

## THE ITURBIDE REVOLUTION IN THE CALIFORNIAS

The documents here printed record the steps by which the temporary Iturbide régime was installed in the two Californias in 1822. The story which they tell is illustrative of one phase of the Guerra de la Independencia as it affected two frontier Spanish provinces.

In February, 1821, Iturbide proclaimed Mexican independence; in August the treaty of Córdoba was signed; and in September the Imperial Regency was formed. Concerning the allegiance of the Californias there were misgivings in Mexico. Antonio Andrade, Intendant of Guadalajara, gave a report to the Regency on the state of these provinces, in which he expressed the fear that because of their isolation and neglect they would be seized by some foreign power.<sup>1</sup> Uneasiness over Alta California was increased by the rumor that Russian war vessels had assembled at Bodega Bay, and that the province actually had placed itself under the protection of that power.<sup>2</sup> Moreover, Governor Solá was under suspicion, and the attitude of the missionaries was not certain. From the beginning of his administration Solá had been an earnest demonstrative royalist and as late as January, 1822, he referred to the revolution as the work of "dreamers" and destined to fail.<sup>3</sup> Under these circumstances a special commissioner was sent to the Californias to help secure allegiance, establish the new system, and effect certain changes in the management of the missions. To perform this delicate task, choice was made of Canon Agustín Fernández de San Vicente, of the Cathedral of Durango. If the governors

<sup>1</sup> In the Archivo General y Público, Sección de Provincias Internas, Vol. 23, no. 4. See Bolton, *Guide to . . . the Archives of Mexico*, p. 88.

<sup>2</sup> See below, doc. no. 9.

<sup>3</sup> Bancroft, *History of California*, II., 450.

should not fall in line he was empowered to remove them and appoint others.<sup>4</sup>

Owing to various delays Fernández did not reach Loreto, the capital of Lower California, until June, 1822, by which time the revolution, in its outward features, had been accomplished in both provinces, with few of the difficulties which had been anticipated. In the Peninsula, indeed, Fernández found on his arrival that, through the interference of "a certain José María López," the revolution had already gone too far, "confusing the ideas of liberty with those of license, setting these people in motion, with an absurd and discordant election of an ayuntamiento, and the formation of local companies . . . upsetting ideas to such an extent that some of the soldiers and citizens now denied obedience to the governor and the officers."<sup>5</sup> Fernández accordingly annulled the acts of López, installed a new ayuntamiento at Loreto, and required new oaths of allegiance—the third series enacted by these now somewhat bewildered "new citizens." The situation in Lower California was complicated by the resignation of Governor Argüello and the death of the President of the missions, Father Antonio Sánchez. In regard to his mission reforms Fernández encountered opposition, but that episode falls outside the purview of the documents here published.

In Alta California things went off even more smoothly. The distrust of Solá proved to be groundless, for he fell in with the current of events with apparent enthusiasm. Early in March, Solá received despatches from Mexico requiring the allegiance of California to the *Imperio Mexicano* and announcing the forthcoming assemblage of the Cortes. To meet the situation Solá summoned to Monterey the *comandantes* of the four presidios, Father Payeras, as representative of the missions, and Father Sarriá, as representative of Fr. José Señán, *Presidente Vicario Foráneo*, and several other prominent men.

<sup>4</sup> The documents concerning his appointment are in the Archivo General y Público, Mexico, Sección de Provincias Internas, vol. 23. See Bolton, *op. cit.*, p. 88.

<sup>5</sup> Fernández to the Minister of Relations, July 9, 1822 (doc. no. 26).

The Junta assembled on April 9 at the *sola de gobierno*, where oaths of allegiance were taken by Solá, the four presidial commanders, the captains of the Mazatlan and San Blas companies stationed in Alta California, and Father Payeras. On the 11th the oath of allegiance was taken in public by Solá, the missionaries, the officers of the garrisons, and "all the citizenship," "the solemn act being concluded with a majestic church service, prolonged *vivas*, repeated volleys of musketry and cannon, music, illuminations, and whatever was thought appropriate to the complete celebration of so fortunate a day."<sup>6</sup> Two days later Solá reported to the Minister of Relations that the act of allegiance had been celebrated "with all the magnificence and grandeur of which this poor Territory is capable."<sup>7</sup> Within the next few days the oath was taken at Santa Bárbara, San Diego, San Francisco, the three pueblos, and the various missions, everywhere without difficulty.<sup>8</sup>

On May 21 an election was held of a deputy to the Mexican Cortes. The electoral body which met at the *sala de gobierno*, at Monterey, consisted of Solá, José María Estudillo, *teniente* of the cavalry company at Monterey, J. M. Estrada, *alférez* of the same, Manuel Gómez, *teniente* and *alférez* of the artillery company at Monterey, and five electors from the *partidos* whose centers were San Francisco, Monterey, Santa Bárbara, Los Angeles, and San Diego, the electors in each case representing the Indians of the missions as well as the other settlements within the *partidos*. The outcome of the election was the choice of Solá as deputy, and of Luís Antonio Argüello, Captain at San Francisco, as substitutè. In view of the fact that California was "ultramarina," and that the deputies must await a vessel from San Blas or Acapulco, and could not reach Mexico during the current year, the instructions given to Solá and Argüello were to hold for the two following years, if permissible.<sup>9</sup>

<sup>6</sup> Certificate by José M. Estudillo, secretary (doc. no. 2).

<sup>7</sup> Solá to Herrera, April 13, 1822 (doc. no. 5).

<sup>8</sup> Bancroft, *History of California*, II. 451-453. Solá reported on April 13 by the monthly courier *via* Loreto; on May 5 by special courier *via* Tucson, and again on July 3 *via* Tucson (Solá to Herrera, July 3 (doc. no. 21).

<sup>9</sup> Certificate of election, May 21, 1822 (doc. no. 8).

All this had taken place long before Canon Fernández arrived at Monterey, an event which did not occur till late in September. His doings there fall outside the scope of the documents here published.

An incidental result of the revolution was a quickening of interest at the Mexican capital in the fate of remote Alta California, and efforts to improve communication with the province by way of Tucson and the Gila River, a route which had been practically cut off by the Yuma uprising in 1781, a few years after it had been opened by Anza and his associates.

The documents, here published for the first time, constitute an *expediente* in the Archivo General y Público, Mexico, Sección de Californias, vol. 45, no. 17. They are presented here in a chronological order instead of that of the archive file.<sup>10</sup> The title of the *expediente* applies to more than one group of papers and is not borne out by the contents of this group. It is but just to add that Dr. Robertson, managing editor of the REVIEW, prepared the translation of the documents.

HERBERT E. BOLTON.

SOBRE RESISTENCIA DE LOS MISIONEROS DE AMBAS  
CALIFORNIAS Á JURAR LA INDEPENDENCIA.  
CUADERNO.<sup>11</sup> 2.º

I. ACT OF RECOGNITION OF THE IMPERIAL GOVERNMENT AND OF INDE-  
PENDENCE, MONTEREY, APRIL 9, 1822

Acta celebrada en la Capital de la N.<sup>va</sup> California

En el Presidio de Monterey á Nueve dias del mes de Abril de mil, ochocientos Veinte y dos: El S.<sup>or</sup> Gobernador Militar y Politico de

<sup>10</sup> Related documents are found in the same archive, Sección de Californias, vol. 44, no. 5, and vol. 45, no. 1; Sección de Provincias Internas, vol. 23, nos. 4 and 5; Sección de Justicia (Eclesiástica) vol. 28; and in the Secretaría de Gobernación, Old Records, legajo 1825 (See Bolton, *Guide to . . . the Archives of Mexico*, pp. 88, 157, 158, 180, 338). Other related documents are contained in the Bancroft Library. Their character is indicated by the footnotes in Bancroft's *History of California*, II., 450-464.

<sup>11</sup> The manuscript bears the following endorsements: Año de 1822. Secretaria de Estado. Seccion de Gob.<sup>no</sup> N. 320. Ocurrencias notables n.º 2 f.º

esta Provincia Coronel D.<sup>n</sup> Pablo Vicente de Sola: los Señores Capitanes de los Presidios, y territorios de S.<sup>ta</sup> Barbara, y San Francisco D.<sup>n</sup> Jose Antonio de la Guerra, y Noriega y D.<sup>n</sup> Luis Antonio Arguello: los Capitanes de las Compañías de Milicias de los Batallones de Tepic y Mazatlan D.<sup>n</sup> Jose Antonio Navarrete, y D. Pablo de la Portilla. El Teniente D.<sup>n</sup> Jose Maria Estudillo por la Comp.<sup>a</sup> del Presidio de S.<sup>n</sup> Diego: El Teniente graduado D.<sup>n</sup> Jose Mariano Estrada, por la q. guarnece este de Monterey: el Teniente graduado de Artilleria D.<sup>n</sup> Manuel Gomez Comandante de su Arma, y los R.<sup>s</sup> P.<sup>s</sup> Fr. Mariano Payeras, y Sr. Vicente Fran.<sup>co</sup> de Sarria, el primero como Prelado de estas Misiones y el segundo como substituto del R. P. Presidente Vicario foraneo Fr. Jose Señan Reunidos por medio de anteriores convocatorias en la Sala de este Gobierno, y savedores de la feliz instalacion de la Regencia del Ymperio, y Soberana Junta provisional gobernatiba en la Capital de Mexico por los Oficios, y demas documentos que el expresado Señor Gobernador hizo leer en Plena Junta. Dixerón: que por si, y sus Subordinados estaban decididos á dar cumplimiento a las ordenes que intimaba el nuevo Supremo Gobierno, reconociendo desde luego esta Provincia por solo dependiente del Gobierno del Ymperio Mexicano é independiente de la dominacion Española, y de qualquiera otra Potencia extrangera, en cuya virtud devia procederse al correspondiente Juramento en los terminos prescriptos por la Regencia Gobernadora interina, p.<sup>a</sup> cuyo efecto deven darse las oportunas providencias, por el enunciado Gefe Superior militar y Politico, y los Comandantes respectivos de Presidios, y Ministros de las Misiones haran constar su cumplimiento p.<sup>r</sup> medio de Certifacaciones q. se remitiran con copia de esta acta al Exmo. Sor. Ministro a quien corresponda; y lo firmaron. = Pablo Vicente de Sola. = José de la Guerra, y Noriega. = Luis Antonio Arguello. = José Antonio Navarrete. = Pablo de la Portilla. = Jose Maria Estudillo. = Jose Mariano Estrada. = Manuel Gomez. = Fr. Mariano Payeras. = Fr. Vicente Francisco de Sarria. = Jose Maria Estudillo Vocal Secretario. Es copia.<sup>12</sup>

SOLA (rúbrica).

155. Lib. 1.<sup>o</sup> polit n.<sup>o</sup> 49. v. [Translation:] "Year 1922. Office of the Secretary of State. Section on Government. Number 320. Notable events. Number 2. Folio 155. Book 1. Political number 49 verso." The translation of the above title is as follows: On the resistance of the Missionaries of both Californias to taking the Oath of Independence. Section 2d.

<sup>12</sup> A triplicate of this document, filed on folio 45 of the expediente, is not reproduced here.

[TRANSLATION]

## Meeting held in the capital of New California

In the Presidio of Monterey, on the ninth day of the month of April, of one thousand eight hundred and twenty-two, the Military and Political Governor of this Province, Colonel Don Pablo Vicente de Sola, the Captains of the Presidios and Territories of Santa Barbara and San Francisco, Don Jose Antonio de la Guerra y Noriega and Don Luis Antonio Arguello, the Captains of the Militia Companies of the battalions of Tepic and Mazatlan, Don Jose Antonio Navarrete and Don Pablo de la Portilla, Lieutenant Don Jose Maria Estudillo for the Company of the Presidio of San Diego, Lieutenant by brevet, Don Jose Mariano Estrada, for the Company in garrison at this Presidio of Monterey, Lieutenant by brevet, of artillery, Don Manuel Gomez, Commandant of his branch of the service, and the Reverend Fathers Fray Mariano Payeras and Señor Vicente Francisco de Sarria, the first as Prelate of these missions and the second as the substitute of the Reverend Father President Vicar foraneo, Fray Jose Señan, having assembled in the assembly hall of this Government, in response to previous summonses, and having been informed of the felicitous installation of the Regency of the Empire and the sovereign provisional administrative Council in the Capital of Mexico, by means of the official despatches and other documents which the aforesaid Governor had read aloud before the full assembly, declared: that both for themselves and for their subordinates they were resolved to obey the orders published by the new Supreme Government, and that they recognized thenceforth that this Province was dependent alone on the Government of the Mexican Empire and independent of Spanish control, or of that of any other foreign power whatsoever. In virtue of this they declared that they ought to proceed to take the proper oath in the terms prescribed by the provisional governing Regency. For this purpose, fitting measures should be issued by the aforesaid superior Military and Political Chief, and the respective commandants of the presidios and the ministers of the missions should attest their obedience by means of certificates to be sent with a copy of these proceedings to his Excellency, the proper minister. They affixed their signatures: Pablo Vicente de Sola. José de la Guerra y Noriega. Luis Antonio Arguello. José Antonio Navarrete. Pablo de la Portilla. Jose Maria Estudillo. Jose Mariano Estrada. Manuel Gomez. Fray Mariano

Payeras. Fray Vicente Francisco de Sarria. Jose Maria Estudillo, secretary with vote.

SOLA (rubric).

2. CERTIFICATE OF ACT OF ALLEGIANCE AND ITS CELEBRATION,  
MONTEREY, APRIL 11, 1822

En el Presidio de Monterey á once dias del mes de Abril del año de Mil ochosientos Veinte y dos Certifico Yo, el infrascripto Vocal Secretario, q. previas las disposiciones preventivas q. ordena la Regencia del Ymperio consequente a lo mandado por la Soberana Junta provisional gubernatiba se Juró hoy en esta Capital de la Nueva California la Yndependencia del Ymperio por el Gefe militar y Politico de ella, por los Señores, y R.<sup>s</sup> Padres que firmaron el Acta en que se acordó la ovediencia al nuevo Supremo Gobierno, por los Señores Oficiales, y Tropa de la Guarnicion, y finalm.<sup>te</sup> por todo su vecindario, concluyendo tan solemne acto con una magestuosa funcion de Yglesia, continuos vivas, Salvas repetidas de Fusil, y Cañon, Musica, Yluminaciones, y quanto se creyó conducente a la completa celebridad de tan fausto dia =Jose Maria Estudillo. Vocal Secretario. Es copia.<sup>13</sup>

SOLA (rúbrica).

[TRANSLATION]

Number 2

In the Presidio of Monterey, on the eleventh day of the month of April, of the year one thousand eight hundred and twenty-two, I, the undersigned secretary with vote, certify that, after the previously prepared resolutions ordered by the Regency of the Empire in consequence of the mandate of the sovereign provisional administrative Council, the Independence of the Empire was sworn to this day in this Capital of New California by its Military and Political Chief, by the gentlemen and Reverend Fathers who signed these proceedings, whereby obedience was accorded to the new Supreme Government, by the officers and troops of the garrison, and finally by all the inhabitants, this very solemn act being concluded with a majestic church service, prolonged *vivas*, repeated volleys of musketry and cannon, music, illuminations, and whatever was thought appropriate to the

<sup>13</sup> A triplicate of this document, filed on folio 45 of the expediente, is not reproduced here.

complete celebration of so fortunate a day. Jose Maria Estudillo, secretary with vote.

