

CASE NO.

22

NORTHERN DISTRICT

SANEL GRANT

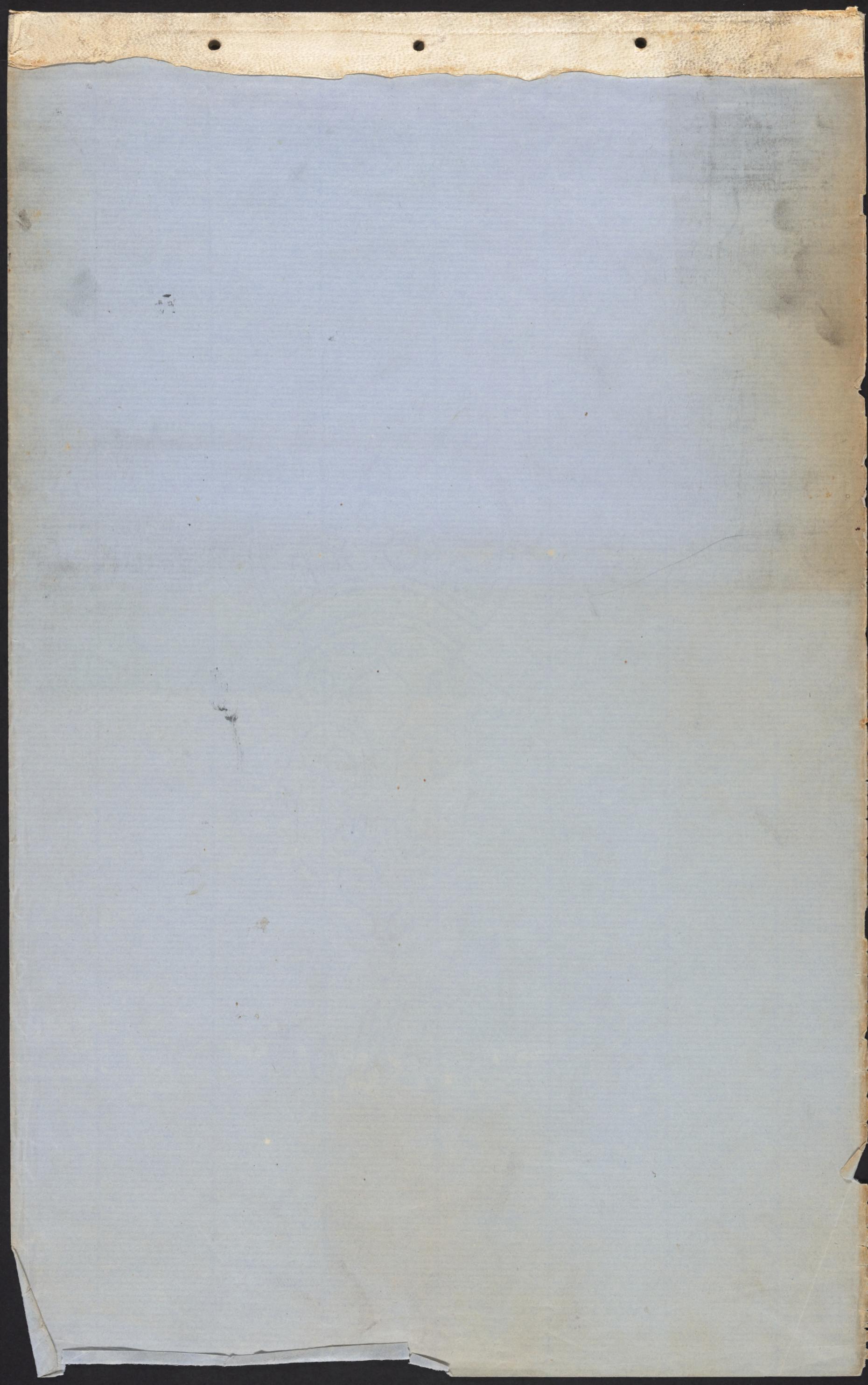
FERNANDO FELIZ

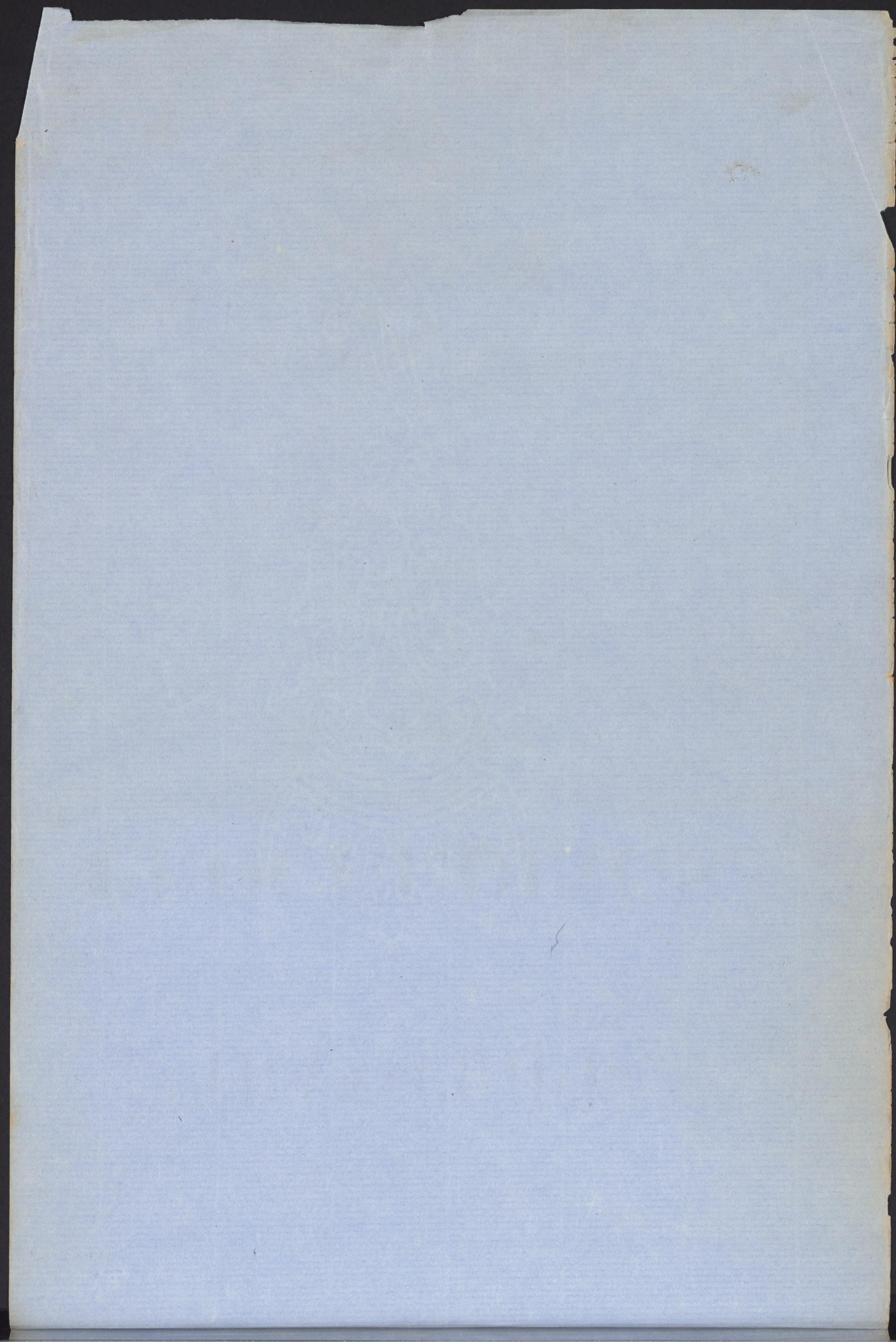
CLAIMANT

Plover Bond

25% COTTON FIBER

U.S.A.





TRANSCRIPT

CASE No 22 ND

PAGE NO. 1

OF THE

PROCEEDINGS

IN CASE

NO.

