

CASE No.

331

NORTHERN DISTRICT

SOULAJULLS GRANT

PEDRO J. VASQUES

CLAIMANT:

CAND CASE 331 ND 52 D

LAND CASE 331 ND 52 pgs.

NOV 29 1962

C. 245¹ map

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1877

TRANSCRIPT

OF THE

PROCEEDINGS

IN CASE

NO. 245.

Pedro J. Vasquez

CLAIMANT

VS.

THE UNITED STATES, DEFENDANT,

FOR THE PLACE NAMED

"Boulajille"

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

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1950

1000

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

AMERICAN ACADEMY OF ARTS AND LETTERS

Office of the Board of Commissioners,

To ascertain and settle the Private Land Claims

IN THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA.

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Be it Remembered, that on this twenty seventh of May, Anno Domini One Thousand Eight Hundred and Fifty-two, before the Commissioners to ascertain and settle the Private Land Claims in the State of California, sitting as a Board in the City of San Francisco, in the State aforesaid, in the United States of America, the following Proceedings were had, to wit;

The Petition of *Pedro J. Vasquez*
for the Place named
"Soulajulle"
was presented, and ordered to be filed and docketed with No. 245 and is as follows, to wit;

(Vide page 3 of this Transcript.)

Upon which Petition the following subsequent Proceedings were had in their chronological order, to wit;

San Francisco Nov. 10 1853
In case No. 245, Pedro J. Vasquez for part of Soulajulle the counsel for the claimant filed the following stipulation, to-wit
(vide page 27 of this transcript)

San Francisco Dec 31, 1853
In the same case the counsel for the claimant filed the following stipulation to-wit
(vide page 25 of this transcript)

San Francisco Nov 28 1854
Case No 245 was ordered to be placed at the foot of the 3^d Clap case on the Trial Docket

San Francisco Dec. 19 1854
Case No. 245 was submitted under the rule of March 21, 1854

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San Francisco April 17. 1855

In the case Commis. R. Aug: Thompson
delivered the opinion of the Board yesterday, the
claim

(vide page 31 of this transcript)

and the following order was made to wit:

