

## EXCERPTS FROM THE WILLIAM HYDE JOURNAL

“The temperature this day at the camp of the Battalion was 101 in the shade and 130 in the sun. They only traveled two hours.” William Hyde Journal, August 14, 1846.

On Christmas Day, the Battalion marched 18 miles from Maricopa Wells into the desolate country to the west. The road went southwest from the Wells, passing “In the shadow” of Montezuma’s Head at the southern extremity of the Sierra Estrella.

“This is a rather strange Christmas to me. My situation with my family in days gone by was called to mind and contrasted with my present situation on the sandy deserts through which pass the Gila and Colorado Rivers. Suffering much at times for the want of water, but still pressing forward with parched lips, scalded shoulders, weary limbs, blistered feet, worn-out shoes and ragged clothes; but with me the prospect of the result of my present toils, cheer me on.” William Hyde Journal, December 25, 1846.