

NEW CAHUENGA VALLEY BOULEVARD.
IT TRAVERSES THE BEAUTIFUL FOOTHILLS.
An Appropriate Connection is Now Wanted With the Central Part of the City—Picturesque Features of the New Drive.

The progressive people of the Cahuenga foothills have done a wise thing. Using materials that lay all about them—the disintegrated granite that the erosions of time have brought down from the mountains—they have constructed a broad highway about two miles in length, leading through the Hollywood settlement from east to west. This disintegrated granite, broken up into small angular gravel, mixed with the finer particles of mica schist, iron and other ingredients, that originally constituted the adamant rock, has hitherto been but little recognized as a road-making material, but the probabilities are that it is one of the best in the world. It may yet come into vogue for macadamizing city streets in outlying sections. If thoroughly treated it would prove more satisfactory in every way than the cement gravel now in use. The Cahuenga people first had their roadway carefully graded, rounded over and rolled, then placed upon it a layer of four or five inches of the decomposed granite; had this carefully evened off and sprinkled and finally packed the coating with a ten-ton roller. The result is a macadam that is simply perfect for a country road. It is even, smooth and hard—but not too hard for a horse's feet; it sheds water perfectly, and does not wash under a heavy rain; in dry weather it does not cut up in ruts; it makes very little dust even under constant wear. Gentlemen who have driven over the thoroughfare are em-

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In constructing the new Figueroa-Cahuenga boulevard, the contractors would have the advantage of an inexhaustible supply of the very best material for an ideal surface at moderate cost. The disintegrated granite of the Cahuenga foothills is in near proximity to the new boulevard, and the short haul will be all the way down grade. This granite gravel will make a hard, firm, smooth surface, fit for carriages,

olden times, the Mexican residents of the valleys held their barbecues and feasts.

The climate of the foothills of the Cahuenga Mountains is something entirely unique, even in the explicable climatic contradictions of California. Here peas, beans and tomatoes may be grown and marketed in January and February. Here the lemon reaches its highest perfection, and the Cahuenga lemons command the highest prices in the eastern markets. In the Sturtevant aquatic gardens are magnificent tropical plants and flowers which are grown nowhere else in the United States except under glass inclosures. In it several fine specimens of the brilliant and gigantic Brazilian plant, the Victoria Regia.

valley to the city of Los Angeles, owing to the bad condition of the roads. From time to time a little work was done here and there, but no organized effort was made to put the roads of the valley in proper shape.

There seems to have existed a spirit of jealousy among the earlier residents, so much so that if the county attempted to do any work in one section of the valley, the Supervisors and Road Overseer were immediately charged with favoritism. Thus, standing in their own light, the property owners themselves prevented what little work might have been done in the otherwise favored Cahuenga Valley.

Instead of having the best roads in the county, which they were entitled

branch of the electric line could be built from the city to the sea. With Mr. Whitley to think was to act. After weighing the matter well he decided that one thing at a time was enough. The railroad should receive his first attention.

At a meeting of the citizens of Cahuenga, Col. G. J. Griffith and Phil J. Beveridge were chosen to act with Mr. Whitley as an Executive Committee. It was a long, hard pull to secure a branch of the Los Angeles and Pacific electric line, but the result is known to everyone in Los Angeles today. The road was built, and the service is capital.

The gentlemen named above left all real estate, as a result of their enterprise. Their willingness to aid in every way is highly appreciated by the people of Cahuenga Valley, and the very cordial relations between the people and the company is manifested in many pleasing instances.

Before these railroad lines were built the valley was almost unknown to nine-tenths of the citizens of Los Angeles. It seemed to be off the line of travel, and almost undiscovered by visitors and sight-seers.

