

BEE TO BROWER.^a

LEA TO WEBSTER.^b

BROWER TO BEE.^c

WEBSTER TO BEE.^d

AMORY TO BROWER.^e

AMORY TO WEBSTER.^f

AMORY TO ROBERTS.^g

Despatch No. 74.

LEGATION OF TEXAS
Washington Octr 12th 1841.

SIR:

Herewith, I have the honor to subjoin, copies of memorandum of conversations held at interviews with the Secretary of State of the United States relative to the formation of a Treaty. Copy of synopsis submitted to Mr Webster Secretary of State of the United States 15th September 1841, of a contemplated Treaty, copy of communication from the Acting Secretary of State of the United States of the 7th inst, submitting other communications from the Secretary of War of the United States upon Indian affairs, and of my answer thereto, also copies of letters to and from Mr. Brower Consul for Texas at New York, relative to Mexican Vessels of War building there.

It is natural that correspondence between the United States Charge in Texas, and the Government there, on the subject of Indian aggressions should have taken place, and as I wrote some time since, it is important to the legation to be in possession of a copy, as It would afford useful information.

^a September 22, 1841. See Amory to Roberts, October 12, 1841.

^b October 1, 1841. See Amory to Roberts, October 12, 1841.

^c October 2, 1841. See Amory to Roberts, October 12, 1841.

^d October 7, 1841. See Amory to Roberts, October 12, 1841.

^e Undated, but written between the 2d and the 12th of October, 1841. See Amory to Roberts, October 12, 1841.

^f October 12, 1841. See Amory to Roberts, October 12, 1841.

^g See Records of the Department of State (Texas), Book 41, pp. 571-573.

It seems that on the spot, the facts of the alleged depredations by United States Indians, can be more readily proved to the satisfaction of the American Chargé there, than I have it in my power to do to that of the Government here, now that the United States has treated the statements so repeatedly offered on the subject by this legation as incorrect.

I have protested against the view of the question thus taken, and would humbly ask whether the course to be pursued now, is not to exhibit proof to the United States Chargé at Austin satisfactory to him on the subject of passed and present Indian encroachments, in order that the appeal to the Government for indemnity or interference may be successful.

I have to acknowledge receipt of your communication of 7th Ult in regard to the Treaty with the United States, the negroes of Mr Robertson etc etc. to which due attention will be paid on resuming the negotiation of the Treaty, and in pressing constantly upon the attention of the Government of the United States the subject of this and other claims.

I have the honor to be respectfully

Your Obt Servt

NATHANIEL AMORY.

Hon. SAML. A. ROBERTS

etc etc.

Memorandum entered this 15th September 1841.

LEGATION OF TEXAS.

The Chargé d'affaires of this Legation having repeatedly since the date of the last official letter to the Secretary of State of the United States called his attention to conversations held and visits made expressly for the object to the early arrangement of a Treaty between the two countries had an interview with Mr Webster on the 14th inst, when he proposed to postpone the subject until his return from an intended visit to the north. The Chargé d'affaires of Texas urged the desire of his Government to bring this Treaty to a close at the earliest day possible, and requested the Secretary of State of the United States to take up the subject at once. no satisfactory promise having been given the following synopsis was presented by this Legation to Mr Webster on the 15th September 1841, and the anxiety of the Government of Texas to conclude the Treaty reiterated in all proper terms.

Upon the presentation of those points for a Treaty, the Chargé d'affaires of Texas was assured that the subject should receive the earliest convenient attention from the Department of State of the United States, and there the matter necessarily rests for the present.

Some of the points for a Treaty between Texas and the United States.

Article 1: On commerce and navigation. To be nearly the same as that in the Treaty between Texas and Great Britain, or as the 2nd Article of the convention between Texas and the Netherlands.

2nd. Artc: As regards what shall be considered Texas vessels to be like the 7th Article of the Treaty between Texas and the Netherlands.

3rd. Tonage duties the same on vessels of both countries as in the second Article of the Treaty with Great Britain. Insert provisions for calling upon justices of the Peace, Judges and courts for warrants and other process to apprehend deserters from the Commercial and Naval Service.

4th The flag to protect the ship and goods, and no right of search to be permitted under penalty of damages to be restored by the Government of the officer or officers offending.

Artic 5th Provide for right and obligation of convoy in case of mutual war with a third power, as provided for in the 20th article of the Treaty with the Netherlands, the free navigation by each party of the bordering or conterminous rivers and above and below the boundaries.

Artic: 7. The right of each party to land the products of its soil within the territory of the other free of all duty, when the same is intended to be and is actually shipped to any other country.

Artic: 8. To provide for the Indian relations as in the 23rd. Article of the Treaty between the United States and Mexico, and for removal of Indians from Texas.

Art: 9. Provisions for consular rights.

Art: 10. The right of succession and inheritance to the estates of deceased citizens dying ab intestato to be preserved as in the country of which they were subjects, tho' temporarily domiciled abroad.

Art: 11. The Treaty to continue for ten years

15th Septemr 1841.

Memorandum.

LEGATION OF TEXAS

20th Sept 1841.

This day the chief clerk of the State Department of the United States, called to inform the Chargé of this Legation that the synopsis which was left by him on the 15th inst, for the basis of a Treaty between the two countries had been examined by the Secretary of State; but that inasmuch as for the present, the duties of other Departments of the Government had temporarily devolved upon him, he had been unable to attend to it.

The Chief Clerk also informed the Chargé of Texas, that a letter had been received from the War Department on the subject of Indian

affairs as brought to the attention of the Government here by this Legation, and that an answer would be addressed to the charge d'affaires on that subject in the course of the week.

