

CASE No.

387

SOUTHERN DISTRICT

---

LANDS OF THE CHRISTIAN  
INDIANS GRANT

---

JOSEPH S. ALEMANY  
CLAIMANT



LA ND CASE 387 SD pgs. 56

MAR 26 1963

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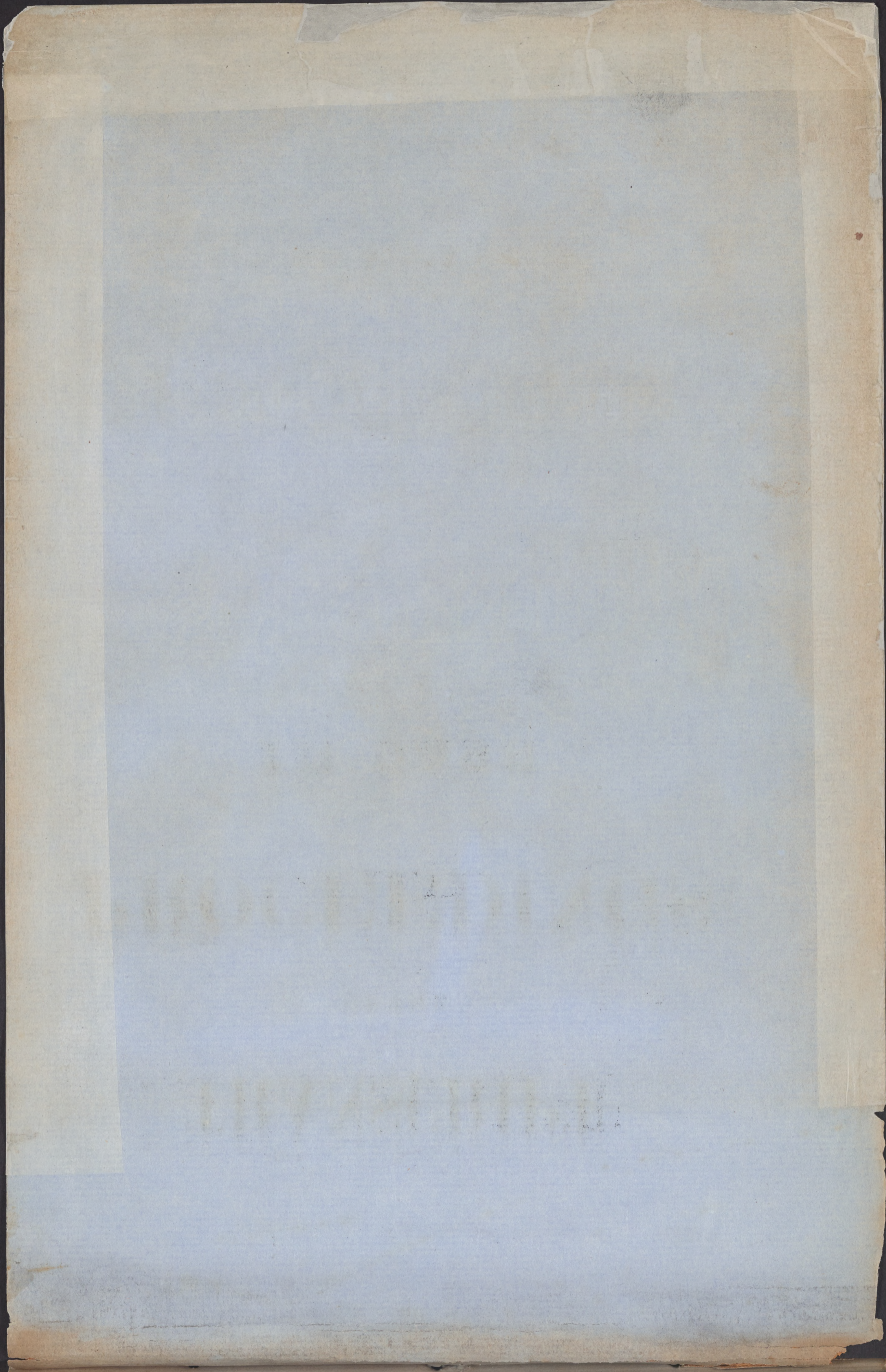
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663

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# TRANSCRIPT

387 SD

PAGE 1

OF THE

# PROCEEDINGS

**IN CASE**

NO. 663.

*Joseph S. Mennany*

CLAIMANT

VS.

THE UNITED STATES, DEFENDANT,

FOR THE PLACE NAMED

*Land of the Christian Indians*



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IN THE

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATURE



Office of the Board of Commissioners,

To ascertain and settle the Private Land Claims

IN THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA.

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Be it Remembered, that on this *twenty eighth of February*, Anno Domini One Thousand Eight Hundred and *Fifty-three*, 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 *Joseph S. Almany* for the *Place named*  
*Lands of the Christianized Indians*  
was presented, and ordered to be filed and docketed with No. *663* 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 April 24' 1854*

In case no. *663*, *Joseph S. Almany* for the lands of the Christianized Indians, the deposition of *Fran.<sup>co</sup> de Jesus Sanchez*, a witness in behalf of the claimant, taken before Commissioner *Peter Lott* with documents marked Exhibits no. *1, 2, 3, 4, 5 & 6* P. & annexed thereto was filed.

(Vide page *10* of this Transcript)

*San Francisco January 2 1855*

Case no. *663* was ordered to be placed at the foot of the *4<sup>th</sup>* class cases on the trial docket.

*San Francisco March 13' 1855*

Case no. *663* was submitted without argument and taken under advisement.



San Francisco Dec. 31' 1855

In the same case Commissioner  
Alpheus Welch delivered the opinion of  
the Board rejecting the claim:

Vide page 43 of this transcript  
and the following order was made  
to wit;

Vide page 53 of this transcript

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To the Commissioners for ascertaining and settling  
Private Land Claims in the State of California.

The petition of the Christian Indians  
of California resident on the various Missions of the Right  
Rev. Joseph S. Alemany Bishop of Monterey acting in  
their behalf.

Of the Christian Indians of the Mission  
of San Miguel of the same Rev. Joseph S. Alemany Bishop  
of Monterey acting in their behalf.

Of the Christian  
Indians of Santa Clara & of San Christos of the same Right  
Rev. Joseph S. Alemany Bishop of Monterey acting in  
their behalf.

Of Andrus Luis Angel, Odorico, Blas,  
Formas, Guido, Francisco, Joaquin, Juan Bautista Ray  
mundo, Rafael, Emeterio, Manuel, Felassimo, and  
Gregorio Christian Indians of Santa Ines of the same Right  
Rev. Joseph S. Alemany Bishop of Monterey as the Attys.

Of the Roman Catholic Clergy of California  
of the same Right Rev. Joseph S. Alemany Bishop of  
Monterey acting in their behalf.

Of the Right Rev. Jos  
S. Alemany Bishop of Monterey a Copartitioner Sole  
respectfully shows, that many years ago and whilst  
California then a Province of the Spanish Vice Royalty of  
Mexico, was still a wilderness, uninhabited save by the  
tribes of Aboriginal Indians, Priests of the Roman Catholic  
Church, under the jurisdiction of the Spanish Ecclesiastical  
Authorities came to this County as Missionaries, for the  
purpose of converting the said Aborigines, to Christianity  
and teaching them the arts of Civilization in pursuance  
of which objects they founded the Establishment known  
as the Missions of California.

That the establishment of  
said Missions was commenced at San Diego in the  
Year One thousand Seven hundred & Sixty nine & from  
that period forward the other Missions hereafter mentioned  
were from time to time founded, all with the same objects  
and following the same general system.

That the Missions  
under the Authority and with the assent of the Government  
of Spain and under the Laws thereof, & subsequently in  
like manner under the Government of Mexico took  
up large tracts of Land in California, & subjected them  
to cultivation, and the use of agriculture and Cattle



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raising of the labours of the Indians who by these means  
were in a great degree induced to abandon their former  
wandering and improvident modes of life and to adopt  
the arts of peace and civilization.

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That the Government of  
Spain recognized by Law the truth of the Catholic Religion,  
and the people of Mexico having no religious differences  
amongst themselves, the Government after its severance from  
the Kingdom of Spain, did the same, and the Catholic  
Church in those Countries, was and is recognized as a body  
politic and Corporate with its proper Succession, and  
enjoying the Controul and administration of its internal  
affairs, according to the rules of its Canon Law, and  
the rules and discipline of the Catholic Church.

That the Government  
of Spain (while Mexico remained a dependency thereof)  
and the Government of Mexico after its separation  
from Spain recognized the truth of the Catholic Religion,  
and the existence or organization and discipline of the  
Catholic Church as above mentioned, and the importance  
of Civilizing and Christianizing the Indians, encouraged  
the establishment of said Missions and authorized the  
Missions to regulate the affairs of the Indians, to reduce  
them into Communities, and administer the property  
and temporal affairs, and that under said System  
of Laws and regulations, all of which were in force at  
the time of the conquest and Cession of California to the  
United States, the Catholic Church and Catholic Clergy  
of California were regarded and recognized by Law,  
as the guardians of the Indians, and the latter were their  
words and pupils.

That the tracts of Land taken up  
as aforesaid were assigned to each Mission, and that  
the same were used and cultivated for the Indians under  
the direction of the Priests and Padres, and the Cattle  
and Crops raised on the same were appropriated  
to the benefit and use of the Community of each  
Mission in Common, under the direction of the  
Missionaries also, that when from the Superior advan-  
cement in civilization of any individual Indian  
or any Community of them, or from any peculiar  
local circumstances it became proper to do so,  
such individuals or Communities, had parcels of Land  
Expressly assigned to them, in Severalty or in Common



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of the Governours for the time being, and that when Lands were so Assigned to individuals or Communities in Severality, such individuals or Communities were recognized by Law, as the absolute owners of such Lands subjected to the Conditions of the grant, but that in despite of such ownership in Severality the title of the Indians of California to their Lands as descend from the Law of Nature, and from immemorial occupation was always recognized by the Laws of Spain and Mexico, and it was at all times forbidden, and that by repeated enactments, to take their Lands from the Indians or to Eject them therefrom.

That up to the year One thousand Eight hundred and thirty three, the Missions of California had been under the charge and Superintendance of Regular Clergy of the Catholic Church, that is to say, Members of Regular Religious Orders. The said Missions having been Established by the Friars of the Order of St Francis Commonly Called Franciscans.

That in the year 1833 an act was passed by the Congress of Mexico (Commonly called the Law of Civilization) directing the substitution of Secular Priests of the Catholic Church in the place of Missionary Friars on the Missions and depriving the Clergy of the Administration of the Temporal affairs of the Indians and directing the same to be put into the hands of Laymen as administrators, but that the revenues, issues, profits and crops, gain, yield and advantage of the Mission Lands were under the said Law of Secularization and under such Lay administration recognized as belonging to the Indians, and the administrators were placed merely to take charge thereof in trust for their benefit, in consequence of the inexperience of the Indians in matters of the kind.