300

Fernando Feliz

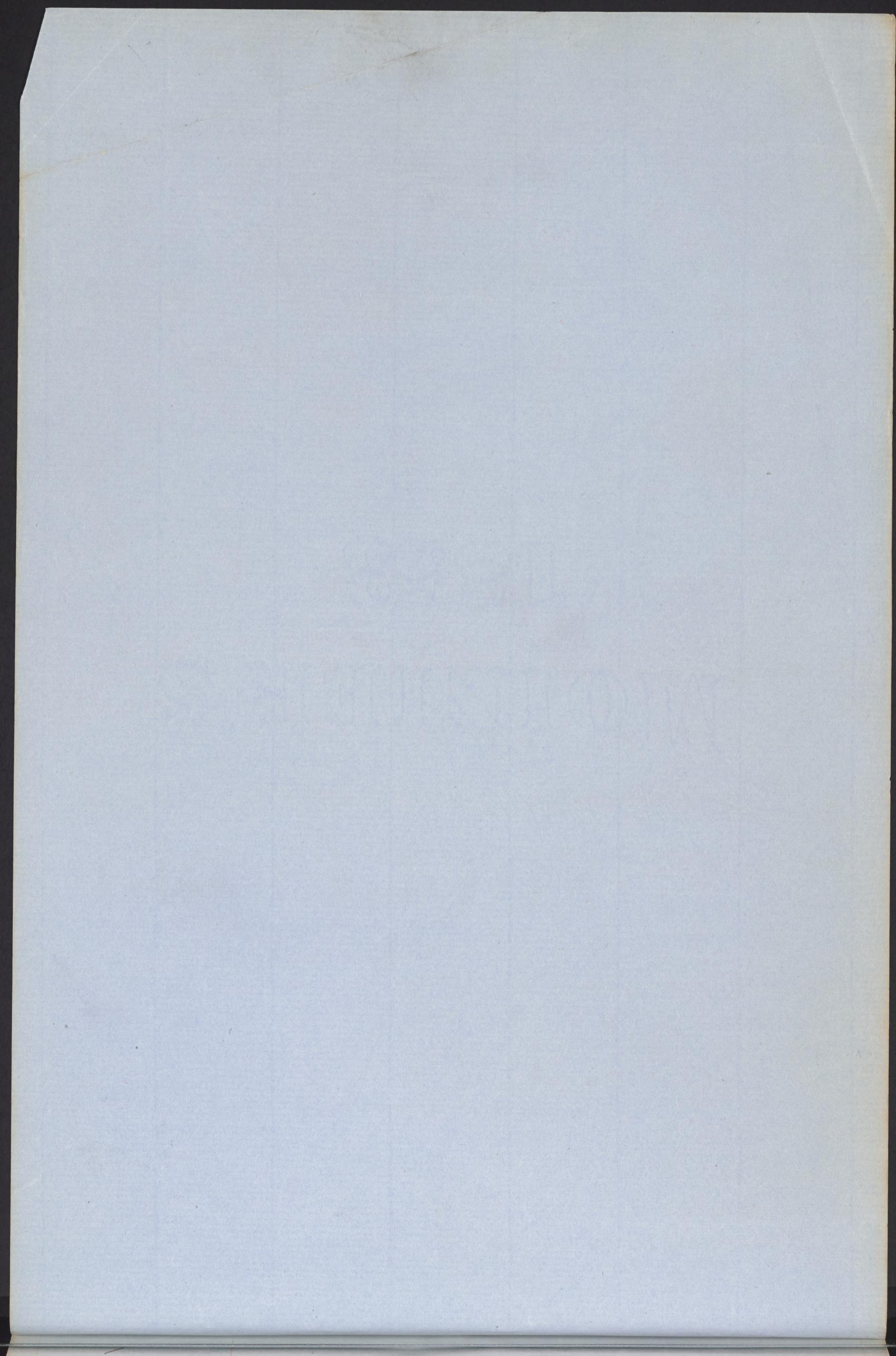
CLAIMANT

VS.

THE UNITED STATES, DEFENDANT,

FOR THE PLACE NAMED

"Camel"



Office of the Board of Commissioners,

To ascertain and settle the Private Land Claims

IN THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA.

CASE NO. 22 ND

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Be it Remembered, that on this *fourteenth day of August*, 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 *Fernando Felix* for the Place named "*Sanel*," was presented, and ordered to be filed and docketed with No. *300* and is as follows, to wit;

(Vide page *3* of this Transcript.)

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

San Francisco December 23rd 1852.
In case no. *300*, *Fernando Felix* for the place named "*Sanel*," the deposition of *Ignacio Pacheco*, a witness in behalf of the claimant, taken before Commissioner *Harry J. Thornton*, was filed;

(Vide page *4* of this Transcript)

In the same case the deposition of *Manuel Jones*, a witness in behalf of the claimant, taken before Commissioner *Harry J. Thornton*, was filed;

(Vide page *5* of this Transcript)

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San Francisco Aug. 4th 1853.

On motion of the United States Circuit Court Agent
Case no. 300, was ordered to be placed on the
Trial Docket

San Francisco Aug 5th 1853.

Case no. 300, called; submitted on Briefs
on both sides and taken under advisement
by the Board.

San Francisco Oct. 18th 1853.

In the same case (no. 300) Commissioner
Alphens Ditch, delivered the opinion of the
Board, respecting the Claim;

(See page 10 of this Transcript)

C/SE NO. 22 ND
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Petition

280

To the Hon. the Board of Land Comm-
-missioners for ascertaining and settling
Private Land claims in California,

The Petition of Fernando Felix respectfully
represents that on the 9th of Nov. 1844. Gov.
Micheltorna, by virtue of authority vested in
him, granted to your petitioner the land
known by the name of Sanel, consisting
of four leagues (caneado mayor) situated
in Mendocino County & bounded on one side
by the "Serranas Altas" (high hills) & on the
other by the "Rivers" (Russian River) as is
more fully represented by the accompanying
design. That he had been in the actual
possession & occupancy of said land sev-
-eral years prior to the date of the grant
of the same, & has continue in such pos-
-session and occupancy to the present
time. & that he knows of no conflicting
claim to said grant, all of which he is
ready to prove by witnesses to be produced
by your Hon Board.

Wherefore Your Petitioner humbly
submits his claim for such action as pro-
-ceeds of the nature of the case may require.
Irving & Rose
for Claimant

Filed in Office Aug 14' 1852.
Geo. Fisher Secy

Office of the Board of Land Commissioners
for California.

San Francisco Nov 8th 1852.

Deposition
of Manuel Torres

On this day before me Henry J. Thornton one of
the Commissioners for ascertaining & settling
private Land claims in California, came
Manuel Torres, a witness produced in behalf

of the claimant Fernando Felix whose petition
is No 300 on the Docket of said Commission
The witness being duly sworn testified as follows.

Deposition of Manuel Torres in claim No 300
Witness states that he is 37 years of
age and resides at Sausalito, & is acquainted
with Fernando Felix the Claimant herein, that
a grant was made to him by the Mexican Govt.
of the place called Sausal situated in Mendocino
county on Russian River, that said Felix
built a house at said land and was occupy-
ing it with his family when he (witness)
visited him in the month of September
1847 and from the appearance of the house
and other improvements at the place said
house must have been built and occupied
some three or four years - that he had
ground in cultivation - also stock of horses
& cattle, & that he still occupied said house
Manuel Torres

250

Notice accepted
R. Greenhow W.S. Land Agent,
Sworn to and subscribed
before me this 8th of November 1852.
Henry J. Thornton

Filed in Office Dec^r 23^d 1852

Geo. Fisher Secy

Deposition of
Ignacio Pacheco

Office of the Board of Land Commis-
sioners for California

San Francisco Nov^r 18th 1852.

On this day before me H. J. Thornton,
one of the Commissioners for ascertaining &

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settling Private Land claims in California
came Ignacio Pacheco, a witness produced
on behalf of the claimant - Fernando Felix whose
petition is No 300 on the Docket of said
Commission.

The witness being duly sworn testified as
follows.

Deposition of Ignacio Pacheco, in claim No 300

250

Witness states he is 49 years of age, & resides
in Marin County. is acquainted with Fernando
Felix & knows that a grant of land was
made to him by the Mexican Government, which
was called Sanel. He states that he was at the
house of said Felix on said tract of land in
the early part 1846, & saw ground in cultiva-
tion near his house, & knows that he has
continued to occupy said house with his
family, & to have had stock of horses &
cattle on said land from that time to the
present.