(vide page 33 of this transcript)

~~~~~

N.

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PAGE 3

To the Board of Commissioners for ascertaining and settling private Land claims in the State of California.

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PAGE 4

Petition.

Your petitioner Pedro J. Vasquez of the city of Sonoma in the county of Sonoma in the State of California, respectfully represents to your Honorable Board that he claims a certain tract of land called a part of the Rancho of Ramon Mesa or "Sulajulle" containing twelve square miles more or less, situated in the county of Marin in said State of California:

That he claims the same in fee by virtue of a grant made to Jose Ramon Mesa, alias Ramon Mesa, under the authority of the Mexican Government by Manuel Micheltorena, Governor of the Department of the Californias bearing date the 29<sup>th</sup> day of march A. D. 1844 and approved by the territorial Deputation on the

Your petitioner further represents that the said grantee on the 28<sup>th</sup> day of march A. D. 1850, transferred all his right in said twelve square miles of land to your petitioner Pedro J. Vasquez, who thereby became the owner in fee of the same

Your petitioner further represents that the grant of Ramon Mesa was of three square leagues, as will fully appear by the original grant and Expediente filed in the office of your secretary in case N<sup>o</sup> 233, being the claim of Joshua S. Brackett to a portion of the same Rancho of "Sulajulle" to which originals, (Copies of which are filed herewith) reference may be had.

Your petitioner files herewith the conveyance of said Jose Ramon Mesa to him as also translations of the original expediente and Grant.

Your petitioner further represents, that judicial possession of said tract of land called "Sulajulle" was given to the said grantee, Jose Ramon Mesa on the

day of \_\_\_\_\_ and the boundaries thereof designated & defined, and that he & those claiming under him have been in the peaceful possession thereof ever since & that he has no knowledge of any interfering claim.

All of

H  
All of which your petitioner is ready to prove, together with any & all such further proof of title as may be required by your Honorable Board.

Your petitioner prays your honorable board to take into consideration his claim to said land and decree his title to be valid and confirm the same.

And your petitioner will ever pray. Sonoma, May 28<sup>th</sup>, 1852.

Pedro J. Vasquez

by  
Robert Hopkins.

Filed in office, May 27<sup>th</sup> 1852.

Use: Fisher, Sec.

Office of the Board of  
Commissioners &c &c.

This day before Com.<sup>rs</sup> Alpheus Felch, came José Ramon Mesa, a witness in behalf of claimant Joshua S. Brackett N<sup>o</sup> 233, who after being duly sworn deposed as follows; The Secretary Mr. Fisher acted as interpreter.

Deposition

of  
José Ramon Mesa

Questions by M.<sup>r</sup> Spear, attorney for the claimant.

1<sup>st</sup> Question. What are your name, age & place of residence?

Answer. My name is José Ramon Mesa, my age is twenty nine years and I reside in the County of Contra Costa in California

2<sup>nd</sup> Question. Look on the paper now here exhibited to you purporting to be a grant by governor Micheltorena to José Ramon Mesa and marked "Exhibit N<sup>o</sup> 1" with the initials "A. F." and annexed to this Deposition & state whether you recognise the document & if so what it is?

Answer. I cannot read or write but I know that this paper is the title to my Rancho. I know that Micheltorena & also Jimeno signed this paper. They signed it in my presence.

(The witness pointed out the signature of each on the document.)

3<sup>rd</sup> Question. State what you know about the occupation & improvement of the Rancho named in the grant

Answer. The same year when the grant

and called "Soulajulle"?

Answer. The same year when the grant was made to me, I settled on this land, built a house & lived in it, — put some cattle & horses on the place & built a corral & enclosed & cultivated some of the ground & made a garden, planted some fruit trees and grape vines. I think I planted something like two hundred fruit trees there at that time. I lived on it about four years from the time I first settled on it, after which I retired to Sonoma in consequence of sickness, & left my brother on the place occupying it for me; when my brother left the place, another man occupied it for me.

During all this time we had some men in our employment living on said Rancho.

It was so occupied up to the time I sold it; I sold the greater part of it to Vasquez & the remainder to some Americans.

4<sup>th</sup> Question. What are the boundaries of the Rancho above named?

Answer. It is bounded on one side by the lands of the Rancho known by the name of "Laguna de San Antonio," on one side by the land known by the name of Nicacio & on another side by the boundary of the lands of Juan Martin. There is a small creek near the house of permanent water. There is also a water hole near where the house stood.

5<sup>th</sup> Question. Did you ever receive juridical possession of the property?

Answer. I never did the same year when I was about getting juridical possession the Americans took possession of the country.

6<sup>th</sup> Question. Have you any interest at the present time in the land.

Answer. I have not.

7<sup>th</sup> Question. Did you ever apply for juridical possession of the land? if nay, why not?

Answer. I never did apply for it because I was afflicted with a sore leg for eleven years, so that I could not move and did not get well until about two years ago.

ago.  
8<sup>th</sup> Question. What country is the said Rancho situated?  
Answer. I do not know in what country it is. It was in the jurisdiction of San Rafael at that time.

Jose Ramon Mesa X

Mr Greenhow associate law agent was present at the taking of this deposition but propounded no questions to the witness.

Subscribed & sworn to

before me this 10<sup>th</sup> day of November 1853.

Alpheus Selch, Com.<sup>r</sup>

Office of the U. S. Board of Land Commissioners &c. &c.

San Francisco Dec. 31. 1853.

This day before Commissioner Thompson Campbell came James Hawes a witness in behalf of claimant Joshua S. Brackett petition N<sup>o</sup> 233 & being sworn deposed as follows:

Deposition

1<sup>st</sup> Question. What is your name, age & place of residence?

Answer. My name is James Hawes,

James Hawes.

I am fifty eight years of age and reside in Marin County.

2<sup>nd</sup> Question. Are you acquainted with the Rancho called Soulapulle?

Answer. I am acquainted with it;

I lived eight years about half a mile of it. I know of Jose Ramon Mesa lived on said place about two years he had a house, corrals & cattle there & when he left the place his brother took possession & after having lived there about twelve months they sold out & left. Ramon Mesa first settled there about the year 1845.