That in the year One thousand Eight hundred and thirty five, a Law was passed by the Congress of Mexico which directed the suspension of the act of Secularization until further steps should be taken by the Supreme Government (and which further steps were taken) and that in the mean time things should be maintained in the state they were in before said Law was enacted, and in pursuance of said last mentioned Law, the Secularization of the said Missions was suspended, and very little proceedings having ever been taken under the act Secularization.



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The Catholic Church continued to be regarded and recognized as the guardians of the Indians in the same manner as before said act had been passed and were such at the time of the Cession of California to the United States by the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo.

That the extent of Land originally belonging to Each Mission was seven Leagues square or its equivalent and that the Missions were as follows.

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- 1<sup>st</sup> The Mission of San Diego in the County of San Diego Established in 1769.
  - 2<sup>d</sup> The Mission of San Luis Rey in the County of San Diego Established in 1798.
  - 3<sup>d</sup> The Mission of San Juan Capistrano in the County of Los Angeles & San Diego Established in 1796.
  - 4<sup>th</sup> The Mission of San Gabriel in the County of Los Angeles Established in 1771.
  - 5<sup>th</sup> The Mission of San Fernando in the County of Los Angeles Established in 1771.
  - 6<sup>th</sup> The Mission of San Buenaventura in the Counties of Santa Barbara & Los Angeles Established in 1782.
  - 7<sup>th</sup> The Mission of Santa Barbara in the County of Santa Barbara Established in 1786.
  - 8<sup>th</sup> The Mission of Santa Ines in the County of Santa Barbara Established in 1804.
  - 9<sup>th</sup> The Mission of La Purissima in the County of Santa Barbara Established in 1787.
  - 10<sup>th</sup> The Mission of San Luis Obispo in the County of San Luis Obispo Established in 1772.
  - 11<sup>th</sup> The Mission of San Miguel in the County of San Luis Obispo Established in 1797.
  - 12<sup>th</sup> The Mission of San Antonio in the County of San Luis Obispo Established in 1771.
  - 13<sup>th</sup> The Mission of La Salidad in the County of Monterey Established in 1791.
  - 14<sup>th</sup> The Mission of San Carlos in the County of Monterey Established in 1790.
  - 15<sup>th</sup> The Mission of San Juan Bautista in the County of Monterey Established in 1797.
  - 16<sup>th</sup> The Mission of Santa Cruz in the County of Santa Cruz Established in 1791.
  - 17<sup>th</sup> The Mission of Santa Clara in the County of Santa Clara Established in 1777.
  - 18<sup>th</sup> The Mission of San Jose in the County of Santa Clara Established in 1797.



- 19th The Mission of San Francisco de Asis in the County of San Francisco Established in 1776.  
20th The Mission of San Rafael in the County of Marin Established in 1817.  
21st The Mission of San Francisco Solano in the County of Sonoma Established in 1823.

That the Government of the Catholic Church in California whilst the same belonged to Mexico was vested in the predecessor of your petitioner Joseph L. Alemany "Bishop of California". That when California was ceded to the United States, the name of the Diocesis of California was changed to that of Monterey, but the limits of the Diocesis of Monterey are the same as those of the Mexican Bishops or Diocesis of California, and that your petitioner Joseph L. Alemany Bishop of Monterey is the legal rightful successor of the late Right Rev Francisco Garcia Diego the late Catholic Bishop of California.

That under the Mexican Government of California the corporate succession of the Catholic Church being recognized & Law the administration of temporal affairs connected with the Church was vested in the Bishop and Clergy of the Diocesis, but that after the cession of California to the United States the administration thereof in conformity to general usage of the Catholic Church in the United States and from motives of convenience placed in the hands of the Bishop of the Diocesis as representing the Church and your petitioner Joseph L. Alemany Bishop of Monterey has been duly incorporated as a Corporation, Sole for that purpose under and in pursuance of a Statute of the State of California passed April 22<sup>d</sup> 1850, and amended May 4<sup>th</sup> 1852.

That at a convention of the Catholic Clergy of California held in the City of San Francisco in March 1852, and at which the Clergy attached to the 21 Missions and 15 Parishes comprised within said Diocesis were represented, the members of said Convention considering their duty towards the various Indian Residents on the Mission Lands and in communicating as above mentioned, and in view of the fact that as the number of the Indians had very much diminished within the last few years, and that consequently that so much Land would not be required for their use as heretofore Resolved unanimously that your petitioner should apply to your Honors on behalf of the said Catholic



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Clergy and of the said Indians for a release to your petitioners for the benefit of and in trust for the Indians of one Span square of Land to each Mission including or excluding as your Honors may think just the Lands specially granted to individual Indians or to Communities of them as herein before mentioned.

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Your petitioners further shows that he holds grants of specific portions of Land to the following individual Indians & Communities and for a confirmation thereof he prays on their behalf and as their guardian and trustee. viz.

1<sup>st</sup> From Governor Manuel Morcettorene a grant of the Land known by the names of las Bullinas el Nacimiento and La Estrella in the County of San Luis Obispo. to your petitioners the Christian Indians of San Miguel a copy of which grant is herewith presented marked "A" and a translation of the same marked "Translation of A" said grant is dated July 16. 1844.

2<sup>d</sup>. A grant from the same Governor of all the vacant (baldes) Lands of Santa Clara ungranted before that time to your petitioners the Christian Indians of Santa Clara dated June 10<sup>th</sup> 1844. a copy of which grant is herewith presented marked "B" together with a translation thereof marked "Translation B"

3<sup>d</sup> A petition and order for grants. together with the evidence that such grants were duly made in favor of your petitioners Andrus for three hundred Varas square of Land in San Isidro. of your petitioners Juan Bautista for three hundred Varas square at the same place. to your petitioners Angel for two hundred Varas square in the same place. and to your petitioners Rafael for two hundred Varas square in the same place. also to your petitioners Blas for three hundred Varas in the Sangra de Leata. and to your petitioners Tomas one hundred Varas square in the same place. also to your petitioners Francisco three hundred Varas square at the place called Alalimany to your petitioners Luis for three hundred Varas in the same place. and to your petitioners Reguendo for two hundred Varas square in the same place. also to your petitioners Joaquin for three hundred Varas square at the place called Semicabr. to your petitioners Domingo for three hundred Varas square at the same place. to your petitioners Guido for three



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Hundred Varas Squan at the same place. Your petitioners  
Manuel for three hundred Varas Squan at the same place  
also your petitioners Gregorio for two hundred Varas  
Squan at the same place. Your petitioners Odovico for  
three hundred Varas Squan in the place called Alagulope.  
So your petitioners Helicesimo for three hundred Varas in  
the large plain, all at the Mission of Santa Ines.  
which order for said grants bears date January 18. 1844.  
A Copy of the petition and order for said grants is  
herewith presented marked "L." together with a translation  
thereof "Marked Translation of L."

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Grants were in fact  
issued of all the lands mentioned in the petition and  
order marked L. and judicial possession given of the  
lands herein described, but from lapse of time & accident  
some of said Grants have been lost, of such as can now  
be found, a Copy is herewith presented marked "D."

4th. A decree of Manuel Michelena Governor of  
California dated July 15. 1844. erecting the Mission  
of San Luis Obispo into a Town and granting the  
Common Land to the Emancipated Indians a Copy  
of which is herewith presented marked "E" with its  
translation marked "Translation of E."

Your petitioners therefore pray that  
there may be confirmed to your petitioners the Right  
Rev Joseph L. Alemany Bishop of Monterey and to  
his Successors three title to one League of Land at each  
of the aforesaid Missions in trust for the use of the Indians  
of such Mission, and also that the aforesaid titles  
the Copies whereof are herewith presented marked "A. B.  
& C." as aforesaid may also be confirmed

And your petitioners  
will ever

W. Botto & Smeath  
of Counsel  
Cassidy & Doyle  
of Counsel.

Filed in Office July 28. 1853.

Geo. Fisher Secy.

Recorded in Vol 2<sup>d</sup> of Petitions on pages from 33 to 40.  
Geo. Fisher Secy.



10  
Deposition of  
Francisco de Jesus

United States of America  
State of California

San Francisco April 22<sup>d</sup> 1854.

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This day personally came before Peter Sott, a Commissioner for taking testimony to be used before the Board of U.S. Land Commissioners in said State, Francisco de Jesus Sanchez a witness on behalf of the Claimant in Case No 663 on the Docket of said Board wherein Joseph L. Menany is Claimant in Trust & and the said witness being duly sworn, on oath deposed in the Spanish Language, which was interpreted into English by the interpreters to said Board as follows, to wit -

The United States  
Law Agent is present  
Questions by the attorney for the Claimant

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

Answer. My name is Francisco de Jesus Sanchez, my age is 41 years, my residence Santa Barbara County, California

2<sup>d</sup> Question. Are you a Priest of the Catholic Church and how long have you been so?

Answer. I am, and have been for sixteen years.

3<sup>d</sup> Question. How long have you resided in California, and at what places and in what employment?

Answer. For 13 years, at various places. I have been and am a Franciscan Missionary I have been employed as such at San Buenaventura, Santa Barbara, San Gabriel, Santa Ines, Los Angeles, La Purissima and other Missions.

4<sup>th</sup> Question. Are you acquainted with the hand writing of Manuel Micheltram, former Governor of California and Manuel Jimeno his Secretary, and how did you become acquainted with them?

Answer. I do know the hand writing of both of them. I lived for some months in the same house with Micheltram and have often seen each of them write.



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5th Question. Look upon the paper now shown you and marked "Exhibit No 1" annexed to the deposition of Francisco de Jesus Sanchez P.L. and say in whose hand writing are those signatures.

Answer. There are three signatures, the one is the signature of ~~Manuel~~ Manuel Micheltorena, and the other two of Manuel Jimeno all of them are genuine.

6th Question. Examine the signatures to this Document now shown you and marked "No 2" annexed to the deposition of Francisco del Jesus Sanchez P.L. and say what they are?

Answer. There are three. One of Micheltorena and two of Manuel Jimeno they are all genuine.

7th Question. Examine the signatures to this Document now shown you and marked "Exhibit No 3" annexed to deposition of Francisco del Jesus Sanchez P.L. and say whose they are?

Answer. There are two, one of Governor Micheltorena, the other of Manuel Jimeno both are genuine.

8th Question. Look upon the paper now shown you and marked "Exhibit No 4" annexed to the deposition of Francisco de Jesus Sanchez P.L. and say if you know in whose hand writing the various parts of it are?

Answer. I think the first part of it down to the word "Cueseritas" is in the hand writing of Thomas Olivera who was Mayor of Santa Cruz at that time, but I am not certain of it. The part following the Crosses down to the signature of Micheltorena is in the hand writing of Governor Micheltorena.