Ignacio Pacheco

Notice accepted

H. Greenberg U.S. Land Agent.

Sworn to and subscribed

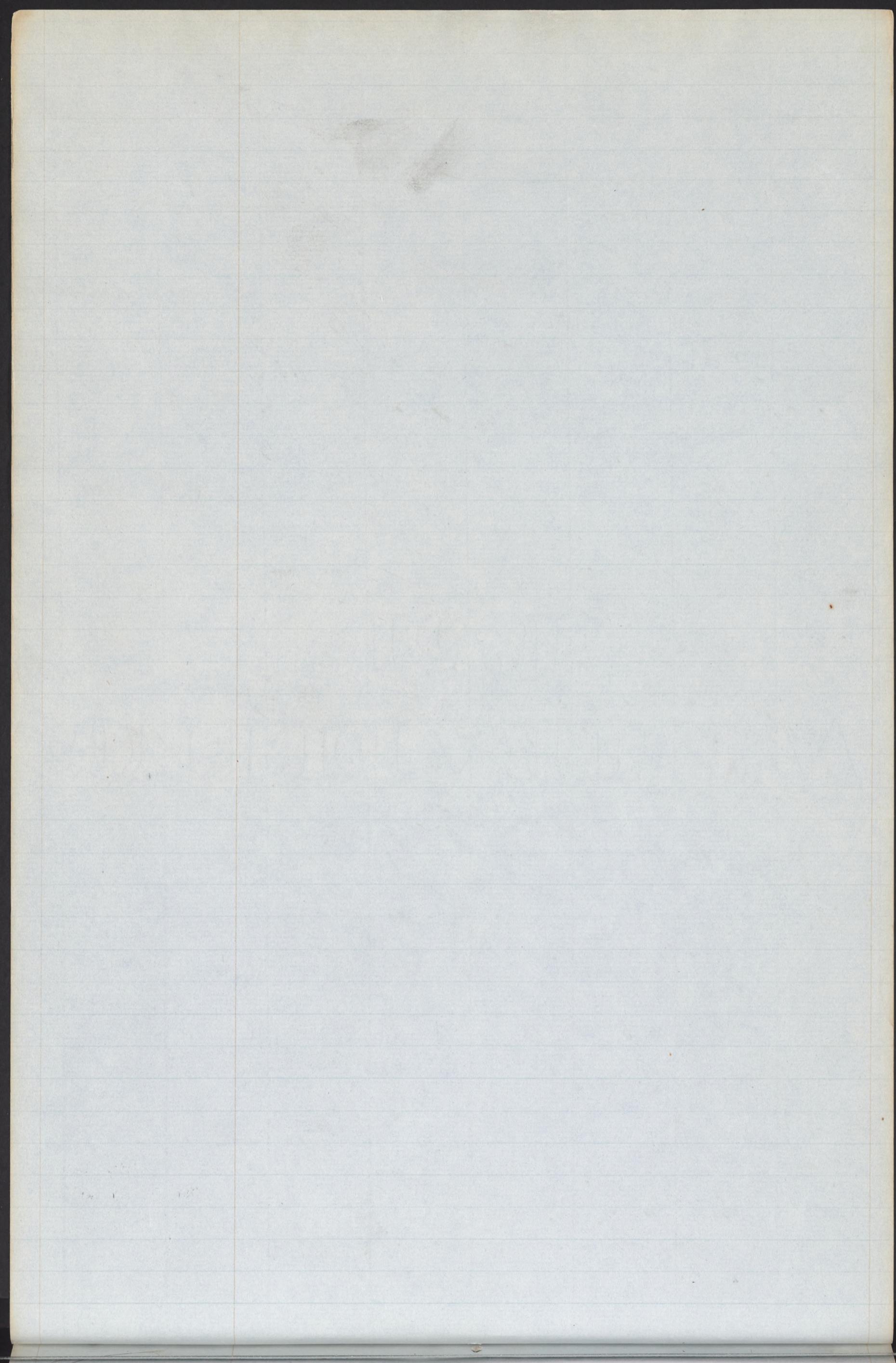
before me the 18th of November 1852

Henry S. Thornton Com^r

Filed in Office Dec^r 23rd 1852

Geo. Fisher Secy

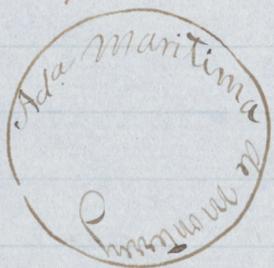
Span "Expediente"
follows



Sello Primero Ocho Pesos

Habilitado provisionalmente por la Aduana Ma-
ritima del Puerto de Monterrey en el Depar-
tamento de las Californias, para los años de
mil ochocientos cuarenta y cuatro y mil
ochocientos cuarenta y cinco
Micheltorena Pablo de la Guerra

Tita
B.



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

Por cuanto D.
Fernando Veliz ha pretendido para
su beneficio personal y el de su fami-
lia el terreno conocido con el nombre
de Sanil, siendo sus linderos las lo-
menas altas y el Rio: practicadas
provisoriamente las diligencias y averi-
guaciones convenientes segun lo dis-
puesto por leyes y Reglamentos; usando
de las facultades que me son conferidas
a nombre de la Nacion Mexicana, he
benido en concederle el terreno men-
cionado declarandole la propiedad
de el por las presentes letras sujetan-
dose a la aprobacion de la Exma Asam-
blea Departamental y bajo las con-
diciones siguientes.

1^a No podra venderlo, enagenarlo
hipotecarlo imponer censo, vincularlo, fi-
anza ni otro gravamen alguno aun
no podra donarlo.

2^a Podra cercarlo sin perjudicar
los traversal Caminos y Serridumbres,
lo disfrutara libre y exclusivamente

7

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destinándolo al uso o cultivo que mas le acomode pero dentro de un año fabricara 'Casa y estara' habitada.

3^a Cuando se le Confirme la propiedad, Solicitara' del Juez respectivo que le de la posesion juridica en virtud de este Despacho por el cual se demarcaran los linderos en cuyos limites pondra' a mas de las mejoras algunas arboles frutales o silvestres de alguna utilidad.

3

4^a El terreno de que se hace donacion es de cuatro sitios de ganado mayor poco mas o menos segun explica el dicino respectivo. El Juez que deere la posesion lo hara medir conforme a ordenanza quedando el sobrante que remite a la Nacion para los usos Comunitarios.

5^a Si contraviniere a estas Condiciones perdera' su derecho al terreno y sera denunciabile por otro.

En consecuencia mando que Sirviendole de titulo el presente y teniendole por firme y valido, se tome rason de el en el libro a que corresponde y se entregue al interesado para su resguardo y demas fines. Dado en Monterrey a nueve de Noviembre de mil ochocientos Cuarenta y Cuatro
Man. L. Michelt^a

4

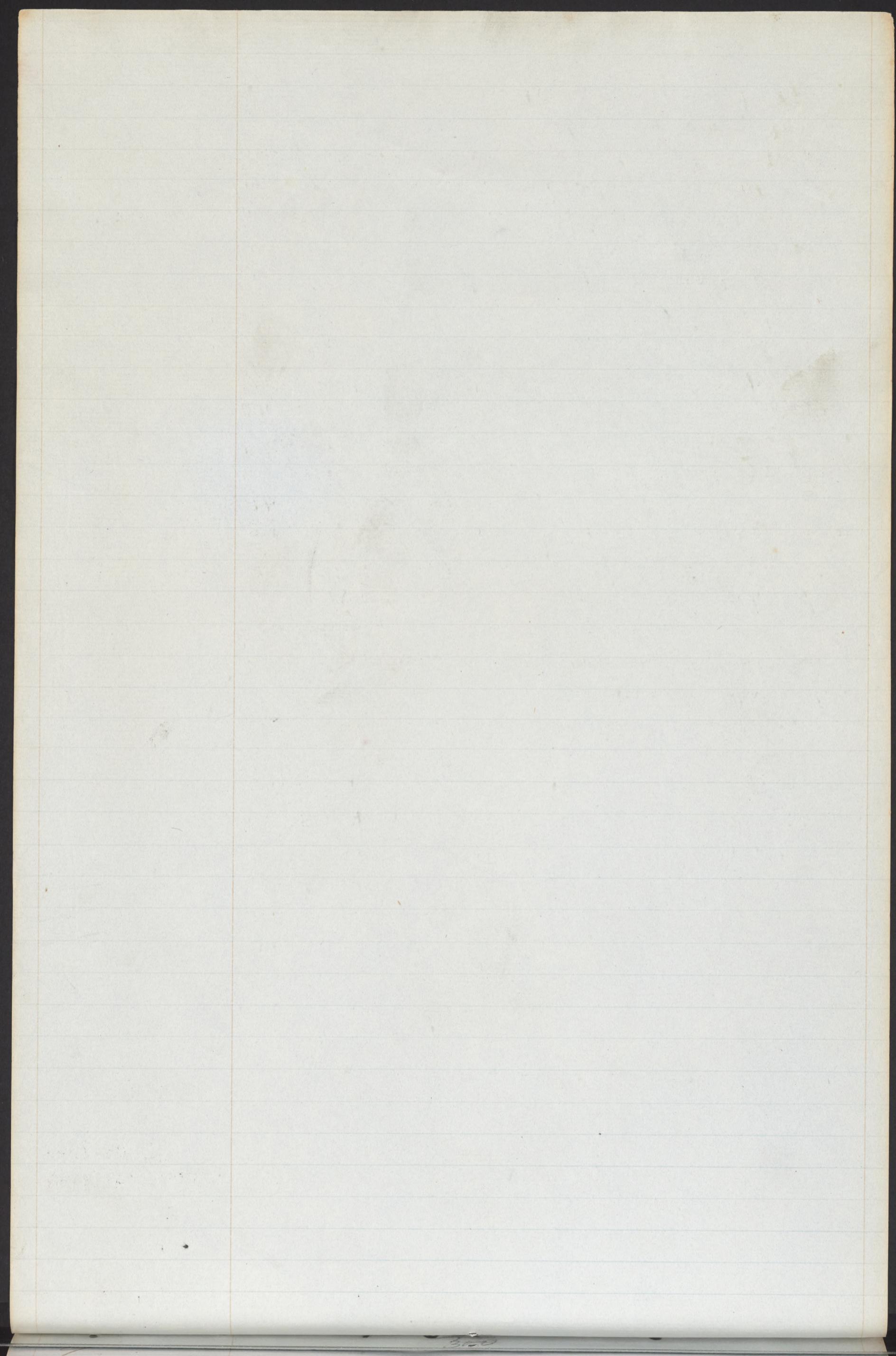
Cuota tomada rason de este Despacho en el libro respectivo a folios 11

Filed in Office Aug. 16th 1852
Geo. Fisher
Secy.

