tide. For six months in the year, the river is said to be navigable by steamboats for 350 miles; its bottoms are wide and rich; and sugar, undoubtedly, may be grown. In winter, it is fordable at the crossing; but I think it has at least as much water as the Missouri at the same season, and *may* be navigable by steamers to the mouth of the Gila at all seasons.

In conclusion, much credit is due to the battalion for the cheerful and faithful manner in which they have accomplished the great labors of this march, and submitted to its exposures and privations. They would much have preferred to lighten and abridge them, by leaving the wagons; but, without previous discipline, all was accomplished with unity and determination of spirit. To enable the mules to endure the extraordinary labor of drawing these wagons, without a road, and often without food or water, the duties of guards were greatly increased, to herd them safely, as they did, over tracts sometimes a mile in extent, sometimes two miles from the camp, or beyond a river; and ten times did the battalion encamp without water.

I am indebted to Lieutenants Smith and Stoneman, of the first dragoons, who performed the duties of assistant commissary of subsistence and assistant quartermaster, for valuable assistance, particularly in directing the pioneers. Mr. Willard P. Hall, too, was ever ready to give me aid, particularly in the most active and venturous duties.

Thus, general, whilst fortune was conducting *you* to battles and victories, I was fated to devote my best energies to more humble labors; and all have cause to regret that the real condition of affairs in this territory was so little understood. But it is passed! and I must be content with having done my duty in the task which you assigned to me, if, as I trust, to your satisfaction.

Respectfully submitted:

P. ST. GEO. COOKE,
Lieut. Col., commanding Mormon battalion.

Brig. Gen. S. W. KEARNY,
Commanding Army of the West,
San Diego, Upper California.

APPENDIX.

Copy of a letter to the Governor of Sonora.

CAMP AT TUESON, SONORA,
December 18, 1846.

YOUR EXCELLENCY: The undersigned, marching in command of a battalion of United States infantry, from New Mexico to California, has found it convenient for the passage of his wagon train, to cross the frontier of Sonora. Having passed within fifteen miles of Fronteras, I have found it necessary to take this presidio in my route to the Gila.

Be assured that I did not come as an enemy of the *people* whom you govern; they have received only kindness at my hands.

Sonora refused to contribute to the support of the present war against my country, alleging the excellent reasons that all her resources were necessary to her defence from the incessant attacks of savages; that the central government gave her no protection, and was therefore entitled to no support. To this might have been added that *Mexico supports a war upon Sonora*; for I have seen New Mexicans within her boundary, trading for the spoil of her people, taken by murderous, cowardly Indians, who attack only to lay waste, rob, and fly to the mountains; and I have certain information that this is the practice of many years. Thus one part of Mexico allies itself against another.

The unity of Sonora with the States of the north, now her neighbors, is necessary effectually to subdue these Parthian Apaches.

Meanwhile I make a wagon road from the streams of the Atlantic to the Pacific ocean, through the valuable plains and mountains, rich with minerals, of Sonora. This, I trust, will prove useful to the citizens of either republic, who, if not more closely, may unite in the pursuits of a highly beneficial commerce.

With sentiments of esteem and respect, I am your excellency's most obedient servant,

P. ST. GEO. COOKE,
Lieut. Col., commanding U. S. forces.

To His Excellency Sr. Don MANUEL GANDARA,
Governor of Sonora, Ures. Sa.

APPENDIX.

Copy of a letter to the Governor of Sonora.

CAMP AT TUBSON, SONORA,
December 18, 1846.

YOUR EXCELLENCY: The indefatigued marching in command of a detachment of United States infantry, from New Mexico to California, has found it convenient for the passage of his wagon train, to cross the frontier of Sonora. Having passed within fifteen miles of Tucson, I have found it necessary to take this freedom in my journey to the City.

Be assured that I did not come as an enemy of the people whom your governor has received only kindness at my hands.

Sonora refused to contribute to the support of the present war against my country, alleging the excellent reasons that all her resources were necessary to her defence from the incessant attacks of savages; that the central government gave her no protection, and was therefore entitled to no support. To this might have been added that Mexico embroils a war upon Sonora: for I have seen New Mexicans within her boundary, riding for the scalp of her people, taken by marauders, commonly Indians, who attack only to steal mules, and drive off to the mountains; and I have certain intelligence, too, are driven off to the mountains; and I have certain information that this is the practice of many years. Thus one half of Mexico stands itself against another.

The unity of Sonora with the States of the north, now put naught, is necessarily effectually to suspend these Partisan Warfare.

Meanwhile I make a wagon road from the streams of the Atlantic to the Pacific ocean, through the valuable pines and mountains rich with minerals of Sonora. This road, will prove useful to the citizens of either republic, who, if not more closely may unite in the pursuits of a highly beneficial commerce.

With sentiments of esteem and respect, I am your excellency's most obedient servant,

P. ST. GEO. COOKE,
Lieut. Col., commanding U. S. forces.

To His Excellency Sr. Don MANUEL GANDARA,
Governor of Sonora, &c.

