

pearing dejected and sad, many of them not believing that they were to be released. But while a large company were lying around the commissary, about noon to-day, giving impatient utterances to their feelings, the train bringing their women and children came in sight upon a distant hill. They were at once recognized by them, and the ominous gloom which had hung as a dark cloud upon their countenances was at once dispelled, and a joyful expression took its place as the whole party, accompanied by an interpreter, set off at full speed to meet them. The change in feeling was complete, affecting not the Indians alone, but the employees at the Agency, and all the white people around.

The news of their arrival was carried to the Comanche camps about as soon as horse-flesh was capable of doing it.

They have been seventeen days on the road, having had a rough, tedious journey, wading through mud, swimming rivers, &c. They look well, and say that they have been very kindly treated the whole time of their captivity, and have lived well. Five women ran away two or three nights before they started from Fort Concho, and have not yet been discovered, nine died in captivity, four were returned last winter, and there are just one hundred who arrived to-day, making one hundred and eighteen as the whole number captured. In order to give the whole tribe an opportunity to be present, they are not turned over to their friends, which, with the reception talk, is deferred until to-morrow.

11<sup>th</sup>. — A great many Comanches came in this morn-

ing to receive their women and children; and it was affecting to witness the meeting of parents with children, husbands with wives, brothers with sisters, &c.

The prisoners had informed their people of the kindness of their treatment, and of the difficulties encountered on their return from the high waters along the whole journey. The Indians expressed their joy and thankfulness for the return of their friends, stating over and over again that now they are strengthened to walk in that good, white road Washington is making for them.

Now they know and believe that Washington and Texas are their friends, and they want to take all white people everywhere by the hand.

Captain McClern<sup>and</sup>~~mont~~, who brought them through, deserves high credit for the kindness of his treatment, and the promptitude with which he met and overcame every obstacle in the way. He was supplied with but twenty-one men, two of whom were brought in in irons for having offered abuse to the prisoners. With this small force he had to head rivers, make roads at fording-places, and, most of all, to make his way for nearly three hundred miles through a country of enemies to the Indians, where the rule is to shoot an Indian at sight. On arriving near Jacksboro', he found that a force of three thousand armed citizens had assembled to oppose further progress, and prevent the return of the prisoners. He, being well acquainted with the country, secretly sent his train a by-road, while he drove his ambulance into town, and waited, as if in constant expectation of his train, until