SOLA (rubric).

3. JOSÉ PESQUEIRA TO ITURBIDE, GUAYMAS, APRIL 12, 1822

*Reservado*

Sor Generalísimo Almirante.

En Cumplimiento del Superior oficio de V. A. S. de 6. de Febrero Ultimo en que me pide una noticia fidedigna á serca de la conducta obserbada por el Gobernador de la Alta California D.<sup>n</sup> Pablo Vicente Sola, devo decirle, que no tengo conocimiento ninguno de dicho Gobernador ni aun siquiera hé hoido ablar bien ni mal de su conducta ó modos de proceder por que la Comunicacion de este Puerto con la expresada California es muy dilatada y escasa; pero si en lo Subsicibo tuviese algunas noticias, tendré particular Cuidado de Comunicarlas á V. A. S. á la mayor pocible brevedad.

Dios gue. á V. A. S. m. a. Puerto de Guaymas 12. de Abril de 1822.

JOSÉ PESQUEIRA (rúbrica).

[TRANSLATION]

*Secret*

Commander-in-chief of the fleet:

In obedience to the superior official despatch of your exalted Lordship, of the 6th of last February, in which you ask me for a faithful report in regard to the conduct observed by the Governor of Alta California, Don Pablo Vicente Sola, I must inform you that I have no knowledge of the said Governor, nor have I even heard any one speak in good or ill terms of his conduct or method of acting, for communication of this port with the aforesaid California is very slow and limited. But should I have any news in the future, I shall take particular care to communicate them to your exalted Lordship at the very first opportunity.

May God preserve your exalted Lordship many years. Port of Guaymas, April 12, 1822.

Commanding Admiral of the fleet.

JOSÉ PESQUEIRA (rubric).



4. SOLÁ TO THE MINISTER OF RELATIONS, MONTEREY, APRIL 13, 1822  
N. 2

Exmo. Señor.

Por el Superior oficio de V. E. de 6 de octubre ultimo quedo enterado de la justa eleccion que para Ministro del Ymperio ha hecho la Suprema Regencia Governadora interina nombrando para la Secretaria de negocios y relacion<sup>s</sup> interior<sup>s</sup> y exterior<sup>s</sup> a V. E. para la de justicia y negocios ecclesiasticos a el Exmo Sor D. Jose Dominguez: para la de Guerra con encargo de la de Marina a el Exmo Sr D. Antonio Medina: y para la de hacienda a el Exmo Sr. D. Rafael Perez Maldonado cuya noticia he comunicado a todos los Juezes ecclesiasticos Militares y politicos de esta Provincia como V. E. previene en el citado Superior oficio a que respondo.<sup>14</sup>

Dios gue a V. E. m.<sup>s</sup> a.<sup>s</sup> Monterey de la N. California 13 de Abril de 1822.

Exmo S.<sup>or</sup>

PABLO VIZENTE DE SOLA (rúbrica).

[Addressed:] Exmo Sor D. Jose Manuel Herrera Mntro Secretario de negocios y relacion.<sup>s</sup> inter<sup>s</sup> y exter.<sup>s</sup>

[TRANSLATION]

Number 2

Your Excellency:

I am informed by your Excellency's superior despatch of the 6th of last October of the just choice which the provisional superior administrative Regency has made for the Minister of the Empire, in appointing your Excellency to the portfolio of Domestic and Foreign Affairs and Relations, his Excellency Don Jose Dominguez, to the portfolio of Justice and Ecclesiastical Affairs; his Excellency, Don Antonio Medina, to the portfolio of War and that of the Navy; and his Excellency Don Rafael Perez Maldonado, to the portfolio of the Treasury. I have communicated this information to all the ecclesiastical, military, and political judges of this province, as is directed in your Excellency's aforesaid superior despatch to which I bow.

<sup>14</sup> A duplicate of this document, sent via Tucson and filed as folio 14 of the expediente. is omitted.

May God preserve your Excellency many years. Monterey, New California, April 13, 1822.

Your Excellency,

PABLO VICENTE DE SOLA (rubric).

[Addressed:] His Excellency, Don Jose Manuel Herrera, Secretary of Domestic and Foreign Affairs and Relations.

5. SOLÁ TO THE MINISTER OF RELATIONS, MONTEREY, APRIL 13, 1822  
N. 1. Duplicado.

Exmo Sor.

Consequente a las Soberanas disposiciones que incluhian los dos Ympresos que V. E. dirijio a este Gobierno, uno sin fecha y otro con la de 10 del ultimo octubre, tengo el honor de presentar a V. E. como primicias de mi obediencia a el Nuevo Ymperio y de la de estas Tropas y havitantes un fiel traslado con el numero 1. del Acta tenida en la Sala de este Gobierno el 9 del Corriente en que se acordo el debido y justo reconocimiento, de la Yndependencia de esta Provincia que me esta confiada a toda dominacion que no sea la del Ymperio Mexicano y en consecuencia se determino para el dia 11 el Solemne juramento que se hizo en efecto en esta Capital por mi y cuantos la habitan con toda la magnifisencia y grandiosidad en que es Capaz este pobre Territorio de cuyo acto acompaño con numero 2. el Documento comprobante asi como lo hare oportunamente con las que reciba de los demas Lugares de esta Provincia para que subsesibamente tenga V. E. la Vondad de alearle a la Suprema Regencia Gobernadora interina para la satisfaccion mia y de estas Tropas.

Dios gue a V. E. m.<sup>s</sup> a.<sup>s</sup> Monterey en la N. California 13 de Abril de 1822.

Exmo Sor.

PABLO VIZENTE DE SOLA (rúbrica).

[Addressed:] Exmo Sor D. Jose Manuel Herrera Mintro de Relaciones interiores y exteriores del Ymperio Mexicano.

[In the margin:] Duplicado en 5. de Mayo de 1822. y dirijido por el Comandante del Presidio del Tucson en la Provincia de Sonora Capitan Graduado D. Jose Romero.

[TRANSLATION]

Number 1. Duplicate

Your Excellency:

In consequence of the sovereign orders contained in the two pamphlets sent by your Excellency to this Government, one of which was

undated, and the other of which bore the date of the 10th of last October, I have the honor to present to your Excellency as the first fruits of my obedience to the new Empire, and of the obedience of these troops and inhabitants, a faithful copy in number 1, of the proceedings held in the Government Hall on the 9th of the present month, when there was accorded the due and just recognition of the Independence of this Province under my charge of all domination other than that of the Mexican Empire; and in consequence the 11th day was set for the taking of the solemn oath of allegiance (which in fact was taken in this capital) by myself and by all the inhabitants with all the magnificence and grandeur of which this poor Territory is capable. Of that act, in number 2, I enclose the attesting document, and I shall do the same in due course with those which I may receive from the other places of this Province, so that thereupon your Excellency may have the goodness to send them to the provisional supreme administrative Regency for my gratification and that of these troops.

May God preserve your Excellency many years. Monterey, New California, April 13, 1822.

Your Excellency,

PABLO VIZENTE DE SOLA (rubric).

[Addressed:] His Excellency, Don Jose Manuel Herrera, Minister of Domestic and Foreign Relations of the Mexican Empire.

[In the margin:] Duplicated, May 5, 1822, and sent by the Commandant of the Presidio of Tucson in the Province of Sonora, Captain by brevet, Don Jose Romero.

6. CERTIFICATE OF OATH OF ALLEGIANCE, SAN DIEGO, APRIL 24, 1822

D.<sup>o</sup> Pablo de la Portilla Capitan de la 3.<sup>a</sup> Comp.<sup>a</sup> de Mazatlan y Comand.<sup>te</sup> de la Partida de sien hombres q.<sup>e</sup> residen en esta Provincia.

Certifico q.<sup>e</sup> el dia 23 del Coriente se juro p.<sup>r</sup> la Tropa de mi cargo la Yndependencia del Ymperio Mexicano y p.<sup>a</sup> que Conste doy p.<sup>r</sup> Duplicado la presente Certificacion en este Precidio de S.<sup>o</sup> Diego á 24 de Abril de 1822.

PABLO DE LA PORTILLA (rúbrica).

[TRANSLATION]

Don Pablo de Portilla, Captain of the 3d Company of Mazatlan and Commandant of the force of one hundred men residing in this Province.

I certify that, on the 23d day of the present month, the troops under my command took the oath of allegiance in recognition of the Independence of the Mexican Empire; and in order that the same may be evident, I make the present attestation in duplicate in this Presidio of San Diego, April 24, 1822.

PABLO DE LA PORTILLA (rubric).

7. JOSÉ MANUEL RUÍZ TO GOV. JOSÉ ARGÜELLO, SAN VICENTE, MAY 17, 1822

S.<sup>a</sup> Vicente 17 de Mayo de 1822.

S.<sup>or</sup> Gov.<sup>or</sup> D. Jose Arguello.

Muy S.<sup>or</sup> mio de mi mayor veneracion y respecto. Muy atolondrado, i compunjido me a dejado su apreciable carta fha 15. del pasado Abril, aqui no hay mas S.<sup>or</sup> Gov.<sup>or</sup> que encoger los hombros y agachar la Caveza pues Dios lo a permitido agase Su boluntad. Ygualmente me es Sencivle el Saqueo que isieron de la poca ropa que tenia p.<sup>a</sup> Cubrir sus carnes, y Sobre todo Sobre puja mi Sentimiento a los males que se le han agregado, y rogare al S.<sup>or</sup> sin sesár por el restavlecimiento de su Salud, q es lo q nos interesa Yo aun sigo con mis males y estoy persuadido que la Sepoltura será la medecina p.<sup>ro</sup> estoy Conforme.

Ya tengo dho a nuestra Tropa las providencias q. V. tiene tomadas p.<sup>a</sup> Socorrer las precentes nesecidades, alg<sup>s</sup> se conforman, otros que tienen los Corasones mas duros guardan cilencio como dando a entender de q. dudan de lo que yo les digo.

Quedo impuesto, de lo acaecido en la Prov<sup>a</sup> por Meses de Febrero, y Marzo, y me remito a lo que digo arriva, solo añadire que Dios lo a permitido p<sup>a</sup> probar nuestra paciencia, y fedelidad.

Muy vien me parese el q. V. aiga jurado la Yndep.<sup>a</sup> y la aiga mandado jurar en toda la Provincia de su mando (en la alta Calif.<sup>a</sup> ya está jurado) y estoy con el Sentimiento de que yo e sido el ultimo, p.<sup>ro</sup> puedo asegurar a V. que sere de los mas Obcerbantes, a las Ordenes de nuestro Generalisimo, si reencargo a V. el Socorro de la Tropa, mire V. que me temo una fuga q. agan p.<sup>r</sup> el rio Colorado, y me dejan solo, V. cuidado en este asunto.

No hay duda S.<sup>or</sup> Gov. <sup>or</sup> que V. abla como un profeta pues el mundo está todo rebuelto segun los Sup.<sup>s</sup> Publicos q. e visto y para tranquilizar este Mundo, es nesecario de que Dios Nro S.<sup>or</sup> ponga su mano Santisima, por que las manos de los Hombres no son Capaces de remediarlo.

Segun entiendo los P.<sup>s</sup> Misioneros de Front.<sup>s</sup> aguard.<sup>n</sup> la Ord.<sup>n</sup> de su Prelado p.<sup>a</sup> jurarla, quien save si despues alg.<sup>no</sup> se negará.

Me alegro sobre manera q. la Balandra q. se robaron los Soldados aiga varado a Masatlan.

Quedo vastante Consolado con lo q. me dice V. en su oficio fha 10. del anterior Abril, en que a luego que se tranquilisen las Cosas me proporcionará mi retiro, V. me dirá quando podré precentarmi Memorial; p.<sup>ro</sup> Sarg<sup>to</sup> Gastelum en quien tiene puesto V. los ojos p.<sup>a</sup> el mando de esta Front.<sup>a</sup> pienso q. lo hace quedar mal, por que lo veo resuelto á soltar primero la Caveza q. recibir primero mando alguno, Sirvale a V. de aviso.

El Cabo Remigio Osuna, hace dias q. me está pidiendo el bajar a esse punto, y de emfadado se lo e concedido, y este lleba la Correspondencia.

Supongo ya á V. restableciendose de sus marchas y Contra Marchas y mejorando de su salud, assi lo pedimos al S.<sup>or</sup>

Reciba mi acostumbrado afecto, finas expreciones de Antonia y familia; agame V. el favor de comunicarselas á mi S.<sup>ra</sup> D.<sup>a</sup> Ygnacia, y demas S.<sup>ras</sup> y entre tanto vea V. en que le puedo servir su mas apacionado subdito Q. B. S. M.

JOSE MAN.<sup>1</sup> RUIS (rúbrica).

[TRANSLATION]

San Vicente, May 17, 1822.

Sir Governor, Don Jose Arguello:

Dear Sir, and of my greatest veneration and respect: Your esteemed letter of the 15th of last April has left me mostly at my wit's end and full of remorse. Here, Señor Governor, there is nothing else to do than to shrug the shoulders and bow the head; since God has permitted it let His will be done. I am equally sensible of the pillaging that has been made of the little clothing which you had to cover your flesh, and above all, the evils that have been heaped upon you pass my understanding. I shall beseech the Lord without ceasing for the recovery of your health, for that is of importance to us. I also have my aches and pains and am persuaded that the grave will be the medicine. However, I am quite content.

I have already informed our troops of the measures taken by you to remedy present necessities. Some are agreed, but others, harder hearted, guard their silence as if to give me to understand that they doubt what I tell them.

I have full knowledge of what happened in the Province during the months of February and March, and refer you to what I say above. I shall simply add that God has permitted it to test our patience and faithfulness.

I am quite pleased that you have taken the oath of the Independence, and that you have ordered it taken throughout the Province under your command. It has already been taken in Alta California. I have a feeling that I am the last, but I can assure you that I shall be one of the most obedient to the orders of our commander-in-chief. If I recommend to you once more the relief for the troops you will understand that it is because I fear lest they flee by the Colorado River and leave me alone. Will you look after this matter?

There is no doubt, Sir Governor, that you speak as a prophet, for the world is quite turned upside down, according to the public punishments which I have seen; and that in order to pacify this world, it needs for God our Lord to place His very Holy hand, for the hands of men are incapable of remedying it.

According to what I hear, the Father Missionaries of the frontier are awaiting the order of their Prelate to take the oath. Who can tell whether any one will deny it afterwards?

I am glad beyond expression that the sloop which was stolen by the soldiers ran aground at Masatlan.

I am quite comforted by what you say in your official despatch of the 10th of last April, namely, that as soon as affairs quiet down, you will adjust my retirement. Will you tell me when I may present my memorial? But I think that Sergeant Gastelum, on whom you have cast your eyes for the command of this frontier, will serve it but ill, for I see that he is in a mind to take his head rather than to listen to the first order. Please watch out.

Corporal Remigio Osuna has been begging me for some days for leave to descend to that place, and growing wearied, I have given him permission to do so. He is carrying this correspondence.

I suppose that you are already recovering from your marches and countermarches, and improving in health. This we beseech of the Lord.

