

Walker Journal B – 11

Henry Dalton

**Azusa
Old and New
Being a true recital of the
founding and development
of a
California Community**

**Published by
Azusa Foot-Hill Citrus Company
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Copied from a booklet loaned to me by Mr. Roger Dalton of Azusa, October 1935.

Mrs. Harry E. Walker

Printed by Taylor and Taylor, San Francisco.

Note:

This book has been compiled in order that the important and interesting historic facts of the early days of Azusa and vicinity may be correctly recorded and preserved.

Mr. Keith Vosburg, the author and one of the members of our Company, has spent many months in the accomplishment of the task.

Our company takes great pleasure in the publishing of this volume, that our friends may enjoy with us a true recital of the founding and development of this community.

This book goes to you with our best wishes and with the confident expectation that Azusa will continue to grow and prosper.

Azusa Foot-Hill Citrus Company

C.A. Griffith

President

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Foreword

The city of Azusa lies at the foot of the Sierra Madre Range, where the San Gabriel River leaves the mountains to wander across the valley that bears its name. A thriving town, surrounded by citrus orchards and housing several industries, it has assumed its place as one of the chain of prosperous foothill settlements of Southern California which are dotted upon the fertile lands that lie between Los Angeles and San Bernardino.

Already its history is moderately long, as far as western municipal annals run, and promises a future as long as the sunny Southland shall hold her phenomenal prosperity.

The thanks of the writer are due to Mr. C.C. Baker whose article in the *Publication of the Historical Association of Southern California* on Henry Dalton covers thoroughly the early history of Azusa, and is a model of research; to Mr. Joe R.H. Dalton for invaluable personal recollections and for his kindness in lending for consultation unique family documents, including Henry Dalton's diary; to Messer's Thomas A. Smith, Roger Dalton, Cornelius Smithy, and C.V. Cain for reminiscences of early Azusa and for the use of early photographs otherwise unprocureable; and to Mr. C.V. Tucker of Covina, California, who took the photographs of scenes in and about modern Azusa.

K.V.

Azusa, California, December 1921

Azusa Old and New

The Old Azusa

Long before the white man came to the region, probably before he came to California at all, Azusa had its settlement, primitive to be sure, but sufficient to leave a name and a few stone implements for the Spaniard and the American to puzzle over. A local tribe of the Shoshonean Indians, whether Gabrielanos or Serranos cannot be actually determined, occupied the local region and somewhere in the vicinity built their Rancheria. By the Gabrielanos the village was known as *Asuksa-gna*; among the Serranos it passed as *Ashuksha-vit*. As late as 1905, an old Serrano Indian was found living on one of the southern reservations who named *Ashuksha-vit* as one of the villages of his tribe and located it near the modern Puente; but Hugo Reid in his articles on the Southern California Indians in 1852 identified the location of the *Asuksak-gna* with Azusa. Numerous discoveries of stone implements, notable mortars and pestles, have been made in the region, but so widely scattered as to afford little clue to the actual location of the Rancheria. Any attempt to locate it definitely would be futile, owing to the frequent shiftings made by the local units of Indians. A Rancheria usually consisted of a few huts, or Jacals, perhaps ten to twenty-five in number, roughly made of rush, in circular form, with an opening at the top to emit the smoke.

The local Indians practiced no agriculture, living upon small animals, roots, and what food could be gleaned from nature in a semi-arid country—a condition of life necessarily leading to a semi-nomadic existence. At any rate, modern Azusa owes little to its first primitive inhabitants save its name, and the latter is scarcely flattering for the best tradition, coming by hearsay from the first Europeans gives the translation *Asuksa* or *Ashuksha*, meaning skunk, with the suffix *gna* or *vit* meaning place or location. However, before the “skunk place” appears in local records, its inhabitants had probably been removed to the mission of San Gabriel, there to enjoy or suffer the usual fate of the California Indians when brought into contact with the blessings of civilization. The first Spanish record of the region (1841) shows the land vacant and makes no mention of any Indian inhabitants. No mention of the Azusa has been found during the mission period, though unquestionably the lands in the region were regarded by the Friars as a part of the San Gabriel Mission possessions.

When the first petition for secular grant was made both Juan Bandini, the secular administrator of the mission, and Padre Tomás Estenenga, who since 1833 had remained as minister of the church after secularization, objected to the grant as being mission property. Probably the local lands had never been used, except possibly for stock-grazing. A report of 1828 named as mission ranchos “La Puente, Santa Ana, Jurupa, San Bernardino, and so forth—and four sitios (small farms) on the San Gabriel River,” making no reference to the Azusa; yet, early in the fifties Hugo Reid, who remained one of the most profitable authorities for early conditions, enumerated the Rancho Azusa among the principal ranches of San Gabriel Mission upon its secularization.

The first definite record of the place appears in 1841. On August 14 of that year, a certain Luis Arenas petitioned the Ayuntamiento (town council) of Los Angeles for a league of land to the west of the San José Addition (called El Susa) or the Azusa. Arenas was a Mexican trader who came to Los Angeles probably in 1834. He had been prominent in local affairs, holding several offices, notably that of Alcalde (judge) of the pueblo of Los Angeles in 1838. In the same year, desiring to become a rancher, he sought the favor of Governor Alvarado who procured for him a third-interest in the Rancho San José, already granted to Ygnacio Palomares and Ricardo Vejar as a result of the secularization of the mission lands. As an inducement to Palomares and Vejar to admit Arenas, an additional league to the west was granted and the three became co-owners of the ranchos San José and San José Addition—roughly the valley lands extending west of Pomona to Citrus Avenue between Glendora and Azusa. Wishing to enlarge his holdings, in 1841 Arenas petitioned for an additional league to the west and, despite the objections of Padre Estenenga mentioned above, the land was declared vacant. The grant was approved November 8, 1841, by Manuel Jimeno “senior member of the most excellent Departmental Junta, and acting Governor of the Department of the Californias.” Judicial possession was given April 26, 1842, by Alcalde Ygnacio Alvarado and the Rancho Azusa became the property of Don Luis. The record of judicial possession gives the boundaries of the Azusa, which were later repeated in the documents recording the sale of the Rancho to Henry Dalton. The “Hill of San Felipe” so called because possession was given on St. Phillip’s Day, was taken as the starting point and northeast corner. This is the hill which runs across Citrus Avenue and partly occupied by the old Azusa Cemetery. Supposedly it was also the northwest corner of the Addition to the San José Rancho, which was given as the eastern boundary of the Azusa. Later, United States Government surveys failed to recognize this and it led to protracted litigation—the expense for which was the final cause for the financial failure of a later owner, and the loss to him of the Azusa.

The northern boundary was the Sierra, the western was the River of Azusa (the San Gabriel) and the southern was the road to San José, known as the San Bernardo Road, which passed through the northern part of what is now Covina. No record of the happenings of Azusa during the short ownership of Luis Arenas (1842-1844) has been found, but he erected what was undoubtedly the first building on the Rancho Azusa sometime during these years. It was made of adobe and stood upon what later became known as Dalton Hill near the present high school. After disposing of the Azusa, Arenas was bitten by the gold-bug and went north to the mines where he acquired a certain amount of wealth, partly by digging but more by gambling. He is said to have wagered gold by the hatful. He died poor at the Rancho San José, probably in 1852. [1869?]

Henry Dalton and the Azusa

The real history of Azusa as a typical California rancho began in 1844 with its acquisition by an Englishman, Mr. Henry Dalton, or Don Enrique as he appeared in contemporary

documents. Dalton was an adventurous man who, although only forty years old when he came to the pueblo of Los Angeles as super cargo of the Mexican brig *Soledad* in the autumn of 1843, had already passed an eventful twenty-five years as a successful merchant in Peru. A progressive, ambitious man, he immediately started business in Los Angeles acquiring extensive interest in real estate in the town, and began to look around for a rancho.

Before a year had passed Dalton was in negotiation with Arenas for the purchase of the Azusa and the latter's share in the San José. But certain difficulties temporarily obstructed the affair. The times were troublous in California and an intermittent revolution against Governor Micheltorena had unsettled affairs, as is evidenced by an edict of the Departmental Government of the Californias in August 1844, prohibiting the legalization of sales. This made the sale of the Azusa to Dalton seemingly impossible for the time, but a way was found. Early in December 1844, the Governor sent orders to Los Angeles that Andre Pico, Pio Pico and José A. Carrillo should organize a force to aid him in "suffocating a rebellion." The pueblo was penniless, it cost money to raise a troop; Don Luis owed the National Treasury a thousand dollars, but had no ready money; and a departmental order forbade the legalization of sales. The dilemma was obvious, but was met by the Pico's and Carrillo who stated that the Governor had given them special powers and granted permission to Arenas to sell his property. On December 24, 1844, Alcalde Manuel Requena authorized the sale of Arenas' one-third interest in the Rancho San José and Addition and the entire Rancho Azusa, seven hundred head of cattle, and farming implements—all for \$7,000. The proceedings were approved by the Governor and Henry Dalton became one of the large land holders of the San Gabriel Valley. In addition, he acquired lands to the west of the San Gabriel River in what is now south Duarte and Monrovia, and the ranchos San Francisquito and Santa Anita. In all, his holdings amounted to 45,280 acres, according to the Assessment Roll of Coronel [A.F. Coronel, Assessor] in 1851.

