

CASE No.

408

NORTHERN DISTRICT

A TRACT OF LAND IN
MENDOCINO COUNTY GRANT

Wm. A. RICHARDSON
CLAIMANT

LAND CASE 408 ND

197 pgs.

JAN 7 1963

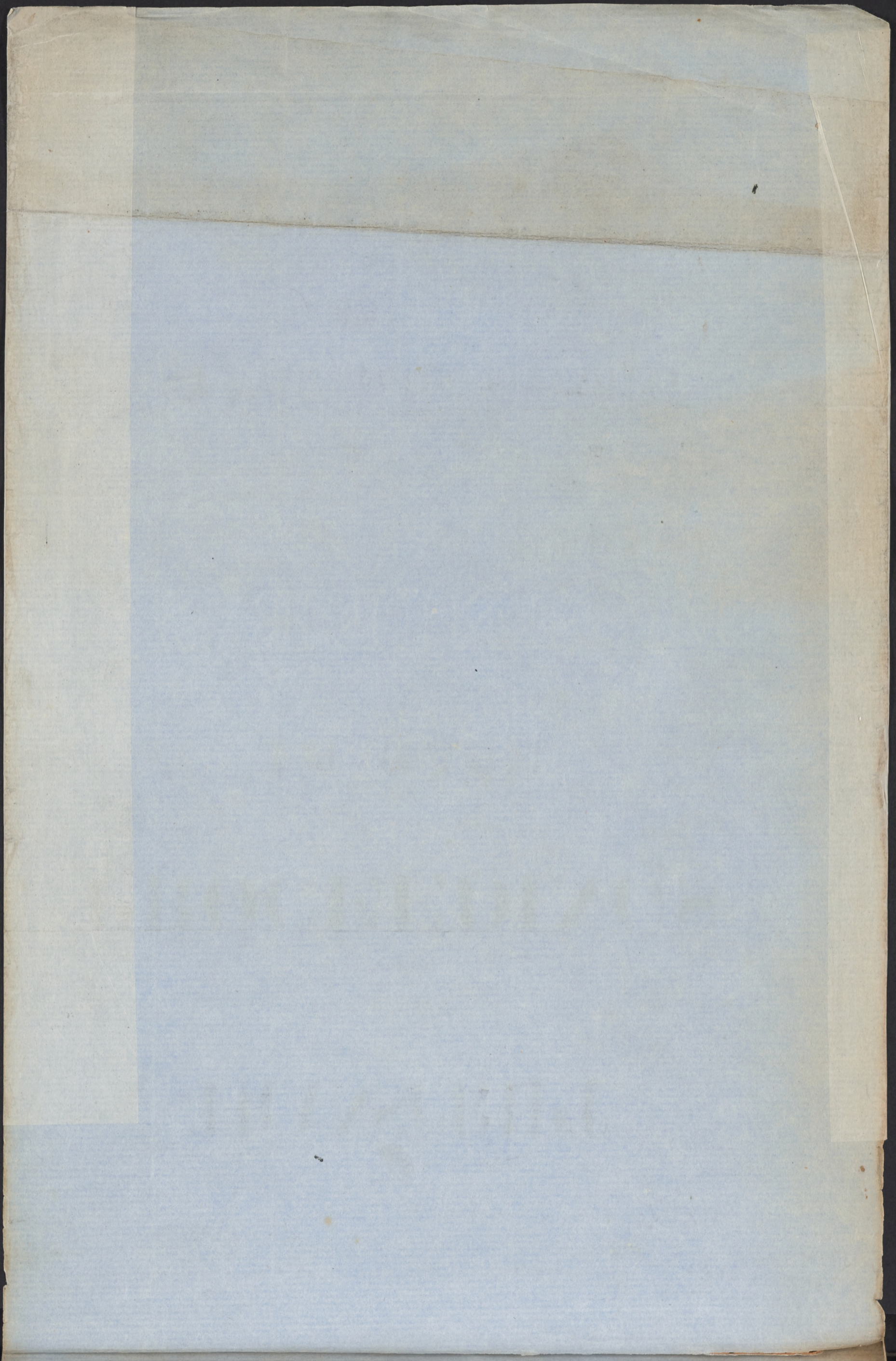
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103

map

Map

of the



TRANSCRIPT

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PAGE 1

OF THE

PROCEEDINGS

IN CASE

NO. 103.

Wm A Richardson CLAIMANT

VS.

THE UNITED STATES, DEFENDANT,

FOR THE PLACE NAMED

A tract of land in Mendocino County.

Office of the Board of Commissioners
to ascertain & settle the private land claims
in the State of California,

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Be it remembered that on this sixteenth day of March 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 W^{no} N. Richardson for a tract of land in Mendocino County was presented and ordered to be filed and docketed with No 103 which is as follows, to wit:

(Vide page 5 of this Transcript.)

Upon which Petition the following subsequent proceedings were had in their chronological order, to wit:

San Francisco May 10th 1852.
In the same case the depositions of David Spence and Pablo de la Guerra, witnesses in behalf of the claimant, taken before Commissioner Harry J. Thornton, were filed.

(Vide page 749 of this Transcript.)

San Francisco January 15th 1853.
In the same case the deposition of Francis Arce, a witness in behalf of the claimant, taken before Commissioner Melvin Hall, with document marked No. 1, annexed thereto, was filed.

(Vide page 11 of this Transcript.)

San Francisco, January 28th 1853.

In the same case the depositions of Ignacio Pacheco and S. Briones, witnesses in behalf of the claimant, taken before Commissioner Delano Hall, ^{the last} with documents marked H. H. nos. 1 & 2, annexed thereto, were filed;

(Vide pages 12 & 14 of this Transcript)

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San Francisco, February 12th 1853.

In the same case the deposition of Jose' G. Simuntou, a witness in behalf of the claimant, taken before Commissioner Delano Hall, was filed;

(Vide page 15 of this Transcript)

San Francisco Sept. 15th 1853.

Case no. 103 was called - on motion of the counsel for the claimant, ordered to the foot of the docket.

In the same case the depositions of Manuel Torres and Stephen Smith, witnesses in behalf of the claimant, taken before Commissioner Stephens Filch, were filed;

(Vide pages 17 & 19 of this Transcript)

San Francisco October 19th 1853

In the same case the deposition of Estevan Richardson, a witness in behalf of the claimant, taken before Commissioner Thompson Campbell, was filed;

(Vide page 22 of this Transcript)

San Francisco, Oct. 21st 1853.

In the same case the deposition of Pablo Briones, a witness in behalf of the claimant, taken before Commissioner Thompson Campbell, was filed;

(Vide page 24 of this Transcript)

San Francisco October 26 1853.

In the same case the depositions of Clement B. Ellis and Jose Abrego, witnesses in behalf of the claimant, taken before Commissioner Alphens Felch, were filed;

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(Vide pages 26 & 28 of this Transcript)

San Francisco November 17 1853.

In the same case the deposition of Jacob P. Geese, a witness in behalf of the claimant, taken before Commissioner Thompson Campbell, was filed;

(Vide page 30 of this Transcript)

San Francisco February 22 1854.

In the same case the deposition of Jose Castro, a witness in behalf of the claimant, taken before Commissioner Alphens Felch, was filed;

(Vide page 31 of this Transcript)

San Francisco Sept. 5 1854.

Case no. 103 was ordered to be placed at the foot of the 2^d class cases in the trial docket,

San Francisco Sept. 16 1854.

In the same case the deposition of Fran B. Alvarado, a witness in behalf of the claimant, taken before Commissioner Peter Lott, was filed;

(Vide page 36 of this Transcript)

In the same case the deposition of J. J. Warner, a witness in behalf of the United States, taken before Commissioner Peter Lott, was filed;

(Vide page 44 of this Transcript)

H

San Francisco Oct. 14th 1854,
Case no. 103 was submitted on briefs and taken
under advisement.

San Francisco, Nov. 6th 1855.

In the same case Commissioner S. B. Farwell
delivered the Opinion of the Board confirming
the claim;

(See page 65 of this Transcript)

and the following order was made, to wit;

(See page 68 of this Transcript)

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N.

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To the Honorable United States Land Commission  
— yours for the settling of Private Land Claims  
in California

Petition

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The Petitioner of Guillelmo Antonio  
Richardson respectfully sheweth that on the 30th  
of October 1844 Manuel Micheltum the  
Governor of both California granted to him  
the said Richardson a tract of land situate in  
the present County of Mendocino in consequence  
of many services rendered by him to the  
Mexican Government during a long series  
of years as well in Military as Civil Capacity

That  
said Grant did not specify a certain tract  
of land but permitted your Petitioner to locate  
it wherever he desired provided it would  
be north of the Cape Mendocino and south of  
the 40th degree of north latitude and would  
not comprise more than twenty square  
leagues.

And your Petitioner further saith  
that on the 3rd of March 1846 he notified the  
Government that he had measured off a tract  
of land measuring ten leagues from north to  
south and ten leagues from east to west that  
said land was situate in the territory now  
called County of Mendocino and was bounded  
as follows. On the west by the Pacific Ocean on  
the north by the Rio Grande on the south by the  
line of Latitude 38 degrees 48 minutes N.

On  
the east by a line commencing from a  
point ten leagues east of the point where  
said Southern boundary line crosses the  
high water mark and thence running to  
a point on the Southern shore of said Rio Grande  
ten leagues east from said Ocean, and  
your Petitioner further states that upon ob-  
taining said Grant he took possession of  
said land and that he notified the Califor-  
nia Government thereof filing at the  
same time in the archives of said Government

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a correct map of his said land that Governor  
McCook on the 6th of April 1846 referred all the  
said documents relating to said matter  
to the Judge of San Rafael in order to obtain  
his final report on the subject and that  
the same in his report of the 29th April 1846  
declared it to have been common and waste  
land and that there was no distinct agreement  
of said land to your Petitioner.

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and  
your Petitioner further says that since  
said year of 1844 he has been in the quiet  
and peaceable possession of said land  
and is not aware of the existence of any title  
conflicting with or paramount to his own.

That  
the duly certified copy of the agreement  
grant and the reply of your Petitioner to  
it are in the original report and map are  
on file in the archives of the Legation near  
in the possession of the Surveyor General  
of the United States of America for the State  
of California and that duly certified copies and  
translations of the same have been submitted  
and (wraps) taken apart to this  
Petitioner.

That the original grant is in the  
hands of your Petitioner and ready to be  
afforded in evidence whenever required  
your Petitioner therefore claims to be the law  
ful owner of said land and prays your  
Honorable Body may conform and declare to  
his title thereto.

Clarke Taylor & Beck

Filed in Office March 16th 1852

Signed Geo Fisher

Secy

Records Journal Volume 4 pages 375, 376

Geo Fisher

Secretary

Office of the Board of Commissioners of Land Titles in California

San Francisco May 10th 1852

Depo of D. Spence

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PAGE 8

On this day before me Harry J. Rowntree one of the Commissioners of said State of California came Davis Spence a witness produced in behalf of the claimant William Richardson whose petition is Number 103 and the Doct of said former issues and after being duly sworn testified as follows

The Law Agent of the U.S. was duly notified and returned answers by the claimant's Counsel

Question What is your name age and place of residence

Answer My name is Davis Spence my age fifty three years and my residence is Monterey State of California

2 Questions  
Look upon the original paper now shown you state if you have compared it with page 3rd and the first half of page 4th of the certified copy of the expediente filed in this cause Marked B. State whether said pages contain a true and correct copy of said original document

Answer

Have examined said pages of said expediente compare with the words 'este Gobierno' at the bottom of said third page and finding with the words 'Don Guillermo Richardson' at the middle of said fourth page the same is an exact and literal copy of the original document now in my hands into the following exception the word 'topa' in the 1st line of said expediente is 'topa' in said original document.

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and the word *escripulosamente* in the third and fourth line of the fourth page of said *espediente* is written *escripulosamente* in said original document.

Question 3rd

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Answer Upon a comparison with the hand writing of Manuel Micheltreina state whether the signature at the end of said Original document is the genuine signature of the said Micheltreina and former Governor of California  
Answer

I am acquainted with the hand writing of Micheltreina upon examining his signature to the paper shown me. I entertain some doubt whether it is genuine or not and I cannot say whether it is his signature or not.

Answer Question by the Law Agent

Question Who was the Secretary of the Government at the 30th of October 1844

Answer To the best of my recollection Don Manuel Jimeno was Secretary at that time

Question

State whether the document referred to in interrogatory 3rd upon which the initials H. J. the Commission relating their deposition now appear in the hand writing of Jimeno or of Micheltreina or of any other person if you be connected with the Government at the date of the alleged grant

Answer I cannot state positively in whose hand writing it is but I do not believe it to be Jimeno's or Micheltreina's  
D. Spence

The Law Agent of the US present known to and subscribed before me this 14th May 1852  
Harry J. Fawcett Esq

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Filed in office May 1st 1852

Sign'd

Geo Fisher

Secretary

Records in Volume I pages 339, 340

Sign'd

Geo Fisher

Secretary

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Depo of P de la Guerra

Office of the Board of Land Commissioners in California

San Francisco May 10th 1852

On this day before me Harry Thornton one of the Commissioners present sitting and sitting Private Land Claims in California came Pablo de la Guerra a witness produced evidence of the claim and William Richardson whose petition is number 103 and the Doct of said Commissioners and after being duly sworn testified as follows

The Law agent of the United States being duly notified was in attendance

Question by the Law Agent

Question What is your name age and place of residence

Answer My name Pablo de la Guerra my age thirty five years and I reside at Santa Barbara

Question State whether you resided at Monterey and if so whether you resided there while Medittion was Governor and were you or not very familiar with him

Answer Residing in Monterey while Medittion was Governor and being to see him almost every day

Question Were you or not well acquainted with his disposition and what were your means of knowing it

Answer I am well acquainted with his signature was collector of Customs at Monterey and often communicated officially with him

Trustee

Look at the paper referred to in interrogatory 3rd in which upon which the initials H. J. appear and the signature attached thereto and state whether you believe the same to be the genuine signature of [unclear]

Answer

I have examined the paper bearing the initials H. J. and the signature attached thereto and I doubt its genuineness

Pablo de la Guerra

The Council for the Plaintiff in this case was present but declining to cross examine sworn to and subscribed

before me this 10th of May 1852

Harry S. Thornton

Commissioner

Felicis in officio May 10th 1852

Signed

Geo. Foster

Secretary

Recorded in the Volume T pages 340-341.

Signed

Geo. Foster

Secretary

Depo of F. Cree

San Francisco January 14th 1853

Antoine Auguste Commanche of the Plaintiff's Hall came Francis C. Cree a witness in behalf of the Plaintiff and Richard A. Nichols and saw Petition number 103 and was asked upon his evidence being interpreted by the Secretary

He is also a Law Agent

present

Trustee What is your name age & place of residence



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Answer My name is Francisco Arce My age is twenty nine years and my residence Santa Clara  
2 Justices

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Look at the document mentioned for file in the case of William Richardson before the United States Land Commission Serial Number 103 and read the Exhibit 1 purporting to be the original grant by the institution to said William Richardson of the Rancho Alhambra dated the 30th October 1844.

Do you know the handwriting of the grant whose is it so you know the signature of the institution state whether the institution's signature appears to be genuine.

Answer

The whole of said document with the exception of the signature is in my handwriting I was an Secretary to General Washburn at that time and I state at the date of the document the signature to the document is the genuine signature of General Washburn  
Francisco Arce

Sworn and Subscribed  
Before me

Belmont Hall  
Commissioner

Filed in Office January 15th 1853

Signed  
Geo Fisher

Secretary

Records in Vol 3 Volume 2 page 447

Signed

Geo Fisher

Secretary

San Francisco June 28th 1853

On this day before Commissioner William Hall and S. Brown witnesses in behalf of the Plaintiff Guillermo Richardson Petition Number 103 and was duly sworn his evidence being interpreted by the Secretary

Depo of G. Brown

The U.S. Associate Law Agent was present

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Questions by Plaintiff

Question What is your name and residence  
Answer

My name is Gregorio Brown my age fifty four years I reside in my Rancho of San Luis in Marin County where I have lived from the year 1838 to the present time

Question

Look at the original document from whom you marked Exhibit 1. to the deposition of Gregorio Brown and also on the document marked Exhibit 2. to the deposition of Gregorio Brown the latter purporting to be a letter addressed by Manuel Nieto to Guillermo Richardson dated October 25th 1844 and the former being an envelope enclosing said Exhibit 2. state what you know in regard to said documents

Answer

I was in Monterey in the latter part of October 1844 upon business with Manuel Nieto in regard to the title papers of my Rancho,

As I was taking my leave of the Governor he asked me if there was any Richard and whether I would see him upon my return. I told him I should pass through Mr. Richard's Rancho that of San Felipe in going to my own.

He then handed me two letters addressed to Mr Richardson and requests me to hand them to said Richardson immediately should return.

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He also requests me to tell Richardson to come to Monterey as soon as he could, and to bring with him his San Jacinto papers for his inspection as he has previously directed him to do.

I took the letters and handed them to Mr Richardson within three or four days after his arrival before the same open in my presence one of them was Exhibit 2 to my deposition enclosed in Exhibit 1 to my deposition.

The other letter was Exhibit 1 to the deposition of Francisco Arcia this was also enclosed in envelope. Mr Richardson read these documents in my presence.

Exhibit 1  
I am acquainted with the handwriting of Michelutina also state that these are documents of said Michelutina and which are in the handwriting of said Michelutina.

Exhibit 2  
I am acquainted with the handwriting of Michelutina having often seen him write Exhibit 1 and 2 the same are wholly in the handwriting of said Michelutina.

Exhibit 1 to the deposition of Francisco Arcia is not in the handwriting of said Michelutina except the signature which is the genuine signature of said Michelutina.

Gregorio Brown  
Sworn and Subscribed  
Before me  
Blair's Hall  
Commissioner

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Felis in Officio January 28th 1853

Signed

Geo Fisher

Secretary

Records in Vol B Volume Page 497

Signed

Geo Fisher

Secretary

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Depo of  
J. Pacheco

San Francisco January 28th 1853

On this day before Commissioner of the Land Office  
Hall came J. Pacheco a witness in  
behalf of the claimant Sullivan a duly  
ordained Notary Public Number 103 and was  
adjudged his evidence being interpreted  
by the Secretary

The United States

State Land Agent was present

Question of claimant

1 Question What is your  
name and place of residence

Answer My name is J. Pacheco

and my residence is in San Francisco  
and I reside upon my Rancho in Marin County

2 Question

Look upon the papers  
now shown upon matters B. Felis in this  
cause purporting to be a true copy of an  
expediente from the archives State what  
you know in regard to the original of said  
expediente or any part of it

Answer

I was a Magistrate

in San Rafael in Marin County for the  
year 1846. For the said year presented me the  
above named matters of Exhibit 1 to the  
disposition of Francis Arcand requesting  
that I should certify a copy of it that he might  
present the same to Governor Pico. I did  
so and gave him on the 18th of March 1846  
the certificate having accurately copied  
the original. Said Exhibit B. contains an

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exact facsimile of the copy and certificate  
which I then gave him

I must state what your  
man in regard to the occupancy of the tract  
of land claimed by the claimant  
assure

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Know that Mr  
Richardson from the year 1845 to the present  
time has been in the occupancy of the  
tract of land claimed in this case having  
cultivated portions of it having cut  
timber upon it having pastured cattle  
and horses upon it and kept other stock  
thereon.

Know too that among all that time  
Mr Richardson has at short intervals brought  
down to his Ranch on San Jacinto large num-  
bers of wild Indians permanently living on  
said tract and that by his instructions and  
by a customing them to habits of industry  
he has partially civilized a number of  
Indians

Yuanai Padua  
man and members  
Squero

Heard Hall  
Commissioner  
Filed in Office January 25th 1853  
Squero

See Fisher  
Secretary  
Recorded in Vol B Volume Page 497  
Squero

See Fisher  
Secretary

Depo of J. Y  
Laman tour.