Accept my accustomed offerings of affection, and the regards of Antonia and the family. Please do me the favor to communicate them to my Lady, Doña Ygnacia and the other ladies. Meanwhile, let me know how your most devoted subject, who kisses your hands, can serve you.

JOSE MANUEL RUIZ (rubric).

8. CERTIFICATE OF ELECTION OF SOLÁ AS DEPUTY OF THE CORTES,  
MONTEREY, MAY 21, 1822

Triplicado.

En el Presidio de Monterey Capital de la Provincia de la Alta California, a veinte y un dias del mes de Mayo de mil ochocientos veinte y dos, Segundo de la Yndependencia: En la Sala de Gobierno, hallandose Congregados, el Gefe Politico de la misma, Coronel D.<sup>n</sup> Pablo Vicente de Sola, Teniente de la Compañia de Caballeria del citado D.<sup>n</sup> Jose M.<sup>a</sup> Estudillo, el Alferez de la misma graduado de Teniente D. José Mariano Estrada, y el Teniente graduado y Alferez de Artilleria D.<sup>n</sup> Manuel Gomez citado antes dieron en union de los Sres Electores de Provincia, D. Francisco de Castro, Elector nombrado p.<sup>r</sup> la Billa de Brancifort, Pueblo de S. Jose y las Misiones de S.<sup>n</sup> Francisco S.<sup>n</sup> Jose, Sta Clara, y Sta Cruz y D. Jose Arúz, p.<sup>r</sup> el Presidio de Monterey y las Misiones de S.<sup>n</sup> Juan Bautista, S.<sup>n</sup> Carlos, Soledad, S.<sup>n</sup> Antonio, S.<sup>n</sup> Miguel y S.<sup>n</sup> Luis Obbpo: D.<sup>n</sup> Fran.<sup>co</sup> de Ortega, p.<sup>r</sup> el Presidio de Sta. Barbara, y la Mis<sup>on</sup> nombrada asi, y las de S.<sup>n</sup> Buenaventura, S.<sup>n</sup> Fernando Sta Ynes, y la Purisima; D. Jose Palomares p.<sup>r</sup> el Pueblo nombrado de Ntra Sra. de los Angeles, y a D.<sup>n</sup> Ygnacio Lopez, p.<sup>r</sup> el Presidio de S.<sup>n</sup> Diego la Mis<sup>on</sup> de igual nombre, y las de S.<sup>n</sup> Luis Rey S.<sup>n</sup> Juan Capistrano, y S.<sup>n</sup> Gabriel: Dixeron ante mi el infra-scripto Secretario, q.<sup>e</sup> nombraban y nombraron p.<sup>r</sup> Diputado para las Cortes Constituyentes del Ymperio, a dho S.<sup>or</sup> Coronel D.<sup>n</sup> Pablo Vicente de Sola; y para su Suplente al Cap.<sup>n</sup> de la Comp.<sup>a</sup> de Cavall<sup>a</sup> del Presidio de S.<sup>n</sup> Francisco D.<sup>n</sup> Luis Antonio Arguello; y trasladan en su Persona la facultad y poder q.<sup>e</sup> la confirieron los Ciudadanos q.<sup>e</sup> componen los Pueblos y partidos de ella p.<sup>r</sup> medio de sus respectivos Ayuntamientos para Cumplir y desempeñar las importantisimas funciones de su encargo, y para q.<sup>e</sup> con los demas Diputados de Cortes en representacion de la Nacion Mexicana, todos sus Reynos Provincias Partidos, Ciudades, Villas, Congregaciones, Pueblos, Barrios, Reducciones, Misiones, Haciendas, Ranchos, y Ciudadanos de todas Clases sin distincion alguna puedan acordar y resolber quanto entendiesen es condusente al bien general de ellas, y en uso de la facultad q.<sup>e</sup> le han concedido Constituyan el Gobierno del Ymperio baxo las baces fundamentales del Plan de Yguala, y tratados de la Villa de Cordova, estableciendo la separacion absoluta del poder legislativo, del ejecutivo, y judicial, para q.<sup>e</sup> nunca pueda reunirse en una sola Persona, y q.<sup>e</sup> los otorgantes, se obligan p.<sup>a</sup> si mismos, y a nombre de

todos los Ciudadanos de ésta Provincia en Virtud de las facultades q.º les confirieron para el efecto como electores nombrados para éste Acto y tener p.º valido y obedecer, y cumplir, quanto como tales Diputados de Cortes hicieren y se resolvieren p.º estas Constituyentes del Gobierno de la Nacion Mexicana: que del mismo modo obligan. a los Ciudadanos de la Provincia á que las obedeceran en quanto dispongan y determinen respetando la Constitucion q.º establezcan como la Ley fundamental del Ympero, y q. en atencion á ser esta Provincia ultramarina y haber de esperar proporcion de Buque p.º embarcarse con destino á S.º Blas ó Acapulco, y de alli pasar a la Ymperial de Mexico, y ser imposible de llegar a ella en el presente año, y lo mas pronto á principio del Siguiente; siendo adaptable a las Cortes: Valga el presente poder p.º los dos Subcesivos, y de lo contrario, se de aviso para la nueva eleccion de los q.º puedan sucederle asi lo expresaron y otorgaron mandando se de esta Credencial de su eleccion al S.º Coronel D. Pablo Vic.º de Sola y lo firmó con migo el mismo Sor con los Sres Electores.

Testigos de este Acto. =Francisco Castro =Jose Aruz =Francisco Ortega = Jose Palomares = Por no saber firmar D.º Ygnacio Lopez hizo la Señal de la Sta Cruz Pablo Vicente de Sola =Jose Mariano Estrada =Manuel Gomez =Jose Maria Estudillo =Secretario.

Es Copia de su original de que Certifico Monterey 3. de Julio de 1822.

JOSE M.º ESTUDILLO, Voc.º Secret.º (rúbrica).

[TRANSLATION]

Triplicate

In the Presidio of Monterey, the Capital of the Province of Alta California, on the twenty-first day of the month of May, of the year one thousand eight hundred and twenty-two, and the Second of Independence: There being assembled in the Government Hall the Political Chief of the said Province, Colonel Don Pablo Vicente de Sola, the lieutenant of the cavalry company of the above mentioned [Presidio of San Diego], Don Jose Maria Estudillo, the *alferez* of the same, lieutenant by brevet, Don Jose Mariano Estrada, and the lieutenant by brevet and *alferez* of artillery, Don Manuel Gomez, above mentioned, they agreed upon the electors of the Province, namely, Don Francisco de Castro; appointed elector for the town of Brancifort, the town of San Jose, and the Missions of San Francisco, San Jose, Santa Clara, and Santa Cruz; Don Jose Arúz, for the Presidio of



Monterey, and the Missions of San Juan Bautista, San Carlos, Soledad, San Antonio, San Miguel, and San Luis Obispo; Don Francisco de Ortega, for the Presidio of Santa Barbara, the Mission of the same name, and the Mission of San Buenaventura, San Fernando, Santa Ynes, and La Purisima; Don Jose Palomares, for the town called Nuestra Señora de los Angeles; Don Ygnacio Lopez, for the Presidio of San Diego, the Mission of the same name, and the Missions of San Luis Rey, San Juan Capistrano, and San Gabriel. They declared before me, the undersigned secretary, that they appointed and they did appoint as Deputy for the Constituent Cortes of the Empire the said Colonel Don Pablo Vicente de Sola; for his substitute, the captain of the cavalry company of the Presidio of San Francisco, Don Luis Antonio Arguello. And they transferred in their persons the authority and power conferred by the citizens comprising the towns and districts of the Province through their respective ayuntamientos, to execute and discharge the very important duties in their charge, and together with the other Deputies to the Cortes representing the Mexican Nation, and all its Kingdoms, Provinces, Districts, Cities, Villages, Congregations, Towns, Barrios, Reductions, Missions, Estates, Ranches, and Citizens of all Classes without any distinction whatsoever, to agree upon and resolve whatever they believe to be conducive to the general welfare of them. And in the enjoyment of the authority conceded to them, they may constitute the Government of the Empire upon the fundamental bases of the Plan of Iguala and the treaties of the Villa of Cordova, by establishing an absolute separation of legislative, executive, and judicial powers, so that they may never more be united in one single person. The signers shall bind themselves, for themselves, and in the name of all the citizens of this Province, by virtue of the powers conferred upon them for the purpose, as electors appointed for this act, to hold as valid and to obey and execute whatever such Deputies of the Cortes shall do and resolve for these constituents of the government of the Mexican Nation. And in the same manner, they bind the citizens of the Province to obey whatever they order and determine respecting the Constitution which they might establish as the fundamental law of the Empire. In consideration of this Province being overseas, and it being necessary to await the opportunity for a vessel to San Blas or Acapulco, whence they pass to the Imperial City of Mexico; and since it is impossible to arrive there during the present year (at the very earliest at the beginning of next year), if it be the pleasure of the Cortes, let the

present authorization be legal for the next two years, and on the contrary, let the Cortes order the new election of their successors. Thus did they express themselves, and they affixed their signatures, ordering that this credential of his election be given to Colonel Don Pablo Vicente de Sola. The same gentlemen and the other electors signed this credential together with me.

Witnesses of this act: Francisco Castro. Jose Aruz. Francisco Ortega. Jose Palomares. As he could not sign his name, Don Ygnacio Lopez made the sign of the Holy Cross. Pablo Vicente de Sola. Jose Mariano Estrada. Manuel Gomez. Jose Maria Estudillo, secretary.

A copy of its original, to which I certify. Monterey, July 3, 1822.

JOSE MARIA ESTUDILLO, Secretary with vote (rubric).

9. MANUEL VARELA TO CANON AGUSTÍN FERNÁNDEZ, MAY 22, 1822

Casa de V. y Mayo 22 de 822.

Señor D.<sup>na</sup> Augustin Fernandez.

Mi amado Comp.<sup>o</sup> nada he podido adelantar en la aclaracion de la notisia que comunique á V. hoy, de que el Gobierno de la alta California se habia puesto, bajo la proteccion de la Vandera Rusa;

El Piloto del Vergantin Accion que podria aclararla me á dho D.<sup>na</sup> Juan Escudero, que ase pocos dias vino de S.<sup>na</sup> Blas, se habia ido, en uno de los Buques que han salido de dho Puerto, y me añadió dho. Escudero, que abia oido desir en S.<sup>na</sup> Blas que en el Puerto de la Bodega permanecian a la salida del Vergantin Accion quatro Fragat.<sup>s</sup> de Guerra, Rusas: si es sierta esta noticia, es muy regular que el Comand.<sup>te</sup> de Marina de S.<sup>na</sup> Blas la haya comunicado, al Soberano Congreso ó al S.<sup>or</sup> Generalisimo.

Siempre será muy del caso escriba Vmd. á Narvaez, como ablamos hoy.

Queda de V siempre afmo Compadre Seg<sup>o</sup> Serv<sup>o</sup> q S. M. B.

MANUEL VARELA (rúbrica).

[TRANSLATION]

At your Home, May 22, 1822.

Señor Don Augustin Fernandez:

My dear friend: I have been able to get no further light on the news which I communicated to you today, namely, that the Government of Alta California had been placed under the protection of the Russian banner.

The pilot of the brig *Accion*, who could clear up the matter—as was told me by Don Juan Escudero, who came from San Blas a few days ago—had gone away in one of the vessels clearing from the said port. The said Escudero added that he had heard say in San Blas that four Russian men-of-war were left in the port of Bodega when the brig *Accion* cleared. If this news be true, it is to be assumed that the naval commander of San Blas should have communicated it to the Sovereign Congress or to the Commander-in-chief.

It will always be in order for you to write to Narvaez, as we said today.

Ever your affectionate friend and true servant, who kisses your hands,

MANUEL VARELA (rubric).

10. CERTIFICATE OF ACT OF ALLEGIANCE, SAN VICENTE, MAY 22, 1822  
N. 3.

D.<sup>na</sup> Jose Manuel Ruiz Teniente de Caballeria de la Comp.<sup>a</sup> del Presidio de Loreto, y actual Comandante de estas Front.<sup>as</sup> de la antigua California.

Certifica q. habiendo recibido ord<sup>na</sup> del S.<sup>or</sup> Gov.<sup>or</sup> Politico y Militar de esta Provincia de la antigua Calif.<sup>a</sup> el S.<sup>or</sup> D. Jose Arguello, el dia 12. del presente mes, en la que me incluia el acta de la Soverana junta de este Ymperio declaratoria de su Yndependencia, el Plan de Yguala, el tratado de Cordova, el decreto de la Regencia del Ymperio Mexicano, y Soverana junta Provicional gubernativa, y Copia del acta Celebrada en el Presidio de Loreto, i para dar cumplimiento y execucion a lo dispuesto; en la mañana del dia 16. del corriente di ord<sup>na</sup> al Sarg.<sup>to</sup> y Cabos que a las 10. de la mañana se formase toda la Tropa que guarnese esta Escolta, y que se juntara todo el Vecindario en el cuerpo de Guardia; inmediatamente pasé a dho Cuerpo de Guardia, a donde estava la Tropa formada sobre las armas, les mandé presentar las armas, les hise Saver p.<sup>a</sup> q. fin heran conbocados, y con arreglo al articulo 3.<sup>o</sup> del Decreto de la Regencia del Ymperio y Soverana junta Provicional y gubernativa, lei al frente de la Tropa, y Vecindario el acta de la Soverana junta de este Ymperio, declaratoria de su Yndependencia, el Plan de Yguala, el tratado de Cordova, el decreto de la Regencia del Ymperio, Concluido este acto y con arreglo al articulo 2.<sup>o</sup> del Soverano y citado decreto, recibí el juramento devido despues de vien enterados de su contenido, bajo la formula prebenida en el

citado artº al Sarg.<sup>to</sup> Cabos, Tropa, y Vecindario, y todos unamimes respondieron a Cordes Seg. la formula indicada, y concluyendo con una Salva y repique de Campanas, y mucho regosijo; y al dia siguiente se hizo una solemne function de Yglecia con Salva Triple, con lo q. se dio cumplimiento a la Soverana ord.<sup>n</sup>

S.<sup>n</sup> Vicente 22. de Mayo de 1822.

JOSE MAN<sup>l</sup> RUIZ (rúbrica).

[TRANSLATION]

Number 3

I, Don Jose Manuel Ruiz, Cavalry Lieutenant of the Company of the Presidio of Loreto, and present Commander of these frontiers of Old California:

Certify that, upon receiving the order of the Military and Political Governor of this Province of Old California, Don Jose Arguello, on the 12th day of the present month, in which was sent to me the act of the Sovereign Council of this Empire declaring its Independence, the Plan of Iguala, the Treaty of Cordova, the decree of the Regency of the Mexican Empire, and the provisional Sovereign Administrative Assembly, and a copy of the act celebrated in the Presidio of Loreto, and in order to execute and obey the order, on the morning of the 16th day of the present month, I ordered the sergeant and corporals to draw up all the troops in this garrison at 10 o'clock in the morning, and to assemble all the inhabitants at the guardhouse. Thereupon I went immediately to the said guardhouse, where the troops had been drawn up under arms, ordered them to present arms, informed them why they had been summoned, and in accordance with the 3d article of the decree of the Regency of the Empire and provisional and Administrative Sovereign Assembly, read to the troops and inhabitants the act of the Sovereign Council of this Empire, the declaration of Independence, the Plan of Iguala, the Treaty of Cordova, and the decree of the Regency of the Empire. This having been concluded, in accordance with article 2 of the sovereign and above mentioned decree, I administered the proper oath, after its contents had been well understood, in the manner prescribed in the above mentioned article, to the sergeant, corporals, the troops, and the inhabitants. All unanimously answered in accordance with the indicated formula, and the ceremony concluded with a volley of musketry, the ringing of the bells and hearty rejoicing. On the following day, a solemn church

service was celebrated, at which there were three volleys of musketry. In this manner was the sovereign order observed.

