

CASE NO.

95

NORTHERN DISTRICT

---

MUNIZ GRANT

---

MANUEL TORRES

CLAIMANT

LAND CASE

ND 95

36 pages

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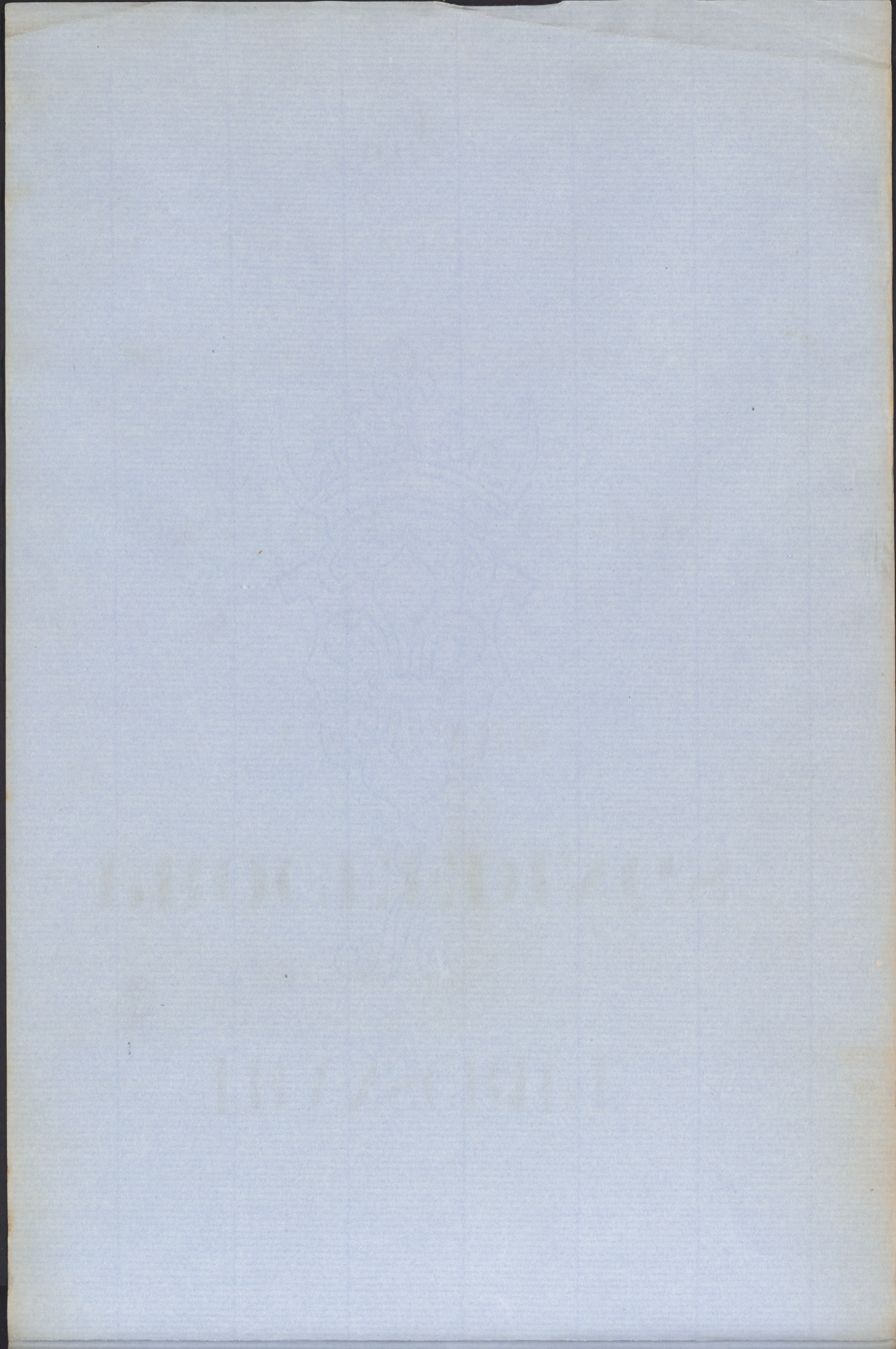
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L. B.



