

the older surveys of the city, mention must not be omitted of the 26 one hundred vara lots, adjacent to the Lagoon, and north-west of Larkin Street, granted on petition in 1847-'48, by Alcaldes Hyde and Leavenworth. These now form a portion of the Western Addition.

The Mission Dolores and the Presidio.

The year which gave birth to the great Western Republic on the Atlantic shore of North America, also witnessed the first permanent settlement on the Coast of Upper California. In 1776, two Missionaries of the Roman Catholic Church, landed in the bay of San Francisco and proceeded to establish a central point for their operations in civilizing and christianizing the native tribes. Their names were Francisco Palou and Benito Cambon. They were natives of Spain, but came to this place from Mexico. Finding a fertile tract of land, capable of irrigation, nearly two miles south of San Francisco, they chose it for their home and founded a Mission which they named "Mission Dolores," in commemoration of the sufferings of the Virgin. The Fathers evinced much good sense in selecting the site of the Mission buildings, which was a small, fertile plain, embosomed among green clad hills. Several tiny rivulets of clear, sweet water, met about the spot, whose united streams were conducted to the bay by one of a larger size, now well known as the Mission Creek. The Presidio was founded about the same period, to give military protection and aid to the Missionaries in the conquest and civilization of the Indians.

Mexican Claims.

The following is a list of the Mexican claims to tracts of land within the city and county of San Francisco. The *four in italics* have been *rejected*. The others are not yet decided—or have been confirmed.

TRACTS.	Size in Acres.	Date of Grant.
Pueblo of San Francisco.....
<i>Limantour Claim</i>	18,000	1843
Mission Dolores, (Santillan).....	13,500	1846
<i>Yerba Buena Island</i>	198	1838
Presidio Reservation.....	1846
<i>Point Lobos</i>	9,000	1846
New Potrero.....	2,250	1844
<i>Parraje del Arroyo</i>	6,750	1846
Bernal Ranch.....	4,500	1839
San Miguel Ranch.....	4,500	1845
Laguna de la Merced.....	2,250	1835
Ridley's Ranch.....	9,000	1841

Of the four last, quite a large portion lies within the limits of the neighboring county—San Mateo.

The Western Addition.

On the 20th of June, 1855, Commissioners were appointed by ordinance, to "lay out" blocks and streets, west of Larkin Street, and south-west of Johnston and Market streets, extending to the city charter line of 1851. The Commissioners reported a map, in accordance with the ordinance, and their proceedings were ratified and confirmed, and the map declared official by the Legislature. (See Statutes of 1858, p. 52.) This large tract is in two divisions, the first lying north of Market and Ridley streets, being about two and a half miles from the latter street to the bay,