San Vicente, May 22, 1822.

JOSE MANUEL RUIZ (rubric).

11. CANON FERNÁNDEZ TO THE MINISTER OF RELATIONS, TEPIC, MAY 23,  
1822

Ecsmo. Señor.

Pongo en noticia de V. E. haver llegado dia de la fha á esta Ciudad. é inmediateam.<sup>te</sup> he procurado saver, el estado en que se haya el Verg.<sup>n</sup> S.<sup>n</sup> Carlos, en que devo embarcarme para las Californias: fui informado por el Comand.<sup>te</sup> de Armas y del Departamento de S.<sup>n</sup> Blas que dho Buque no puede salir, asta el dia 15. o 20. del mes entrante a causa de no estar echo los viberes.

Acabo de resivir una Esquela de un Comp.<sup>o</sup> y amigo mio, que incluye á V. E. para su Superior conosimiento.

Dios gue á V. E. m.<sup>s</sup> a.<sup>s</sup> Tepic 23 de Mayo de 1822.

AG.<sup>n</sup> FRNZ. DE S.<sup>n</sup> VICENTE (rúbrica).

[Addressed:] Exmo Sor Ministro de Estado y de Relacion.<sup>s</sup> interior.<sup>s</sup> y exterior.<sup>s</sup>

[TRANSLATION]

Your Excellency:

I herewith advise your Excellency of my arrival in this city today. I have immediately endeavored to ascertain the condition of the brig *San Carlos* in which I am to take passage to California. I was informed by the commandant of the troops and of the department of San Blas that said vessel cannot leave until the 15th or 20th of next month, because provisions have not been laid in.

I have just received a note from a comrade and friend which I am sending to you herewith for your superior information.

May God preserve your Excellency many years. Tepic, May 23, 1822.

AGUSTIN FERNANDEZ DE SAN VICENTE (rubric).

[Addressed:] The Minister of State and of Domestic and Foreign Relations.

12. JOSÉ MANUEL RUÍZ TO GOV. JOSÉ ARGÜELLO, SAN VICENTE, JUNE 8, 1822

N. 253.

El S.<sup>or</sup> Gobernador de la alta Calif<sup>a</sup> segun se demuestra a bariado la costumbre de el correo ôrdinario, el tendrá sus razones para que assi aiga sucedido; y yo decesso de q. llegue a manos de V. el certificado de aber jurado la Yndependencia en estas Fronteras de mi cargo pongo este extraordinario con solo la Correspondencia de Fronteras pues no quiero que la Corte Ymperial de Mexico me tenga por inovediente, y V. no llevará a mal mi dispoci.<sup>on</sup>

Desde el dia 22. de Mayo hasta el dia de la fha no a ocurrido novedad alguna solo si q. los Yndios de Santa Catarina, han buelto a las novedades de ahora dos años veremos en lo que paran, otro si: Que el dia 4 del presente tube noticias por un Yndio Playano que la tarde del mismo dia, avia pasado un Buque vastante abultado con rumbo p.<sup>a</sup> el sur, y que al Siguiete dia a las once de la mañana, pasó otro con el mismo rumbo, aunq. yo opino que serán los mismos que se dejaron veer en la Encenada. Ya Son las cinco de la tarde y hasta la fha no tengo noticias de haigan fondeado en estas ensenadas de mi jurisdiccion.

Aqui tengo un Vecino q. quiere tomar la Plaza, a luego que se la de, le mandare su Filiacion.

El dia de mañana sale el precente extraordinario lo q. Comunico a V. p.<sup>a</sup> su conocimiento.

Nro S.<sup>or</sup> Gue a V. m.<sup>s</sup> a.<sup>s</sup> S.<sup>n</sup> Vicente 8 de Junio de 1822.

JOSÉ MAN<sup>l</sup> RUIZ (rúbrica).

[Addressed:] S.<sup>or</sup> Gov.<sup>or</sup> de la baja Calif.<sup>a</sup> Dn. José Arguello.

[TRANSLATION]

Number 253.

The Governor of Alta California, as has been seen, has varied the method of the regular mail. He will have his reasons for having done so. I being desirous that the attestation of the swearing of the oath of the Independence in these Frontiers under my charge should reach you, am sending this extraordinary mail with only the correspondence of the Frontiers, since I do not wish the Imperial Court of Mexico to consider me as disobedient, and you to consider me as evilly disposed.

Between the 22d of May and today, nothing new has occurred except that the Indians of Santa Catarina have returned to the innovations of two years ago. We shall see where they stop. Likewise, on the 4th of the present month, I received news from an Indian of the coast that a heavily laden vessel had passed on the afternoon of the same day, heading south, and that on the following day at eleven in the morning, another vessel had passed headed in the same direction. However, I think that they are the same vessels that were seen in the bay. It is already five o'clock in the afternoon, and I have not heard of them having anchored in these bays of my jurisdiction.

There is one of the inhabitants here who wishes to take the place. As soon as it is given to him, I shall send his record to you.

In the morning the present extraordinary mail will leave. I am communicating this to you for your information.

May our Lord preserve your Excellency many years. San Vicente, June 8, 1822.

JOSE MANUEL RUIZ (rubric).

[Addressed:] The Governor of Baja California, Don José Arguello.

13. THE MINISTER OF RELATIONS TO CANON FERNÁNDEZ, MEXICO, JUNE 15, 1822

Primera Secretaria de Estado. Seccion de Gobierno.

Por la carta q. V. T. acompaña á la suya de 23 Mayo ultimo se ha impuesto El Emperador de las noticias referentes á la alta California; y habiendo, estas llamado la atencion de SM. no obstante el no venir comprobadas, me manda diga á VS que rectificandolas por los conductos, que estime mas juiciosos, y seguros, procure V S dar cuenta con la frecuencia posible, de lo que vaya adelantando en una materia que por su importancia exige no la pierda V S de vista.

Dios gue á V Y m.<sup>s</sup> a.<sup>s</sup> Mexico 15 de Junio de 1822.

(Rúbrica.)

[Addressed:] Al Dr. Dn. Agustin Fernz de Sn. Vicente.

[TRANSLATION]

Chief office of the Secretary of State. Government Section.

By means of the letter accompanying your letter of the 23d of last May, the Emperor has been informed of the news relating to Alta California. The attention of his Majesty having been called to these news, although the reports are not accompanied by the attesting docu-

ments, he orders me to tell you that in verifying the news by the messengers whom you consider most judicious and reliable, your Excellency should endeavor to report as often as possible on the progress made in regard to a matter which demands that your Excellency do not lose sight of it because of its importance.

May God preserve your Excellency many years. Mexico, June 15, 1822.

(Rubric.)

[Addressed:] To Doctor Don Agustin Fernandez de San Vicente.

14. THE MINISTER OF RELATIONS TO THE GOVERNOR OF SAN BLAS, JUNE  
15, 1822

De orn del Emperador acompaño a V ese pliego a fin de q en el caso de haberse hecho á la vela el Dr. Dn. Ag.<sup>n</sup> Fernz. de Sn. Vic.<sup>te</sup> le dé V. la direcc<sup>on</sup> debida en primera ocasion segura dando aviso de haberlo verificado.

D. Junio 15 de 822.

(Rúbrica.)

[Addressed:] Al Gob.<sup>r</sup> de Sn Blas.

[TRANSLATION]

By order of the Emperor, I enclose you herewith the sheet, so that in case that Doctor Don Agustin Fernandez de San Vicente has sailed, you may give him the due orders on the first safe occasion advising that this has been done.

June 15, 1822.

(Rubric.)

[Addressed:] To the Governor of San Blas.

15. GOV. JOSÉ ARGÜELLO TO CANON FERNÁNDEZ, LORETO, JUNE 27, 1822  
N. 1.

Ympuesto de la Comicion que ha motivado el arribo de V. S. á esta Capital, de los Asuntos que ésta encierra y del Oficio de V. S. fecha de ayer debo decirle: que efectivamente ni los achaques de mi quebrantada salud ni mi abansada edad, me permiten continuar al frente de los negocios del Gobierno de ésta Provincia, y mucho menos en las presentes circunstancias en que se trata de establecer con actividad y energia el nuevo Sistema liberal é Yndependientes = Por tanto si



está en las facultades de VS. exonerarme del indicado Empleo permitiendome trasladarme a la Capital de la Provincia de Nueva Galicia por la primera via, espero tenga la bondad de expedirme el correspondiente Pasaporte al intento, y de quedar persuadido é informar a la Corte del Ymperio que mi Solicitud se contrahe unicamente al buen deseo que me anima de que las ordenes de nuestro venefico Gobierno tengan su mas breve y puntual cumplimiento =Dios gue. á VS. m.<sup>s</sup> a.<sup>s</sup> Loreto 27. de Junio de 1822. segundo de nuestra Yndepend.<sup>a</sup> = José Arguello =Sor. [Addressed:] Prevendado D.<sup>r</sup> D. Agustin Fernandez de San Vicente—

Es Copia. Loreto 9 de Julio de 1822.

AG.<sup>n</sup> FRNZ. DE S. VICENTE (rúbrica).

[TRANSLATION]

Number 1

Having been informed of the commission that has caused your Excellency's arrival in this Capital, of the matters enclosed, and of your Excellency's official despatch of yesterday, I have to say that really neither the attacks on my shattered health nor my advanced age permit me to continue at the head of the affairs of the Government of this Province, and much less under the present circumstances in which the new liberal and independent system is to be established with activity and energy. Therefore, if it is within your Excellency's power to excuse me from the aforesaid employment by allowing me to transfer to the Capital of the Province of New Galicia, I trust that you will have the goodness to send me the proper passport for this purpose by the earliest mail and that you will believe and so inform the Imperial Court that my anxiety is animated solely by my good desire that the orders of our beneficent Government be executed in the briefest and most exact manner. May God preserve your Excellency many years. Loreto, June 27, 1822, and the Second year of our Independence. José Arguello. [Addressed:] Prebendary Dr. Don Agustin Fernandez de San Vicente.

A copy. Loreto, July 9, 1822.

AGUSTIN FERNANDEZ DE SAN VICENTE (rubric).

16. CANON FERNÁNDEZ TO GOV. JOSÉ ARGÜELLO, LORETO, JUNE 28, 1822  
N. 2

Enterado del Oficio de V. fecha de ayer por el que hace dimicion del Empleo de Governador de ésta Provincia que tan dignamente obtiene

en virtud de los poderosos motivos que á ella le impelen, puede V. por ahora y en obio de demoras en los asuntos de mi Comision, hacer formal entrega de todos los Documentos Relativos al completo de-  
sempeño de dicho Empleo al Capitan D. Fernando de la Toba entre tanto que reunidos los miembros de ésta Sociedad se determina el Sugeto que le corresponde y convenga a las beneficas intenciones de nuestro Gobierno, asegurandole á V. que tanto de ésta ocurrencia como de su honrado proceder daré oportunamente Cuenta a la Corte del Ymperio para que se tengan en concideracion los distinguidos meritos y dilatados Servicios de V. quien desde luego puede disponer su marcha a la Capital de Nueva Galicia segun desea, como y quando mejor le convenga, contando para ello con el Pasaporte que Solicita por su citado oficio á que contesto = Dios gue. á V. m.ª a.ª Loreto 28 de Junio de 1822. Seg.º de nuestra gloriosa Yndepend.ª Agustin Fernandez de San Vicente. [Addressed:] Sor. D. Jose Arguello Governador de ésta Provincia.

Es Copia. Loreto 9, de Julio de 1822.

AG.ª FRNZ. DE S. VICENTE (rúbrica).

[TRANSLATION]

Number 2

Having been informed by your official despatch of yesterday, in which you resign the office of Governor of this Province, which you so worthily obtain by virtue of the powerful motives that impel you to ask it, you may for the present and in order to avoid delay, in the matters of my commission, make formal delivery of all the documents relative to the complete discharge of said office to Captain Don Fernando de la Toba. In the meanwhile when the members of this society are assembled, that person shall be decided on who is proper for the office and who is in accord with the beneficent intentions of our Government. I assure you that I shall give due account to the Imperial Court, both of this occurrence and of your honorable procedure, so that they may hold in consideration your distinguished merits and long services. You may immediately arrange for your departure to the capital of New Galicia according to your desire, when and as is most convenient to you, reckoning for this on the passport which you request in your aforesaid official despatch, to which I reply. May God preserve you many years. Loreto, June 28, 1822, the Second

year of our glorious Independence. Agustín Fernández de San Vicente. [Addressed:] Sr. Don José Arguello, Governor of this Province.

A copy. Loreto, July 9, 1822.

AGUSTÍN FERNÁNDEZ DE SAN VICENTE (rubric).

17. SELECTION OF THE AYUNTAMIENTO, LORETO, JULY 2, 1822

En el Presidio de Loreto, Capital de la Provincia de la Baja California á dos de Julio de mil ochocientos veinte y dos, en la Casa de habitacion de el Sor Gefe politico Ynterino Capitan de Milicias Urbanas, D. Fernando de la Toba: se congregó el Vecindario á las siete de la Mañana, con el objeto de nombrar Electores Parroquiales q. designaran los individuos de que se habia de componer el Ayuntam.<sup>to</sup> q. se instalo Y habiendo discutido por escrutinio secreto la materia con arreglo á lo q. previene la Constitucion Española (en lo que ha podido ser adaptable) salieron nombrados p.<sup>a</sup> Electores los ciudadanos D. Miguel Mesa, con seis votos D. Juan Higuera, con nueve, D. Juan Ybañes, con cuatro, D. Cecilio Peña, con cinco D. Domingo Lopez con ocho D. Anastacio Arce, con tres D. Enrique Cota con cinco, y D. Pedro Aguilar con tres: Todos los cuales unidos y conferenciando entre si, eligieron, para Alcalde á D. Juan Higuera, q.<sup>e</sup> sacó diez sufragios, para Regidor Decano á D. Anastacio Arce, q.<sup>e</sup> sacó ocho para segundo Regidor á D. Enrique Cota, q.<sup>e</sup> sacó cinco, y para Sindico Procurador á D. Luis de Cuevas que saco seis: Hecha publica la indicada votacion por el Sor. Gefe politico se conformaron los ciudadanos presentes con ellas, con la cual quedó instalado el Ayuntamiento para entrar el uso y goze de sus respectivas Atribuciones. En Testimonio lo firmaron el en el supradicho lugar.<sup>d</sup>

FERN.<sup>do</sup> DE LA TOBA (rúbrica).

JUAN YGUERA, Alcde (rúbrica).

ANASTACIO ARCE, Primer Regidor (rúbrica).