The chief clerk of the State Department further stated, that in relation to the intended Treaty, the Secretary of State would not be able to adjust it, until after his return from the North, so that nothing in all probability can be done before December.

[Next are transcribed Webster to Bee, October 7, 1841; Bell to Webster, September 11, 1841; Lea to Webster, October 1, 1841; extract of a letter from Westport, Missouri, September 11, 1841; Amory to Webster, October 12, 1841.^a]

Mr Bee to Mr Brower.

LEGATION OF TEXAS
Washington Septemr 22nd 1841

TO MR JOHN H BROWER,
Consul for Texas etc etc

SIR: I am advised through a source to be entirely relied upon that Santa Anna of Mexico has despatched an agent from that country, Don Tomas Marin with \$25,000 in gold to purchase and equip at New York two armed vessels.

The object as avowed for this purchase is to use the force against the federalist at and near Yucatan and Tobasco. As however it may be employed against Texas or her commerce, and at any rate it may in the opinion of our Government be necessary or useful to its interests to capture these vessels, you are hereby requested to observe the operations of that agent in this particular from time to time, and ascertain as near as may be, his public movements from place to place. He is now living at the Globe Hotel, New York.

You are also instructed to loose no time in communicating what you may learn about the actual equipment of such Vessels to the collector at Galveston, desiring him to apprise the Secretary of the Navy of Texas of the facts you may make known. You are further requested to advise this Legation of whatever transpires about the fitting out of said Vessels and the particulars as to their force and rolls of equipage. You will of course see the propriety of keeping the subject of this communication entirely private.

I have the honor to be etc.

(Signed)

BARNARD E BEE

^a For all, see Calendar.

Mr Brower to Mr Bee

CONSULATE OF TEXAS
*New York, Octr 2nd 1841.*HON BARNARD E BEE
Chargé d'affaires of Texas.

SIR:—Referring to my respects of 25th Ult. I have now to advise you that I yesterday visited several of our ship yards, and found at one of them the keels laid for two Brigs, and the frame being raised of one of them, which a workman with whom I casually conversed, said were intended for the Mexican Government; but I could not learn from him who the parties are contracting with the builders. You will readily perceive that I must prosecute my enquiries upon this subject with great caution, being extensively known, so that my curiosity shall not be identified with my official station. To avoid this, I must endeavour to procure some confidential aid to further the inquiry. It seems to me to be essential to know for whom these vessels are being built, and when and where the builders are to deliver them, for instance the contract may be to deliver them in Mexico, in which case they would probably clear from here with American papers, and an American Crew, and be american property until safe arrived at the port of destination, when the change of property and papers would occur. It seems to me this will most likely be the course.

I would be happy to have such further suggestions from you, as you may think useful in this matter. I think from mere casual observation, the vessels will be about 200 to 250 tons each.

I have the honor to be

Your Very Obt Servt

(Signed) I H. BROWER

Mr Amory to Mr Brower.

Mr JOHN BROWER
Consul for Texas etc.

SIR:—I have to acknowledge receipt of yours of 2nd Inst, in relation to vessels building for Mexico at New York. Your continued vigilance in the matter is strongly recommended; and that you keep the collector of Galveston apprised of the progress made in their construction etc. acquainting him, you do so by desire of this Legation

Respectfully your etc

N AMORY,
Secy of Legation

P S. Col Bee left here for Texas on the third inst.

SPENCER TO WEBSTER.^aEVE TO ROBERTS.^b

[Relating to censure that Mr. Forsyth had incurred through the criminal conduct of Monroe Edwards, to whom he had given a letter of introduction for use in England at the request of Memucan Hunt. Enclosed is a copy of Hunt's note, dated May 22, 1838, asking for the letter.]

EVE TO JONES.^c

[Enclosed are copies of the following: Wolf to Upshaw, August 27, 1841; Upshaw to Allen, August 31, 1841; and Spencer to Webster, October 16, 1841.]

JONES TO EVE.^dBROWER TO CURTIS.^eAMORY TO JONES.^f

[Despatch No. 75.^g]

LEGATION OF TEXAS
Washington Jan'y 4th 1841.^h

Hon. SECRETARY OF STATE OF TEXAS

Sir,

The disastrous result of the expedition to Santa Fé having been rendered by various information received, almost certain, I waited upon Mr Webster Secretary of State of the United States, to request the interposition of his Government in behalf of the unfortunate Prisoners which have fallen into the hands of the Mexicans. I urged

^a October 16, 1841. See Eve to Jones, December 20, 1841.

^b A. L. S., November 6, 1841.

^c A. L. S., December 20, 1841. For the letter and enclosures, see Calendar.

^d December 30, 1841. See Calendar.

^e January 3, 1842. See Brower to "Legation [of Texas]," January 5, 1841, in Amory to Jones, January 8, 1842.

^f A. L. S.

^g See Amory to Jones, January 8, 1842.

^h Should be 1842.

the propriety of dispatching an Agent expressly for the purpose of reclaiming such American citizens as had accompanied the expedition with pacific intentions (And no other views were as I understand entertained by any portion of the expedition so far as Santa Fé was concerned) and to try to influence Santa Ana to release also the residue of the Prisoners. The Secretary of State of the United States is about to send a Bearer of dispatches D. K. McRea Esq to the American Minister at Mexico instructing him (which instructions I was allowed to peruse) to procure the release of the Americans who travelled with the expedition and using the following language as regards Texas.—

“You will avail yourself of the opportunity of making to that Government the communication, to suggest that, while this Government is well disposed to maintain with strict fidelity amicable relations with the Mexican Republic, and will not attempt to screen from merited punishment any of our citizens who may be guilty of an infraction of the laws intended to preserve those relations, yet that summary, sanguinary or undue punishment of either Texans or citizens of the United States in Mexico, inevitably tends to excite and foment in this Country an acerbity of feeling against Mexico which will be much more apt to defeat the supposed objects of those punishments than if the offenders were to have a fair trial and, if then convicted were to be punished in some proportion to their offence. You will, however, make this suggestion in a conciliatory tone without allowing it to be supposed that this Government has any intention to dictate the policy to be adopted by that of the Mexican Republic upon this or any other subject but, supposing their disposition towards the United States to be amicable, our wish is merely to point out a way by which it seems to us that reciprocal disposition as well as the integrity of the Mexican Territory may be more effectually maintained. Accustomed ourselves to regular judicial proceedings, fair and full trials and mild punishments, the opposites of these if exercised by other Governments, always serve to check the growth of amity and good will.”