95 ND  
PAGE 1

# TRANSCRIPT

OF THE

# PROCEEDINGS

IN CASE

NO. 43

*Manuel Torres*

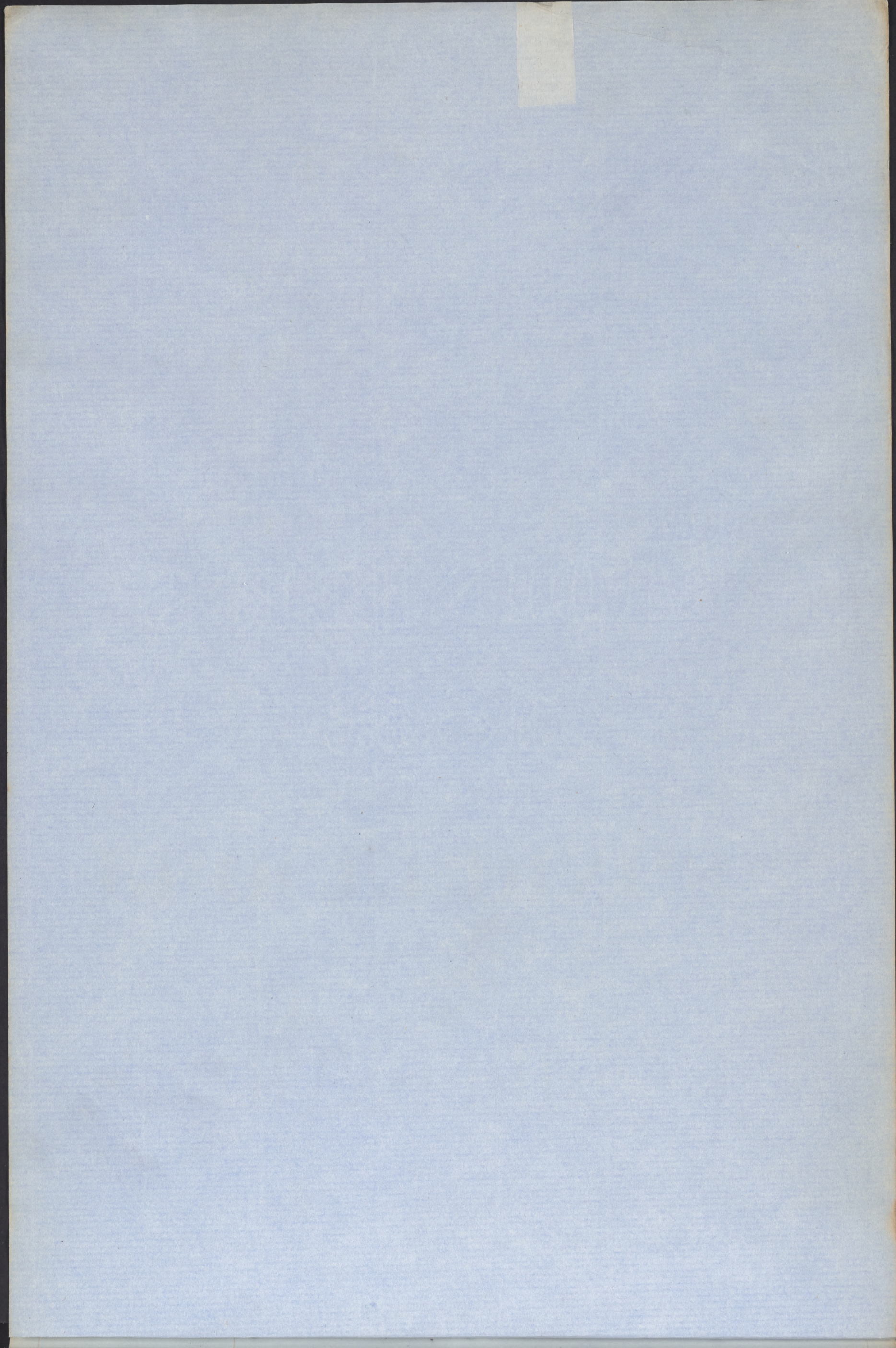
CLAIMANT

VS.

THE UNITED STATES, DEFENDANT,

FOR THE PLACE NAMED

*"Muniz".*



Office of the Board of Commissioners,

To ascertain and settle the Private Land Claims

IN THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA.

95 ND

PAGE 2

Be it Remembered, that on this seventeenth day of February, 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 Manuel Torrez  
for the Place named  
"Muniz"  
was presented, and ordered to be filed and docketed with No. 43 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 February 1<sup>st</sup> 1853.

In Case No. 43 Manuel Torrez for the place named "Muniz" the deposition of Ignacio Pacheco, a witness in behalf of the claimant, taken before Commissioner Melana Hall was filed,

(Vide page 6 of this Transcript)

In the same case the deposition of Gregorio Briones, a witness in behalf of the claimant, taken before Commissioner Melana Hall with document marked Expediente B annexed thereto was filed,

(Vide page 5 of this Transcript)

In the same case the deposition of William A. Richardson, a witness in behalf of the claimant taken before Commissioner Melana Hall with document marked Exhibit B, annexed thereto, was filed,

(Vide page 7 of this Transcript)

San Francisco September 15<sup>th</sup> 1853.

Case No. 43 Called; Submitted on Briefs on both sides and taken under advisement by the Board,

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San Francisco December 27<sup>th</sup> 1853.