ENRIQUE COTA, Seg.<sup>do</sup> Reg.<sup>dor</sup> (rúbrica).

LUIS DE CUEVAS, Sindico Proc (rúbrica).

MARTIN HIGUERA, Srio. (rúbrica).

[TRANSLATION]

In the Presidio of Loreto, Capital of this Province of Baja California, July two, one thousand eight hundred and twenty-two, in the residence of the provisional Political Chief, the Captain of Urban Militia, Don Fernando de la Toba, the citizens were assembled at seven

o'clock in the morning for the purpose of appointing parochial electors to designate the persons who were to compose the Ayuntamiento, which was installed. Having discussed the matter by secret examination, in accordance with the provisions of the Spanish Constitution (in so far as it has been possible to adopt it), the following citizens were appointed as electors namely, Don Miguel Mesa, with six votes, Don Juan Higuera, with nine, Don Juan Ybañez with four, Don Cecilio Peña with five, Don Domingo Lopez, with eight, Don Anastacio Arce, with three, Don Enrique Cota, with five, and Don Pedro Aguilar, with three. All of these assembled and conferring together, elected as alcalde, Don Juan Higuera, who obtained ten votes, as head of the Regidores, Don Anastacio Arce, who obtained eight votes, as Second Regidor, Don Enrique Cota, who obtained five votes, and as Prosecuting Attorney, Don Luis de Cuevas, who obtained six votes. The results of the vote having been announced by the Political Chief, the citizens present at the voting concurred. Thereupon the Ayuntamiento was installed and entered upon the use and enjoyment of its respective attributes. In testimony of which they signed it, in the aforesaid place.

FERNANDO DE LA TOBA (rubric).

JUAN YGUERA, Alcalde (rubric).

ANASTACIO ARCE, Chief Regidor (rubric).

ENRIQUE COTA, Second Regidor (rubric).

LUIS DE CUEVAS, Prosecuting Attorney (rubric).

MARTIN HIGUERA, Secretary (rubric).

#### 18. ACT OF ALLEGIANCE, LORETO, JULY 2, 1822

En el Presidio de Loreto, Capital de la Provincia de la Baja California a dos dias del mes de Julio, de mil ochocientos veinte y dos años, en la casa de alojamiento del Sr. Prebendado D.<sup>r</sup> D. Agustín Fernandez de S. Vicente: Comisionado por el Gobierno Ymperial Mexicano, se congregaron á las diez de la mañana los Sres Gefé politico interino Capitan de Milicias Urbanas D. Fernando de la Toba; el Alcalde constitucional é Ymperial D.<sup>n</sup> Juan Higuera, y los Regidores D. Anastacio Arce, y D. Enrique Cota, con su Sindico Procurador D. Luis de Cuevas, y el Secretario D. Martin Higuera: Estando preparado con anticipacion sobre una mesa la efigie de un crucifixo y el Libro de los Stos Evangelios, y puesta sobre ellas la mano derecha les recibio dho Sor. Gefé politico Juramento en la forma que prescribe el Soberano

Decreto del Congreso constitucional Mexicano dirigido á las Regencias de el Ymperio, con fecha de diez y ocho de Abril, y es la siguiente:

Jurias (sic) por Dios y por los Stos Evangelios reconocer la Soberania de la Nacion Mexicana representada por el congreso constituyente? Respondieron: Si Juramos.

¿Jurais Obedecer y cumplir las Leyes, y Decretos, que dimanen del mismo Congreso? A lo q tambien respondieron: Juramos Si asi lo hicieris los Dixo: el Sor Gefe politico Dios todo poderoso os premie, y si no, os lo demande, y mando q<sup>e</sup> de estos actos se sacase testimonio á fin de q.<sup>e</sup> por su conducto se remitiese al q.<sup>e</sup> corresponde á la Regencia. En Testimonio de Verdad, lo firmaron el S. Gefe politico, y demas individuos de esta Ylustre corporacion Doy feé como Srio.

FERN<sup>do</sup> DE LA TOBA (rúbrica).

JUAN YGUERA, Alc<sup>e</sup> (rúbrica).

ANASTACIO ARCE, Primer Reguidor [*s'c*] (rúbrica).

ENRRIQUE COTO, Seg.<sup>do</sup> Regidor (rúbrica).

LUIS DE CUEVAS, Sindico Proc.<sup>or</sup> (rúbrica).

MARTIN HIGUERA, Srio. (rúbrica).

[TRANSLATION]

In the Presidio of Loreto, Capital of the Province of Baja California, on the second day of the month of July, one thousand eight hundred and twenty-two, in the lodging house of the Prebendary Doctor Don Agustin Fernandez de San Vicente, Commissioner for the Imperial Mexican Government, there assembled at ten o'clock in the morning, the following gentlemen: the provisional Political Chief, the Captain of Urban Militia, Don Fernando de la Toba, the Constitutional and Imperial Alcalde, Don Juan Higuera, the Regidores, Don Anastacio Arce, and Don Enrique Cota, with their Prosecuting Attorney, Don Luis de Cuevas, and the Secretary, Don Martin Higuera. There being prepared beforehand on a table a crucifix and the book of the Holy Gospels, and having placed thereon his right hand, the said Political Chief administered to them the oath in the form prescribed by the Sovereign Decree of the Mexican Constitutional Congress sent to the Regencies of the Empire on the eighteenth of April. Said oath is as follows:

Do you swear before God and on the Holy Gospels to recognize the Sovereignty of the Mexican Nation represented by the constituent Congress? They answered, "Yes, we swear."

Do you swear to obey and to execute the laws and decrees which emanate from the said Congress? To which they also answered "We swear." "If ye shall do so," said the Political Chief to them, "may God Almighty reward you, but if not, may you answer to Him for it." He ordered that an attestation be made of these acts, so that it might be sent by him to the proper agency in the Regency. In testimony of the truth, the Political Chief and the other persons of this exalted corporation affixed their signatures. I attest it as Secretary.

FERNANDO DE LA TOBA (rubric).

JUAN YGUERA, Alcalde (rubric).

ANASTACIO ARCE, First Regidor (rubric).

ENRRIQUE COTA, Second Regidor (rubric).

LUIS DE CUEVAS, Prosecuting Attorney (rubric).

MARTIN HIGUERA, Secretary (rubric).

19. ELECTION OF A SECRETARY OF THE AYUNTAMIENTO, LORETO, JULY 2,  
1822

En el Presidio de Loreto, Capital de la Provincia de la Baja California á dos días de el mes de Julio de mil ochocientos veinte y dos, en la casa de habitacion del Sor. Comisionado del Ymperio D.<sup>r</sup> D.<sup>n</sup> Agustin Fernandez de San Vicente: acto continuo de la instalacion de este Ylustre Ayuntamiento procedieron los Sres. q. lo componen á la nominacion de su Srio; y habiendo examinado el asunto con la madurez q. merece, conferenciando entre si detenidamente nombraron, y nombró para q. sirva el empleo, al Ciudadano D. Martin Higuera, en quien concurren las circunstancias de fidelidad en el secreto, y demas que se prometen de su exacto desempeño. En testimonio lo firmaron los Sres. de la Corporacion.

JUAN YGUERA, Alc<sup>de</sup> (rúbrica).

ANASTACIO ARCE, Primer Reguidor [*sic*] (rúbrica).

ENRRIQUE COTA, Seg.<sup>do</sup> Reg.<sup>dor</sup> (rúbrica).

LUIS DE CUEVAS, Sindico Proc<sup>or</sup> (rúbrica).

MART<sup>n</sup> HIG<sup>a</sup>, Srio (rúbrica).

[TRANSLATION]

In the Presidio of Loreto, Capital of the Province of Baja California, on the second day of the month of July, one thousand eight hundred and twenty-two, in the house of the Imperial Commissioner, Doctor Don Agustin Fernandez de San Vicente, in continuation of the in-

stallation of this exalted Ayuntamiento, the gentlemen composing it proceeded to the nomination of its secretary. After having considered the matter with the due deliberation and having conferred earnestly among themselves, they appointed, and did appoint, to serve in that capacity, the citizen Don Martin Higuera, in whom were found to reside the qualities of fidelity in secret affairs and other qualities which promise the exact performance of his duties. In testimony of truth, the gentlemen of the corporation affixed their signatures:

JUAN YGUERA, Alcalde (rubric).

ANASTACIO ARCE, First Regidor (rubric).

ENRIQUE COTA, Second Regidor (rubric).

LUIS DE CUEVAS, Prosecuting Attorney (rubric).

MARTIN HIGUERA, Secretary (rubric).

20. THE MINISTER OF RELATIONS TO CANON FERNÁNDEZ, MEXICO, JULY 3, 1822

Por el oficio de V. S. de 8 de Junio ultimo con q.<sup>e</sup> dicta á S. M. Y. queda entendido de q.<sup>e</sup> p.<sup>r</sup> enfermedad de D. Bernardino Naxera nombrado p.<sup>r</sup> V. S. como Secretario de su comision habia elegido al Contador del Bergantin S. Carlos en q.<sup>e</sup> V. S. navega p.<sup>r</sup> habersele ofrecido gratuitam.<sup>te</sup> y ser capaz del desempeño de tal encargo: S. M. ha aprobado tal nombram.<sup>to</sup> y de su orn. lo comunico á V. S. p.<sup>a</sup> su intelig.<sup>ia</sup>

D. M.<sup>o</sup> 3 de Julio de 822.

(Rúbrica.)

[Addressed:] Sor. D. D. Ag.<sup>n</sup> Fern.<sup>a</sup> de S. Vicente.

[TRANSLATION]

By your Excellency's official despatch of the 8th of last June, sent to his very illustrious Majesty, the latter has been informed that because of the illness of Don Bernardino Naxera, who had been appointed by your Excellency as secretary of your committee, you had chosen the accountant of the brig *San Carlos* (the ship in which your Excellency is taking passage), inasmuch as he had offered himself without compensation, and as he is capable of performing the duties of such office. His majesty has approved the aforesaid appointment, and at his order I communicate his approval to your Excellency for your information.

July 3, 1822.

(Rubric.)

[Addressed:] Doctor Don Agustin Fernandez de San Vicente.

21. GOVERNOR PABLO VICENTE SOLÁ TO THE MINISTER OF RELATIONS,  
MONTEREY, JULY 3, 1822

Exmo. Sor.

Tengo la satisfaccion de noticiarle a la Superioridad de V. E. el que a las ocho y cuarto de la noche de antes de ayer llego á mis manos su oficio de 20 de Marzo ultimo y con el los treinta y siete Ympresos que le acompañan de Decretos y ordenes de la Regencia del Ymperio de la Junta Provicional Gubernativa y del Soberano Congreso constituyente a todos los cuales se les dara el debido cumplimiento.

Me dice V. E. en su citado oficio el que S. A. S. no ha recibido contextualcion alguna de este Gobierno que esta a mi cuidado lo cual siento no poco por que inmediatamente que llegaron a mi poder en principio de Marzo las primeras ordenes de V. E. y las del Exmo Sor D. Jose Dominguez diete las mas activas providencias p.<sup>a</sup> que se hiciese el Juramento de la Yndependencia en la Monarquia Española y reconocimiento a nuestro Ymperio Mexicano combocando p.<sup>a</sup> ello a los cuatro Comandantes en igual numero de Presidios que hay establecidos en esta Provincia que tienen de longitud Doscientas Viente y ocho Leguas quienes se reunieron el dia 9 de Abril y el 11 del mismo. se hizo el juramento por mi, por dichos Comandantes y por los Capitanes D. Pablo de la Portilla Comandante de la Compañia en Caballeria del Escuadron de Mazatlan y D. Jose Antonio Navarrete de la de Ynfanteria auxiliar en S. Blas y el M. R. P. Prefecto Fr Mariano Payeras Prelado en estas Diez y Nuebe Misiones y otra Estancia nombrada S. Rafael y Posteriormente han hecho el mismo juramento los expresados Presidios y tres pequeños Pueblos y referidas Misiones con toda la magnifisencia que ofrece este Pobre pais de todo lo cual tengo dado parte a V. E. el principal en 13. de Abril con el numero 1. por el correo mensual de tierra dirigido a Loreto a aquel Sor Governador Capitan D. Jose Dario Arguello y con fecha de 5. de Mayo el Duplicado por la via del Capitan graduado D. Jose Romero Comandante del Presidio del Tucson en la Provincia de Sonora y ahora lo hago tambien del triplificado, por si el Principal y duplicado hubiesen padecido extravio lo cual no me seria extraño por cuanto en los siete años que llebo de ser Governador de esta Provincia no han sido pocos los que han sufrido la correspondencia que de esa Superioridad se me ha dirigido y lo mismo a las remitidas por mi sobre lo cual y el arreglo de correos raro fue el mes que dexase de escribir a los Exmos Señores Vireyes que fueron de esa Capital D. Felix Maria Calleja y Conde del Venadito.



En oficio de 29 del proximo pasado mes numero 5. digo a V. E. y por separado al Serenissimo Señor Generalissimo la eleccion de Diputado a Cortes q.º se hizo en mi previo todos los Requisitos que antecieron conforme a las ordenes que se comunicaron a este Gobierno para ello lo cual se verifico el 21 de Mayo.

Dios gue a V. E. m.º a.º Monterey de la Alta California 3 de Julio de 1822. Segundo de la Yndependencia Mexicana.

Exmo. S.º

PABLO VICENTE DE SOLA (rúbrica).

[Addressed:] Exmo Sor D. Jose Manuel de Herrera Secretario de Negocios y Relaciones interiores y exteriores.

[TRANSLATION]

Number 6

Your Excellency:

I take pleasure in informing your Excellency that at a quarter past eight on the night before last, your official despatch of the 20th of last March reached my hands, and with it the thirty-seven printed enclosures of decrees and orders of the Regency of the Empire, of the provisional administrative Council, and of the Sovereign Constituent Congress, to all of which the due obedience will be given.

Your Excellency tells me in your aforesaid official despatch that your exalted Lordship has not received any answer from this Government under my charge. I am not a little sorry for this, for as soon as your Excellency's first orders reached me at the beginning of March, as well as those of his Excellency, Don Jose Dominguez, I took the most active measures for the taking of the oath of Independence of the Spanish Monarchy and the recognition of our Mexican Empire. For that purpose I summoned the four commandants from that number of Presidios established in this Province (which have a length of two hundred and twenty-eight leagues). These men assembled on the 9th of April, and on the 11th of the same month, the oath was taken before me by the aforesaid Commandants and by the captains Don Pablo de la Portilla, Commandant of the Company in the Cavalry Squadron of Mazatlan, and Don Jose Antonio Navarrete, of the company of auxiliary infantry in San Blas, and the very Reverend Father Prefect, Mariano Payeras, prelate of these nineteen Missions and one other station called San Rafael. Afterward, the said oath was taken by the above mentioned Presidios and three small towns and

the aforesaid Missions with all the pomp that this poor country offers. Of all of this I informed your Excellency by the original on the 13th of April in my despatch number 1 by the monthly overland mail sent to Loreto to the Governor there, Captain Don Jose Dario Arguello; and on the 5th of last May, by the duplicate sent via the Captain by brevet, Don Jose Romero, Commandant of the Presidio of Tucson in the Province of Sonora; and now I am doing the same by triplicate, lest the original and duplicate should have gone astray, inasmuch as in the seven years that I have been Governor of this Province, not a few of the letters which were written to me from that superior office have suffered that fate, as well as of those sent by me. In regard to this and the arrangement of the mails, rare was the month in which I neglected to write to their Excellencies, the Viceroys of that Capital, Don Felix Maria Calleja, and Conde del Venadito.