9

map 9

Map follows sheet
is not attached to
grant



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Expediente
"E"

Manuel Micheltorena Brigadier General of the Mexican Army, Adjutant General of the General Staff of the same, Governor Com-mandant General & Inspector of the Depart-ment of the Californias.

Whereas Don Fernando Felix has made application for his personal benefit & that of his family for the land known by the name of Parcel, its boundaries being the "Senanias Altas" (the high Senanias), & the River; the proper steps & enquiries being previously made, according to the disposition (made) by the laws and regulations. using the faculties which are conferred upon me in the name of the Mexican Nation I have come to concede to him the land mentioned declaring to him the ownership of it by these presents letters, it being subjected to the approbation of the Most Exc. De-partmental Assembly, & under the following conditions.

1. He shall not sell it, alienate it, hypothecate it, impose a tax, entail, bond, or any other incumbrance, nor shall he donate it.
2. He may enclose it without prejudice to the crossings, roads and servitudes; he shall enjoy it freely and exclusively destining it to the use or culture which may best suit him but within one year he shall build a house & it shall be inhabited.
3. When the ownership shall be confirmed he shall solicit of the respective judge to give him judicial possession by virtue of this despatch, by whom the lines shall be marked out, in the limits of which he shall place besides land marks some fruit trees, or forest trees of some utility.

10

4. The land of which donation is made is four sitios (de ganado mayor) a little more or less as the respective maps represent. The Judge who shall give the possession shall cause it to be measured conformably to the ordinance leaving the overplus which may result to the nation for convenient uses.

5. If he contravene these conditions he shall loose his right to the land & it shall be denounceable by another.

Wherefore I command that these presents serving him for a title be held firm and valid an entry be made of it, in the proper book and be delivered to the interested person for his security and for other ends,
Given in Monterey on the 9th November 1844.

Manuel Michelt^a

Entry has been made of this despatch in the respective book on page 11.

250

I certify the foregoing to be a true and correct translation from the Spanish document on file in this office in case No 300 Fernando Felix.

Geo. Fisher Secy

Filed in Office Aug 14th 1852

Geo. Fisher Secy

Apincow

Fernando Felix
vs
The United States

} For the place known
} by the name of "Sanel"
} being four square
} leagues of land in
} Mendocino County

The only official document emanating

CASE NO. 22 ND
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from the former Government filed in the case is a paper purporting to be a grant signed by Governor Micheltorene bearing date November 9' 1844. It is made subject to the approval of the Departmental Assembly and contains the usual conditions in such cases. The signature of the Secretary, always found on documents of this character, is wanting, is wanting. The Claimant has given no testimony of the genuineness of the signature of Micheltorene to the paper no any proof to substantiate it as a true and valid grant. There is also a map apparently an ancient one - filed among the papers in the case, but it is a mere detached paper, without proof to connect it with the case or to show that the land in question is represented upon it; nor is there any thing to identify it on the map referred to in the title paper on which the Claimant relies. In truth the map therein mentioned belongs to the files in the archives and cannot be supposed to be in the hands of the Claimant. All presumption in favor of its identity is therefore excluded, no effort seems to have been made to obtain from the Archives the proper evidence to elucidate or sustain the Claimant's case.

But if all objection to the genuine character of the grant are waived, the claim could not be sustained on the proofs before us. There being no approval by the Departmental Assembly the title is incomplete and can rest in equity only.

The land conceded is described in the grant as that "known by the name of Sanel" its boundaries being the "Serranias Altas" (the high Serranias) and the river

The grant declares the land of which donation is made to be four square leagues a little more or less. The party is required to obtain a judicial survey and thus to separate and define the premises under his grant and to erect the proper monuments to define its boundaries, the overplus land to belong to the nation.

No description location, limits or boundaries of the four square leagues of land intended to be granted are here given.

This was to be defined and separated from the larger tract between the river and the high hills by the judicial survey and possession, the procuring of which was made a condition of the grant but never procured by the claimant. The name even of the river is not given and that of the hills is equally undefined.

302

The name "Sanel" given to the land might direct on enquiry to the location of the premises, but in order to segregate the land from the public domain and enable us to confirm the grant there must be some certainty of description by which the land can at least on proper enquiry be found and its extension lines run in accordance with the indications of the little papers. If the hills and the rivers intended were found, still there is nothing indicated in these papers nor shown in the testimony to designate where, between the two the four leagues of land granted is to be located.

A confirmation would be little more than allowing a floating claim by which the confirmer would be permitted, with the aid of a surveyor, to take the quantity

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of land required whose location and boundaries would be fixed by arbitrary will and not by any specifications contained in the papers. This is not the intention of the land. The equity which entitles a party to confirmation is one which attaches itself to a defined portion of land, which is or can be with due attention to the description contained in the inchoate grant separated from the mass of the public domain.

The proof does not bring this case within the rule.

The papers of the Petitioner must be refused,

200

Filed in Office Oct 18' 1853.

Geo. Fisher Secy

Decree

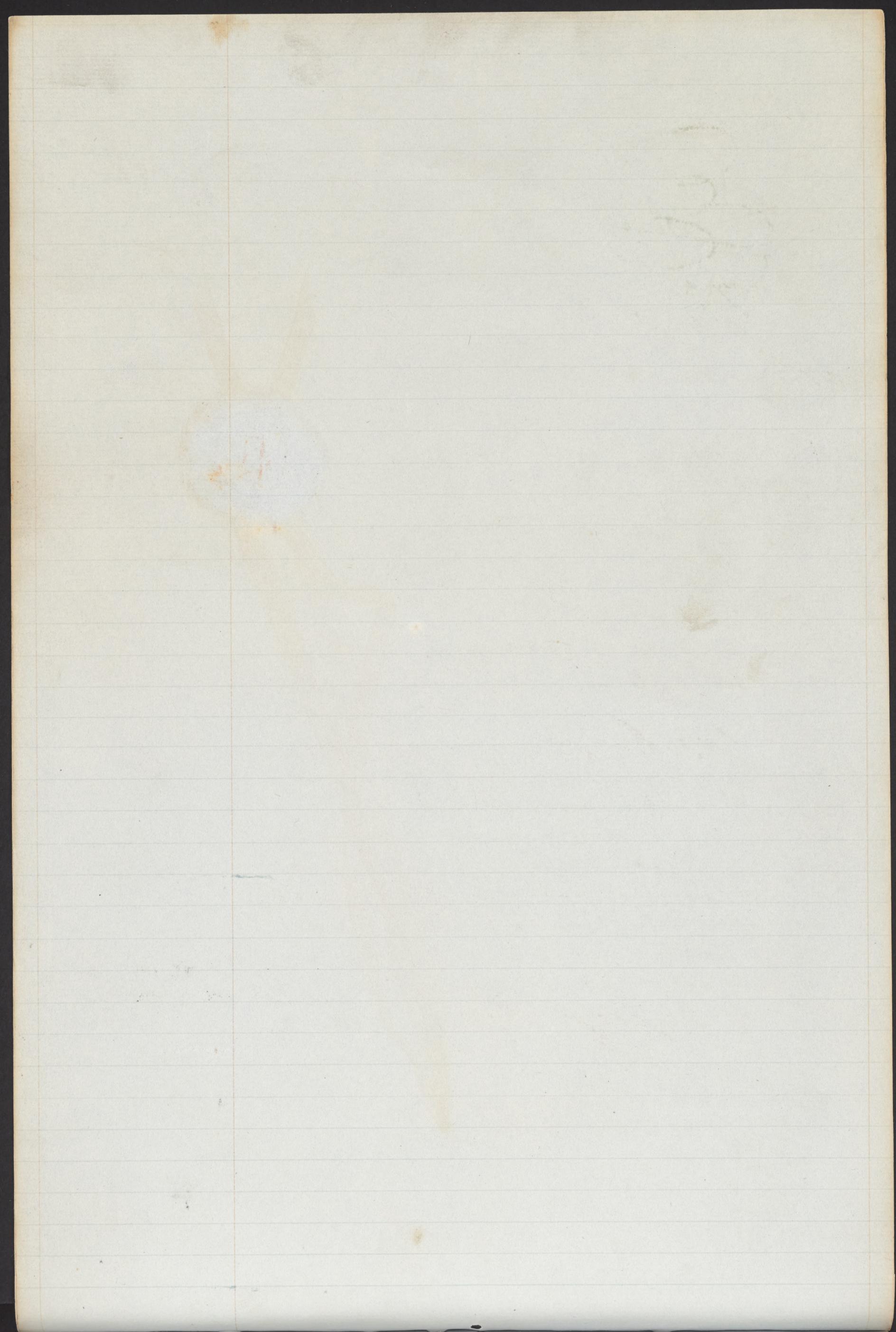
Fernando Feliz }
vs }
The United States }

In this case on hearing the proofs and allegations it is adjudged by the Commission that the claim of the Petitioner is not valid, and it is therefore decreed that his application for a confirmation thereof be and the same is hereby denied.