That which follows the signature of Micheltorena down to the signature Jose Joaquin Jimeno is in the hand writing of Jose Joaquin Jimeno who was the Priest of the Mission of Santa Cruz. I was his Companion then and know his hand writing well. The part which follows that down to the signature of Micheltorena I believe to be in the hand writing of Governor Micheltorena. The signature is his.

The part which follows that is again the hand writing of Jose Joaquin Jimeno down to the signature. That which follows is the hand writing of Governor Micheltorena down to and including his signature. The last paragraph which is unsigned I think to be in the hand writing of Don Manuel Jimeno -



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9th Question. Do you know of the issuing of grants of Land to Indians at Santa Ynes. about the date of this Document Exhibit N<sup>o</sup> 4?

Answer. Yes.

10th Question. Look upon this Document now shown you and marked Exhibit N<sup>o</sup> 5 annexed to the deposition of Francisco de Jesus Sanchez P. L. and say if you know in whose hand writing its various parts are, and how you became acquainted with the hand writing of such as you recognize?

Answer. The whole of the text or body of the Document is in the hand writing of one Regmonde Canillo. I have seen him write and often had letters from him. and know his hand writing well.

The signature on the first page "Felicesimo" is in the hand writing of Canillo also. I know the Indian Felicesimo, he could not write. The signatures Nicolas A. Deu & Magnum de Canillo whenever they occur in the paper in its various parts are the genuine signatures of those parties respectively.

I have seen Deu write and corresponded with him often. He was Justice of the Peace of Santa Barbara at that time. The signature of Jose Olivera where it occurs. I cannot testify to. as I don't know his hand writing.

11th Question. Were you present when the Judicial Possession was given?

Answer. I was in Santa Ynes. I remember that possession was given about 1845. but I was not present at the giving of it.

12th Question. Do you know what "Felicissimo" did towards the improvement of the Land?

Answer. He built a small house enclosed the Land with a fence and planted Corn, Melons and Vegetables on it.

13th Question. Who is in the possession of the Land?

Answer. When I left Santa Ynes three years ago "Felicissimo" was in possession of it. Cannot of course know who has the actual possession now.

14th Question. How many Indians were then generally living at each Mission under the care of the Missionary?



Answer. Some Missions had more and some less in 1841, the Mission which had the smallest number, had about one hundred & fifty, at the same time I understood that San Luis Rey had 3000, San Buenaventura had about 500, San Gabriel more than 200, Santa Barbara about 300. The numbers varied in various Missions.

I have here a table signed by Padre Sivan, who died some twenty years since. I know his signature by having seen it very often in baptismal registers and records of burials, Marriages &c. I never knew him personally this table may give some information on the matter it is marked "Exhibit No. 6. annexed to the deposition of Francisco de Jesus Sanchez P.F."

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15th Question. What quantity of Land was usually attached to each Mission?

Answer. There was some Missions which had as many as 26 or 30 Leagues. I think the smallest quantity attached to any Mission was 8 or 10 Leagues. The Missions stretched along and occupied the whole Coast from San Diego to San Francisco Solano, now called Sonoma, with the exception of a few Ranchos belonging to individuals.

16th Question. Who were treated and regarded under the Mexican Government as the owners of these large tracts of Mission Lands?

Answer. The Indians under the direction of the Missionaries.

17th Question. Can you state whether the Law of Secularization was intended to take away the property from the Indians or how otherwise?

Answer. No. its object was with respect to Spiritual matters, to consign them to the care of the Bishop with regard to temporal matters, to make a partition of the property among the Indians themselves, leaving the Church the property which belonged to the Church.

17th Question objected to by Law Agent as Eliciting opinion of witness on matters of Law. P. Lott.

### Cross Examined by the U.S. Law Agent.

1st Question. How was the Land attached to the Missions as stated in your answer to Question 15th. State herein particularly the manner in which such Lands were set as Mission Lands, how they were segregated and how they were held?

Answer. These Lands were occupied by the Indians before the Missionaries came. - The Missionaries when they took upon them the guardianship



of the Indians, also took the administration of the lands occupied by them. There was no act of Segregation on the part of the Civil Government, other than the general recognition of the guardianship of the Missions over the temporalities of the Indians, and the tenure for which these lands were held by the Missions was that of Administrators and Guardians of the Indians who held the occupancy by prescription right. I speak of the lands not belonging to the Church.

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2<sup>d</sup> Question. How did the Indians obtain the ownership of the lands as you mention in your answer to Question 16. and of what tenor did they hold.

Answer. The Indians were the occupants and owners of the lands from time immemorial. they were the cultivators and tenants of the laws of nature before the Spanish Dominion and neither the Spanish or Mexican Governments had wrested the lands from them when the Missionaries became their Guardians. This was a natural consequence of the original tenure, and unless these lands were taken under the laws of Colonization to be granted by the Government to individuals, they were still left in the undisturbed possession of the Missions for the use of the Indians -

Francisco de Jesus Sanchez

Subscribed & Sworn to before me  
on this 24<sup>th</sup> day of April A.D. 1854.

Vitor Salt Commissioner  
for taking testimony &c.

Filed in Office April 24. 1854

Geo Fisher Secy

Recorded in Dr. B. Vol 4 p 289

Geo Fisher Secy



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 cuarenta y cinco.

Micheletorena.

Pablo de la Guerra.

Exhib. n.º 1. El C. Manuel Micheletorena, General de Brigada  
 arrived to deposition of Francisco de Jesus Sanchez. P. L. del Ejército Mexicano, Ayudante General de la  
 Plana Mayor del mismo, Gobernador Comand.<sup>te</sup>  
 General e Inspector del Departamento de las  
 Californias.

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Por Cuanto los Indigueros de S.ª Clara han pretendido todo el terreno que se halla comprendido en el terreno que se formó para demostrar el que existia como realotio y no concedido: para que en comun se aprobasen de el y habiendose practicado previamente las diligencias y averiguaciones convenientes segun lo dispuesto por leyes y reglamentos de la materia declaro a los Ciudadanos Indigenas a nombre de la Nacion Mexicana dueños en propiedad del terreno mencionado, sujetandose a la aprobacion de la Junta. Administrativa Departamental y a las condiciones siguientes.

1.º No podran en ningun tiempo venderlo ni enajenarlo, enponer censo, vinculo, fianza hipoteca ni otro gravamen alguno, aunque sea por causa pichosa ni pasarlo a otras manos.

2.º Cuando el Gobierno por alguna causa del bien comun necesitare de alguna porcion del dho. terreno, podra disponer libremente de el pero sin que sea de aquellos que cultiven y mas necesitan los Indios.

3.º Cuando se confiriere esta concesion se podra medir juridicamente el terreno, conforme a ordenanza para que en los limites se



las moshoneras correspondientes: Sin que en ningun tiempo estorben las traversias Caminos y Serridumbres.

Si. Si contraviniere a estas condiciones perderá su derecho al terreno.

En consecuencia unuulo que sirviendo les de titulo el presente y teniendose por firme y valedero se entregue al actual Ministro de Santa Clara para que se deposite en el archivo de la Mision, para la debida constancia. Dado en Monterrey a diez de Junio de mil ochocientos cuarenta y cuatro.

Mans Melickett.

Mans Jimeno. Seco.

Queda tomada

razon de esta concesion en el libro respectivo a fojas 8. vuelta.

Jimeno.

Filed in Office. April. 24. 1854.

Geo. Fisher.

Secy.

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1<sup>st</sup> Translation of  
"V3"

The Citizen Manuel Micheltorena General of  
Brigade of the Mexican Army. Adjutant General of  
the Staff of the same. Governor Commanding General  
and Inspector of the Department of both Californias.

In as much as the Indians of Santa Clara have solicited  
all the land which is comprised in the plan which was  
formed to designate that which existed as entitled and  
granted, in order that in common they may benefit  
themselves with it and having taken the proper steps and  
made the inquiries according to the provisions of the laws  
and Regulations on the subject, in the name of the  
Mexican Nation, I declare the said Indians owners  
and proprietors of the above mentioned land, submitting  
themselves to the approbation of the most excellent  
Departmental Assembly and to the following conditions.

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1<sup>st</sup>. In no time shall they be allowed to sell or alienate  
it to impose annuity, obligation, Mortgage, Security  
or any other charge even if it were for a pious object,  
nor to transfer it by Mortmain.

2<sup>d</sup>. When the Government for some public good shall  
need a portion of said land, it will be at liberty to  
dispose of it fully, but not of that which the Indians  
may cultivate and need more.

3<sup>d</sup>. When this grant shall be confirmed, the land may be  
measured judicially, according to the Ordinance, that in the  
limits the proper land marks may be placed, without dis-  
turbing at any time the Cross ways, roads, or servitudes.

4<sup>th</sup>. If they violate these conditions, they shall lose  
their right to the land. Consequently I order that these  
presento being a title to them, to be held as firm & valid  
be delivered to the actual Minister of Santa Clara  
to be deposited in the Archives of the Mission for due  
reference.

Given at Monterey on the tenth day of June 1844.

Manuel Jimeno Secy.

Manuel Micheltorena

An account of this grant is taken in Inspection Book folio 8  
Filed in Office Sep 28<sup>th</sup> 1853. Geo Fisher Secy.







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

Por Cuanto ha parecido conveniente proporcionarles a los Indios de San Miguel un terreno, para que lo ocupen y cultiven como las haciendas: he tenido a bien en uso de las facultades que me son conferidas, por leyes y reglamentos de la materia y a nombre de la Nacion Mexicana concederles las terrenos que constituyen las Gallinas, el Nacimiento y la Estreya, bajo las condiciones siguientes.

Exhibit N.º 2.  
annexed to Depos.  
of Francisco de  
Jesus Sanchez.

P. L.

1.º No podrán venderlas, enajenarlas hipotecar las, imponer censo, vicencio, finca ni otro gravamen alguno.

2.º Podrán sercarlo sin perjuicio de las tierras comunales y servidumbres: pero si por algun motivo lo abandonaren: o quedaran baldias por muerte de ellos o sus herederos volveran a la Nacion para los usos convenientes.

3.º El terreno de que se hace mencion sera bajo la estension que demuestra el abiceno que se formulara correctamente y por orden del Gobierno.

4.º Si contraviniere a estas condiciones perderan su derecho al terreno y sera otorgable por otro.

En consecuencia mandado que sirviendole de titulo el presente y teniendose por firme y ratadero se tome razon de el en el Libro a que corresponde y se entregue al Parroco para que lo haga contar en el Archivo de la Nacion. Dado en Monterey a diez y seis de Julio de mil ochocientos cuarenta y cuatro.



20

Mano Michetto.  
Manuel Jimeno. Frio.

Queda anotada razon de esta concesion en  
el libro respectivo. a fojas q.<sup>ta</sup>  
Jimeno.

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Filed in office. April. 24. 1856.

Geo. Fisher.  
Cly.



21  
Translation of  
A.

Manuel Michelborna General of Brigade of the Mexican Army. Assistant General of the Staff of the same. Governor Commanding General and Inspector of the Department of both Californias.

