

and a portion of his spirit resides in this shield; hence, no doubt, they expected, in their superstition, that if he was not pleased with my being in their camp, he would have manifested his displeasure by striking me dead, when my polluted fingers took hold of the sacred ornaments of the shield, which, when uncovered, I recognized as one of those hung up by the image in the medicine house. As no harm befell me, this was to them an omen of his pleasure and my protection.

Soon after dinner, the camp was thrown into consternation by the announcement that white soldiers were approaching. Young men were at once sent out for the horses; women and children were running from lodge to lodge as if distracted; their valuables were arranged for a sudden departure, should such an event become necessary. The whole herd of horses and mules was soon run at full speed into camp, and many caught with the lariat; every one apparently secured a horse, pony, or mule, either to ride or pack with valuables. I had previously arranged with Kicking Bird to go with him and see the soldiers, before anything should be done, as I was of the opinion that there was no occasion for alarm.

Accordingly, a horse was led in for me to ride, my blankets were brought out of the lodge, and I was asked what should be done with them; I directed that they should remain where they were.

Soon a scouting party was ready to start out, with Kicking Bird and myself at its head. We went in the

direction the soldiers were reported to have been seen, and scoured the plains for some hours, or until dark, without seeing any signs of human beings, except an Apache camp in the distance, and a small camp of Comanches near by. On our return in the evening, we found that tranquillity had been restored, and the horses and mules again turned loose to graze.

18th. — Remained in and about camp. I was more favored with a sense of Divine Goodness overshadowing my mind than for some weeks past, for which I desire to be thankful.

Though mine is very far from being a state of abounding fullness, yet I have learned that a crumb of the "true bread which cometh down from God out of heaven," administered at the right time, may be blest to the sustaining of the divine life in the soul, and is sufficient to preserve a relish for that which is good.

30th. — My health continuing very poor, I came into the Agency ^{for} a few days since, and should resign my position but for the unwillingness of the agent to have me leave the Kiowa camps entirely.

Notwithstanding a party of Comanches went with a company of soldiers into Texas, searching for Indian raiders, in accordance with their agreement with the commissioner, and notwithstanding the raid made upon their stock, in their absence, by people living in Texas, as heretofore related, the agent this day received a telegram from Washington, to give the Comanches ten days in which to bring in five guilty raiders, as had been