Alphus Felch }
Thompson Campbell } Commissioners
R. Aug Thompson }

Filed in Office Oct 18' 1853

Geo. Fisher
Secy



Office of the Board of Commissioners,

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

CASE NO. 22 ND

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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 *Twelve* pages, numbered from 1 to *12*, both inclusive, to contain a true, correct and full 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, on file in this Office, in Case No. *300* on the Docket of the said Board, wherein *Fernando Feliz* is

the Claimant against the United States, for the place known by the name of *"Sancl"*



In Testimony Whereof, I hereunto set my hand and affix my private Seal (not having a Seal of Office) at San Francisco, California, this *fifth* day of *August* A. D. 185*4*, and of the Independence of the United States of America the seventy=*eighth*.

Geo. Fisher
Geo. Fisher

22

U. S. DISTRICT COURT,

Northern District of California.

No. ~~20~~ - 22 -

THE UNITED STATES,

vs. 22

Fernando Peliz

TRANSCRIPT OF THE RECORD

FR
BOARD OF U. S. LAND COMMISSIONERS,

In Case No. 300

Filed, August 3rd 1854
John A. Mousroe,
clerk.

22

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PAGE NO. 15

Clerks office of the District Court
of the United States for the Northern
District of California.

Whereas the Commissioners
constituted for the purpose of ascertaining
and settling private land-claims in the
State of California by the act of congress
of the U. S. of America approved on the 3^d
of March 1851, entitled: "An act to as-
certain and settle the private land claims
in the State of California," did on the
eighteenth day of October eighteen hundred
fifty three, by their decision of that date
decide against the claim presented by the
undersigned to the said Commissioners,
which claim is for land lying in the said
Northern District and is number three
hundred (300) on the docket of claims be-
fore said board - and the said claimant
being desirous that the said District Court
should review the said decision, - Now
hereby files this notice in the said clerks
office of his intention to prosecute and
appeal, as is provided by the 12th Section of
an act entitled: "An act making appropri-
ations for the civil and diplomatic expen-
ses of the government for the year ending
the 30th of June 1853, and for other purposes,"
which said act was approved on the 31st of
August 1852.

Fernando Felix
by Irving & Rose
of Counsel.

To the Clerk of the U. S.
District Court of the Northern
District of California, 6th April
1854.

U. S. District Court
Northern District

No. 22

Fernando Feliz

Appellant

vs

The United States
Appellee,

Notice of Appeal.

This April 6, 1834
of Schuylburgh

CASE NO. 22 ND

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Irving A. Reed
of Counsel.

Case No 300

Fernando Felix

vs

The United States

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Whereas on the 18th day of October 1853 an order or decree was made by the United States Land Commissioner that the claim of said Fernando Felix the petitioner is not valid and that the application for a confirmation thereof be and was therefore denied and whereas on the fifth day of August 1854 a transcript of the papers and evidence in said cause was filed with the clerk of the District Court for the Northern District of California and another copy transmitted to the attorney general of the United States which operates as an appeal.

Now therefore notice is hereby given that said Fernando Felix intends to prosecute said appeal

Dated July 3rd 1855

W. Madson atty
for F. Felix

No 22 - 2
United States District
Court, Northern District
California,

Case No ~~300~~ 64

Fernando Felis

vs
The United States

Notice of prosecution
of appeal

W. Kidmore

atty
Filed, Feby 3^d 1885,

Wm. A. Moore,

Clerk

C/SE NO. 22 ND

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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT,
Northern District of California.

CASE NO. 22 ND

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The United States

vs.
Fernando Lelis.

San Francisco, *Sept 28th 1855*

ON this day, before *John. A. Monroe* a
Commissioner of the United States for the Northern District of California, duly
authorized to administer oaths, &c., &c., came *Jose Castro*
a witness produced on behalf of the
Claimant

in Case No. *22*, being an appeal from the Board of Commissioners to ascertain and settle the Private Land Claims in the State of California, in Case No. *300* on the Docket of the said Board of Commissioners, and was duly sworn and testified as follows — his evidence being interpreted by

Dr. Adler a sworn interpreter

PRESENT: *W. Skidmore, Claimant's Counsel,*

and H. N. Sisk, Att. by A. Russell, Esq.

QUESTION BY *Claimant,*

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

Answer,

Jose Castro, 47 years of age, and reside in Monterey, Cal., and

Did you know Manuel Micheltorena formerly governor of California, and are you acquainted with his hand writing by having seen him write

Answer,

I know him well, and know his hand writing from having received letters from him, and by having seen him write.

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3^d/₄

Look at the instrument of writing now produced, and shown, dated November 9th 1844, marked No 300, U. S. Land Com purporting to be a grant from Micheltorena to Fernando Felix, a copy of which appears in the record in this cause, and state in whose hand writing the signature "Mano Micheltorena" is written.

Answer.

The said signature is in the hand writing of Micheltorena, formerly Governor of California.

Cross examined by N. S. Atty.

Question 1st.

How do you know the hand writing of Micheltorena,

Answer.

By orders received from him while he was my superior officer, and from having seen him write.

Jose Castro

Sworn to & Subscribed
before me September
28th 1855

John A. Monroe,
N. S. Comm^r

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT,

CASE NO. 22 NO

Northern District of California.

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The United States.

of vs -
Bernardo Ellis.

San Francisco, Sept 28th 1855

ON this day, before

John A. Munsie

a

Commissioner of the United States for the Northern District of California, duly authorized to administer oaths, &c., &c., came

W. B. Fleming

a witness produced on behalf of the

Claimant

in Case No. 22, being an appeal from the Board of Commissioners to ascertain and settle the Private Land Claims in the State of California, in Case No. 300 on the Docket of the said Board of Commissioners, and was duly sworn and testified as follows — his evidence being interpreted by

_____ a sworn interpreter

PRESENT:

W. S. Kidmore, Atty General &
A. Glassell, for the U. S. Dist. Atty

1st
QUESTION BY Claimant.

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

Answer.

W. B. Fleming, 28 years of age, San Francisco, Cal. and am a clerk in the Board of Land (U. S.) Commr.

Will you produce the grant from Mitchell-torence to Bernardo Ellis, dated 9th November, 1844, marked No 300 U. S. Land Comr. a copy of which is attached to the record in the above entitled cause filed with the Clerk of the above court.

Answer.

Witness produces a document, and says

and as I took it from the files of Board
of U. S. Land Comrs. This day, and it is
~~a true copy of~~ The original, a true copy
of which appears in said transcript,

Wm B. Fleming.

The original document referred to was placed back
in the files of the U. S. Land Comrs. by Mr Fleming
the Clerk, after deposition of Jose Castro was taken.

Sworn to & Subscribed
before me this 28th of
September, 1855

John A. Murrell,
U. S. Commr.

No 22³

U. S. District Court,

Fernando Febé,

- Do -

The United States,

Deposition of Castro,
and other matters,

Filed Sept 28. 1855

J. Chermak
Deputy

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1844

1

CASE NO. 22 ND

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Expediente

Promovido promovido por el Ciudadano Fer-
nando Felix en solicitud del terreno nombrado
Sunel

N^o

408

CASE NO. 22 ND

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SELLO TERCERO UN PESO

Habilitado provisionalmente por la Aduana maritima del puerto de Monterrey, en el Departamento de las Californias, para los años de mil ochocientos cuarenta y cuatro y mil ochocientos cuarenta y cinco.

Micheltorena.

Pablo de la Guerra.

[Signature]

[Signature]

Exmo. Sr. Gov. de las Californias.



Monterrey Nov. 7. de 1844 -

Fernando Felix Secino de la Front. de Sonora, con toda subordinacion y el respeto que le es debido se presenta y dice: Que habiendo servido Placa de Soldado p.º servir en la Comp.ª Provincial de San Diego el año del 35. y despues paso a la de Monterrey en donde cumplio 15 años de servicio, y alcabo de algun tiempo tu bo abien el Gobierno del Departam.º con el Despacho to se derle un corto terreno reducido a solo dos sitios, y allandose hoy con una numerosa familia de diez hijos y al mismo tiempo el aumento de sus bienes, se halla en la estrecha necesidad de entender un poco mas supropiedad, p.º lo que suplico se se considere cuatro sitios de ganado mayor, en el paraje conocido con el nombre de San G. Cuyo terreno esta baldio y no pertenece a propiedad particular, quedando este p.º el Norte entre las tribus Jentiles y solo se colinda con la terrania de las circunferencias como lo de un

Exmo

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El diseño que adjunto acompaño
Por tanto.