In the same case Commissioner Thompson Campbell advised the opinion of the Board confirming the decree,

(See page 17 of this Transcript)

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3

Petition of  
Manl. Jones

95 ND  
PAGE 4

To the Honorable the Commissioners for settling of private Land claims in California - The petition of Manuel Jones a resident of the present County of Mendocino and State of California respectfully sheweth That on or about the 8th of October 1844 he made and presented his petition to Manuel Micheltorena then Governor of California, soliciting for himself the grant of a tract of Land situate North of the Russian River in the present County of Mendocino and containing four sitios de ganados mayos.

That said solicitation was referred by said Governor to the Secretary of State for report, on the 8th of October 1844 and by him transmitted to Jacobo P. Leese then first Alcalde of Sonoma for the purpose of inquiring of the bordering Land holders whether said Land was unoccupied and liable to be granted

That said Jacobo P. Leese reported thereon, that said Land was waste and did not belong to any Village Corporation or individual

That thereupon after due inspection of the petition references and reports, Pio Pico, then Governor and interim of California by a decree bearing date the 4th of December 1845 declared the said Manuel Jones to be the Owner of the tract of Land petitioned for, and directed the proper documents to be made and delivered to him.

That a formal grant was issued on the same day and delivered to your petitioner

That the Original of said petition references and reports and decrees, and a copy of said grant together with a map of the premises are now on file among the Archives of the State of California now in the possession of the Surveyor General of the United States for the State of California, and that duly certified Copies and translations of said documents

are herewith Exhibited and prayed to be taken as part of this petition, but that the said Original grant which had been in possession of your petitioner from the time of its date, has been lost during the last Revolutions and wars of this Country, but your petitioner is able and ready to prove the Execution and Contents of the same whenever required so to do as

That said land is situated in the County of Mendocino and bounded as follows - On the South by the Russian River and the lands of Don Esteban Smith  
On the West by the Shore of the Pacific Ocean  
On the North by the Settlement of Ross  
On the East by a line running along the mountain ridge about One league distance from the sea shore to the Russian River aforesaid

That your petitioner has ever since said grant was made to him resided on the <sup>said</sup> land and has always exercised Exclusive and Acknowledged Ownership over said lands de jure de Mayo

That said lands are known under the name of Rancho de Meriz and measure Two square leagues in extent

Your petitioner therefore claims to be the owner of said tract of land and prays that your Hon. Board will confirm his claim and settle the same -

Clark Taylor & Beebe  
Attys for Petitor

Filed in Office Feb 17<sup>th</sup> 1852  
Geo. Fisher Secy

5

San Francisco Feb 1. 1853

Deposition of  
G. Briones

On this day before me Com. Wiland Hall came Grego-  
rio Briones, a witness in behalf of the claimant  
Manuel Torres - petition 43 and was duly sworn his  
evidence being interpreted by the Secretary  
The U. S. Associate Law Agent was present  
Questions by Claimant.

95 ND  
PAGE 6

Quest. 1. What is your name age and place of residence  
Answer. My name is Gregorio Briones, my age is fifty six  
years, my residence at the Banleys Rancho Marin County

Quest. 2<sup>d</sup> Look at the document now shown you marked  
Exhibit B and now attached to the deposition of Ignacio  
Techeo, purporting to contain a certified copy of the  
a grant made to Manuel Torres by Pio Pico in the  
month of 1845 of a certain piece of land  
called Rancho de Muniiz. State whether you have  
seen the original grant of which this purports to be  
a certified copy. State where and when you have  
seen it, also state whether you know what has been  
done of it.

Answer I have seen the original grant in the begin-  
ning of the year 1846 in the hands of Jose de los Santos  
Berronesca, who was Alcalde of the District of Sonoma  
at that time. He reced it to me and it contained the  
very same matters as this certified copy - I have not read  
it myself because I cannot read.

Quest 3<sup>d</sup> State what you know in regard to Manuel  
Torres having had possession of said land, in what  
manner he had possession and how long he was in  
possession of it -

Answer - I know that Manuel Torres took possession in  
the year 1844 - that is to say one year previous to the time  
of obtaining his grant, that he kept possession of the same until  
the present time, by having a house, corals, cattle and

Other stock thereon  
Sworn and subscribed

Gregorio Briones

Before me Hiland Hall Com

Filed in office. Feb. 1. 1853

Geo. Fisher Secy

San Francisco Feb. 1. 1853

Deposition of  
Ignacio Pacheco

On this day before Com Hall came Ignacio Pacheco a witness in behalf of claimant Manuel Jones petition No. 43 and was duly sworn, his evidence being interpreted by the Secretary.

The U. S. Associate Law Agent was present  
Questions by claimant.

