

Peninsula Diary Mayo Hayes O'Donnell

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### **'Under Three Flags'**

The Huntington Library and Art Gallery has issued their calendar of exhibitions for June and July and we are most appreciative of their kindness in including us on their mailing list. This library is in San Marino in Southern California but we are sure that many of our readers are either former residents of that part of our state or are frequent visitors there and we suggest that a visit to the library might be most entertaining and educational.

In addition to an art exhibit of outstanding quality, there is another of interest for those interested in Californiana. So, we are repeating today an article in the announcement of this exhibit, which is entitled: "California Under Three Flags."

Entirely through the medium of the manuscript, in handwritten journals, letters, governmental documents, maps, and original drawings and without benefit of the printed word, the exhibition in the West Room presents the history of California from the time of the Jesuit padres to the establishment of the American government and the Gold Rush days. The exhibit is prepared in honor of the visit to the library of the Manuscript Society, a national organization in convention in July in Los Angeles. The exhibit opens to the public, however, early this month.

Earliest, most treasured, and most beautiful piece in the exhibit is the atlas of Fernando Vaz Dourado, opened to the map of the Pacific Coast of North America (about 1570), on which appears the name California. But the exhibition proper begins with the period of Jesuit missionary activity, represented by such manuscripts as a 1681 letter of Father Eusebio Kino, the journal of a voyage up the gulf of California by Fr. Fernan de Consag, which finally confirmed, Lower California, in 1746, as a peninsula, and the draft of certain chapters of the famous "Noticia de la California" by Fr. Miguel Venegas (a great part by Fr. Andres Burriel).

The library's rich store of material in the period of the Spanish colonization, from 1746, finds representation in the appointment of Sergeant Joseph de Ortega as Syndic of the California missions. The Anza diary of 1774, kept during the steady and slow settlement which followed

the period of exploration and adventure, is exemplified by a group of letters of early Spanish governors.

There follows the period of California as a Mexican province represented by material from the Steans collection and the library's recent acquisition, the papers of Henry Dalton, grantee of the Azusa Rancho. A letter of Edward M. Kern, summarizing the Bear Flag Revolt, introduces the American period.

Vivid and graphic are the original drawings of the California scene in the 1840's by William R. Hutton, and the trek to the gold, mines by J. Goldsborough Bruff. Hutton also made many drawings of Monterey from 1847 to 1852, which are probably included in this exhibition.