3<sup>rd</sup> Question. Look on the map now shown you which is a part of the Expediente filed in the case & marked "B" and state whether the natural objects represented on said map as the boundaries of said Rancho are so plainly designated that a survey could locate the land.

Answer. There is a creek running right through the Rancho & empties into Tomales Bay. The said tract of land lies between the region of country

The said tract of land lies between the region of country  
called Nicacio & the Laguna San Antonio and that  
the line dividing the Rancho from the lands of John  
Martin has been settled by a justice of the peace.

Questions by Mr. Greenhow.

1<sup>st</sup> Question. How long did Jose Ramon Mesa live upon  
the land himself?

Ans. He lived there about twelve  
months, it might be a little more, he left the place before  
the Americans took possession of the country, his brother then  
lived on it for eighteen months when he left, since which  
time no one has lived on it.

No person to my knowledge has pretended to use it  
in any way since that time.

Re-examined by Claimant

1<sup>st</sup> Question. Do you know whether Ramon Mesa by  
himself and brother occupied said Rancho until he sold  
it to the present claimants?

Answer. They did so occupy it, by having  
cattle on it & the first year they cultivated a part of it, af-  
ter Ramon Mesa's brother left the place as I had before  
stated they never worked or lived on said place but  
they kept some horses there.

2<sup>nd</sup> Quest. Who was living on the Rancho at the time the  
Americans took possession of the country.

Ans. No one was living on at that time.

3<sup>rd</sup> Quest. At what time did the Americans take poss-  
-ession of the country?

Ans. It was either in the year 1846  
or 1847, I don't remember which.

4<sup>th</sup> Question. You state that Ramon Mesa settled on  
said place in the year 1845, that he lived there about one  
year & that then his brother took possession & lived there eighteen  
months, will you now state whether you are clear in your  
recollection that Ramon & his brother occupied the place  
for two years & a half altogether.

Ans. Yes somewhere thereabouts.

Question by Mr. Greenhow.

1<sup>st</sup> Quest.

8  
1<sup>st</sup> Quest. Are you certain that neither Ramon Mesa nor his brother, nor any other person acting under them lived on this land, at the time when the Americans took possession of this country?

Ans. No they did not, they had left before that

James <sup>his</sup> + Hawes.  
mark

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Subscribed & sworn to  
before me this 31<sup>st</sup> day  
of December A. D. 1853

Thompson Campbell,  
Com<sup>r</sup>

Filed in office, Dec<sup>r</sup> 31. 1853.

Geo. Fisher, Sec.

Case N<sup>o</sup> 233.

United States Land Commission  
San Francisco, Jan 14. 1854.

Deposition of José de la Rosa, a witness in behalf of claimant Joshua S. Prackett, case N<sup>o</sup> 233 & after being duly sworn deposed as follows, his evidence being interpreted by the secretary

Present Claimant's Atty & U. S. Ass<sup>t</sup> Law-Agent.

Witness states his name is José de la Rosa his age sixty three years, & residence Sonoma Cal<sup>a</sup>

Question by Claimant's Atty

Do you know José Ramon Mesa & the Rancho de Sou-lajulle? if so state who was in possession of said Rancho at the time of the first occupation of the country by the Americans.

Answer. I know said Mesa, and the said Rancho at the time of the American occupation of the country it was in the possession of said Mesa who was living on it. Immediately after he obtained his grant he built a house on it. José de la Rosa.

Sworn

before me Jan 14. 1854

his grant he built a house on it. José de la Rosa

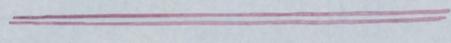
9

Sworn to & Subscribed  
before me Jan 14. 1854

R. Aug. Thompson,  
Com<sup>o</sup>

Filed in office, Jan 14. 1854.  
Geo. Fisher

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10

8

1885

See 1

10

11  
Sello Secero un Peso.

Grant  
B.

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Habilitado provisionalmente por la Aduana Maritima del Puerto de Monterey, en el Departamento de las Californias, para los años de mil ochocientos cuarenta y cuatro y mil ochocientos cuarenta y cinco.

Micheltorena. Pablo de la Guerra

Sello  
Seco

El Ciudadano Manuel Micheltorena General de Brigada del Ejercito Mexicano, Ayudante General de la Plaza Mayor del mismo, Gobernador Comandante General e Inspector del Departamento de las Californias.

Por cuanto el Ciudadano Ramon Mesa ha pretendido para su beneficio personal y el de su familia, el paraje conocido con el nombre de Goulajule, lindante con la laguna de San Antonio, con el terreno nombrado de Nicacio y con el rancho de D.<sup>no</sup> Juan Martin: practicadas previamente las diligencias y averiguaciones convenientes segun lo dispuesto por leyes y reglamentos usando de las facultades que me son conferidas a nombre de la Nacion Mexicana he venido en concederle el terreno mencionado, declarandole la propiedad de el por las presentes letras supliendose a la aprobacion de la Com.<sup>a</sup> Asambleal Departamental y bajo las condiciones siguientes.

- 1.<sup>a</sup> No podra venderlo, enagenarlo ni hipotecarlo, imponer censo, vivenda fianza, hipoteca ni otro gravamen alguno
- 2.<sup>a</sup> Podra cercarlo sin perjudicar las traversias caminos y servidumbres, lo disfrutara libre y exclusivamente

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Grant  
B.  
continued

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destinándolo al cultivo que mas le acomode pero dentro de un año fabricará casa y estara habitada.

3.<sup>a</sup> Solicitara del Juez respectivo que le de la posesion juridica en virtud de este despacho por el cual se demarcaran los linderos en cuyos limites pondra a mas de sus mojones algunos arboles frutales o silvestres de alguna utilidad.

4.<sup>a</sup> El terreno de que se hace donacion es de tres sitios de ganado mayor poco mas o menos segun explica el dicino respectivo.

El juez que diere la posesion lo hará medid conforme a ordenanza quedando quedando el sobrante que resulte a la Nacion para los usos convenientes.

5.<sup>a</sup> Si contraviniere a estas condiciones perderá en derecho al terreno y será denunciabile por otro.

En consecuencia mando que sirviendole de titulo el presente y teniendose por firme y valedero se tome razon de el en el libro a que corresponde y se entregue al interesado para su resguardo y demas fines. Dado en Monterey a veinte y nueve del mes de Marzo de mil ochocientos cuarenta y cuatro.

(firmado por) Mand. Micheltorena  
(firmado) Mand. Jimeno  
Gris.

Queda tomada razon de este Despacho en el libro respectivo a fo 8.

(firmado por) Jimeno.

Filed in Office May 20<sup>th</sup> 1852.

Office of the Board of Commissioners of California Land Office.

I certify the foregoing to be a correct copy of a title filed in Office, Case N. 333. San Francisco May 24<sup>th</sup> 1852. Geo Fisher Secy

