

Chow, who had gone out early in the morning in order to replenish our larder from some of the immense herds around us, came in loaded with choice pieces, such as tongue, tenderloin, &c., having killed four buffaloes.

These plains are not level; at the same time the slopes are long, so that large tracts of country come within the scope of vision at a time, and the visible horizon is mostly an unbroken plain.

The 17th we left camp just as the sun was throwing his first rays upon us. One of our party, having started out some time before in order to shoot game, had shot a large, fierce-looking buffalo so as to break his back. When we came up we found him in a perfect rage of terror and anger, though he could not raise his hinder parts from the ground. His will was good to have shown us that he was not to be approached with impunity, but that from some cause, no doubt mysterious to himself, his physical organization refused obedience to his will. The wild flashing of his eye, gleaming with rage and terror, the ominous shake of his enormous head, with his furious efforts to raise himself upon his feet, admonished us that our safety depended more upon his inability to harm us, than any disposition of his wild, untamed spirit. Chow would go up to him, seize him by the horns, and laugh at his calamity, as though he could understand him; telling him his medicine was strong, but not quite equal to his present need, and now too late to make more.

Several bullets were shot through his lungs, aimed at

his heart, while he still maintained his position upon his fore feet. Chow continued to talk to him about his strong medicine, pulling his head around by the horns, while he made efforts to plunge upon him, and teach him a lesson on the propriety of catching a wild buffalo bull by the horns. At length the Indian put an end to the scene by shooting him through the heart, upon which he settled over, and yielded up his life. He measured seven feet and two inches in girth. Another was soon killed, and their tongues cut out, while the carcasses were left on the ground, food for the coyotes and buzzards, of which there are great numbers on these plains. We passed several other buffalo carcasses, which had been left in the same manner, — killed by some one just that he might say he had killed a buffalo; and thus are they, year by year, growing fewer and fewer, through this means, in connection with the immense slaughter by the Indians, and it is not improbable that before many more revolving seasons they will be numbered with the extinct races of the past.

Before noon, in passing a ridge, as we came by the head of a deep ravine, or cañon, a herd of some twenty antelopes came running over the ridge, and, circling around our wagons, came close to us, stood and looked at us for a short time, with an air of awakened curiosity, then very gracefully took to flight over the ridges, and disappeared from view. They are very beautiful animals, resembling the deer, but smaller. They are equally graceful in form and movement, and more