Dalton also continued a large general merchandise business in Los Angeles, which led to difficulties during the Mexican War; for he was forced to furnish supplies to the Flores expedition with only a claim (very much later only partially settled) against the Mexican Government for sixty-five thousand dollars as a result of his expedition. He was a prominent citizen of the county, serving on important committees and in honorable offices—for example, Encargador (administrator) of San Gabriel Mission in 1846, and Juez del Campo (Judge of the Plains) in 1856. As a result of his varied interests, Dalton continued to live in Los Angeles after his purchase of the Azusa until after the Mexican War of 1846, leaving the rancho in charge of a mayordomo. This latter kept a diary for the year 1845 which is still extant, and for the first time we have an intimate picture of local happenings.

In an entry of November 18, 1845, we find him vigorously taking charge: "Called all the people on the rancho for the purpose of knowing them, gave warning to all that did not work to leave the place. Divided the working hands, gave six to Benabo for work on the timber, the rest to other occupations on the rancho, clearing the vineyard on the ditch, carting firewood, sent two carts to the pueblo (Los Angeles), received 20 mares, 1 stallion, and five portrancas, 1 portrio, from Don Luis Arenas, bought a jackass from José de la Linares, killed a hog, very poor." From

this we see that viticulture had been added to the occupation of the cattle rancho. Immediate steps were taken to build ranch houses as the adobe built by Arenas was inadequate. On April 17, 1845, the manager "cleaned up the little house that was used for a granary and gave it up to the tanner who arrived this afternoon." Timber was cut in the mountains and hauled down for rafters, and in June the diary refers to "digging foundations and erecting walls of house on hill." Within a short time were completed or projected a residence, stable, and winery which were for thirty-four years to form the Dalton homestead, located on the same hill as the present high school, a few feet to the east of the residence of Mr. Murry Vosburg.

Ranch life was organized and we find carpenters, tanners, vaqueros (cowboys), and other laborers engaged in building, tanning hides, line-burning, cultivating maize, planting vines, dairying, sheep-shearing, and so forth. It was the typical ranch life of California, with an occasional Indian scare to enliven matters. Under the date of May 5, 1845, we read (original spelling and punctuation retained), "received a fright the Indians drove the cavallada up on top of the mountain Don Manuel crazy looking for them found the trail sent his boy to let me know went with three others to look for them, and sure enough we found them on the mountain all together, not one missing, they had no time to catch any, but we could not find the Indians, when we arrived at the house saw the smoke of their fires."

The Mexican War passed quietly for the Azusa and Henry Dalton, though like other rancheros he had to furnish a man for the campaign, equipped with a lance and a machete (large knife), both made by the blacksmith at the rancho. His other equipment doubtless resembled that furnished for a less important campaign in 1845, as we read, "June 4—received a circular that numbered a man from every farm to go out on the campaign, was obliged to get a man to go for the farm, gave said man three horses as the Banda said, to go on, likewise thirty dollars in goods and one fanega (about a bushel) of cornmeal for the journey."

California passed from Mexico to the United States; Mexican and Spanish land grants were confirmed to the grantees by treaty, and Henry Dalton could look forward to prosperity under the new government.

On July 31, 1847, he was baptized at San Gabriel into the Roman Catholic faith as a prelude to his marriage shortly afterward to Maria Guadalupe Zamorano. Mrs. Dalton was the daughter of Augustin Vincente Zamorano, a lieutenant colonel in the Mexican army, who died in San Diego in 1842, and his wife, Luisa Arguello, a representative of one of the oldest families in the south. Dalton brought his wife to live upon the Rancho Azusa soon afterward, though the date cannot be accurately given.

A word must be inserted here concerning the treatment of land-holders under Mexican or Spanish titles by the Government of the United States. Despite the guarantee of validity of title by treaty, the method adopted by the new government worked hardship and injustice in many cases. The general attitude was that the burden of proof lay upon the holder and he was required, at his own expense which was often considerable, and at the cost of much trouble and loss of time in attending the distant courts, to prove a claim about which there had previously been no

question. So from 1851 to 1857 Dalton was involved in efforts to have his land titles confirmed, the expense of which forced him in 1855, to sell the San Francisquito Rancho.

In addition, he tried other means for raising money, the most interesting for our purpose being a projected city on the Rancho Azusa, a predecessor of the present city, which, however, never came into being. The town of Benton was laid out to the south of Dalton Hill. The lots in this purposed city, as well as a residence on Spring Street—"La Casa de Tres Picos"—and lots in Los Angeles were to be the prizes in a lottery financed by Dalton and known as the "Great Southern Distribution of Real Estate and Personal Property." However the drawings were never held, and the town of Benton became only a memory.

Finally, in 1857 Henry Dalton's title to the Azusa and his share in the San José Addition were confirmed by the United States Government, but financially burdened as the result of expenses for enforced litigation which in justice should never have been required. As a result of this and of expensive lawsuits engendered by what Henry Dalton with much justice regarded as erroneous government surveys, together with the long unsettled and finally inadequately paid claim against the Mexican Government, the Rancho Azusa never recovered from the burden of its first mortgage. From this time until it was finally lost, the owner struggled hard to make a success but always fought a losing battle.

In October and November of 1858 Henry Hancock, as representative of the Government, surveyed the ranchos San José, San José Addition, and Azusa. A careful reading of the title-deeds and the evidence of ex-Alcalde Ygnacio Alvarado, who originally gave judicial possession, make incomprehensible some of the points found and lines run by the Hancock survey.

Except on the south, the boundaries of the Azusa were equitable enough; but while taking San Felipe Hill as the northeast point of the Azusa, Hancock refused to accept it as the northwest corner of the San José Addition. He ran such lines that the two not only did not border each other, but did not even meet at any point. Moreover, apparently quite arbitrarily, the southern boundary was moved about a mile and a half to the north from the Old San Bernardino Road. The ultimate result of this is seen in that the present Broadway forms the southern boundary of the City of Azusa and of the Azusa Foot-Hill Citrus Company's ranch. Dalton immediately protested and had re-surveys made.

However as soon as the first surveys had been made public, settlers ("squatters," as Don Enrique always called them) began to take up claims on what they considered government land all along the east side of Citrus Avenue and the south side of Broadway.

Between 1858 and 1866, in which latter year Dalton gave up his attempt to prove his claim to the real boundaries given by the Mexican grants, and taking advantage of the new law attempted to eject the settlers and secure title on a new basis. Messer's John Casey, Perry Malone, N.J. Smith, W.J. de Shields, Larken Barnes, Dutcher and Oliver Justice had taken up claims which practically enclosed the Rancho Azusa on the south and east. So these men with Luis Arenas and Henry Dalton, are entitled to call themselves the pioneer citizens of Azusa.

During the period 1857-1878 Dalton worked his property, experimenting with fruits and various crops. As with many cattle ranches in the Southern part of the state, accelerated by the dry years of the early sixties when the stock died by thousands; a gradual change from a pastoral to an agricultural economy was made.

In 1854 Don Enrique erected a flour mill on the ditch about fifty yards southeast of the old city reservoir. This mill served to grind the grain produced on the Azusa Rancho and after 1858, on other farms in the neighborhood. The chief industry, however, was the vineyard from the produce of which wine and brandy (aguardiente) were made. We find numerous references in Henry Dalton's diary to happenings in the vineyard and the winery. Dalton was never content to rest on achievement and was continually experimenting with new kinds of grapes to find the ideal ones for California wines. In 1868, he was growing at least seven varieties: Black Hamburg, Royal Muscatel, Native Muscat, Alexandrine Muscat, Canon Hall, Azusa White and Native. In addition to grapes, wheat, oats, lentils, potatoes, peas, beans, corn, alfalfa, calabashes, walnuts, quinces, apples, figs, apricots, pomegranates, cherries and many other vegetables and fruits were grown. Just south of Center Street and below the hill on which Murray Vosburg's house now stands (the old Dalton Hill) may still be seen the huge pear trees planted by Don Enrique before 1867. As far as can be determined, orange growing was begun in that year; an entry in the diary mentions orange trees in the seed-bed. In 1870, over a thousand oranges were picked, four hundred and twenty new trees set out, and a number of lemon trees brought from Santa Anita and replanted. In 1873 and 1874 tobacco was grown as an experiment, but the cigars made and exhibited in Los Angeles were evidently not a success with the local population, as there is no further mention of tobacco growing in the diary. In addition to his own plantations, Dalton rented to other men on a crop-sharing basis, a number of acres—principally on the eastern edge of the rancho along Citrus Avenue. Depending upon the kind of crop, an acre was rented for ten bushels of corn or potatoes; or eight bushels of barley or beans (frijoles); for six bushels of wheat, rye or oats; or half a ton of hay.

Aside from a few American workmen, labor on the Azusa was entirely furnished by the Cahuilla Indians, recruited from a tribal settlement near San Bernardino. They had their huts (Jacalo) on the hill east of the Dalton homestead, now the Lindley residence. A fair amount of work could be obtained from them; but every Sunday they got drunk, so Monday also had to be a holiday, for recovery. Entry after entry in Dalton's diary runs, "June 10 – Clear, warm weather. All Indians drunk." "June 23 (Sunday) – Indians drunk." "July 6 – Patricio and Fierros went to Mission (San Gabriel) to baptize a child." "July 7 – Patricio and Fierros returned drunk." "October 28 – Indians all left except a few drunk and lazy." "November 5 – Indians all drunk. They burned one of their shanties." And innumerable more of the same tenor. The regular Sunday morning procedure was for the Indians to present themselves and demand wine. They refused red wine and would drink only muscatel. If this was refused, "No wine, no work mañana." The result was that, despite legal prohibitions, Dalton, like all other employers, was forced to furnish wine. On October 22, 1869, "Bryant the Constable came and arrested me at the site of Southworth for selling liquor to Indians. Went out with him and Yates and obtained delay

till Monday.” As there is no further mention of this, probably the matter went no further. At any rate, the custom was universal in the south at that time, as one may read in a variety of sources.