Filed in Office May 27<sup>th</sup> 1852.

Geo. Fisher, Secy.

Provisionally authorised by the Maritime Custom House of the Port of Monterey in the Department of the Californias for the years 1844 & 1845.

Micheltorena. Pablo de la Guerra.

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"C"

Copy of Translation

X  
Nille.

{Deal} Citizen Manuel Micheltorena Brigadier General of the Mexican Army, Adjutant General of the staff of the same, Governor, Commandant general & Inspector of the Department of the Californias.

Whereas the Citizen Ramon Mesa has petitioned for his own personal use and that of his family for the land known by the name of "Soulajulle" bounded by the Sagon of San Antonio, the land called Nicacio and the Rancho of Juan Martin, and whereas the requirements & investigations of the laws & regulations have been complied with, now by virtue of the power in me vested in the name of the Mexican Nation, I have thought proper to grant unto him the above mentioned land, declaring the same by these presents to be his property subject to the approval of the Excellent Departmental Assembly under the following conditions.

1<sup>st</sup> He shall not sell, alienate, mortgage nor subject it to entail, bond, security nor to any other incumbrance whatsoever.

2<sup>nd</sup> He may fence it without obstructing crossings, roads & servitudes, he shall enjoy it fully & exclusively applying it to whatever use or culture may best suit him, but within one year he shall build thereon a house which shall be inhabited.

3<sup>rd</sup> He shall solicit from the respective Judge the judicial possession of said land by virtue of the patent by whom the boundaries shall be marked out at the limits of which there shall be set besides the proper land marks, some fruit trees or else wild ones of some usefulness.

4<sup>th</sup> The land of which donation is made is of three "Sitios de Ganado mayor" (square leagues) a little more or less as is shown by the respective maps.

The judge who may give possession will cause the same to be measured

AH  
measured agreeably to ordinance, leaving the "sobrante"  
(excess) which may result to the nation for such uses as may  
be deemed proper.

5<sup>th</sup>. If he contravene to these conditions he shall forfeit  
his right to said land and it shall remain open to de-  
=nouncement by any other person.

Therefore command that viewing this title as  
firm & valid, the same be entered in the corresponding book  
and then delivered to the interested party for his own security  
& further ends.

Given in Monterey this 29<sup>th</sup> day of March 1844

(Signed) Man<sup>d</sup>. Michelorena.

(Signed) Man<sup>d</sup>. Jimeno, Secy.

This patent is recorded in the proper Book folio 8.

(Signed) Jimeno.

Filed in office, May 20<sup>th</sup> 1852.

Office of the Board of Commissioners of Cali-  
fornia Land Claims.

I certify the foregoing to be a correct copy of a transla-  
tion filed in office in case No 233.

San Francisco, May 24<sup>th</sup> 1852

Geo. Disher, Secy.

Filed in office, May 27<sup>th</sup> 1852.

Geo. Disher, Sec.

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(Spanish Document follows)

15- L.L.D.R

B  
Expedite

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Expediente  
Promovido por el Ciudadano José  
Ramon Mesa en pretension del paje  
Conocido con el nombre de

Toulapullé

365

16 2. L. D. R

Dellos Cuartos Dos Reales.  
Habilitado provisionalmt. por la Aduana  
maritima del puerto de Monterey en  
el Departamento de las Californias para  
los años de mil Ocho cientos cuarenta y  
cuatro y mil ocho cientos cuarenta y cinco  
Micheltorena Pablo de la Guerra

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(Sello)

Excmo Señor Gobernador. El Ciudadano

Monterey Nro 21 } José Ramon Mesa  
de 1844. Inf. el } natural de Este Depar  
tamento, y vecino de Ca  
tomando antes los } jurisdiccion de Sonoma  
et. necesite. } ante V. E. respetuosamte.

Micheltorena

en derecho y como me fuere  
proceda ayo a V. E. una

instancia en solicitud de un paraje cono  
sido con el nombre de Laulapulle inmedia  
ta a la Emision de San Rafael y como  
sin duda es heba pa desisto estavio  
me ves precisado a oeruir de nuevo a la  
generosidad de V. E. a fin de que en Vista  
del informe que delidamente acompaño  
del Encargado de dicho Establimto me  
haga la gracia de concederme el terreno  
indicado colindando por el sur y el  
Oeste con el paraje llamado Micaeis  
por el Norte con la Laguna de San Antonio  
y por el Este con el Rancho de Juan Martin  
cuya estacion es de tres sitios de ganado  
mayor segun esplica el disenõ que a

2. L. D. R

V. E. tambien adpunto, el cual estoy ocu  
pando hace como medio año con una peque  
na casa un corral huerta y bencos semo  
vientes con consentimto del repetido En  
cargado, por lo que y en Obtencion a Once  
años de servicio que presto en la Carrera  
de las Armas y el que actualmente soy  
como mayor domo de la medicha Emi  
sion; espero que V. E. tomara en considera  
cion mi pedido.  
por tanto a V. E. Rendidamente suplico

recibido gracia y justicia p. manco con

se digna acceder à mi favor de lo cual  
recibiré gracia y justicia quando lo ne-  
cesario. V. E.

Monterey Marzo 21 de 1844.

No se finan X

Excmo Sr Gobernador

El informe único que se podía pedir  
era el del encargo de San Rafael el  
cual ya da su parecer según consta por  
la certificación que acompaña el interesa-  
do y siendo favorable y está el terreno  
baldo se le puede poner en este mismo  
Expediente un decreto de concesión pro-  
visional mientras la Secretaría se des-  
ocupa de los negocios que V. E. quiere  
mandar à Méjico por conducta de Ca-  
loleta "California" pero no obstante la  
supra disposición de V. E. será lo mas  
conviniente.

Monterey 22 de Marzo de 1844

Mano Jimeno

Monterey. Marzo 24 de 1844.

Conf.

Micheltan

Excmo. Sr Gobernador

El interesado está muy empeñado para que  
se le estienda el título por que dice que  
vive muy lejos y volver à concluir su  
asunto, y si V. E. justa puede estenderse  
el título al terreno que pretende el cual  
está baldo, no pertenece à mi favor y los  
informes son favorable;

Monterey 29 de Marzo de 1844

Mano Jimeno

Conf.

Micheltan

5. L. D. R Monterey 29 de marzo de 1844

Vista la petición con que da principio este  
Expediente; los informes que preceden con-  
to lo demás que se tubo pres<sup>to</sup> y de ver  
convinio de conformidad con las leyes  
y Reglamentos de la materia:

18  
declaro dueño en propiedad del terreno  
nombrado Sanlapulle al Ciudadano Ramon  
Mesa, colindante con la Laguna, de  
San Antonio, con el terreno de Chacica y  
con el Rancho de D. Juan Martin en  
Estacion de tres sitios de pan de masa  
Libre el correspondiente de despacho, tomese  
Razon en el Libro Respectivo y dirijase  
este Expediente a la Exma. Asamblea Depar-  
tamental para su aprobacion. El Excmo.  