In my official despatch of the 29th of last month, number 5, I tell your Excellency, and in a separate communication, the very exalted general-in-chief, of the choice of the delegate to the Cortes, which took place on the 21st of May, and which fell to me, after all the requirements had been taken beforehand, in accordance with the orders communicated to this Government for that purpose.

May God preserve your Excellency many years. Monterey, Alta California, July 5, 1822, the Second Year of Mexican Independence.

Your Excellency,

PABLO VICENTE DE SOLA (rubric).

[Addressed:] His Excellency, Don Jose Manuel de Herrera, Secretary of Domestic and Foreign Affairs and Relations.

## 22. ACT OF ALLEGIANCE AND ITS CELEBRATION, LORETO, JULY 7, 1822

En el Presidio de Loreto Capital de la Provincia de la Baja California, á siete dias de el mes de Julio de mil ochocientos veinte y dos previas las disposiciones Necesarias, para la inteligencia del publico, se dio principio á la funcion del Juramento solemne con un repique de campanas, salva de la Tropa y artilleria con las demas demostraciones de jubilo q. permite el pais; en seguida se cantó una Missa de preparacion, á la que asistio el Sor. Gefe politico interino el Ylustre Ayuntamiento y los Sres. convidados de la noble comitiva del Buque Bergantin San Carlos de la Armada Ymperial, y un gran concurso de el pueblo. *E inter Missarum solemnia* Dixo: el Diacono R. P. Fr. Tomas de Ahumada una energica exhortacion al Pueblo Analogá á las circun-

stancias. Concluida la Missa, y puesto en el Presbiterio un Altar portatil con la efigie de un crucifixo y Libro de los Stos. Evangelios prestaron los tres R. R. P. P. Misioneros el debido Juramento de obediencia al Soberano Congreso constituyente ante el Sor. Comisionado de el Ymperio Mexicano D.<sup>r</sup> D. Agustin Fernandez de S.<sup>n</sup> Vicente Prebendado de la Sta. Yglesia Catedral de Durango, y acto continuo lo hizo el Sor Gefe politico interino y el ex-Gobernador Capitan D. José Dario Arguello, lo que ejecutado siguió á prestarlo el Ayuntam<sup>to</sup> en cuerpo á q. se siguió á verificarlo el Pueblo en comun: Despues lo prestaron, en sus respectivos Cuerpos la tropa de guarnicion y Marina de este pequeño Departamento. Acabada la ceremonia, se procedio al paseo por la plaza y calles principales del Presidio hasta concluirse en la Casa Capitular de el Ayuntamiento, en donde el Sindico Procurador Arengó al S.<sup>or</sup> Comisionado, con un discurso en que manifestó su adhesion y entusiasmo el sistema adoptado Cerraba la retaguardia de la noble é ilustre comitiva el Sor. Subteniente. D.<sup>n</sup> Joaquin Garcia, q.<sup>e</sup> con la tropa de su mando marchaba al son de caja en orden Militar A este le seguia multitud de gente del Pueblo, que con vivas y aclamaciones no cesaban (desde q.<sup>e</sup> se acabó el juramento) de Manifestar su alegría y entusiasmo á nuestro venturoso sistema Para Mayor Ornato se iluminaron en la noche de este dia las Casas de todo el Vecindario dando fin á la funcion con un bayle q.<sup>e</sup> celebró en su casa el S.<sup>or</sup> Alcalde. En cuyo Testimonio de verdad, y para los fines convenientes, lo firmamos de q.<sup>e</sup> yo el ifrascripto Secretario Doy Fee.

FERN<sup>do</sup> DE LA TOBA (rúbrica).

JUAN YGUERA, Alc (rúbrica).

ANASTACIO ARCE, Primer Reguidor [*sic*] (rúbrica).

ENRRIQUE COTA, Seg<sup>do</sup> Reg<sup>or</sup> (rúbrica).

LUIS DE CUEVAS, Sindico Proc<sup>er</sup> (rúbrica).

MARTIN HIGUERA, Srio. (rúbrica).

[TRANSLATION]

In the Presidio of Loreto, of the Province of Baja California, on the seventh day of the month of July, one thousand eight hundred and twenty-two, after the necessary measures had been taken for the information of the public, a beginning was made in the function of the taking of the solemn oath, by the ringing of the bells, a volley of musketry from the troops and by the artillery, together with the other jubilee demonstrations permitted by the country. After that a mass

of preparation was sung, at which were present the provisional Political Chief, the exalted Ayuntamiento, and the gentlemen invited from the noble suite of the Brig *San Carlos* of the imperial fleet, and a great crowd of the people. And *Inter Missarum solemnia*, the deacon, Reverend Father Fray Tomas de Ahumada, delivered a vigorous exhortation to the people fitting to the circumstances. Upon the conclusion of the mass, a portable altar having been placed in the presbytery with a Crucifix and the book of the Holy Gospels, the three reverend father missionaries took the proper oath of obedience to the Sovereign Constituent Congress before the Commissioner of the Mexican Empire, Doctor Don Agustin Fernandez de San Vicente, Prebendary of the Holy Cathedral Church of Durango. Continuing, the same thing was done by the provisional Political Chief and former Governor, Captain Don Jose Dario Arguello. After this had been done, the Ayuntamiento followed, taking the oath in a body, and after that the oath was taken by the people collectively. Next it was taken in their respective corps by the garrison and navy of this small department. When the ceremony had been concluded, a procession was made through the plaza and principal streets of the Presidio, which ended at the chapter house of the Ayuntamiento, where the Prosecuting Attorney delivered an oration to the Commissioner showing forth his adherence to, and enthusiasm for, the system adopted. The rearguard of the noble and exalted retinue was closed by the sub-Lieutenant Don Joaquin Garcia, who with the troops under his command marched in military order to the sound of the drum. This was followed by a crowd of the townspeople, who with hurraing and shouting did not cease (until after the taking of the oath was finished) to show their joy and enthusiasm to our happy system. As a greater adornment, the houses of all the inhabitants were illuminated on the night of this day, and the function ended with a dance which the Alcalde held in his house. In witness of the truth, and for the ends advisable, we affix our signatures, and I the undersigned Secretary attest them.

FERNANDO DE LA TOBA (rubric).

JUAN YGUERA, Alcalde (rubric).

ANASTACIO ARCE, First Regidor (rubric).

ENRIQUE COTA, Second Regidor (rubric).

LUIS DE CUEVAS, Prosecuting Attorney (rubric).

MARTIN HIGUERA, Secretary (rubric).

23. FERNANDO DE LA TOBA TO THE MINISTER OF RELATIONS, LORETO,  
JULY 8, 1822

N. 1

Exmo Señor.

Al tiempo de entregarme del mando Politico y Militar de este Presidio que interinamente há recaído en mi por haber echo dimis<sup>on</sup> de su Empleo el Sor Gobernador de esta Prov<sup>a</sup> Recibi de dho Sor los 37 Ympresos que V. E. se sirbio dirigir a este Gobierno con superior oficio de 20 de Marzo ultimo, y comprenden los Decretos y ordenes de la Regencia, y del Soberano Congreso Constituyente los quales juntam.<sup>te</sup> con los que estoy recibiendo del Sor Comisionado Doctor D.<sup>n</sup> Agustin Frnz de San Vicente entregaré con su respectibo Yndice al Ylustre Ayuntamiento de esta capital que acaba de instalarse. Lo comunico a V. E. para su devido concim.<sup>to</sup> y en contestacion a su ya citado Superior Oficio.

Dios guarde a V. E. muchos años Loreto 8. de Julio de 1822 Segundo de la Yndependencia del Ymperio Mexicano.

Exmo Sor.

FERN<sup>o</sup> DE LA TOBA (rúbrica).

[Addressed:] Exmo Sor Secretario del Despacho de Estado. Mexico.

[In the margin:] El Gefe Politico Ynterino de la vaja California contesta a V. E. a su Superior oficio fha 20 de Marzo ult<sup>o</sup>

[TRANSLATION]

Number 1

Your Excellency:

At the time when the political and military command of this Presidio, which devolved upon me provisionally because of the resignation from his post by the Governor of this Province, was delivered to me, I received from the aforesaid Governor the 37 printed papers which your Excellency was pleased to send to this Government with your superior despatch of the 20th of last March, comprehending the decrees and orders of the Regency, and of the Sovereign Constituent Congress. These, together with those which I am now receiving from the Commissioner Don Agustin Fernandez de San Vicente, I shall deliver with their proper index to the exalted Ayuntamiento in this Capital which has just been installed. I am communicating this to your Excellency for your due information and in answer to your aforesaid superior despatch.

May God preserve your Excellency many years. Loreto, July 8, 1822, and the Second Year of the Independence of the Mexican Empire.

Your Excellency,

FERNANDO DE LA TOBA (rubric).

[Addressed:] His Excellency, Secretary of the Office of State. Mexico.

[In the margin:] The acting political chief of Baja California answers your Excellency's superior official despatch of the 20th of last March.

24. FERNANDO DE LA TOBA TO THE MINISTER OF RELATIONS, LORETO, JULY 9, 1822

N. 2

Exmo Señor

Dirijo a manos de V. E. los testimonios de las actas del Juramento Privado y solemne que ha écho Ayuntam.<sup>to</sup> de esta Capital, la acta de su instalacion y el juram.<sup>to</sup> del Pueblo en gral Para que V. E. se sirva darles el destino que sea de su agrado.

Dios gue a V. E. muchos años Loreto 9 de Julio de 1822 Seg.<sup>do</sup> de nra Yndepend.<sup>a</sup>

Exmo Sor.

FERN<sup>o</sup> DE LA TOBA (rúbrica).

[Addressed:] Exmo Sor Secretario de Estado. Mexico.

[In the margin:] Yncluye á V. E. las actas del Juram<sup>to</sup> e instalacion de Ayuntamiento en esta Cap.<sup>1</sup>

[TRANSLATION]

Number 2

Your Excellency:

I am sending to you the attestations of the records of the private and solemn oath which was taken by the Ayuntamiento of this Capital, the record of its installation, and that of the oath of the town in general, in order that your Excellency may be pleased to do with them according to your pleasure.

May God preserve your Excellency many years. Loreto, July 9, 1822, the Second Year of our Independence.

Your Excellency,

FERNANDO DE LA TOBA (rubric).

[Addressed:] His Excellency, the Secretary of State. Mexico.

[In the margin:] He sends to your Excellency the records of the taking of the oath and of the installation of the Ayuntamiento in this Capital.

25. CANON FERNÁNDEZ TO THE MINISTER OF RELATIONS, LORETO, JULY  
9, 1822

Exmo. Señor.

El día de ayer llegó el Correo de la Frontera al Norte de ésta Capital distante trescientas leguas, y el Teniente de aquella guarnición há dirigido á éste Gobernador el adjunto oficio y Carta que originales acompaño á V. E. para que se imponga por ambos papeles de que segun parece se ha jurado ya en la alta California nuestra Yndependencia; pero que la correspond.<sup>a</sup> no está corriente sin saber á que atribuir ésta novedad, y lo comunico á V. E. p.<sup>a</sup> su conocimien<sup>to</sup>.

Dios gue. á V. E. m.<sup>s</sup> a.<sup>s</sup> Loreto 9 de Julio de 1822.

Seg<sup>do</sup> de nuestra gloriosa Yndependencia.

AG<sup>n</sup> FERNZ DE S<sup>n</sup> VICENTE (rúbrica).

[Addressed:] Exmo. Sor. Secret<sup>o</sup> de Estado y Relaciones interiores y exter<sup>s</sup>. Mexico.

[TRANSLATION]

Your Excellency:

Yesterday the mail arrived from the frontier located three hundred leagues north of this Capital. The Lieutenant of that garrison has sent to the Governor here the enclosed official despatch and letter, the originals of which I am sending herewith to your Excellency so that you may be informed by both papers that (as appears) the oath of our Independence has been taken in Alta California; but that the correspondence is not regular, and I can not tell to what to attribute this novelty. I communicate this to your Excellency for your information.

May God preserve your Excellency many years. Loreto, July 9, 1822, the Second Year of our glorious Independence.

AGUSTIN FERNANDEZ DE SAN VICENTE (rubric).

[Addressed:] His Excellency, the Secretary of State and of Domestic and Foreign Affairs. Mexico.

26. CANON FERNÁNDEZ TO THE MINISTER OF RELATIONS, LORETO, JULY  
9, 1822

Ecmo. Señor.

A las quatro de la tarde del 21 de Junio ultimo, dio fondo en ésta Rada el Berg.<sup>n</sup> Ymperial San Carlos de mi trasporte, y seguidamente baxé á tierra con el objeto de imponerme del estado en que se hallava la opinion publica con respecto á nuestro Sistema, y dar principio al giro

de los Asuntos de mi Comision; pero se me informó que despues de jurada la Yndepend.<sup>a</sup> un D. Jose M.<sup>a</sup> Lopez con investidura de Capitan y titulandose Comisionado del Ymperio, la havia echo jurar de nuevo mui fuera de orden y de las Reglas prevenidas, confundiendo las ideas de libertad con las de libertinage, y poniendo en movimiento á estas gentes con una disparatada y desordenada eleccion de Ayuntamiento y formacion de Compañias locales, Reasumiendo en si, todas las jurisdicciones en terminos de haver discordado las opiniones hasta el extremo de que de sus resultas algunos de los Vecinos y Tropa negaban ya la obediencia al gobernador y oficiales todo á pretesto de un politico encargo que el indicado Gefe hizo á Lopez al tiempo que éste le entregó un Pliego cuya condicion segun he averiguado, fue el unico motivo de su arribo desde Mazatlan en la Balandra Correo de esta Provincia nombrado nuestra Señora del Rosario que se hallava en aquel Puerto, á donde la llevaron furtivamente algunos Marineros y Soldados de éste Presidio, á pretesto segun se me há informado de que aqui no se juraba la Yndependencia.

Desgraciadamente se hallaban ausentes de esta Capital el Gobernador y el R. P. Presid.<sup>te</sup> de éstas Misiones con quienes al momento me puse en comunicacion, insinuandoles el motivo de mi arribo y lo urgente de su comparsencia: en efecto el 25 del referido mes llegó el primero; pero como sus graves achaques y edad caduca, no le permiten el completo desempeño de sus obligaciones me pidio lo exonerase del mando, y lo verifique por las razones que verá VE. de las Copias numeros 1 y 2 que acompaño con el fin de encomendar á VE. el honrado proceder de este Gefe, á quien ha substituido por ahora el Alferes D. Fernando de la Toba Respecto á hallarse mui distante destacado en la Frontera del Norte el Teniente D. Manuel Ruiz que le corresponde por el orden de antigüedad, y por ser los unicos oficiales que hay en ésta Provincia; pero si me he de arreglar a lo prevenido en el articulo 4.<sup>o</sup> de los adicionales de mi Comision que demanda para ello la precisa estimacion y cariño de estos havitantes, es de imperiosa necesidad que no reuniendo ésta qualidad ninguno de los oficiales referidos, se provea éste destino con prontitud en Sugeto mas Recomendable, pues de lo contrario preveo que pueden ocurrir consecuencias bastante desagradables, como lo hago presente en ésta fecha al Exmo Sor. Ministro de Guerra y Marina.