During all this period intermittent troubles over water-rights occurred, gradually increasing in bitterness as more people became dependent upon the San Gabriel River flow, and were not settled on the present amicable basis until after Dalton’s death. Dalton and Andres Duarte unquestionably were the first users and as such legally entitled to such amounts as they could equitably use on their ranchos. But the matter was immensely complicated by later affairs, by rights of way granted, by habitual or occasional use and diversion of the waters, and by other causes. The settlers had secured water for their places by running ditches across the Azusa, whether with or without Dalton’s consent is somewhat obscure. At any rate, the matter was coming to a crisis and a part of the story may be read in the following extracts from the Dalton diary:

“June 1, 1867 – Warned Oliver Justice and two men sent by W.C. Strakes not to take water from the San Gabriel.”

“April 3, 1869 – People held a meeting and elected a zanjero, ‘Poker’ Smith, without reference to me or my rights.”

“July 7, 1870 – About four p.m. while wandering over the vineyard, I found that Blakely and Lance Toffheimer had scaled the fence and entered the vineyard. I instantly ordered them to quit the premises, but they refused and went up to the dam which was made for watering the vineyard. Blakely ordered Toffheimer to break down the dam and placing his hand on his pistol stated that he would take care of me. Toffheimer, when I forbade his interfering, demurred, and Blakely broke down the dam, placing a log across the side ditch. I, with my walking stick, removed the log to let the ditch free, when he attempted to stop me. I told him that I would break the hand that touched it; he did it and I struck his hand as hard as I could. He then pushed me into the zanja and drew his pistol to fire upon me. Marcos came up and drew a pistol and ordered him to put up his pistol or he would fire upon him; he finally put up his pistol and after some words withdrew. I ordered the man to replace the dam and continue watering.”

“June 12, 1871 – Yates went in the morning to inquire of Cornelius Potter, who were the parties guarding the water on the 10th. He stated that it was James Beardsley and two others whom he did not know. They were armed with one rifle, two double-barreled shotguns and several pistols.”

The upshot of it all was a lawsuit and condemnation of rights of way for the ditch. But this did not settle quantity or distribution, and these questions caused more bitterness and strife and litigation until 1889.

Altho the history of Azusa in the period 1845–1880 is history of Daltons work, a gradual growth in the number of settlers and farms and near-by mines may be noted. In 1855 a certain Captain Hammager and a company of prospectors surveyed the San Gabriel Canyon for mines and between 1855 and 1860 quite a mining boom had occurred. A number of gold placers were worked, gradually decreasing as time went on and the auriferous gravels were worked out. In

1859 some three hundred miners were at work, and three stores at Eldoradoville were necessary for their supplies.

In 1876, there were still two hydraulic companies in fairly prosperous condition. Major B.C. Truman, writing in *Semi-Tropical California* in 1874 says, "During the past eighteen years Messer's, Ducommon and Jones, merchants of Los Angeles, have purchased, in one way or another, over two million dollars worth of gold-dust taken from the placer claims while it is fair to assume that among other merchants and to parties in San Francisco has been distributed a like amount."

Even today a somewhat precarious living is made by a few miners in the San Gabriel, but the existence of the somewhat attenuated treasure beds of the canyon has had but slight influence upon Azusa.

The settlers of the region, despite the continual menace of legal ejection by suit, gradually increased in number and in prosperity. In 1879, there were some twenty-five hundred acres under cultivation. Until about 1860 the nearest post office and store were at El Monte; so a long ride on horseback or on the "carreta," an ox-drawn solid-wheeled cart, was necessary for supplies not furnished by the farms. About 1865 a small settlement grew up at the "Four Corners," about the store of a certain Cahn, near the present location of Irwindale, but did not have a very prosperous existence. In Dalton's diary, May 11, 1868, we read, "In the afternoon the people met at Williamsons' to determine about erecting a provisional school house and determined to meet on Friday with wagons and tools to haul the brush and logs necessary, and on Saturday raise the brush house." The necessary building was rapidly constructed and on June 27 Williamson, Dutcher, and O. Justice were elected school trustees. However, the local beginning of public education seems to have had a thorny path, for on October 7, 1871, "the school tax was again defeated, 31 against 6 votes."

The general health of the settlement seems to have been excellent, no cemetery being needed until 1875, when Preston deeded two acres on San Felipe Hill to the settlers' community for this purpose. The first use of the old Azusa Cemetery was made in that year, in the burial of a German who had been shot in a property fight.

The New Azusa

During the later seventies matters financial became more and more difficult for Dalton. The original cost of proving his titles had laid a heavy and never-removed burden on the Azusa, and the constant drain of litigation, which was carried from court to court and finally to the Secretary of the Interior, absorbed all profits and made more money essential. In 1869, the San José Addition was mortgaged; a year later an arrangement was made with a certain Mr. Pioche to finance the litigation in return for a half-interest in the Azusa and the San José except the "homestead," the eastern five hundred acres of the Azusa, the especially personal part of the rancho. But in 1872 Pioche committed suicide, leaving a legal tangle in his estate which increased Dalton's difficulties.

July 30, 1874, there is an entry, "Went to Puente depot to meet Messer's Slauson and Hoover who came to see the "homestead" for a loan of \$20,000." In June of the same year "all the affairs of the rancho are in a deplorable condition," an agreement was signed with general Boschke to sell the Azusa for \$100,000 but the sale did not materialize. Two years later Dalton's final effort to save his possessions were disastrous.

July 25, 1878, the Mound City Land and Water Co. was organized. This company bought from Dalton the Azusa, San José and San José Addition for one hundred and forty thousand dollars, ten thousand of which had been paid, partly in stock. A town came into being, its center about where the present lumberyard in Azusa is located and several stores and houses were built. Had the company been able to make payments, Dalton would have been saved. But the incorporators had no capital, no sales of farm lands were made, and both the company and Dalton lost out completely when Mound City did not develop.

The final strain came two years later. There is an entry in the diary of May 28, 1881, "At midnight Henry brought news that the case in Washington had been decided in favor of the squatters." The Secretary of the Interior held that Dalton's possession had not been continuous, and accordingly his contentions had no sanction in law. Dalton had lost absolutely all in twenty-nine years of litigation to obtain title which was guaranteed him by treaty. The Azusa passed to other hands.

A period of confusion followed, while the "homestead" and the buildings gradually decayed. Two banks in Los Angeles—the Los Angeles County Savings Bank and the Farmers and Merchants Bank—had come into possession, rather unwillingly of a half-interest in the three ranchos as a result of the failure of the Mound City Land and Water Company, the other half was tied up in the Pioche estate.

The founder and manager of the Los Angeles County Savings Bank was Mr. Jonathan Sayre Slauson, originally from New York, who had come to the coast in 1863. After years in Nevada as a practicing lawyer, he went to San Francisco. A first visit to Los Angeles in 1871 had convinced Mr. Slauson of the future of the south, and in 1873 he made Los Angeles his home. As mentioned above, we first find him in connection with the Azusa in 1874, when he, as manager of the bank, made an examination of the rancho for the purpose of a loan. This apparently was Mr. Slauson's first view of the Azusa, which later was to be so changed under his control.

To liquidate the affairs of the Mound City Land and Water Company, in 1880 Mr. Slauson bought its rights in the three ranchos. Four years later, for seventy-five thousand dollars, he bought the other half-interest, which had passed from the Pioche estate into the hands of Mr. Henry Martz and for the first time since 1852 the Rancho Azusa, unencumbered, was in a condition for rapid development. Circumstances which no one had foreseen, least of all the new owner, made that development much more rapid and spectacular than anticipated.

The Founding of Azusa

A variety of causes united in producing the Southern California Land boom of 1886-1887. These were the completion of a competing trans-continental railroad and an era of local railway building and railroad projecting in this section of the state; good times, with consequent inflation; an immense influx of prospective settlers; the professional and profitable activities of a horde of boomers from other towns; and lastly, an apparently contagious form of mild insanity which seemed to afflict the whole population of Southern California at one time. A boom had begun in Los Angeles itself in 1886, but it was really the completion of the Santa Fe Railroad which brought the foundations of the valley towns. During the months of March, April, and May, 1887, thirteen towns were platted on this line between Los Angeles and San Bernardino. By the end of the year, along or between the Santa Fe and Southern Pacific rights-of-way, a total of thirty-six new towns were laid out and the lots put on the market. Many of these were simply speculative schemes, boomed and sold by methods that more than savored of sharp practice. But after the inevitable reaction the steady growth and progress of a majority of them exceeded the hopes of their founders and fully justified the faith of their purchasers. In December, 1886, foreseeing the prospective rush, Mr. Slauson organized the Azusa Land and Water Company, with a paid-in-capital of four hundred and fifty thousand dollars, of which he owned one-half, and sold to this company his entire holdings in the Azusa Rancho, with the exception of the original homestead of the Dalton times—that is the eastern five hundred acres, or roughly the land bounded by Broadway, Citrus Avenue, Sierra Madre Avenue, and the Azusa city limits, the bulk of the present Azusa Foot-Hill Citrus Company's holdings. This land, with the exception of forty-six acres at the head of Azusa Avenue reserved for Dalton, Mr. Slauson divided in half and deeded to his daughters, Mrs. L.S. Macheil and Mrs. K.S. Vosburg. The new company immediately platted the City of Azusa.