Property was not in demand. The few who were living there knew how beautiful was the valley, but to get people there and to impress upon them the desirability of the locality for homes was only achieved by the electric railroad—the Balloon Route of Los Angeles, Hollywood and Santa Monica. Property that was only on a trading basis before is now in demand by homes at double the value. Property that formerly went a begging at \$100 an acre has recently been transferred at \$300 an acre. The beautiful homes now building, and in contemplation are due almost entirely to the construction and operation of this railroad. Strangers from the East pronounce the service, courtesy and attention of the officials and employees of the road unequalled in all their experience.

gives a half-hourly service to a community of so limited a number of patrons. There are two lines of railroad less than three-quarters of a mile apart through the valley, for a distance of five miles. The wisdom of Messrs. Sherman and Clark, the gentlemen who have built up and own this Los Angeles-Pacific Railroad property, is evidenced by the present conditions, here as well as elsewhere. They have always been foremost in any movement that means the welfare of the entire valley, notwithstanding they do not own a foot of land on either of the lines.

They have witnessed with much pleasure the rapid increase in values in all real estate, as a result of their enterprise. Their willingness to aid in every way is highly appreciated by the people of Cahuenga Valley, and the very cordial relations between the people and the company is manifested in many pleasing instances.

made as fine a stretch of roadway as can be found in America. As has been said, the land owners paid for the improvements according to their frontage. Mr. Whitley has gone further than most of his neighbors, for, besides the street work proper, he has had cement curbs laid and hundreds of ornamental trees of the rarest varieties, and thousands of rose bushes set out between the curb and the walk, making the street a sight worth seeing, and making his share of the expense far more than all the others combined.

And now comes

THE BOULEVARD QUESTION.

To launch it successfully a committee was appointed to interest persons in the valley. The excursion to Hollywood yesterday was decided on as the best plan to give an object lesson in good roads, at once showing the feasibility and advantage of a boulevard from the city to the valley.