A V. E. suplico se sirva acceder
a esta solicitud del mas
breve de sus subditos de la gra-
cia de vivir y reconocer terrenos
Agto. 1.º de 1844

Fernando Meliz

Sr. Gobernador

Por los favorables informes que acom-
paña el interesado, parece que no
hay ningun incumbiente p^a que
V. E. le conceda el terreno que
pretende, pero su Sup^{ta} determina-
cion sera lo mas acertado

Monterrey a tre 8 de 1844

Juan Jimeno



Mon-

4
Tenny vol 9 de l. 344-

Elpidasey Abitudo-

Micho^a



Monterey Noviembre 9 de 1844.

Vista la peticion con que dá principio este expediente los informes que preceden con todo lo demas que se tubo presente y de ser conuino, de conformidad con las leyes y reglamentos de la materia, declaro á D.^{no} Fernando Felis, dueño en propiedad del paraje conocido con el nombre de Sanel en estencion de dos sitios de ganado mayor. Librese el correspondiente despacho y entreguese al interesado para su resguardo y demas fines.

5.

CASE NO. 22 ND

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Cor. Jura de l. Nomuacion

Juzgado de
Sonoma

Antonio M^a Pico como apoderado

El Terreno de D. Fernando Felix ante V. Superintendente
q. se hace presente. q. teniendo en

mencion es cesidad de un informe para el
Caldio no perten- Gobierno Departamental, replica al
=ee Pueblo m Corporacion - se irva sinarlo a continuation si
ninguno. - el terreno conocido con el nombre

Tommy y bnda Sanel, pertenece a corpora
247844 cion o propiedad de algun por
Jacob P. S. particular. Juro de Sonoma Septe

24. del 844 Antonio M^a Pico



CASE NO. 22 ND

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Man. y Valles Com. de Saball. y Com. de la
Civ. de Santa del Norte

Certifico: que el paraje conocido con el
nombre de Samuel, está vacío y
no pertenece a propiedad particular, Cor-
poracion ni pueblo alguno, y por lo
tanto en estado de Republica en Colombia
y para los efectos que convengan doy el
presente a pedimento del interesado Luis
Gómez a 25 de Set. de 1844

M. G. Vallejo

CASE NO. 22 ND
PAGE NO. 29

Office of Surveyor General
of the United States for California.

I, John C. Hays, Surveyor General of the United States for the State of California, and as such, having in my Office and in my charge and custody a portion of the Archives of the former Spanish and Mexican Territory or Department of Upper California, by virtue of the power vested in me by law, Do Hereby Certify, that the seven preceding, and hereunto annexed pages of tracing paper, numbered from one to seven inclusive, exhibit a true and accurate copy of a certain document intituled "1844 - Expediente promovido promovido por el Ciudadano Fernando Peliz en solicitud del terreno Membrado Sanel," now on file and forming part of said Archives.

In Testimony Whereof, I have hereunto signed my name officially and caused my Seal of Office to be affixed, at the City of San Francisco, this *thirty first* day of *October* 1853

John C. Hays

U. S. Surveyor General for California.

Extract from the 2nd Section of the Act of Congress "providing for the Survey of Public Lands in California, and for other purposes," Approved, March 3d, 1853.

"The Secretary of the Interior is hereby authorized to cause an Official Seal to be prepared for the Office of the said Surveyor General, [California] and any copy or extract from the plats, field notes, and other records and documents on file in his Office, when attested as such by the said Seal and the signature of the Surveyor General, shall, in all judicial matters, have the same force and effect as the original."

It is hereby consented to and
agreed that the within Expedi-
ents shall be and is introduced as
a part of the evidence in the
case of

The United States

vs
Fernando Feliz

Dated Sept 29. 1855.

A. Russell
Asst U.S. Atty

No 22 ND
A. J. Dulac 300

Fernando Feliz vs

United States vs

Exchequer

Sept 29. 1855

Chancellor
Deputy

CASE NO. 22 ND
PAGE NO. 30

Fernando Feliz

1844

C/SE NO. 22 ND

PAGE NO. 31

Expediente

*Petition of the citizen Fernando Feliz
in solicitation of the land named Sanel.*

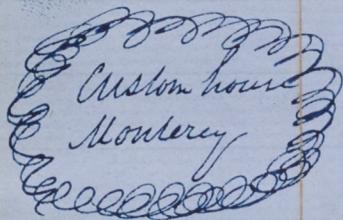
No 408.

Third seal, one dollar

Prepared provisionally for the custom house
of Monterey in the Department of the
Californias. for the year one thousand eight
hundred and fortyfour, and one thousand eight
hundred & forty five - Pablo de la Guerra

CASE NO. 22 ND
PAGE NO. 32

Michellerrans



Fernando Feliz a resident of the
frontiers of Sonoma with all the
subordination and respect that he is owing
presents himself and says that having served
as a soldier in the presidial company of
San Diego in the year 1815 and afterwards
he went to Monterey where he served
fifteen years; and after some time the
departmental government thought fit
to concede to him a small farm
containing only two square leagues of land
and finding himself now with a numerous
family of ten children, and at the same time
the increase of his cattle, he finds himself
under the necessity of extending a little more
his landed property for which reason he
supplicates your excellency to have the goodness
to concede to him four square leagues of
land in the place known by the name

of Lanel which land is vacant and does not belong to any one, and is situate at the north among the gentile tribes and is alone and is surrounded by mountains on every side. as the map here annexed designates.

He supplicates your excellency to have the goodness to grant this petition to the most unworthy of your subjects for which favor he will always be grateful

Sonoma August 1st 1844

Fernando Feliz -

CASE NO. 22 ND

PAGE NO. 34

Court house of Sonoma

The land that is mentioned
is vacant and does
not belong to any
town or corporation

Sonoma Sept. 24th 1844

Jacob P. Lease.

7
Your Judge of the 1st
Nomination

Antonio Maria Otis as
attorney of Don Fernando Felix
before your honor respectfully
being present, there being
necessity for a report for
the departmental government
explaining in continuation and
says that the land known
by the name of Sanel
does not belong to any
corporation or private individual
Sworn at Sonoma Sept 24th
1844

A. M. Otis.

CASE NO. 22 ND

PAGE NO. 35

Mariano Gaudaloupe Vallejo Colonel
of Cavalry and commandant of
the northern frontier certify that
the place known by the name
of Sanel is vacant and does
not belong to any individual
corporation nor town. and that the
same is in a condition to be colonized.

For the effect which may take place
I give this at the request of
the interested party

In Sonoma 25th of September 1844

M. G. Vallejo

Dear Governor

CASE NO. 22 ND

PAGE NO. 36

By the favorable reports
which accompany this
it appears that there is no
objection why your excellency
should not concede the land
asked for to the interested
party, but your superior
judgment must decide.

Monterey Nov 8th 1844

Mmanuel Jimeno

Monterey November 9th 1844

Excuse the title.
M. M. Jimeno

Monterey Nov 9th 1844

Monterey November 9th 1844

CASE NO. 22 ND

PAGE NO. 37

I examined the petition which is the principal of this expediente, the reports which accompany it, with all other documents which are present, and having seen that they conform to the laws and regulations of the subject. I declare Don Fernando Felix the proprietor of the place known by the name of Sanel of two leagues in extent.

Prepare the proper documents for the interested party for his keeping and other purposes.

No 22 5
U. S. Dist. Court.

Fernando Feliz appellant

vs

The U. States respondent

Translation of the
expediente.

Filed October 5, 1855,
By Cherry
Deputy

CASE NO. 22 ND

PAGE NO. 4 38

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT,
Northern District of California.

Fernando Felix.

The United States.

San Francisco, *October 28th* 1858.

CASE NO. 22 ND

PAGE NO. 39

ON this day, before *John A. Monroe* a

Commissioner of the United States for the Northern District of California, duly authorized to administer oaths, &c., &c., came *James Black*

James Black a witness produced on behalf of the
Claimant

in Case No. *22*, being an appeal from the Board of Commissioners to ascertain and settle the Private Land Claims in the State of California, in Case No. *307* on the Docket of the said Board of Commissioners, and was duly sworn and testified as follows — ~~his evidence being interpreted by~~

~~a sworn interpreter~~

PRESENT: *W. Spidmore, Atty for Claimant,*
and the U. S. Dist. Atty by A. H. Hall, Esq.

QUESTION BY *Claimant's Atty*

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

Answer.

James Black, 45 years of age, and reside in Marin County, Cal.

Ed.

Do you know a place in California called Sanel, If yes, state in what County, and on what river it is situated.

Answer.

I do, it is in Mendocino County, and it on the river known generally as Russian River, but formerly called by the Spaniards "Magdalena" river.

Ed

Is the name Sanel, an ancient, or a modern name, and when did you first know that place by that name?
Answer.

I have known the place, Sanel, since 1842, and it was always called by that name, I was up there before Fernando & Felie settled upon it.

4th.

Is the place called Sanel, a place of sufficient notariety to enable a person to find it by its name, the same as Sonoma can be found by its name.
Answer.

It is the name of a valley, and every body in that vicinity knows it by that name, and have always so known it since I became acquainted with it.

5th.