It is interesting to note that the city, as originally planned, was located more to the east, but was moved more to the west on the insistence of the railroad since a grade to the east forced the position of the station in its present location. By April, 1887, surveys, gradings, water supplies, and so forth had been advanced to a point where lots could be placed on the market. A quotation from J.M. Guinn's *History of Los Angeles and Environs* affords a graphic description of what followed: "The craze to secure lots in some of the towns is well exemplified by the first sale of lots in Azusa. The founding of the City of Azusa was intended to satisfy a long felt want. The rich valley of the Azusa de Duarte had no commercial metropolis. Azusa City was realized by real estate speculators as the coming commercial center of trade for the valley, and they thought there was money in the first pick of lots. The lots were to be put on sale on a certain day. Through the long hours of the night previous and until nine o'clock of the day of the sale, a line of hungry and weary lot buyers stood in front of the office where the lots were to be sold. Number two claimed to have been offered \$1,000 for his place in the line; number three sold out for \$500; number fifty-four loudly proclaimed that he would not take a cent less than a cool hundred for his chance. Number one was deaf to all offers; and through the weary hours of the night he clung to the handle of the big front door, "securing at last the coveted prize—the first

choice. Two hundred and eighty thousand dollars worth of lots were sold the first day. The sale continued for three days. Not one in ten purchasers had seen the townsite, not one in a hundred expected to occupy the land purchased." Such was the beginning of the modern Azusa. The company erected the Azusa Hotel and the brick building which, remodeled, now serves as the City Hall. Stores, saloons, churches and residences began immediately to be erected a process hastened by the collapse of some adjacent boom towns and the bodily removal of their buildings to the newly established Azusa. Again the third time proved the charm, and after the previous unsuccessful projects of Benton and Mound City a permanent city resulted.

Development

There remained, however, problems and difficulties to be solved, notably the water question. We have noted some echoes of previous water troubles; these were not solved by the change of ownership in the rancho, and before a successful agricultural development could be undertaken some solution was necessary. Before the founding of the city, the minutes of the Azusa Land and Water Company for February 9, 1887, show that such an attempt was made. A committee was appointed and authorized to conclude an agreement with the various water claimants—the Beardslee Water Ditch Company, the Duarte Mutual Irrigation and Canal Company, and the Azusa Land and Water Company (as successor to the Dalton claims). On April 26, 1887, the Azusa Agricultural Water Company was organized and given the water rights claimed by the land company, after deducting and discounting for the city supply.

But agreement between the different claimants seemed impossible. Various suits were pending, injunctions had been issued, and development was stopped. In 1886-1887 occurred the Duarte-Azusa Water War, in which the Azusa and Duarte settlers turned to water out of the new (Covina) ditch and under arms held possession of the head works. It was not until 1890 that a compromise was worked out, more or less satisfactory to the various parties but, at any rate, accepted. It is under the terms of this agreement that the San Gabriel River flow is now amicably divided between Duarte, the Azusa companies, and Covina, and that the committee of nine has supervision of the whole. With the water question settled, the development of orchards and farms went on apace. The larger part of the acreage devoted to citrus culture was panted out within the next decade. Upon the dissolution of the Azusa Land and Water Company, the acreage remaining unsold was divided among the stockholders. Mr. Slauson made over his holdings to his son, Mr. James Slauson, who supplemented these by additional purchases, generally contiguous to the property already held by his sisters. Before 1900 practically the whole available acreage of these three was planted to citrus trees and the foundation was laid for the later organization of the Azusa Foot-Hill Citrus Company. This was simply the incorporation of the separate holdings of the son and daughters of Mr. Slauson, and the inclusion of the able manager-ship of Mr. J.T. Lindley (deceased) into one company, the ultimate development of the old homestead of Henry Dalton.

The annals of the city of Azusa are in general uneventful. In thirty-five years of corporate existence have been marked by no salient events, but rather by a steady growth in prosperity and importance. The population as seen in the census reports is the best index:

1900—863; 1910—1,477; and 1920—2,460. After a period of difficulties, ended by the formation of the California Fruit Growers Exchange, the steady growth of the regions' most important industry necessitated removal from the first packing house (the brick building now serving as the City Hall) to the present Azusa Citrus Associations packing house. The needs of the newly incorporated company resulted in the building of the Azusa Foothill Citrus Company's packing house in 1902.

The construction of the Pacific Electric Railway helped in the creation of new industries, rock crushing and eventually the manufacture of hydrocyanic-acid gas, which have added their share to the prosperity and population of the city. Azusa's fortunate location makes it the inevitable entry and supply point for the San Gabriel Canyon and the Angeles Forest Reserve, of which the growing attractions and projected developments assure a constant and increasing resource.

The beautiful school buildings and excellent equipment and staffs, the artistic public library and park, and the developing street improvements are the index to a progressive and increasing population. Among the foothill towns of the San Gabriel Valley, Azusa citizens may point with pride to their own city, and look forward to a prosperous future.

The End
1921

Organized November 1, 1883
Part III

Incorporated February 12, 1891
Vol. X

**Annual Publications
Historical Society
of
Southern California**

1917
McBride Printing Company
Los Angeles, Cal.

To:

Joseph Dalton –

In memory of his Father, Don Enrique Dalton, and in remembrance of
his many courtesies while I was gathering data for the article herein—

These greetings are sent by
C.C. Baker.

Camp Kearney, California
May 22, 1918

Copy by Mrs. Harry E. Walker

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Don Enrique Dalton of the Azusa

**by
C.C. Baker**

Henry Dalton, or Don Enrique Dalton as he was called in pioneer days, was born in the city of London, England, October 8, 1803, the son of Winnall Trobally and Anna Dalton. Henry and his brother George came to the United States, both being Los Angeles County pioneers. Another brother, John, died of fever at Panama on his way to California.

The Dalton family claims descent from Sir Walter de Alton of the time of the Conqueror. A large estate was claimed by the family during the late eighteenth century, and in lengthy chancery proceedings it was proved that the recognized heir had taken passage for America in a sailing ship of which nothing was ever after heard. The inability to prove the death of this heir without issue caused the estate to revert to the crown.

Henry Dalton was early apprenticed to an elder brother, a merchant tailor, and became a member of the Tailors Guild, one of the successors of those early craft guilds which had exerted such an influence in the City of London.

Such occupation must have seemed prosaic to him, for he was of an adventurous spirit, as he later proved. Other fields seemed to offer him greater opportunities and he left England for Peru at the age of fourteen. Only once, in 1832, did he revisit England. During his visit his elder brother pointed out to him Victoria, then, Duchess of Kent, remarking "There goes our future queen." However the land of his nativity was always the land of his allegiance, for Henry Dalton died, as he had lived, a subject of Great Britain.

In the city of Lima, Peru, Dalton lived for twenty-five years, building up an extensive general merchandising trade.

He was also for a time British Consular agent at Lima. His chief associate was James Bowman, later a San Francisco merchant. They owned several ships trading up the west coast. It may readily be supposed that information brought by these ships caused Dalton to come to investigate California's possibilities.

Dalton came to California as super-cargo of the Mexican brig *Soledad* of 105 tons, from Mazatlan, which was on the coast from October to December, 1843. Settling in Los Angeles, he bought in 1844, from Rafael Guirado, father-in-law of Governor Downey, for \$400, part cash and part merchandise, a lot fronting about 300 feet each on Main and Spring Streets, with its northern line at what is now Court Street. On the Main Street front of this property he built an adobe store, where he disposed of cargoes arriving for him at San Pedro to the rancheros in exchange, principally, for hides, tallow, wine and some grain. In later years the varied products of his ranchos were sold through this store.

It was conducted by Dalton through a manager until 1860, when John McDonald, then manager died through having taken an overdose of laudanum while grieving over the death of a favorite daughter. The accounts of the store admirably kept, for the most part by Dalton himself, carry the names of all the early prominent men of the county. On the Spring Street front of the

Guirado lot Dalton built the first wooden residence in the pueblo. From its three gables it was known as "La Casa de Tres Picos" and "The Three Sisters." It was paneled inside with mahogany, was one and a half stories high, and was one of the pretentious buildings of the town.

Dalton owned several other tracts in Los Angeles. One of about thirteen acres lay on both sides of the river south of Aliso Street. Another was granted him by the Ayuntamiento (town council) in November 1845, and was known as "Dalton's 100 vara lot." It extended from Main to Spring on both sides of Third Street. In later years a portion of an old adobe house on this lot was rented as a tonsorial emporium by a barber named "Nigger Pete."

Still another tract was bought by Dalton in 1854 from Ygnacio Maria Alvarado and the Nieto heirs, fronting 150 feet on Main Street and stretching east to the old zanja, for \$2,400. On this lot Dalton built in 1857 the first two story brick residence in the pueblo, costing \$7,000. Adjoining his residence was an adobe building used as a warehouse by Dalton, and occupied during part of 1862 as quarters by Co. I, Fourth U.S. Infantry. St. Vibiana's Cathedral is now located on this last tract.

Dalton early aspired to become a ranchero, but in this he seemed doomed to disappointment, since on August 14, 1844, the Departmental Government of the California's forbade the authorization or legalization of sales of lands by the proper authorities. Unusual circumstances however, caused a special arrangement to be made which favored Dalton. The first phase of the revolution of 1844, against Gov. Micheltorena had closed with the Treaty of Santa Teresa. The Governor, however, was preparing for eventualities. Early in December of 1844, he sent orders to Los Angeles that Andres Pico, with Pio Pico and Jose A. Carrillo should organize a force to assist him in "suffocating a rebellion." The pueblo was penniless, but these officers knew of one means of raising money. Luis Arenas owed the "national treasury" a thousand dollars, which he could pay only if the sale of his lands was authorized. The Pico's and Carrillo signed a document in which they stated that, by the special powers given them by the Governor, they granted extraordinary permission for the authorization of the sale of Arena's land, "these being the only means we depend upon in order to equip the number of men now ready to enlist under the aforesaid chief."