Not content with this step I have continued to urge upon Mr Webster the propriety of sending a special Agent to intercede in behalf of the unfortunate prisoners, and have named H Morfit Esq as the fittest person for the purpose in my opinion, he having while making a reconnoissance of Texas in 1836, received from Santana and Almonte then prisoners, assurance of their gratitude and consideration, he being a gentleman also of great diplomatic ability, and energy and having privately assured me that he would labour hard for Texas in regard to the Prisoners or other matters. Mr Webster told me, it would afford him pleasure to bestow the ap-

pointment upon Mr Morfit provided it could be made to appear the emergency required it. I have stimulated relatives here of Prisoners to back my request, and they have drawn up a memorial to the President signed by many influential individuals both in and out of Congress begging him to send a special agent as before mentioned. I hope the object may be effected but cannot speak with certainty as to the result of this application.

I took occasion at the interview alluded to to say to Mr Webster that I hoped that ere long Col Bee or some other authorised Representative of Texas would appear to conclude a Treaty between the two Countries, the speedy consummation of which was rendered more particularly necessary by the notification made by me May 19th 1841 under instructions from the Secretary of State of Texas, and which was as follows.—

“In anticipation of this event (meaning the formation of a Treaty) the undersigned is instructed formally to announce to the Government of the United States, as he now does, the resolution of that of Texas to terminate the Treaty of the 5th April 1831 between the United States and Mexico, as far as it is binding upon Texas and the United States, in all matters relating to commerce and navigation as soon after the present date as is compatible with the provision of Article 34 of said Treaty.”

I next called Mr Websters attention to the embarrassment caused Texan planters in the neighbourhood of Red River by not being permitted to pass their cotton down that river to New Orleans free of duty and receive their goods from that city with benefit of drawback, and which required a more immediate remedy than the tardy negotiation of a treaty would supply. I represented the inutility to the United States of exacting 3 cents per pound duty on Texas cotton thus partially excluding it from her Ports, the proceeds of which if received and sold there, would naturally to a great extent be also expended there—at any rate I urged that permission should be given us to land Texas Cotton from Red River in entrepot at New Orleans free for reshipment to a foreign port, if the duty could not be entirely removed, and that drawback should be allowed on goods shipped up Red River for Texas, a river rising within our borders and flowing through the United States to the sea, and to which we had therefore a natural right of navigation and use. Mr Webster would not discuss he said then the question of natural right, but admitted the justice of relieving the part of Texas alluded to from the embarrassment in getting her cotton to market, and her supplies of Foreign goods from New Orleans, free of duty to the United States, advising me to procure through some of the Southern Senators the passage of a resolution granting the privilege required.

I conversed accordingly with Mr Calhoun and others, who seemed to favor my views, and I shall pursue the subject until if possible I can procure the passage of the resolution.

Mr Webster informed me that the report of the Commissioners for the boundary between Texas and the United States, had not been received but was daily expected.

* * * * *

A Brother of Major G Thomas Howard and John C Howard requests I will enquire if they were in the Santa Fé Expedition, a prompt answer to this inquiry is requested to relieve Mr Howards extreme anxiety

I have the honor to be with great respect

Your Obt Servant

NATHL. AMORY
Secy of Legation

BROWER TO "LEGATION [OF TEXAS]."^b

CURTIS TO BROWER.^c

BROWER TO AMORY.^d

AMORY TO WEBSTER.^e

AMORY TO BROWER.^e

AMORY TO JONES.^f

Dispatch No. 76

LEGATION OF TEXAS
Washington January 8th 1842

To the Hon
Secretary of State of Texas
Sir,

Since my despatch No. 75 of the 4th instant, nothing has transpired of interest in relation to the course adopted by the United States towards Mexico in favor of our unfortunate prisoners of the Santa Fé Expedition.

^a Here is omitted a paragraph relative to Amory's financial affairs.

^b January 5, 1842. See Amory to Jones, January 8, 1842.

^c January 7, 1842. See Brower to Amory, January 8, 1841, in Amory to Jones, January 15, 1842.

^d January 8, 1842. See Amory to Jones, January 15, 1842.

^e January 8, 1842. See Amory to Jones, January 8, 1842.

^f A. L. S.

Mr. Fletcher Webster Chief clerk of the State Department informed me on the 7th inst yesterday, after the Cabinet meeting had taken place, that no new Bearer of dispatches would be sent at present, that the United States Consul for Santa Fé had not yet arrived here, and that it would probably be ten days before the Secretary of State would have anything new to communicate upon the subject.

As regards the detention of the Mexican Schooners Liberty and Eagle in New York, I waited upon Mr. Webster requesting to be informed as to the situation of the matter and was referd. by him to Mr Forward Secretary of the Treasury. The latter assured me of the warm interest felt by the United States Government and particularly by himself in the welfare of Texas, and that no exertion should be spared to prevent any infringement of the laws relative to fitting arming etc vessels to cruise against a friendly power, but that he could not communicate to me the situation of the case until the 10th instant.