In as much as it has seemed proper to provide the Indians of San Miguel with a tract of land to be occupied & cultivated by them as they may see proper in the exercise of the faculties which have been conferred upon me by Laws and Regulations on the subject and in the name of the Mexican Nation I grant them the Lands named Gallenas el Nacimiento and la Estibla under the following Conditions.

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PAGE 21

- 1<sup>st</sup> They shall not be allowed to sell them, alienate them Mortgage them or place them under any annuity bond. Security or any other obligation whatsoever.
- 2<sup>d</sup> They shall be allowed to enclose them without the injury of the Cross Roads and Servitudes, but if by some motive they should abandon them, or should remain deserted by their death or that of their heirs, they shall revert to the Nation for suitable purposes.
- 3<sup>d</sup> The Land of which mention is made shall be according to the extension which may designate the plan which shall be formed correctly and by order of the Government.

4<sup>th</sup> If they shall contravene to these Conditions they shall loose their right to the Land, and others will have the privilege of applying for it.

Consequently I command that these presents being a title to them to be held firm and valid, should be Registered in the proper Book and should then be delivered to the Priest to be kept in the Archives of the Mission.

Given at Monterey on the sixteenth day July AD 1844.

Manuel Jimeno Secy

Manuel Michelborna

An account of this grant is taken in the respective Book folio 9.

Jimeno.  
Filed in Office July 28<sup>th</sup> 1853. Geo Fisher Secy.



1000  
1000



El Ciudadano Manuel Micheltorena General de Brigada del Ejército Mexicano, Ayudante General de la Plaza Mayor del mismo, Gobernador Comandante General e Inspector del Depto de California.

Habiendose dignado el Supremo Gobierno Nacional facultarme por su orden Exhibit. N<sup>o</sup> 2 de 11 de Febrero de 1852 para el arreglo de las Misiones y encontrandose la de San Luis de Jesus de los Rios y con un corto numero de neofitos cristianos viejos que se mantienen por medio de la Yunta que ellos se proporcionan, he acordado se observen por ahora las prerrogativas siguientes.

P. L.

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1.<sup>a</sup> Se enjere en Pueblo la Mision de San Luis Obispo quedando para sus egidos, los terrenos que actualm<sup>te</sup> estan baldios y en las inmediaciones de la poblacion.

2.<sup>a</sup> Quedan en entera libertad los neofitos de esta Mision y solo estaran en la obligacion de dar servicio personal al cura hasta el numero de seis personas que se tomaran cada semana, debiendoles pagar a los deudos que fueren llamados para otros trabajos.

3.<sup>a</sup> Se declaran casa, Corral el edificio que antes ocupaban los Reverendos Padres, Misioneros y la distribucion de las piezas de ella, ya sea para escuelas, Juzgados Civil de. Sera por el Gobierno con acuerdo del parroco.

4.<sup>a</sup> Mientras mejora el estado politico de la poblacion continuara por ahora un Jefe de Paz Auxiliar sujeto a la Municipalidad de esta Capital, cuyas atribuciones con arreglo a las leyes y reglamentos vigentes y a estas prevenciones proporcionan al Gobierno las medidas convenientes para cuidar de la policia, ornato y demás objetos del pueblo.



5.º Ningun solar para casa se otorga sin como  
 consentimiento del Gobierno quien solo podrá hacer  
 estas concesiones para que las plazas y calles  
 se formen simetricamente. Asi mismo, ninguno  
 podrá tener dominio en la agua de las fuentes  
 y Arroyos que corran por la poblacion, sino  
 unicamente el aprovechamiento de ellos segun como  
 se halla agraciado por el Cuna del lugar quien  
 cuidara caritativamente de este ramo.

6.º La persona que desempeñe el Yungabo  
 se encargara de las enseres enajenados y algunas  
 bienes que pertenecian a San Luis Obispo  
 y con todo auxiliara preventivamente a los  
 Indios para su trabajo.

7.º Las tierras que ocupan las enien-  
 cipales, se no podran vender las, y si quedaran  
 baldios por muerte del propietario y los herederos  
 volveran a poder de la Nacion.

8.º Sera obligacion de los emancipados  
 y algunas vecinas, concurrir y auxiliar para  
 construcción de Iglesia, Casa, Cural y algunas  
 obras de la poblacion, como tambien para  
 las Sargas, Maones, formar Pesas, Corrales,  
 Puestos &c.

Las autoridades Civitana del  
 efecto cumplim<sup>te</sup> de estas disposiciones.

Montevideo, a 15 de Julio de 1814.

Manuel Michelt<sup>e</sup>

Man Jimeno. Seco.

Filed in Office. April. 26. 1856.

Geo. Fisher.

Secy.



"Translation of  
E"

The Citizen Manuel Micheltoena, General of  
Brigade of the Mexican Army, Adjutant General  
of the Staff of the same, Governor, Commanding General  
and Inspector of the Department of both Californias.

The Supreme National Government  
having vouchsafed to give me facilities by Order of the  
11th of February A.D. 1842, for regulating the Missions,  
and the Mission of San Luis Obispo having been for  
some time without any goods, and with the small  
number of Christian Neophytes, advanced in years who sup-  
port themselves by their own industry and diligence, I have  
decreed that for the future the following provisions should  
be observed.

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- 1<sup>th</sup> The Mission of San Luis Obispo is created into  
a Town, remaining for its Commons the lands which  
are now vacant, and in the neighborhood of the Town.
- 2<sup>d</sup> The Neophytes of said Mission remain in entire  
liberty, and they shall only be obliged to render personal  
service to the Priests to the number of six persons, who  
shall alternate weekly, and if more be employed  
for their labour they shall be paid.
- 3<sup>d</sup> The Edifice formerly occupied by the Rev. Father  
Missionary is declared the Ciudad house and the  
distribution of the Rooms whether for a School, Court  
of Justice, &c. shall be made by the Government with  
the concurrence of the Curate.
- 4<sup>th</sup> While the political condition of the Town becomes  
better it shall have for the present an auxiliary Justice  
of the Peace subject to the Municipality of this Capital,  
the Austriatis of which shall propose to the Government  
the proper measures to take care of the Town and  
the people with due accordance to the Laws Regulation  
in force and to these provisions.
- 5<sup>th</sup> No Lot for a house shall be given without the  
consent of the Government, which shall only make the  
concessions, that the Spaniards & Strangers may be formed  
with sympathy.



In the same manner no one shall have dominion over the water of the Aequeducts and Cutes which run towards the Town, but only on a participation of them as he may be favored by the Curate of the place, who shall take care Charitably of this business.

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PAGE 25

6th The Person who shall discharge the Office of Master of the Town shall take charge of the Chattels tilling utensils, and other articles that may belong to San Luis Obispo and in every way shall prudently help the Indians in their Labours.

7th The Lands occupied by the Emancipated Indians shall not be sold and should they remain vacant by the death of the owner and his heirs, they shall revert to the Nation.

8th It shall be the duty of the Emancipated Indians and the Citizens to concur and help in repairing the Church, Priests house, and other works of the Town and also in repairing the Aequeducts, in forming dams, Canals, roads &c.

The Authorities shall see to the exact fulfillment of these dispositions

Given at Monterey the 14th day July A.D. 1844.

Manuel Micheltorena

Manuel Jimeno

Secy.

Filed in Office July 28th 1853.

Geo Fisher Secy.



4. 27

Emi. Sor.

Andres, Luis, Angel, Otonico, Blas, Tomas,  
Guido, Fran<sup>co</sup>, Domingo, Inaquin, Juan Bautista  
Raymondo, Juan Bautista, Pelvisino,

Gregorio y demas neofitos de esta Mision  
ante V.E. con el debido respeto se presentan  
y dicen que conociendo el que en el tiempo pueden  
quedarse sin terrenos y por consiguiente en la  
Indijencia como se allan otros desgraciados  
Suplica n<sup>ra</sup> a n<sup>ra</sup> clase Suplico a V.E. nos aga la  
to the deposition canidad de dar nos precatos de tierra como  
of Francisco de sesientas sesientas varas en cuadro en la  
Jesus Sanchez. Inmediacion de la Mision prometiendo no  
perjudicarla ni enajenar nos de ella.

P. L.

Sta. Fe. 10 de Agosto. de 1843.

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Dr. no saber escribir escribamos nuestras cruces.

+ + + + +

Gob<sup>o</sup> Supremo de las Calif<sup>as</sup>

Santa Fe. Agosto 11. de 1843.

Sirase imprimir el M. R. J. Aray. Jose Lino  
Min<sup>o</sup> y encargado de la del Mision.  
Micheltorena.

Emi. Sor Gobernador.

Todos los mas contenidos en este memorial  
son dignos de consideracion, y asi soy de parecer  
que se les concede algo de lo que piden, pero  
es preciso que cumplan fielmente lo que prometen  
de no perjudicar a la Mision ni privar la  
de las aguas y de no enajenarse; con la  
condicion de no enajenar en ningun tiempo  
lo que se les da: al mismo que las palabras  
y demas neofitos de esta Mision no valgan  
para no atorar las tierras de regadio para  
repartir ni todos los neofitos son capaces de  
levantar.

Sta Fe. Agosto 13 de 1843.

J. Jose Aray Lino.



San Luis Obispo Agto 10. de 1843.

El M. R. P. se sirvase decir nuevos y como  
pueda conservarse, de quien y de cual para q.  
el Gob.<sup>o</sup> pueda despachar con acierto y califi-  
cacion.

Michelt.<sup>o</sup>

Enten. Sor. Gobernador.

En cumplimiento a la ordenado por V. E. despues  
de bien meditado el negocio, atendido a la edad  
estado servicios y conducta de cada uno de los  
Suplicantes gurreylandome es lo posible a la  
razon y justicia digo: que a los muchitos Andres  
Juan 18<sup>ta</sup> Angel y Rafael se les puede dar  
puede dar a los otros por su numerosa  
familia trescientas varas cuadradas y a los dos  
Legueros orientales a todos en S. Ludo; a los  
trescientos y a Tomas diez en la sayja de loma  
tomando solo el ojo de agua chico del lado del  
Este, a Francisco y Luis trescientos y a Raymundo  
trescientos en el rancho llamado Molitray  
a Jaquin, Domingo Guiso y Abanun tres-  
cientos y a Gregorio, trescientos en el pueblo  
llamado Najalupi y a Pelusino trescientos en  
el rancho grande y de este modo se concilio todo  
quedan inmediatas a la Mision para que  
acudan a los trabajos y los exesos y tierras  
que cubren esta quedan salvos.

Ato Ins. Su<sup>o</sup> q. de 1844

J. Jose Jaquin Jimeno.

Montevideo. Enero. 18 de 1844.

conforme opina el M. R. P. Ministro.

Micheltreua.

En 6 de Julio de 1844 se enteraron los titulos  
conforme opina el R. P. J. Jose de Jimeno con  
las condiciones de no poder vender, enjugar  
hipotecar y sin poderlo dejar baldio y que  
si asi lo hacer, o murieren ellos o sus herederos



s. 29.