This document was signed December 24, 1844, and on the same day Alcalde Manuel Requena authorized the sale. The deed from Arenas to Dalton, dated December 19, 1844, was witnessed by Juan Bandini, Abel Stearus, and Juan Manso and was signed also by, or for, Ygnacio Palomares and Ricardo Vejar, associate owners of the San Jose, as evidence of their satisfaction with the sale.

Under the deed, Arenas transferred to Dalton a one-third interest in the Ranchos San José and San José Addition, the entire Rancho Azusa, 700 head of stock, and all farming implements on the ranchos, for \$7,000, which according to custom, he declared was all they were worth. In recording the history of the rebellion, early in 1845, which was finally successful against Gov. Micheltorena, Bancroft states³ that Dalton was a member of the company of foreigners formed to assist the rebels. This must be an error. Nowhere in the Dalton papers is there mention of such service, and Mr. W.A. Dalton states he knows nothing of such service by his father.

There is a general form of procedure in the obtaining of land grants under Mexican rule. The person desiring the grant forwarded the petition for a named or described tract usually to the Governor. The petition was referred by the Governor in earlier times to the Ayuntamiento of the pueblo nearest the land. A committee of the Ayuntamiento held hearings, duly announced, at which any adverse claims might be shown. The report of this committee, approved by the Ayuntamiento, then went to the Governor. In later years, the Governor referred the petition to the Prefect of the district in which the land was located, and the Prefect himself, or by a deputized Alcalde, held hearings on adverse claims and reported to the Governor. A report was also obtained for the Governor from the administrator of any mission which might be supposed to claim the land.

If the Governor then approved the grant, the papers were laid before the Department Assembly, and if their approval was given the grant became a reality. The papers came to the Ayuntamiento with instructions to give the grantee possession. A duly authorized Alcalde with several assistants, then went to the land, located the boundaries by means of selected landmarks, physical features, marked trees and rock heaps, and recorded these marks in a written instrument known as the Act of Judicial Possession. The complete papers in the case were known as the expediente, and formed the grantee's title to the land.

These grants were made for the purpose of obtaining settlers on the land, and a general condition of the grants required the erection and occupation of a residence within one year.

To obtain settlers, grantees were prohibited from alienating their lands. A grantee could fence his land if he did so "without prejudice to anybody or interfering with crossings or roads." Grants were also made with the condition that the grantee should not enjoin persons from cutting timber "so long as it is done according to the laws of wood cutting in the forests."

On March 24, 1837 Ygnacio Palomares and Ricardo Vejar petitioned for the grant of "the place known as San José." They were described in the report of the committee of the Ayuntamiento as native Mexicans who had rendered personal services to the government and had sufficient cattle to cover the land requested. Juan B. Alvarado, Governor ad interim, approved the grant April 15, 1837. Judicial possession was given by Alcalde Don José Sepulveda, August 3, 1837. Sometime in 1838, Gov. Alvarado wrote Palomares, stating that if he and Vejar would admit Luis Arenas as an equal partner in the San José, an additional league of land would be granted the three. Palomares and Vejar agreed to this proposition, and they together with Arenas, signed the petition for the new grant December 16, 1839. When this petition was referred to Juan Bandini, then administrator of Mission San Gabriel, he very tersely stated that the land "has belonged and now belongs to San Gabriel Mission." The effect of this statement was doubtless overcome by the statement of the Prefect of the district that this, as well as other land claimed by the Mission, was not occupied by it. On March 14, 1840 Governor Alvarado approved the grant to Palomares, Vejar and Arenas, in common, of the old San José, and of an additional league, hence forth called the San José Addition. Judicial possession with reference to the Addition, was given May 7, 1840, by Alcalde Don Felipe Lugo.

On August 14, 1841, Arenas again petitioned for a grant, this time for land being west of the San José Addition, called "El Susa" or the Azusa. This petition raised the ire of Padre Thomas Estenega of Mission San Gabriel. He stated the land belonged to the Mission San Gabriel. Further he would not report, but he gave out a significant hint that, with the approaching visitation of the bishop, not only would the further granting of mission lands be stopped, but grants already made would be revoked. This half-threat availed nothing. The land was reported vacant, and on November 8, 1841, the grant was approved by Manuel Jimeno "senior member of the most excellent departmental junta." Judicial possession was given April 26, 1842, by either Alcalde Don Ygnacio Alvarado or Don Felipe Lugo—which one is not certain.

One official declared that Arenas desired the Azusa "for the purpose of squaring his land and it does not afford any other advantage." This reputation may have come because of the unsavory derivation of the name. Here was a Rancheria of those Indians nominally attached to Mission San Gabriel called in the Shoshonean *Asuksagua*, and in the Serrano dialect *Ashuksagua*, meaning literally skunk place.⁴ It was doubtless so named from the fact that skunks infested the hill which in pioneer days was occupied by the adobe dwelling and extensive ranch buildings, displaced now by Citrus Union High School in the present Azusa. Knowledge of the extent and boundaries of these ranches as given in the Acts of Judicial Possession is necessary to an understanding of the subsequent litigation.

The grant of the San José was by boundary, no quantity of land being mentioned. The boundaries were "the mountains of San Gabriel on the north, the arroyo San Antonio on the east, and the Lomas de Santa Ana and La Puente on the south and southwest." Going east along the foothills from the San Gabriel Cañon, the lesser canyons are, in order, the Big Dalton (formerly called both Boca Negra and San José) the San Dimas and the San Antonio. At the mouth of the Big Dalton Canyon a tree was selected as a landmark, and in it "was placed the head of a beef, and some of its limbs chopped." This tree was known as the Sepulveda Oak, after the Alcalde.

This was the true northwest corner of the rancho. At its southwest corner, on the Old San Bernardino Road, was another landmark, El Encino de la Tinaja, or the Tinaja Oak, the common corner of the San José, the Addition and La Puente, and along one of the well-known landmarks of the country. The Addition joined the San José on the west. At its northwest corner was the Loma de San Felipe, St. Phillips Hill, mentioned as "a small red hill," and so named because possession was given on St. Phillips Day. It stands at the head of the present Citrus Avenue, just north of the Pacific Electric tracks. The Addition was one of those grants later called floating grants, that is, grants of a specified area inside given boundaries enclosing a greater area. The Azusa, like the Addition, was for one league in specified exteriors. The boundaries given were "the Sierra" on the north, the River of Azusa, or San Gabriel, and the land of Andres Duarte on the west, the road to San José, now called the Old San Bernardino Road, on the south, and the San José Addition on the east. San Felipe Hill was a common corner of the Azusa and the Addition, from which it will be seen the three ranchos were continuous. The road to San José was a common boundary of the Azusa and the La Puente.

When Vejar signified his satisfaction with the sale of Arenas' interest in the ranchos to Dalton, he also asked that the San José and Addition be partitioned between the three owners. Proposals were evidently made in the matter by the interested parties, for Vejar and Dalton on November 16, 1845, petitioned Alcalde Vicente Sanchez for a conciliation with Palomares on the partition. The records of the proceedings are not complete, but it appears Palomares made certain conditions which were, at least partially, not agreeable to Dalton. On January 19, 1846, Alcalde Juan Gallardo gave notice that he would make the partition, and on February 11, 1846, with Antonio F. Coronel as his assistant, the partition was made on the premises. The Alcalde states that "all were satisfied except Don Ygnacio Palomares who, in a disrespectful manner left, saying he was not satisfied." Whatever may be said of Palomares' dissatisfaction, it at least is true that the partition was respected till American officials disregarded it. A survey and map according to this partition were made by Jaspar O'Farrell, and the map is of record. The original grantees of the ranchos, Palomares, Vejar and Arenas, were related. Palomares, a member of that family prominent since Spanish times, was an Alcalde of Los Angeles. His daughter Teresa married Ramon Vejar, while his sister Josefa married, as her second husband, Luis Arenas. Vejar though grantee of a principality, died poor at Spadra. Arenas, a native of Hermosillo Sonora, came to Los Angeles in 1834, where he held several offices, including that of Alcalde. He was seized by the "gold fever" in later years and went north to the mines. He acquired some gold by "digging" but more by gambling. It is said he would wager his gold by the hatful. An affidavit with his signature, dated October 15, 1852, is of record.⁵ He died poor at San José.

Early in 1845 Dalton petitioned for the grant of the San Francisquito. The grant was approved by Pio Pico, Governor ad interim, May 26, 1845, but not by the Departmental Assembly until June 9, 1846. This rancho contained two leagues, and was bound on the east by the San Gabriel River, across which lay the Azusa. Bancroft states⁶ that Padre Thomas Estenega was reprimanded for the sale to Dalton in 1845 of San Gabriel Mission lands for \$400. The lands are not located, but that they formed a part of the San Francisquito seems improbable.

The petition of Dalton for lands lying north of Azusa was made March 1, 1845. The committee of the Ayuntamiento reported favorably that he be granted "the mountains and cañons of Azusa stream and Boca Negra, excepting San Dimas." Why the grant was never made does not appear.