I then addressed a note to Mr. Webster, copy of which as well as of a communication from the Texan Consul at New York to the Legation, and of my reply thereto, I herewith subjoin.

Mr. Amory to Mr. Webster dated 8 July '42.

The undersigned Acting Chargé d' affaires of Texas has the honor to express to Mr. Webster, Secretary of State of the United States his satisfaction at the step taken by the U. S. in detaining for examination two vessels the Eagle and Liberty built, armed and manned in New York (to be employed by Mexico against Texas) under the supervision of Don Tomas Marin who it is understood was provided by Genl. Santa Ana with money towards paying the cost of their outfit and construction and who resided at the Globe Hotel in New York. The Consul for Texas at New York has been instructed by the undersigned to communicate these and other facts to the Collector of that Port and to the District Attorney of the United States.

The undersigned conceives this to be a case coming within the provision of the Law of 20 April 1818 relating to fitting arming etc vessels within the United States with intent to employ them in hostilities against a nation with whom the United States is at peace, as he trusts will be proved by the investigation now pending.

The undersigned begs leave to offer to Mr. Webster Secretary of State of the United States renewed assurances of his high consideration.

NATHL. AMORY.

Mr. Brower Consul for Texas New York to the Legation under date Jan'y 5th, 1841^a

Sir,

In pursuance of your instructions under date 22d Sept. last I have been diligent in my observation of the progress in building and outfit of the two schooners which have been built here for the Government of Mexico; and have been regular in my advices to Mr Collector Jackson at Galveston up to and including the period of their being ready for sea. On the morning of the 3d instant I observed by a daily newspaper, that these two vessels had been seized by the Collector of the Port of New York. Whereupon I addressed that gentleman as follows

Consulate of Texas New York January 3d 1842 Edward Curtis Esq Collector etc New York. Sir—I observe to day by a morning print, that two Schooners the Liberty and Eagle bound for Vera Cruz have been seized at your instance on behalf of the Government of the United States. I sometime since received instructions from a high ministerial department of the Government of Texas, to observe the outfit and movement of these vessels. And so far as you may conceive it consistent with propriety, I would be greatly obliged by your communicating to me

First—whether it was because of any complaint or interference on the part of Texas or any of her citizens that the United States have caused these seizures to be made

Second These vessels being registered (as I suppose) as American property, and as such the parties concerned presuming it to be protected, will the Government of the United States deem it its duty to go beyond that fact to enquire into the original and ultimate object of the enterprise?

Third. Will the vessels probably be detained for trial as “is usual in case of seizures by the Government of the United States?” Such of the Circumstances connected with these seizures as you may feel at liberty to communicate, and your opinion as to what course the United States Govt. will probably pursue towards these vessels will confer a particular favor. Again assuring you, Sir, that I am not prompted either by curiosity or a desire to intrude improper inquiries upon you, I am with much consideration

Yr Obt Servt.

J. II. BROWER *Consul etc*

Upon handing Mr Curtis my communication he said he would reply at leisure, but up to half past two to day he said he could not yet reply, but would do so.

I hoped to obtain his reply and lay it before you with this, I think however I should not longer delay to communicate to you the en-

^a Should be 1842.

quiries I have made. It has occurred to me that Mr Curtis may have acted under instructions received from Washington City, in which case you may be in possession of the cause for the whole proceeding

I have delayed to communicate to Mr Collector Jackson the circumstance of these seizures, hoping to be able to say at the same time what the prospect is of their speedy release or long detention. I would be happy of your comments upon the course I have thus far adopted and of your advice for my future government connected with this matter

Very Respecty Yr Obt Servt.

J H BROWER.

N Amory to Mr Brower Consul etc dated 8 Jany 1842

SIR yours of the 5th instant is just received and its contents, to which I hasten to reply, noted. The course pursued by you in reference to the Mexican Schrs. Eagle and Liberty seem to me highly proper and in addition, it is important you should notify the Collector of the Port of New York and the District Attorney [of] any facts you may gain or be in possession of relative to the ownership object ultimate destination etc. of these vessels, and particularly of the information contained in the letter to you from this Legation of Sept 22d last on the points above refer'd to, so as to make it appear clearly to the Government of the United States and authorities that this is a case coming within the provisions of the law of 20 April 1818, prohibiting the fitting and arming of vessels within the United States with intent to employ them in hostilities towards a nation with whom the United States is at peace. The provision alluded to answers your second inquiry of the Collector of New York (Copy of which inquiry I find in your letter just received), provided the intent can be proved and to this end your exertion should be directed having the means of information at hand. The Government here has been unwilling to say more to me than that they have the case under consideration, are ready to receive any statement of facts, and probably can give me some definite answer by 12 oclock on the 10th instant

Respectfully Yrs etc

N. AMORY

Acty Chargé d Affaires

Col Bee has not arrived neither have I any late news of his having left New Orleans

Very Respectfully Your Obt Servt

NATHL AMORY,
Acty Chargé etc

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BROWER TO AMORY.^a

BROWER TO HOFFMAN AND TO CURTIS.^a

AMORY TO BROWER.^b

CURTIS TO WEBSTER.^b

BROWER TO AMORY.^c

AMORY TO JONES.^d

Despatch No. 77.

LEGATION OF TEXAS
Washington Jan'y 15th 1842

Hon.

SECRETARY OF STATE OF TEXAS

SIR,

The Schooners Liberty and Eagle built at New York for the Mexican Government, have been liberated and have proceeded to sea. The following are copies of communications to the Consul at New York and his replies on the subject of these vessels, since my last respects of the 8th instant.—

The Consul Mr Brower to Mr Amory of New York Jan'y 8 '42

Craving reference to my respects of 5th instant, I have now the pleasure to lay before you, Mr. Curtis's reply to my note of 3d inst, the import of which I gave you in my communication of the 5th.—

Collectors office New York Jan'y 7, 1842 J. H. Brower etc etc

Sir, I am in receipt of your letter of the 3d inst and reply in order, to the interrogations therein contained, as follows,

1st Not to my knowledge.