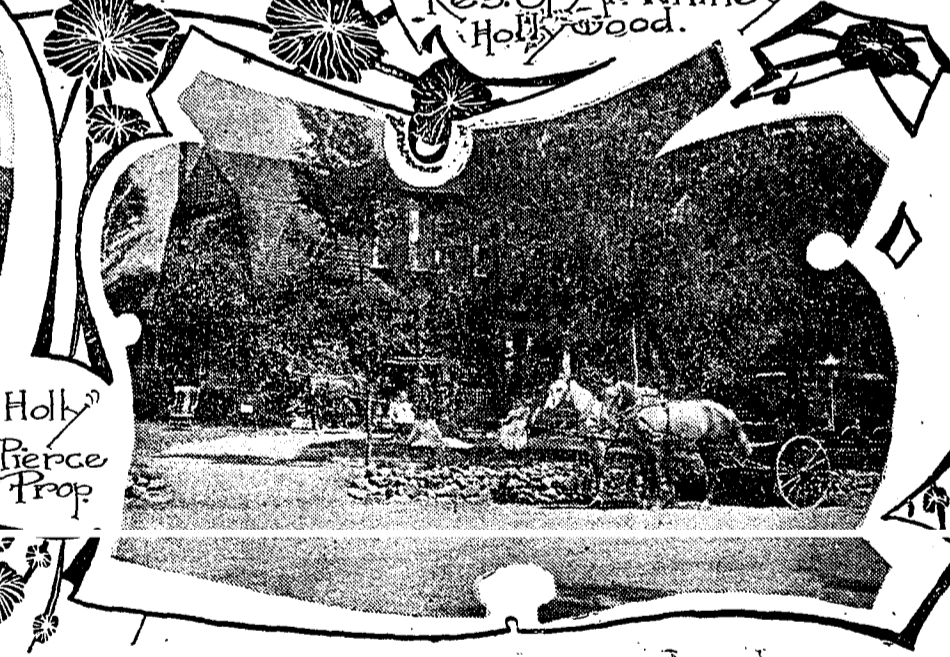
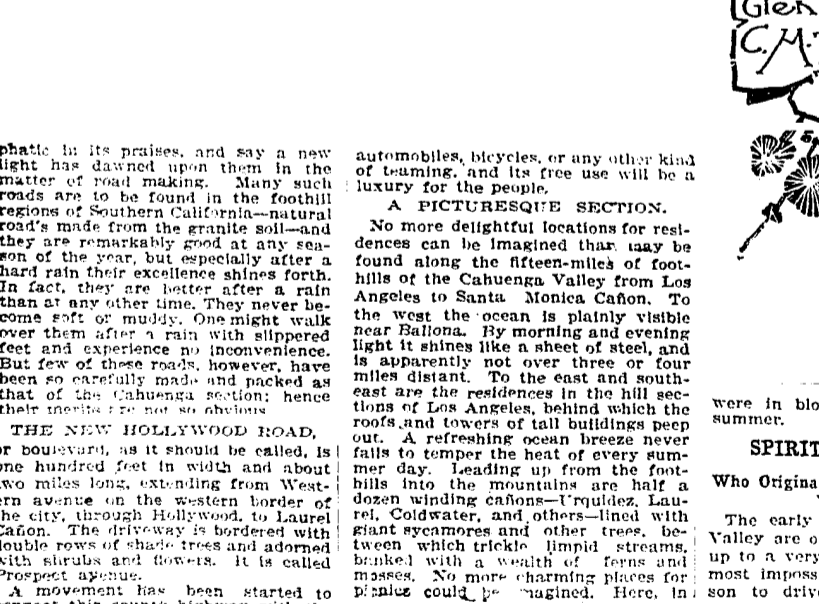
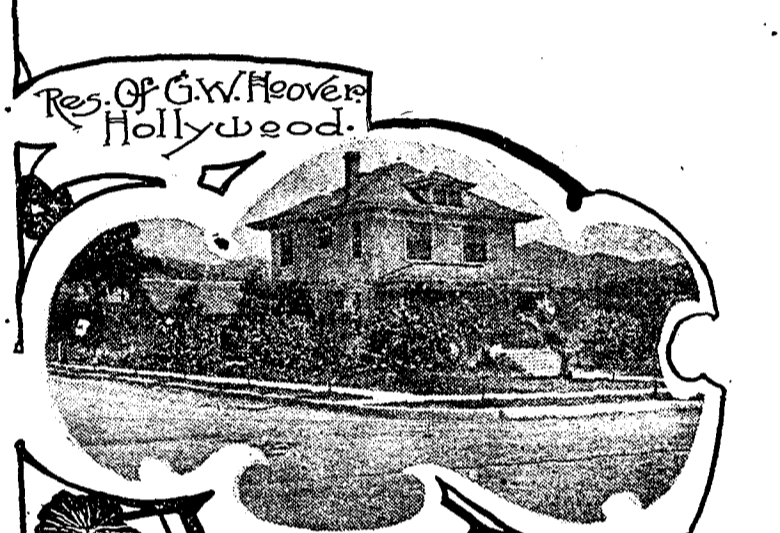
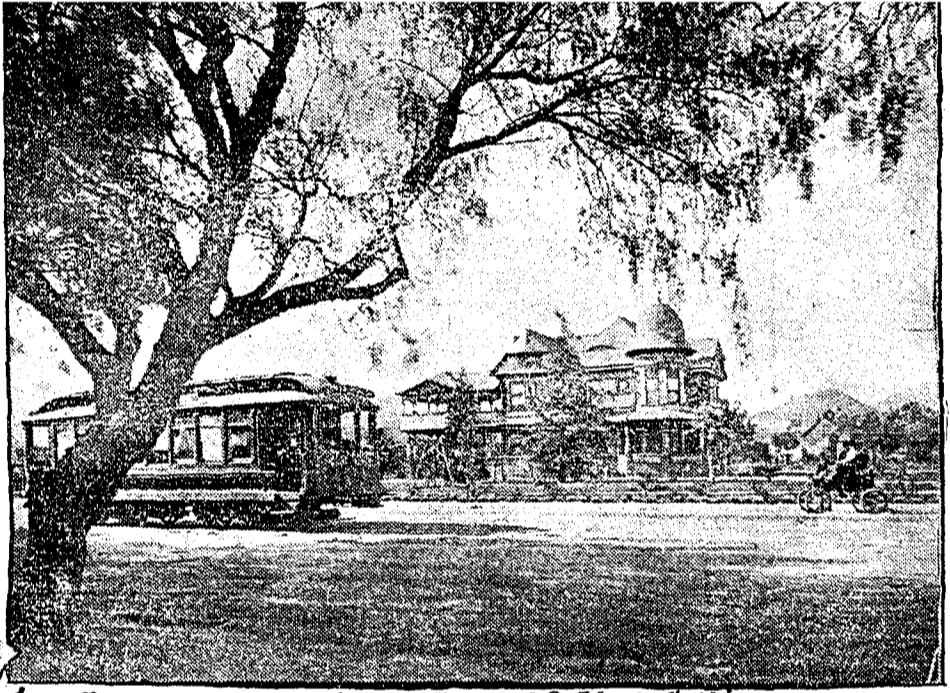
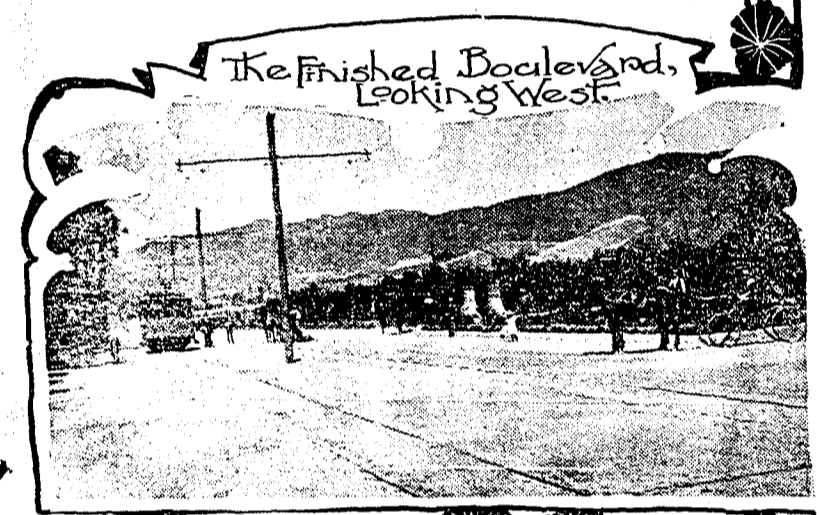
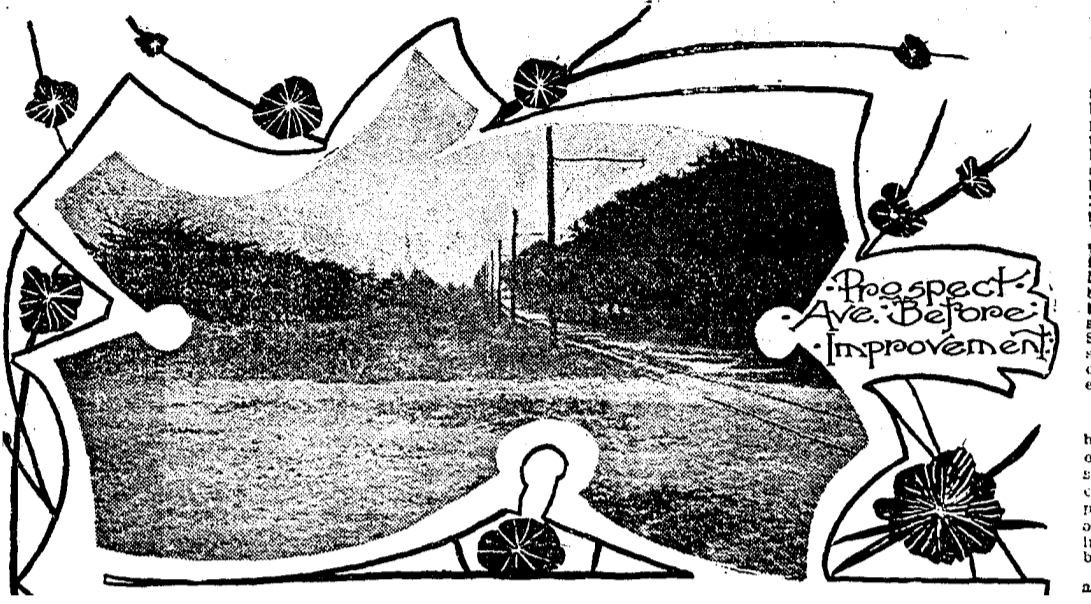
Stress is laid on what Mr. Whitley has done to show that if one man can put through over two miles of boulevard work, what an easy matter it would be to construct the boulevard from the city to the valley, if all would work with a will.

