

SAN DIEGO HERALD.

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Letter from the Colorado.
Major Heintzeman has kindly furnished us with the following letter from Lieut. Murray, which will fully explain the position of affairs at that Post.

This letter, it will be observed, is dated the 18th of November, since which time no intelligence has been received from there.

CAMP INDEPENDENCE,
November 18, 1851.

Sir: I have the honor to inform you, that in consequence of the Indians having assumed a hostile attitude, I have deemed it necessary to detain Lt. Sweney's command at this point, and as the train cannot safely go in without an escort of, at least, 25 men, I am obliged to detain it also.

I struck the Colorado on the 12th of last month, and rode up to this place. On my arrival here, I was informed by Lt. S., that his com-

month, and rode up to this place. On my arrival here, I was informed by Lt. S., that his command had narrowly escaped being cut off the day before, by a body of Indians, of Cocopas, Yumas, &c., all of which tribes have evidently leagued together for war. Lt. Sweeney further informed me that on the same day that these Indians contemplated cutting off his command, six out of seven men composing a party of men driving sheep to Los Angeles, had been reported as murdered by Indians a few miles below this place—one of the party having made his escape and got back to the camp, and from the description given by him of the Indians, he, Lt. S., had no doubt but they were the same who had visited, and nearly gained admittance into his camp, (on the day the murder was committed,) under pretence of trading with the men. He, Lt. S., suspected some treachery on their part, from the large number of them, and the cheapness at which they sold their horses—a blanket for each—a thing he had never known to occur before. They were then ordered off by him, which order they would not obey.

blanket for each—a thing he had never known to occur before. They were then ordered off by him, which order they would not obey until he placed his 12 pound howitzer in position, they then reluctantly left. On hearing this, I immediately returned to the Algodones, to my train, Lt. S. furnishing me with three men to strengthen my command. On my way to this place, the next day, I found the bodies of four men, much mutilated, and already so offensive from decomposition, that they could not be moved, and I had them covered with earth.— This was about half way between this place and the Algodones.

Since my arrival at this place, I have been engaged putting up a small picket work. The camp has been kept continually on the alert — The Indians have been nightly prowling around the camp, and some three nights since, the government scow, and one belonging to the Ferry company, were cut away and carried off. Night before last, a body of Indians attempted to force their way into camp by tearing away the brush wood defence thrown around the camp. They

The Indians have been nightly prowling around the camp, and some three nights since, the government scow, and one belonging to the Ferry company, were cut away and carried off. Night before last, a body of Indians attempted to force their way into camp by tearing away the brush wood defence thrown around the camp. They were fired on by the sentinel, and made off through the thicket. Lt. S., who saw them, thinks there were from 40 to 50 of them. Pursuit would be useless through such dense thickets as those around us. I had intended to send off the train as soon as the work was completed, but from the boldness of the Indians, I have no doubt they are in force in our neighborhood, and I cannot spare a sufficient escort to ensure its safety. I would, therefore, request that an escort be sent out for it.

I am, very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

E. MURRAY,

1st Lt 2d Infantry

B'vt Maj. S. P. HEINTZELMAN