2d. The case is before the Attorney General of the United States, for examination, and what course his decision will require, I cannot now foresee.

^a January 11, 1842. See Amory to Jones, January 15, 1842.

^b January 12, 1842. See Amory to Jones, January 15, 1842.

^c January 13 and 14, 1842. See Amory to Jones, January 15, 1842.

^d A. L. S.

3d. From my present knowledge of the subject, I think the vessels will not be detained for trial.

Yours etc

signed EDWARD CURTIS

Renewing my assurances, I am, Sir, Very respectfully etc

J H BROWER

Mr. Brower Consul New York July 11 '42 to Mr Amory.

Yours of the 8th instant is at hand, it will afford me pleasure to communicate to the Collector of the Port of New York and also to the U. S. District Attorney for this District the information contained in the letter from the Legation of Texas at Washington City under date of 22d Sepr. last, this I shall do without delay, viz, so much of it as relates to the Mexican Commissioner with funds. But I have in my possession no circumstances, besides the assurance contained in said letter of 22d Sept and report casually circulated here, to prove the object or ownership of the Mexican Government in the Schooners Liberty and Eagle. Report speaks of the ownership of that Government in them, and I do not doubt they are destined for the navy of Mexico, at the same time I think it would be most difficult to obtain the information you desire, because the agent would be extremely imprudent to allow such facts, pertaining to this business, to get abroad as would lead not only to a loss of the property but [subject] themselves to imprisonment under the law.

I have no doubt, however, that there are those in this community who know all the circumstances connected with the building, outfit, and object of these vessels—perhaps the Captains who command them, and some clerk, or clerks in the employ of Mess Hargous Brothers & Co—who, while they would not voluntarily betray the confidence reposed in them, would give true testimony upon the stand as witnesses, in which event, there is but little question, enough could be brought out to justify the condemnation of the Schooners—Provided the United States authorities will detain them for trial.

The principle of the Law of the U. S. Congress of April 20 1818 was not wholly absent from my mind in submitting my second inquiry to the Collector of the Port under date of 3d instant. But from the language of Mr. Bee's letter of 22d Sepr last, before refer'd to [I] was led to infer the object of Texas to be the capture of these vessels and hence the direction to me to keep Mr Collector Jackson of Galveston, advised of their construction, progress, capacity, armament etc etc. Besides I soon remembered that The Texan Navy was built at Baltimore when the relation existing between the three nations viz the United States, Texas and Mexico was very nearly if not precisely the same as it now is. The object of conquest as referred to in said letter of 22d Sept. last, will account for my first

enquiry made of Mr Collector Curtis in my note to him of 3d inst a copy of his reply to which I had the pleasure to lay before you under date of 8th instant.

I take the liberty to enclose a copy of my communication of this date addressed to Mr Collector Curtis, and shall address one of similar import to Ogden Hoffman Esq the U. S. District Attorney.

Yours etc etc

J. H. BROWER.

Mr Brower Consul New York 11th Jan'y '42 to Ogden Hoffman Esq U. S. District Att'y, and to Mr Curtis Collector.

I acknowledge with thanks your reply of 7 inst to my inquiries of 3d inst

Since receipt of your reply of 7 inst I am instructed by the Legation of Texas at Washington City to communicate to you and also to the United States Attorney for this District the following extract from a letter from that Department addressed to me under date 22d Sept last. In that letter the Hon. Minister says "I am advised through a source to be entirely relied upon, that Sant Anna of Mexico has despatched an Agent from that country Don Tomas Marin with \$25000 in Gold to purchase and equip at New York two armed vessels. The object as avowed for this purchase is to use the force against the Federalists at and near Yucatan and Tobasco" The Minister then remarks that this force may be employed against Texas or her commerce and directs me to observe the operations of that Agent etc

I am also instructed to communicate to yourself and the District Attorney any facts I may gain or be in possession of relative to the ownership, object, ultimate destination etc of these vessels. You will perceive I trust the extreme difficulty of obtaining upon mere inquiry, at a moment *facts* to establish the ownership and object of these vessels, beyond what appears in the legal documents in your office pertaining to them. But if any thing can be gathered from the character of these vessels, the source through which their building was contracted for, and from common report; It seems to me if they were detained for trial, there will be but little difficulty in procuring testimony to establish a case clearly at variance with [the] law of Congress April 20, 1818. This point I am instructed to press upon your notice and consideration.

Signed J. H. BROWER etc

Mr. Amory to Mr. Brower. 12 Jan'y '41.*

J. H. BROWER Esq SIR Yours of the 11th Jan'y is at hand I am happy to find you have taken prompt measures now that the Mexi-

* Should be '42.

can vessels Liberty and Eagle are detained to cause their confiscation. It could scarcely have been anticipated by any of us, that such open proceedings of arming and manning, so manifestly endangering their safety, would have been resorted to by our enemies, making it necessary for the United States to take cognisance of the proceeding to interrupt their departure and institute a legal investigation which may lead to the before mentioned result so desirable to us. It is rumoured with what truth I can not say, that these vessels form a portion of a formidable fleet intended to operate against Texas a portion of which one Steam Frigate at least is preparing to be presented to the Mexican Govt. by certain Abolitionists of England, who have also tendered the loan of a million of Dollars to the same government to be used against us with the design more particularly on the part of these contributors by commencing by this means their unholy designs of forcible emancipation and striking the first blow at Texas. It becomes us therefore to be vigilant and active in thwarting at least such portion of their plans as come under our immediate notice and which may be within our power to effect. I shall urge upon Mr Webster, whose attention I have of course already called to the subject the justice and strong necessity for a strict and thorough investigation of the case relying upon your good judgment to adopt such measures as may tend to forward the same

Respecty Yrs etc

N. AMORY

Mr Brower Consul New York of 13 Jan '42 and of 14 Jany '42 to Mr. Amory.