Quest 1. What is your name age and place of residence

Answer. My name is Ignacio Pacheco, my age is forty six and my place of residence on my Rancho of San Jose Marin County

Quest. 2<sup>d</sup> Look at the document now shown you marked Exhibit B and now attached to your deposition purporting to contain a certified copy of a grant made to Manuel Jones by Pio Pico in the month of December 1845 of a certain tract of land called Rancho de Maniz. State whether you have seen the original grant of which this purports to be a certified copy. State when and where you have seen it. What you know concerning its genuineness and that of the signatures attached thereto, also if you know, what has become of it.

Answer. I have seen and read the original grant in the house of Manuel Jones. I know that the signature attached to said original grant, was that of Pio Pico and that it was genuine having often seen his writing.  
Quest 3<sup>d</sup> State what you know in regard to Manuel

7

Torres having had possession of said land, in what manner he had possession, and how long he was in possession of it?

Answer. I know that Manuel Torres took possession in the year 1844 that is to say one year previous to the time of obtaining his grant. That he kept possession of the same until the present time by having a house Cornals, Cattle and other stock thereon

Ygnacio Pacheco

Sworn and subscribed

Before me Heland Hall Comr

Filed in office Feb. 1. 1853. Geo. Fisher Secy

San Francisco Feb. 1. 1853

Deposition of  
W. A. Richardson

On this day before Comr. Heland Hall came Wm. A. Richardson a witness in behalf of the claimant Manuel Torres petition No. 43 and was duly sworn his evidence being given in English.

The U. S. Associate Law Agent was present

Questions by Claimant

Quest. 1<sup>st</sup> What is your Name age and place of residence  
Answer - My Name is William A. Richardson, My age is fifty seven and my place of residence is on my Rancho Saccato in Marin County

Question 2<sup>nd</sup> Look at the document now shown you marked Exhibit B and filed in this case, purporting to be a trace copy of an Expediente certified by the Surveyor General of California, purporting to contain a copy of a grant made to Manuel Torres by Pio Pico in the month of 1845 of a certain tract of land called Rancho de Muniq. State if you have ever seen the original grant of which said Expediente purports to contain a copy. State when and where you saw it, what you know concerning its genuineness and that of the signatures attached thereto, and what has become of it.

Answer. I have often seen and reced Saca Original grant during the year 1845 and the early part of 1846 I know that the signature attached to Saca Original grant was that of Governor Pio Pico. I am well acquainted with the signature of Saca Pio Pico having often seen him write. I know that Saca Original grant was put into the possession of Jose Berreygas Just Magistrate of Sonoma about the first of the year 1846 - I know that in the disturbances of the Revolution of that year many of the papers in the Saca Berreygas possession, was lost, and was told by him that the Saca grant with many other documents in his possession were lost at that time. What do you know of the occupation of the Lanes mentioned in Saca grant -

Answer. It is now in the possession of Manuel Jones the claimant, and has been in his possession since the year 1843 - He has used it all that time principally for the purposes of pasturage, but to some extent for that of agriculture.

Wm A Richardson

Sworn and subscribed

Benjamin Heland Deak Lewis

Filed in Office Feb 1. 1853

Geo. Fisher Secy

9

1 A. D. K.

1845

95 ND  
PAGE 10

Expediente  
Promovido por Don Manuel Torres  
en pretención del terreno nombrado  
Nunik

488

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

Micheltorona

Pablo de la Guerra

por aus.ª del Adm.º  
Guill. Ed. Hartnell



E. S. Gobernador,

Expediente  
B

Monterrey Oct.  
8 de 1844

Enfe. el s.º prio  
del Despacho, tomando  
los q.º crea necesarios  
al efecto.  
Michelt.ª

Manuel Torres, natural de la  
Republica Peruana y haecindado  
en este Departamento en la Circu-  
-scripción de Sonora, ante V. E.

Con el debido respeto y como me  
haya lugar, me presento y digo:  
Que deseando dedicarme al naciente  
y hermosa ramo de la Agricultura  
y cria de ganado como unico ramo  
q.º es de tan vital importancia en  
este pais, y hallandome con un num.º  
considerable de bienes semovientes

y no teniendo un terreno propio en que fomentar estos intereses  
q.º a fuerza de algunos sacrificios he conseguido, he  
tenido a bien suplicarle a V. E. se Sirva concederme  
en propiedad un terreno que se halla baldio desde donde llegare  
los limites o linderos del Sr. D. Satoban Smith rumbo  
N. en extension de Cuatro Sitios de ganado mayor poco  
mas o menos, siendo sus linderos al S. el Rancho  
del Sr. Smith, al O. el mar, al Oriente la aduana,  
y al N. con el establecim.º que pertenecia a los Padres  
cuyo desino a su debido tiempo presentare

3 S. D. K.

P. D. a V. E. pido y suplico provea  
como llevo pedito, de lo que espero recibir merced  
y gracia.

Monterrey. Octubre 8 de 1844  
Man. Torres



11

4

Como dispone el E. S. Gobernador sirvase  
informar al S. Alcalde 1.º de Sonoma sobre el contenido  
de la precedente instancia.

