

would not hurt him, yet, as the boy could not know this, he saw the necessity of cautious management. Accordingly, he sent for a Mexican to interpret for him, and seeking for ability to treat the case with wisdom and discretion, gave him a good meal; then, after the arrival of the interpreter, instead of putting the question whether he would go back with the Indians or remain with him, opened conversation with him respecting his relatives — his father, mother, brothers, sisters, what their feelings must have been upon his capture, the happiness his return to them would occasion. Having thus aroused the young man's feelings of attachment to his near relatives, he proposed the question whether he would not prefer to live with them to living with the Indians; telling him that he need not be afraid to tell him the truth; the Indians dare not hurt him, whatever they had threatened to do, — not knowing that they had threatened his life did he not answer in accordance with their wishes. Thus assured, he answered in favor of living with his friends. This answer being made in Comanche, he was immediately stripped of his ornaments, and then given up. From him the agent afterwards learned that there were other Mexicans in captivity who wished to escape. These were brought in at the demand of the agent, thus securing the liberation of all the captives.

I should have mentioned under date of the 28th ult., that a council was held with the Indians of this Agency by Cyrus Beede, who was duly authorized by the depart-

ment to promise the speedy release of Satanta and Big Tree, and the Quahada women and children, provided the Indians, on their part, would but continue to be quiet and peaceable. They readily pledged themselves to abstain from acts of hostilities, and to maintain friendly relations towards the government and the white people, being given to understand that the prisoners would be delivered to them about the 1st of the sixth month next.

4th Month, 24th. — At the Agency. Agent Haworth having removed the military guard from about the Agency buildings soon after his arrival, the Indians look upon the move as an indication of confidence in them, and feel much pleased with it. Though there are several hundred of them around, including Kiowas, Comanches, and Apaches, — they having come in for rations, — they are more quiet than I have ever seen them on a day for issuing rations. Only the chiefs in the commissary; no wandering and peeking through the house, climbing of the fences into the yard, trying this door and that to get in; but all are quiet and orderly.

An old man is slowly riding round and round the buildings, all the time the crowd was so great, evidently to hold their wild young men in check, thus establishing a guard of their own to keep order, in lieu of the military guard heretofore employed — a convincing evidence that proper treatment will not only be appreciated, but reciprocated even by Indians.

Since my last entry, we have changed camping-grounds a number of times, remaining but a few days in a place;

*in consideration of the conditions required them to hold up their hands before the Great Spirit in order to render the pledge more sacred & binding in their estimation. To this they consented only on condition that his promises should be confirmed in the same solemn manner. Binding they would not yield this point, & both parties pledged.*

*they*