Look at the map marked "D." which is now produced, and made part of this deposition, and state at what point thereof the land called "Sanel" is situated.

Answer.

It is situated in Mendocino County, on that part of the map marked "Felie".

6th.

At what other times have you visited "Sanel", and what do you know of the occupation thereof by the Claimant, Felie, and of improvements put thereon by him?

Answer.

I visited the place in 1846, in 1850, 1851, 1852,

and in 1855. The Claimant Fernando Felix
to my knowledge has occupied the place
ever since 1845. ^{the summer of} When I went there in 1846,
he had an adobe house, a corral, a growing
crop, and cattle and horses on the place.
7th

CASE NO. 22 ND

PAGE NO. 41

Look at the Map attached to the Expediente
on file in this case, and state whether or
not a Surveyor could take that map, and
locate the land which is there designated
as "Tierra que se solicita."

Answer.

I think he could,
8th.

Is there a rancheria on the place "Sanel," +
if so, by what name do the Indians go by, who
inhabit it.

Answer.

There is a rancheria on the place, and
the Indians inhabiting it, are called
the Sanel Indians.

Cross examined by the U. S. Atty.

Are you any interest direct, or indirect in the
event of this claim.

Answer.

None whatever.

James Black
 sworn to & subscribed before me this 18th day
 of October, 1855.

John A. Monroe
 U.S. Commissioner

No 22 ND
300 BD 6

U. S. Dist. Court,

Fernando Lilia,

— vs —

The United States,

Deposition of
James Black,

Filed Oct. 18, 1855,
by Cheney
Deputy.

CASE NO. 22 ND

PAGE NO. 42

Fernando Felis

vs

The United States

City & County of San Francisco

CASE NO. 22 ND

PAGE NO. 43

Walter Skidmore being duly sworn deposes and says that he is sufficiently acquainted with the Spanish and English languages to translate Spanish into English and that he has translated the expediente filed in this cause into English, which translation was filed on the 5th of Oct 1855 with the clerk of this court. And deponent further says that the translation thus made and filed is a full fair and correct translation of said original expediente with the exception of the map attached to the original which is not translated.

W. Skidmore

Sworn to before me this
19th day October 1855.

John A. Murray, Clerk
W. A. Chivers,

Deputy Clerk

U. S. Dist. Court, U. S. of Cal.

No. 22
District Court of U.S.

7
Fernando Felis

vs
the United States

Affidavit of
W. M. Sidmore.

Filed Oct. 19. 1853.

by Charles
Deputy.

CASE NO. 22 ND

PAGE NO. 44

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT,
Northern District of California.

Fernando Feliz,
The United States.

San Francisco, November 7th 1855

CASE NO: 22 ND

PAGE NO: 45

ON this day, before *John A. Monroe* a
Commissioner of the United States for the Northern District of California, duly
authorized to administer oaths, &c., &c., came *Jesús Peña*

Jesús Peña a witness produced on behalf of the
Claimant

in Case No. *22*, being an appeal from the Board of Commissioners to ascer-
tain and settle the Private Land Claims in the State of California, in Case
No. *300* on the Docket of the said Board of Commissioners, and was duly
sworn and testified as follows — his evidence being interpreted by
Thomas R. Eldridge a sworn interpreter

PRESENT: *W. Stidmore, Claimants Attorney,*
and the U. S. Dist. Atty, A. Glassell, Esq.

^{*1st*}
QUESTION BY *Claimants Atty,*

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

*Jesús Peña, 29 years of age, and reside in
a place called "dry river", near Russian River,
in Mendocino County, Cal.*

Q^d

Do you know a place in California, called
"Daniel". If yes, state in what County, and
on what river it is situated.

Answer,

I do know a place of that name, it is on
Russian River, and in said Mendocino
County,

Q^d

Is the place "Daniel", an ancient, or modern

name,

Answer,

It is an ancient name, It is an Indian name, and the Indians living there are called by other tribes, "Saul Indians."

4th
Is the place ^{called} Saul, a place of sufficient notariety to enable a person to find it by its name, the same as Sonoma can be found by its name,

Answer,

It is

- 5th -

Look at the map attached to the deposition of James Black taken in this case, on the 18th of October of this year, and state at what point on said map, the land called "Saul," is situated,

Answer,

It is situated in Mendocino County, on Russian River, and on that part of the map marked "Ellis",

- 6th -

What do you know of the occupation of said land by Ellis, the claimant, when did you first see him on it, and what improvements had he thereon,

Answer,

In March, or April 1845 I saw Ellis living on the place, In August of that year, he had built a house, and also had a garden, also a good corral on said land, He had cattle on the place at the time,

- 7th -

State whether or not ~~whether~~ Ellis has continued to occupy that place up to the present time,

Answer.
He has continued to live there up to the present time.

It
Look at the Map attached to the Expediente on file in this Case, and state whether or not you recognize it as a Map of the place called "Sanel".

Answer.
It appears to me to be the same.

It
Is there a rancharia on the place "Sanel", and if what name is the tribe known by that occupies it.

Answer.
There is a rancharia near the house on the place "Sanel", and the Indians occupying it are called "Sanel" Indians.

Cross examined by the U. S. Dist. Atty.

I have no interest whatever in the event of this suit.

Jos Pina

sworn to & subscribed before me this 7th November, 1855.

John A. ...
U. S. Com

No 22-8

U. S. District Court,

Fernando Livia,

- vs -

The United States,

Deposition of Juan Peña,

Filed Nov^r 7, 1853,

J. Cherris
Deputy.

CASE NO. 22 ND

PAGE NO. 48

District Court
Northern District of
California

Fernando Feliz appellant
vs
The United States respondent

To the District Court of the Northern District
of California.

The petition of Fernando Feliz

Respectfully represents.

CASE NO 22 ND

PAGE NO. 49

That on the 15th of August 1852 he filed
a petition before the United States Land
commissioners praying for a confirmation of his
title to a place called Saniel situated
in Mendocino County being in the Northern
District of California which land is particularly
described and set forth in the said petition
and on the map attached to the expediente
on file in this cause. which claim or
title was on the 18th of October 1853
rejected and disallowed by the said U. S.
Land commissioners. That a transcript
of the proceedings before the said U. S.
Land commission was on the 5th of August
1854 duly filed with the clerk

of this court on the 3rd of February
1855. ~~5th of August 1854~~ and
on the 3rd of February 1855 a
notice of appeal was filed by your
petitioner in this cause.

CASE NO. 22 ND
PAGE NO. 50

And your petitioner further says that
since said appeal, he has ^{had} taken the
depositions of several witnesses in this
cause, and ^{has} filed a traced copy of the
expedient from the attorney general's office
which ^{testimony} he thinks overcame the
objections taken by the U. S. land
commissioners to the said title.

The petitioner therefore prays that the
order and decision of said U. S.
land commissioners may be reversed
and that ^{said} the grant to your petitioner
may be confirmed.

J. W. Swann

Att'y for

Thomas Fitz

by W. Swann his att'y

N^o 22-9
U. S. District Court
Northern District of Cal

Fernando Feliz appellant
vs
The United States respondent

Petition of appeal.

W. Skidmore atty.

Filed Nov: 8. 1855.

J. Cheever
Deputy.

CASE NO 22 ND

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CASE NO. 22 ND
PAGE NO. 52

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

The United States,
Appellus

vs
Advs.
Francisco Frisby

No. 22.

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

C. G. Russell
Asst Counsel for U.S.
U.S.

No. 22 10

U.S. Dist. Court

Fernando Felix

v
The U States

Answer

Filed Nov: 26, 1855.

J. Cheever,

Deputy.

CASE NO. 22 NO

PAGE NO. 53

A. H. Russell

Asst. U.S. Marshal

In the District Court of the United States
of America for the northern District of
California.

Fernando Feliz appellant.

vs

The United States respondent.

Decree No 22
'Sanel'

Stated term January 14th
1856.

CASE NO. 22 ND

PAGE NO. 54

On the appeal from the final decision
of the board of commissioners to ascertain
and settle private land claims in the
State of California.

This cause came on to be heard
at a stated term of the Court on
appeal from the final decision of the
board of Commissioners to ascertain and
settle the private land claims in the
State of California under an act of
congress approved on the third day of
March 1851, upon the transcript of
the proceedings and decision of the
said board of commissioners, and the
evidence on which said decision was
founded, and also on the additional
testimony taken in this court for and
in behalf of the appellant. And it
appearing to this court that the said

transcript has been duly filed according to law; and counsel for the respective parties having been heard, It is hereby ordered adjudged and decreed that the decree of the said board of commissioners made October 18th 1853 be and the same is hereby reversed; and it is further ordered adjudged and decreed that the claim of said Fernando Feliz for the place called 'Sanel' is a good and valid claim, and the same is hereby confirmed to him. The land of which confirmation is made is the same land of which the grantee is shown to have long enjoyed the possession, the boundaries whereof are mentioned in the grant and are delineated on the map on file with the expediente.

