

THE STORY OF WHITE WOLF,

A COMANCHE CHIEF.



(When Thomas C. Battey went into the Kiowa Camps in 1873, White Wolf was a wild, raiding Comanche chief who did not discourage his young men from raiding in Texas. He looked upon T. C. Battey as a spy who would tell Washington (the Government) of all their evil deeds. Moreover, he had declared that if he found him on the plains he would kill him. These facts should be remembered in connection with the following account:)

Leaving the Agency, I started alone for Kicking Bird's camp. I found that he had moved farther away and that I could not reach his camp before nightfall. Seeing another camp a mile or two out of my course, I resolved to throw myself upon the hospitality of its occupants, whoever they might be, rather than to spend the night alone on the plains.

Wending my way along without being discovered (following the course of a ravine, at the head of which this hostile camp was located), I drove up in front of the camp to the surprise of those sitting without. Stopping my mules, I beckoned to one of the Indians to come to me. He arose and, hesitatingly, approached. I found I was in the camp of White Wolf, and the chief himself came forward, enquiring whether I had "revolver, bowie-knife, or other weapon." On being assured that I had not he asked, "What for you have that axe?" I told him, "To cut away the limbs of trees in my path."

Presently he said, "The sun will soon go away. Will you sit down by me and sleep?" I replied, "My mules are tired. I have come for that purpose." After a little time he queried again, "Where you sleep to-night?" receiving the same answer as before. Then he asked,