I had the pleasure under date of 11th inst to reply to your valued letter of the 8th inst. By a newspaper of this morning I see the Liberty and Eagle have been liberated and gone to sea. Upon inquiry at the Custom House (Mr Curtis being absent this morning) Mr Howe the Deputy Collector confirms their liberation, and does not know of any particular change in the character of their outfits. While I farther understand there is no change, though the parties here have been required to give bonds in a considerable sum, binding against operations upon the Commerce of nations at peace with the United States. And thus I presume they will pursue their voyage to Mexico unmolested. I wrote Mr Collector Jackson at Galveston of this import, this morning

etc etc

J. H. BROWER

Your valued favors of 11th and 12th inst are this morning at hand. Yesterday I advised you of the liberation and sailing of the two

^aThis has not been found.

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Mexican Schooners. I can hardly suppose the Abolition faction in England would dare proceed so far as has been suggested to you; altho' I think these deluded men require close watching. It was remarked to me some time since (and I immediately communicated it to Mr Collector Jackson) that two iron Steamers were being constructed in England for Mexico through Lizardis in London. But my impression was the means and credit were furnished from the "Catholic" fund in Mexico

J. H. B.

Still since my last respects before mentioned nothing important has occurred in regard to the mediation of the United States to obtain the release of the prisoners of the Santa Fé expedition. Demonstration of public feeling (not to be disregarded) continue to press upon the attention of the Executive; the introduction by Mr Thompson of Kentucky of the resolutions by the Legislature of his state in the House of Representatives, at the same time the passage of a resolution of the latter, calling upon the President for any information in his possession in relation to the melancholly event referd. to, will tend to strengthen the hand of the Government, and add to its power of assisting us under an assurance in some degree beforehand of popular approval.

Mr. Preston, Senator from South Carolina, to whom I applied for counsel and assistance, suggested as the best and most efficient step, the sending of Genl Waddy Thompson in a Frigate to Vera Cruz as minister Plenipoy, furnished with instructions touching the case referd. to, to take the place of the present incumbent, and he immediately waited upon Mr Webster recommending and soliciting the adoption of this course. The Secretary of State signified his approbation, and promised to see the President on the subject, and held out strong hope of the thing being accomplished, and Mr Preston thinks he will be sent in the Flag Ship of the coast squadron under Commodore Stuart. I have been looking forward to the arrival of the U. States Consul of Santa Fé who wrote the Secretary of State he was coming; as the course pursued by the Govt. may be materially influenced by his detail at a personal interview.

At a Diplomatic dinner at the Presidents this day, the Spanish Minister Chevalier d Argaiz, on paying my respects to him, finding I was acting as Chargé, signified a wish to have some conversation through the Portugese Minister as interpreter, not being well acquainted with english. I told him I understood Spanish sufficiently to dispense with the interpreter, and he proceeded in his own language. Referring to the correspondence between the two Legations in February and March 1841 (which was communicated by me to the

Secretary of State of Texas in despatch No 62 6^a March '41) he observed that unfortunately he wrote his government on the subject, by the President Steam Ship, which was lost, and after much time, repeated the communication, which accounts in some measure for the delay that has occurred. The Spanish Government he says are unwilling to enter into any positive treaty negotiation at present, but the Commandant of Havana or Cuba (under authority no doubt of the home Government) has signified his willingness that a trade between Cuba, and Texas should be opened, and Spains and Texan vessels admitted into the Ports of the respective countries on the terms of the most favored nations, and assured me that any Texan vessel arriving in Cuba would be readily admitted upon the terms indicated, he apologised for entering upon such a topic upon such an occasion, but being obliged to leave Washington to which he had come on a visit of a few days only, immediately for his residence Wilmington Del. he feared another opportunity might not offer of making this communication soon.

Mr. Serruys the Belgian Minister enquired as usual with great interest after his friend Mr Jones the former Minister from Texas of whose appointment as Secretary of State he had been apprized.

Since writing the foregoing, after waiting for some days, I am at last in possession of Mr Websters reply to my note of the 8th inst which I am thus enabled to add to this despatch.—

Mr Webster to Mr Amory

Department of State Washington 19th ^b Jan'y 1842. The undersigned Secretary of State of the United States has the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the note of Mr Amory acting Chargé d' Affaires of Texas, of the 8th instant, upon the subject of the Schooners 'Eagle' and 'Liberty' recently seized at New York. The enclosed copy of a letter to this Department and of the accompanying papers, from the Collector of the Customs at that Port will acquaint Mr Amory with the measures which have been taken by authorities of this Government in regard to those vessels and with the grounds of the proceedings adverted to.

The undersigned avails himself etc

Signed

DANIEL WEBSTER.

To N AMORY etc

Copy of a letter from Mr Curtis to Mr Webster

Custom House, New York Jan'y 12th 1842. Hon Daniel Webster Secy of State etc SIR I have the honor to lay before you, a copy of a letter received by me from Mr J II Brower Consul at this port of

^a Should be 7. See Amory to Secretary of State [Mayfield] of this date

^b This date indicates that the despatch was held over.

retained until the Treaty is concluded, but shall not leave for Washington until he hears from Austin. No doubt ere this he has received the duplicate letter of recall, which I presume will determine him not to come at all, and in my letter to him I recommended him to send me a letter taking leave of the President of the United States open, in order that I might transmit at the same time the letter of the Secretary of State of Texas to the Govt of the United States. I have thought best to erase Minister of Foreign Affaires etc and substitute Sec'y of State of the United States.