San Francisco February 12th 1853  
At this day before me Commissioner Heard  
Hall came Joseph Y Laman tour a witness  
in behalf of the claimant Guilford  
A Richardson Petition Number 103 and  
was duly sworn his sworn name being

submitted by the Secretary

W. H. S. Associate Land

Agent was present

Question of claimant

Question What is your name  
and place of residence

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answer My name is Joseph  
Gus Linnantown my age forty years and  
reside at present in San Francisco

Question Do you know  
William Richardson and John Long  
have you known them

answer I do have known  
them since 1841 months of November

Question

State what you know  
concerning the office held under the Mex-  
ican Government during that time how  
long he held such office and in what  
station

answer

Captain William  
A. Richardson was Captain of the Port  
of San Francisco at the time just made  
his acquaintance held such office I  
believe until the year 1844 and was  
considered and was a good faithful  
and efficient officer

Question

State what you  
know about his obtaining the grant  
from the Mexican title lands in the  
county called Alvarado Ranch

answer

I desired to obtain  
a grant for trapping same lands in the  
year 1844 months of November and for  
that reason applied personally to Marshal  
Torres who was then Governor of Califor-  
nia via the Mexican Consul to the effect  
that he was unable to comply with my  
petition for the reason that he had

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made a grant of said lands to William  
Richardson. That the Governor had been  
in debt to Mr Richardson in large  
amount for services as captain of the  
Port of San Francisco for which he had  
received and compensation before  
and that Mr Richardson's claim there  
for the said grant of lands was necessarily  
preferred to that of any other person

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The  
petitioner added that he might ask  
some pro rata lands but that the  
one solicitor was retaining to Mr Rich-  
ardson and giving to him in payment  
of debt of the State for his salary

Sworn and Subscribed  
B. P. Moore

Delaney Hall  
Commissioner

Filed in Office February 12th 1853

Signed  
Geo. Foster  
Secretary

Recorded in Cal. Bulletin Page 86  
Signed  
Geo. Foster  
Secretary

Deputy  
S. Smith

Office of Board of U.S. Commissioners &c &c  
has completed Commissioner's Report  
which case Stephens Smith a witness in  
case of claimant William Richardson  
number 103 who after being duly sworn  
deposes as follows

That his name is  
William Stephens Smith

That his name is  
William Stephens Smith  
his age is sixty five years and he  
resides at Indigo in California

where I have lived since the Spring of 1843  
I must now

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Are you acquainted with the claimant in this case William Richardson and if so state what time you know anything about what relation to the tract of land of the Albuero Ranch and his occupancy of the same

Answer

Have however said Richardson ever since I came to California and know the Albuero Ranch left California for the Eastern States the last part of the year 1843 and returned in August 1845.

On my return I heard that Captain Richardson had got a grant of land to the north of where I live and since that time I have known frequently of his taking cattle and horses out to the Rancho to graze it and have also often known of his taking some away from the place to his residence at San Carlos.

I have however this year also of his taking his Curians Indians with employment by them passing back and forth by way of place which is on the direct road between the Albuero Ranch and his residence

I have also known of his taking provisions out to the Rancho and I have sold some provisions for that purpose. This has continued ever since 1845 until the present

I must now state when you first heard said Richardson speak of having obtained the Grant of the land

Answer

On my return from the State in 1845 we were intimate with Captain Richardson and his family.



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and were frequently at their house and they  
of course shortly after my return it was a  
common subject of conversation in the  
family that Helen received a grant of the  
land from the government and from that time  
forth she has frequently heard Captain  
Richardson and other members of his family  
speak of it

Stephen Smith

Mr. Adams Law Agent was present and  
objected to the same questions and answers  
and the same are received subject to the  
said objections & proceedings two ques-  
tions to the witness

Submitted answers to  
before me at San Francisco  
this 14th September 1853

Alphonse Filch

Commissioner

Filed in Office September 15th 1853

Signed

Geo Fisher

Secretary

Records in Vol 3 Volume 3 page 193

Signed

Geo Fisher

Secretary

Depo of  
M. Torrey

Office of Board of U.S. Commissioners &c  
Thursday 10th September 1853 Alphonse  
Filch Cause (Mammal Torrey) witnesses in  
behalf of Plaintiff William A Richardson  
number 103 who after being duly sworn  
deposed as follows

Questions by Mr. Clarke

Attorney for the Plaintiff

Question What are your

name age and place of residence

Answer My name is Mammal

Torrey my age twenty eight years and I reside  
at San Diego in California

2 Questions have you ever

land on the tract of land usually called  
the Albuon Ranch and claiming by William  
Richardson the claimant in this  
case and if Geastate whom who was in  
possession of the premises at that time  
and the claimant and part of the improve-  
ments thereon.

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Answer

I have been on the  
Ranch of was there in 1846 Captain Rich-  
ardson was then in possession of it there  
was a house and the structure part of  
the tract.

There were also about three hundred  
head of cattle and about five or  
six hundred acres of the land was in  
cultivation.

On another part of the  
tract at Navajo River or creek there  
was another house and about one hundred  
and fifty acres round the house was  
plowed in and cultivated by said Richardson.

There  
were about twenty five white men and  
about one hundred Indians working  
for Richardson on the tract at that  
time.

Indians on the place are much  
and have been there since at a  
place, much of the part of the tract last  
mentioned at Albuon River there were  
when I was on the place as above stated  
ten houses and several pieces of land  
were plowed in and cultivated and were  
in the occupation of Captain Richardson.

In 1845 I saw Captain  
Richardson passing by Badaga with three  
or four hundred head of cattle and some  
mules for that place.

From 1845 to 1849  
I lived at Badaga and in that time I  
have resided at San Antonio and very near

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to the residence of Captain Richardson have known of his sending flour to that place and of his transporting Men and Indians who were in his employments from his residence to that place back again

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3 Questions

Look on the

account now here shown to you marked by letter A annexed to the deposition of Francisco or whatever his name and father in this case purporting to be a grant to this account by Governor Nuttalluma and state whether you think you saw it before and if so when and under what circumstances

answer

I have seen it before

In November 1844 this account was brought by Brigadier Brown on his return from Monterey and given by him to said Richardson in my presence at said Richardson's house in San Carlos at the same time he gave him a letter from Nuttalluma

Questions by Mr. Howard

Law Agent

Questions

How do you know

that this is the same paper which was delivered by Brown to Captain Richardson in your presence

answer It is the same one

that I saw in my hands at that time

2 Questions How do you know

it since that time

answer

I saw it last year

when Captain Richardson delivered it to Mr. Clarke his attorney in this case and I saw it again to night

Manuel Ferris

Subscribed and sworn to before me at San Francisco this 14th day of Sept 1853

Captain's Field Commissioner

Filed in Office September 15th 1853  
Signed

Geo Fisher

Secretary

Recorded in Co B Vol 3 page 194

Signed

Geo Fisher

Secretary

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Depo of E.  
Richardson

Office of the Board of Commissioners etc etc  
This day before me Commissioner Thompson  
Campbell came testator Richardson  
and testified in behalf of the Board of Commissioners  
number 103 who after being duly sworn  
deposed as follows

What is your name age and  
place of residence

My name is Stephen Keith  
and I am twenty three years of age and  
reside in Warren County

I am acquainted with  
the Albion Ranch claim by William  
Richardson in claim 103 of the State where  
it is located and the location as near  
as you can recollect

From the Ranch  
Albion it is situated on the Albion River  
and along the sea coast north and south  
of said river.

The land is situated on the  
south river called by the Indians  
usually on the west the Pacific Ocean  
on the north by a river called the Rio Grande  
and extends from the sea into the interior  
two leagues. The Rio Grande empties into  
the Pacific Ocean.

About what time did  
said Richardson and his heirs  
and traveling passers have been  
attested

In the year 1845 Mr Richardson  
said limit one by horse and two by mule ones

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of wood, these houses have been ever since occupied by Mr Richardson and the people in his employ. Mr Richardson's family have resided for a greater part of the time at his house in Sauateo,

and the houses at the present time are at the present time four houses on different parts of the Kauck all of which are now inhabited by the people in Richardson's employ-  
ments.

A mill has been on the above in view for some time which is now about finished. This mill has already cost about ten or twelve thousand dollars. The dam has been built and a mill house and the machinery is now being completed. The other houses are worth about six thousand dollars.

Some much land has been cultivated and improved on said Kauck since 1844 and what has been raised

He has cultivated from three to four hundred acres of land. The improve-  
ments consisted of houses, roads and fences and a garden he raises corn barley beans peas potatoes and other vegetables.

Now many cattle horses and other stock has been raised on said place since 1844.

He has about three hundred and fifty head of cattle and about one hundred head of horses and mares and about twenty head of pigs.

State if you can the number of Indians owned by Richard and what said Richardson has done towards their cultivation and support.

There was about two hundred and fifty Indians including men women and children on said Kauck

They were taught by said Richardson to  
attribute the claims and were maintaining  
from the products of said Rancho by said  
Richardson

What portions of said  
Rancho if any have been made since  
since 1844

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There were then different  
parts of said Rancho made up of  
one hundred acres and part one hundred  
and fifty acres and one part two hundred  
acres

How many people were  
employed by said Richardson on said  
Rancho

There were some fifteen  
or twenty

Law Agent

Justices associate

are you any relatives to  
the claimant in this case

The claimant is  
Jas. Fulton

Esteban Richardson  
deceased and his children  
before me on the 19th  
day of October A.D. 1853

Thompson (Campbell  
Commissioner  
Filed in Office October 19th 1853  
Signed

Geo. Foster

Secretary  
New York, on the 3rd of 3 Page 26

Signed

Geo. Foster

Secretary

Depo of  
R. Briones

Office of the Board of Commissioners &c &c  
This day before Commissioner Thompson  
Campbell came Pablo Briones a witness  
in behalf of claimant with him A.

11/103-

25-

Richardson Number 103 who after being  
asked sworn as follows

What is your name age  
and place of residence

My name is Pablo Brunes  
I am twenty two years of age and reside in  
the State of California

Do you know anything  
of the occupation of the Alvarado Rancho claim  
by William Richardson

I do know latter part of  
1844 my father came from Monterey  
and brought Mr Richardson the papers  
granting him the Rancho of Alvarado  
I went to meet my father at San Antonio where  
Mr Richardson lived

And Mr Richardson  
and myself agreed to divide cattle to be  
cared up both lands and early in the  
following year of 1845 I went to the  
land with Richardson and we  
drove there three hundred cows and  
bulls about seventy horses

We then  
found several farms and two small  
houses built on the land there about twelve  
or fifteen days and came back and some  
of the land since

We put the stock  
in Alvarado on the side of the Rio Grande  
There were many people employed at  
work on the Rancho principally Mexicans  
with some white people

There was also  
another house on the walls near the  
houses were all made of wood and were  
occupied by the people

Much of the land was  
under in fence I saw there several fields  
which were under culture with early  
potatoes beans and various other veg-  
etables

Pablo Brunes  
Sworn

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Associate Law Agent present  
Sworn and Subscribed  
before me this 21st day  
of October 1853

Hampson Campbell  
Commissioner  
Filed in Office October 21st 1853

Signed  
Geo. Fisher  
Secretary

Records in Ex B, Volume 3 Page 275  
Signed  
Geo. Fisher  
Secretary

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Depo of  
C.B. Lewis

Office of the Board of Commissioners etc  
This day before Commissioner Albertus  
Fitch came Almon B. Ellis a witness  
in behalf of Southern Railroad Co  
No 103 who after being duly sworn depose  
as follows

I testify by Capt Wm A  
Richardson the Command

I testify that according  
to my own knowledge  
Almon B. Ellis my age twenty four  
years and resident at San Francisco in  
California

I testify that you make  
a survey of the Almon Ranch claim  
by William Richardson of San Francisco  
and transfer your survey to  
me

I made a survey  
of that Ranch I commenced the survey  
in September 1852 and closed it in the  
next month or November I understand  
that the grant embraces ten leagues of  
latitude and ten leagues of longitude and  
surveys are completed I commenced at the  
mouth of the Rio Grande which empties



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into the Pacific Ocean in Latitude thirty  
seven degrees twenty minutes and fifty  
six seconds north. When run eastwardly  
up the Rio Grande until made ten leagues  
on six minutes of Longitude then went  
back and commenced the starting point  
at the mouth of the Rio Grande and run  
thence down the coast ten leagues or thirty  
minutes of latitude.

The map which is  
here presented was made by me &  
is a copy of a map which I made on the  
ground when I made the Domingo's com-  
pany into my partners.

3

This is a correct repre-  
sentation of the survey made by us and  
of the coast and creeks on the line where  
I was employed as above mentioned.

The map which was  
sent down and shown to the witnesses and  
to which the above testimony refers is  
attached to this deposition and marked  
to exhibit No 1 with the initials C & F

3 Question Shall the character  
of the country which lies on the back of the  
said tract of land

answer Hitherto it to be  
hilly and timbered

4 Question

What improve-  
ments has Captain Richardson seen on  
the tract when open swamps there and  
what was their nature

answer

There were fine prairies  
on the tract and about two hundred acres  
of land enclosed with a substantial fence  
and were cattle and horses there but I do  
not know their number. There were  
several hundred heads of each

Questions by Mr Brewster  
associate San Agent

1 Question What was the length  
of the league which you used in this  
Survey

Answer Three hundred  
miles

2 Question From what  
directors or instructions did you make  
the Survey

Answer From instructions  
given by the Capt of Captain Richardson  
I believe by part of the Secretary for  
the Grant said before

C. B. Ellis  
Lieutenant and Surveyor  
by name at San Francisco  
this 25th day of October 1853  
Alphons Filch

Commissioner  
Filed in office October 26th 1853  
Signed

Geo Fisher  
Secretary  
He is in lot B Vol 3 page 291  
Signed

Geo Fisher  
Secretary

Depo of  
J. Abrigo

Office of the Board of Commissioners &c &c  
This day before Commissioner Alphons  
Filch came Jose Abrigo a witness in  
behalf of William A. Richardson Number 103 who after being  
asked under deposition as follows:

Questions by William A.  
Richardson Esquire.

1 Question What are your  
name age and place of residence.

Answer My name is Jose  
Abrigo my age forty years and I reside  
in the County of Monterey.

2 Question Do you know  
anything of a Grant of the land called

13/103-

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the Albion Ranch to William A. Miller  
address

answer

Honorable Mr. Secretary

called Albuquero granted William A. Miller  
by Governor Trestlerman I  
know that Mr. Richardson asked for  
that land for use of payment of his  
salary as Captain of the Port and for  
the use of his launch for several years not  
less than five years.

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Governor Trestlerman  
advised me in my capacity as Commis-  
sary to make a report of what  
measure to recommend on that ac-  
count. I did so and as well as I can re-  
lect it amounted to about twenty thousand  
dollars including his salary and the use  
and expense of his launch.

During all this  
time all that Mr. Richardson had re-  
ceived towards the payment of this  
amount was not more than one hundred  
or fifty dollars which I have been in-  
debt and paid.

It is the only person  
entitled to pay claims of this character  
after the death of the person that Trestlerman  
gave Mr. Richardson a title for the Albion  
Ranch in consideration for a payment  
of this debt due from the Government.

I trust it was true to  
your knowledge and no one of the  
Executive of the Imperial Government  
authorizing grants for service

answer

Honorable Mr. Secretary  
I am of the General Government of Mexico  
authorizing the payment of grants for service  
by Military and Civil Officers

Jose Alvarez

Mr Greenham Associate Law  
Agent was present at the taking of this  
deposition but proffered no testimony  
The testimony was given in the Spanish  
Language Mr Fisher Secretary & acted  
as Interpreter

Subscribed and sworn to  
before me this 27th day  
of October 1853

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Alphonso Fitch  
Commissioner  
Fitch in Office October 26th 1853  
Squibs

Geo Fisher  
Secretary  
Received in Act Book 3 page 271  
Squibs

Geo Fisher  
Secretary

Depo of  
J.P. Leese

Office of the Board of Commissioners &c  
this day before Commissioner Thompson  
Campbell came Jacob P. Leese and was  
in behalf of Manuel & Guillermo A.  
Richardson number 113 who after being  
asked sworn as follows

What is your name age  
and place of residence

My name is Jacob P. Leese  
I am forty four years of age and reside  
at Monterey

Are you acquainted with  
the signature of Manuel Nieto

and if so state your means of knowledge  
I am acquainted with his  
signature have seen him write frequently  
and have had official correspondence  
with him

Look on the papers now shown  
you marked 144 No 2 and advise to the  
deposition of S. Pruvius and state whether  
the signature of Manuel Nieto

31

When it appears on said document is his genuine signature

Yes Heberie this is his original signature all the letters is in his hand writing

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Look on the paper on the plain paper marked document 14. I. I am ex- ed to the disposition of Primm's is or is and state whether the signature of Primm's is included in it when it appears on said doc- ument is his genuine signature

Yes Heberie this is his genuine signature

also into Law Agent present

J. P. Luce  
sworn to and subscribed  
before me this 14th day of  
November 1853

Thompson Campbell  
Commissioner  
Filed in Office November 14th 1853

Signs Geo. Fisher  
Secretary  
Records in Vol B fol 3 page 416  
Signs Geo. Fisher  
Secretary

Depo of  
J. Castro

United States Land Commission

San Francisco February 2nd 1854  
On this day before Commissioner Alphonse  
Fitch came Jose Castro a witness in the  
- of the claimant Guillermo Alchamand  
- per case No 103 who being duly sworn  
deposed as follows his evidence being given  
- testified by the Secretary

Testimony by Mr. Navarro  
attorney for claimant

Testimony of Plaintiff state your  
name age and place of residence

Answer My name is José Castro  
My age is forty five years and I reside at  
Shuntery in California I was born in San  
Terry

2 Question What officers  
have you held

Answer I was Command  
ant General and was also Political Chief  
and have also held various other offices

3 Question All you are  
acquainted with the hand writing of Governor  
Manuel Michelttina

Answer I am well ac-  
quainted with it I have seen him write many  
times and have received many commu-  
nications from him

4 Question

Please look on  
the document now here presented to  
your Master, Doc. H. T. annexed to the  
deposition of Francisco Arco before Com-  
missioner Helms Hall sent before in  
this case purporting to be a grant of land  
to Guillermo Richardson and state whether  
the signature therein is the true and genuine  
signature of said Manuel Michelttina

Answer I have examined  
it, it is his true and genuine signature  
It is his hand writing and also his  
subscripcion

5 Question Please look on  
the document now presented to your  
Master, Document H. T. No 2 annexed  
to the deposition of D. Brown taken  
before Commissioner Helms Hall  
before filed in this case purporting to be  
a letter from said Manuel Michelttina  
and state whether the signature therein is  
the genuine signature of said Michelttina

Answer

I have examined it  
The copy of the document is in the hands

15/10/50

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writing of said Mictatlan and the sign  
- at the time is his true and genuine  
signature.

6 Question

Please state if

you know what was the usage and custom  
of the Government of Mexico in the  
- department of California in reference to  
granting land in compensation for services  
rendered. The Government or individuals  
from the Government to individuals

Answer

Several of the Political  
- Chiefs and Generals made grants to the  
Americans in payment for services and  
from the Government to them and in  
payment for services rendered by them  
to the Government.

Figueras was one

of the Generals who made such grants  
- later made such while commanding  
several and Political Chiefs Mictatlan  
made several such concessions. Mictatlan  
- Mictatlan had full and ample authority  
to make such grants.

Questions by Mr McKim

San Agustin

1 Question How many  
- instances of such grants have you known  
please name them

Answer

The excellent Figueras  
- was granted to my father in payment for  
our three thousand dollars which the  
Government owed him.

Are you please

as Political Chief to the King of some land  
- lands in the mission of San Juan which  
belonged to the Government. The grant  
was of the land only and not the land  
and was in payment for services as well  
- for the maintenance of the land and for

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some man's furnishing for the troops  
There are others also who receive such  
grants due to Crisostomo Galindo I do  
not know or collect any other instances

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I do not know any opinion of the power to  
make such grants from these particular  
instances so much as from the general  
power which they possessed to make  
grants of this character

How did the Government  
get the power which you mention  
answer

The latter was  
authorized by the General Government of  
Mexico to make such grants in the full  
power to make them.

When he came from  
Mexico to California he brought this au-  
thority with him. He was delegated by  
Santa Ana to come to this Department  
with the same powers since that Santa Ana  
had in regard to the General Government  
nothing without instructions. Tuxtutuma  
and I were intimate.

He called me to his app-  
artment and showed me his instructions  
Signed by King, signed by the  
President Santa Ana and by the Minister  
of War.

