## 120 LIFE AMONG THE INDIANS.

countenances, every one advancing, taking me by the hand, and pleasantly uttering my name, then seating themselves about the apartment. Two of them, viz., Kicking Bird and Stumbling Bear, entered my private apartment, and seating themselves upon the bed, called me to them. Stumbling Bear then rehearsed to me the talk of the Caddoes, saying, "No good talk, - Thomis-sy good man;" then told what chiefs had given "good talk" in their council, and immediately introduced conversation upon other subjects, but would still come back to the subject first spoken of, indicating the character of the council, and the depth of feeling manifested in it. In the mean time, the chiefs in the other apartment were silently smoking., Thus, through the watchful care of an overruling Providence, who has thus far made way for me, unworthy though I am of the least of his many favors, through many discouragements, and even at times where there has appeared to be no way, has this gathering storm broken away, at least so far as not to wear so threatening an aspect as the blackness of its rising may have indicated.

The snow being much drifted in the ravines upon the prairies, and our beef having been eaten, Kicking Bird had a mule killed, this evening, for our subsistence until we can get to the Agency for rations.

2d Month, 8th. — Arrangements having been made for the removal of our camps, yesterday, with Trotting Wolf for guide, the men whom the agent had sent out for the purpose with a team, took my tent and fixtures,

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After raising my lent, the Agency man went to some timber about a miles distant, in order to procure some wood for ner During their absence and Indian come gallopping from the North West, riding some distance from my tent chassed by it, turned & rode back & forth several times, in front of it, each time a little nearer, but riding fast, so as to give as little op. portunity as spossible for a shot to be effective should the tent contain enemies, which he seemed anxious to ascertain & was sitting in the tall grassin front of the tent When the had approached so near that apprehended he might see me, I arose with my hands in such position as to push my coat skirt back in a manner that would show that was unarmed, gave fund the usual salutation &