

Come back!

Gather or grasp the left side of the unbuttoned coat (or blanket) with the right hand, and, either standing or sitting in position so that the signal can be seen, wave it to the left and right as often as may be necessary for the sign to be recognized. When made standing the person should not move his body. (*Dakota I.*)

Danger. See also notes on Cheyenne and Arapaho signals.

Horseman at a distance, galloping, passing and repassing, and crossing each other—*enemy comes*. But for notice of herd of buffalo, they gallop back and forward abreast—do not cross each other. (*Views of Louisiana*, by H. M. Brackenridge, p. 250, Pittsburgh, 1814.)

Riding rapidly round in a circle. "Danger! Get together as quickly as possible." (*The Plains of the Great West, &c.*, by Richard Irving Dodge, lieutenant-colonel United States Army, p. 368, New York, 1877.)

Discovery of enemies, or of other game than buffalo.

See also notes on Cheyenne and Arapaho signals.

When enemies are discovered, or other game than buffalo, the sentinel waves his blanket over his head up and down, holding an end in each hand. (*Omaha I; Ponka I.*)

Drill, Military.

It is done by signals, devised after a system of the Indian's own invention, and communicated in various ways.

Wonderful as the statement may appear, the signaling on a bright day, when the sun is in the proper direction, is done with a piece of looking-glass held in the hollow of the hand. The reflection of the sun's rays thrown on the ranks communicates in some mysterious way the wishes of the chief. Once standing on a little knoll, overlooking the valley of the South Platte, I witnessed almost at my feet a drill of about one hundred warriors by a Sioux chief, who sat on his horse on a knoll opposite me, and about two hundred yards from his command in the plain below. For more than half an hour he commanded a drill, which for variety and promptness of action could not be equaled by any civilized cavalry of the world. All I could see was an occasional movement of the right arm. He himself afterwards told me that he used a looking-glass. (*The Plains of the Great West, &c.*, by Richard Irving Dodge, lieutenant-colonel United States Army, pp. 307, 308. New York, 1877.)

Halt! Stand there! He is coming that way.

Grasp the end of the blanket or robe; wave it downward several times. (*Omaha I.*)