was burn-
ing, the light of which illuminated
objects for some ^{& distance}, about
which, ^{& at some distance} in groups were seated
hundreds of these wild people, old
& young, forming a kind of discon-
nected circle, while in a group by
themselves were the braves of this
portion of the tribe, among whom
the drum was beating continually
while at intervals their clear voices
rose to a loud pitch in a kind of
discordant harmony, whereupon a couple
of braves, ^{nearly naked with feathers in their heads & paint} with long lances ^{ornamented}
^{narrow} with feathers & strips of cloth of
various colors, advanced toward the fire
in a series of fantasting, jumping-jerk-
ing up the legs as if they were afflicted
with the stringhalt - & a great variety
of indescribable gestures, & bodily
contortions, turning about near the
fire, a number of others with in-
similar habiliments, - with uplifted
tomahawks, hatchets - swords & clubs
&c. rushed into the area, with
the same indescribable gesticulations
striking, bowing, - jumping & yelling
in which latter the whole assembly
exercised their vocal powers - which
over & anon, a dark figure or figure
flitted across the arena which in
the dim & uncertain light, had

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more the appearance of demons than
human beings - perhaps the demoniac
forms, sometimes seen in pictures
were after all real scenes in savage
life. These demoniac objects flew
past in all possible attitudes, dropping
suddenly in the grass, would for a time
disappear from view, then suddenly bound-
ing high in the air - arms & legs distending
wide would disappear in the darkness
amid the yelpings of the dogs.

The fire was kept up by one of the
elderly men, who from time to time
as the performers returned to the group
of braves, gathered dry grass to throw
upon it ^{during} each performance, there-
by making a very bright light for a time
but which would gradually decline, &
fade giving opportunity for the latter
rushing - jumping - running - flying, kind
^{demoniac} of entertainment. This I suppose
was a Kiowa theatrical performance
in which on the present occasion
the "Osage War Dance" was enacted
by Kiowas.

20th 5th day - Clear & Pleasant, though
becoming cold towards evening.

Nine scholars attended school
to day. Before breakfast was over
we, that is Kicking Bird & myself
received an invitation to break-
fast with Ah-te-lakt - Feather
Head, which was of course accepted
& immediately after we were sent
for to breakfast with Koo-i-go-
Tahut - Trotting wolf, which