Arrival of Capt. Sitgreaves Exploring Party.

Yesterday the party ordered to survey the Rio de Júni, and Big Colorado arrived at this place. It consisted of Maj. Kendrick, 2d Artillery, (in command of the escort,) Capt. Sitgreaves and L. Parke, of the Topographical Engineers, and Mr. H. H. Hart and five Woodhouse, and some fifty soldiers and packers. Mr. Leroux was their guide.

The party left Santa Fe the 13th of last August, and proceeded as far as the Pueblo of Zuñi, where they were detained from the 1st until the 24th of September. Thence they followed the Rio de Zuñi in a S. W. course, until near its junction with the Little Colorado, which river they followed until where it makes its last cannon, and at which place it has a fall of about 160 feet. The general direction of this river is...

The general direction of this over is north of west. Leaving the Little Colorado, they struck upon the western side of the Sierra de San Francisco, a high and isolated mountain range. Traveling in a south and west direction, they struck Williams' Fork, the first water of the Big Colorado. From here, they passed over an immense desert, without water and but little grass—their animals being four days and three nights without a drop of water. They struck the Big Colorado on the 6th of November, at a point about 50 miles below the mouth of the Big Chahin the day previously passing over several parallel ridge of mountains, on the summit of one of which, the guide, Mr. Lemoux, was attacked by a party of Yampais or Cosminas, and severely wounded.
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They traveled down on the eastern side of the big river until the arrival at the Gila, near its mouth, on the 29th of November. They found all the river Indians hostile—the Amaghaves having fired into their camp one morning before day-light, and a wandering band of Yumas attacked them whilst they were about making a noon halt. One of the soldiers who strayed behind, was first shot with arrows, and then so badly clubbed that he died early the next morning. The Indians had four killed and about a dozen wounded, and were so severely handled that they did not renew the attack, but contented themselves with following after the party to pick up the given out mules.

When they reached the Post on the Colorado on the 30th of November, they were destitute of all
on the 30th of Nov., they were destitute of all
other food than their mules, those having con-
stituted almost their sole rations for two weeks.
At the Post they received every kindness and
attention from Lieuts. Murray and Sweeney.

The arrival of Capt. Davidson’s command,
four days after, and the very limited supply of
provisions on hand at the Post, and the deter-
mind hostility of the Indians, invovled the ne-
necesity of breaking it up. Most of the property
was cached, and the whole party left the river
on the 6th inst. Capt. Davidson and the offi-
cers and men of the 2d In’ry, received orders
whilst at San Pasqual, from Maj. Heintzelman,
to join him at San Isabel—the Exploring party
continuing on to this place, where they are now
encamped. Their trip was a very hard one,
from the fact of their having started with one
hundred and forty mules, and on arrival here
they had only about thirty.