El dia 1<sup>o</sup> del actual llegó tambien el R. P. Presidente Fr. Antonio Sanchez, con quien entablé el dia siguiente mi correpond.<sup>a</sup> de oficio y la admitio desde un principio dando las mejores pruebas de su adopcion



á nuestro sistema de Yndependencia; pero fallecio casi repentinamente la tarde del 4 de dicho mes de Resultas del viage á distancia de treinta y dos leguas que median desde aqui a la Mision de las Purisima q.<sup>o</sup> administraba.

En este estado de cosas y habiendo tomado de antemano medidas de conciliacion, me parecio lo mas prudente proceder con suabidad á tranquilizar los animos exasperados de algunos y anular los hechos de Lopez con la creacion de nuevo Ayuntamiento efectivamente veo logrados mis deseos dando parte á VE. de que el dia 2 de dicho mes se instaló la indicada Corporacion, que para entrar desde luego en el vicio de sus atribuciones, prestó privadam.<sup>to</sup> ante mi con la mayor solemnidad el juramento de estilo, y que en publico con el Pueblo, Militares y Religiosos se verifico el Domingo siguiente 7 del referido mes, segun todo consta de las Actas, cuyos testimonios dirige á VE. por éste mismo Correo, el Gefe Politico interino.

De los acontecimientos expresados deducirá VE. que nuestro Sistema, sin embargo de los inconvenientes Referidos, rige ya y queda establecido en ésta Capital de la Provincia de la antigua y baxa California segun lo permite su situacion local, sucediendo lo mismo en la parte del Norte de ella conforme lo expresa la Certificacion original de aquel Comand<sup>te</sup> Militar que señalada con el num<sup>o</sup> 3. acompaño a. VE. para su conocim.<sup>to</sup> Superior.

En la parte del Sur está reunido el mayor numero de habitantes de ésta Provincia, y no siendo facil por la distancia, convocarlos a la Capital sin perjudicarlos y demorar demasiado mi Comision, hé pensado dirigirme al Real de San Antonio con el objeto de instalar allí otro Ayuntamiento, y proporcionar con mas vriedad la eleccion de Diputado, cuya marcha verificaré tan luego como llegue el nuevo R. P. Presidente q.<sup>o</sup> aguardo para Recivirle el juramento Respectivo, y tratar con el los asuntos pendientes relativos á Misiones, y de aquel punto emprender la navegacion a la Alta California, dando antes cuenta á VE. del Resultado de ésta empresa, y entre tanto voy entregando á este Gefe Politico interino, los Decretos, ordenes, y Documentos que deben Regir en el nuevo Sistema.

La Estadistica, Plano de la Provincia, y proyectos sobre arreglar el Ramo de Misiones que estoi formando, lo Remitiré á V. E. en el proximo Correo, en inteligencia de que sobre ésta ultima parte deben tomarse medidas mui prontas para aquietar á los Naturales de ellas pues ya no quieren estar baxo los Auspicios de los Padres Misioneros que estos conoscan en sus temporalidades segun me lo están repre-

sentando continuam.<sup>te</sup> desde mi llegada, como tambien que se extinga el metodo de gobierno que hasta áhora se há observado con ellos, cuyo movimiento puede producir mui funesto resultado. Todo lo que comunico á V. E. para su superior conocimiento, y fines que estime convenientes.

Dios gue. á V. E. m.<sup>s</sup> a.<sup>s</sup> Loreto 9 de Julio de 1822, Seg.<sup>do</sup> de nuestra gloriosa Yndependencia.

AG.<sup>n</sup> FRNZ. DE S.<sup>n</sup> VICENTE (rúbrica).

[Addressed:] Exmo. Sor. Secret.<sup>o</sup> de Estado y de Relacion. int.<sup>es</sup> y exteriores. Mexico.

[TRANSLATION]

Your Excellency:

At four o'clock on the afternoon of the 21st of last June, the Imperial brig *San Carlos*, on which I had taken passage, cast anchor in this roadstead. I immediately went ashore for the purpose of getting information concerning the condition of public opinion with regard to our scheme, and to make a beginning with the affairs entrusted to me. But I was informed that after the oath of Independence had been taken, a certain Don Jose Maria Lopez, with the investiture of Captain and calling himself the Commissioner of the Empire, had had the oath taken once more. This was quite out of order and outside the prescribed rules, confusing the ideas of liberty with those of license, setting these people in motion with an absurd and discordant irregular election of an Ayuntamiento, and the formation of local companies. He reassumed in his own person all the jurisdictions, upsetting ideas to such an extent that some of the soldiers and citizens now denied obedience to the governor and the officers. All this was under pretext of a political commission given by the aforesaid Chief to Lopez at the time that the latter delivered to him a paper. This condition as I have ascertained, was the only motive for his coming from Mazatlan in the mail boat, named *Nuestra Señora del Rosario*, of this Province, which was found in that port, whither some of the sailors and soldiers of this Presidio took it secretly, under the pretext, as I have been informed, that the oath of Independence was not taken here.

Unfortunately the Governor and the Reverend Father President of these missions were absent from this Capital. I got into communication with them immediately, hinting to them the motive for my arrival and urging them to put in an appearance. In fact, on the 25th of the aforesaid month the first named one appeared, but as his serious indis-

position and old age do not permit him to discharge his obligations in their entirety, he petitioned me to excuse him from the command. I did so for the reasons which your Excellency will see from the copies numbered 1 and 2, which I am enclosing in order to commend to your Excellency the honorable actions of this Chief whom I have substituted for the present by *Alferez* Don Fernando de la Toba, inasmuch as Lieutenant Don Manuel Ruiz, to whom the office belongs by order of seniority is very far distant with a detachment on the northern frontier, and as they are the only officials in this Province. But if I am to regulate the orders of article 4 of the additional orders of my commission, which demands for that the exact esteem and affection of these inhabitants, it is of imperious necessity that since neither of the officials abovementioned possesses these qualities, this office be given promptly to a more fitting person. For, on the contrary, I foresee that very disagreeable consequences may result, as I am informing his Excellency the Minister of War and Navy on this date.

On the first of the present month, there arrived also the Reverend Father President, Fray Antonio Sanchez. I established my official relations with him on the following day, and assigned his office to him at once, as he gave the best proof of his adhesion to our scheme of Independence. But he died almost suddenly on the afternoon of the 4th of the aforesaid month from the results of his long journey of thirty-two leagues between this place and the Mission of Purisima which he had in charge.

In this state of affairs, and having taken measures of conciliation beforehand, it seemed to me the most prudent method to proceed gently to calm the exasperated minds of some and to annul the acts of Lopez by the creation of a new Ayuntamiento. In fact I have obtained my desires, and inform your Excellency that on the 2d of the aforesaid month the abovementioned corporation was installed, which, in order that it might enter immediately upon its duties, privately and with the greatest solemnity, took in my presence, the customary oath. The same was done in public by the town, the military, and the Religious on the following Sunday, the 7th of the abovenamed month, all of which appears from the records the attestations of which the provisional political Chief is sending to your Excellency by this same post.

From the abovementioned occurrences, your Excellency will conclude that our scheme, notwithstanding the abovesaid inconveniences, is already in force, and is established in this Capital of the Province of

Old and Baja California, according as its local situation permits. The same is true of the northern part, in accordance with the original certification of the military commandant there, which, marked number 3, I am enclosing to your Excellency for your superior information.

The greater part of the inhabitants of this Province live in the southern part, and since it is not easy to summon them to the Capital because of the distance, without doing them an injury and delaying my commission too much, I have thought it best to go to the Garrison of San Antonio for the purpose of installing another Ayuntamiento there and of adjusting more promptly the election of a delegate. I shall make that journey upon the arrival of the new Reverend Father President, whom I am awaiting in order to receive from him the proper oath and discuss with him the affairs pending in regard to the missions. Thence I shall sail to Alta California after making a report to your Excellency of the results of this undertaking. Meanwhile I am delivering to the provisional Political Chief here the decrees, orders, and documents which are to be observed in the new scheme.

The statistics, plan of the province, and projects in regard to the regulation of the Department of the Missions which I am forming, I shall send to your Excellency by the next post, with the understanding that in regard to this last matter, measures must be taken very promptly in order to quiet the natives of these missions, since they no longer wish to remain under the auspices of the Father Missionaries, which the latter claim in their temporal affairs as they have been continually representing to me since my arrival. They have asked also that the method of control which has been observed with regard to them hitherto be abolished, a movement which may produce very fatal results. I communicate all this to your Excellency for your superior information and for the purposes which you may deem advisable.

May God preserve your Excellency many years. Loreto, July 9, 1822, the Second Year of our glorious Independence.

AGUSTIN FERNANDEZ DE SAN VICENTE (rubric).

[Addressed:] His Excellency, the Secretary of State and of Domestic and Foreign Relations. Mexico.

27. THE MINISTER OF RELATIONS TO GOVERNOR SOLÁ, MEXICO, JULY 20, 1822

He dado cuenta al Emperador con la carta de V. Y. n.º 1.º de 13 de Abril ultimo á que acompaña las actas q comprueban el haber prestado

V Y el juram<sup>to</sup> de independenciam en union de los R. R. P. P. Prelados de esas Misiones, y oficialidad a consecuencia haberse decidido á reconocer las supremas autoridades del Ymperio; y habiendo entendido S. M. Y. con mucha satisfaccion por dhos. documentos, q la conducta patriótica de V Y de los militares, y demas habitantes, ha llenado sus deseos, me manda le manifieste á V Y en respuesta, para su satisfaccion y de los individuos q refieren las citadas actas.

D. Julio 20 de 1822.

(Rúbrica).

[Addressed:] Sr. Gobernd.<sup>r</sup> de la Alta California. Monterey.

[TRANSLATION]

I have informed the Emperor by means of your Excellency's letter, number 1, of the 13th of last April, accompanying the reports which attest the fact that your Excellency has taken the oath of Independence together with the Reverend Father Prelates of those Missions and the officials, in consequence of their having decided to recognize the supreme authorities of the Empire. His exalted Majesty having seen to his great gratification from the aforesaid documents that the patriotic conduct of your Excellency, as well as of the military and of the other inhabitants, has met his desires, orders me to inform you thereof in reply for your gratification and that of the persons mentioned in the abovesaid records.

Given on the 20th of July, 1822.

(Rubric.)

[Addressed:] The Governor of Alta California. Monterey.

28. THE MINISTER OF RELATIONS TO GOVERNOR SOLÁ, MEXICO, JULY 20, 1822

Deseando S M Y que la correspondencia q debe llebar esa Prov<sup>a</sup> con este Supremo Gob.<sup>no</sup> se siga en lo succivo con la mayor prontitud me manda encargue á V Y q por su parte active cuanto sea posible dha correspondencia, proponiendo el plan q le parezca mas adaptable á V Y a fin de q. no se padezcan demoras ni atrasos en un negocio q tanto interesa al mejor servicio de la nacion.

De orden de S M Y lo comunico a V S p.<sup>a</sup> su intelig.<sup>a</sup> y cumplim.<sup>to</sup>  
D. Julio 20 de 822.

(Rúbrica.)

[Addressed:] S. Gobern.<sup>dor</sup> de la N. California. Monterey.

[TRANSLATION]

Since it is his Exalted Majesty's wish that the correspondence of that Province with this Supreme Government be attended to with the greatest promptness, he orders me to charge your Excellency to push the said correspondence so far as you are concerned as much as possible by proposing the plan that appears most suitable to your Excellency, in order that neither delay nor obstruction may be suffered in a matter that interests so greatly the best service of the nation.

By order of his Exalted Majesty, I communicate this to your Excellency for your information and obedience.

July 20, 1822 (rubric).

[Addressed:] Governor of New California. Monterey.

29. THE MINISTER OF RELATIONS TO GOVERNOR SOLÁ, MEXICO, JULY 20, 1822

De orden del Emperador acompaño á V Y. la adjunta coleccion de impresos de todos los decretos, y orns publicados por el Ministerio de mi cargo, desde la instalacion de la Junta provisional Gubernativa hta. la fecha, para q con los demas impresos q. recibirá V Y igualm.<sup>te</sup> por los otros Ministerios á q.<sup>ns</sup> al efecto he comunicado hoy la orn com.v.<sup>ta</sup> pueda instruir a los havitantes de esa Prov.<sup>a</sup> de la marcha gloriosa de nro sistema, disponiendo su cumplim.<sup>to</sup> publicandolos, y circulando los a q.<sup>ns</sup> corresponda.

D. Julio 20, [18]22.

(Rúbrica.)

[Endorsed:] Son 72 impresos los q se remitieron, fuera de las garantas.

[Addressed:] Sr. Gob.<sup>or</sup> de la N. California. Monterey.

[TRANSLATION]

By order of the emperor, I am sending herewith to your Excellency, the enclosed collection of printed sheets of all the decrees and orders published to this date by the Ministry under my charge since the installation of the provisional administrative Council, so that together with the other publications to be received also by your Excellency from the other Ministries to which I have on this date communicated the proper order, you may instruct the inhabitants of that Province concerning the glorious progress of our scheme. You will take

measures to have them observed by publishing them and circulating them among the persons whom they concern.

July 20, 1822 (Rubric).

[*Endorsed:*] There are 72 printed sheets which were sent, beside the guarantees.

[*Addressed:*] Governor of Nueva California. Monterey.

30. THE MINISTER OF RELATIONS TO THE SECRETARIES OF CONGRESS,  
JULY 20, 1822

Primera Secretaria de Estado  
Seccion de Gobierno

Exmos. Señores.

Con fecha 13 de Abril prox.<sup>o</sup> pasado, dá parte el Coronel D.<sup>a</sup> Pablo Vicente Sola de haberse prestado el juramento de independenciam en la Nueva California el 11 del referido Abril; y á fin de que V. E. E. se sirva poner este suceso en el conocimiento del Soberano Congreso, tengo el honor de acompañar á V. E. E. de orden de S. M. Y. originales los documentos que conprueban haberse verificado aquel acto.

Dios gue. á V. E. E. m. a. México 20 de Julio de 1822.

(Rúbrica.)

[*Addressed:*] Exmos. Señores Diputados. Secretarios del Soberano Congreso.

[TRANSLATION]

Main Office Secretary of State  
Government section

Your Excellencies:

On the 13th day of last April, Colonel Don Pablo Vicente Sola reports that he has taken the oath of Independence in New California on the 11th of the aforesaid April. In order that your Excellencies may have the kindness to inform the Sovereign Congress of this event, I have the honor to enclose herewith for your Excellencies, in accordance with the order of his Exalted Majesty, the original documents proving that the above action has taken place.

May God preserve your Excellencies many years. Mexico, July 20, 1822.

(Rubric.)

[*Addressed:*] Their Excellencies the Delegate Secretaries of the Sovereign Congress.

31. THE MINISTER OF RELATIONS TO THE MINISTER OF WAR, JULY 20,  
1822Primera Secretaria de Estado  
Seccion de Gobierno

Exmo. Señor.

