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Counting Coups

All southern Indians even the Comanche count their 'coups' as a dance. Some strong man gets up in an interval of the dance and says "I am going to tell you something good and everybody calls out "Good! Good what is it?" He replies "in a big ~~whipp~~ fight up on the Red River (Canadian) I struck the body of a Mi-kwan his gun ~~with~~ and war bonnet" - then someone strikes the drum - and all the people cry "how how" "I struck the body of an Osage at another big fight on the Arkansas" - the drum beats again and all the people acclaim ~~him~~ - "I struck the body of a Navaio on the Rio Grande" each time the drum beats and the people call out loud - "Good good" The hardest thing is to strike the body of an enemy in the heat of battle before he dies - to pull up an Elk soldiers arrow, or a, Crooked lance, or to ride alone ~~in~~

with a warbonnet up & down the front of the line of the enemy every one shooting at you alone are about equal, by getting a warbonnet and doing these ~~other~~ things you will attain a Chief's road right away -- a good many ~~people~~ men get killed that way - when you hear the vollies and see a man riding alone with his war bonnet in the smoke & dust of battle you say to yourself "~~that~~ there's a man who is not afraid to die"