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Daily Alta California, Volume 3, Number 38, 8 February 1852 — Onr Sau Diego Correapoadesice.

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### Our San Diego Correspondence.

*Indian Treaties in the South, the effect of a conciliatory policy.—Attempted Assassination by Indians.—Sheep Drovers, and losses on the Desert, etc., etc.*

SAN DIEGO, Cal., Feb. 3d, 1852.

GENTS: The great Indian treaty promises very much as anticipated, and as I mentioned to you a short time since, leaves us much worse than before. With arms and ammunition, the Indians could never have done us more injury than this untimely appearance of a U. S. Indian Agent. From the hitherto leniency of the Americans, in comparison with their former masters, they have been led to believe that they, the Americans, are afraid of them. This many have heard them say. Now, they have as good a proof as Indians desire, of the fact. They find us, at the commencement of a war which they were about waging, eager for peace, and ready to *buy it*, at a price which to them appears so enormous as to make them a little incredulous. Some volunteers who were out in the mountains, came across a party of Indians with whom the Agent had just been talking, and one of them represented himself as the "Great Father," who had so much beef; whereupon the Indians fell upon their knees and began praying.

On Friday last, a young Californian was suddenly attacked by a party of Indians at his ranch, San Marcos, distant some thirty miles, and barely escaped with his life, getting several severe wounds. What for he knows not; being on a young and wild horse probably saved his life. This took place only thirty miles distant, and in the direction of San Luis Rey.

Yesterday, a party of sheep drovers arrived in town, but out of 5,000 sheep not a hide did the poor fellows have. In passing the Colorado, the Yumas stole all of their horses, which left them afoot with the drove of sheep. They set out however, not minding this, travelled four days on the desert, without water, left their sheep, 4,240 in number, on the so called New River, and made for Carrizo Creek, which they reached in three more days, making seven days from the Colorado. They then returned for their sheep on New River, but, as they must have expected, not a single sheep was there or to be found anywhere. From an interview with one of the party, I am satisfied that they were lost on the desert. They were seven days in travelling from the Colorado to

They were seven days in travelling from the Colorado to Carrizo Creek, a distance of 85 miles, which they should certainly have made in four days.

I learned from the same gentleman, Mr. McKay, an old mountaineer, that the sheep belonged to Mr. Wolfskill, of Los Angeles, Maj. Hamilton and Mr. White. This makes the loss of sheep in passing this desert during the last 12 months, to be upwards of *eleven thousand*, which at ten dollars per head, reaches the enormous amount of *one hundred and ten thousand dollars*. All of these sheep have undoubtedly gone to the Indians, and if Maj. Heintzelman, who expects to leave in a few days with his command for the Colorado, does what may be expected of him, and what his officers want, they will send back a story worth relating in a very short time.

Yours truly, x.