Si así lo haer, o mueren ellos o sus herederos  
cobren el terreno a la Nación segun se  
al Seisalouminto y medicion que mandara  
haser el A. D. Auto respectivo.

Filio in officio. April. 26. 1851.

Geo. Fisher.  
Secy.

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*[Faint, illegible handwriting covering the majority of the page]*

*[Faint, illegible markings or text in the lower-left quadrant]*



31 Translation of Most Excellent Sr.  
6"

Andres. Luis. Angel. Odorico.  
Blas. Tomas. Guido. Francisco. Domingo. Joaquin. Juan.  
Bautista. Raymundo. Rafael. Emeterio. Manuel. Filie  
essimo. Gregorio. and other Indians of this Mission  
present themselves with due respect before your Excellency  
& State, that fearing in the course of time they may be  
deprived of Land and consequently reduced to the State  
of indigence in which many unfortunate individ  
uals of our class are at present. We beseech your Excellency  
to do us the Charity of granting us portions of Land  
about two hundred or three hundred yards square in the  
neighborhood of the Mission, promising on our part not  
to injure (the Mission) nor to emancipate ourselves from it.

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Santa Ines August 10th AD. 1843.  
In consequence of not knowing how to write we give  
our marks.

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

Supreme Government of both Californias.

Santa Ines August 11th 1843.  
Acquaint the Very Rev Father Fr Jose Jimeno Minister  
and charged with the Mission of the above numerical

Michelarena "

Most Excellent Mr Governor.

All of the Indians most of  
whose names are contained in this Memorial are worthy  
of Consideration, and accordingly I am of Opinion that  
they should obtain some thing of what they petition  
for. Charging them to fulfill faithfully their promises  
and not to emancipate themselves, with the condition  
too, that they shall not alienate at any time what  
may be granted them. At the same time that the  
words "and other Indians of this Mission, may not  
avail since they should not obtain for distribution  
the irrigated lands, nor are all the Indians capable  
of cultivating them.

Santa Ines Aug 13th 1843.  
Fr Jose Joaquin Jimeno  
"



San Luis Obispo Aug 10th 1843.  
 The Very Rev Father will be pleased to state how  
 much can be granted and in what manner and to  
 whom, in order that this Government may proceed  
 with accuracy and judgement.

Michel Torera.

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Most Excellent W Governor.

In compliance with the  
 determination of your Excellency after having maturely  
 considered the subject and conduct of each of the  
 petitions and deciding as much as possible according  
 to reason and justice. I say that to the Indians Andes  
 Juan Bantesta, Angel & Rafael may be granted viz.  
 to the two first in consequence of their large families, three  
 hundred Yards Span, all in San Pedro, to Blas they  
 may be granted three hundred, and to Tomas one hundred  
 Yards Span, in the "Langa de Lota" taking only the small  
 Spring of water of the East side. To Francisco and Luis  
 three hundred and to Ragoneloto hundred in the place  
 called Alahany, to Joaquin Domingo Guido, and  
 Manuel three hundred and to Gregorio two hundred in the  
 place called "Spiech" To Odorico three hundred, Magdalena  
 and to Felisiano three hundred in the "large plain", and  
 that all in time may be secured the Indians may live  
 contiguous to the Mission in order to perform their  
 work and the inclosures and Lands cultivated by the  
 Mission are secure.

Santa Ana January 9th 1844

Gray Jose Joaquin Jimeno

Monterey Jan 18. 1844.

Ordered in consequence with the opinion  
 of the Very Rev Father Minister

Michel Torera.

On the 6th of July 1844 the titles were issued conform-  
 ably to the opinion of the Very Rev Father Fr Jose Jimeno  
 with the conditions that they cannot sell, alienate  
 mortgage nor lease these portions of Land, waste and if  
 any of them does so if they or any of their heirs die, the Lands  
 shall devolve to the Nation and become subject to the  
 marks and measurements which the respective Father  
 Minister shall cause to be made.

Filed in Office Feb 28th 1853. Geo Fisher Secy-



3. Translation of  
D

The Citizen Manuel Micheltorena General of  
Brigade of the Mexican Army. Adjutant General of  
the Staff of the same Governor. Commanding General  
and Inspector of the Department of the Californias

In as much as the Indians of Santa  
Ynes named Audun, John Baptist, Angel & Rafael  
have given evidence of their good behavior and  
solicits Land for cultivation. I grant to the two first  
ones three hundred Varas Squan. and to the two last ones  
two hundred in the place called "San Pedro". Subject  
to the following Conditions.

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1<sup>st</sup> They shall not be allowed to sell, alienate or  
Mortgage it, and if through some motive they would leave  
it uncultivated, or should die the petitioners and their  
heirs, others may apply for it.

2<sup>d</sup> The Per Father respected Minister shall provide that  
the Lands of which the donation is made shall be  
designated and measured.

Consequently I command  
that the presents being a title to them to be held firm  
and valid, an account of it may be entered in the  
respective Book, and that may then be delivered  
to the concerned parties, for their preservation and  
other objects.

Given at Monterey on the Sixteenth  
day of July Eighteen hundred and forty four.

Manuel Micheltorena

An account of this grant is taken  
in the respective Book folio 9. J. Mena.

Filed in Office July 28th 1853

No Fisher Secy.



34

1

1000 22  
1000 22



6. 35-

Exhibit. n<sup>o</sup> 5. aux<sup>o</sup>  
to Deposition of  
Francisco de Jesus  
Sanchez.

P. L.

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1845.

Posecion Judicial en favor del

Señorito Felisiano de los Cueros

Paras cuadradas en el paraje

llamado Llano grande.



Sr. Alcalde 1º de Sta. Barbara.

Felicitimo beneficio de esta Mision de Sta. Ines  
ante la justificacion del V. Compravase y dice que  
abiendolo obtenido la concesion en propiedad de  
sesenta varas en el paraje del llano Grande  
por titulo expedido en su favor p.º el Superior  
Gov.º Departamental a V. Suplica se sirva darle  
la posesion quiblica de estilo con arroyo a  
dho. titulo sirviendo admitir esta instancia  
en papel comun por no haber del Letrado  
que corresponde. Furo no ser de realicacion.

Sta. Ines. Ab.º 8 de 1845.

Felicitimo.

Sta. Ines. Ab.º 8 de 1845.

En virtud de la antecedente Solicitud pros-  
eclase por mi el presente Alcalde a la  
medicion y señalam.º de linderos y posesion  
judicial de las sesientas varas situadas  
en el llano grande que solicita el interesado  
en este expediente con arroyo a los documentos  
que acompaña señalam.º para efectuar lo  
el dho. mure del presente, Asi yo el Alcalde  
1º del partido de Sta. Barb.º lo mande dar  
y firme actuando por los testigos de autos  
por falta de Escribano publico nacional y publico  
de que hay sea.

Nicolas A. Deu.

Joaquín Carrillo.

Jose Olivera.

En la fha. presente el Benefito Felix  
isimo se le ratifico el auto que antecede  
y de el interesado dijo que lo oye y se da  
por estado y lo firmo con ungo y las de ama.  
de que hay sea.

una

Nicolas A. Deu.

una.

Joaquín Carrillo.

Jose Olivera.

En seguida yo el Jue. de estas autos  
mande por medidas en la presente



7. 37

a D. Antonio Rodriguez y D. José Maria  
Valenzuela quienes firmaron la aceptacion y  
juramento proceden al desempeño de su  
encargo y para constancia lo proveyo por  
obligacion que firmo con las de mi asistencia  
de que doy fe.

ano.

Nicolas A. Den.

Jaquin Carrillo.

José Olivera.

En tanto y en presencia de mi el espresado  
Alcalde los medidores mencionados tomaron  
un cordel de catino y con una vara de  
medir usual mexicana midieron cincuenta  
varas para hacer la referida medicion y  
para que conste lo rubrique.

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En la misma fha.

y en el espresado lugar llamado Llano grande  
Siervo como las cuatro de la tarde yo el  
espresado Alcalde para proceder a las mediciones  
de tierra que se ha de hacer al supto Felis-  
simo mande a las mediciones nombradas  
midiesen otose cordeles de cincuenta varas  
por lo que obedaban ser la cantidad de  
Seiscientas varas levantadas en cuyos estremos  
se pusieron unas montes de piedra que  
sirven de mojones y para constancia lo  
firmo por auto con las testigos de mi as<sup>ta</sup>  
de que doy fe.

ano.

Nicolas A. Den.

Jaquin Carrillo.

José Olivera.

En el referido lugar y en el mismo, ocho, mes  
y año el supto Felisissimo a requerimiento  
del Alcalde y testigos de estas autos doy fe  
habiendo medido las Seiscientas varas  
segun consta en el auto anterior tomandose  
y tomandose la verdadera y corporal posesion  
de una Seiscientas varas medidas, pues se  
persuade por quanto titulo que atiene



de la consecución que de ella le hizo el Excmo. Sr.  
 Gov<sup>or</sup> Conde del Departamento D. Manuel  
 Michelena, entre y paso por ella arroyo  
 Menbas, espues p<sup>er</sup> unidas de tierra y q<sup>ue</sup>  
 el otro. Al cual se acordó que desde entonces  
 lo tuviesen y reconocieran por veradero  
 Señor y poseedor de ellas.

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De todo lo apesado p<sup>ro</sup>hibido  
 mefite Felicísimo que para memoria en lo  
 sucesivo y conservación de sus derechos  
 le fuere acreditada por un el repetido aludido  
 una constancia y por no saber escribir  
 lo sigue con una cruz con unigo y las de  
 un año según ord. ob<sup>re</sup> fe.

una.

Niolas A. Den.

Juquin Carrillo.

Juan Olivera.

Filed in Effu. April. 26. 1854.

Geo. Fisher, Secy.



Translation Judicial Papeper in favor of the Neophyte,  
 "Exhibite No 5 Felicissimo, of six hundred square varas  
 annexed to depo. of Luna in the place called "Llano  
 of Fr. de Jesus Grande".  
 Sanchez J. S."

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To the 1<sup>st</sup> Alcalde of Santa Barbara  
 Felicissimo a Neophyte of this  
 Mission of Santa Ynes before the justifica-  
 tion of your Honor appears and states:  
 That having obtained a grant  
 in ownership of six hundred varas  
 in the place called "Llano Grande" by  
 title of purchase in his favor by the Supreme  
 Departmental Government, he prays your  
 Honor have the goodness to give him the  
 usual judicial papeper thereof in  
 conformity with said title, please  
 please to admit this petition on common  
 paper for the want of proper sealed.  
 He desires not to proceed from Malico  
 Santa Ynes April 8. 1845  
 Felicissimo X

Santa Ynes, April 8. 1845

In pursuance of the foregoing,  
 petition of the present Alcalde, we  
 proceed to the measurement, designation  
 of boundaries and judicial papeper  
 of the six hundred varas, situated  
 in the "Llano Grande" which the party  
 to this petition solicited, in conformity  
 with the documents which he accom-  
 panies, appointing therefore the ninth  
 day of the present month. Thus of the  
 1<sup>st</sup> Alcalde of the Juicio of Santa  
 Barbara ordered decreed and signed



40

acting with assisting witnesses for the count  
of a National and Public Notary which  
I certify

(Signed) Nicolas A. Den

Atty. Witnesses

(Signed) Raymundo Carrillo

(") Jose Olvera.