Monterrey 10 de Ocho de 1844  
Man. Jimeno

Jurado 1.º  
de Sonoma

El terreno que se hace mención  
es baldío, no pertenece a Pueblo ni individuo alguno  
y el dho terreno está colindante por el Sur con el  
Rio Russ y el de D. Esteban Smith, y por el  
Poniente con el mar.

Sonoma Ocho de 1844  
Jacob P. Lase

4 S. D. K.

Delo quinto medio real  
Habilitado provisoriamente por la Aduana marítima  
del puerto de Monterrey en el Departamento de las  
Californias, para los señores de mil ochocientos  
cuarenta y cuatro y mil ochocientos cuarenta y cinco  
Micheltorna Pablo de la Guerra

Ad.  
marit.  
de Monty

Guill. Ed. Hartnell

Angeles Diciembre 4 de 1845

Vista la petición con que da principio  
este expediente, el informe del Alcalde 1.º de Sonoma  
con lo demás que se tuvo presente y ver Comino, de  
Conformidad con la ley de 18 de Agosto de 1824  
y reglamento 21 de Noviembre de 1828, declaro a D.  
Manuel Torres dueño del terreno conocido con el nombre  
de Munoz en estension de cuatro sitios de ganado mayor  
poco mas o menos segun demuestra el dicho respectivo.  
Librese el Correspondiente título, y reservese el espe-  
diente para someterlo a la aprobación de la Santa  
Asamblea Departamental. Pio Pico, Gobernador  
interino del Departamto de las Californias, así lo mande,  
decrete y firme, de que doy fe.

5 S. D. K.

Pio Pico  
José M. Covarrubias Srio

95 ND  
PAGE 12

Mak

7 S. D. H.

10 Pico, vocal decano de la Asamblea  
Departamental y Gobernador provisional de las Californias

43-

95 ND  
PAGE 13

Por cuanto D. Manuel Torres ha pretendido para su beneficio personal y el de su familia el terreno conocido con el nombre de Muniti, colindante con el rancho de D. Estevan Smith, con el mar, con la Sierra y el establecimiento de Ros; practicadas previamente las averiguaciones concernientes, usando de las facultades que me son conferidas a nombre de la Nación Mexicana, he venido por decreto de este día en Comandante el expresado terreno, declarandole la propiedad de él por las presentes letras, de conformidad con la ley de 18 de Agosto de 1824 y reglamento de 21 de Noviembre de 1828, a reserva de la aprobacion de la Esma Asamblea Departamental y bajo las condiciones siguientes.

8 S. D. H.

1.ª Podrá cercarlo sin perjudicar las travesías, caminos y servidumbres; no disfrutará libre y exclusivamente destinandole al uso y cultivo que mas le acomode, pero dentro de un año fabricará casa y estará habitada.

2.ª Solicitara' del Juez respectivo se de la posesion juridica en virtud de este despacho, por el cual se demarcaran los linderos con las mojeras necesarias.

3.ª El terreno de que se le hace donacion es de la estension de Cuatro Sitios de ganado mayor, poco mas o menos, segun explica el diseño que obra en el expediente; el Juez que diere la posesion lo hará medir conforme a ordenanza.

En consecuencia mando que teniendo el presente titulo por firme y valido, se tome razon de él en el libro respectivo y se entregue al interesado para su resguardo y demas fines. Dado en la Ciudad de los Angeles en papel comun por falta del Sello, a cuatro de Diciembre de mil ochocientos Cuarenta y cinco

Office of the Surveyor General of the  
United States for California

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 custody a portion of the archives of the former Spanish and Mexican Territory or Department of Upper California, do hereby certify that the eight preceding and hereto annexed pages of tracing paper numbered from one to eight inclusive, and each of which is verified by my initials (S. D. K.) exhibit true and accurate copies of certain documents now on file and forming part of the said archives in my office.

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 Francisco, this seventh day of October A.D. 1851

Sam<sup>l</sup> D. King

Surv<sup>r</sup> Gen<sup>l</sup> Cal

Filed in office Feb<sup>y</sup> 17<sup>th</sup> 1852

Geo: Fisher

Sec

Annex<sup>d</sup> to the depo. of Gregorio Bernal  
taken before Com<sup>r</sup> Hilanda Hall, Feb. 1<sup>st</sup> 1853

Geo: Fisher

Sec

117

Espeiente

Most Excellent Sr Governon

Monterey Oct 8<sup>th</sup>  
1844  
Let the  
Secretary of State  
Report on the subject  
and take the  
necessary informa  
tion he may think  
proper (Signed)  
Micheltorena