Dalton was administrator of Mission San Gabriel in 1846.⁷ On June 10, 1846 he handed his resignation to the Governor, mentioning the four months of his charge and submitting a statement of the affairs of the Mission, and of its accounts, showing a balance due him of over \$200.

He states that "although he has incurred some expense he has claimed nothing for his own services nor his own dependents." One of the largest items in his bill is for "clothes, soap, money, etc. distributed to the Indians." The pressure of the creditors of the Mission caused Governor Pico to appoint Antonio Cat and Perfecto Hugo Reed commissioners to audit the claims against the establishment. The result was that on June 8, 1846, Pico approved a grant of the remaining Mission Estate to Hugo Reed and William Workman, on condition that they

should pay all debts against the establishment, support the padre and pay the expenses of worship.

Reeds interest passed to Aaron Pollard of San Francisco April 1, 1852, under foreclosure proceedings. In 1854 Dalton began suit to collect his claim from Workman and Pollard, but the whole matter came to nothing when the United States refused to recognize the validity of the grant by Pico. At this time began the "passage of arms" which ultimately resulted in the loss of California by Mexico to the United States. In common with all rancheros, Dalton was required to furnish an armed and mounted man for the army. This man was armed with lance and "machete" made by the blacksmiths at Azusa. His further equipment was doubtless similar to that of a man previously sent from the rancho, as described in the notes of the mayordomo of the Azusa: "Received a circular that numbered a man from every farm to go out on the campaign. Was obliged to get a man to go for the farm, gave him three horses, as the bands (circular) said, to go on, likewise \$30 in goods and one fanega of cornmeal for the journey."

In December, 1846, when Gen. José Maria Flores began preparations for his last attempt to save California to Mexico he obtained his supplies from Dalton. Flores made affidavit in 1851 that he had appointed Don Francisco Figueroa his paymaster, and that Figueroa "issued a certificate of the value of sixty odd thousand pesos in favor of Don Enrique Dalton, on account of money, merchandise, powder, armaments, and food which he granted by way of assistance to the troops under my command." This "assistance" was, however, a forced loan. Bancroft states,⁸ that in order to further the payment of the certificates issued by Figueroa, Flores planned to send to Mexico the prisoners taken at the battle of the Chino Rancho, September 26 and 27, 1846, in order to "show results" to the central government, but the project failed. A quantity of hides and tallow in a warehouse at San Pedro belonging to Dalton were also destroyed by Mexican troops. These items formed the basis of a claim by Dalton against the Mexican government. Otherwise the change of regime came quietly to him

Dalton purchased, May 29, 1847, for \$2,000 from Perfecto Hugo Reid, the great rancho Santa Anita, containing three square leagues. The grant to Reid was approved by Governor Pio Pico, and later, by the Departmental Assembly, May 7, 1845. There is a myth to the effect that Dalton secured the rancho for forty yards of calico, but it should be remembered that Reid was a Scotchman! The Santa Anita adjoins the San Francisquito on the north, thereby making the Dalton ranchos a continuous property.

On July 31, 1847, Henry Dalton was baptized at Mission San Gabriel, Perfecto Hugo Reid standing with him.⁹ This ceremony doubtless shortly preceded his marriage to Maria Guadalupe Zamorano, daughter of Agustin Vicente Zamorano and his wife, formerly Maria Luisa Arguello, two family names prominent in California history. (They were married August 14, 1847). Señora Dalton was born in Monterey, December 18, 1832. Her beauty is often mentioned, I have the word of a pioneer, a squatter at Azusa, who knew her after middle age, who spoke of her fine appearance. (A bell given by a priest to Señora Dalton at her wedding is now in the possession of her son Joseph at Azusa). To the great ranch house on Azusa Hill the young bride came. The status of the land owners was recognized as a vital question in the peace

negotiations at the close of the Mexican War. The tenth article of the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo covered this point, but it was stricken out on the passage of the treaty by the United States Senate. Its place was taken, however, by a clause in the protocol signed at Queretaro, May 26, 1848, by the commissioners of Mexico and the United States. One might appeal, first to the United States District Court, and next, and finally, to the United States Supreme Court. Claimants in Southern California were handicapped by their distance from the tribunals and other authorities before whom their claims must be laid. The board sat in Los Angeles only for a time in September and October, 1852, and for the remainder of its existence in San Francisco. A United States District Court was created for Southern California and for a time this convened in Los Angeles, but it, too, was removed. Even the district land office was for a time closed in Los Angeles, and during this time records invaluable in the prosecution of claims must be consulted in San Francisco. After the validity of the grant was confirmed, its boundaries must be located. The act provided for these surveys by creating a surveyor-general for California, located in San Francisco, whose deputy surveyors made all surveys of confirmed grants. For such surveys any claimant might appeal to the Commissioner of the General Land Office and, finally, to the Secretary of the Interior. After the final decision on the survey the patent issued.

In this entire procedure it will be noted that the United States compelled the claimant to fight for his rights, opposing him at every point. Two Judicial opinions are quoted to illuminate the procedure. "Parties to a decree of confirmation are not at liberty to question its correctness or ask for any modification." "From the action of the Surveyor-General, Commissioner of the General Land Office and Secretary of the Interior, there is no appeal.... The action of the department is final, however much injustice it may do the grantees." These are the words which brought despair to more than one claimant whose title, though valid in 1848, was denied after years of costly litigation. Before the Board of Land Commissioners, sitting in Los Angeles, Dalton filed the claims to his five ranchos on September 10, 14 and 29, 1852. Daltons subsequent connection with the Santa Anita and San Francisquito was comparatively short, and the litigation over them less protracted, so they may be quickly disposed of.

The claim of the Santa Anita was approved both by the Board and the District Court, from which no appeal was taken. On May 30, 1854, Dalton sold the now famous rancho, together with thirteen acres lying on both sides of the Los Angeles River, in the present Los Angeles, to Joseph A. Rowe of San Francisco, for \$40,000. Rowe was a circus man and desired the land for winter quarters. The proceeds of the sale were invested by Dalton in a dock in San Francisco, in which his former Peruvian partner, James Bowman, was also interested. The patent for the Santa Anita, covering 13,319 acres, was signed by President Johnson, August 9, 1866.

Dalton's title to the San Francisquito was upheld by the Board, but this decision was reversed by the District Court. On appeal to the Supreme Court, however, Dalton won his case. During the subsequent survey, the southern boundary of the rancho was in dispute. This was given in the Act of Judicial Possession as "the road from Mission San Gabriel to La Puente" but between the time of the grant and the survey the old road fell into disuse and a new one took its place. At the junction of the two roads a large post long bore Dalton's brand. Dalton carried his

point, the old road was accepted as the boundary, and President Johnson signed the patent May 30, 1867 covering 8,893 acres. Dalton showed his business ability and appreciation of conditions brought about by the influx of people, by having the San Francisquito surveyed and put on the market in small tracts, selling for a cash payment and the balance of the purchase price on time. He sold a third of the ranch to John O. Wheeler, clerk of the United States District Court, and the rest went to actual settlers. The town variously called Lexington, "Lick-skillick" and El Monte formed the southern part of the Overland Mail and Los Angeles-San Bernardino stage routes. Here too, was the Willow Grove Hotel, then a well-known hostelry. Ira Thompson, its urbane proprietor, informed the public that he had "laid off the grounds in a handsome manner, there being a large grove where visitors can enjoy the cool and refreshing breeze even in the hottest days." This last tract in the rancho was sold in July 1875 by Dalton to W.S. and A.B. Chapman. The proceeds of these sales were generally used, as they were paid Dalton, for costs of litigation.

Dalton's claims for the Azusa and a portion of the San José and Addition were approved by both the Board and the United States District Court, and notice being given by the United States Attorney General that no appeal was contemplated, the District Court made its approval final June 4, 1857. A significant feature of these decisions is that the Board approved the claims of Palomares, Vejar and Dalton, granting to each the portion allotted under the partition of Alcalde Gallardo as shown on the O'Farrell map, whereas the District Court disregarded this partition and confirmed to each an undivided one-third of the San José and Addition, making them tenants in common. The validity of the grants having been upheld, the surveys were now in order. That these were costly items may be shown by a letter received at a later time by Dalton, in which it was stated that the Surveyor-General was ready to appoint a deputy to commence a survey on deposit of \$367 in gold coin. In October and November 1858, Henry Hancock ran his survey of the San José Addition and Azusa. He testified that he paid no attention to the O'Farrell map, and he would not consult the witnesses by whom Dalton expected to prove its location of landmarks. Angry words passed between them. These things make of pointed value the words of Bancroft, who said, "speaking of the surveyors that their judgment was often more or less influenced by the guidance of interested parties." These parties, it appears, came later.

The striking errors of Hancock's survey were many. For the northwestern corner of San José, he took not the Sepulveda Oak, but one about three miles southeast, on the recently surveyed San Bernardino Base Line. This tree became known as the Botello Oak, from Narcisso Botello, who declared it to be the true corner. Botello had been an instrumental witness at the judicial possession. The tree had been marked by Col. Henry Washington at the survey of the Base Line, and carried two marks, one on the east, one on the west side, to designate an east and west line. San Felipe Hill, a true corner common to the Azusa and the Addition, was taken as a landmark for the former, but not for the Addition. Instead therefore, of the western line of the Addition being also the eastern line of the Azusa the two did not touch at any point. In fact at its closest approach to the Azusa, the Addition lacked five-twelfths of a mile of touching it. The

southern line of the Azusa was given as the road to San José, now the Old San Bernardino Road, but Hancock ran the line parallel to but one and three quarters miles from this road, excluding some of the finest land while including in its place parts of the bed of the river not to this day under cultivation.