I also addressed Mr. Webster in compliance with the instructions in yours of 28th Ult^o above referred to as follows

[Here follow two letters from Amory to Webster, both dated January 20, 1842, one giving the *personnel* of the new administration of the government of the Republic of Texas, and the other Bee's authorization of Amory to act as chargé d'affaires.]

BEE TO WEBSTER.^a

JONES TO REILY.^b

[A part of this letter has been published already.^c The part of it hitherto unpublished follows:]

The Treaty for the suppression of the African Slave Trade, between Texas and Great Britain has met the approbation of the Senate and will be ratified by the President immediately, and it is confidently hoped and expected that our relations with that country will soon be placed upon a footing, which will be productive of important and beneficial results to Texas.

* * * * *

Gen James Hamilton late Minister to England, is recalled, and a successor to him will be applied at an early day.

BEE TO JONES.^d

PENDLETON, SOUTH CAROLINA,
Jan. 27th, 1842.

SIR,

Through the medium of the Texian Consul at New Orleans, I have the honor to acknowledge your (duplicate) communication of the 27th

^a Dated Pendleton, S. C., January 21, 1842. See Reily to Jones, March 11, 1842.

^b Unsigned copy of instructions, dated January 26, 1842.

^c See Telegraph and Texas Register for November 26, 1845, where the date of the letter is given as January 20, 1842.

^d Endorsed "Copy Col B. E. Bee to Secty of State 27th Jan'y 42."

Dec. 1841, informing me of my recall from near the Government of the United States. I immediately conveyed this intelligence to the Secretary of State at the City of Washington, and have availed myself of the privilege extended me of taking leave by letter, instead of in person; and could not fail to express the high sense I entertained of the courtesy with which I had been treated during the term of my residence there. It would have been a source of gratification to me, Sir, if I could have closed my communication to you here—but the President has thought proper to accompany the recall with a charge, (however “respectfully” made) “of a desertion on my part, injurious to the interests of the country, and disrespectful to that of the United States.” This Sir, is no slight accusation;—but how stand the facts? At the close of the extra session of the Congress of the U. S., I called the attention of the Secretary of State, Mr. Webster, to the immediate formation of a treaty with Texas. The session had been an irksome one, and Mr. Webster entreated he might be allowed to visit Boston, assuring me that his early attention should be bestowed upon it on his return to Washington in the fall, adding that the report upon the boundery between the two countries would by that time be received; Simultaneous with this, I received a letter, dated 3d Sept., from Gen. Hamilton, our envoy in England, earnestly “requesting me for most special reasons, not to conclude a treaty with Mr. Webster, until he could see me, as his information and views might be of importance in framing that compact, and suggested my writing President Lamar an official letter, that I desired to confer with him during the session of Congress on this important subject.” Thus importuned, both by Mr. Webster and Gen. Hamilton, anxious as I was to form this compact during the administration of President Lamar, I was compelled to yield, and immediately took the requisite steps, in order that I might meet Mr. Webster in December. I wrote to President Lamar, giving him the reasons of delay, requesting leave of absence, informing him at the same time that I should leave Mr. Amory in charge “in whose hands the honor and the interests of the country would be safe.” [I] Specially waited on the Secretary of State acquainting him, with this arrangement then waited on the President of the United States, and respectfully took my leave and hastened (stopping as I passed through South Carolina, but a few days with my family) to New Orleans, and even *there*, I trust I was not unmindful of the interests of my country, as future events may perhaps show.

Thus, Sir, I neither *deserted* my post jeopardd the interests of my country, nor treated the United States with disrespect. I cannot express to you my feelings on this occasion:—from the moment I landed upon the shores of Texas, to this hour, I have received the most unbounded confidence and respect, and if zeal and fidelity in her

cause, her institutions and her people, be indications of honesty of purpose, I trust I have never faltered. At the moment of recall and then, as if that was not implied censure enough, for the chief magistrate to instruct his Secretary of State, to apply to me the most degrading epithets, that the language is capable of, "desertion of post, and sacrificing the interests of my country"—and that too by one who knows my character as thoroughly as he does his own, surpasses my belief and excites feelings utterly beyond expression. The desertion of a post of danger, the weakness of our nature sometimes prompts, that of a post of honor never—in truth, Sir, what but a paramount duty to the best interests of the country could have induced me to leave a treaty with the United States unaccomplished, and on the advent of a new administration?

But it would be worse than vain to dwell on this topic—sufficient for me, that I am above censure, and that a very slight reference to the files of your department would have saved me from reproach. The charge, Sir, is unworthy of the President, disrespectful to me as a gentleman, and you cannot too strongly be assured, I am alone restrained in my expression of the deep injury attempted to be inflicted on me, by the high office Gen. Houston occupies. The President of the country is beyond the reach of the citizen, and while his station protects him from either the infliction of epithets or the assailment of the sacredness of his person, he should be a thousand fold guarded neither to wound or malign.

I have the honor to be

very respectfully yours

(Signed)

BARNARD E. BEE.

REPLY TO JONES^a

Houston Feby 2nd 1842

HON ANSON JONES

Secretary of State

SIR

I have been ready to leave this place for some days and only await the departure of a Boat, and expect to leave tomorrow or next day. I regret very much that my authority or commission to enter into the negotiation of a treaty has not been received from the State Department. Without such authority I can do nothing, and it was for the purpose of forming a treaty that I understood I was to be sent. I am anxious to give my earliest attention to this important matter,

^a L. S.

and may I not trust that the proper credentials will be immediately dispatched so as to meet me in Washington City.

