

as at the outset. It may very likely have been a device, on the part of the chiefs, to convey the impression, that though they were anxious to travel in the white man's road, the young men had the power, and if they saw fit to raid, they could not restrain them.

For a time it really appeared that the Comanches and Cheyennes would be more quiet, but they mutually encouraged and strengthened each other in that which will ultimately result in injury to themselves. They smoked the war-pipe together, and brought it to the Kiowa camps; but, with the exception of ^{two} a single chiefs, it was rejected by them. The Arapahoes also refused to smoke with them, so that the effect of the council may not be entirely lost, though many of them may have occasion to remember the faithful warnings of these their true friends, after a realizing experience of the chastisements which their own stubborn folly has brought upon them.

17th. — As my health was not considered sufficient to justify me in going out to camp immediately after the council, the agent proposed my taking the Friends to Caddo, in order for them to take the cars at that place. Accordingly, we set out on the 13th instant, and travelled as far as the Washita River, at Cherokee Town, in a little over two days. On arriving at the river we found it high, notwithstanding teams had been crossing the day before.

Not being able to get satisfactory information respecting our getting across, — as the town was on the oppo-

site side of the river, — I took out one of the mules, and rode into the water. I soon found the current too strong to admit of my turning around, and so I was obliged to cross over. The mule, which was a large one, swam some distance before making the shore at a point much lower down the stream than where I entered it. The water ran over the mule's back, and of course I got pretty thoroughly wet, and not being able to recross without much more danger than I had as yet experienced, on account of the direction and strength of the current, and the steepness of the bank where I should be compelled to land, I went up into town, and got a man to take me back in a skiff. It being impracticable to get the ambulance across, arrangements were made for the Friends and their luggage to be taken over in a skiff, which was successfully accomplished, Dr. J. Shirley engaging to take them to Caddo in his ambulance. I then took my mule farther up the stream, and with the aid of a skiff, happily succeeded in getting him back, and started on my return.

Last night encamped entirely alone on Beaver Creek, about fifteen miles from the Agency. After lariatting out my mules, and partaking of some supper, I retired to my ambulance to sleep. Notwithstanding my lonely situation, being, in all probability, many miles from any other human being, I was favored to feel sensible of the Divine Presence, before betaking myself to sleep, and thankfulness was the clothing of my spirit, not only for the many preservations I have experienced in my wan-