I Manuel Torres a native of the Republic of Peru  
and a resident of this Department in the jurisdiction  
or District of Sonoma do appear before y. E. with a  
due respect and says with the best legal forms  
That wishing to devote myself to the new and interesting  
pursuit of agriculture and the rearing of cattle  
which is the only pursuit of a vital importance in this  
Country, and as I find myself the owner of a considerable  
number of moveable property or cattle and not having  
sufficient lands whereon to foment said property  
which I have acquired by dint of some sacrifices. I  
have thought of requesting y. E. to be pleased to grant  
me the ownership of a tract of vacant lands from the  
places to which the boundaries of Don Esteban Smith  
reaches on a Northernly direction, to the extent of four  
square leagues (four leagues or ganadas Mayor) more or  
less, its boundaries towards the South being the Rancho  
of Sr. Smith, to the East the Sea, to the West the Serra  
nia, or the Mountain Ridge and to the North the  
settlement which belonged to the Russians the  
sketch of which I will present in due time  
Therefore I beg and request of y. E. to provide in con  
formity to my solicitation, in which I shall receive  
mercy and favor

Monterey Octoba 8<sup>th</sup> 1844

(Signed) Manuel Torres

The Srn 1<sup>o</sup> Alcalde of Sonoma will report concerning  
the contents of the preceding Memorial, as it has  
been ordered by his Excellency the Governon

Monterey Oct. the 10<sup>th</sup> 1844

(Signed) Manuel Jomero

95 ND  
PAGE 15

1<sup>st</sup> Justices of Court of Sonoma  
 That tract of Land of which mention has been made  
 is Vacant and is neither Town nor individual property,  
 said tract of land borders towards the South on the  
 Russian River and the lands of Don Esteban Smith  
 and towards the West on the Sea  
 Sonoma October 24<sup>th</sup> 1844

(Signed) Jacob P. Leese

Angeles December the 4<sup>th</sup> 1845

After examination of the  
 Memorial heading this Record of Proceedings and  
 the report of the 1<sup>st</sup> Alcalde of Sonoma together with  
 whatever else it was thought fit to attend to, in conform-  
 ty to the Law of August the 18<sup>th</sup> 1824 and the regulate-  
 on of November the 21<sup>st</sup> 1828 - I declare Don Manuel  
 Jones to be the owner of that tract of Land known  
 under the designation of *Muniz* to the extent of four  
 "sitios de ganados mayas" more or less as it appears from the  
 respective sketch. Let the corresponding title be delivered  
 to him, and let the record of proceedings be kept in order  
 that it may be submitted to the approval of the most  
 Excellent the Assembly of the Department. I Pio Pico  
 Governor ad interim of both Californias did order  
 and sign it to which I certify -

(Signed) Pio Pico

(Signed) Jose Melvarubias  
 Secretary

Pio Pico, Senor member of the Assembly of the Depart-  
 ment and Governor ad interim of both Californias  
 Whereas Don Manuel Jones has solicited for his person-  
 al benefit and that of his family the grant of that tract  
 of land known under the designation of *Muniz* having  
 as its boundaries the Rancho of Don Esteban Smith, the

16

sea, La Sierra and the Settlement of Rops, after having  
 taken the corresponding investigations, exercising the pow-  
 ers conferred on me in the name of the Mexican Nation  
 I have by a decree of this day, granted him the aforesaid  
 extensive tract of land declaring it to be his property  
 by the present letters patent in conformity with the  
 laws of August the 18<sup>th</sup> 1824 and regulation of Novem-  
 ber the 21<sup>st</sup> 1828 subject to the approval of the most  
 Excellent the Assembly of the Department and on the  
 following conditions

95 ND  
 PAGE 17

1<sup>st</sup> He may enclose it without any prejudice to the roads  
 paths and servitudes, he will enjoy it freely and exclu-  
 sively appropriating it to the use and culture that  
 may best suit him, but within one year he shall  
 build a house thereon and it shall be inhabited

2<sup>nd</sup> He shall solicit from the respective Judge to give  
 him judicial possession in virtue of this document  
 by whom the boundaries are to be defined with the  
 necessary Land marks.

3<sup>rd</sup> The tract of land granted is of an area of four  
 sitios de ganados Mayas more or less, as it appears  
 from the inspection of the sketch accompanying the  
 record of proceedings; and the Judge who shall give  
 the possession of it is to have it measured according  
 to ordinances.

Therefore I Order that the present letter being held  
 as firm and valid, be entered in the respective  
 Book, and be delivered to the party concerned for  
 his security and other convenient purposes

Given in the City of Los Angeles on Common paper  
 wanting of steps one on the 4<sup>th</sup> of December 1845

E. D. C  
 R. P.

Filed in Office Feby 17<sup>th</sup> 1852  
 Geo. Fisher Secy

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



17

Manuel Torres  
 vs  
 The United States } Rancho de Muniz 4 square  
 } Leagues Mendocino County

95 ND  
 PAGE 18

The petitioner in this case represents in his petition that on the 4<sup>th</sup> day of December A.D. 1845 he obtained from Governor Pio Pico a grant of the place called Muniz containing four square leagues of land.