Sr. Gobernador General de Brigada del  
Ejercito Mexicano Capudante General  
de Campaña mayor del mismo, asi lo mande  
decreto y firmo de que doy fe.

6. L. D. R

Here follows  
map.

7. L. D. R

El of. subscribe encargado del Estable-  
cimiento de San Rafael.  
Certifico of. el terreno llamado Sanlapulle  
que se halla bastante distante de esta  
Emision, estaba baldio y le di licencia a  
Ramon Mesa Mayordomo de la misma para  
que fuera a establecerse alli por no perte-  
necer a propiedad particular ni Corpora-  
cion y lo verifico hace como seis meses pro-  
mendiendo en el una pequena Casa, Corral  
huerta y ganados; y que este estan  
baldios, tiene tierras suficientes para sus  
bienes y labores. y no necesita de dicho  
terreno.

San Rafael 10 de Mayo 1844  
Simoteo Murphy

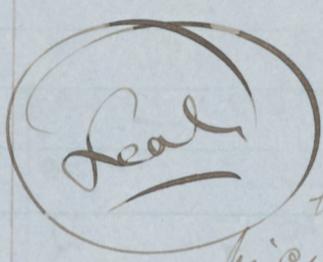
Office of the Surveyor General of  
the United States for California.

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I, Samuel D. King Surveyor  
General of the United States for the State  
of California, and as such now having  
in my Office and under my charge and  
control a portion of the Archives of the former  
Spanish and Mexican Territory or De-  
partments of Upper California, do hereby  
certify that the seven hereof and  
herewith annexed pages of having paper  
numbered from One to seven inclusive  
and each of which is verified by my  
initials (S. D. K.) exhibit true and ac-  
curate copies of certain documents  
on file and forming part of the said  
Archives in this Office.

21

 In Testimony whereof I have  
herewith signed my name Of-  
ficially and affixed my private  
seal (not being a seal of Office) at the  
City of San Francisco Cal. this sixth  
day of March A. D. 1852

Saml. D. King

Surveyor General Cal.

Filed in Office May 20th 1852

Geo. Fisher Secy



Fourth Deal.

Two Reales.

Provisionally authorised by the Maritime Custom House of the Port of Monterey in the Department of the Californias for the years 1844 & 1845.

Micheltorena.

Pablo de la Guerra.

To his excellency the Governor

"Q"

Translation of Expediente.

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{ Deal }

Monterey march 21<sup>st</sup> 1844. Let the Secretary of State report upon your Excellency respectfully & in due form of law, say that since last year I addressed to your Excellency a petition as he may deem necessary  
(signed) Micheltorena.

The Citizen José Ramon Mesa a native of this Department & resident of the jurisdiction of Sonoma before your Excellency respectfully & in due form of law, say that since last year I addressed to your Excellency a petition soliciting a tract of land known by the name of "Soulajulle" in the vicinity of the ex-mission of San Rafael & as said communication has doubtlessly been mislaid; I am now compelled to renew my application to the generosity of your Excellency to the end that in view of the report, I herewith annex of the person in charge of said establishment

you will do me the favor to grant me the land above referred to, bounded on the south & west by land called Nicasio, on the north by the Lagoon of San Antonio, and on the East by Juan Martin's Rancho the extent of which is three "Sitios de Ganado mayor" (square leagues) as is shown by the map which also accompanies this to your Excellency; said land I have been occupying about one half year with a small house, a corral (Cattle pen) garden & personal estate with the consent of the aforesaid person in charge, for which reason, & in view of the fact of the eight years' service, I bore the arms of my country and my actual services as Steward of said mission, I trust that your Excellency will take my request into consideration. Wherefore I humbly beseech that your Excellency will deign accede to my request by which I shall receive favor & justice making the necessary oath &c.

Monterey march 21<sup>st</sup> 1844.

I know not

I know not how to write X

To his honor the Governor.

The only information which could have been asked, must have been from the administrator of San Rafael who has already given his opinion as is evidenced by the certificate which the interested party herewith annexed, all of which being favorable and the land vacant, a decree for a provisional grant may be made on these very proceedings, whilst the secretary concludes the matter, which your Excellency desires to send to Mexico by the Schooner California.

Nevertheless Your Excellency's superior disposition of it will be deemed the most proper.

Monterey march 27<sup>th</sup> 1844.

Man<sup>l</sup> Jimeno

app<sup>d</sup>

Micheltorena.

To his Excellency the Governor.

The interested party is very anxious that his title should be issued to him, because he says he lives at too great a distance to return for the purpose of completing said business and if your Excellency please, the title to the land petitioned for can be made to him, the same being vacant land & not pertaining to any one, while the reports are favorable.

Monterey march 29<sup>th</sup> 1844.

Man<sup>l</sup> Jimeno

app<sup>d</sup>

Micheltorena.

Monterey March 29<sup>th</sup> 1844.

In view of the petition which heads these proceedings, the preceding report reports with every thing else bearing on the subject, all in conformity with the laws and regulations in the matter, I declare the Citizen Ramon Mesa to be owner in fee of the land called "Soulajulle" bounded by the Lagoon of San Antonio, by land of Nicacio & by the Rancho of Juan Martin, said land being to the extent of three "sitios de ganado mayor," (square leagues)

Let the

Let the corresponding patent be issued and recorded in the proper Book and let these proceedings be transmitted to the Excellent Departmental Assembly for their approval.

His Excellency the Governor, Brigadier General of the Mexican Army, Adjutant General of the Staff of the same, thus did command decree & sign which I attest.

331 ND  
PAGE 22

The undersigned administrator of the establishment of San Rafael, do hereby certify that the land called "Soulafulle" is far enough from said mission that it was vacant & I gave permission to Ramon Mesa, Steward of the same, for the purpose of establishing himself thereon, as it did not belong to any private individual or corporation; that he went on & has occupied it these six months, and there built a small house, a corral (cattle pen) & cultivated a garden & had cattle thereon, & that this establishment has lands sufficient for its own stock and tillage & needs not the aforesaid land.

San Rafael, march 10<sup>th</sup> 1844.

(Signed) Dimpleo Murphy.

Office of the Board of Commissioners of California Land Claims.

I certify the foregoing to be a correct copy of a translation of an Expediente filed in office in case No 233.

San Francisco, May 24<sup>th</sup> 1852.

Geo. Fisher, Secy.

Filed in office, May 27<sup>th</sup>

Geo. Fisher, Sec.

Know all men by these presents, that I Don Ramon Mesa of the County of Sonoma & State of California, the party of the first part & Pedro J. Vasquez of the city of Sonoma

