

203

GILA RIVER NAVIGATION

Official Log of Capt. Jacob Shively's Recent Expedition.

A short time ago there was given in these columns the story of the launching of a mysterious craft from the Phoenix shipyards. It sailed west from this harbor under command of Captain Jacob Shively, admiral of the Gila river fleet. Later it was announced that the vessel had safely run the blockade of the Buskeye dam and was continuing on its course regardless. T. W. Chamberlain who holds a proprietary interest in the ship yard (but not in the ship) has received the following letter from Admiral Shively, it being virtually a log of the voyage. It is reproduced verbatim for it tells actually and by inference, more things than could be related in the same space by the best newspaper man in the world. The letter follows:

Yuma fri March the 29 1905; Well Mr Chamberlain, Sir; i would rather report to you if it was to the river but it is bad. One day very well 2 day all rite til time to go to shore and we sposed to be good place to go out and the firs thing we new we was going around like a top. we maid the thirde effort before we got out and we stoped and unloded for the night and had rest til 3 oclock in the morn pard got up and Sald the boat was about to get away. So i got up fixed the boat and laid down agane and heard the dirt fawling in to the water. So i got up, put mi shoos on and we took our bed and all the rest of the things we moved them back farther from the water. In one hour our bed place was gone out of site. We got a good earlay start and at about 7 oclock we was capsized without any time to think til after we was under the bouling waves. I tride to get a held of the boat but the wayes put me under and i came up again and i held mi breath ti i made a nother rize and i came up and got a breath and swam out. it was the hardest swim

Gila River Navigation: Official Log of
Capt. Jacob Shively's Recent Expedition,
Arizona Republican (Phoenix, Arizona),
April 3, 1905

Item #34

i have ever exspearenced in all mi
 lifetime. mi close was so heavy that
 i could hardly walk. we saved the
 boat but we lost a most all so we was
 done up for the balance of the trip but
 we got to gether all we could find and
 got in the boat and went on down
 stream. We found our wagon sheat
 with mi bed close so we got them so
 it came time to go out for night. The
 morning of the 26 we found some in-
 dions and got them to help us out. We
 was about 8 miles of Heley bend sta-
 tion so we got there. When i got here
 i got a letter from mi boy saying i
 should go to Santiago so i will leave
 here just as soon as i can. this is no
 place for me. i got nuff of river to
 drink in the hieley. i don't want so
 much mixture of water as the Colorado
 and hieley and the water is not fit for
 dog. i am not very, well but i feel
 better today than i have bin. i will
 not make any comments. one thing i
 will say no one has any business on
 that river with a boat les than 6 feet
 wide 14 feet long 3 feet hie an 2 good
 men. that is all. Jacob Shively."

o

Just received by Mrs. Aylwin new
 line of switches, pompadours, etc. Hair
 dressing parlors, No. 11 S. Center,
 room 15.

Conservative House Cleaning Co.
 Taking up, cleaning and relaying of

Gila River Navigation: Official Log of
 Capt. Jacob Shively's Recent Expedition,
 Arizona Republican (Phoenix, Arizona),
 April 3, 1905

Item #34