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Report on the forestry, elevation, rainfall, and drainage of the Colorado Valley, October 31, 1877

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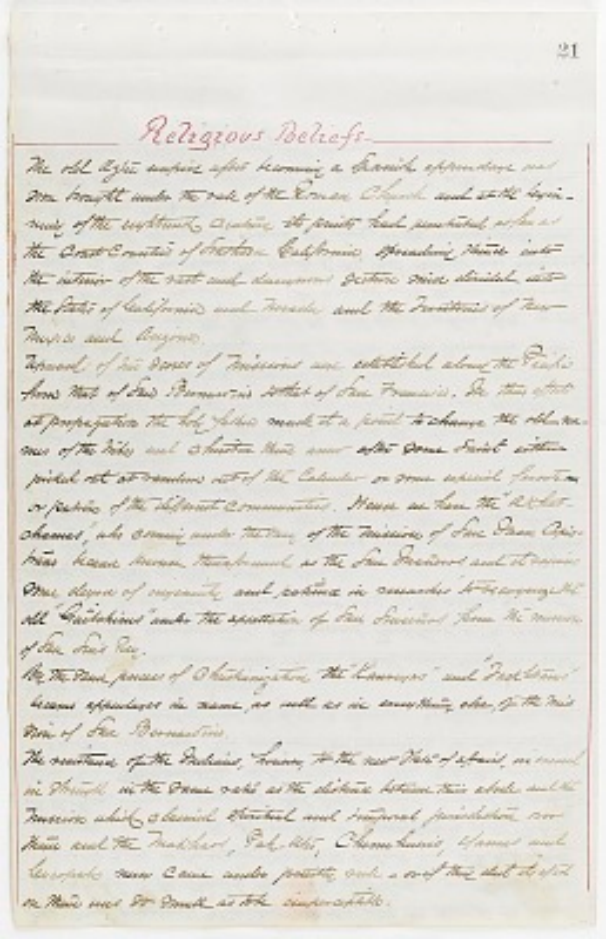
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Religious Beliefs
The old Aztec empire after becoming a Spanish appendage was soon brought under the rule of the Roman Church and at the beginning of the eighteenth century its priests had penetrated as far as the Coast Counties of Southern California, spreading thence into the interior of the vast and dangerous section since divided into the states of California and Nevada and the territories of New Mexico and Arizona.
Upward of two scores of Missions were established along the Pacific from that of San Bernardino to that of San Francisco. In their efforts at propagation the holy fathers made it a point to change the old names of the tribes and christen them anew after some saint either picked out at random out of the Calendar or some especial favorite - or patron of the different communities. Hence we have the "Akhatchamas", who coming under the sway of the Mission of San Juan Capistrano became known there afterward as the San Juaneños and it requires some degree of ingenuity and patience in researches to recognize the old "Gaitchims" under the appellation of San Luiseños from the mission San Luis Rey. By the same process of Christianization the "Kauvuyas" and "Tackhtams" became appendages in name, as well as in everything else, of the mission of San Bernadino.
The resistance of the Indians, however, to the new state of affairs, increased in strength in the same ratio as the distance between their abode and the mission which claimed spiritual and temporal jurisdiction over them and the Mahhaos, Pah-Utes, Chemehuevis, Yumas and Cocopahs never came under priestly rule - or if they did, its effect on them was so small as to be imperceptible.



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