Under the hands writing of Santa  
Ana from having received dispatches  
Signed by him while I was a Colonel in the  
Service

3 Justices who did you get  
authority to make grants of this character  
answer

I was authorized by  
the office which held a special license  
to make such grants to persons who applied  
when it seemed to me that they could  
be made consistently,



They were authorized by the Laws and Resolutions of the Departmental Junta and the Political Chief

When such an application was made called together two or three of the members of the Junta to consider and act

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4 Question All the Laws upon matters all in writing  
Answer

The Resolutions of the Junta were not they had no general Law or resolution on the subject when an application was made the Political Chief called the Department and they then acted on the particular application

as Political Chief I never suspected to have the power to make grants of this description but not to collect that there was any Law authorizing it when I was Political Chief afterwards

In 1846 the Minister of war transmitted to the Governor of this Territory dispatches containing papers on specific Laws on this subject and to me also as commandant General

That article was sent me back to Peor at Los Angeles in order that he might negotiate for money for the necessities of the troops under my command

5 Question

Were not the Governors of California government in his possession of the land by the colonization Law of 1824 and the Resolutions on the subject of 1828

Answer

They were not Michotterena had unlimited power he could have sold the whole country when

A man made an application for a grant of land, which was not authorized by the colonization laws the minister of war is the deeming it is permit to make the grant to him in instruction the local authorities to make the grant in case the minister of war in case is instructed by Mr Howard

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Did Governor Pro Pice Report of the instructions and authority which you mentioned as those of any lands in order to raise money for the use of the Government of your land

Answer He said he held several houses establishments and in some places the vineyards, improvements, gardens and lands

Jose Castro  
Subscribed and sworn to before me this 22nd of February 1854

Alphonse Felch  
Commissioner  
Filed in Office February 22nd 1854  
Signed

Geo Fustler  
Secretary  
Recorded in Vol 3 Volume 3 Page 741  
Signed

Geo Fustler  
Secretary

Depo of  
Juan B.  
Alvarado

United States of America }  
State of California }  
San Francisco Sept 15th 1854  
This day came before me J. B. Alvarado Commissioner  
pretending testimony to be used before the  
Board of United States Land Commission  
in said State Juan B. Alvarado  
witness and what of the Commission

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William A Richardson in (Case Number 103 on the docket of said Board) and said witness being sworn deposed in Spanish which is interpreted by the Interpreter of said Board as follows

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The U.S. Law against is present

Questions by H. C. Howard

Qry for Plaintiff

1 Question What is your name age and residence

Answer My name is Juan B. Alvarado, my age 45 years, my residence Contra Costa County California

2 Question are you acquainted with the signature of Manuel Nieto and if you state your means of knowledge answer I am I have seen him write and sign his name often

3 Question

Look at the paper now shown you marked Document H. I. T. annexed to the deposition of Francis C. Arce before Commissioner Heland Hall and filed in this case and say whether or not the signature of Manuel Nieto thereon is genuine

Answer Yes Heland there to be Nieto as genuine signature

4 Question

Look at the paper marked Doc H H No 2 annexed to the deposition of G. Brewer, taken before Commissioner Heland Hall and filed in this case and say whether the body of the letter and the signature are or are not in "the" the handwriting of Manuel Nieto

Answer Yes the letter and signature are both in his handwriting

5 Question What was the usage and custom of the Mexican Government in California in compensating individuals

Answer The Mexican Government in California in compensating individuals

for services rendered or money due them  
by the Government

Answer

Generally when

there was no money it was customary to grant  
lands to individuals to whom the Government  
was indebted for services rendered or money  
advanced

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Question By how many  
persons within your knowledge were such  
grants made

Answer They were made  
by several names recollect by myself when  
Governor by Picochetana and others whom  
I do not now recollect

Answer Examined by the  
Law Agent

Question Where were you  
and in what employment in 1844 and  
1845

Answer

In 1844 I was at dif-  
ferent points in the country I was then  
Colonel of the Militia and also in 1844 and  
1845 I was elected a member of the National  
Congress of Mexico from California I was  
also Colonel of the Militia in 1845 and was  
also administrator of the Maritime Custom  
House at Monterey and Military Comman-  
dant at that place

Question

Was you a coun-  
ciler with Pablo de la Guerra in 1843 and 1844  
1845 and if you what opportunity had he of  
knowing the signature of Governor Picochetana

Answer

I was acquainted with the  
said Pablo de la Guerra in those years I  
believe that he was employed in the Depar-  
tmental Government of California I think  
he was administrator of the Custom House  
of Monterey in 1844

I question would you not regard Mr de la Guerra's opinion about the handwriting of Governor Micheltreina as reliable as that of any other man in California

Objected to by claimants counsel

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Witness Pablo de la Guerra may know the signature of Micheltreina very well but there may be others who know it better than I know it myself better than he (de la Guerra) does

4 Question Who kept the Government Seal in 1844 and were you acquainted with it

Witness Of my own personal knowledge I cannot say as I did not see it but I have no doubt it was kept by the Governor or his Secretary

5 Question Where the seal was kept stamped upon a document when usually preparing the grant of the Government or the Secretary

Witness When I was Governor sometimes I saw it myself some times the Secretary and at other times other officials such as clerks or persons employed about the office

6 Question Was the Government seal the same when you was Governor that it was when Micheltreina was Governor

Witness I do not know each Governor and Military Commander had seals when they became worn out they would procure new ones. I do not recollect whether any change was made in the seal at the time mentioned or whether Micheltreina used the same style of seal as I did or not

7 Question Did you ever see the seal used by Governor Micheltreina

in 1844 or the impressions made with it and  
do you know what it was

answer

I did not see the  
Seal. I may have seen impressions of it tho  
I cannot say positively that I have and cannot  
say what it was. I may or might have  
seen it on various occasions tho I cannot  
fix in my recollection exactly what it was  
tho I think you was shown to me I would  
be able to recognize it

3<sup>d</sup> Question

Were not all the  
grants issued by Victoria in 1844 so far  
as you have seen them stamped with the  
Government Seal

answer

All the documents  
I have seen under the stamp of the seal of the  
Government of 1844 I have believed to be  
under the legitimate stamp of the seal of the  
Government,

I do not recollect whether  
I have seen any grants by Victoria without  
the Government stamp on them or not tho  
generally have it

4<sup>th</sup> Question What was your  
on October 1844

answer I think I was  
in Monterey

5<sup>th</sup> Question Who was then  
the collector of Customs at Monterey

answer I think Antonio  
Casi was

6<sup>th</sup> Question Was there any  
difficulty any time in 1844 in procuring  
stamps or legalitatis paper in Monterey

answer My business took me  
a good deal away from Monterey in that  
year and I am not full able to say what  
might have been the case or difficulty  
in procuring such paper I was not then

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H1

engaged in public business there  
12 Question Did you hear in  
the month of October in that year when  
you were in Monterey that there was  
a scarcity of such paper there

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12 Answer I do not hear  
of such scarcity at that time

13 Question Could there be  
a scarcity of such paper when the Surveyor  
and Collector of Customs were both at the  
place if you what could cause it

Answer There could be  
a total want of such paper and the Surveyor  
and Collector might both be without means  
waiting for it to be sent from Mexico

14 Question Could not the  
Surveyor and Collector of Customs make stamps  
for paper at their place of office

Answer They were permitted  
to make such stamped paper in cases of public  
Exigencies

15 Question Have you ever  
examined the water mark on the paper  
used as stamped paper in California in  
the year 1844

Answer I never have exam-  
ined any mark of that kind

16 Question Who was Sec-  
retary of the Surveyor in October 1844

Answer  
There were two I think  
Manuel Jimenez was one and the other was  
a military Secretary who was after changed  
I do not know who occupied this latter post  
in October 1844

17 Question Were you ac-  
quainted with (Victor) the Secretaries and  
those who went for him in one thousand  
eight hundred and forty four and  
with their hands resting

Answer

I have James and Francis Arco who was first clerk in Civil Department and now their hands writing respectively have after their terms with I do not recollect that I have any others of the Secular or clerks

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18 Justice

Each of the above in your name to you and marked A. P. X. as an exhibit to this deposition and in the files in this case and state whether the same is in the hands writing of any person with whom and with whose hands writing you are acquainted

Answer I think this is Francis Arco's hands writing

Re Examined by Court's Council

1 Question Under the usage and custom of the Government of California what was the effect of a title written on common paper

2 Question objected to by United States Law Agent as matter of Law P. X

Answer It was recognized as a good title

3 Question examined by U.S. Law Agent

1 Question by whom and in what instances were such documents recognized as good titles

Answer They have always been considered good by all the authorities and every body where they have been that they came from the Government I recollect of no particular instance

2 Question then was common paper recognized as good and sufficient and how was that recognition made known to you



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Answer The recognition was  
known by the respect and obedience given  
to it when signed by the Governor

3 Question Did you ever know  
of any grant on common paper signed by  
Governor Micheltuna except the one in this  
case of your name such

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Answer

I do not now recollect  
to have seen any such I have heard that there  
were others one I think was a grant to Rafael  
Barcia I do not recollect of what name  
I do not now recollect of any other through  
I think I have heard of some others

He examined again by  
Attendants Counsel

Question Can you state  
in what manner stamped paper was put  
into the Government of California

Answer It was sent from  
the general office of the paper in Mexico  
or if necessary was taken from the  
Government of California

Answer Examined by United  
States Law Agent

Question Was it not  
necessary that it should receive the sign  
ature or Rubric of the Governor and Collector  
of Customs in order to validate it

Answer It was necessary  
in certain cases

2 Question Why was it gen  
erally practiced

Answer

Because there was not  
sealed paper ordered for the year in which  
it was used and that which was sent from  
Mexico bearing a promissory note was vali  
dated by the signature of the Governor or his  
Rubric when he made the grant in a year  
subsequent to the date of the stamped paper  
from Mexico Juan B Alvarado

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Subscribed and sworn to before me Sept  
15th 1854

Peter Soltz

Commissioner &c

Filed in Office September 16th 1854

Signed Geo Fishers

Secretary

Records in the Statute Book page 358

Signed

Geo Fishers

Secy

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Depo of  
J. J. Warner

United States of America }  
State of California } 3

San Francisco September 15th 1854

Wisdag came before Peter Soltz Commissioner  
for taking testimony to be used before the  
Board of United States Land Commissioners  
in said state

J. J. Warner a witness on  
behalf of the United States in case number  
103 on the Docht of said Board wherein  
William A. Richardson is claimant and  
said witness being sworn deposes as  
follows

The United States Law  
agent is present and called V. Edwards  
Esq Attorney for claimant

Questions by the  
Law Agent

1 Question What is your  
name age and residence

Answer My name is J. J.  
Warner my age 46 years my residence San  
Diego California

2 Questions

Are you a com-  
mitted with the hand writing of Marshall  
McArthurina former Governor of California  
if your state your means of knowledge and  
such as the document over shown you  
numbered H. P. L. and Exhibited to this deposition

21/10/55

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and files in this case and state whether his signature stands whether is genuine if may permit me to know it differs from his genuine signature

This question objected to by Claimants Counsel & Edwards Esq  
Answer

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I am acquainted with his hand writing and have documents in my possession which I can show to you and I think this his genuine signature.

The rubric appears a little different from his usual rubric being not quite as large and course marked

3 Question

Such as the letters W in the initials in the said signature and say whether they have not been retouched with different colored ink since they were first written

3 Question objected to by Claimants Counsel P.L.

Answer

It is a mere matter of opinion of a competent man judge as well as I can. The upper strokes of said initials have a slight appearance of having been made with ink of different color or a much finer or flatter of ink from the pen which may have given them a darker color

4 Question

Whether the letters in the name appear to have been retouched

4 Question objected to by Claimants Counsel P.L.

Answer

The L in the surname has a similar appearance to that of said initials I cannot say that they have been retouched

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I Gustavus says said ~~Michalturna~~  
wrote rapidly or slowly  
rather quickly  
answer he signs his name

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Look at said sig  
nature and state whether it appears to have  
been written with his usual rapidity  
answer

I think the letters  
appear rather more stiff and formal than  
his usual style of signing his name &  
may be owing to the pen  
I Gustavus

Look at said  
Michalturna's signature in the account  
mentioned your marks W. L. and  
compare to this deposition and compare  
find in this case and state whether his  
signature there appears to have been  
written with his usual rapidity  
answer

Yes I think it  
does so appear some of the letters are  
rather imperfect still I think it is in  
his hand writing and style  
I Gustavus

Have you ever  
seen the name of Michalturna which you  
have been told when it was written  
with as great care as that in the first  
account exhibited to your marks  
W. L. if you state what one  
This the District Clerk says that I cannot say  
this is written with more care than the  
other I think it lacks a little of spirit from  
his signature which I have seen in other places  
Subscribed I mean to J. J. Warren  
Deposited Apr 15th 1854  
Filed in Office Sept 16th 1854  
Geo Foster Secy

47 1. L. D. R. Angeles Abril 6 de Don Gobernador  
1846. Informe el juez } El C.º Guillermo Ant.  
del pueblo de San Ra } Richardson Co. Capitan  
pael sobre el contenido } del puerto de San  
de Esta Instancia } Francisco y Vecino  
de Esta Jurisdiccion  
Espediente Rico Ante S. E. dice:

Espediente  
B.

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Que havendome ordenado el Sr. Jial  
D.º Manuel Michelarena elijo un terreno  
en las costas del Norte de los Establici-  
mientos Rusos al rumbo del Cabo Mendocino  
como consta por el lapinto documento  
y habiendo cumplido con las condiciones  
que expresa, remita a S. E. el diseño espe-  
tivo comenzando en el Rio grande Latitud  
39. 18. grados del Norte y siguiendo la  
costa al Sur hasta la del 38. 48.

Lo que comunico a S. E. en cumpli-  
miento del Orden expresado.

San Rafael Marzo 3. de 1846.

Guill. Ant. Richardson

C. S. Gobernador

2. L. D. R. El terreno que solicita D.º Guillermo Richar-  
dson, es uno de los que se halla en los Con-  
domios de Esta frontera y situada a la cos-  
ta de Ros, rumbo N. Terreno que jamas  
ha sido ocupado por persona alguna  
ni mucho menos ha pertenecido a corpo-  
racion particular ni pueblo. Y por consi-  
guiente es que puede levantarse a la  
Viz de Estable ocupando y poseyendo  
con sus bienes &c.

Es cuanto puedo informar a V. E. sobre  
el particular.

San Rafael Ab. 29. 1846

J.º Pacheco

408 ND  
PAGE 49

Este Gobierno y Comandante General  
 ha recibido la comunicacion de  
 V. pta. 24 del ppo. Depto en la pide  
 se le hagan algunos pagos por los servicios  
 que tiene prestados a la Estacion como  
 empleado en la Papeteria de Ese pu  
 erto de San Francisco, y no teniendo  
 este Gobierno fondos pecunarios ni para  
 cubrir los precisos gastos y presupuestos  
 de la tropa que tiene bajo sus Ordenes  
 he dispuesto que en virtud de su buen  
 cumplimiento y honrados servicios en el  
 empleo de Capitan de ese puerto por siete  
 años y nueve meses como oficialmente  
 dando auxilios con sus lanchas a benefi  
 cio del Gobierno y las fuertes recomenda  
 ciones de los Jefes anteriores, le concedo  
 a V. por via de indemnizacion puede eli  
 gir un terreno de diez leguas de Latitud  
 y dos de longitud en los dieciseis de la  
 costa rumbo. N. del presidio Ros, que  
 ocupaban antiguamente los Rusos y no  
 pasar de la latitud de los cuarenta gra  
 dos al Norte y si le conviniese podia V.  
 tomar posesion y Ocupacion de esos terrenos  
 desde esta pta que lo hago a nombre de  
 la Estacion Mexicana y en uso de las fa  
 cultades que me son conferidas por el  
 Supremo Gobierno; bajo las condiciones de  
 proteger a los Indios gentiles contra los  
 individuos que continuamente Roban  
 sus hijos y hacen comercio de ellos. Los en  
 señara a trabajos como igualmente cui  
 dara. V. muy escrupulosamente que los  
 Estamperos no tomen posesion de esos  
 terrenos y todo lo que crea V. conviniente

J. L. D. R.

...amparos no tomen posesion de cosa  
...en todo lo que...

49

a Beneficio de la Nación.  
En conclusiõn aia. a. Buenta a este  
Gobierno el lugar que elejese acompañando  
el diseño Respectivo.

Dios y libertad. Monterey 30 de Octubre  
de 1844.

408 ND  
PAGE 50

Mem. Micheltoena  
Sr. Cae. Capitan del puerto de San  
Vicencioo D<sup>o</sup> Guillermo Richardson  
San Rafael Marzo 10. 1846.

Certifico que la presente copia es saca  
de fielmente de su Original que certifico  
como prez de este lugar.

Con dos testigos de Aosa.

Ign. Rochucat.

4

Aosa  
Gregorio Briones

Aosa  
Comando Keliz

J. L. D. R

Here follows  
map

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

408 ND  
PAGE 51

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 for-  
mer Spanish and Mexican <sup>ter-</sup>ritories  
or Departments of Upper California do here  
by Certify that the five preceding and  
hereto annexed pages of tracing paper  
numbered from One to five inclusive  
and each of which is verified by my mis-  
trials (L. D. K) exhibit true and accu-  
rate copies of certain documents now  
on file and forming part of said Archives  
in my Office.

(Seal) In Testimony whereof, I have  
hereto signed my name Officially  
and affixed my private seal (not having  
a seal of Office) at the City of San Fran-  
cisco, this Sixth day of December 1857.

Saml. D. King

Surveyor General Cal.

Filed in Office March 16<sup>th</sup>  
1859.

Geo: Fisher Secy



57

Sir Governor

Translation

of Expediente

408 ND  
PAGE 52

The Lieutenant Guillermo Aedo  
Richardson of the Port of San  
Francisco and resident of this jurisdiction  
Says that he

That the Commander General  
in Mexico (with the same name) ordered  
me to select a tract of land on the coast  
from the mouth of the Russian establish-  
ments in the direction of Cape Mendocino  
in (as is certified in the aforesaid docu-  
ment) and having complied with the  
conditions of the same I have from you  
the respective sketch commencing on  
the Rio Grande Latitude 39° 18' North  
and following the coast south to 38°  
18' North

Which I communicate to you  
for calling in compliance with the said  
order

San Rafael March 3rd 1846  
Guillermo Aedo Richardson  
(in the margin)  
Angelis April 6th 1846

The Justice  
of the Pueblo of San Rafael will report  
in the contents of this instance.

P. S.  
Excellent Sir Governor  
The land situated by Don Guillermo Aedo  
under some of these tracts which are  
found in the confines of this frontier and  
situate to the coast of the said course  
land which now has been occupied  
by many persons much less has been  
found by corporations, individuals or pueblos  
and consequently I think it can be  
said that at the same time as is  
proposed and possessing it with his stock  
This is all I can report to you for calling upon  
the subject San Rafael April 29th 1846  
Ignacio Pacheco

Capt  
 This Government and Comman-  
 dant General has received your Com-  
 munication dated 24th last September  
 in which you demand that there be made  
 your own payments for the services you  
 have rendered to the natives as employed  
 in the Capitania of this Port of San Fran-  
 cisco and this Government not bearing  
 even any pecuniary charge, I have to the  
 cover the necessary expenses and provisions  
 of the Troops, it has been ordered I  
 have received that on consideration of your  
 good report and your honorable services in  
 the employment as Captain of this Port  
providing your arms and munitions and because  
 giving in account your services for the  
 benefit of the Government and the troops  
 in communications of the present troops I  
 cannot to you by way of indemnification  
 the sum of six hundred dollars of obligation  
 in breach and the troops in length the  
 courts of the Coast division with respect  
 from the President to the Indians  
 for many occupied and not to go beyond forty  
 degrees into latitude and if it should be  
 your own may take possession & occupation  
 of these lands from this date which I do grant  
 in the name of the King our Sovereign and with the  
 assent of the Councils, I have by the  
 Supreme Government under the conditions  
 to protect the Indian Indians against the  
 individuals who constantly kidnap their  
 children and make a commercial traffic  
 of them.

You will teach them to work as  
 you shall see will take every opportunity  
 care that the Indians do not take possession  
 of these lands and everything which you  
 may think conducive to the benefit of the  
 natives.

Finally you will give notice to these.