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The foregoing act was on this day notified  
to the Neophyte Felicesimo, and having  
understood it, he declared that he heard  
it and acknowledged the content thereof  
and signed it with me and the assisting  
witnesses, which I certify

(Signed) Nicolas A. Den

Atty. Witnesses

(Signed) Raymundo Carrillo

(") Jose Olvera

In continuation of the Decree of these  
proceedings, appointed as measurers in  
the present proceeding Don Antonio Roca  
quez and Don Jose Maria Valenzuela  
who after the acceptance thereof and  
oath will proceed to the discharge of  
their duty, and in testimony thereof I note  
it as a diligencia which I sign with  
my assisting witnesses which I certify

(Signed) Nicolas A. Den

Atty. Witnesses

(Signed) Raymundo Carrillo

(") Jose Olvera

In continuation and before me the said  
Alcalde, the measurers took a hump  
Cord and measured with a common  
Mexican vara, fifty varas to make the



H/1

since measurement, and in testimony thereof  
I subscribed it

Rubric

On the same day and being on the said  
place called "Llano Grande" at about  
four o'clock P.M., I the said Alcalde, in  
order to proceed to the measurement of  
Llanos which is to be made to the Neophyte,  
Felicisimo, ordered the appointed  
measurers to measure twelve Caces of  
 fifty Varas, wherefore they declare the sum  
to be six hundred square Varas, in the  
limits of which some heaps of stones  
were made as land marks, and in  
testimony whereof I signed it as a <sup>claim</sup> ~~proceed~~  
with my assisting witnesses, which I  
certify.

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(Signed) Nicolas A. Lora  
Aftg. witnesses  
(Signed) Raym<sup>o</sup> Canullo  
(") Jose Olvera

Being on the aforesaid place on the same  
day and year, the Neophyte, Felicisimo  
accompanied by the Alcalde and witnesses  
of these proceedings, said: that the six  
hundred Varas having been measured  
as appears in the foregoing act, he takes  
and did take the two and a half  
popoim of the said measured six hundred  
and Varas, because it belongs to him  
by a just title which he has of the grant  
thereof made to him by the Constituted  
Governor of the Department Don Manuel  
Michelena, he entered upon and passed  
over it, pulled up hales, scattered handfuls



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of earth, and of the Saco Alcalde, ordered  
that hence forth he should be heard and  
recognized as the true lord and possessor  
thereof.

The Neophyte, Felicesimo, asked  
a certified Copy of all the foregoing for  
proof in future and the preservation  
of his rights from the Saco Alcalde,  
being not knowing how to write he  
signed it with a cross with me and  
my assisting witnesses which I certify

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(Signed) Nicolas A. De la  
Altoy witnesses  
(Signed) Raymond C. Canelo  
( ) Jose Olvera

A true and correct translation  
witness my hand this 14th day  
of Dec. 1855

Geo. Fisher Secy

Filed in Office Dec. 14. 1855

Geo. Fisher

Secy



Viva Jesus Maria y Jose

Estado de las Misiones de la Alta California, sacado de los informes de los Misioneros en fin de Diciembre de 1820.

Nombres de las Misiones, sus edades, alturas de Polo, y sus distancias.	San Tis mos	Casa mien tos	Di Juan tos	Eriz ten tes.	Ja nado mayor	Ydm de Lana	Ydm de Pelo	Ydm de Cerde	Leguas y Crias	Caba nos man nos	Bos nias mu lares	Semb. Canechi trigo	Ydm de Ceba da	Ydm de Maiz.	Ydm de frijol	Ydm de Sarr vamon	Ydm de Chichu nos	Ydm de Alca nos
S. Diego 16 de Julio de 1769. 32gr. 48min. Dis- ta de la ult. de la antig <sup>a</sup> California 23 leguas.	5123	1382	3013	1567	8120	14312	320	76.	650.	220.	172	311 \$ 1720	280 \$ 800	14 \$ 1100	10 \$ 28.	00	00	00
S. Luis Rey de Francia 13 de Junio de 98. 33gr. 3min. Dist. de la antec. <sup>a</sup> 13 1/2 leguas.	3730	866.	1314	2603	10500	12800	525	316.	812	380	160.	250 \$ 2500	100 \$ 600	16 \$ 4500	9 \$ 250	1.7 <sup>a</sup> 10.	1.7 <sup>a</sup> 30.	00
S. Juan Capistrano 1. de Nov. de 76. 33gr. 26mi Dist. de la antec. <sup>a</sup> 12 1/2 leguas.	8774	1000	2420	1064	11000	13300	203	195.	135	246	99.	11 \$ 138	00	6 \$ 1040	1.7 <sup>a</sup> 32	1. al. 8 al.	1 al. 4 al.	1.7 <sup>a</sup> 16.
S. Gabriel 8 de sept. de 71. 34gr. 10 min. Dis- ta de la antec. <sup>a</sup> 18 leguas	6589.	1568	4361	1626	15000	12000	156	222	418	336	137.	165 \$ 4000	00	9 \$ 3200	7 \$ 255.	6. al. 18 \$.	1.7 <sup>a</sup> 250	1.7 <sup>a</sup> 38.
S. Fernando 8 de sept. de 77. 34gr. 16min. Dist. de la antec. <sup>a</sup> 9 leguas.	2439.	683	1403	1028	12000	7600	20.	30.	269.	160.	80.	130 \$ 2382	12 \$ 111.	7 \$ 900.	5 \$ 100.	1.7 <sup>a</sup> 3.	00	2 \$ 17.
S. Buenaventura 31 de Marzo de 82. 34gr. 36. minuto. Dist. de la antec. <sup>a</sup> 22 leguas.	3547	946	2391.	1127.	15280	12600	130.	98.	3000.	279.	180.	200 \$ 3800	68 \$ 681.	6 \$ 400.	5 \$ 34.	4 al. 1.7 <sup>a</sup> al.	4 \$ 43.	5 al. 5 al.
Sta Barbara 4 de Dic. de 86. 34gr. 40 min. Dis- ta de la antec. <sup>a</sup> 8 leguas	4776.	1246	2991.	1132	3500	8000	200.	100.	490	330.	300.	286 \$ 1340	19 \$ 41.	11 \$ 100.	2 \$ 37.	1.7 <sup>a</sup> 2.	2 \$ 2.	00
Sta Ynes V. y M. 17 de sept. de 804. 34gr. 52min. Dist. de la antec. <sup>a</sup> 8 leguas.	1140	307.	789.	635.	7000	5000	00.	100.	400.	200.	120.	100 \$ 900.	00	4 \$ 1200	4 \$ 10.	1.7 <sup>a</sup> 16.	1.7 <sup>a</sup> 150.	00
Purissima Concepcion 8 de Dic. de 87. 35gr. Dist. de la antec. <sup>a</sup> 8 leguas.	3046	888.	2054	840.	9500	12600	30.	86.	1022	283.	238.	268 \$ 2435	00	4 \$ 00.	7 \$ 54	11 al. 1.7 <sup>a</sup>	2 \$ 30.	1.7 <sup>a</sup> 6 \$
S. Luis Obispo 1 de sept. de 72. 35gr. 36 min. Dist. de la antec. <sup>a</sup> 18 leguas.	2537	703.	1890.	504.	7600	6501	80.	120.	950.	225.	104.	100 \$ 2000	00	4 \$ 00	4 \$ 20.	00	00	00
S. Miguel 25 de Julio de 77. 35gr. 48min. Dis- ta de la antec. <sup>a</sup> 13 leguas.	2117	663	1203	973	8100	14000	10.	150.	727.	528.	58.	160 \$ 949.	29 \$ 29.	2 \$ 70.	1.7 <sup>a</sup> 10.	00	00	00
S. Antonio de Padua 14 de Julio de 71. 36gr. 30min. Dist. de la antec. <sup>a</sup> 13 leguas.	4044	1019	2999.	878.	5800	9800	15.	95.	500	253.	43.	154 \$ 1666	50 \$ 163.	1.7 <sup>a</sup> 190.	1.7 <sup>a</sup> 39.	1 al. 2 \$	1.7 <sup>a</sup> 84.	10 al. 39.
N. S. de la Soledad 9 de Oct. de 91. 36gr. 38min. Dist. de la antec. <sup>a</sup> 11 leguas.	1758.	524.	1281.	436.	5000	7000	00	40.	700.	270.	60.	100 \$ 1162	12 \$ 199.	3 \$ 60.	3 \$ 40	11 al. 3 \$	2 \$ 99.	2 \$ 206
S. Carlos 3 de Junio de 70. 36gr. 44min. Dist. de la antec. <sup>a</sup> 15 leguas.	3195.	885	2327	381.	3000	4000	22.	10.	350.	80.	6.	100 \$ 672.	00	8 al. 25 \$	5 \$ 244.	00	4 \$ 360	5 \$ 244
S. Juan Bautista 24 de Junio de 77. 36gr. 58 minuto. Dist. de la antec. <sup>a</sup> 12 leguas	2625	659.	1598	843.	11000	9500	00.	30.	450.	225.	24.	90 \$ 2954	7 1/2 \$ 368	25 al. 884.	2 1/2 \$ 134	11 al. 21 \$	10 al. 73 \$	1.7 <sup>a</sup> 38.
Sta. Cruz 28 de Agosto de 91. 37gr. Dist. de la antec. <sup>a</sup> por la Costa fuera del camino de Sta. Cla- ra 13 leguas.	2040.	664.	1469.	461.	2000	3700	00	00.	290.	168	34.	44 \$ 800.	9 \$ 180.	3 \$ 1300	3 \$ 550.	6 al. 38 \$	00	00
Sta Clara 18 de En. de 77. 37gr. 20 min. Dist. de la antec. <sup>a</sup> atravesado la Sierra N. leg.	7114	1949.	5309	1359.	4200	12000	00	60.	660.	190.	32	220 \$ 3000	20 \$ 400.	6 \$ 400	4 \$ 100	6 al. 3 \$	2 \$ 110	4 \$ 200.
S. S. Jose 11 de Junio de 97. 37gr. 30min. Dist. de la antec. <sup>a</sup> al Norte fuera del camino de S. Francisco 7 leguas.	4346	1207.	2572	1754	6000	12000	00	13.	550	300.	9.	130 \$ 5210	10 \$ 135.	7 \$ 800	2 \$ 90.	6 al. 7 \$	3 \$ 65.	6 \$ 209.
N. P. S. Francisco 9 de Oct. de 76. 37gr. 58 min. Dist. de la antec. <sup>a</sup> 20 leg. y de Sta Clara 15.	6233	1949.	4997	1252	3789.	10280	00	00	500	280	26.	193 \$ 2000	55 \$ 561.	4 \$ 1000	5 \$ 100.	6 al. 12 \$	4 \$ 187	9 \$ 329.
San 210 leguas } desde S. Diego has } Sta N. P. S. Francisco por la derecha de la que se desvian las Misiones de Santa Clara y San Jose en sus anotadas distancias.	70149	19148	26396	20473	142459	191693	1711	1811.	12203	4953	1882	3002 \$ 40628	6711 \$ 4268.	106 \$ 17469	81 \$ 2177	8 \$ 1888	2 \$ 1433	3 \$ 1339 \$

Total de Sembras  
Total de Canechas  
3930 \$ 2 alarudes  
67452 \$ 10 alarudes

Jr. Jose Señan.  
Filed in Office April 24, 1854.  
Geo. Fisher, Secy.



