

camp, amid the continued shouts of joy and the report of fire-arms.

We found, on arriving in camp, that Stumbling Bear, Sun Boy, and others who went out on the hunt, had returned, leaving Kicking Bird on the road coming in.

The next day was rainy, and we waited for the arrival of Kicking Bird, which was not until evening.

Soon after, the chiefs and principal men assembled at the lodge where we were, and I read the agent's message.

Kicking Bird said that when he was at the Agency, he wanted his annuities; but the agent would not let him have them, and he did not know but that would be the way now.

I told him the reason the agent would not let him have them then was, that the annuities for the Kiowas and Comanches came packed together, and had not been separated. The goods for the Apaches came by themselves, separate from the others, so that the agent could give them theirs at once. Now the goods of the Kiowas and Comanches are separated, and you can get them whenever you go for them. He then said, "Last fall, Washington told us to come in close and sit down by the agent. We did so, and got no robes to trade with, and it made us poor all the year. I now want to know, if these five chiefs camped here with me were to go in, would we get our goods?" I answered, "I do not know. It would be better for all the chiefs to go in together, and then they could see that a fair distribution was made; there would be no ground for one chief to com-

*(Insert all the writing on these 2 pages)*

plain that he had not got his just apportionment. But I do not have that to do, and cannot answer for the agent."

He then turned to the subject of the Comanche trouble, and made the following speech:—

"This country from the Arkansas to the Red River was given by Washington to his red children—the Kiowas, Comanches, Osages, Wichitas, Cheyennes, Arapahoes, Apaches, and Caddoes. It was a country of peace. I now see white men in it making lines, setting up stones and sticks with marks on them. We do not know what it means, but are afraid it is not for our good.

"The commissioner by making one bad talk has set all this country on fire. He has required a hard thing, which was not in the road our fathers travelled. It is a new road to us, and the Comanches cannot travel it: they cannot bring in the five men. If they attempt it, many women and children will be killed, and many men must die.

"It all rests on the commissioner.

"This trouble will not affect the Comanches alone: it will spread through all these tribes, and become general. It is a new road to all the Indians of this country, and they will be affected by it.

"I have taken the white people by the hand; they are my friends. The Comanches are my brothers. By and by, when I am riding on these prairies, and see the bones of the Comanches, or the skull of a white man, lying on the ground, my heart will feel very sad, and I

*They state that the Cheyennes accepted the Comanche Pipe without hesitation thus becoming allied with that tribe in Peace or War. The Kiowa chiefs who were present, not being willing to act in advance of the tribe, smoked their own*

*Pipe; the Apaches smoked with them, which signifies that they will act in concert with the Kiowas when the pipe shall be offered to that tribe. I thought that even the Comanche challenged, & their minds were much excited*

*I found the most arduous labor where I least expected it. The most friendly element of the tribe was deeply in sympathy with the Comanches & inflamed against Washington. The surveying of their land had soured the minds of a*

*the Indians, & the renewed demand for the five Comanches young men after they had done all in their power to satisfy the Department had set them all in a ferment*