

"I went aboard the packet boat San Antonio... to sail for Monterey.... The voyage was somewhat trying, and for many days, far from getting nearer to Monterey, we were getting farther and farther away from the goal of our desires.

Our arrival was greeted by the joyful sound of the bells suspended from the branches of the oak tree.

... we unfurled the flag of our Catholic Monarch.... As we raised each [flag], we shouted at the top of our voices, 'Long live the Faith! Long live the King!'

...the officers proceeded to the act of taking formal possession of that country in the name of His Catholic Majesty, unfurling and waving once more the royal flag, pulling grass, moving stones, and other formalities according to law.... A few days later the expedition moved to a pretty plain... and there established the presidio and the mission to it" (140-141).

-Excerpts from a letter written by Junípero Serra to Father Juan Andrés, June 12, 1770