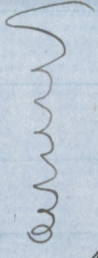
The petitioner represents that the said grant so obtained has been lost and that he is not able to produce it but that he is able to prove its contents.

In support of the foregoing arguments, and in proof of the claim set up by the petitioner to the land in question he has placed on file a certified true copy of the Expediente taken from the Archives now on file in the United States Surveyor General's Office for this State, he has also placed on file a certified true copy of a note of said grant taken from the Book of titles deposited in said Surveyor General's Office. The petitioner has proved by the depositions of witnesses the genuineness and loss of the original grant and that the copy attached to the Expediente is a true copy of the original. The petitioner having established a foundation for the introduction of secondary testimony by showing first, the genuineness of the original grant, and second, its loss, the only question is, whether the secondary evidence produced by the petitioner establishes his right as set forth in his petition. The Expediente which is in evidence, contains first the petition and map of the party to the Governor asking him for the place called Muniz and which is therein described by metes and bounds, secondly, the order for information by the Governor, and the report of the proper officers, thirdly, the just decree of Concession and fourthly the copy which the party offers as a substitute for the original.

grant. The trace copy of the entry made in the book of titles, is a mere memorandum of the issuing of the grant which corresponds as to date, the name of the grantee, the location of the land granted, and the quantity, with the petition asking for the grant. The first decree of Concessions and with the copy attached to the Expediente taking these circumstances in connection with the testimony of <sup>the</sup> witnesses. I think there can be no doubt but that the copy attached to the Expediente should be admitted as legal evidence in the cause. The depositions on file show that the claimant had taken possession of the place called Muniy one year previous to the time of obtaining his grant, and has kept possession of it ever since, by having a house, canals and stock thereon. The witness uses the general term possession, which is a very unsatisfactory way of proving the actual habitation of the party, he however qualifies it, by stating the particular acts of possession which although they do not show affirmatively that the party actually lived upon the land, still I think in habitancy may be inferred, from the facts stated, I am therefore of opinion that a substantial compliance with the terms of the Law is shown by the testimony in the cause.

The question of boundary, on account of what seems to be an evident mistake of the party himself in the description of the land given in his petition to the Governor, needs some explanation. The party in his petition bounds his tract on the East by the <sup>sea</sup> and on the West by the Sierra, but the sketch of the land which accompanies the petition represents the sea where it should be on the West side of the tract, and it would be rather defective to bound a tract of land of land in this country with the sea on any other side.

Manuel Jones  
vs  
The United States



95 ND  
PAGE 20

In this case on hearing the proofs and allegations it is adjudged that the claim of the said petitioner is valid, and it is therefore decreed that the same be confirmed. The lands of which confirmation are hereby made are known by the name of Maniz and are the same now occupied by Manuel Jones and bounded and described as follows, to wit, On the South by the Rufean River on the West by the Sea on the North by the Rufean Settlement as it was understood at the time the grant was made and on the East by the Sierra, containing in all four square leagues. Reference for further description to be had to the Opinion filed in this case and to the map which is made a part of the document marked B and filed in this case.

Alpheus Selch  
Thompson Campbell  
R. Aug Thompson

Commissioners

Filed in Office Dec. 27th 1853  
Geo. Fisher Secy

the points of the Compass are not given in the grant which is clearly intended to be made by metes and bounds. The map is referred to and made part of the grant. The map shows the land to be bounded on the South by the Peepsin river which divides the Murray tract from the Rancho of Sena Smith, on the West by the Ocean and on the East by the Serra, the Peepsin Settlement on the North is not designated on the map, but there can be no difficulty I think in ascertaining the precise locality of the land granted as the grant calls for four leagues, and by beginning the survey at the point where the Peepsin river empties into the sea and running Northwardly four leagues thence Eastwardly one league, thence along the Serra to the Cumian river and thence to the place of beginning, the land would be bounded in conformity with the grant, and the description as delineated on the map.

We are therefore of opinion that the claim should be confirmed.

Filed in office Dec. 27<sup>th</sup> 1853

Geo. Fisher Secy

Office of the Board of Commissioners,

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

I, *George Fisher*, Secretary to the Board of Commissioners to ascertain and settle the Private Land Claims in the State of California, do hereby certify the foregoing *Twenty* pages, numbered from 1 to 20, 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. 43 on the Docket of the said Board, wherein *Manuel Torres* is

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

In Testimony Whereof, I hereunto set my hand and affix my private Seal (not having a Seal of Office) at San Francisco, California, this *twelfth* day of September A. D. 1854, and of the Independence of the United States of America the seventy=*ninth*



*Geo. Fisher*  
*Secy.*



95 ND

U. S. DISTRICT COURT,

*Northern* District of California.

No. 95-

THE UNITED STATES,

vs.