23/183-

5-3

Government of the place you shall  
see or accompany the respective of the  
God and Liberty  
Monting 31th October 1844  
Manil Victoria

408 ND  
PAGE 54

To  
The Ex Captain of the Port of San Fran-  
cisco Don Guillermo Necker von

San Rafael March 14th 1846

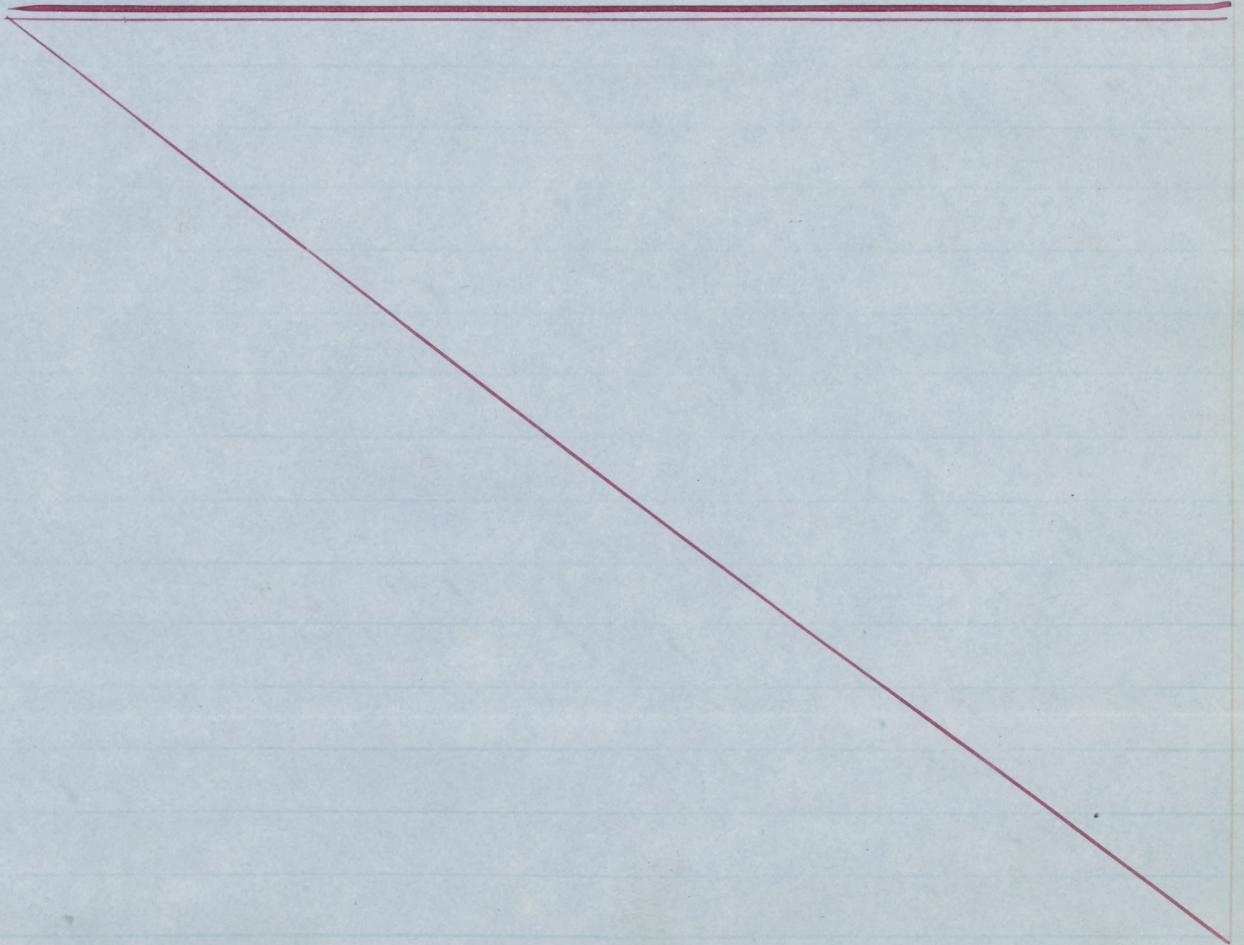
I certify that  
the present copy is faithfully drawn  
from the original which I certify as Justice  
of this place without assistance  
Iquian Pacheco

witness  
S. Berron

witness  
F. Filoz

Filed in Office September 15th 1853  
Liquian

Gen. Fester  
Secretary



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5-5-

Doc: H H.  
@ No. 1 annexed  
to Deps of J.  
Bonwicks

*Gillo*

To D. Guillemi Richardson  
Cap<sup>m</sup> del Puerto de  
San Francisco

Filed in Office  
Jan'y 28<sup>th</sup> 1853.

Geo. Fisher Sec'y

408 ND  
PAGE 55

*[Faint, illegible handwriting in the center of the page]*

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Don D. Guillermo Richardson.

Monterey Oct<sup>bre</sup> 28 de 1844.

Muy s<sup>r</sup> mio.

Doc: H. H.

No. 2. annex  
to the Depo: of  
G. Buono.

Por no haber fondos pecunarios para pagar a V.<sup>o</sup> el tiempo que sirvió a este Gobierno, le Remito un título de un terreno de diez leguas de latitud y dos de longitud, en la Costa del N.<sup>o</sup> de lo cual creo que V. quedará más satisfecho y por lo que renunciará toda reclamación contra la Hacienda pública.

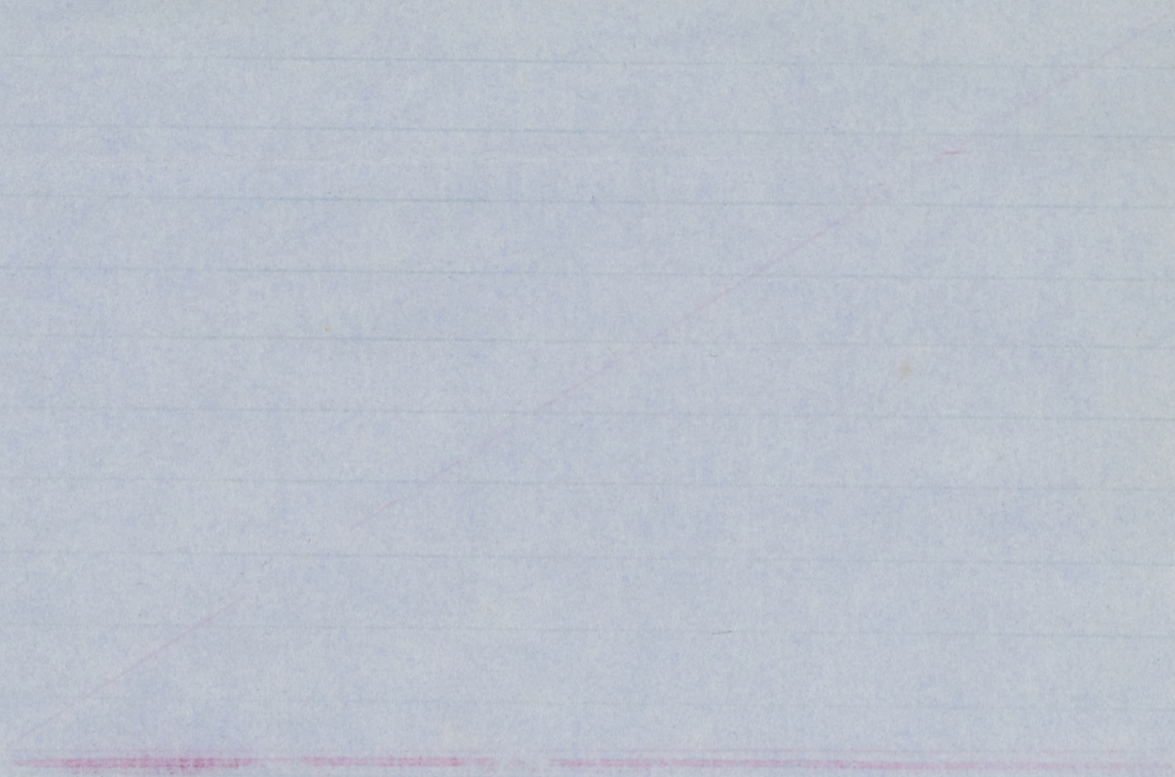
408 ND  
PAGE 56

De V. se ofrece servidor q<sup>d</sup>. atento  
B. J. M.

Man<sup>te</sup>. Michel<sup>te</sup>  
Orled in Office  
Janry 28<sup>th</sup> 1853.

Geo. Fisher Deery

5-8



24/83 —



5-9

Trans of a  
Letter from  
Michael to  
Richardson

To  
Mr Williams Richardson  
Montgomery October 28th 1844  
My Dear Sir

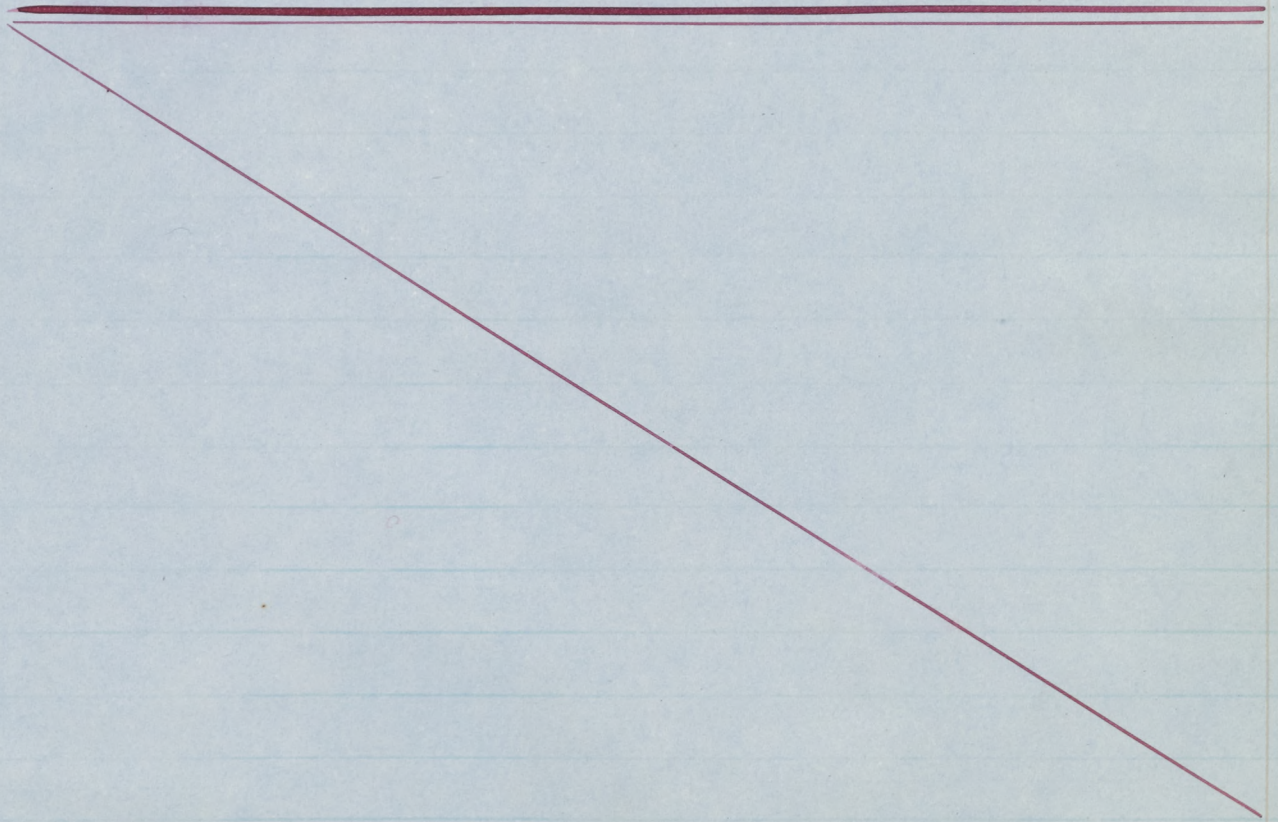
408 ND  
PAGE 57

On account of not having  
pecuniary means wherewith to pay for  
the time you desire this Government  
Grant you allow and to attract plans  
of the League in breadth and the League  
in length on the coast to the West  
into which I think you will remain  
utterly satisfied and for which you  
will promote all claims against  
the Public Treasury

Remain your Obedt Servant  
Wm C. Richardson

Filed in Office September 15th 1853

By Filmer  
Secretary



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Doc A. 2.<sup>o</sup>  
 of Francisco  
 ance.

408 ND  
 PAGE 58

Este Gobierno y Comandante general ha  
 Recibido la Comunicacion de V. fha  
 24 del p.<sup>o</sup> p.d. de setiembre en la que pide se  
 le hagan algunos pagos por los servicios  
 que tiene prestados a la Etacion como em  
 anexo to depleado de la capitania de ese punto de  
 San Francisco y no teniendo este Gobierno  
 fondos pecunarios ni para cubrir los ne  
 cesarios gastos y presupuestos de la tropa q.  
 tiene bajo sus Ordenes; he dispuesto q.  
 en virtud de su buen comportamiento  
 y honrados servicios en el Empleo de Ca  
 pitan de ese puerto por siete años y nue  
 ve meses, como igualmente de los conse  
 jeros con sus Lanchas a beneficio del  
 Gobierno y las buenas recomendaciones  
 de los Jefes anteriores le concedo a V. por  
 via de indemnizacion pueda elegir un  
 terreno de diez leguas de latitud y dos  
 de longitud en los derechos de la Costa  
 punto al N. O. del presidio Roso que  
 ocupaban antiguamente los Rusos y  
 no pasar de la latitud de los cuarenta  
 grados al Norte; y si le conviniere po  
 dra V. tomar posesion y ocupacion de  
 esos terrenos desde esta fha que lo haga  
 a nombre de la Etacion Mexicana y en  
 uso de las facultades que me son confe  
 ridas por el Supremo Gobierno; y bajo las  
 condiciones de protejer a los Indios panti  
 les entre los individuos que continuamte  
 roban sus hijos y hacen comercio de ellos  
 Los enseñara a trabajar como usualmte  
 cuidara V. muy esmerosamente  
 que los Estrangeros no tomen posesion de  
 esos terrenos y todo lo que crea V. conduir  
 a beneficio de la Etacion.

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En conclusion daña V. cuenta a  
Este Gobierno el lugar que se eligiese a com-  
pañando el diseño respectivo.

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PAGE 59

Dios y Libertad  
Monterey 30 de Oho de 1844  
Man: Michelto

Señor Cac. Capitan del puerto de San-  
Francisco D<sup>o</sup> Guillermo Richardson

Comandante Office San Francisco 15<sup>to</sup> 1853  
Geo: Asher Deery

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Stamp

This Government and Commerce  
 and your General has received your Communication  
 Translation dated 28th of September Last in which  
 you demand that there be made some  
 provision for some payment for the services your  
 Mr. Mithun has rendered to the nation as one  
 of his Indian employees in the Capitania of this Port  
 of San Francisco.

408 ND  
 PAGE 60

And this Government not  
 being bound to receive payment for the  
 to cover the necessary expenditure and  
 permanent cost of the Troop, it has  
 its own share of the occasion that in consequence  
 of your good department and  
 honorable services in the employment of  
 Captain of this Port for seven years and  
 will permit as a reward giving you  
 into your hands to the benefit of the Govern-  
 ment and the strong recommendations  
 of the former ships.

I would also be glad  
 of information the same to be a  
 tract of land of ten leagues in breadth and  
 two leagues in length in the parts of the  
 coast, with a western course from the  
 Russian Pass which the Russians pre-  
 sume occupy and not to go beyond  
 forty degrees of North latitude and if it  
 should suit you, you can take possession  
 and occupation of these lands from this  
 date which I do (grant) in the name of  
 the Russian Nation in excuse of  
 the Spaniards vested in me by the Spanish  
 Government under the conditions stipulated  
 the latter's possessors against the Indians  
 - who continually kidnap their  
 children and make a commercial traffic  
 of them.

You will teach them to work as  
 before to the very scrupulous care

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that the fugitives do not take possession  
of these lands and, consequently your many  
kind's candour to the land of the  
nation

Finally you will give notice to  
this Government of the place you please  
select accompanying the respective  
Sketch

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PAGE 61

Gods & Liberty  
Washington 30th of October 1844  
Wm. L. McKim

10/10 The Captains of the Port of San  
Francisco Don S. Richardson

Filed in Office September 15th 1853  
Signed  
Geo. Foster  
Secretary

William A. Richardson }  
 vs } For twenty  
 The United States } leagues of land  
 } in the County  
 } of Mendocino on the  
 } Rio Grande on the  
 } Coast of the Pacific.

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 PAGE 62

Opinion by  
 Hon. J. Farwell.

This claim is based upon a grant issued by Governor Micheltorena on the 30<sup>th</sup> day of October 1844, in consideration of seven years and nine months services rendered by the claimant herein for the Government of Mexico as Captain of the Port of San Francisco.

The Document authorizes the said Richardson to select the land to the North West course from the Presidio Ross on grounds formerly occupied by the Russians, but not to go beyond forty degrees north latitude and authorizing him to take immediate possession of the same and as soon as he should make his selection to inform the Government and return a correct plat thereof.

The claimant has also offered in evidence a letter from Governor Micheltorena in which it is stated that he had issued a grant to him of the date aforesaid and asking him to forward a plat of the same and a release of his claim against the Government.

The claimant has also offered in evidence a traced copy from the Archives of the Government on file

408 ND  
PAGE 63

in the office of the Surveyor General containing a report made by him of his selection of the land with a map of the same to Gov<sup>r</sup> Pio Pico dated the 3<sup>d</sup> day of March 1846 with an order of reference made by Gov<sup>r</sup> Pico to a Justice of the Peace of San Rafael for a Report as to the propriety of granting the same which is also followed by a report of the justice in presence thereof to the effect that no objections existed to the granting of the lands as selected and reported by the said Richardson.

There is some doubts as to the genuineness of the grant issued by Gov<sup>r</sup> Micheltona from the fact that his signature thereto differs in its general appearance from the great mass of his signatures which appear on the various public documents which are found on file in the Archives of the Commission and some of the witnesses are of the opinion that it is not genuine.

But the preponderance of the testimony in the case we think is in favor of its genuineness and therefore we think the claimant entitled to a confirmation and a decree will be entered accordingly.

Confirmed.

Filed in Office Nov<sup>r</sup> 6<sup>th</sup> 1855  
Geo. Fisher Sec.



William A. Richardson  
vs  
The United States

3  
3  
3

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PAGE 64

Decree of  
Confirmation

In this case after hearing the proofs and allegations it is adjudged by the Commission that the claim of the said Petitioner is valid and it is therefore decreed that his application for a confirmation thereof be allowed.

The land of which confirmation is hereby given is situated in the county of Mendocino embracing twenty square leagues to be hereafter located according to law on the borders of the Pacific and the Rio Grande, between latitude 30° 18" and 38° 48" North, Reference being had to the map accompanying the Expediente on file in this case.

Alphens Deleh

R. Aug Thompson

S. B. Farwell  
Comr.

Filed in Office Nov<sup>r</sup> 6<sup>o</sup> 1855  
Geo. Fisher Sec

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 decision 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.

Office of the Board of Commissioners,

To ascertain and settle the Private Land Claims in the State of California.

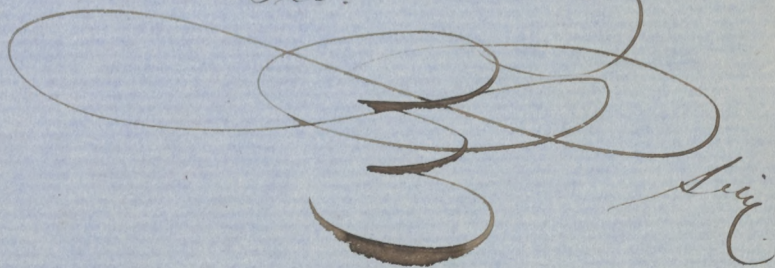
408 ND  
PAGE 66

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  
foregoing *Sixty eight* pages, numbered from  
1 to *68*, both inclusive, to contain a true, correct and full Tran-  
script of the Record of the Proceedings and of the Decision of the  
said Board, of the Documentary Evidence and of the Testimony  
of the Witnesses, upon which, the same is founded, on file in this  
Office, in Case No. *103*, on the Docket of the said Board,  
wherein

*W. A. Richardson* is  
the Claimant against the United States, for the place known by  
the name of "*Land in Mendocino County.*"

In Testimony Whereof, I hereunto set my hand  
and affix my private Seal (not having a Seal  
of Office) at San Francisco, California, this  
*Eleventh* day of *February*  
A. D. 185*6*, and of the Independence of the  
United States of America the ~~seventy-~~*eight*th.

*Geo. Fisher.*



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U. S. DISTRICT COURT, *MD*

District of California.

No. *408*

408

THE UNITED STATES,

vs.

*Wm. F. Richardson*

TRANSCRIPT OF THE RECORD

FROM THE

BOARD OF U. S. LAND COMMISSIONERS.

In Case No. *173*

Filed,

*February 1856*

*J. A. Moore,*

*Clk*

Office of the Attorney General of the United States,

Washington, 10 March, 1856.

