

it was confirmed on most unprejudiced authority, and the state of the rail on this side was only too patent to any one who walked along it for half a mile.

A week or fortnight might be required for repairs ; of course we could ford the river by carriage as soon as it went down sufficiently to be at all safe for such a purpose ; but we were still confronted by the impossibility of getting further west until these other bridges were built up again.

Fortunately after several days of incessant downpour, the heavens had cleared and a "burro" (donkey) ride up the hills behind the house and later for some miles up the cañon, gave us some fine views and made life seem a little more tolerable.

It was, as usual, impossible to get any definite information, and the hotel manager threw every obstacle in the way of our doing so.

The kindly little postmistress of the place gave us our only ray of comfort by saying that she heard the bridges were being temporarily repaired, and that if we could only get a vehicle of some sort to take us to Las Vegas, we should have a chance of getting on from there.

We interviewed a man on the subject of a carriage. He put a reserve price of a pound sterling on the hour's