*Manuel Torres*

TRANSCRIPT OF THE RECORD

FROM THE

BOARD OF U. S. LAND COMMISSIONERS,

In Case No. 43.

Filed, *Sept 13th* 1854

*Jas. A. Monroe,*  
Clerk.

*N<sup>o</sup> 43*

Office of the Attorney General of the United States,  
Washington, 30th November 1854.

Manuel Torres }  
vs. } 43.  
The United States.

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 30th day of August 1854 the appeal in the district court of the United States for the Northern district of California will be prosecuted by the United States.

*Anthony*

Attorney General.

NY-  
No 95-

U.S. District Court

Northern District

The United States

vs -

Manuel Torres -

Appeal notice -

Manning

Sep 13 /  
Sept 13, 1855,

Wm. A. Monroe,

Clerk



District Court of the United  
States Northern District of California

The United States  
Appellars  
vs  
Manuel Torres

No. 95 / (L. C. Docket No. 43.)

Manuel Torres the Appellee  
and claimant in the above entitled cause  
in answer to the Petition therein filed and  
and says that his title to the land is valid.

He therefore prays that the de-  
cision of the Board of Land Commissioners  
be affirmed and the title of the said claim-  
ant be decreed to be valid.

J. C. Clarke Atty  
for Claimant

U. S. District Court

No. 95

The United States  
Appellants

vs.

Manuel Torres

Answer

Filed June 27, 1855,  
by Chevers  
Deputy.

95 ND

PAGE 26

J. Clark Atty.  
for Plaintiff

To the Honorable District Court of the  
United States in and for the Northern  
District of California.

The United States  
Appellants

vs  
Musselsores

No. 95.

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 said Appellee was  
Confirmed as appears by reference to the  
records in the case:

That a transcript of the said Records was  
filed in this Court on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_  
; that a notice of Appeal  
was filed on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_  
and that the land claimed lies in the  
said District.

That the said claim is invalid.

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

W. H. Russell  
Asst. U.S. Atty.

U. S. District Court

No. 95

The United States  
Appellants

vs

Manuel Torres

Filed June 27, 1850,

by Chever  
Deputy

Petitioner

95 ND

PAGE 28

A. G. Russell  
Sert. U. S. City.

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

Present :

*The Honorable* OGDEN HOFFMAN, *District Judge.*

*The United States*  
v  
*Manuel Torres*

*D. C. 95 : L. C. 43.*

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

*On motion of the U. S. 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*

95

United States District Court, Northern  
District of California.

*The United States*

vs.

*Mmanuel Torres*

ORDER.

*Vacating appeal*

Filed

*May 7th* 1857

*John A. Monsue,*

CLERK.

By

*W. H. Chenevix*

DEPUTY.

95 ND

PAGE 30

California Land Claim.  
Attorney General's Office  
2 January, 1857.

Sir:  
In the case of the claim of Manuel  
Lovel, confirmed to the claimant by the  
Commissioner, case no. forty-three (43), ap-  
peal will not be prosecuted by the Uni-  
ted States.

I am,  
Respectfully,  
Ours,

Wm. T. Blaudens Esq  
U. S. Attorney,  
San Francisco.

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

The United States

v

D. C. 95: L. G. 43.

Manuel Torres

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

San Francisco, May 7 1857

Wm Blauding  
District  
J. Clarke  
Atty for Claimant



95  
43

U. S. Dist Court  
The United States  
v  
Manuel Torres  
Stipulation

Filed May 7, 1857.  
W. H. Chereis,  
Deputy.

95 ND  
PAGE 33

No 95

The U. States

vs

Manuel Torres

Dist Dist Court  
N. Dist of Cal.

Index to the Record

Page 9 to 13. Expedients, copy of Grant

" 14 to 16 Translation of Expedients  
containing copy of Grant.

" 5 Deposition of E. Brianus

" 6 Deposition of Ignacio Pacheco

" 7 Dep. of W. A. Richardson (Each of  
these Depositions prove the genuin-  
ness of the original grant, its loss, and  
the fact that the latter part of the  
Expedient is, as it purports to  
be a correct copy of said original grant  
also that claimant built a house up  
on the land recited therein and made  
improvements continuously from  
the time of the grant to the giving of  
the Depositions

" 17 & 18 Opinion of the Board

" 19 Decree of confirmation

No deponent shew - how or why  
to believe prop & are aware

U. S. Dist. Court  
Northern Div. of Cal

No 95

The U. States

vs  
Manuel Torres

Index to the  
Record

95 ND

PAGE 35

J. Clarke

Office of the Board of Commissioners,

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

San Francisco, Sept. 13<sup>th</sup> 1854

J. A. Mourae, 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. 43 on the Docket of the said Board, wherein  
Manuel Torres is

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

and request your receipt for the same.

I am, Respectfully,

Your Obedt Servant,

Geo. Fisher.