103. *Twenty sq. leagues of land in  
Mendocino County*—

*William A. Richardson Claimant*

You will please take notice that in the above case, decided by  
the Commissioners to ascertain and settle private land claims in  
the State of California in favor of the claimant, and a transcript  
of the proceedings in which was received in this office on the  
15<sup>th</sup> day of February, 1856, the appeal  
in the district court of the United States for the  
*northern* district of California will be prosecuted by the  
United States.

*Cushing*

Attorney General.

no 408

The United States  
vs  
W A Richardson

Appel notice

Filed April 15, 1856,  
Chevers,  
Deputy.

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PAGE 68

In the District Court of the U.S.  
for the Northern Dist of Cala

The United States

D. C. 408; L. C. 103.

vs  
Wm A. Richardson

The petition of the United States by their Attorney represents that this cause is an application for a review of the decision of the Board of Commissioners whereby the claim of the appellees was confirmed, as appears by reference to the records in the case; that a transcript of the said record in the case was filed in this Court July 15, 1856; that a notice of appeal was filed April 15, 1856; that the land claimed lies in this District, and that said claim is invalid.

Wherefore appellants pray that the said decision of the Board be reversed and that this Court decree the said title invalid.

Wm Blanding  
W. Atty

71-10  
23-35  
25-57  
83-89  
82-60  
84-65

203-26

198-40  
159-51  
114-68

495-67

732-71

408  
103

W. J. Drott Comr

The United States

Wm A Richardson

Petition

Filed April 6, 1857.  
W. H. Chennet,  
Deputy.

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PAGE 70

Standing (mtd)



William A. Richardson

United States

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

408 ND

PAGE 71

On motion of E. L. Good of Counsel for the  
Claimant it is ordered by the Court that  
this Cause be remanded to the docket  
and opened for further proof as to the  
genuineness of the grant.

~~and~~  
San Francisco  
April 19<sup>th</sup> 1858.

Edwin Roffman  
District Judge

Proof of the notice of this motion  
is hereby acknowledged.

San Francisco  
April 19/58

P. Della Torre  
v. S. atty

No. 408.

U. S. District Court,

Wm. A. Richardson,

vs

The United States.

Order opening  
cause for further proofs.

Filed April 19. 1858,

W. A. Cheever,  
Clerk.

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PAGE 72

M. J. }  
 Richardson } Clammy "Albion."

It is stipulated that the testimony  
 of Ignacio Pacheco, Manuel Torres  
 and Gregorio Rivner, herein taken  
 by Consent, be read upon the  
 hearing hereof, with the like  
 effect as if taken upon  
 due notice, subject however,  
 to all legal objections save  
 those of form in testimony.

Juan Ramirez  
 July 15, 1862

P. Della Torre

E. L. Ford  
 for defendant

408,

U. S. Dist. Court,

The United States,

vs.

W. A. Richardson,

Ship; in reference  
to captures of  
Pacheco, Torres, and  
Briónes,

Filed July 15, 1862,

W. H. Cheever,

Clerk

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PAGE 74

408 ND  
PAGE 75

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 *Thursday* the *30th* day of *October* in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-*two*.

Present:

The Honorable OGDEN HOFFMAN, District Judge.

*The United States.*  
v.  
*M. A. Richardson.*

*408.*

And now at this day, on reading, and filing notice of motion, and on motion of the U. S. Attorney, It is ordered by the Court that the proofs herein be closed, and the cause brought on for hearing on Thursday, the 6th Nov: next.

No 408

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

Northern District of California.

The United States

v.

H. A. Richardson,

Order closing proofs,  
and setting cause  
for hearing, etc.

Filed October 30, 1862

H. A. Cheever,  
Clerk.

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PAGE 76

At a special term of the District Court of this District  
held at San Francisco, California, on the 30th day of October, 1862,  
the Court having been organized by the Honorable J. P. Giddings,  
Judge of the said Court, and the Honorable H. A. Cheever,  
Clerk of the said Court, the following order was made:

*[Faint handwritten notes and bleed-through from the reverse side of the page.]*

United States  
vs  
W. a. Richardson

U. S. Dist Court  
Northern Dist  
of California

You will please take notice that the undersigned will move before the Dist Court of the U. S. for the Northern Dist. of California on Thursday Oct. 30<sup>th</sup> A. D. 1862 at 11 A. M. or as soon thereafter as Counsel can be heard for an order closing the proofs in the above cause & setting the same down for hearing

Dated Oct. 24 1862

E. L. Gould Esq  
J. A. Sharp Esq  
attys for Claimant

Yours &c  
W. H. Sharp  
U. S. Dist atty

N. Distumell being sworn says  
 he served ~~the~~ with notice on  
 S. A. Sharpsey & L. Goodley  
 by leaving the same at their  
 respective offices with a person  
 in charge thereof October 24/1862  
 between the hours of 9. A.M.  
 & 5 P.M.

sworn subscribed } Nathl. Distumell  
 Oct 30. 1862 }  
 W. H. Chevers,  
 N. S. Com

Wm. West Bank  
 (4085)

Wm. West Bank

(2)

Wm. West Bank

Wm. West Bank

Frid Oct. 30. 1862,  
 W. H. Chevers,  
 N. S. Com.



In the United States District Court in and  
for the Northern District of California

The United States  
Appellant

vs  
William Richardson  
Respondent

Northern District of California, ss;  
City and County of San Francisco, ss.  
Samuel S. Roberts being duly sworn deposes  
that on the twenty sixth day of August 1865  
he served the notice of motion to vacate  
the order closing proofs in the above entitled  
action, of which the annexed is a copy,  
upon E. L. Gould, one of the counsel for  
respondent's by delivering said notice to the  
person in charge of said Gould's office, the  
said Gould being absent therefrom. And  
affiant further says that on said 26<sup>th</sup> day  
of August 1865 he served the said notice of  
motion to vacate the order closing proofs  
in the above action of which the annexed  
is a copy upon Jeremiah Clark another  
of the counsel for respondent by delivering  
said notice to the person in charge of said  
Clark's office, the said Clark being absent  
therefrom.

Sworn & subscribed }  
before me this 7<sup>th</sup> day }  
of September A.D. 1865 }

Samuel S. Roberts

W. O. Andrews Notary Public

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

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United States.

Appellant

vs.

William A. Richardson

Respondent

You will please  
to take notice that on Monday the ~~11<sup>th</sup>~~<sup>5<sup>th</sup></sup> day of  
~~August~~<sup>September</sup>, inst. at the opening of the Court  
on that day or as soon thereafter as Counsel  
can be heard, at the Court Room in this  
City of San Francisco, I shall move this  
Hon. Court, that the order heretofore made  
closing proofs in this case be vacated, and that  
the case be opened for further proofs; which  
motion will be founded on the order which  
was made in this cause prior to the above  
mentioned order directing the taking of the  
testimony of R. C. Hopkins, and upon the  
other papers on file in this cause.

San Francisco  
August 25, 1865

Deloshake  
U. S. Dist. Atty

U. S. Dist. Court  
Nor. Dist. Cal.

The United States  
Appellant.

vs.

William A. Richardson  
Respondent.

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Copy of  
No. of ms. to vacate order  
closing proofs. *afflt.*  
of service

Service of the within by Copy  
admitted this 26 day of Aug 1865.

Filed Sept 8/65  
Geo C. Graham  
Clerk

Delos Lake  
U. S. Atty

Filed Sept 8th 1865  
Geo. C. Graham  
Wm. W. Sullivan

In the United States District Court  
For the Northern District of California

The United States

vs  
William Richardson

J.  
E. Gould, Jeremiah Clarke }  
Attys for Respondents }

You are hereby notified that the testimony of R. C. Hopkins, in the above entitled cause in behalf of the United States, will be taken before me the undersigned, a Commissioner duly appointed by the Circuit Court of the United States for the Districts of California to take acknowledgements of bail and affidavits, and also to take depositions of witnesses in civil causes depending in the Courts of the United States, pursuant to the Acts of Congress in that behalf, commencing on Saturday the 16<sup>th</sup> day of September AD 1865 at 12 o'clock M. and continuing from day to day until finished at my office No. 17 U. S. Court Rooms; and you are hereby further notified to then and there appear and propound such questions to the said witness as you deem fit.

Witness my hand at the City of San Francisco in said District this 11<sup>th</sup> day of September AD 1865 Daniel J. Sullivan  
U. S. Commissioner

W. S. District Court  
Northern Dist. Cal

The United States

vs  
William Richardson

Notice of examination  
of witnesses

Service of the within  
notice admitted this  
11 day of September 1868

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In the United States District Court  
For the Northern District of California

The United States

v  
William Richardson

Northern District California, ss:  
City and County of San Francisco.

Samuel S. Roberts being duly sworn deposes that he served ~~on~~ notices of which the annexed is a correct copy on the eleventh day of September AD 1865 at the City of San Francisco on E. L. Gould Esq. and Jeremiah Clarke Esq. Attys for the Claimants by leaving the said notices at the office of said Gould and Clarke respectively on said San Francisco with the Clerks or persons having charge of said offices respectively. That at the time of said service the affiant made search for said Attorney to serve them personally but was unable to find them and neither of them were in their said offices. That said service was made between the hours of 8 A.M. and 6 P.M.

Sworn and subscribed &  
before me this 16<sup>th</sup> day  
of September AD 1865

Samuel S. Roberts

David Sullivan  
Clerk

No 408

Dist: Court U.S.

Nor: Dist: Cal

The United States

vs  
Wm Richardson

Notice to take Deposits  
of Hopkins

Filed Sept. 16<sup>th</sup> 1885

Geo C Gorham Clk

By Paul Sullivan  
Deputy

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In the District Court of the United States,  
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA.

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The United States,

IN LAND CASES.

vs.

*William A. Richardson*

Dist. Court, No. 408.....

Land Com., No.....

BE IT REMEMBERED, that on this *16<sup>th</sup>* day of *September*  
A. D. 1865., at *San Francisco* in the District aforesaid, before me  
DANIEL T. SULLIVAN, a Commissioner duly appointed by the Circuit Court of the  
United States for the Districts of California to take acknowledgments of bail and affidavits,  
and also to take depositions of witnesses, in civil causes depending in the Courts of the  
United States, pursuant to the Acts of Congress in that behalf, personally appeared  
*J. C. Hopkins*..... a witness produced in behalf of  
*William A. Richardson*..... in the above entitled cause, now  
pending in said Court under the Acts of Congress to ascertain and settle the private land  
claims in the State of California, who, being duly sworn, testified as follows :

PRESENT :

*D. Lake* U.S. Atty, for the  
*United States*

QUESTIONS IN BEHALF OF THE

*United States*

Question 1st,

*What is your name and place  
of residence & occupation -*



Answer - My name is  
R. C. Hopkins, age upwards  
of twenty one years and place  
of residence San Francisco -  
occupation keeper of the  
Spanish Archives in the  
Office of the U.S. Surveyor  
General's Office -

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Q How long have you  
been in that capacity in  
that Office?

Ans - For the last two years.

~~Subscribed & sworn to~~

~~before~~

Adjourned to Thursday  
next 21<sup>st</sup> day of Sept. A.D. 1865  
at 12 o'clock M.

Q Have you in your possession  
the original expedient in the  
Case of Mr. Richardson  
(Mr. M. S. Seward Commission)  
claiming twenty leagues on  
the Pacific Coast north

of Fort Ross, if so will you  
please produce it.

Ans. I have, and I now produce  
it.

Q. Will you look at the first  
page of the said Expediente, and  
state if you know the handwriting  
in which the same is written,  
if so, how you know the same,  
and state in whose hand  
writing it is.

Ans. The page referred to is in  
the handwriting of Richardson <sup>(the Settler)</sup>  
I know his hand writing from  
having examined it often in  
the Archives - I have seen his  
signatures to dispatches in  
the Archives taken before  
the said Commission. I  
do not know the hand writing  
in the marginal decree or  
the signature thereto - the

hand writing in the marginal and  
the signature there are the same -  
but is ~~a~~ different hand writing  
~~than~~ <sup>from</sup> that of the petitioners

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5. Do you know the hand  
writing of Pio Pico Esq,  
Governor etc - if so, how  
do you know it?

Ans. I know the hand writing  
of Gov Pico - from  
having seen him write,  
and also from having  
examined his signatures  
found in the Archives

6. Look at the Marginal  
Access ~~to~~ and signature  
there, on said first page  
and say whether the same  
are in the hand writing  
of Pio Pico

Ans. I think not

7 Is the signature there, the genuine signature of Pacheco?

Ans I do not think it is.

8<sup>th</sup> Have you any doubt on the subject?

Ans I have no doubt in my own mind

9<sup>th</sup> In whose hand writing is the second page of this expediente?

Ans. I am not acquainted with the hand writing on the second page but my impression is, that one Manuel Torres testified that it was in his hand-writing. I am now speaking of the body of it

10<sup>th</sup> Are you acquainted with the signature of Synacio Pacheco, if so - what are your means

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of knowledge

Ans. I am not very familiar with Ignacio Pacheco's signature -

~~His name occurs several times in the Archives, and any knowledge I have, is derived from having seen it there.~~

His name occurs several times in the Archives and any knowledge I have is derived from having seen it there

11. Have you compared the name Ignacio Pacheco with his signature to documents of undoubted authenticity in the Archives?

Ans I have

12. What is your opinion in regard to the genuineness of Ignacio Pacheco

on the second page?

Ans. I find some difference between the signature of Ignacio Pacheco and the his signature as found in the Archives, I am inclined to think that it is not genuine.

13 In whose hand writing is the document commencing "Copia" (the 3<sup>d</sup> written page)

Ans. It is in the hand writing of W<sup>m</sup> A. Richardson

14. In whose hand writing is the body of the Certificate written under the last mentioned document

Ans. I am not acquainted with the hand writing of the Certificate; but

It is the same hand writing  
as the document on the  
second page.

15. Do you know the signatures  
of Gregoria Briones and  
Fernando Felix

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Ans. I know them in the same  
way as I know that  
of Ignacio Pacheco

16. Have you compared these  
signatures with the  
signatures of undoubted  
~~of undoubted~~ Authenticity  
in the Archives of  
Gregoria Briones and  
Fernando Felix

Ans. I have and find  
considerable difference

#17. Are the signatures of  
Ignacio Pacheco, Gregoria Briones  
and Fernando Felix on the

fourth written page of said  
expediente genuine or not

Ans. I am inclined to think  
they are not.

18. In your opinion are they  
written by the same or  
different hands.

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Ans. The signatures of Daines and  
Felis I think are written  
by the same hand - and  
probably the signature of  
Pacheco is in the same  
handwriting although the  
similarity is not so  
strongly marked.

19. Are these signatures in your  
opinion by the same hand  
that wrote any other part  
of the Expediente

Ans. The signature of Pacheco  
is in the same hand



9  
writing as the signature on the  
fourth page.

Q. Do you by whose hand the diseno  
on the fifth page is made.

A. It is in the hand writing of  
William A Richardson

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Q. Have you compared the  
said diseno, with any others  
in the archives, and is  
there any other to which it  
bears a close resemblance  
in style, and manner  
of execution

A. It bears a close  
resemblance to the Garcia  
Expediente for a grant of  
land adjoining this land  
on the South. It resembles  
no other.

Q. What is your opinion as to  
the person who made the

two and the time at which they  
were made

In answer. I think they were  
made by the same person  
at or near the same time

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Q3. Look at the document  
filed as an Exhibit in this  
case in the Land Commission  
and there marked among  
other things "A. P. L. Exhibited  
to Repro of Juan B. Alvarez  
Sept-15, 1854 - and say  
in whose hand retaining the  
body thereof is, including the  
address

Ans. It is in the hand writing  
of Francisco A. C.

Q4. Do you know the signature  
of Manuel Micheltoarena  
Ans. I do.

25. What are your means of knowledge of said signature

Ans. By having examined a great many of his signatures as found in the archives of undoubted authenticity

26. Is the signature of Manuel Michelvariana on the second page of said document in the proper handwriting of the said Manuel Michelvariana

Ans. I do not think it is.

27. In whose hand writing is said signature, in your opinion

Ans. It appears to be in the same hand writing as the body of the instrument

28. Examine the seal impressed  
on the first page of said  
document, and say whether  
you recognize the same  
as a genuine seal of the  
Governor of the Republic  
of the Californias.

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Ans. I do not recognize  
it as such

29. What seal does it purport  
to be?

Ans. It appears purports to be  
the seal of the Gobierno  
~~de la~~ del Departamento  
de Californias - the same  
being the seal used by  
the Governor upon official  
documents

30. How does the seal upon  
this document differ  
from the genuine seal

Ans. It differs particularly in this - that the head of the Serpent on the Seal on this Document is in a different position from what it is on the Genuine Seal, and the ~~letter~~ abbreviation of "dep." as found on the genuine seal being the abbreviation of Department is found upon this Seal ~~as~~ "dp."

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Q/. How many impressions of said seals genuine seals is in the archives, and during what period of time was the same used

Ans. There are several hundred found in the Archives extending over a period of Six or Eight Years

32. How many impressions  
of the seal which is  
impressed on the document  
before you, exist in the  
archives, or elsewhere  
to your knowledge

Ans. I think this seal  
is only found on  
these documents, and  
upon the Garcia  
expediente upon the  
adjoining ranchos

33. Look at the paper filed in  
this cause in the Land  
Commission and marked  
"two among other things"  
"Doc. H. H. N. 1 case" &  
to the Memo of G. Briones  
taken before Com.  
"Island Hall"  
being the wrapper or  
envelope, in which Exhibit

"Enc H H No 2 dated to  
the Memo of G. P. Brown's taken  
before Com<sup>r</sup> Adand Hall"  
was enclosed, and my in  
whose hand writing the same  
is, and what seal is thereon  
impressed

Ans. It is in the handwriting  
of Governor Macpherson and  
the seal is the same as  
what is ~~described~~<sup>impressed</sup> on the  
document last referred  
to

34. Are you acquainted with  
the hand writing of Elliotson  
at different periods of his  
life, sufficiently to form  
an opinion as to whether  
the aforesaid H H No 2  
aforesaid was written  
by him at the date  
which it bears, if  
so what is your  
opinion on that point

Sir. I am acquainted with  
the handwriting of John  
Michelherrow, during the  
time he was Governor  
of California, and with  
his handwriting ~~is~~

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Examination adjourned until tomorrow  
noon 12 Sept

of 12 Sept  
Examination adjs to Oct 6 '865

Oct 6 Examination resumed

Articles continue — as found upon  
document supposed to be made  
by Michelherrow after he left  
California in 1845, and  
also his handwriting to official  
documents of undoubted  
authenticity which exist  
in the Archives in my



change - From the knowledge  
thus acquired I am of  
opinion that the documents  
referred to were written at  
same date subsequent to  
that which they bear.

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Q. 35. At what date in your opinion  
was the said document  
written, and with what other  
documents does it correspond.  
And what are the points  
of resemblance

A. The hand writing of the docu-  
ment referred to - the signature  
of Eichelkranz and the  
ink in which said document  
is written very much resemble  
the hand writing, signatures  
and ink of documents upon  
which is found the Simantau  
Seal, and which were filed  
in the claim of Simantau  
for lands in the City of  
San Francisco, and also

of documents upon which  
is found a spurious Custom  
House Seal very much  
resembling the Simantour  
Seal, which documents were  
filed in Cases No 788-789  
before the Board of Land  
Commissioners - being ~~certificates~~  
signed by Michellemu signed  
18<sup>th</sup> December 1844 and  
27 December 1844 -

The seals upon ~~the~~ two  
Certificates referred to while  
they very closely resemble  
the Simantour Seal are  
manifestly different from  
the genuine Custom House  
Seal, and if they are not  
the same as the Simantour  
Seal, they are unlike any  
other seals found in the  
archives. I think these  
documents were written  
after Michellemu of left  
the country in 1845,

and at or about the same  
document in the Semanario  
Case and the Certificate  
referred to.

Q. 36

Are you an expert in  
handwriting and have you  
made any particular class  
of handwriting your study  
and state particularly  
the ~~your~~ means of acquiring  
expertise in judging of  
handwriting

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A. 36

For many years ~~to~~ ~~have~~ been  
conversant with the Spanish  
language, - and for the last ten  
years of my life I have had  
charge of the Spanish Archives  
in the office of the U. S.  
Surg. General, ~~during~~ <sup>during</sup>,  
which time I have had  
constantly had occasion  
to examine handwritings and  
signatures - and in

his way I have perhaps acquired  
considerable expert - as a  
judge of handwriting, especially  
~~Charged writings of the Spanish~~  
~~Language in which the~~  
~~Spanish language is used~~  
of Spaniards and Hispano  
Americans

R. C. Hopkins,

Subscribed and acknowledged  
before me this 6<sup>th</sup> Oct 1865

7 Doc J Sullivan  
US Com

~~Handwritten signature~~

R. C. Hopkins  
Hon. Secy

The United States  
Genl. Richardson

Depy. of  
R. C. Hopkins

Filed Oct 31 1865

J. W. Sullivan

In the District Court of the United States  
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA.