*Gail Jones, Mary and Joseph*  
 Statistics of the Missions of Upper California taken from the reports of the Missions at  
 the Close of December 1820.

Names of the Missions, their ages latitudes and their dis- tances.	Baptisms.	Marriages	Deaths.	Population	Cattle.	Sheep	Goats	Hogs	Breed Mares	Saddle horses	Mules	Wheat		Barley		Corn		Beans		Peas		Potatoes		
												Sanegas	Fanegas	Sanegas	Fanegas	Sanegas	Fanegas	Sanegas	Fanegas	Sanegas	Fanegas	Sanegas	Fanegas	
San Diego July 16, 1769, 32°48' distant from the Coast in Old California 23 leagues.	5129	1382	3018	1567	8120	14512	320	76	650	220	172	371 c.	280 c.	15 c.	18 c.	28.								
San Luis Bay of France June 13, 98, 33°31' distant from the former 13 1/2 leagues	3730	866	1314	2603	10500	12800	525	316	812	380	160	250 c.	100 c.	16 c.	5 c.	5 c.	5 c.	10 c.	30 c.					
San Juan Capistrano, Nov. 1, 76, 33°26' dis- tant from the last 12 1/2 leagues	3774	1000	1420	1064	11000	13800	203	195	135	246	99	138 c.		8 c.	5 c.	5 c.	5 c.	5 c.	5 c.	5 c.	5 c.	5 c.	5 c.	
San Gabriel Sept. 8, 71, 34°10' distant from the last 18 leagues.	6589	1568	4361	1636	15000	12000	156	292	448	336	137	185 c.		5 c.	5 c.	5 c.	5 c.	5 c.	5 c.	5 c.	5 c.	5 c.	5 c.	
San Fernando, Sept 8, 97, 34° distant from the last 9 leagues	2429	683	1403	1028	12000	7600	20	30	264	160	80	120 c.	5 c.	5 c.	5 c.	5 c.	5 c.	5 c.	5 c.	5 c.	5 c.	5 c.	5 c.	
San Buenaventura, March 31, 82, dis- tant from the last 22 leagues 24 1/2	3547	946	2291	1127	12200	12600	130	98	500	279	180	200 c.	8 c.	5 c.	5 c.	5 c.	5 c.	5 c.	5 c.	5 c.	5 c.	5 c.	5 c.	
Santa Barbara, Dec. 8, 86, 34°40' dis- tant from the last 8 leagues	4776	1246	2991	1132	25000	8000	200	100	490	330	300	200 c.	5 c.	5 c.	5 c.	5 c.	5 c.	5 c.	5 c.	5 c.	5 c.	5 c.	5 c.	
Santa Ynes, Virgen & Martin, Sept. 17, 1804, 34°32' distant from the last 8 leagues.	1140	207	789	635	7000	5000		100	400	200	120	100 c.	8 c.	5 c.	5 c.	5 c.	5 c.	5 c.	5 c.	5 c.	5 c.	5 c.	5 c.	
Purisima Concepcion Dec. 8, 81, 35° distant from the last 8 leagues	3046	888	2054	840	9500	12600	30	86	1022	288	238	208 c.		5 c.	5 c.	5 c.	5 c.	5 c.	5 c.	5 c.	5 c.	5 c.	5 c.	
San Luis Obispo, Sept. 1, 70, 35°36' dis- tant from the last 18 leagues	2537	703	1840	504	7600	6500	80	120	950	255	104	100 c.			5 c.	5 c.	5 c.	5 c.	5 c.	5 c.	5 c.	5 c.	5 c.	
San Miguel, July 25, 97, 35°43' dis- tant from the last 13 leagues	2117	603	1203	973	8100	14000	10	150	727	528	58	100 c.	29 c.	5 c.	5 c.	5 c.	5 c.	5 c.	5 c.	5 c.	5 c.	5 c.	5 c.	
San Antonio de Padua July 14, 71, 36° 30' distant from the last 13 leagues	4044	1019	2933	878	5800	9800	15	95	500	253	43	154 c.	50 c.	5 c.	5 c.	5 c.	5 c.	5 c.	5 c.	5 c.	5 c.	5 c.	5 c.	
Our Lady Salcedo Oct. 9, 91, 36°38' dis- tant from the last 11 leagues	1758	524	1381	436	5000	9000		40	700	270	60	100 c.	12 c.	5 c.	5 c.	5 c.	5 c.	5 c.	5 c.	5 c.	5 c.	5 c.	5 c.	
San Carlos, June 3, 70, 36°44' distant from the last, 15 leagues.	3195	885	2337	381	3000	4000	20	10	390	80	6	100 c.	2 1/2 c.	5 c.	5 c.	5 c.	5 c.	5 c.	5 c.	5 c.	5 c.	5 c.	5 c.	
San Juan Bautista, June 24, 97, 36°58' distant from the last 12 leagues.	2625	659	1598	843	11000	9500		30	450	295	24	90 c.	7 1/2 c.	5 c.	5 c.	5 c.	5 c.	5 c.	5 c.	5 c.	5 c.	5 c.	5 c.	
Santa Cruz Aug 28, 91, 37° distant from the last on the Coast off the road to Santa Clara 13 leagues.	2010	664	1469	461	3000	5700			290	168	34	44 c.	9 c.	5 c.	5 c.	5 c.	5 c.	5 c.	5 c.	5 c.	5 c.	5 c.	5 c.	
Santa Clara Jan. 18, 77, 37°20' distant from the last, crossing the mountain 11 leagues.	7014	1949	5309	1339	4300	12000		60	660	190	32	220 c.	20 c.	5 c.	5 c.	5 c.	5 c.	5 c.	5 c.	5 c.	5 c.	5 c.	5 c.	
San Jose, June 11, 97, 33°30' dis- tant from the last north of the road from San Francisco 7 leagues.	4346	1307	2572	1734	6000	12000		13	530	300	9	180 c.	10 c.	5 c.	5 c.	5 c.	5 c.	5 c.	5 c.	5 c.	5 c.	5 c.	5 c.	
Our Father San Francisco, Oct. 19, 76, 37°53' distant from the last 30 leagues and from Santa Clara 15.	6333	1949	4997	1252	3789	10280			500	280	26	193 c.	55 c.	5 c.	5 c.	5 c.	5 c.	5 c.	5 c.	5 c.	5 c.	5 c.	5 c.	

It is 210 leagues from San Diego to Our Father San Francisco by a direct route from which the road to the missions of Santa Clara and San Jose branch off in their aforesaid distances (Signed) Gail Jones.  
 A true and correct translation - witnessed my hand. Dec. 15, 1855.

Total seed 3930  
 Total crops 67452



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Opinion of  
Board by  
Com. Seech

Joseph S. Albany  
vs  
The United States

For lands for the  
use of the Indians  
at the several Missions  
in California.

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The petitioner is the Catholic Bishop of California, and files this petition on behalf and for the benefit of the Christianized Indians, formerly connected with the Missions. I shall consider the several claims presented in the order which they are stated in the petition.

1. The first is a claim for one square league of land at each of the seven Missions, twenty one in number to be conferred to the Bishop in trust for the Indians of each Mission.

This claim is not founded on any grant or alleged Concession, but seems to be based on the Natural right of the Neophytes as being given to the Soil, and seemingly on a recognition of their rights by the former government to the Lands known as Mission lands, and which were formerly used for the benefit of the Mission Community whole under the charge of the Mission Priests.

We have often had occasion to Express the Views of this Commission on the Subject of these Mission lands. The ownership of them seems always required as existing in the crown or the government. They did not become the property of the Mission or of the Church or of the Priests having charge of them or of the Neophytes who while

Truncated



they received in the Mexican Community enjoyed the benefit of their use. We have found nothing in Mexican or Spanish laws, decrees or regulations which recognizes any of these as owners of the Soil. The granting of Land in the Territories was first committed to the Governor by the Regulations of November 21, 1804. The last Article authorizes him to grant the lands vacant piece by the Mexicans until it should be determined whether they should be considered as the property of the establishments of Neophyte Catechumens and Mexican Colonists. After the Secularization Law of 1833 was passed and the breaking up of the Community System succeeded it, these lands were conformably treated by the government as subject to the granting power.

This disposition of them is asserted to be by the Supreme Court of the United States in the Case of Archibald Ritchie where the Authority of the Governor to grant lands of this Character is fully recognized.

We frequently find in Official Documents an admission that in granting lands to individuals, preference ought to be given to the Neophytes Over the Citizens. But it is no where conceded or even claimed that they were incidentally or collectively the owners of any specific portions of these lands unless they possessed grants from competent Authority. Every thing in the action of the government and in the



History of the Mision houses to establish  
the fact that no such ownership was  
admitted or claimed to be in the  
Neophytes

As to the claim of these Neop-  
hytes to the lands founded on their  
natives rights as Aborigines to the Soil  
it cannot prevail in the case. According  
to the recognized theory of all the  
European Nations the Crown of Spain  
receives the benefit of the Soil in her provin-  
ces, subject only to the right of occupa-  
cy in the Native Indian inhabitants  
who lived upon it, and the crown  
alone had the right of requiring the  
possession from them. But the lands has  
claimed have been used as the culti-  
vated fields and grazing lands of  
the several Misions, for periods varying  
from thirty to more than eighty years  
and during this time the connection of  
the government with them and the  
jurisdiction exercised over them, and  
the character and management of these  
establishments give evidence that the  
Indian Occupation has ceased. They  
were establishments of civilization in  
contrast to Savage life, and  
they embraced within the Communities  
those Indians who renounced the Sav-  
age and espoused the civilized.  
They were established for the benefit  
of the Indians, and were recently  
regarded with great favor by them.  
The extinguishment of the Indian title  
by the authorities of the government  
must be presumed if indeed it is not



in the history of the Missions proceed directly  
 Science Authorities have  
 been cited from the ancient decrees of the  
 Crown showing the care which was  
 taken to protect the native inhabitants  
 in their possessions in the new country,  
 but none of them can receive an  
 application to the case under considera-  
 tion of any such character as to imply  
 ownership of the land in question.