This last error is the most glaring because Hancock himself ran the survey of the La Puente, placing its northern line on the Old San Bernardino Road. In the Act of Judicial Possession of the La Puente its boundaries are mentioned thus: "The land adjoins and is bounded by the lands known by the names Rancho de San José, de Los Nogales de Zusa, de Don Juan Perez, de Los Coyotes and Rio de San Gabriel." Hancock thus excluded about 18,000 acres from the three grants. Much of this land was actually under tillage, some fenced, and a portion formed Dalton's rodeo ground. It should be recalled that Arenas in petitioning for the Azusa, stated that he wished it to be next to the west of the Addition "that my field estates may without interruption be extended."

Shortly after the Hancock survey, squatters appeared on both the south and east lines of the circumscribed Azusa. They filed homestead and pre-emption claims, declaring the land to be government land. A large proportion of these had been employed by Dalton, or had been tenants, and some had been befriended by him in trouble. Many came only to clear and sell the timber on the land, and hundreds of cords were taken off in this way. Their homes were mostly shacks, and they cultivated little till much later years.

Before the adjudication of Dalton's claims the squatters were but trespassers and the failure to give Dalton relief by ejectment is peculiar, especially in the light of a known incident which was related by a pioneer. The pioneer stated that he and a friend, having word from an attorney that land titles were not good, squatted on land claimed by the late "Lucky Baldwin." The next day they were ejected by the United States Marshall. Why was not Dalton so protected?

A small settlement sprung up at a place known as "Four Corners" near the present Irwindale. Dalton at once appealed to the Surveyor-General for a new survey, submitting his evidence of the errors in the Hancock survey. His contest for a new survey was fought by the squatters, not with great power at first, but always with increasing power due to increasing numbers and means. The squatters at first fought on the principal that the lands excluded from the survey were public lands and subject to immediate entry. After a few years, they claimed that for some time Dalton had not been in possession of the land, and had therefore renounced claim to all outside the survey. Later still, they claimed Dalton had actually removed his fences from the excluded portions. Dalton proved by contemporary entries in his diary that this fence was burned September 19, 1867, in a fire which for five days swept the rancho, and that the squatters took advantage of it to enter new parts.

Finally in 1868, Dalton secured a re-survey, which was made by G.H. Thompson in August of that year. This survey gave the boundaries practically according to the O'Farrell survey. The squatters protested this survey, claiming the Hancock as the true survey.

The fight was carried to the Secretary of the Interior, who on September 20, 1872, approved the Hancock Survey, with a few trivial exceptions which were corrected in surveys run in 1874 and 1875 and then approved. In a later Judicial decision it was said of this survey litigation that "the action of the department in this case is extraordinary, but it is final."

Dalton saw hope for relief in another direction, so he accepted his patents, which were signed by President Grant for the San José, dated January 20, 1875, for 22,340 acres, and for the Addition dated December 4, 1875, for 4,430 acres. Dalton receiving one-third of each of these and that for the Azusa, dated May 29, 1876, for 4,431 acres. Twenty-four years had elapsed between the filing of Daltons claim and the issuance of the patent to cover it.

The hope for relief from his land troubles which Dalton, in common with many other land grant claimants, had seen, had come from the Act of Congress, approved July 23, 1866, known as "An Act to Quiet Land Titles in the State of California." It provided that bona fide purchasers, for a valuable consideration of lands of Mexican grantees or assigns included in grants rejected by the United States, or of lands excluded from the final survey of a grant, could purchase such lands from the United States, upon first making proof of the facts, at the minimum price established by the law provided they continued in possession and use of the same, with no valid adverse right except that of the United States, and provided they ask for a survey of such lands within ten months of the passage of this Act.

Under this Act, on August 16, 1878, Dalton filed with the Register and Receiver of the United States District Land Office at Los Angeles, his application for a total of 18,500 acres excluded from the surveys of the three ranchos, and on January 28, 1879, a decision denying his application was given. The decision was to the effect that Dalton having purchased of a Mexican grantee became in fact a Mexican grantee, and as such was outside the effect of the Act. It was almost an insult to man's credulity, and would have been ludicrous had its effect not been so disastrous. Appeal was taken from this decision by Dalton to the Commissioner of the General Land Office, whose decision of April 14, 1880, was in Dalton's favor. The squatters appealed to the final judge, the Secretary of the Interior. The arguments are illuminating. The chief contest was regarding possession, the squatters denying Dalton's possession for years. Dalton claimed no one had the right of settlement, but the lands were forcibly held. It was claimed no crops were grown on parts by Dalton, but he claimed that not tillage but use was contemplated by the Act, else grazing would not be use. The squatters claimed the case *res adjudicata* with the issuance of the patents, and Dalton answered that he was not applying for more land to be included in the patent, but to purchase under remedial Act. Under an Act of Congress, approved June 27, 1866, the consolidation and revision of the United States Statutes was provided for, under commissioners whose compensation for three years was provided. A later Act approved May 4, 1870, revised the previous statute, authorizing a continuation of the revision for a period not longer than three years from the time the Act took effect.

The report of the commissioners was, therefore, due not later than May 4, 1873, and as there was no session of Congress between March 4th and December 1, 1873, the revision covered all laws in force December 1, 1873. The bill adopting the revision became a law June 22, 1874.

From this revision the Remedial Land Law of 1866 was omitted, and the squatters claimed the law was thus repealed, whereas Dalton claimed the commissioners had no power to repeal any law. The commissioners, too, in submitting their report, specifically stated that they had omitted laws of limited application, temporary and local in nature. The squatters claimed Dalton had not given Arenas a "valuable consideration" since he paid only fifty cents an acre. Arenas was, however, very anxious to sell. One claim of the squatters was ludicrous even to one indulging in the wildest flights of fancy. This was that the squatter's improvements were of a value from \$250,000 to \$300,000. A tenth of that sum would doubtless have been a highly exaggerated figure, if the tales of the pioneer squatters themselves are to be believed. The usual amount of vituperations and abuse was heaped on Dalton by attorneys for the squatters. They asked "Does the law license him an un-naturalized Englishman, to rob his neighbors, who are American citizens?" It was stated that a certain survey was made by Col. Henry Washington, "the pioneer surveyor of California, and a relative of General George Washington, the first President of the United States" as if that were proof of anything. Dalton was said to claim land in forty sections and five townships, as though mere extent militated against validity. Dalton was described as the "beneficiary of two governments," but the attorney must have been of keen vision to discover wherein the land litigation with the United States was beneficial to Dalton. There is an entry in Dalton's diary of May 28, 1881, reading "At midnight Henry brought news that the case in Washington had been decided in favor of the squatters."

The Secretary of the Interior held that Dalton's possession had not been continuous. Though he was not given protection in the ejectment of the squatters from lands under disputed title, the very residence of these squatters cost him his lands. He lost absolutely all in twenty-nine years of litigation to obtain a title which was guaranteed to him by treaty. The Azusa had passed to other hands. After thirty-four years in the homestead on Azusa Hill, he left it on January 10, 1881 to spend the remainder of his years in an adobe house built in 1862 near the northern end of the present Azusa Avenue, and still standing until about 1913.

Such conditions cannot be viewed with complacency. They seem to have been due generally to two main causes, a mistaken idea of land values, and the political value of numbers of votes. The emigrants from the east could think only of California's gold, and large land holders appeared to them in the light of monopolists. That the political power of votes was a factor is well shown by an incident in Los Angeles County. In the fall elections of 1873 the late Judge Ygnacio Sepulveda and Andrew Glassell, of the firm of Glassell, Chapman and Smith, were candidates for district judge. In the interest of Glassell, George H. Smith, of this firm, signed and issued a statement to the voters of Azusa, stating that neither Glassell, Capman nor the firm, were then attorneys or friends of Dalton, that they had never favored Dalton in water questions, nor had ever given opinion contrary to the squatter's rights. "In its application and practical results the entire system of land grant confirmation was said by Bancroft to 'merit only condemnation.'"¹¹ His words in further condemnation of the system will bear repetition.¹² "The United States promised full protection of all property rights, and in theory they admitted the obligation to confirm not only legal but inchoate equitable titles; practically by the system

adopted, they declared that every title should be deemed invalid until the holder had defended it, at his own expense, through from two to six fiery ordeals against a powerful opponent, who had no costs to pay and no real interest at stake. It was in no sense that protection promised by the treaty to finally confirm a title after a struggle of eight to twenty-five years, when half or all the estate had passed from the possession of the original claimant, it was simply a confiscation.”¹³

In connection with the land litigation between Dalton and the squatters, was carried on one of the bitterest fights over irrigating water in the history of the state. This is of such length and intricacy as to merit a separate paper. I have always held it secondary to the land litigation, on the grounds that without squatters there would have been no water fight, as it is only in comparatively recent years that the water Dalton claimed has supplied other than the land he claimed.