24

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PAGE 23

Sonoma, County of Sonoma & State of California of the second part, witnesseth that for & in consideration of the sum of three thousand (\$3,000.) dollars, lawful money of the United States, to him in hand paid by the said party of the second part the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, do by these presents grant, bargain, sell & convey unto the said Pedro J. Vasquez, his heirs & assigns, all my right, title & interest of, in & to all that certain piece or parcel of land situated & being in the county of Sonoma & State aforesaid, bounded & described as follows:

Being a part of the tract of land known as the Rancho of San Ramon as granted to said "Mesa" by Micheltorena, Governor of California A. D. 1843, lying near the Laguna de San Antonio, in the County of Marin in the State of California, bounded on the east by the land owned by W<sup>m</sup>. M. Fuller & running northwardly & southwardly, the entire distance of said W<sup>m</sup>. M. Fuller's west line & running out therefrom four miles long & two miles wide; bounded on the north by the Laguna de San Antonio & south by the tract of land called "Vicacio".

To have & to hold all & singular, the above described piece of land, together with all the privileges and appurtenances whatsoever thereunto belonging to the only proper use, benefit & behoof of the said Pedro J. Vasquez, his heirs & assigns forever.

And I, the said Mesa, will warrant & defend for myself, my heirs, executors & administrators the title to the said premises & every part thereof to the said Pedro J. Vasquez his heirs & assigns against the lawful claim or to claims the same or any part thereof, & that I am lawfully seized of an indefeasible estate in fee simple in the real estate hereby conveyed & have good right to sell the same & that the same is free from all incumbrances.

In witness whereof I the said  
Ramon Mesa, hereunto set my hand & seal  
this

Ramon Mesa, his Mesa, Seal

this 28<sup>th</sup> day of March A. D. 1850.

José Ramon <sup>his</sup> Mesa, <sup>mark</sup> {Seal}

In presence of  
Salvador Vallejo  
E. W. Bullis.

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PAGE 24

State of California  
County of Sonoma. ) s.

Personally appeared before me R. B. Butler, Deputy Recorder in & for the County of Sonoma Ramon Mesa known to me to be the person described in & who executed the within instrument, & acknowledged to me that he executed the same freely & voluntarily for the purposes therein mentioned.

R. B. Butler, {Seal}  
Deputy Recorder.

Sonoma Sept. 12<sup>th</sup>  
A. D. 1850

Filed in office, May 27<sup>th</sup> 1852.  
Geo. Fisher, Sec.

We agree that the evidence taken in case N<sup>o</sup> 233 relative to the Rancho granted to Ramon Mesa shall be used by either party & be equally applicable to "Stipulation". N<sup>os</sup> 234, 245, 246, 247 & "9" involving the same grant.

Oct. 31<sup>st</sup> 1853.

(Signed) Shadrach Spear & Bristol  
for Claimants.

(Signed) Robert Greenhow  
Asst. Law Agent U. S.

I, George Fisher, Secretary to the Board of U. S. Land Commissioners do hereby certify the foregoing to be a true & correct copy of a stipulation on file in case N<sup>o</sup> 233, wherein Joshua S. Brackett is the

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is the claimant for the place named "Loulajulle".

Witness my hand

Geo. Fisher, Sec.

Filed in office, December 31. 1853.

Geo. Fisher, Sec.

---

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PAGE 25

331 ND

27

N<sup>o</sup>: 235.

It is hereby stipulated and agreed by Robt. Greenhow, the acting U. S. Law agent, that the testimony or deposition of José Ramon Mesa this day taken before Judge Felch, Commissioner, in the case N<sup>o</sup> 233, shall be considered as taken in the following cases, viz: 234, 245, 246, 247 & 249, the same referring to the original grant under which the claims designated by the above mentioned N<sup>os</sup> are all embraced.

331 ND  
PAGE 26

Stipulation San Francisco, Nov. 10<sup>th</sup> A. D. 1853.

(Signed) Robert Greenhow  
Asst. Law Agent U. S.

(Signed) Robert Hopkins  
Atty. for Claimant.

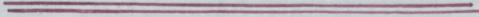
I, George Fisher, secretary to the U. S. Board of Land Commissioners, do hereby certify the foregoing to be a true & correct copy of the stipulation on file in case N<sup>o</sup> 233, wherein Joshua S. Brackett is the claimant for the place named "Soulayulle".

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto subscribed my name at the office of said Commissioners this 10<sup>th</sup> day of November 1853.

Geo. Fisher, Sec.

Filed in office Nov. 10<sup>th</sup> 1853.

Geo. Fisher,  
Sec.



506

1850

From the ... State of California ...

Deed from Ramon  
Mesa to Vasquez

Know all men by these presents, that I,  
Don Ramon Mesa, of the county of Sonoma and  
State of California, the party of the first part  
and Pedro J. Vasquez, of the city of Sonoma,  
County of Sonoma, and State of California of  
the second part, Whom both, that for and in con-  
sideration of the sum of Three Thousand (3000.)  
Dollars, lawful money of the United States, to  
him in hand paid, by the said party of the  
second part, the receipt whereof is hereby  
acknowledged, do by these presents grant, bargain  
sell and convey unto the said Pedro J. Vasquez,  
his heirs and assigns, all my right, title and  
interest, of, in and to all that certain piece or  
parcel, of land situated and being in the  
county of Sonoma and State aforesaid, bounded  
and described as follows. Being a part of  
the tract of land known as the Rancho of San  
Ramone as granted to said Mesa by Michel Coma  
Governor of California, A. D. 1843, lying near  
the Laguna de San Antonio in the county of  
of Marin in the state of California, bounded  
on the east by the land owned by W<sup>m</sup> M. Fuller  
and running southerly and then easterly the  
entire distance of said W<sup>m</sup> M. Fuller, road line,  
and running out therefrom four miles long  
and two miles wide. Bounded on the north  
by the Laguna de San Antonio and south by  
the tract of land called Hicacio. To have and  
to hold all and singular the above described  
piece of land, together with all the privileges  
and appurtenances whatsoever therunto belonging  
to the only proper use, benefit and behoof of the  
said Pedro J. Vasquez his heirs and assigns forever  
And I the said Mesa, will warrant and defend  
for myself, my heirs, executors and administrators  
the title to the said premises and every part thereof,  
to the said Pedro J. Vasquez his heirs and assigns  
against the lawful claim in to claims the same  
or any part thereof, and that I am lawfully seized  
of an indefeasible estate in fee simple in the real  
estate hereby conveyed and have good right to sell

331 ND

PAGE 27