The United States,

v.

*M. A. Richardson*

IN LAND CASES.

Dist. Court No. *83*

Land Com. No. *104*

BE IT REMEMBERED, that on this *17* day of *June* A. D., 186*2*,  
at the City of San Francisco, in the District aforesaid, before me, WM. H. CHEVERS,  
a Commissioner duly appointed by the Circuit Court of the United States for the Dis-  
tricts of California to take acknowledgments of bail and affidavits, and also to  
take depositions of witnesses, in civil causes depending in the Courts of the United  
States, pursuant to the Acts of Congress in that behalf, personally appeared  
*James Black* a witness produced in behalf of  
the *Claimant* in the above entitled cause, now  
pending in said Court under the Acts of Congress to ascertain and settle the private land  
claims in the State of California, who, being duly sworn, testified as follows: ~~his~~  
evidence being interpreted by \_\_\_\_\_  
a sworn interpreter.

PRESENT:

*U. S. atty for U. S.*

*E. L. Gould for claimant*

QUESTIONS IN BEHALF OF THE

*Claimant*

Question 1st,

*State your name, age, residence  
and occupation.*

My name is James Black, a native of Scotland, have resided in California 30 years, and in Marin County since 1854. Occupation farmer, and am a large landowner in that county.

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I knew Wm A. Richardson in his lifetime. To the best of my knowledge in 1844 Richardson I was living on the Ranch known as the Mc Intosh Ranch in 1844, when Richardson passed through on the old Russian road. He had several people with him - servants and vaqueros. Some of whom were native Californians and some of them Indians. He had some horses - perhaps 100 to 150 horses and mares. Also five or six yoke of oxen. He told me he was going up to his new farm, called the Albion. He went with his vaqueros and cattle in that direction, up the old Russian road.

Some seven or eight months afterwards, I think in 1845, I saw Rafael Garcia and some of Richardson's servants with cattle on their way in the direction of the Albion Ranch - He claimed at that time and it was generally understood that Captain Richardson owned the Albion Ranch so called by Richardson who was an Englishman by birth. The United States objects to this last clause of the

deposition as being irrelevant  
and incompetent.

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Cross Examination waived

James Black  
sworn to before me  
this 17. day of June  
A.D. 1852

Edwin Haffner  
A. S. Dist. Judge

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~~NO 83~~

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

Northern District of California.

IN LAND CASES.

THE UNITED STATES

v.

*H. A. Richardson*

DEPOSITION OF

*Jas. Black*

on part of *Plaintiff*

Filed *Dec 15<sup>th</sup>* 1865

*G. C. Gorham*

Clerk.

*Wm. D. Sullivan*

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*[Faint handwritten notes and scribbles on the right page]*



In the District Court of the United States

FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA.

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The United States,

v.

*W. A. Richardson.*

IN LAND CASES.

Dist. Court No. *408,*

Land Com. No. *103,*

BE IT REMEMBERED, that on this *15th* day of *July* A. D., 1862, at the City of San Francisco, in the District aforesaid, before me, WM. H. CHEVERS, a Commissioner duly appointed by the Circuit Court of the United States for the Districts of California to take acknowledgments of bail and affidavits, and also to take depositions of witnesses, in civil causes depending in the Courts of the United States, pursuant to the Acts of Congress in that behalf, personally appeared *Gregorio Briones*, a witness produced in behalf of the *Claimant*, in the above entitled cause, now pending in said Court under the Acts of Congress to ascertain and settle the private land claims in the State of California, who, being duly sworn, testified as follows: his evidence being interpreted by *R. C. Hopkins* a sworn interpreter. *and was taken by consent.*

PRESENT: *E. S. Gould for Claimant,*  
*and H. St. Sharp, U. S. Atty*  
*for the U. S. + P. Della Torre for U. S.*

QUESTIONS IN BEHALF OF THE

Question 1st,

*[Large decorative wavy scribbles]*

My name is Gregorio Prines. I have already given my testimony in this case before the Land Commission.

In the year 1846 I was second Alcalde of San Rafael, having been appointed in December 1845 for the year 1846, and went into office in January 1846. Ignacio Pacheco was first Alcalde.

I now examine the original exhibits in this case, and recognize the document signed Ignacio Pacheco, Gregorio Prines, and Fernando Felix <sup>the certificate</sup> dated San Rafael March 1. 1846. About ~~the~~ the seventh or eighth of June 1846 I signed this document. Pacheco the first Alcalde asked me to sign it as witness of a pasture Richardson, Fernando, and Pacheco were present at the time. We were at the Juegado of San Rafael. Pacheco had signed. Fernando Felix signed after me, though on the same occasion. I signed this paper as an assisting witness in the first part of June. I cannot state the date exactly, but it was before Fremont came there with his men. How many days before I

cannot state. Fremont came  
towards the latter part of  
June 1846. Pacheco  
made a record of the <sup>document</sup> in the book  
which he kept. I reside  
~~from or from~~ six or seven leagues  
distant from the Juegado.

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Within a month or two prior  
to my signing this certificate as  
a witness I was not constantly  
at my rancho, but was away  
several times, once at the  
rancho San Clementina, and once  
at the Mision Dolores where I  
went on public business to see  
Garrison, and I was at other  
places on several occasions.

From my rancho to the Mision  
Dolores the distance is about  
nine leagues, and I visited it  
twice in the month of May  
1846. Fernando Felix is dead.

When Fremont came, his men  
destroyed the books and papers  
of the Juegado.

Gregorio Baines

Proven and subscribed July 15, 1862  
before me.

M. D. Clever,

U. S. Com.

408,

U. S. Dist. Court.

The United States.

vs.

H. A. Richardson,

Deposition of  
Gregorio Briones  
for Claimant.

Filed Dec 15<sup>th</sup> 1865

E. C. Gorham, clk  
By Paul Sullivan & Study

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2  
Pacheco" and state if you ever  
saw that document before and  
if yes where under what circum-  
stances & when

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Ans. I saw this document at San  
Rafael in 1846 and it is the  
same one, the signature is my  
own - The circumstances were  
that Capt William Richardson  
had asked for the land and  
wanted a report from me  
as Alcalde - I remember <sup>that Capt Richardson</sup> was  
twice at my office once in March  
1846 and another time in April  
1846.

Ques. In whose possession was this  
document when you first saw  
it.

Ans. It was in possession of Capt Richards-  
-sen who brought it to me  
I signed it in the day of its  
date 29<sup>th</sup> April 1846. I was  
Alcalde at that time.

Crop Examination by Mr.  
Willa Fore Counsel for the United States

Ques. Look at that part of the alleged  
Espediente which is testified by  
yourself. Gregorio Briones and

and Fernando Feliz and say if you ever made a copy of it or of the original of which it is a copy

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Ans. I recorded the whole of that paper in a book kept in my office - Fremont when he came to San Rafael took possession of my office and carried the books away, and all of the papers

Ques. Who wrote the the informed on the back of Richardson's Petition -

Ans. Manuel Jones wrote it.

Ques. Who wrote the copy of the grant.

Ans. Captain Richardson wrote it

J. W. Parker

Shown to and subscribed June 27, 1862, before me,  
W. D. Cheever,  
U. S. Comr.

U. S. District Court.  
Nor. Dist. of Cal.

The United States, D. C. 408,  
vs. I. C. 103.  
W. A. Richardson,

Deputation taken by consent,

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Ques. What is your name, age, and  
place of residence

Ans. My name is Manuel Jones  
I am thirty six years of age  
and reside in Marin County  
I am a native of Peru and  
arrived in California in  
May 1843.

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PAGE

Ques. Are you related to the  
family of the late Captain  
William Richardson

Ans. I am, I married his daughter

Ques. Look at the Expediente filed  
in this case and state if you  
ever saw it before & if yes  
when, where & under what  
circumstances.

Ans. I saw this Expediente in 1846



at San Rafael on my way from Bodiga to San Francisco I stopped at San Rafael and I met there Capt Richardson, who asked me to write the informe for Pacheco - for the reason that Pacheco did not write very well. I wrote the informe in the office of Pacheco. I mean in the Alcalde's office in presence of Pacheco the Alcalde and Richardson. I was not married then.

Ques.

State what you know of the signature of Pacheco at the foot of the informe

Ans.

I was present and saw Ignacio Pacheco sign it in his office on the day it bears date.

Ques.

Look at the certificate dated San Rafael March 1<sup>st</sup> 1846. Signed "Ignacio Pacheco" and "Gregorio Priore" and "Fernando Felix" as witnesses and state what you know concerning that certificate

Ans.

The certificate was written by me on the day it bears date

in the office of Pacheco Alcalde  
at San Rafael and gave it to  
Pacheco. and left before it was  
signed. and did not see it signed.

Primer was not present in the  
office at the time and Capt  
Richardson went out after him

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I was at that time attending  
to business for Capt Smith at  
his ranch at Bodega - I had  
a large store at Bodega - and  
Smith had a large Steam  
Saw mill at Bodega and  
a good many cattle there  
I was his agent & attended to  
his business.

Crop Examination waived.

Wm. H. Forrester

Given to and subscribed June  
27, 1862, before me,

W. H. Chevers,

U. S. Comr,

No 408.

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

Northern District of California.

IN LAND CASES.

THE UNITED STATES

v.

*W. A. Richardson,*

DEPOSITION OF

*Wm. Patrick M. Taylor*

on part of *Claimants.*

Filed *Dec 15<sup>th</sup>* 1865

*Evob. Gordon*

Clerk.

*Wm. D. Sullivan*

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*Deputy*

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District Court of the United  
States, Northern District of California

United States D.C. 408.

W. A. Richardson D.C. 103.

Testimony of Henry Hegeler a witness  
for the Plaintiff.

I am by birth a German.  
I came to California in 1839 or 1840.

I am a farmer, and live in Bodoga  
Serrana county, on my farm.

I knew William A. Richardson very well,  
having become acquainted with him soon  
after my arrival. I know

the Rancho Albin sometimes called  
"Rancho del Norte"

In Bodoga in 1844 I  
saw Mr. Richardson. I forget whether

in the road or at my house Mr.  
Richardson asked me to take a

trip with him up the coast  
where he was going to take up

a place. He had raqueroes  
along, pack horses, and a spy-  
glass strapped on his back. I

told him I had no time, and  
I did not go with him.

About a month afterwards

I heard of his coming back, but I did not see him.

I next heard of the Ranch in 1845. I was at Hermann's ranch, and Richardson was there. He asked me again to go to the Albuja with him, and I went along with him. He had a house there not finished, a house made of sticks, put in the ground, plastered with mud and covered with tule; the doors were not in, yet: such houses were common in the Country at that time.

I think this was about May, but I am not sure. A little ground was ploughed in front of the house, and Richardson told me all about his plans for spring, putting a good fence in place of a brush fence which he had there.

The next day we got up the mares, and commenced branding the colts. It was the season for the rodeo. He had about fifty mares, two bands, I think, each having a stallion. These number of colts I cannot

remember, as I had not no  
interest in counting them. He  
had some horned Cattle, about  
a hundred head perhaps, but  
I am not sure of the number.  
I saw no hogs, I saw some  
chickens there.

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I went back to the Albion  
again in 1845. I did not  
see the old man there, but  
his servants and workmen were  
there. Some pumpkins and  
Indian Corn, water melons, onions,  
pras were growing there, and  
two or three Indians were engaged  
in weeding the garden. I  
~~do not~~ remember going back again  
in 1845. several times.

I went back there again in  
May 1846, that being the  
month in which we always  
had the rodeos. I went up  
partly for the trip, and partly  
to see if any of my cattle  
were there. Richardson  
was there, and we had a  
rodeo the next day, and  
branded the Cattle. The culti-  
vation had increased. He  
had some barley, and some  
potatoes growing. The garden  
looked nice and fresh and  
green, but you cannot tell

what a garden will produce  
by merely looking at it.  
I went there twice, I  
think, again in 1846 on a  
hunting excursion. The old  
man was not there. His  
workmen and servants were  
at home, taking take of the  
place. They had a better  
corral, and rather more cultivation.

In 1847, 1848, 1849, 1850  
1851, 1852 and up to 1852  
I always went there in May  
at the rodros, because I thought  
some of my cattle might  
be there. Richardson's  
cultivation was always going on.  
Sometimes he was not, occasionally  
present, but his people always  
were. From the time Richardson went  
there <sup>in 1844</sup> up to 1852 it was the  
general understanding among  
all the neighbors and people  
that the Albino Ranch was  
Richardson's. I never  
heard of any other owner to  
it. Every body recognized  
it as his rancho, and nobody  
disputed his right to it.

The house which I saw on the  
ranch in 1844 was afterwards  
completed and made habitable.  
and it was a good commodious  
house for the country at that  
time.

Cross examinations.

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In 1844 I lived at Rodriga on  
the N<sup>o</sup> Intero grant, about sixty  
or seventy miles from the Alamo.  
The ranch next on this  
side was the ranch of Rafael  
Garcia. They took up  
these ranches respectively at about  
the same time. They both  
staid at my house when  
they came that way.  
I moved up to  
the neighborhood of these ranches  
in 1845. I lived on the  
Herman ranch of which I  
was a part owner. I granted  
understand it was granted to a  
Mr. Rufus who got a grant  
for it from Micheltoranay. Rufus  
was a German. I never saw  
his original paper. I bought from  
him. That rancho adjoined  
Garcia's ranch. I have  
heard that the Herman ranch



was confirmed by the land Com-  
mission & Rufus. He might  
have sold out and the confir-  
mation been made to somebody  
else.

No ranch was north of Richardson's.  
Garcia and Richardson had men  
jointly employed to take care  
of their ranches. They were  
called Mayor domos. I do  
not know of a house on Garcia's  
place. If there had been one  
I think I would have known  
it.

H. Hegeler.

I read and subscribed  
July 29th. 1862. before me,  
W. St. Charles,  
U. S. Comr.

Taken by consent, and to be read  
on the hearing subject to all  
objections save as to the manner  
of taking  
for P. Della Torre  
July 29/62

E. L. Good  
for Plaintiff

408.

U. S. District Court.

The United States.

vs.

W. A. Richardson.

Deposition of  
Henry Hegeley on  
part of claimant.

Filed Dec 15th 1865

W. C. Johnson clk  
U. S. District Court

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United States } No. 488 District Court  
                  } Court of U. S. for  
                  } the Northern Dis-  
William A. Richardson } trict of California

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Samuel R. Throckmorton being duly sworn doth depose and say as follows that he is one of the principal owners of the tract of land called the Allain Ranch named in case in the U. S. Land Commission No 108 heretofore assigned to William A. Richardson & now deceased by the said Land Commission and now pending on appeal in this Court and the deponent further says that he has been absent from the State of California since the 23<sup>rd</sup> of April last until the 12<sup>th</sup> day of November last that during his absence and in the absence of his counsel in the case proceedings have been taken and depositions filed in this case by the District Attorney and the deponent further says that upon his return here upon representation of the facts this honorable Court reopened the case and allowed two weeks time to cross examine witnesses and put in proofs and papers from the Archives and the deponent further says that during

two weeks time so allowed he has diligently tried to have the cross examination made and to have the testimony filed but that he has been unable to get in any way the necessary concurrence of counsel and witness for the purpose

That on Wednesday last and within said two weeks he called repeatedly at the office of B. D. Brooks Esq (the then acting counsel for the Government in this case) without being able to find him and finally went to his office accompanied by Col. A. Sharp Esq and Mr H. C. Hopkins the witness in the case and there waited for him but was unable to find him

That not finding him on that day nor on Friday, the deposition was <sup>afterwards</sup> informed by Col. A. Sharp that Mr Brooks had appointed Tuesday at 3 P. M. to take testimony and cross examine witness in this case

That at 3 o'clock on Tuesday, the time named this deponent in company with Mr <sup>acting as counsel for defendant in this case</sup> Wilkins, and the witness Mr Hopkins were with Mr Brooks, as by appointment, at the office of the Clerk of this Court and there and

then without objection at the time  
by Mr Brooks proceeded to take the testi-  
mony of Mr Hopkins (the Keeper of the  
Archives) respecting a paper from  
the Archives then produced

That after the offer of the paper  
and after it had been read by Mr  
Brooks he suddenly and utterly refused  
to go on with the testimony examination  
and declared that the time al-  
lowed by the Court had expired and  
although urged by the deponent and  
Mr Williams to allow the testimony to be  
taken refused to do so notwithstanding  
the time of taking said testimony had  
been set by himself for his own  
convenience as then deponent is informed.

Sworn to and subscribed  
before me this 15<sup>th</sup> day  
of Dec. 1865

J. R. Thompson  
J. R. Thompson

In the District Court  
of the United States  
Southern District  
District of California

affidavit of James  
H. Throckmorton

Subscribed and sworn to before me  
this 15th day of Dec 1865  
J. G. Latham  
Notary Public  
San Diego

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In the District Court of the United States,  
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA.

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The United States,

IN LAND CASES.

*Wm. Richardson*  
vs.  
*Wm. C. Hopkins*

Dist. Court, No. ....

Land Com., No. ....

BE IT REMEMBERED, that on this *Wednesday* day of *the 21st* of *September*  
A. D. 186*5*, at *San Francisco* in the District aforesaid, before me  
*Samuel Peck*  
DANIEL T. SULLIVAN, a Commissioner duly appointed by the Circuit Court of the  
United States for the Districts of California to take acknowledgments of bail and affidavits,  
and also to take depositions of witnesses, in civil causes depending in the Courts of the  
United States, pursuant to the Acts of Congress in that behalf, personally appeared  
*W. C. Hopkins* a witness produced in behalf of  
*Claimant* in the above entitled cause, now  
pending in said Court under the Acts of Congress to ascertain and settle the private land  
claims in the State of California, who, being duly sworn, testified as follows :

PRESENT: *Messrs. Sharp and Hopkins attys for*  
*Claimant and D. S. Probst for the United*  
*States*

QUESTIONS IN BEHALF OF THE

Question 1st,

*Please look at a document now shown*  
*you purporting to be a receipt of Gentle*  
*Richardson dated San Francisco Nov. 12, 1844,*  
*and state in whose handwriting the body of said*  
*document and the signature thereto are in*  
*Examination atty to 2. o'clk P. M. 21<sup>st</sup>*  
*" " " " " 22<sup>nd</sup>*  
*" " " " " 23<sup>rd</sup>*

~~handwriting the body of said document  
and the signatures thereto are in~~

Dec 23<sup>rd</sup> 1845, Examination continued  
Ans. In that of Gailo Richardson  
~~the claimant in this case - Captain~~  
of the Port of San Francisco for many  
years under the Mexican Government

Ques. 2. Please state whether the  
document <sup>marked</sup> "R. C. H." now filed  
with the <sup>and hereto annexed</sup> Commissioner is a correct  
Copy <sup>and translation</sup> of ~~said~~ the document mentioned  
in the first Interrogatory

Ans. It is -

Ques. 3. Please state <sup>from</sup> whose custody  
the document mentioned in the  
first Interrogatory comes

Ans. From that of the Surveyor  
General of the United States.

~~Ques. 4. In what capacity has said  
Surveyor General had custody of  
said document~~

~~Ans. He has custody of the  
Spanish Archives~~

Ques. 4. State how the document



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has come in the possession and custody  
of the Surveyor General

Sas. The Archives belonging to the  
former Spanish & Mexican Governments  
of California were placed in charge  
of the U.S. Surveyor General of California  
either by Act of Congress or by order  
of the Department at Washington

The document referred to was in the  
office of the Surveyor General as early  
as the year 1853, I know this to be  
the fact because I find it entered  
upon an Index made by a Clerk in  
the office during that year, and  
on the upper left hand corner of  
this document is found the  
number 21 in figures in the  
handwriting of the man who made  
the Index his name Jose Camora  
He died in 1854 about

Ques. How and under what  
circumstances the existence of this  
paper first became known to you

Sas. I think I first saw this document  
in 1857 or 1858. I was making searches  
in company with <sup>in reference to the</sup> ~~W. H. H. H.~~ <sup>of San Francisco</sup> ~~H. H. H.~~  
I first came across this ~~part~~  
document

Ques. 6. State in what form  
said document is indexed  
in the index made by  
said Camera as above  
mentioned

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Ans. Thus. Richardson & <sup>ma</sup>  
" Ferrero en Costa N. N. o No.  
" 1844. 21. "

Ques. 7. Was said document  
always remained in said  
Archives since you first knew of it

Ans. It had

Ques. 8. Please state in what manner  
the existence of this document  
came to the knowledge of the present  
claimant in this case

Ans. Question objected to  
because it is not shown that  
the witness has any knowledge  
of the subject of the question -  
Ques. It is immaterial -

Ans. My recollection is that I  
called the attention of Mr.  
Sheackmorton to the existence  
of this document some ten

Yours ago.