The rapid growth of this section in the past two years leads many to believe that Hollywood will soon be a second Pasadena. That beautiful city twenty-five years ago was on an equal footing with Cahuenga, but by proper management (chief among which was the building of good streets) Pasadena forged ahead, until today it is known in every land and clime.

The Cahuenga Valley produces many tropical and semi-tropical fruits, flowers and plants.

Its favored location makes this possible. Chief among the men in the valley to experiment and raise things tropical are J. E. Rapp, Jacob Miller and E. F. Sturtevant, Col. G. J. Griffith has for a quarter of a century been a strong advocate of the Cahuenga Valley, and today has considerable interests in the eastern end of the valley adjoining the magnificent Griffith Park, the largest city park in the world, and which, by the way, was presented to the city of Los Angeles by the colonel.

Among the newcomers to the Cahuenga Valley—men who will be instrumental in its upbuilding—are A. G. Bartlett, Col. Robert J. Northam, G. W. Hoover, T. E. Gibbon, Dr. J. M. Gardner, Maj. Hogabone, R. B. Hall, C.



phatic in its praises, and say a new light has dawned upon them in the matter of road making. Many such roads are to be found in the foothill regions of Southern California, and they are remarkably good at any season of the year, but especially after a hard rain, their excellence shines forth. In fact, they are better after a rain than at any other time. They never become soft or muddy. One might walk over them after a rain with slippers and experience no inconvenience. But few of these roads, however, have been so carefully made and packed as that of the Cahuenga section; hence their merits are not so obvious.

THE NEW HOLLYWOOD ROAD, or boulevard, as it should be called, is one hundred feet in width and about two miles long, extending from Western avenue on the western border of the city, through Hollywood, to Laurel Cañon. The driveway is bordered with double rows of shade trees and adorned with shrubs and flowers. It is called Prospect avenue.

A movement has been started to connect this county highway with the more thickly settled portions of the city by a broad macadamized avenue worthy of the situation and the connection. This, if completed, would constitute a boulevard twelve miles in length. It would traverse some of the most picturesque country and some of the most highly improved lying along the base of the mountains. In the whole distance it would not cross a single line of steam railway track. The route traversed is thus sketched by a writer in the Cahuenga Valley Sentinel: "Although the section lying between the City Hall and the Cahuenga foothills is wild, hilly, and pleasingly diversified, there is a natural and easy grade winding through that region, a portion of which has already been adopted and partly improved for a suburban driveway, and which can be advantageously utilized for the whole distance. Starting from the city and it begins with Figueroa street, a broad, beautiful avenue intersecting the southwestern portion of the city, and noted for its fine residences.

"For upward of two miles this broad avenue is well paved, possessing an excellent roadway as far north as Sixth street. From this point to Sec-

ond street, and thence along Second to the beginning of Lake Shore avenue. The streets, though graded, are not properly surfaced, and that matter should receive prompt attention.

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were in blossom at one time last summer.

SPIRIT OF ENTERPRISE.

Who Originated the Boulevard Idea and Who Pushed It.

The early settlers of the Cahuenga Valley are often heard to remark that up to a very few years ago it was almost impossible during the rainy season to drive from any part of the

to the Cahuenga roads were known as about the worst. This, of course, was before the term of the present Supervisors.