The quantity of land hereby confirmed to the said claimant is four square leagues and no more, provided that that quantity is contained within the said boundaries set forth in the grant and on the map. as aforesaid. And if the quantity so contained shall be less than four square leagues then that lesser quantity is confirmed to him.

Agdun Hoffmann
H. S. de la Cruz

No. 22
District Court
Northern District
California

Fernando Feliz

vs

The United States

Decree

Lina Sola

Lined January 14, 1856,

Chavez
Deputy,

CASE NO. 22

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CASE NO. 22 ND

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California Land Claims.
Attorney General's Office
12 Feb. 1857.

Sir,

In the case of the claim of
Fernando Feliz, rejected by the
Commissioners, but confirmed on
appeal by the District Court, case
no. three hundred, (300), appeal
will not be prosecuted by the
United States.

I am

Respectfully,

Anthony

Wm. T. Blanding Esq
U. S. Attorney
San Francisco -

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

The United States

v

Fernando Felix

} D.C. 22; L.C. 300

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

San Francisco Mar 20. 1887

CASE NO. 22 NO

PAGE NO. 58

Wm Blanding
Dist Atty

W. Skidmore
atly for
Fernando Felix

22

300

U. S. Dist Court

The United States

v
Fernando Feliz

Stipulation

Filed March 20. 1857.

W. H. Chever,
Deputy.

C/SE NO. 22 ND

PAGE NO. 59

At a Stated Term of the District Court of the UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, for the Northern District of California, held at the Court Room, in the City of SAN FRANCISCO, on *Friday* the *20th* day of *March* in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and fifty-seven.

CASE NO. 22 ND

PAGE NO. 60

Present:

The Honorable OGDEN HOFFMAN, District Judge.

The United States

v

Fernando Feliz

D.C. 22; D.C. 300

The Attorney General of the United States having given notice that further appeal will not be prosecuted in this case, and a stipulation to that effect having been entered into by the U. S. Attorney:

On motion of the District Attorney it is Ordered Adjudged and decreed that claimant have leave to proceed under the decree of this Court heretofore rendered in his favor as under Final Decree.

Ogden Hoffman
U. S. Dist. Judge

22

United States District Court, Northern
District of California.

The United States

VS.

Fernando Feliz

ORDER.

Final Decree

Filed *March 20th* 1857

John. a. Monroe,

CLERK.

By *W. H. Cheery*

DEPUTY.

CASE NO. 22 ND

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CASE NO. 22 ND

PAGE NO. 262

Office of the Board of Commissioners,

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

San Francisco, Aug. 3 1854

John A. Monroe Esq.

Clerk of the U. S. District Court for the

Northern District of California.

Sir;

I herewith transmit you, pursuant to the requirements of the Act of Congress, approved August 31st, 1852, a Transcript of the Record of the Proceedings and of the Decision of this Board, of the Documentary Evidence and of the Testimony of the witnesses upon which the same is founded, in Case No. 300 on the Docket of the said Board, wherein

Fernando Feliz is the Claimant against the United States, for the place known by the name of Sanel

and request your receipt for the same.

I am, Respectfully,

Your Obedt Servant,

Geo. Fisher.

Tomando Felix

The United States.

108.

22 ND

CASE NO. 22 ND
PAGE NO. 63

The claim in this case was rejected by the Board of Land Commissioners for want of proof of the genuineness of the grant and because the grant itself contained no sufficient description of the land to identify it or enable a surveyor to determine its locality.

On looking at the evidence before the Board we find no proof of how the signature of the Governor to the original grant - the expediente from the Archives was or where produced or accounted for, but the evidence was confined to the points of occupation and cultivation by the grantee.

Since the appeal has been taken evidence of the ^{genuineness of the} signature of the Governor Michelmorena has been offered and a duly certified copy of the expediente on file in the Archives has been offered ^{in evidence} and admitted by the District Attorney.

CASE NO. 22 ND
PAGE NO. 64

In the original grant the usual signature of the Secretary does not appear. And in the expedient the conception or decree declaring the petition to be the owner of the land solicited is not signed by the Governor.

Undoubtedly the title ^{papers} which was given to the grantee for his security and which it is claimed is now produced by him, will if genuine be sufficient to establish his right.

In the original grant the signature of the Secretary is wanting but for this circumstance might suggest a doubt as to the genuineness of the document yet we are not aware that the signature of the Secretary was a legal requisite to grants of this description. The grant was made on the 9th November 1844. By the testimony of James Black & Jesus Pina taken in this Court it appears that the claimant in the Spring of 1845 was living on his land and that in August of that year he had built a house and also had a garden, a

CASE NO. 22 ND
PAGE NO. 65

coral and cattle upon it
This testimony is important
not only as showing a perfor-
mance of the conditions but as
tending to dissipate whatever doubts
might otherwise have existed
been entertained as to the authen-
ticity of the grant.

The objection taken by the Board
to the claim for want of proof
as to its genuineness is thus ab-
sicated by the additional testimony
taken in this Court, and as
no suggestion or argument has been
^{offered} made or suggestion ^{made} offered that
to the contrary we presume
that no doubt is entertained
on the points by the counsel
for the appellees.

The 2^d ground on which the
claim was rejected by the
Board was the want of
a description sufficient to in-
dicate the granted premises.

The Expediente containing the
map referred to in the grant
has been produced in this
Court as already mentioned.

By the testimony of
The grant describes the land
as the "place called 'Sanuel' - its

from dares being the "Serranas
Atlas" and the river -

CASE NO. 22 ND
PAGE NO. 66

By the testimony of Jesus Peña
it appears that the place
called Samuel is well known
that it is situated on Russian
River, and derives its name
from a tribe of Indians called
Samuel Indians who who live
there and have a rancharia
there - The witness on being
shown the map in the expe-
diente recognises it as being
a map of the place "Samuel"

James Black testifies that
he has known the place called
"Samuel" since 1842 - and that
it was always called by that
name - That it is the name
of a valley and that every body
in that vicinity knows it
by that name and that it has
always been so known since
the witness acquainted with
it. The witness further states
that in his opinion a surveyor
could take by the aid of
the map locate the land
there designated as the "Serranas"
que se solicita"

Without inquiring, therefore, the principles decided in the case of Fremont we think we are justified in drawing this evidence in concluding that the designation by name ^{in the grant} of the tract granted, with its boundaries, and the delineation in the map, taken indicate with reasonable certainty and precision the locality of the granted land.

CASE NO. 22 ND
PAGE NO. 67

No doubt as to the performance of the conditions is suggested. The claimant has from the spring of this year succeeded in that in which he obtained his grant, up to the present time continued to reside upon and cultivate his land — and he even appears to have given his name to the place. For on the surveyed map of the Mining region of California appended to the deposition of Black the name "Feliz" appears and is identified by the witness as the name of the place occupied by the claimant.

No other objections than those already considered are mentioned in the opinion.

of the Board or are sugges-
ted by the District Attorney
we think therefore that this
claim ought to be confined -
to the extent of four leagues -
if that quantity shall be found
within the boundaries delineated
on the map - and if ~~a less~~ the
quantity so contained shall
be less ^{than 4 leagues} than that lesser quantity
is confined to him -

22 11

Fernando de la

ca

The A. S.

Minors -

CASE NO. 22 ND

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District Court of U. S.

Fernando Feliz

vs

The United States

CASE NO. 22 ND

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Brief on the part of the claimant.

II The original grant is returned to the land commission (see the deposition of Flemming taken in this court)

III The due execution and genuineness of the grant from the Mexican government to Feliz has been duly proved in this court by the testimony of José Castro (see his deposition on file)

III The occupation of the land has been proved by the testimony of Pecheco and Torres taken before the land commission, and by Black^{and Peña} in this court, to wit the occupation from the summer of 1845 and that the land was improved by house, corral, cultivation &c. (see depositions of Pecheco and Torres pages 3 & 4 of record, and deposition of Black^{Peña} on file)

IV A traced copy of the expediente is filed in this court. The map attached to the expediente shows that the land granted is in the form of a square of two leagues dimensions on each side, making up the complement of four leagues leaving no sobrante to be taken off, consequently no juridical possession is necessary.

The testimony of Black ^{+ Peña} taken in this court shows that the tract of land has a location on Russian River in Mendocino County, and that its boundaries can be ran out by a surveyor.

V

CASE NO. 22 ND
PAGE NO. 70

All the objections taken to the title by the United States land commissioners have all been obviated by the production of the expediente and by proof of the execution of the grant, and of the locality of the land granted.

VI

The claimant asks for a confirmation according to the lines ran out by the map.

M. Ramirez
Atty for Felix

Supreme Court of
the United States

Fernando Filiz
vs
The United States

With the undersigned hereby
stipulate and consent that
the proofs in this case are
closed and that the case
be submitted to the Court
for its decision thereon

Nov. 14th 1833

CASE NO. 22 ND.

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W. Spence atty
for F. Filiz

No 22

District Court
of the United States

Fernando Feliz

vs

The United States

Brief & stipulation

CASE NO. 22 ND

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