## Cross Examination

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Ques. 1. How is the document  
Classed in the Index Referred  
to.

Ans. ~~It~~ It is entered upon what  
is called a Supplemental Catalogue  
of General documents relative to Land  
Claims - This Catalogue is classed  
A - Expedientes - B. Draft of  
decrees relative to Grants, C. Platters  
or draft of titles and applications  
D. Letters and loose papers relative  
to Grants, E. Maps relative to Grants  
And then without any Letter.  
Papers relative to sales and lease  
of missions.

The document referred  
is found in Class D. Letters and  
loose papers relative to Grants.

Ques 2. Have you any means of  
Showing knowing or is there any  
thing to indicate, that said paper  
was in the Archives at any  
earlier date, and if so, how  
early.

Ans. There is nothing save

Date of the  
 the document itself - as in  
 other words it is not referred  
 to by any other document  
 in the Archives. The earliest  
 reference is made in the  
 Index 1852 or 1853.

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Ques 3. Is there anything in  
 the Archives that you have seen  
 indicating that Richardson had  
 any claim against the Government  
 at the date of that document.

Ans. Not that I remember of  
 Ques. 4. Is there anything in the  
 Archives intimating that the  
 Government at that date had  
 a claim against Richardson

Ans. ~~From~~ Question objected  
 to, <sup>by Clayton</sup> unless some document  
 from the Archives is  
 brought for the purpose  
 of being identified and  
 proved in answer to the  
 Question -

Ans. There is in the Archives  
 a paper bearing date

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same time previous to this receipt, in which some charges are made against Richardson, but I don't remember the nature of the charges - nor do I remember by whom they were made.

Ques. 5. What Salary was Richardson entitled to - how long did he serve and in what office - and did he receive any other Grant in consideration of such services.

Ans I don't remember the Salary he received - he was quite a number of years Captain of the Port San Francisco - don't remember date of appointment nor the precise date he ceased to Act as such officer - He got a grant to Rancho Sausalito - and to some lots in San Francisco, but I don't recollect they were given in consideration

of his services as Capt. of the  
Port

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Ques. 6. Is there anything in  
the archives tending to show  
whether he was entitled to any  
Salary from the Government  
or whether he collected fees from  
private persons

Ans. I presume there is but  
I don't remember - can't call  
to my mind ~~without seeing~~  
that I have seen it

Ques. 7. Is there anything about  
this document either in the paper  
or the writing or Ink from which  
you can form an opinion  
as to whether or not it was  
made at the time it bears  
date

Examination adjourned  
to two o'clock Wednesday  
next.

Wednesday - Dec 27<sup>1865</sup>  
Cross Examination Resumed

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Ans - I have never examined to see whether there be any paper in the Archives similar to this - that is having the same water mark - and the writing on which is about the same date.

Examination adj. to Friday next request of business  
~~Examination adj.~~

Friday Dec. 28<sup>th</sup> Adjourned to Saturday - Brooks present

Saturday Dec 29 Present Mr Brooks and all the clerks  
~~Sharp absent.~~

Ques J. Are you prepared now to answer the last question, if so, please do

Ans. Since the adjournment of this Examination I have made some examination of the Archives but have

not found paper with the same  
water mark as this, I am  
not prepared however to say that  
there is no such paper in  
the Archives as I have not  
had sufficient time to ascer-  
tain that fact.

Ques. 9. Did you compare the  
signature of this document  
with other signatures of Mr  
Richardson and if so, with  
what result

Ans. It sometimes writes Guillo  
Auto. and this is the only  
material difference that I  
see between this signature and  
the other signatures of Richardson  
as found in the Archives

Ques. 10. Have you compared  
the Ink of this document with  
other Ink used in 1844 in  
California

Ans. I have made some slight  
comparison with the writing  
of 1844 and the Expediente  
of the case. The Ink with  
which this receipt is written is black  
but there are many documents



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written in ~~1844~~ with Ink  
as black as this is. The  
Ink of this receipt is  
blacker than the ink with  
which the Expediente is written  
and to my eye has something  
of a fresher appearance,  
however it is too long since  
it was written for me to  
form any just idea of its  
age from the color of the  
~~ink~~; in other words,  
whether it was written  
9 years before 1852 or 3  
or in ~~1844~~, 1853 -

James Baird Subscribed  
before me this 29<sup>th</sup> day  
of December AD 1865

John Neal R. C. Higgins,  
W. H. & C.

Recien del Sr Com. G. O.  
Don Manuel Michetoma un titulo  
de terrenos de diez leguas de latitud,  
y dos de longitud en la Costa  
del N. O. en pago de mis servi-  
cios en el empleo de Capitan de  
este Puerto, por lo cual renuncio  
toda reclamacion contra la Hacienda  
Publica. Esta es la gta.

San Francisco Apr. 12

12 de 1844

Guill.° Reclardon.

(Translation)

Received of the Senior Comandante  
General Don Manuel Michetoma,  
a title to a tract of land, ten leagues  
in <sup>latitude</sup> ~~length~~ and two leagues in <sup>longitude</sup> ~~width~~  
On the North West Coast in  
payment for my services as Captain  
of this Port in consideration of which  
I renounce all claims against  
the Public Treasury as of this  
present date.

San Francisco Apr. 12

1844 -

William Reclardon  
WR

R. C. H.

No 408

Dist Court U.S.  
Nor: Dist Court

The United States  
of  
Wm A. Richardson

Deposition of  
R. C. Hopkins  
for Claimants

Filed Feb 15<sup>th</sup> 1866  
Geo. C. Johnson  
By Deuel Tullivan  
deputy

July

7.60

In the District Court of the United States in and for the Northern District of California

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The United States }  
vs } Case No.  
Wm. A. Richardson }

County of San Francisco, ss:

John W. Dwinelle, being duly sworn, deposes and says;

I am a Counsellor of this court, practising my profession in the City of San Francisco, California.

I was lately the law partner of E. L. Gould, Esq, a counsellor of this court, and one of the counsel for the said defendant in the above entitled cause, or proceeding.

Mr. Gould left San Francisco in June last, expecting to be absent in the Eastern States only a few weeks. He has been absent there ever since, and is there now.

This case has been pushed forward in the absence of Mr. Gould, and against him, with great vigor. He represents some persons in the same who are non-residents of the State of California, As his recent law partner, I have endeavored, so

far as in my power lay, to protect the interests of his client. I have caused the same to be communicated to him, by telegraph and otherwise, the conditions and exigencies of the case. In consequence, he has lately telegraphed to me to represent him in the case, and I have determined to do so.

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I find the case one of great difficulty, and of apparent complexity, and yet one which I believe to be meritorious on the part of the said defendant and claimant. I believe that justice cannot be done to the case, or to Mr. Gould as a counsellor of this court, and as counsel for an interest represented on the record by the said defendant without preparing and filing a printed brief, and this without reference to what may be done, submitted or prepared by other counsel representing, or claiming to represent the said defendant. But I cannot prepare and submit such a brief in less than a month from the 17<sup>th</sup> inst, at which time, I am informed, the case is set for argument. I cannot be in court, prepared for argument on that day, having other professional matters requiring my presence at San Leandro, Alameda county, resulting from previous business engagements, which must be attended to at

that time. I deem it of the greatest consequence to Mr. Gould's clients, & him as a counsellor of this court, and to the administration of justice, that his clients shall not, in any event, appear to be neglected or abandoned by their counsel in this court in this proceeding, by reason of his absence or by any result thereof. It is solely in this character, as his counsel substitute, that I ask this Honorable Court for leave to file printed brief for the defendant and claimant within 30 days from Feb 17. 1866, and I am willing that the order to that effect be made peremptory.

Shown before me this

John W. Dwinelle

16<sup>th</sup> Feb. 1866-

Paul Sullivan

U.S. Commr.

Dist: Court U.S.  
Nor: Dist: Cata

of the United States

vs

Thos: A. Richardson  
vs

Affidavit of  
Geo. W. Drucelle

Filed Febry 17<sup>th</sup> 1866

Geo. C. Graham Clk  
By Paul S. Sullivan  
deputy

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The United States

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Wm. A. Richardson

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The claimant in this case asks for the confirmation of his title to a tract of land 20 leagues in length and 2 leagues in breadth lying upon the situated on the Coast to the southward of Cape Mendocino -

In support of his claim he exhibits

1. a document purporting to be signed by Gov Michel Tomena and dated October 30<sup>th</sup> 1844 -

In this paper which seems to be an <sup>official</sup> communication addressed to William A. Richardson the Governor acknowledges the receipt of a letter from Richardson demanding payment for his services as ~~the~~ Captain of the Port of San Francisco. He then informs him that it is impossible to comply with the demand owing to the destitute condition of the Treasury, but that in consideration of his honorable



2. Swiciss As Captain of the  
 Port for seven years and  
 nine months, he concedes  
 to him by way of indemnity  
 the power to select a tract  
 of land of two leagues in  
 breadth and ten leagues in  
 length in the desert of the  
 coast north westerly course  
 from the Presidio Ross which  
 the Russians formerly occupied  
 and not to go beyond 40° of  
 north latitude - "And if it  
 should suit you, you can take  
 possession and occupation  
 of these lands from this date  
 which I grant in the name  
 of the Mexican nation and  
 in the exercise of the powers  
 vested in me by the supreme  
 Government under the conditions  
 that you protect the heathen  
 Indians" ~~to~~ xxxxxxxxxx  
 "I finally you will give notice  
 to the Government of the place  
 you have selected and finish  
 the respective duties."

is an unofficial

2. Letter from Micheltoneva  
 dated Oct 28<sup>th</sup> 1844 to  
 Wm A Richardson informing <sup>him</sup>  
 that these ~~documents~~ being so

3

funds for his payment de  
the Governor) sends him a  
title for a tract of land  
ten leagues long and two  
wide with which he hopes  
he will be satisfied and  
in consideration of which  
he is to renounce all

3

claims against the Treasury  
The envelope in which <sup>containing or also produced</sup> this letter was  
there is also produced from  
the archives an Expediente  
The first document in this  
Expediente is a petition by  
Richardson to Gov Pio Pico  
dated May 25 1846 —

In this petition Richardson <sup>states</sup>  
that the Commanding General  
Don Manuel Micheltorena  
having ordered me to select  
a tract on the coast, and  
having complied with the  
conditions, I remit <sup>to you</sup> by  
cellency the respective sketch

On the margin of this petition  
is an order of reference to  
the Justice of the Pueblo of  
San Rafael —  
The report of Ignacio Pacheco  
follows — and  
to this <sup>is</sup> added a copy

4

The official letter of Michel Torrens to Richardson this copy is attested by Ignacio Pacheco, Gregorio Pinones and J. Felix -

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There is also produced from the archives a document signed by Richardson and dated November 12. 1844 in which he acknowledges the receipt of a title to a tract of land ten leagues in length and two leagues <sup>in breadth</sup> in payment of his services as Captain of this Port in consideration of which he renounces all claim against the Public Treasury -

In these documents accompanied by proofs of occupation and cultivation of the land about the date of the alleged grant the claimant wishes for confirmation.

It will be seen that this case bears a striking resemblance to that of Garcia rejected by the Supreme Court (22 Nov. 22) and perhaps might be rejected on the authority of that decision

5 There are however some points  
on which ~~they~~ <sup>the cases</sup> differ -  
The permission obtained by Gar-  
cia was merely a license to  
search for a tract of land  
as a recompense for his services  
with leave to occupy it  
"while the usual procedure  
is being prosecuted" -

Garcia selected the land  
and subsequently applied  
~~for a grant to Rio Rico~~ <sup>for a grant</sup>  
This application was referred  
to the Alcalde who reported  
favorably but no grant was  
issued -

The official letter of Michel-  
Tomena to Richardson con-  
tains not merely a permission  
to select land but words  
of grant for the land selected  
and prescribes the limits  
within which the land must  
be taken - It makes no  
mention of further proceedings  
to complete the title, it  
merely requires Richardson  
to notify the Government  
of the place he shall se-  
lect & to furnish the usual  
diseno -

The subsequent <sup>communication</sup> petitions of Richardson to Po Rico does not solicit a grant. It merely informs the Governor what place he has selected in obedience to Michelborna's order —

It is unnecessary however to consider whether these differences are sufficient to distinguish this case from that of Lucia for I think it established beyond all reasonable doubt that nearly every document in the case is either a forgery or fraudulently antedated.

The official letter of Michelborna ~~on~~ <sup>from</sup> which the whole title depends is evidently not signed by him. The genuineness of the signature is sworn to, by Arce, José Abrego, and the notorious José Y. Simauton — The former together with Richardson were the chief witnesses in the Simauton case the fraudulent character of which was so fully exposed in this Court. The genuineness of the signature of Michelborna is doubted

7  
by David Spence and Don  
Pablo de la Guerra, and it  
is declared not genuine by  
Mr Hopkins the keeper of  
the Archives whose opinion  
on such a ~~sub~~ question is  
perhaps of more value than  
that of any other person —  
The ~~see~~ private letter of  
Mcheltoarena to Richardson  
transmitting the tube is in  
the ~~Garcia~~ handwriting  
of the former, but ~~is not~~  
on the envelope of this letter  
and also on the ~~envelope~~ tube  
is the impression of the seal  
of the Department which  
is evidently not that of the  
true seal —

The difference between this im-  
pression and that of the  
genuine seal is obvious on  
inspection —

The Archives contain several  
hundred impressions of the  
letter extending over a period  
of from 6 to 8 years —

Impressions similar to those  
on the documents in this case  
are found in the Garcia  
case alone —

8 Mr Hopkins says "I am ac-  
quainted with the handwriting  
of Gov. Michel Tomena during the  
time he was Governor and  
with his handwriting as found  
upon documents supposed to  
be made by Michel Tomena  
after he left California in 1845  
and also his handwriting in  
official documents of undoubted  
authenticity which exist in the  
Archives in my charge. - From  
this knowledge thus acquired  
I am of opinion that the docu-  
ments referred to were written  
at some date subsequent to  
that which they bear  
the handwriting of the docu-  
ments referred to, the signature  
of Michel Tomena and the ink  
in which said documents  
were written very much re-  
semble the handwriting signa-  
tures and ink of the documents  
on which is found the "Siman-  
tour" seal and which were  
filed in the claim of Simantour  
for lands in the city of San  
Francisco and also of documents  
on which is found a Spanish  
Custom House seal very much  
resembling the Simantour seal

9  
" which documents were filed  
" in cases nos 788, 789. before  
" the Board of Land Commissioners  
" being certificates signed by  
" Michel Torrea, dated 18 Decem  
" br 1844 & 24<sup>th</sup> Decemr 1844  
" The seals on the 2 certificates  
" referred to, while they may close  
" ly resemble the Simantou seal  
" are manifestly different from  
" the genuine Custom House seal  
" and if they are not the same  
" as the ~~the~~ Simantou seal  
" they are unlike any others found  
" in the Archives.

" I think these documents  
" were written after Michel Torrea  
" left this Country in 1845 and  
" at or about the same time  
" as the documents in the Si  
" mantou case and the outf  
" lets referred to."

# W<sup>m</sup> Hopkins in reply to a  
" further <sup>inquiries</sup> adds "For many years  
" I have been conversant with  
" the Spanish tongue and for  
" the last ten years I have  
" had charge of the Spanish  
" Archives in <sup>the</sup> office of the U.S.  
" Surveyor General, during which  
" time I have constantly had  
" occasion to examine hand



10  
4 writings and signatures and  
4 in this way I have perhaps  
4 acquired considerable expert  
4 ness as a Judge of hand  
4 writings especially handwritings  
4 of Spaniards and Hispano-  
4 Americans—

It is almost unnecessary to say  
that upon <sup>in</sup> the intelligence, the  
skill and perfect integrity of  
this witness, this Court reposes  
the most entire confidence.

But if any doubt could  
remain as to the fraudulent  
character of the documents pur-  
porting to be signed by Michel  
Tomena it would be dissi-  
pated by the fact that the  
marginal ~~was~~ signature of  
Pico on the marginal note  
of reference of Richardson's  
petition is a clumsy forgery  
This is obvious to any one  
possessing even a slight  
acquaintance with the very  
marked & peculiar signature  
of Don Pro Pico—

It would also seem that  
the signatures of Proues & Tels  
to the certified copy of the title  
are not genuine— They appear

" to be written by the same hand, as is also probably that of Pacheco though the similarity is not so strongly marked— Why these forgeries on a document comparatively <sup>unimportant</sup> were used is not very apparent, especially as the parties were here and have testified to the genuineness of their genuine signatures to any documents could have been obtained as easily as their testimony to the genuineness of the signatures actually affixed to the documents has been procured—

Our convictions of the fraudulent character of these documents are strengthened if it be possible by the fact that the writing attached to the petition of Richard Lou to Rio Pico bears a close resemblance in style and manner of execution to the "Lucia" expediente— Mr Hopkins states that it resembles no other, and that in his opinion both were made by the same person at or about the same time—

12

408 ND  
PAGE 161

Some chance was placed by the claimant on the receipt signed by Mrs Richard son, ~~on which he acknowledged~~ and found in the archives. But there is no proof that this receipt was in the archives before 1852 or 1853, when it was indexed. It is on a loose sheet of paper and could readily have been introduced among those records.

Jose Abrego former Treasurer of the Department does not hesitate to swear that there was due Richardson at the time he left office the sum of \$20,000.

It is sufficient to say that the statement of this witness is wholly unsupported by any evidence derived from the archives. No books or accounts are produced - nor do the records contain any trace of the existence of any indebtedness whatever on the part of the Government to Richardson.

But they do contain evidence that the Government was by no means so well satisfied

13 with his honorable survey  
as the recitals in the alleged  
letter of Michel Torrens ought  
lead us to suppose  
on the 10<sup>th</sup> of July 1843 Manuel  
Castanares, then Chief of the  
Maritime Custom House at  
Monterey calls the attention  
of Gov Michel Torrens to the  
very frequent complaints made  
to this Maritime Custom House  
by its agent residing at the  
Port of San Francisco as reap-  
tor relating to the abuses  
which are commonly contin-  
ually committed by the Captain  
of said Port Mr Richardson  
The revenue has lost some  
sums principally in the du-  
ties of tonnage because said  
functionary going beyond the  
circle of his duty has taken  
away the vessels from the  
known anchorage, carrying  
them to the place del Saucil-  
to where his residence is,  
and not only has he prevented  
the revenue officer from ~~att~~  
ending to his duty but he  
has permitted whaling vessels  
to make great sales to the  
prejudice of the merchants who

14 " pay their legitimate dues -  
" This is a Circular from the  
" Supreme Government directing  
" that where there are no  
" Navy officers the Offices of  
" Captains of the Port will be  
" in charge of Army officers &  
" Against the tenor of this or  
" in the said Richardson  
" was appointed by the Com-  
" mandant General you of  
" Cellucey's immediate prede-  
" cessor -

" In virtue of this I request  
" you, Cellucey to be pleased  
" to issue you superior or-  
" ders to prevent that such a  
" business be continued &  
" secure to the Public Revenue  
" that which justly belongs by  
" Law - Thus -"

God & Liberty

Monday Aug 10. 1843

Mmanuel Castañeda

In compliance it would seem  
with these suggestions the  
Captains of the Ports of Santa Bar-  
bara & of San Francisco were  
removed on the 15<sup>th</sup> March  
1843 and Military officers  
substituted

~~This correspondence is printed~~

The correspondence printed in the name of Achive exhibits composing part of the record in the Simons case - The documents are not put in evidence in this case but under the intimations of the Supreme Court I have felt at liberty to refer to them as Achive records of undoubted authenticity - If the case should be appealed it is hoped that the Supreme Court will insist that this Court has the Judge is at liberty to avail himself of the fruits of his own knowledge of the public records of official documents of the former Government.

15 It is difficult to believe that a little more than a year after wards Gov. Michel Comens gave to Richardson 20 square leagues of land "in consideration of his good deportment and honorable services as Captain of the Port of San Francisco. X

Entirely no doubt as to the fraudulent character of this claim I have not thought it necessary to inquire how far the objection that the Governor had no power to make ~~it~~ <sup>the grant</sup> would induce the decision of the Supreme Court in the case of the U.S. vs Pallyo ~~See~~ <sup>See</sup> 11 Blacks Rep. 558) be a palatable <sup>an</sup> insuperable obstacle to its confirmation - My opinion is that the claim should be rejected

May 11. 1846

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PAGE 164

408

U. S. Dist. Court

Nor. Dist. Cal.