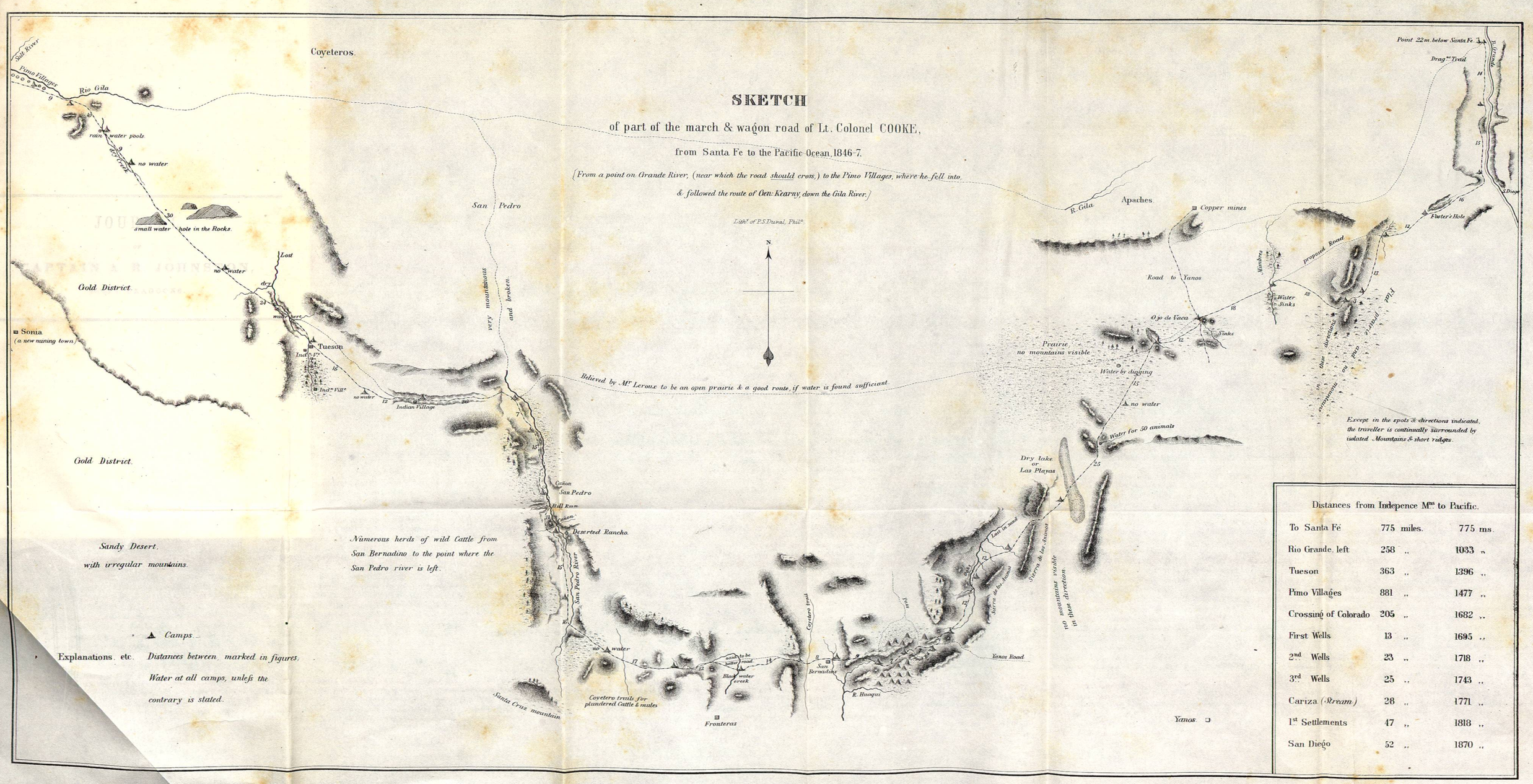
SKETCH

of part of the march & wagon road of Lt. Colonel COOKE,

from Santa Fe to the Pacific Ocean, 1846-7.

(From a point on Grande River, (near which the road should cross,) to the Pimo Villages, where he fell into, & followed the route of Gen: Kearny, down the Gila River.)

Lith.d of P.S. Duval, Phil.a



Explanations, etc. ▲ Camps. Distances between marked in figures. Water at all camps, unless the contrary is stated.

Distances from Indepence Mts to Pacific.

To Santa Fé	775 miles.	775 ms.
Rio Grande, left	258 ,,	1033 ,,
Tueson	363 ,,	1396 ,,
Pimo Villages	881 ,,	1477 ,,
Crossing of Colorado	205 ,,	1682 ,,
First Wells	13 ,,	1695 ,,
2nd Wells	23 ,,	1718 ,,
3rd Wells	25 ,,	1743 ,,
Cariza (Stream)	28 ,,	1771 ,,
1st Settlements	47 ,,	1818 ,,
San Diego	52 ,,	1870 ,,

JOURNAL

OF

CAPTAIN A. R. JOHNSTON,

FIRST DRAGOONS.