









authorities of Mexico. In fact a grant was actually made within the Pueblo area by these authorities in that year, and apparently a compulsory possession was given, because in the files of the Cadastral Engineer, under File F, Pecos Pueblo, there appears a report of the Committee which apparently was appointed by some assembly, which finds in favor of the restoration of certain lands to the natives of the Pueblo, saying:

"His excellency at that time, 1825, by this violent plundering without doubt did not remember the laws which treat of respecting the property of all individuals."

And it further found:

"First, that all their lands be restored to the natives of the Pueblo of Pecos of which they were plundered.

Second, that the citizens possessed thereof be notified by the alcalde of that district of the 'no right' which they have acquired in said possession, as the grant was given in lands which have owners."

This report was signed by Pino Bass Arze and rubricated.

Apparently in desperation because of the continued harrassing, the seventeen remaining members of the pueblo accompanied their kinsmen to Jemez. There they and their descendants have since lived.

In 1855 an examination of the title to the Pecos Pueblo was made by the Surveyor General, who approved it and recommended confirmation of the grant. This action Congress took by Act of December 22, 1858. In 1864 a patent was issued to the same.

In the files of the Indian Office there is at least one specific record of a request by Pecos Pueblo to be restored to their lands, or that they be sold or leased for their account and additional lands purchased for them in the Jemez section. This was in 1859. It would appear, therefore, that there was never any intentional abandonment of their rights by the few surviving Pecos Indians. The records also show later and similar requests, even before they actually signed the deed of conveyance to John Ward; and subsequent happenings indicate that they never intended to create the impression that they had abandoned their rights in the pueblo.

We recommend in connection with the award made by this Board that a study be had of this long deferred request. If suitable lands can be purchased near Jemez, we recommend that such action be taken and such lands assigned to the specific use of those Pecos descendants who are now living in the Pueblo of Jemez. We are