The course of Dalton's finances is strewn with mortgages due to the absolute necessity of obtaining money to prosecute the litigation. The Azusa was first mortgaged on March 11, 1852, and it was never free from encumbrance from this date till it was lost to him by foreclosure. The San José after May 11, 1855, and the Addition, after June 1, 1869, shared the same fate. Interest was often at two, three and four percent per month, sometimes payable monthly or quarterly in advance. In order to save something from loss, Mrs. Dalton in 1862, during Dalton's absence, declared a state homestead exemption of 500 acres, but in 1867 this too was encumbered and continued so. Dalton early borrowed money from Francis L.A. Pioche, the San Francisco capitalist, and Pioche bargained to finance the entire land litigation. But Pioche committed suicide May 2, 1872, leaving an estate which was involved in perhaps the most costly and intricate probate litigation in the States' history, and in which all Daltons property was involved. To extricate his property a trust was created for all the Dalton ranchos, with Lewis Wolfskill as trustee and agent for Dalton. Some years afterward Wolfskill became insolvent and Dalton's property again became entangled in what the judge who heard the case called the most complicated case regarding accounting that he had ever known. Money could not be raised to concentrate the indebtedness in one party, the land litigation went against Dalton and no more new land could be bought under mortgage, and finally the mortgages came due and were foreclosed. The Pinoche Estate and the Los Angeles County Savings Bank held the mortgages. After the foreclosure the three properties, Azusa, San José and the Addition were concentrated in the hands of J.S. Slauson. Dalton's property in Los Angeles had been sold or lost piece meal before this. Dalton hoped to re-establish himself financially by securing payment of his claim against the Mexican Government, or by taking advantage of a speculative turn in the real-estate market.

The claim against Mexico was based as before noted, on supplies furnished Gen. Flores and property confiscated by the Mexican Army in 1846 and 1847. In 1849 Dalton went to Mexico, by boat to San Blas, chartering the vessel to await his return. He attempted, with the aid of the British Minister to effect a settlement, but to no avail. He left the claim in the hands of an agent and returned home after a nine months' absence. In later years he made three more trips to Mexico in the interest of his claim, one of a year in 1857 and 1858, another of two years from

1861 to 1863, and the last also of two years from July 1873 to July 1875. These trips were by vessel, usually to Acapulco, thence by stage to the capitol. On one trip bandits “held up” the stage four times.

Dalton’s claim was always recognized by the Mexican government as valid, and the government of Gen. Comonfort, in 1857, actually issued bonds to cover the claim, but the bonds were later canceled. During his third visit to Mexico, in 1873-1875, Dalton received \$50,000 as part settlement of his claim, the claims of the Mexican government against the estates of the ex-Marquis de San Miguel de Aguayo,¹⁴ a Spanish General in the Mexican War of Independence, whose estates were probably confiscated, including the haciendas of Parras, Patos, Bonanzas and Villa del Rosario. During the wars of the Empire which followed, the trustee of this estate, Sanchez Navarro, was an active imperialist and on the triumph of Juarez the estate was confiscated without regard to Dalton’s right. In exchange for his interest in the estate, Dalton in 1873 received \$30,000 in bonds, which realized \$900 - \$7,500 in treasury notes (which were not paid) and \$12,500 in what might be called land script redeemable in church property. For the last Dalton received, in March 1874, the convent of Santa Teresa at Queretaro. Later he sold the convent to the Bishop of Queretaro for \$15,000 part cash, the balance in monthly installments—which were completed shortly before Dalton’s death. From this convent several oil paintings were brought home by Dalton. In 1892 Dalton’s estate received bonds from the Mexican government of the face value of \$54,285 actual value of \$20,559, to balance the claim. Thus it is again disproved that Dalton was “the beneficiary of two governments.”

There are two interesting facts regarding Dalton’s stay in Mexico in 1863. He was in Mexico City on June 10th when the French army entered the city and began what ended in tragedy. Seventeen days later Dalton was granted a concession to mine and export gypsum from the barren island of San Marcos opposite the Bay of Mulege, Lower California. He was to receive a grant of land 200 meters square and pay a yearly rental of twenty pesos. The notice of concession is signed by Jesus Teran,¹⁵ Minister of Justice and of Public Works and Instruction at San Luis Potosi; whither Juarez had moved his capitol as the French neared Mexico City. The gypsum was probably to be sold as a commercial fertilizer; it is particularly effective in the eradication of alkali. This is another instance showing Dalton’s wide practical knowledge.

In 1851 the town of Benton was laid out by Dalton to the south of Azusa Hill. The lots in this proposed city, as well as the residence on Spring Street, “La Casa de Tres Picos” and lots in Los Angeles, were prizes in a lottery financed by Dalton and known as the “Great Southern Distribution of Real Estate and Personal Property.” The drawings in this lottery were never held—why is not known—and Benton became only a memory. Dalton in 1876 signed an agreement to sell the Azusa to General Boschke for \$100,000 but the sale did not materialize. “Smith’s Island” in San Pedro harbor was formerly known as “Boschke’s Island,” after the general.

On July 25, 1878, were signed the articles of incorporation of the Mound City Land and Water Association. This company had already bought from Dalton the Azusa, San José and Addition for \$140,000, \$10,000 of which was paid partly in stock. Mound City was to be built

near the western edge of the present Azusa, and a few buildings were actually erected there. The balance of the ranchos were to be sold as small farms. Had this company been able to make its payments, Dalton would have been saved. But the incorporators had no capital, the prices they asked for the farms were prohibitive and there were therefore no sales, and they and Dalton both lost out completely when their prospective city failed to develop.

When a new suit over water rights at Azusa was about to be instituted in January 1884, an application was made to the court to perpetuate the testimony of Dalton by obtaining a deposition from him. Dalton was described as "old, sick and infirm and in a dying condition." The deposition was taken on January 12, 1884 at the home of Frank Sabichi in Los Angeles, where Dalton passed his last days. He was asked, "Were you formerly the owner of said ranch (the Azusa)?" His answer was characteristic of him; "I purchased it in 1844 in December, and I ought to own it at the present day." He died January 21 in his eighty-first year. Of a family of eleven children, his brother George alone survived him. Mrs. Dalton survived her husband thirty years, dying September 1, 1914. To this union were born eleven children, four of whom died in infancy. Of the others, Winnall Augustin married and is living in Tucson, Arizona; Luisa married Lewis Wolfskill and died in 1887; Soyla married William Cardwell and lives in Azusa; Henry married and lives at Caborca, Mexico; Elena married J.L. Plummer and lives at San Fernando this county; Valentine married and is dead; and Joseph married and lives at Azusa.

In Dalton's will dated January 8, 1884, claims against both the Mexican and United States governments are listed. The claim against the United States was for damages for loss of his property. In the probate proceedings this claim was described as "of no commercial value." The efforts of every broad-minded, far-seeing pioneer, and such was Henry Dalton, are of commercial value, however, and later generations do profit by them.

It is to be hoped the writer will not be accused, of having succumbed to that malady termed by Macaulay the "Lues Boswelliana or disease of admiration." If one attempting an historical narration is carried away by the magic carpet he has attempted to weave for the transport of the others to an ideal land in which wrongs may be righted on proper exposition, let it be charged to a desire to see justice extended to those who seem to have had little of it shown to them while here.

Though Henry Dalton was a prominent pioneer and one of the largest land holders in the county, very little has been written of him. The newspaper accounts are generally of no value, containing what were perhaps the results of the wildest flights of the reporters' fancy. It is peculiar that these myths have gained such acceptance. My most valuable source has been Henry Dalton's papers which were placed at my disposal through the kindness of his children. The most important of these are the volumes containing his diary, called by him "Daily Occurrences at the Azusa." This diary covers part of the year 1845 and, unbroken from October

1856 to September 1883. Each day an entry was made, by Dalton when he was on the rancho, in his absence by the mayordomo, by Mrs. Dalton, or by Winnall A. Dalton, the oldest son.

The entries are in both Spanish and English, and cover in detail all the varied activities of the rancho and its owner. Dalton's correspondence, comprised of both letters received by him and copies of letters he wrote, is invaluable. There are also numbers of legal papers, of these the most valuable for my purpose were briefs on cases in the United States Courts, since I have been unable to consult the court records in San Francisco. Another most valuable source has been the correspondence of Mr. Winnall Augustin Dalton, of Tucson, Arizona born June 14, 1850, the oldest child of Henry Dalton that survived infancy. Mr. Dalton's intimate personal acquaintance with the details of his father's life and fortunes and with the ranchos themselves, combined with a remarkable and accurate memory, make him a veritable treasure to one attempting to write this history. My chief source has been the county records, and when it is known that Henry Dalton received five patents from the United States, was a party to one hundred and eighteen deeds and thirty-six real estate mortgages, besides numerous miscellaneous documents, and figures in sixty cases in the various county courts, the value of this source may be readily appreciated.

August 31, 1935 –

Copied from article belonging to Roger P. Dalton, San Gabriel Canyon, Azusa, son of Valentine Zamorano Dalton, grandson of Henry Dalton. I have seen the documents referred to in the above article—diaries, correspondence, briefs, etc. Roger Dalton has many interesting papers which belonged to his grandfather and are priceless. There are a number in the Huntington Library also. In Rogers' collection are his grandfather's apprenticeship papers dated 1819, other papers dated 1825 – 1827, etc. He has a letter from a man in Tepic, Mexico dated 1843 asking for more information about the gold mines in Placerita Canyon which is added proof that gold was really discovered in Southern California before Marshall discovered it at Sutters. Mr. Dalton gave me a map showing the survey of Jaspar O'Farrell and Henry Hancock showing the difference in the boundary lines of the original and the later survey.

He also gave me a map of the San Francisquito Rancho and pictures of both Mr. and Mrs. Henry Dalton and a picture of the old adobe ranch house on Azusa Hill—they are copies of the originals which he has.

October 1, 1935 –

Mr. Dalton has the bell bearing the name Azusa which Henry Dalton had cast for use on the Rancho Azusa. It was used for many years by the Catholic Church until they could buy one of their own. It is now back in the Dalton family. He also has the millstones which Henry Dalton purchased in France, for use in his mill at the Azusa Rancho.

Genevieve R. Walker