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same and that the same is free from all incumbrances,  
In witness whereof, the said Ramon Mesa hereunto  
set my hand and seal this 28<sup>th</sup> day of March A.D.  
1850. Javi Ramon <sup>his</sup> Mesa, (Seal)  
21.1.10

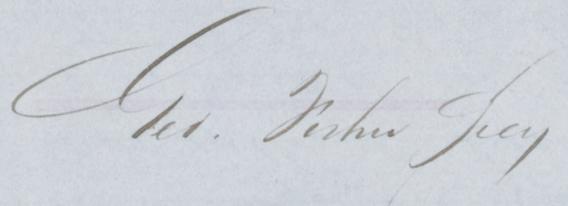
331 ND  
PAGE 28

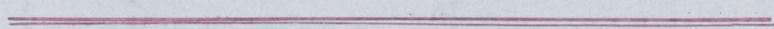
In presence of  
Salvador Vallejo  
E. W. Burtin.

State of California }  
County of Sonoma } SS

Personally appeared before  
me R. B. Burtin, Deputy Recorder in and for the  
County of Sonoma, Ramon Mesa, known to  
me to be the person described in, and who ex-  
ecuted the within instrument, and who admitted  
to me that he executed the same freely and voluntarily  
for the purposes therein mentioned.  
Sonoma, Sept. 12, 1850. } R. B. Burtin (Seal)  
Depty Recorder

Filed in office May 27, 1852

(signed)  Jas. Fisher Jay



31.

No 245

Pedro J. Vasquez }  
vs } "Part of Soulagulle"  
The United States }

Opinion by  
Com. R. Aug.  
Thompson

This claim is derived from the same  
title and is subject to the same objections  
which were considered and decided in the  
Opinion delivered in case No 233. Joshua  
L. Brackett vs The United States, and must  
therefore for the reasons therein contained  
be rejected.

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PAGE 29

Filed in Office April 17, 1855,  
Geo. Fisher Sec.

245

Pedro J. Vasquez }  
vs } Part of "Soulagulle"  
The United States }

Decree

In this case on hearing the proofs  
and allegations it is adjudged by the Com.  
mission that the Claim of the Petitioner  
is not valid; and it is therefore decreed  
that his application for a confirmation  
thereof be and the same is hereby  
rejected

R. Aug Thompson  
S. B. Farwell,  
Commissioners

Filed in Office April 17, 1855  
Geo. Fisher Sec.

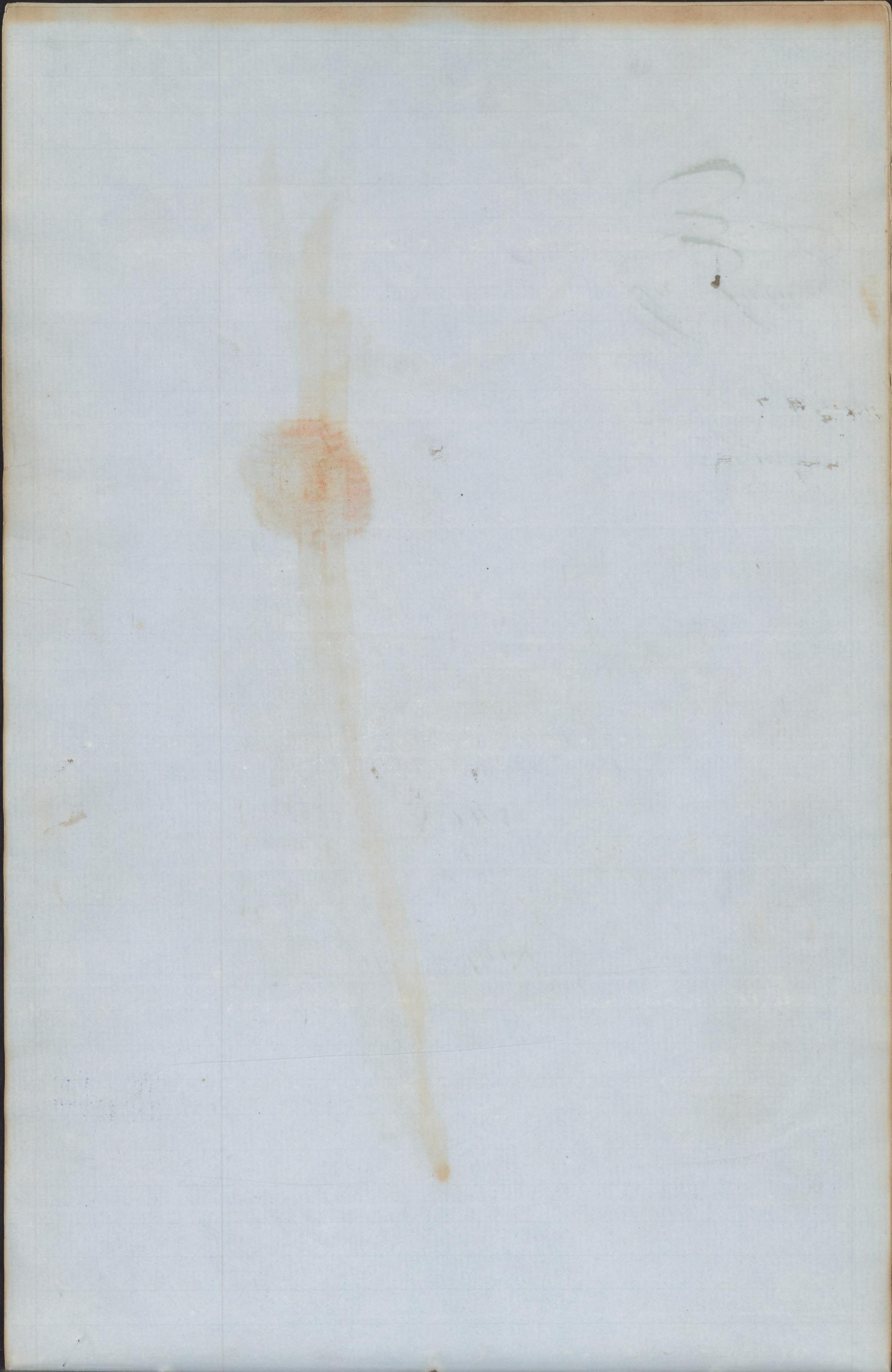


Handwritten text or markings at the bottom left corner, possibly including the letters 'IB'.

Order.

And it appearing to the satisfaction of this Board that the Land hereby adjudicated is situated in the Northern District of California it is hereby Ordered that two transcripts of the proceedings and of the decisions in this case and of the papers and evidence upon which the same are founded be made out and duly certified by the Secretary, one of which transcripts shall be filed with the clerk of the United States District Court for the Northern District of California and the other be transmitted to the Attorney General of the United States.

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PAGE 31

Office of the Board of Commissioners,  
To ascertain and settle the Private Land Claims in the State of California.

I, *George Fisher* Secretary to  
the Board of Commissioners to ascertain and settle the Private  
Land Claims in the State of California, do hereby certify the  
following *Thirty three* pages, numbered from  
*33*, both inclusive, to contain a true, correct and full Tran-  
script of the Record of the Proceedings and of the Decision of the  
Board, of the Documentary Evidence and of the Testimony  
of Witnesses, upon which the same is founded, on file in this  
Case No. *245* on the Docket of the said Board,

*Pedro J. Vasquez is*

the claimant against the United States, for the place known by  
the name of "*Part of Sutiljulle.*"



In Testimony Whereof, I hereunto set my hand  
and affix my private Seal (not having a Seal  
of Office) at San Francisco, California, this  
*Eighth* day of *November*  
A. D. 1855, and of the Independence of the  
United States of America the ~~seventy~~ *eighty*th.

*Geo. Fisher*  
*[Signature]*

331  
U. S. DISTRICT COURT,  
*Northern* District of California.

No. 331-  
331  
THE UNITED STATES.

vs.

ND

*Pedro S. Vasquez*

TRANSCRIPT OF THE RECORD  
FROM THE  
BOARD OF U. S. LAND COMMISSIONERS,

In Case No. 245

Filed, November 7th 1880  
*J. A. Monroe*  
*Clk.*



Pedro J. Vasquez

v.

The United States

} Transcript 331

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PAGE

It is hereby stipulated and agreed that the Depositions of Lou Ramon Mesa and Jacob Martin filed in the Case of The United States v Joshua S. Brackett, Transcript No 329, may be considered as put in in this case and used on the trial of the same.

Almusel  
Asst. U.S. Atty

331

District Court

Pedro J. Vasquez

v. } Stipulation

The United States

Transcript No 331

Filed Dec: 22, 1855,  
J. Chivers,  
Deputy.

331 ND  
PAGE 33

In the District Court of the  
United States for the Northern  
District of California.

331 ND  
PAGE 34

The United States  
Appellants  
vs  
Pedro J. Vasquez  
No. 331.

The United States by their Attorney  
deny the validity of the title set  
out in the petition of the said  
Appellants: and pray that the  
decision of the Board of Commissioners  
be affirmed, and the said title  
be decreed to be invalid.

A. Russell  
Esq. U.S. Atty

No. 331

U.S. Dist. Court

The U. States

~~vs~~  
Pedro J. Vasquez

—  
—  
Answer

Filed Dec. 22, 1855,  
J. Chevers  
Deputy.

331 ND

PAGE 35

Albussell

Pedro. J. Vasquez

<sup>N</sup>  
The United States

331  
Transcript No 245.

331 ND  
PAGE 36

In the U. S. District Court for  
the Northern District of California -

To The United States Dist. Atty

Sir

1000  
Please take notice that the  
claimant in this case intends to prosecute an  
appeal from the decision of the Board of the  
United States Land Commission, rejecting his  
claim.

Wm Blanding  
atty for Appth.

331

U. S. Dist Court.

Pedro J. Vasquez

W. } Trans 331

The United States  
Dec: 22, 1855,  
J. Cheever  
Deputy  
Notices of Appeal

Blaundin  
for Applts.

same acknowledged  
this 22nd Dec 1855  
A. Russell  
Asst U.S. Atty

Pedro J. Vasquez

v.

The United States

} Transcript No 331

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PAGE 38

To The Judge of the  
District Court for the Northern District of  
California

The Petition of Pedro J. Vasquez  
respectfully sheweth

That your Petitioner on the  
27th day of May 1852 presented his claim to the  
United States Land Commission for part of a  
tract of land in the present County of Marin and  
known as the "Soulayulle" or "San Ramon Ranch"  
That he derives his title by Mesne Conveyances  
from Jose Ramon Mesa to whom the said  
Ranch was granted by Manuel Michetrona on  
29 March 1844. That the claim was rejected  
by the Board on the ground that the Ranch was  
called "Soulayulle" in the Grant, while in the  
Mesne Conveyances it was called "San Ramon";  
and for the description of the land and his title  
therein, he refers specially to his Petition & the  
documents & evidence laid before the Board.

That the Transcript was filed in this Court  
on 7th day of Novr 1855 and Notice of appeal was  
served on the Dist Atty and filed with the Clerk on  
the 22nd day of December 1855.

Your Petitioner therefore prays  
this Honorable Court for a reversal of the decision of  
the Board and that his title may be confirmed