The application as set  
 out in the petition seems to be an appeal  
 to the Commission to assign to the Neop-  
 hytes Indians remaining at each  
 Mission one square league of land  
 rather than a claim founded on any right  
 or title to it. This Commission has no  
 authority to distribute lands to any  
 persons however meritorious - they are  
 limited in their power of confirmation  
 to titles derived from the Spanish or  
 Mexican government. Congress alone,  
 by its broad power can concede  
 lands in such cases.

3<sup>o</sup> The next is a claim  
 in behalf of the Christian Indians of San  
 Miguel (with their names) for the  
 lands known by the name of <sup>Las</sup> "Cedenas,  
 El Nacimiento and La Estrella in San  
 Diego Obispo County - The grant made  
 by Governor Micheltreana and dated  
 July 16. 1844 is presented under the  
 signatures pursued.

This is claimed to be  
 a grant of the places or tracts of land  
 known by the names above mentioned.  
 We have often held that a grant of a



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place by name may be good; but in order to sustain such a claim, proof must be given to show that the property claimed was at the date of the grant known by that name and that it had known and well defined limits or boundaries. No evidence of <sup>the</sup> kind is given in this case, and for this reason a decree of Confirmation cannot be entered.

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But I do not think this is a grant of these places by name. The second condition of the grant was intended to define the premises which should be assigned under the Concession at the places named. But instead of stating the number of leagues or varas to which the grantees should be entitled, it provides that the lands granted shall be of the extension which shall be delineated on a map "to be correctly formed and by the order of the government." The quantity to be given under the grant and its specific location and boundaries were thus left for future determination by the government. This does not appear now to have been obtained, and without it no specific portion of land passed to the claimants. Nor is it a case in which, under the decision in Fremont's Case, the segregation can now be made by the American authorities. If as in that case the quantity of land to be assigned at the places named, had been specified it would fall within the rule. But has no quantity is given, that remained for future determination by the government. A map was to be presented identifying and describing



the lands which the grantee desired to take and until this was done and the approval of the government obtained the parties acquire no legal or equitable rights in lands which can be entitled to a decree of confirmation.

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The document relied on as a grant was not intended as of itself a grant of land under the Colonization law. The transaction evidently had reference to the regulations at that time in existence providing for the apportioning out small lots (usually less than 100 acres square) among the married and Neophytes at the several Missions for their use and Cultivation in Severalty. This document was intended to express the assent of the Governor that the Neophytes at San Miguel might have lots assigned to them at the places named therein but in order to secure them they were required after selecting their locations and lots which they desired, to present a map with a proper delineation of them. The government still retained to itself the right of deciding as to the quantity to be granted and the location of the particular lots, and no title passed until the designation was made and the map formed in accordance with the preceding direction or subsequent approval of the government. This act on which the title to the lands depended not having been performed, no title which is within our jurisdiction is established.

3. There is a claim on behalf of the Christian Missions of Santa Clara under a grant by Micheltreano



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made June 10. 1844 of all the vacant lands  
of Santa Clara conformed before that time  
The following objections are  
opposed to this claim. First, there is no  
sufficient description to identify the land  
granted and to define <sup>its</sup> limits. It is  
described as "all the land which is comp-  
rised in the plan which was formed to  
designate that which existed as untitled  
and not granted". The description is  
made to depend on the plan which is  
there made a part of the grant and  
which is indispensable to it. The plan is  
not produced and no evidence is given  
of its loss or its contents, nor indeed  
anything to define or in any manner indi-  
cate what lands are delineated upon it  
nor is proof given of possession or bona  
fides or any other evidence of what the  
parties themselves claimed under the  
document.

And secondly, the third con-  
dition of the grant reserves to the govern-  
ment the full right to dispose of the  
land, with the exception of such parts  
as the Indians may actually cultivate  
and need. The treaty of cession was a  
disposal of this property to the United  
States, subject nevertheless, to any title  
legal or equitable which these Indians  
might possess thereon. If these Neophytes  
had taken possession of the land or any  
part of it under the grant, and held it  
under cultivation, a question of equitable  
right would have been presented  
which is not now raised by the proofs.  
So far as the evidence



shaves they did nothing and claimed nothing, and proposed nothing under the grant; and if this is so, the Mexican Government had by the terms of the agreement the right to dispose of the land free from any incumbrance arising therefrom. It passed to the United States by the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo as an encumbrance of the claim here set up.

This document like that before mentioned, shaves that it was issued in accordance with the policy of the times to distribute small portions of the lands among the individual Neophytes who would occupy and cultivate them in sincerity but not to extend titles beyond the accomplishment of that object. Hence this instrument as to the right conferred is really confined to the portions of the lands which the Indians should cultivate in fact - a right of which no one appears by the evidence even to have availed himself.

The fourth is the claim of Andrés and other Neophytes (sixteen in all) whose names are given, for small portions of lands from one hundred to three hundred varas each in the vicinity of the mission of Santa Ana. No grant to any of these Indians is introduced in evidence, but an Expediente is present showing an application for the land by the Neophytes, a reference to the priest of the mission for information his report surveying the application and specifying the number of varas which he thought might properly be granted to each, and



a decree in accordance with the Trustees recommendation signed by Governor Micheltorena. This decree is in effect an order for the issuing of a grant to each of the persons named for the quantity of land designated to him, the same to be segregated and measured in the usual manner. The document closes with a memorandum dated July 6, 1844 stating that letters were issued. The memorandum has no signature and no extraneous evidence is given which makes it proof of the fact alleged in it. There is no evidence that these persons obtained possession of any land under such grants. One of them, Illecisimo occupied a large piece of land in the place named but it could not have been under a grant issued in accordance with this Expediente. With this exception it does not appear that any of them occupied cultivated or reclaimed any land in that vicinity, nor do I see in the proof any reason to suppose such grants were ever issued. It can scarcely be believed, if they had issued in fact that none of them could be produced or their existence proved, and it is equally incredible, if the grants were received by them and not subsequently abandoned, that no evidence of possession by them could be given.

The Neophyte Illecisimo obtained possession of a piece of land six hundred varas square at the Glano Grande the testimony of which is given in evidence. This land was in quantity



four times as much, as that specified in the Expediente, and this circumstance consequently gives no aid to a presumption that a grant was issued to him under the governor's decree.

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PAGE 50

It is very probable that Sileasimo had a grant of some kind for the land at that place, but as the petitioner has failed to produce it, or in its absence to give the necessary proof of its existence, contains and is of a distance

There are other questions in relation to these several claims which arise properly in the case, but it is unnecessary to discuss them.

All are of opinion that the proof will not warrant a confirmation, and an adverse decree will be entered.

Respectfully

Filed in Office December 31, 1855  
Geo. Fisher Secy



Decree

Joseph S. Albany }  
 vs }  
 The United States }

In this Case on hearing the proofs and allegations it is adjudged by the Commission that the claim of the said petitioner is not valid, and it is therefore decreed that the application for a Confirmation thereof be denied.

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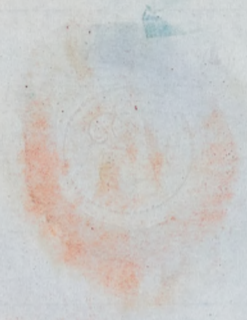
Alpheus Felch }  
 R. Aug. Thompson }  
 S. B. Fawcett }

Commissioners

Filed in Office December 31<sup>st</sup> 1855

And it appearing to the satisfaction of the Board that the Lunas Hurley and paid Cates are patented in both the Northern and Southern Districts of California, it is hereby ordered that three transcripts of the proceedings and decision in this case, and of the papers and evidence upon which the same are founded, be made out and duly certified by the Secretary one of which transcripts shall be filed with the Clerk of the United States District Court for each of the said Judicial Districts of California and the other be transmitted to the Attorney General of the United States.







Office of the Board of Commissioners,

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

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*J. 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 *Fifty three* pages, numbered from  
1 to *53*, both inclusive, to contain a true, correct and full Tran-  
script of the Record of the Proceedings and of the Decision of the  
said Board, of the Documentary Evidence and of the Testimony  
of the Witnesses, upon which the same is founded, on file in this  
Office, in Case No. *663* on the Docket of the said Board,  
wherein

*Joseph S. Almaraz* is  
the Claimant against the United States, for the place known by  
the name of *Land of the Christian Indians*

In Testimony Whereof, I hereunto set my hand  
and affix my private Seal (not having a Seal  
of Office) at San Francisco, California, this  
*Twenty third* day of *February*  
A. D. *1856*, and of the Independence of the  
United States of America the *seventy-eighth*.

*Geo. Fisher*

*Geo. Fisher*





387

U. S. DISTRICT COURT,  
*San Francisco* District California.

No. 387

THE UNITED STATES,

vs.

*Joseph S. Manning*  
*Land of the Christian Indians*

TRANSCRIPT OF THE RECORD

FROM THE  
BOARD OF U. S. LAND COMMISSIONERS.

In Case No. *660*

Filed, *March 5* 185*6*

387



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

Hon. J. S. K. Ogden Judge.

Joseph S. Germany  
(a child of Christian Prudians)  
Appellant

N<sup>o</sup>. 387.

vs.

The United States  
Appellee.

Trans N. 663.

On motion of P. O. A. United States Attorney  
for the Southern District of California; and  
on showing to the Court that the Appellant  
in the above entitled Cause, has failed  
to file a Notice with the Clerk of this  
Court of his intention to prosecute the appeal  
in said Cause within the time allowed  
by law: It is ordered that by the Court  
that the appeal in said Cause be finally  
dismissed.

P. O. A.  
C. S. A.

Dec. 22 1836.

387 SD

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No 387

No 387

U. S. District Court  
for Southern Dist Calif

Joseph S. Murron  
on behalf of Christian Indians  
Appellant

vs  
The United States

Motion + order for  
Dismissal

Filed this 22<sup>nd</sup> December  
A. D. 1856 C. Davis clk  
J. W. Sherman  
clerk

387 SD

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Office of the Board of Commissioners,

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

San Francisco, *July 23<sup>d</sup>* 1856

Sir;

I am directed by this Board to transmit you, pursuant to the requirements of the Act of Congress, approved August 31<sup>st</sup>, 1852, a Transcript of the Record of the Proceedings and of the Decision of the said Board, of the Documentary Evidence and of the Testimony of the witnesses upon which the same is founded in Case No. 663. on the Docket of this Board, wherein

*Joseph S. Alernany* is  
the Claimant, for the place known by the name of  
*Land of the Christian Indians* —  
Which Transcript I have the honor to accompany herewith, and request your receipt for the same.

I am, Respectfully,

Your Obedt Servant,

*Geo. Fisher*  
*Secy.*

To the Hon. C. E. Van Esq  
Attorney General of the United States,  
Washington, D. C.  
Clerk of the U. S. Dist. Court, for  
the Southern Dist. of Cal —