In the early part of 1899, H. J. Whitley, a gentleman living in Hollywood, with large interest in Los Angeles and eastern cities and with long experience in public work, foresaw the immense benefit which would accrue to the valley, as well as the convenience to the residents, if a system of good roads, a boulevard and a foothill

devoting their energies to road building.

ELECTRIC LINES.

The Los Angeles-Pacific Railroad and its services have been, and continues to be, one of the most effective influences upon the welfare of the Cahuenga Valley.

It is somewhat remarkable that this company consented to parallel its own line through a locality so sparsely settled as was the Cahuenga Valley, and

next turned his attention to good roads. About a year ago he advocated the grading and graveling of Prospect avenue, and some of the side streets in Hollywood, and also of beautifying the property. He was joined in this project by George W. Hoover, a progressive gentleman, recently from York, Pa., and then followed the other property holders, until over a mile of splendidly-graded and graveled streets was completed.

Early in the present year the good-road movement was taken up again by Mr. Whitley and his neighbors, and, after a number of weeks spent in converting property holders to the idea, work was resumed on Prospect avenue for a distance of about a mile. Wilcox avenue, a hitherto undecided street, was decided to the county, opened and graded to the Cahuenga Pass road.

This road work has been done under the supervision of E. S. Field, Supervisor of the Third District, but paid for by the property owners, according to their frontage. The county has supplied one man and a team, and a road overseer, for a portion of the time.

A. Gregory, the road overseer, has

V. Baxter, Dr. Win Wylie, J. B. Brokaw, W. B. Gidden, Arthur Letts and Paul de Longpre. These, with such men as H. J. Whitley, Col. G. J. Griffith, E. P. Clark, Gen. M. E. Sherman, Dr. Alan Gardner and Col. G. J. Griffith have for a quarter of a century been actively to their work, are sure to bring the valley rapidly to the front.

THE WATER SUPPLY.

Water is king in Cahuenga as elsewhere in California, and water is Cahuenga's long suit.

Besides the gigantic water system of the West Los Angeles Water Company, whose pipes form a network over the valley, almost every place has a water system of its own, ranging from an ordinary well up to one producing as much as 40 inches.

At present Col. G. J. Griffith is sinking an 18-inch well on one of his properties with splendid chances for an ample supply of water. Col. R. J. Northam has just succeeded in getting a fine well. A. G. Bartlett is now developing water on the Vista del Mar tract, and others in the valley have recently met with success in sinking wells. The water supply for the Soldiers' Home is carried through Hollywood, being forced by gravity to its destination. There is no question about the water supply for the valley, that important question having been settled years ago.

In New Jersey there is an annual appropriation by the State of \$150,000 in aid of the building of good roads, to be divided pro rata among the counties which expend one-fourth of 1 per cent. of their tax valuation on local roads. Such good results have been already obtained through increased value of lands, cheapened transportation, travel and business attracted, and civilization advanced, that the people have petitioned for an increase in the State subsidy to \$200,000, and the local county rate to one-half of 1 per cent. on property valuation.



A Page of Cahuenga History.
 BY SEWARD COLE.
 The Cahuenga Indian takes his name from a celebrated Indian chieftain whose large tribe inhabited this sec-

tion at the time of the founding of the San Gabriel Mission, in 1771. From all accounts he was a rather savage old fellow, with a keen sense of humor, and his followers were more warlike in disposition than most of the neighboring tribes. The weapons of the natives at that time were principally bows and arrows, in the use of which they were remarkably expert.

An old historian relates that early in the year 1772 a large band of hostile Indians swooped down from the region north of Tehachapi and fell upon Cahuenga's people. After a desperate battle, in which many were killed and wounded on both sides, the northern invaders retired, bearing away with them nearly one hundred captive women and children, and leaving twenty-seven of their own warriors captives in the hands of the Cahuengas. Old Cahuenga himself was badly wounded in the fight. He, like Chiefs Miguel and Louis of neighboring tribes, was on friendly terms with the newly-arrived missionaries, so as soon as the news of the battle was brought to Father Junipero Serra, who was at San Gabriel Mission at the time, that good man hurried over with a few assistants and soldiers, and arranging a sort of field hospital attended the wounded Indians and made them as comfortable as circumstances would permit.