by the proper Secre.

Wm Blanding  
Atty for Str.

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PAGE 39

*[Faint, illegible handwriting, likely bleed-through from the reverse side of the page.]*

*[Faint, illegible handwriting, likely bleed-through from the reverse side of the page.]*

U. S. 331  
District Court.

Pedro J. Baquez  
v. } Transcript  
      } No 331.  
United States

Petition of appeal

Blanding  
331 ND  
PAGE 40 for Pitt

Since acknowledged  
This Dec 22, 1855  
at Russell  
asst. U. S. atty.  
Filed Dec: 22, 1855  
J. Chivers  
Deputy.

At a stated term of the District Court  
of the United States of America for the  
Northern District of California, held  
at the Courtroom in the City of San  
Francisco on Monday the Third  
day of ~~August~~ March A. D. 1856.

Present:

The Hon: Ogden Hoffman,  
Dist Judge

The United States

vs

Pedro J. Pasquez

3  
A. C. 331; L. C. 245.

This cause came on  
to be heard on appeal from the final decision  
of the Board of Commissioners to ascertain  
and settle the private lands claims in the  
State of California, under the Act of Congress  
approved 3<sup>d</sup> March A. D. 1851, upon the trans-  
cript of the proceedings and decision of  
the said Board of Commissioners, and the  
papers and evidence on which the said  
decision was founded, and it appearing  
to the Court that the said transcript has  
been duly filed according to law, and the  
cause having regularly come to a hearing  
it is by the Court hereby Ordered, Adjudged  
and Decreed that the said decision be

and the same is hereby reversed; and it is likewise Ordered, Adjudged and Decreed that the claim of the appellant is a good and valid claim, and that the same be and is hereby confirmed.

The land of which confirmation is hereby made, is a portion of a tract called "Soufajulle" in Marin County, (granted to Jose Ramon Mesa March 29. 1844) and is bounded and described as follows: Bounded on the east by the land owned by Mr M. Fuller and running northward and southwardly the entire distance of Mr M. Fullers west line, and running out therefrom four miles long and two miles wide. Bounded on the north by the Laguna de San Antonio, and south by the tract of land called Nicasio; reference for a more particular description to be had to the grant, map, and transfer filed in the case: Provided that the land above described be found within the exterior boundaries of the said original grant made to Jose Ramon Mesa by Gov Manuel Micheltorena on the 29<sup>th</sup> day of March 1844; but if the whole of the above described lands be not found within the exterior boundaries of said

original grant then only such quantity  
thereof as may be found therein, is  
hereby confirmed.

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PAGE 43

Cydon Hoffmann

U. S. Dist. Judge

331

U. S. District Court

The United States

vs

Pedro J. Vasquez

---

Decree

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Filed March 3, 1856,  
W. H. Chever,  
Deputy,

331 ND  
PAGE 44

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Blanding & Blanding  
attys for Vasquez

At a Stated Term of the District Court of the UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, for the Northern District of California, held at the Court Room, in the City of SAN FRANCISCO, on *Friday* the *eleventh* day of *August* in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and fifty-seven.

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PAGE 45

Present:

The Honorable OGDEN HOFFMAN, District Judge.

*The United States*

*vs*

*Ledro J. Vasquez*

*D. C. 331; L. C. 245.*

*The Attorney General of the United States having given notice that no further appeal will be taken in this case, and a stipulation to that effect having been entered into by the District Attorney:*

*On motion of the District attorney it is ordered, adjudged and decreed that claimant have leave to proceed under the decree of this Court heretofore rendered in his favor, as under Final Decree.*

*Ogden Hoffman*  
*U. S. Dist. Judge*

331

United States District Court, Northern  
District of California.

The United States

vs.

Pedro J. Vasquez

ORDER.

vacating appeal

Filed Aug: 7<sup>th</sup> 1857

John A. Murrie,  
CLERK.

By W. A. Cheverly,  
DEPUTY.

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PAGE 46

In the District Court of the United States  
for the Northern District of Calal

331 ND

PAGE 47

The United States

ad

3  
3  
3 A. C. 331 : L. C. 245.

Jedro L. Vasquez.

In pursuance of notice  
from the Attorney General of the United  
States, it is hereby stipulated and agreed  
that no further appeal be taken in this  
case on the part of the United States and  
that claimant have leave to proceed under  
the decree of this Court heretofore rendered  
in his favor, as under Final Decree.

San Francisco Aug 15 7th 1857.

P. Della Torre

H. S. atty

Blundary & Blundary  
Attys for claimant

331

U. S. District Court

The United States

vs

Pedro J. Pasquez

---

Stipulation

---

Filed Aug: 7, 1857,

W. B. Church,

Deputy.

331 ND

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Pedro J. Vasquez

<sup>VS</sup>  
The United States

331 ND

PAGE 49

The original grant for the land a part of which is claimed by the claimant in this case under a conveyance from the original grantee having been adjudged to be valid in case No 329 and the title of the present claimant appearing to be regularly derived ~~it is~~ his claim must be confirmed to the land he claims for or to so much thereof as is within the limits of the Rancho granted to Ramon Mesa

45530  
15050

The U.S.  
By No. 331-  
Pedro J. Basques

Pinion

5

331 ND  
PAGE 50

John

In this case there is an error, the petition should be in for 12 square miles, and the opinion of the judge conforms as asked for to wit 12 square miles.

The deed among the papers shows that acreage is only entitled to a piece 2 miles wide and four miles long making 8 square miles. This error should be corrected on the deed.

O. W. Spidmore

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Office of the Board of Commissioners,  
To ascertain and settle the Private Land Claims in the State of California.

San Francisco, <sup>Nov 8<sup>th</sup></sup> Oct. 27<sup>th</sup> 1855

*J. A. Monroe Esq.*  
Clerk of the U. S. District Court for the  
*Northern* District of California.

Sir;

I herewith transmit you, pursuant to the requirements of the Act of Congress, approved August 31st, 1852, a Transcript of the Record of the Proceedings and of the Decision of this Board, of the Documentary Evidence and of the Testimony of the witnesses upon which the same is founded, in Case No. 245 on the Docket of the said Board, wherein

*Pedro J. Vasquez* is  
the Claimant against the United States, for the place known by the name of "*Part of Soutajulle*"  
and request your receipt for the same.

I am, Respectfully,  
Your Obedt Servant,  
*Geo. Fisher*