



OTIS MARSTON

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ASHberry 3-6160

COLORADO RIVER CHRONICLES

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Canyoneer Sim

Many thanks for the information in yours of June 27th.

I had not heard about progress on the USGS mapping party in Cat. It isn't too novel to have three boats and one boatman. The Chenoweth party which surveyed the Canyon in 1921 had three boats and one boatman: Ellsworth Kolb. Ellsworth ran the three boats thru nearly all the rapids. There were others who could handle a boat but the survey tended to keep them rather busy.

If you get a chance near the Junction, please go over to the left bank of the Colorado. The Stanton survey of 1889 came down from Grand Junction and they marked a point there on a boulder. The surveyors went from there up to Green-river. It was in Greenriver that Stanton took charge of the actual survey. The boats cruised down to the Junction and Stanton picked up his line from there. I think you ought to be able to find this point with references marked on a boulder. I also think the Kolb brothers left a marking there. I don't have any record that anyone has looked for these things.

At Mile 213, there is an open flat on the right bank. If you have the chance, look for the horse trail up out of this flat. There are big stones laid so a horse can go up or down. You will recall that a message was brot in here to the Eddy party in 1927. There are names cut along this horse trail. Please note the names and dates and take a picture or two.

There is a side canyon opening on the left right at the Mile 213 point. I would like to get a photo of this side canyon. If you should have the time, I would like to know the nature of the bed of this side canyon.

At Mile 204, right bank, there are a number of inscriptions on the rocks. Please note and photo these inscriptions and photo the River off the bank here.

At Mile 212 7/8, in a gully on the right bank is a large rock slab. There are many fossils in this gully. You will find a note about the POWELL painted on the rock. Please photo and note the marking.

There is a vague report of a D. Julien inscription near the head of Cat. It seems to me this would be in the side canyon at LB at Mile 213 if it is anywhere.

At about Mile 197 on the left bank, two men brot horses to the River about 25 years ago. The did not come down Gypsum Canyon. This crude trail should be checked.

I have a vague reference to a Julien inscription near the several inscriptions at Mile 204. I feel quite sure this is an error.

Below Dark Canyon is reported a new and sizable rapid due to a new fall of rock. Please rate this rapid and take a picture of the area. It is 3/4 miles below Dark Canyon.

You did not say how you were going to get to the head of Cat. Please let me know on that and your date of start. I may be able to get some other stuff to you for checking.

I have copied the notes on the two Dolores runs. I am having a print made from the slide and will enclose the slide with this letter as soon as it comes back.

True enough - you need water in the Dolores. Pres Walker ran it several times but finally lost his boat and the party had to walk out.

We had a wonderful run of the Grand Canyon even tho we buried one of the crew who died from a bad heart. Fortunately we had a doctor with us who did everything possible. The other event of the trip was the capsizing of one boat in Vulcan (Lava Falls). The pilot took on some of the heaviest water and caught a side wave and over they went just that easy. They floated five miles before they were picked up on the bottom side of the boat.

The 60,000 feet of water made fine running with the only rapid that was up to a 10 rating being Vulcan. The two 30HP engines gave us a fine balance on the 18' boats and we could make just under 20 miles when cruising at top speed.

Cheerio

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'D. K.' or similar, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.