

sheath; the whole animal is about four inches in length, and of a green color.

The centipede is a flat jointed worm, frequently six inches in length, and is very poisonous. It not only communicates its venom by biting, but its feet are armed with sharp poison points, which inflict dangerous ulcerating wounds, as it crawls over the flesh.

~~Many~~ Reptiles could easily secrete themselves in the rubbish which forms part of the beds upon which these people sleep. The rattlesnake is much larger than his northern namesake, and is thought to be more venomous. I have seen them on the plains, occupying prairie dogs' holes, which measured from five to seven feet in length, and from nine to eleven inches around. A most formidable looking reptile.

I have known of several Indians being bitten by them, but of no case proving fatal; though I have no doubt but that it would, were it not for the application of a remedy for animal poisons, with which their medicine-men are familiar, and which grows in great abundance in this country.

The steam bath is resorted to on all occasions of sickness. A round hole is dug near the stream on which the camp is located, similar to the fire-holes in their lodges, but smaller; willows are stuck in two rows, about six feet apart, the tops brought down and twisted together, so as to form an archway about eight feet in length and four and a half in height, with this hole in the middle; long, dry grass is spread on the ground

within, a fire is made near by, in which a number of stones are heated to a red heat; these are then placed in the hole, and arranged in a pile over it. An old tent-skin is spread over the archway, and fastened at the bottom, except at one end. The patient now enters it entirely naked, and a bucket of water being introduced by an attendant, the end is closed. He then, with a wisp of the grass, sprinkles water upon the hot stones, and the apartment is soon filled with hot vapor. When the patient is sufficiently steamed, he rushes out, jumps into the stream of water, resumes his blanket, and returns to his lodge, from whence the evil spirits that caused his sickness have been driven by the medicine-man during his absence.

5th Month, 14th. — Removed to the North Fork of Red River, called by the Kiowas Pēē-pōh, about eighty miles from the Agency. Just at starting, this morning, an Indian rode up to me, asking me if I knew him. I at once recognized in him the notorious Kiowa raider Big Bow, who has, probably, killed and scalped more white people than any other living Kiowa; and who, with his brother raider, White Horse, has been for years the terror of the frontiers, not only of Texas, but of Kansas, Colorado, and New Mexico. These two men, with small companies of their braves, have been continually going up and down, not as roaring lions, but prowling about in secret, seeking whom they might destroy; and woe to the white man, woman, or child, who fell in their way.

This plant is the Spanish Bayonet. The method of application is as follows:—when a person is bitten, a number of the lance-like leaves are broken from the root or collar of the plant, the three or four inches of the tips are cut off, at the end of which is a sharp needle-like spine, these being grasped in the hand are struck

into the flesh about the wound until it becomes bloody, in the mean time another person chews a portion of the base of the leaf from which a slimy substance exudes, which is immediately applied as a salve to the part bitten & retained there until relief is afforded