

at present difficulties in getting Indian girls to school, one of the chief being the very young age at which they are accustomed in most of the tribes to marry ; but she thinks that more school accommodation should be provided for them and greater efforts made to get them ; also that more attractions in the way of games, etc., should be provided, and that they should be put in the way of earning a little money towards the latter period of their school life.

NOTES ABOUT THE NAVAJOES,

(*By A. M. Stephens.*)

HOW THEY BURY THEIR DEAD.

THE female relatives of a dead person prepare the corpse for burial, particular attention being given to dressing the hair, and the body is then wrapped in one (or more) blankets. The male relatives—usually not more than three or four—place the corpse on a horse, sometimes setting it astride in the saddle, and bury it in some out of the way nook among the cliffs, closing the niche or crevice with stones. The horse is killed there, because it has become defiled by contact with the corpse ; other horses killed are eaten at the funeral feast. The women have provided a large vessel of water, and fuel, at some distant point from the huts, (between them and the burial place) and also a change of clothes for each of the burial party ; the women then return to sit in their huts wailing the deceased. The burial party on returning to the purifying place make a fire and burn all their garments. They then wash very thoroughly and put on the change provided, and for four days they enter no hut, nor touch any person, but continue fasting, mourning and purifying.

THEIR MEDICINES.

Medicine, in the proper sense of the term, they have none, although many of them have a very extensive knowledge of the flora of their region, and herbs and grasses are used at all their ceremonies ; but still they are used without intelligence. Sickness is caused either by evil spirits or sorcery, and the office of the mediciner is really that of a priestly exorciser. They bleed by incising with sharp fragments of obsidian—metal must never be used. The sweat house is really of great value in many instances, but probably more patients are killed than cured by ignorance of its proper use in real illness. It is a miniature hogan, into which hot stones are rolled and the aperture tightly closed with blankets. No water is thrown upon the stones, but the patient is filled with all he can drink. On emerging he is scoured dry with sand.

THEIR MANUFACTURES.

The women weave blankets and their own dresses, of native wool and