

Chapter XII

Page 185, insert after heading; in place of par.1.

The next day after the close of the Medicine Dance we removed some fifteen or twenty miles to the Southwest, crossing many sand hills covered with the dwarf oaks heretofore described, about two feet in height. Encamped on the North Fork of Red River, at a point some miles farther west than I had before seen it. Nothing of peculiar interest to remark except the immense number of Indians with whom I was travelling. There were between two thousand and twenty-five hundred, and having all their ponies, mules and camp equipments along they made a large and imposing caravan, extending for miles in length, and presenting an interesting spectacle; ~~when viewing~~ the long continuous line slowly moving over the distant hilltops and winding its course along these secluded valleys, almost unknown to civilized man.

The next morning being the 23rd of the month, we again moved down the river some fifteen miles to the confluence of McClennon Creek, into which Rice Creek - the stream upon which the Medicine camp had been situated, flows. Here were large herds of buffalo and the people were soon in the full enjoyment of the chase, probably killing hundreds of these majestic animals and long before night were coming in with abundance of meat and hides.

Just before sundown, Maxie - a Mexican belonging to the Nô-kô-nie band of Comanches came into camp with a written message from the Agent, informing that the Government was engaged in the necessary negotiations for the release of Satanta and Big Tree, and that the Governor of Texas would in all probability soon comply with the requisition of the President for their release; than which no more pleasing news could be brought to the Kiowas, except that they were already released.

*See Commissioner's letter p. 150.