After a day or two Serra noticed that the Indians had set up twenty-seven stout green posts in the form of a semi-circle in front of Cahuenga's tent, and upon inquiry learned that preparations were being made to roast alive the prisoners taken in the recent battle. Old Cahuenga was more interested in the proceeding than any one else, and as he was too much disabled to move from his tent, had ordered that the entertainment should be conducted where he could have a good view of it. The ceremonies were to begin at sunset of that day.

Father Junipero was paralyzed with horror. He went at once to Cahuenga and pleaded and expostulated with him. But that obdurate old heathen only chuckled with glee at the prospect of seeing his enemies writhing amid the flames, and the good Father soon found that nothing could be done to divert him from his purpose.

But two hours remained. Dry faggots had been gathered, and circles of Indians were already beginning the war dance. What could the good missionary do? He could not prevent the sacrifice by force of arms. His body-guard consisting of Sergt. Arguello and three troopers would have been helpless against the hundreds of well-armed warriors. Suddenly a happy thought struck him. As has been said, near a hundred Cahuengas women and children had been carried into captivity by the hostile Indians, so he proposed to Cahuenga an exchange of prisoners. The novelty of the idea interested the old chieftain, and he admitted that he would like very much to have the women and children back again, but he was not at all willing to forego the pleasure of seeing his enemies burned at the stake.

Father Junipero then went in quest of the husbands and fathers of those who had been carried away and gathering them together he laid his plans before them. He proposed to go himself to the hostile Indians and arrange the exchange if they would but secure old Cahuenga's consent to a postponement of the evening's festivities. They all agreed to this, and after some diplomatic wire-pulling, Cahuenga was prevailed upon to order a caucus of the chiefs to consider the queer proposition of the great and strange visitor. After a grave discussion, in which the pros and cons of the plan were thoroughly considered, a vote was taken which determined the matter in the father's favor. A message was immediately sent to San Gabriel and in two days a well-appointed pack train arrived from there escorted by seven troopers.

The next morning, accompanied by Chief Miguel and Luis, with their followers, and taking along the twenty-seven prisoners, the father set out on his perilous journey to the unknown country of the "hostiles of the Great Valley of the Lakes." Their route lay to the north, across the San Fernando Valley and Mountains, thence across the Santa Clara Valley and up the San Francisquito Cañon to Elizabeth Lake. From there they passed around the western border of the Mojave Desert (Antelope Valley,) and crossing the Tehachapi Mountains, they, on the eighth day, "beheld before them a most beautiful valley of vast extent. On the left and on the right were great blue-wooded mountains capped with snow. In front of them a great lake rested in calm and silent beauty. A large river debouched from the range of mountains on the north and traversed the valley to the lake, altogether making a landscape of grandeur upon the likes of which the eyes of Father Junipero never before rested." In this valley dwelt the Indians of whom the father was in search, so, making a camp for his party at the north of the pass through which they had come, he sent forward a chief who was among the prisoners to announce the arrival of the expedition and to make known its object. Negotiations were soon opened and after considerable parleying the exchange of prisoners was finally effected, and Father Junipero returned to Cahuenga with his party. The success of this expedition, so novel in its purpose, added greatly to the missionary's prestige among the Indians.

It is related that, on the 5th of May, 1772, "Chiefs Miguel and Luis were baptised and ordained as priests in order that they could perform the rites of baptism and marriage among their own people," but it is not known whether that old reprobate, Cahuenga, ever repented himself of his sins and became a good Christian or not. It is sincerely to be hoped that he did, for otherwise, in all likelihood, he is at present sojourning in a certain "frostless belt" where his penchant for roasting entertainments must be fully satisfied by this time.