How the Navajo Indians Slaughter
Them in Large Numbers

FLAGSTAFF, Ariz., Sept. 28.—The Navajo Indians of New-Mexico are considered by students of anthropology and the officers in the garrisons in that portion of the Southwest the most ingenious and sport-loving redskins within the domain of Uncle Sam. The unique manner of the Navajoes in hunting antelopes in the Southwest is exceedingly cunning, and is unknown by thousands of people of the far West. Thousands of graceful antelopes still abound upon the vast tablelands of New-Mexico and Arizona, notwithstanding the extensive and eternal fondness and constant coming of hunters, settlers, and lumbermen in the Territories.

In the country just south of the Navajo Reservation, and known even in the far West comes upon long, straight rows of the trunks of trees and the branches of cedar and pine, stretching for miles across these towering peaks. In the distance they are nearly rotted away, and only the larger limbs and trunks now mark these lines. These are the ruins of ancient antelope corral fences. The large bands of antelopes have long since vanished from this part of the country, and only small herds of from five to ten can be seen. These are mercilessly killed, despite the tradition of unbroken or white man's plan. However, directly south of the Navajo Reservation, just a few miles distant, large bands of these graceful creatures still roam, and there is in existence there a new code of traditions and superstitions, which shows the present time. It is here that the old men of the tribe believe the antelope was created and a manner of catching game, enjoy their annual conference. This corral was built in 1880 by the order of the chief of the tribe, a man named Horse Ac-
son, Many Horses. A place was selected which high hill was formed upon the bor-
der of a wide prairie. Not even a screw barn could be seen, and trees for the cor-
al had to be brought in from the cloud-
evored hills nearly ten miles away. They were cut and dragged to the one frequen-
ly used by the men and boys on horseback. A close pen, circular in form, about 100 feet across, was built first against the side of the hill, so that the top of the posts used could not be seen from the plains. Out of this line of trees were then dragged and laid loosely out at daybreak to surround a band of antelope and then the men would the corral. The pen are about twenty yards apart and run along towards the hill and the space required more the occupant is esteemed and considered worth of promo-
lation later on. The chief and his men take their places at the right side of the entrance to the corral, and at a signal from the hill, which is on the edge of the plains, the antelope when started keeps as far as possible, and the men try to whelm the enemy might be hiding; hence they keep far away, the wings of the corral, which are on either side of them, as they can. After being closed in upon them cannot turn beck, at the first chance they make for the hill, and then they appear to be the only open-
ing between the hay and the line of hills. But, alas! for them, they find themselves in the position of the old hounds, which they run in a circle, never trying to jump the hunter. This is the custom and yells of the Indians at length so cowed the animals that they stand trembling and appear-
ance and the possessing no courage to approach and kill them with clubs, hand-
either to attack or anything at hand. As many as 250 have been known to enter one at a time in this manner, and for wholesale destruction of game this process is in vogue, and should be stopped.