Con fecha 13 de Abril ultimo avisa el Coronel D. Pablo Vicente Sola Gobernador de la Nueva California haberse decidido aquella Provincia á reconocer las Supremas autoridades del Ymperio, prestando el correspondiente juramento de independencia el 11 del referido Abril: y habiendo puesto en noticia de S. M. Y. la carta de Sola y docum.<sup>tos</sup> que acompaña en comprobacion de haberse verificado aquel acto, me manda lo participe á V. E. como lo executo a fin de q por el Ministerio de su cargo disponga se remita á dho Gob.<sup>or</sup> una coleccion completa de todo los decretos, y orns q. q [sic] se hayan expedido p.<sup>r</sup> su conducto desde la instalacion de la junta Provisional Gubernativa hasta el dia.

(Rúbrica.)

D. Julio 20 de 822 (rúbrica).

[Addressed:] Exmo. Sr. Secretario de Estado y del Despacho de la Guerra.

id de Haci<sup>da</sup>

id de justicia.

## [TRANSLATION]

Main Office, Secretary of State  
Government section

Your Excellency:

Under date of the 13th of last April, Colonel Don Pablo Vicente Sola, Governor of New California, reports that that Province has resolved to recognize the supreme authorities of the Empire, by taking the proper oath of Independence on the 11th of the aforesaid April. Having brought to the notice of his Exalted Majesty Sola's letter and accompanying documents proving that that action has taken place, the latter orders me to inform your Excellency of it, as I am now doing, so that the Ministry under your charge may order that there be sent to the said governor a complete collection of all decrees and orders that may have been issued through you to this date since the installation of the provisional administrative Council.

(Rubric.)

July 20, 1822 (rubric).

[Addressed:] Secretary of State and of the War Office.

Id. of Hacienda.

Id. of Justice.



32. GUARDIAN FRAY JOSEF GASOL TO THE MINISTER OF RELATIONS, JULY  
26, 1822

Exmo. Señor.

El dia de ayer entre tres y quatro de la tarde recibí carta del R. P. Fr. Mariano Payeras, Comisario Prefecto de las diez y nueve misiones que están al cargo de este Colegio en la Alta-California, fha en S. Carlos de Monterey á 14 de abril ultimo, en la q.<sup>e</sup> me comunica lo que sigue.

“Los asuntos politicos del dia me han trahido á esta de S. Carlos, al lado del Gefe de la Provincia. Llegada la orn. para la jura de la Yndependencia, hubo en Monterey dia 9 del presente ábril, una junta de oficiales comandantes, y PP. Prefecto, y ex-Prefecto, en lugar del Presidente, y la resulta fue haberse jurado la Yndependencia en Monterey el dia 11. y circulado por cordillera para q.<sup>e</sup> en todos los puntos de esta Nueva California se haga lo mismo. Tambien se trata en el dia de la elec<sup>n</sup> de un Diputado y Suplente para las cortes, de que se ha dado parte á los Neofitos.”

Y consecuente á lo que ofrecí el viernes de Dolores 29 de marzo pp<sup>do</sup> ante los Señores de la extinguida Regencia, q.<sup>e</sup> V. E. presencio, me apresuro á comunicarlo á V. E. á fin de que sirva elevarlo al conocimiento del Emperador para satisfacc<sup>n</sup> de S. M. Y. en inteligencia de que en la primera y la unica noticia q.<sup>e</sup> hasta el dia he recibido.

Dios gue á V. E. m. a.<sup>s</sup>

Colegio Ap.<sup>co</sup> de S. Fern.<sup>do</sup> de Mexico y Julio 26 de 1822.

FR. JOSEF GASOL, Guard.<sup>n</sup> (rúbrica).

[Addressed:] Exmo. Señor D. José Man.l de Herrera.

[TRANSLATION]

Your Excellency:

Yesterday, between three and four o'clock in the afternoon, I received a letter from the Reverend Father Fray Mariano Payeras, Commissary Prefect of the nineteen Missions in charge of this College in Alta California, under date of San Carlos, Monterey, the 14th of last April, in which the following was communicated to me:

“The political affairs of the day have brought me to this [mission] of San Carlos at the side of the Chief of the Province. Upon the arrival of the order for taking the oath of Independence, there was held in Monterey on the 9th of the present month of April, a meeting made up of Official Commandants, the Father Prefect

and the Father ex-Prefect, in place of the President. The result was that the oath of the Independence was taken on the 11th day, and circulated through the circuit in order that the same might be done in all parts of this New California. Plans are also being made now for the election of the delegate and substitute for the Cortes of which the neophites have been notified."

In consequence of my offer made on Good Friday, the 29th of last March, in the presence of the gentlemen of the Regency that was abolished, and of which your Excellency was a witness, I hasten to communicate this to your Excellency, in order that you may be pleased to bring it to the notice of the Emperor for the gratification of his Exalted Majesty, informing him of the first and only news that I have as yet received.

May God preserve you many years.

The Apostolic College of San Fernando. Mexico, July 26, 1822.

FRAY JOSEF GASOL, Guardian (rubric).

[Addressed:] His Excellency, Don José Manuel de Herrera.

33. THE MINISTER OF RELATIONS TO THE GUARDIAN OF THE COLEGIO DE  
SAN FERNANDO, MEXICO, SEPTEMBER 26, 1822

Di cuenta a S. M. el Emperador con la carta de V. R. fha de hoy en q inserta la del R. P. Fray Mariano Payeras, Prefecto de las misiones de la Alta California contrahida esta á comunicar a V. R. haberse jurado la independ.<sup>a</sup> en aquella Prov.<sup>a</sup> y habiendose enterado S. M. Y. y de quanto expone, aquel religioso, sobre el particular, lo aviso a V R en contestacion.

D. Spbre 26 de 822 (rúbrica).

[Addressed:] R. P. Guard.<sup>a</sup> de Sn Fernando.

[TRANSLATION]

I informed his Majesty, the Emperor, together with the letter of your Reverence of this date, in which was enclosed that of the Reverend Father Fray Mariano Payeras, Prefect of the Missions of Alta California, in which was communicated to your Reverence the fact that the oath of Independence had been taken in that Province. His Exalted Majesty having taken note of what that Religious wrote in regard to the matter, I am advising your Reverence thereof in reply.

September 26, 1822 (rubric).

[Addressed:] Reverend Father Guardian of San Fernando.

34. THE SECRETARIES OF CONGRESS TO THE MINISTER OF RELATIONS,  
JULY 29, 1822

Sria del Gob.<sup>o</sup> Cong.<sup>o</sup>

Exmo. Sor.

Queda enterado el Soberano Congreso Constituyente de que el día 9. de Abril del corriente año, el Gobernador politico y militar de la Provincia de la Nueva California con las demas autoridades prestó el juramento de obediencia á las ordenes y decretos expedidos por el Supremo Gobierno establecido en este Ymperio, despues de hecha su Yndependencia; y lo decimos á V. E. en contestacion á su Oficio de 20 de este mes, con el cual nos remite los docum.<sup>tos</sup> originales q.<sup>o</sup> prueban haberse verificado aquel acto.

Dios gue á V. E. m. a. Mexico 29 de Julio de 1822.

MARCIAL ZEBADUAY, Dip.<sup>o</sup> Srio. (rúbrica).

FRAN.<sup>co</sup> ANT.<sup>o</sup> TARRAZO, Dip.<sup>o</sup> Srio. (rúbrica).

[Addressed:] Exmo Sor. Srio de Estado y del Desp.<sup>o</sup> de relaciones.

[TRANSLATION]

Office of the Secretary of the Government. Congress

Your Excellency:

The Sovereign Constituent Congress is informed that on the 9th day of April of the current year, the Political and Military Governor of the Province of New California, together with the other authorities, took the oath of obedience to the orders and decrees issued by the Supreme Government established in this Empire after its Independence had been obtained. We are writing this to your Excellency in reply to your official despatch of the 20th of this month, in which you sent us the original documents certifying that the said act had been carried out.

May God preserve your Excellency many years. Mexico, July 29, 1822.

MARCIAL ZEBADUAY, Deputy Secretary (rubric).

FRANCISCO ANTONIO TARRAZO, Deputy Secretary (rubric).

[Addressed:] His Excellency, the Secretary of State and of the Office of Relations.

35. THE MINISTER OF RELATIONS TO CANON FERNÁNDEZ, MEXICO,  
NOVEMBER 11, 1822

Di cuenta a S M. el Emperador con la carta de VS. de 9 de Julio ultimo y documento q á ella acompaña; y habiendose enterado con satisfaccion de los pasos, y medidas q VS. ha tomado para llenar cumplidam.<sup>te</sup> el interesante objeto de su Comision en esas Provincias, se ha servido disponer diga á VS no duda continuara dando pruebas de su celo, y actividad en el desempeño de este negocio, y que espera la estadistica el plano de esa Prov.<sup>a</sup> el proyecto sobre arreglo de misiones q ofrece en su citada e igualm.<sup>te</sup> V S. haga quantas observaciones le ocurran con fundam<sup>to</sup> como q tiene á la vista, el estado en que se encuentran esos Pueblos, p.<sup>a</sup> q. con presencia de todo pueda el Supremo Gob.<sup>no</sup> dictar las providencias oportunas y proporsionar á esos habitantes las felicidades q son consig.<sup>tes</sup> al particular interes con q los mira S M Y. de cuya orn se lo comunico a VS en respuesta, p.<sup>a</sup> su intelig.<sup>a</sup> y fines consig.<sup>tes</sup>

D. Nov.<sup>re</sup> 15 de 822 (rúbrica).

[Addressed:] Sr. D. D. Ag.<sup>n</sup> Fernz de Sn Vic.<sup>te</sup>

[TRANSLATION]

I reported to his Majesty the Emperor your Excellency's letter of the 9th of last July and the accompanying document. Having learned with gratification of the measures and steps taken by your Excellency to execute in its entirety the important purpose of your commission in those Provinces, he has been pleased to order me to tell your Excellency that he has no doubt that you will continue to furnish proofs of your zeal and activity in the discharge of this matter, and that he is awaiting the statistics, the plan of that Province, the project in regard to the management of the Missions which you offer in your aforesaid letter; and [asks] also that your Excellency make all the observations that occur to you and that are well founded, so that the Supreme Government having a knowledge of the present condition of those towns, may, in view of all the factors, take the proper measures, and afford to those inhabitants the blessings resulting from the interest with which his Exalted Majesty views them. This order I am communicating to your Excellency in reply for your information and for the proper ends.

Given November 15, 1822 (rubric).

[Addressed:] Doctor Don Agustin Fernandez de San Vicente.

36. THE MINISTER OF RELATIONS TO CANON FERNÁNDEZ, NOVEMBER 15,  
1822

Por la carta de V. S. de 9. de Julio ultimo queda enterado S. M. el Emperador q Dn José M.<sup>a</sup> Lopez q se titulaba Comisionado del Ymperio hizó jurar de nuevo la Yndependencia, despues de haberse verificado este acto en la Baja California, originando éste procedim.<sup>to</sup> de Lopez los movim.<sup>tos</sup> é inconvenientes q Vs indica en su citada; y habiendose servido disponer S M Y. q. VS diga el paradero q ha tenido ese individuo, si continua perturbando el orn; y a q se contrae fue el encargo q<sup>l</sup> le hizo el Gobernador al entregarle a q el pliego q motivó su arribo desde Masatlan, lo comunico a V. S. de imperial orn p.<sup>a</sup> su intelig.<sup>a</sup> y cumplimiento.

D. Nov.<sup>re</sup> 15 de 822 (rúbrica).

[Addressed:] S. D. D. Ag.<sup>n</sup> Fernz de Sn Vic.<sup>te</sup> Loreto, ó donde se halle.

## [TRANSLATION]

His Majesty, the Emperor, has learned by your Excellency's letter of the 9th of last July, that Don José Maria Lopez, who styled himself Commissioner of the Empire, had the oath of Independence taken anew, after it had already been done once in Baja California. This proceeding of Lopez originated the disturbances and confusion noted in your Excellency's abovementioned letter. His exalted Majesty having been pleased to order your Excellency to inform him of the whereabouts of that individual, whether he continues to disturb the settled order, and what obligation was contracted and what order was given him by the Governor when he gave that person the paper which determined his coming from Masatlan, I am communicating it to Your Excellency by Imperial order for your information and its execution.

Given November 15, 1822 (rubric).

[Addressed:] Doctor Don Agustin Fernandez de San Vicente. Loreto, or wherever he may be.

37. CAPTAIN-GENERAL ANASTASIO BUSTAMANTE TO THE MINISTER OF  
RELATIONS, MEXICO, DECEMBER 16, 1822

jura de Yndep<sup>a</sup>  
Num<sup>o</sup> 102

Exmo. Sor.

El Comandante Gral. de las Provincias Occidentales de mi mando, Brigadier D. Antonio Cordero con fha. 13. del anterior Nov<sup>o</sup> me dice lo que Copio.

“Exmo. Sor. = Por el adjunto documento se impondrá V. E. de que el Capitan de la 3.<sup>a</sup> Compañia del Escuadrón de Mazatlan D. Pablo de la Portilla, y Comand<sup>te</sup> de la Divicion del mismo Cuerpo que existe en la Alta California, juró la Yndependencia de este Ymperio con toda la tropa de su mando el 24. del ultimo Abril; y lo dirijo á V. E. para su superior inteligencia.”

Y lo inserto á V. E. con inclusion del Expresado documento para que se sirva alearlo al augusto conocimiento de S. M. Y. esta plausible noticia.

Dios gue. á V. E. m.<sup>s</sup> a.<sup>s</sup> Mexico Diciembre 16. de 1822.

Exmo. Sor.

ANAST<sup>o</sup> BUSTAM<sup>te</sup> (rúbrica).

[Addressed:] Exmo. Sor. Secretario de Estado y del Despacho de relaciones Ynteriores y exteriores.

[In the margin:] El Cap<sup>n</sup> Gral de dhas Prov<sup>as</sup> Ynsera oficio en q.<sup>o</sup> el Comand.<sup>te</sup> Gral de las de occidente, le participa haverse jurado la Yndependencia en la alta California.

[TRANSLATION]

Oath of Independence.

Your Excellency:

The commander-in-chief of the Western Provinces under my charge, Brigadier Don Antonio Cordero, writes me under date of the 13th of the preceding month of November, as per the enclosed copy:

“Your Excellency: Your Excellency will note by the enclosed document that the Captain of the 3d Company of the Troop of Mazatlan, Don Pablo de la Portilla, and the Commander of the division of the said body stationed in Alta California, took the oath of Independence of this Empire with all the troops under his command on the 24th of last April. This I am writing to your Excellency for your superior information.”

I am inclosing this to your Excellency together with the aforesaid document in order that you may bring this bit of news to the august knowledge of his Exalted Majesty.

May God preserve your Excellency many years. Mexico, December 16, 1822.

Your Excellency,

ANASTASIO BUSTAMANTE (rubric).

[Addressed:] His Excellency, the Secretary of State and of the Office of Domestic and Foreign Relations.

[In the margin:] The Captain General of the said Provinces encloses an official despatch in which the Commander-in-chief of the Western Provinces informs him of the taking of the oath of Independence in Alta California.