The United States

- vs -

Wm. A. Richardson

Opinion Judge Hoffman  
Rejecting Claim

Filed May 8<sup>th</sup> 1866  
Geo. C. Gorham Clk  
By Paul Sullivan  
deputy

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 the eight day of May in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-five

Present;

The Honorable OGDEN HOFFMAN, District Judge.

The United States

v.

William A. Richardson

Trust Deed

*This cause came on to be heard upon the transcript of the proceedings of the Board of Commissioners for the settlement of private land claims in the State of California duly transmitted to this court and on file herein and upon the pleadings and proofs filed and taken in this court and after hearing the District Attorney and B. S. Brooks Esq on the part of the United States and S. A. Sharp Esq and John W. Donnell Esq on behalf of the claimant and due deliberation having been thereupon had and it appearing to the court that the claim of the aforesaid claimant is unsupported in law and fact. That the documentary evidence presented in support of said claim is false and fabricated It is therefore ordered adjudged and decreed that the said claim is false fraudulent*



NO 408

United States District Court,

Northern District of California.

The United States

v.  
Wm. A. Richardson

Claim of  
Patent

Filed v. Sub. Process. 1866

Geo. B. Gordon

Clerk.  
D. Dan. Sullivan  
deputy

408 ND

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and not entitled to confirmation. It is  
further ordered that the decision entered by  
the said Board of Commissioners concerning  
the said claim be and the same hereby  
is revised annulled and set aside  
and that the said claim be and  
the same hereby is rejected

John Hoffman

Dist Judge

The United States }  
vs }  
Wm. Richardson } 408  
Claiming the  
Albion Ranch

Esquire

On motion of G. L. Gould  
counsel for the claimant  
and upon his suggestion  
that the appeal heretofore  
granted has been dis-  
missed by the supreme  
court by reason of the  
claimant's omission to file  
the transcript in due  
season, and it appearing  
from an inspection of the  
decrees that the time  
for appealing has not  
elapsed it is ordered by  
the court that the  
claimant be allowed an  
appeal from the above  
final decree herein  
undisturbed.

408  
U.S. District Court  
The United States

vs  
William A. Richardson

Order allowing appeal

Filed October 27th 1869

Geo Whitney Clk

By J. D. Sprinwood  
J. D. Sprinwood

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, ss.

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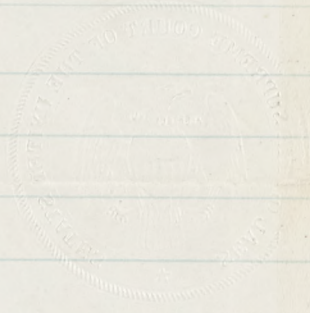
THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

To the Honorable the Judges of the District Court  
of the United States for the District  
of California



GREETING:

Whereas, lately, in the District Court of the United States for the  
District of California, before you,  
in a cause between William A. Richardson, appellant,  
and The United States Appellees (Land case  
No 408, N. D. Land Commission No 103. For  
lands in Mendocino Co.) wherein the decree  
of the said District Court entered in said  
cause, on the 3<sup>rd</sup> day of December, 1854,  
was in favor of the said Appellees The United  
States, and against the said appellant,  
William A. Richardson whereupon the  
said Appellant prayed an appeal to the  
Supreme Court of the United States.



as by the inspection of the ~~transcript of the record~~ *Certificate of the clerk of*  
*the said District Court, under the seal of the said* \_\_\_\_\_  
*Court, which was brought into the Supreme Court of the United States by virtue of* \_\_\_\_\_

*agreeably to the act of Congress, and the rules of the said*  
*Supreme Court* \_\_\_\_\_ *in such case made and provided, fully and at large appears*

And whereas, in the present term of *December*, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and *Eighty eight*, the said cause came on to be heard before the said Supreme Court, ~~on~~ ~~the said transcript of the record, and was argued by counsel.~~ On consideration whereof, And it appearing that the said Appellant has failed to have his cause filed and docketed in conformity to the rules of this court, it is now here ordered adjudged and decreed by this court that this appeal from the District Court of the United States for the District of California be and the same is hereby docketed and dismissed. And it is further ordered that this cause be, and the same is hereby remanded to the District Court of the United States for the District of California.

22<sup>nd</sup> October 1869.

You, therefore, are hereby commanded that such \_\_\_\_\_ proceedings be had  
in said cause,

as according to right and justice, and the laws of the United States, ought to be had, the said  
appeal notwithstanding:

Witness, the Honorable Salmon P. Chase, Chief Justice of said Supreme  
Court, the first Monday of December, in the year of our Lord one  
thousand eight hundred and Sixty-eight.

COSTS OF—

Clerk . . . \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Attorney . . . \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

Taxied by *Geo. Middleton*

Clerk of the Supreme Court of the United States.

*No. 408*

No. 510, December Term, 1868.

MANDATE

SUPREME COURT UNITED STATES.

*Richardson vs. Will*

Filed by order of Court on  
motion of L. D. Johnson Esq.  
U. Attorney, this 29th day  
of August 1868.

*Geo. W. B. Clerk*  
*By Wm. Woodward*  
*Att. Gen.*

In the District Court of the United States  
in & for the District of California

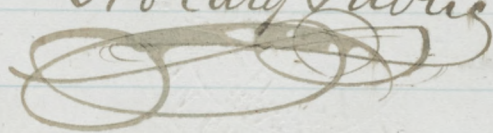
408 ND  
PAGE 174

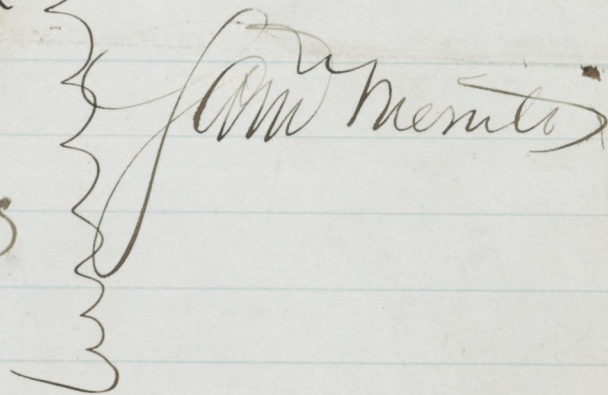
William A Richardson }  
vs }  
The United States } 3

State of California }  
City & County of San Francisco } S.  
Samuel

Merritt being duly sworn doth depose  
and say, that he is a citizen of the  
United States & of the State of California, and  
that he is the owner and claimant of  
an undivided interest in & to that certain  
tract or parcel of land, known as the  
Rancho "Albion", the title of which  
is involved in this cause -

Sworn & subscribed to }  
before me this 10<sup>th</sup> day }  
of November AD 1871 }

J. D. Hibant  
Notary Public  






District Court of the United States  
for the District of California

408 ND  
PAGE 175

William A. Richardson  
vs  
The United States

(Claiming Ravelo Albion)

Marin County - S.

Thos. H. Hanson being  
duly sworn says that I am an  
Attorney and Counselor at Law.  
I have resided in the County of  
Marin since the year 1854. I  
knew the late William A. Richardson  
in his life time I knew him well  
he is dead he died in 1855  
or 1856 the month I do not re-  
member - he was buried at Sausalito  
the place of his residence in this  
County - His estate was administered  
upon in the Probate Court of this County  
and the proceedings therein are  
not yet closed -

Thos. H. Hanson  
Subscribed & sworn  
before me this 2<sup>nd</sup>  
day of Nov. 1871

J. D. Doub

Deputy County Clerk

U.S. District Court

William A. Richardson

vs  
The United States

On Appeal from decision  
of Board of Land Commissioners

---

Take notice that on Tuesday  
next March 19<sup>th</sup> instant at  
the opening of the Court I shall  
move to vacate and set aside  
the judgment and decree rendered  
in this cause and entered on  
the 16<sup>th</sup> day of June 1866, on the  
ground that the suit or action  
had abated before the same was  
tried and said decree rendered  
by the death of the claimant  
William A. Richardson and  
that said motion will be founded  
on the papers on file in said cause  
and on affidavits with copies  
whereof you are herewith served

March 13. 1872  
L. D. Latimer Esq  
atty

Wm + J. A. Stanley  
Bellevue  
atly for Sam Merrill

U.S. Dist Court

William W. Richardson

vs

The United States

affidavit of jurisdiction

to ratify and decul

Filed March 23rd 1872

Edw. P. Potter Clerk

Thos. H. Minwood

Pro. Secy. Dist.

408 ND  
PAGE 177

Stanley &

the motion

Service of writthin ad-  
mitted this 13<sup>th</sup> day  
of march 1872

L. D. Latimer  
U.S. Atty

*District* Court of the United States.  
*San Francisco*  
District of California.

The United States of America,

VS.

*William A. Richardson*

*The notice to vacate the decree is*  
Take notice that <sup>hearing</sup> this cause will be brought on for ~~trial~~ at the Court Room  
of said Court, in the City and County of San Francisco, on the 4<sup>th</sup>  
day of October 1872. at the opening of the Court on that day, or so  
soon thereafter as Counsel can be heard.

San Francisco, Oct. 1. 1872.

Yours, Etc.

LORENZO D. LATIMER,

*U. S. Attorney,*

To *Delos Lake Esq*

Attorneys for *Deveraux*

U.S. District Court  
District of California

William A. Richardson  
The United States

District of California, San Francisco

Daniel J. Noonan being duly sworn  
saw that on the 3<sup>rd</sup> day of October instant  
he served a notice of return on the return as a  
copy upon Peter Lake by leaving the  
same with a clerk in charge of his office  
during business hours the said Lake being  
absent therefrom

made reference to the  
4<sup>th</sup> day of October A.D. 1872

Daniel J. Noonan

A. D. Greenwood  
U.S. Commissioner  
Dist. of Cal.

Copy  
and Case No. 408 N.D.

United States District Court,  
DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA.

THE UNITED STATES  
OF AMERICA,  
vs.

William A. Richardson

Notice of  
408 ND  
PAGE 179 187

LORENZO D. LATIMER,  
U.S. ATTORNEY.

Due and timely service of a notice of  
which the within is a copy is hereby  
admitted, dated the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of  
October A.D. 1872.

Attorney for Plaintiff

Filed this 4<sup>th</sup> day of October 1872  
Edward P. Collier  
Clerk.

A. D. Greenwood  
Deputy Clerk.

U.S. District Court, Dist of California

William A Richardson

The United States

Claim for two halves by  
ten halves of land in  
Mendocino County -

You will please take notice  
that the notice heretofore served on  
you of a motion to vacate and  
set aside the decree in this cause  
is hereby countermanded and  
withdrawn

Act 4/18/72 Muse

To S D Latimer Esq  
Watty

Delos Lake  
Atty for Merritt &  
other Claimants

Saved Case 408 U.D.

U.S. District Court

Dist of Cal

The United States

vs

William A. Richardson

Withdrawal of notice of  
Motion to set aside decree

408 ND  
PAGE 181

Sever admitted

Oct 4. 1872.

L. D. Latimer

u. s. atty

By W. W. Murray

Filed October 4<sup>th</sup> 1872

Edw B. Cotter Clerk

By H. W. Primwood  
Deputy Clerk

United States of America, ss.

408 ND  
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The President of the United States of America,

To the Honorable the Judges of the District Court  
of the United States for the \_\_\_\_\_ District  
of California  
greeting:

Whereas, lately, in the District Court of the United States for the  
District of California, before you,  
in a cause between The United States complainants,  
and William A. Richardson, defendant  
wherein the decree of the said District Court  
entered in said cause was in favor of  
the said complainants, and against the  
said defendant William A. Richardson  
Whereupon the said defendant prayed  
an appeal to the Supreme Court of the  
United States,



as by the inspection of the transcript of the record ~~certificate~~ of the Clerks of the  
said District Court, under the seal of the said District  
Court, which was brought into the Supreme Court of the United States by virtue of \_\_\_\_\_

agreeably to the act of Congress, and the rules of the said  
Supreme Court in such case made and provided, fully and at large appears

And whereas, in the present term of December, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and seventy-one, the said cause came on to be heard before the said Supreme Court, on the said transcript of the record, and was argued by counsel: On consideration whereof, and it appearing that said appellant has failed to have his cause filed and docketed, in conformity to the rules of this Court, it is now here ordered, adjudged and decreed by this Court, that this appeal from the District Court of the United States for the District of California be, and the same is hereby docketed and dismissed.

And it is further ordered that this cause be, and the same is hereby remanded to the said District Court.  
22<sup>nd</sup> November 1872.

You, therefore, are hereby commanded that such \_\_\_\_\_ proceedings be had in said cause,

as according to right and justice, and the laws of the United States, ought to be had, the said *appeal* notwithstanding.

Witness, the Honorable *Samuel Chase*, Chief Justice of said Supreme Court, the first Monday of December, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and seventy-*one*.

COSTS OF—

Clerk . . . . \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Attorney . . . \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
\$ \_\_\_\_\_

Taxed by

*Geo. Middleton*

Clerk of the Supreme Court of the United States.

408 ND

No. 752, December Term, 1871

MANDATE

SUPREME COURT UNITED STATES.

*Richardson*

*W. J.*

Filed in Open Court this  
first day of January A.D.  
1873. on motion of W. W.  
Morrow Esq. & A. J. Mathy  
Esq. of Cal.

*Geo. W. Carter* Clerk

*Joseph H. Grinnard*

408 ND  
*Joseph Clerk*

Judicial Court of the United States  
For the District of California

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PAGE 186

William A Richardson

<sup>vs</sup>  
The United States

An appeal from decision  
of Board of Land Commissioners

Take notice that  
on Wednesday next the 22<sup>d</sup>  
instant at the opening of Court I  
shall move to vacate and set aside  
the judgment and decree rendered  
in this cause and entered on the  
16<sup>th</sup> day of June A.D. 1866 on the  
ground that the said action had  
abated before the same was tried  
and said decree rendered, by the  
death of the claimant William  
A Richardson, and that said  
motion will be founded on the  
affidavit of Samuel Merritt &  
Nemas H. Hanson in pluri  
said action, and the other  
papers & proceedings on file & had

in violation

Dated Jan 7, 17, 1873 Yours very

J. A. Rauty  
Bellevue Lake

Atty for said murder  
to L. J. Latimer  
U. S. Dist. Atty

408. NA.

U. S. Dist. Court

Wm A. Richardson

4

The United States

408 ND  
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Sum of moneys  
of such value  
as a copy of moneys  
dated 17 Jan 7, 1873

J. D. Latimer  
U. S. Attorney  
By W. J. Munn

Filed January 22nd AD  
1873. Edw. R. Potter Clerk

Wm. H. Greenwood  
Deputy Clerk

At a stated term of the District Court of the United States  
of America, for the District of California, held at  
the Court Room, in the City of San Francisco, on  
Monday the seventeenth day of  
March in the year of our Lord, one  
thousand eight hundred and seventy three

Present:

The Honorable OGDEN HOFFMAN, Judge.

William A. Richardson

vs

The United States

No.

In this case the motion of J. A. Stanley and Delor Gabe Attorneys for Samuel Merritt to vacate and set aside the judgment and decree rendered in this cause and entered on the 16th June 1866 having been heretofore, to wit, on the 7th day of March a 1873, submitted to the Court for consideration and decision, with leave to counsel for the respective parties to file briefs therein, and said brief having been filed and due consideration having been thereon had, it is by the Court now here ordered, that said motion be and the same is hereby denied.

Ogden Hoffman  
Dist Judge

Land Case

No. 408 ND.

United States District Court,  
DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA.

The United States

- vs -

William A. Richardson

Order denying motion to  
set aside judgment & decree  
of this Court entered June  
16. 1876.

Filed March 17<sup>th</sup> 1873

Edw R Cotten Clerk.

By A D Grimwood Deputy.

408 ND  
PAGE 189

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true and correct copy of an original  
order made and entered in the above entitled action.

Attest my hand and seal of said District Court,  
this day of A.D. 187

By

Deputy Clerk.

Clerk.

In the United States District Court  
District of California

408 ND  
PAGE 190

William A. Richardson }  
v } No. 408  
The United States }

State of California }  
City and County of San Francisco }

Manuel Torres being duly  
sworn deposes and says: I knew the late  
William A. Richardson the Claimant herein -  
He died on the 16<sup>th</sup> day of April A.D. 1856 at  
Sausalito Marin County California, testate  
by his will I was appointed Executor. Said  
Will was admitted to probate in the Probate  
Court of Marin County California on March 16<sup>th</sup>  
1857. I was appointed and duly qualified  
as Executor and as such I have not been  
discharged and I am now Executor of said Will  
subscribed & sworn to  
before me this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of June  
1875

E. A. Sutter }  
Notary Public.



408 ND

United States District Court  
The U. S.  
at

Wm A. Richardson

Affidavit of Manuel  
Jones.

Sidul December 6th ad  
1875.

Edw P. Potter Clerk

Raymond Greenwood  
deputy Clerk.



In United States District Court  
District of California

William A. Richardson  
v  
The United States

vs

Hon. Ogden Hoffman Judge of said Court.

The petition of  
Manuel Torres Executor of the estate of  
William A. Richardson deceased respect-  
fully shows: That the said William A.  
Richardson who was the Claimant of the lands  
which are described in the petition in this case  
departed this life on the 16<sup>th</sup> day of April a.d.  
1856 testate.

That your petitioner was duly  
appointed and was duly qualified by the Probate  
Court of Marin County California Executor of the  
estate of said Richardson on the 16<sup>th</sup> day  
of March 1857 and that the said estate is not  
yet closed. The petitioner prays that a certified  
copy of his said appointment be annexed  
may be taken as part hereof And that he be

permitted to become ~~the~~ in his capacity of Ex-  
centor aforesaid the party plaintiff herein  
and authorized to prosecute this claim and  
for general relief

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Sharp & Lloyd  
attys for Prisoners

408 N.D

United States District Court  
Dist of Cal.

The United States

vs

Wm. A. Richardson

Section of Manuel Torres  
to be substituted as  
party claimant.

Filed December 6th AD  
1875.

Edw P. Otter Clerk  
Cory M. Greenwood  
Deputy Clerk

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Probate Court. Marin County  
March 16<sup>th</sup> 1857  
Present                      Ai Barney Judge

In the matter of the Estate }  
of }  
William A. Richardson }  
Deceased }

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PAGE 195

Upon reading and filing the petition of Manuel Jarvis that Letters Testamentary may be issued to him as the Executor of the above Estate it is hereby ordered that the prayer of said petition be granted and that Letters be issued to him in due form of law.

State of California }  
County of Marin } ad

J. Valentine D.  
County Clerk & Ex Officio Clerk  
of the Probate Court of the County of Marin  
State of California do hereby certify that  
the above is a correct copy of the original  
order made and entered in Book "B"  
Vol 2<sup>d</sup> of the minutes of the Probate Court  
of said County of Marin - March 16<sup>th</sup> A.D.  
1857 on page 13<sup>d</sup>.

Witness my hand and seal of said Court  
this 15<sup>th</sup> day of September A.D. 1873

Val. D. Clark - Clerk  
By Geo. W. Davis. D.C.

408 ND  
United States District Court  
District of Cal<sup>a</sup>

The United States  
vs

Wm. A. Richardson

Certified Copy of letters  
testamentary issued to  
Manuel Torres

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Filed December 6th and  
1895.

Edw P Otter Clark  
By R D Greenwood  
Deputy Clerk

District Court of  
the United States  
in and for the  
District of Cal<sup>a</sup>

William A. Richardson

vs

The United States

Claiming lands in  
Mendocino County



Office of the Board of Commissioners,

To ascertain and settle the Private Land Claims in the State of California

San Francisco, Feby 11<sup>th</sup> 1856

Sir;

I am directed by this Board to 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 the said Board, of the Documentary Evidence and of the Testimony of the witnesses upon which the same is founded, in Case No. 103. on the Docket of this Board, wherein

W<sup>m</sup> A. Richardson is  
the Claimant, for the place known by the name of  
"Land in Mendocino County"

Which Transcript I have the honor to accompany herewith, and request your receipt for the same.

I am, Respectfully,

Your Obedt Servant,

Geo. Fisher

To the Hon. J. A. Monroe Esq.

Attorney General of the United States,

Washington, D. C.

Clerk of the U. S. Dist. Court for  
the Northern Dist. of Cal.