

drive, and we could not make out if it were really safe to ford the river or not, but determined to make the experiment unless this man absolutely refused to go.

At four o'clock in the afternoon we were ready packed, our three boxes having gone on with a team, and we following in a very light carriage, with only hand-bags and rugs.

Fording that river was a very nasty five minutes' experience. It had swollen very much, and the carriage was thrown violently against the stream and seemed bending so much to the right-hand side, that one felt it must soon go over and deposit us in the middle of the waters.

The real danger is that at the time of these "wash-outs" the bed of the river also is washed away, and becomes consequently full of holes, and there is always the chance that one of the horses may put his feet into these.

However, all things come to an end, and we were landed at length on the opposite bank, safe and dry and with a fairly good road before us to Las Vegas.

Here another unpleasant surprise awaited us. Having some hours to dispose of, we had wandered aimlessly round the town until about 6.30 p.m., intending then to have some sort of meal at the station before our