With sentiments of the
Highest respect I am
Yours

JAMES REILLY

A CHOCTAW TO PITCHLYNN.^a

WASHINGTON TO AMORY.^b

EVE TO JONES^c

No. 3.

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES
Galveston February the 27th 1842

The Honl.

ANSON JONES *Secretary of State*
for the Republic of Texas

SIR

The undersigned Charge d' Affaires from the United States, has the honour to invite the attention of the honourable the Secretary of State for the Republic of Texas; To the Treaty of Amity, Commerce, and Navigation, concluded on the fifth day of April 1831 Between the United States of America, and the Mexican States, which is in force between the Governments of the United States and Texas, By which the two Governments, in the second article engage mutually not to grant any particular favor, to other Nations in respect of Commerce and Navigation, which shall not immediately become common to the other party; and by the third article in said Treaty, it is stipulated that the merchants and traders of each nation shall not pay higher on other duties, imposts, or fees whatsoever, than those which the most favored nations are or may be obliged to pay. By reference to the Treaty Stipulations, now in force between the Governments of France and Texas, and by the proclamation of the late President of Texas; French Brandies are permitted to be imported into Texas in French vessels upon paying four fifths the impost duties, that the merchants and traders from the United States are compelled to pay upon Brandies from the United States, while

^a February 9, 1842 (extract). See Eve to Jones May 9, 1842.

^b February 21, 1842. See Reilly to Jones, March 11, 1842.

^c A. L. S.

French Wines are permitted to be imported in French vessels free from all duties.

This regulation is understood to be in violation of the treaty Stipulations referred to between the Government of Texas and the United States, and calculated to impair that kind and friendly feeling which exists between the two nations and [which it] is the interest and wish of each Government to cherish and maintain. It has heretofore been acquiesced in without complaint on the part of the Government and Citizens of the United States; Because the impost duties were so very low and payable in depreciated Texas notes worth about twelve cents in the dollar, but by the late act of Congress, the duties have been increased a hundred per cent and payable in Gold or Silver; under these circumstances the undersigned feels, that (however great his solicitude may be for the welfare of Texas) he would be guilty of a great dereliction of duty to his own Government had he failed to call the attention of the Secretary of State for the Government of Texas to this subject. He does so with full confidence, that the Executive department of this Government will give such orders to the collectors of the customs as will place the commerce of the United States upon as favorable a footing as that of France. Mr. Jones will please accept assurances of my high consideration and respect.

JOSEPH EVE.

AMORY TO WEBSTER.^a

WEBSTER TO AMORY.^b

FORWARD TO WEBSTER.^c

JONES TO EVE.

(Copy)

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
Galveston, March 5th. 1842.

To the Hon JOSEPH EVE,
Chargé d' Affaires of the United States etc etc.

SIR,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your note of the 27th ultimo, inviting my attention to the treaty of the 5th April, 1831,

^a February 28, 1842. See Reply to Jones, March 11, 1842.

^b March 1, 1842. See Reply to Jones, March 11, 1842.

^c March 2, 1842. See Reply to Jones, March 11, 1842.

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between the United States and Mexico, by which each of the two governments mutually agreed in the second article, not to grant any particular favor to other nations, in respect to commerce and navigation, which shall not immediately become common to the other party; and stating that certain distinctions were made in the duties charged in Texas upon French Wines and Brandies under the treaty with this country and France, unfavorable to the Merchants and traders of the United States, which Mr. Eve considers to be in violation of the treaty stipulations first above referred to.

In reply I have the honor to state that this favorable distinction in duty upon Wines and Brandies refers to such as are the growth and production of France only, and imported directly in French or Texian vessels, and as neither of these articles, the growth and production of the United States, are made objects of exportation from the United States to Texas, it would therefore seem to me that the distinction to which Mr. Eve refers is not in violation of the treaty stipulations, but in full accordance with the policy pursued by most European and American nations, at the present time, the reciprocity established by them, in their intercourse with each other, having reference always to the articles which are the produce, growth or manufacture of their respective countries. Besides in the treaty between Texas and France some important concessions are made in favor of Texian Shipping and commerce over those of France, which by the two governments was considered at the time of its formation as a compensation for the diminished duty on the articles referred to above. The second article of the treaty, referred to by Mr. Eve in his note, provides that all concessions granted to other nations by either party shall become common to the other party, who shall enjoy the same free, if the concession was free, or upon the same conditions if the concession was conditional. As therefore this distinction in duty on Wines and Brandies the growth and production of France has been conditional, The government of Texas has supposed that no other nation could complain of the same, without having first indicated a willingness and having entered into stipulations for similar conditions with it. The distinction now made in favor of French Wines by the proclamation of the late President by which they are admitted free of duty is an arrangement which this government only considers temporary in its character, and which it is the intention of the President speedily to revoke.

As notice has been given to the Government of the United States of an intention on the part of Texas to terminate the treaty of the 5th April 1831 between the United States and Mexico so far as Texas is concerned, and as negotiations are now in progress at Washington for the formation of a new Commercial Convention between the two countries, it is hoped that such arrangements may be entered into as

will be mutually advantageous and ensure the best interests as well as a continuance of the friendly relations of the two countries.

I embrace the occasion to renew to Mr. Eve the assurances of my distinguished consideration.

(signed) ANSON JONES

WEBSTER TO AMORY.^a

REILY TO WEBSTER.^b

WEBSTER TO REILY.^b

REILY TO JONES.^c

[Despatch No. 79.]

LEGATION OF TEXAS,
Washington March 11th 1842

Hon.

ANSON JONES,
Secretary of State of Texas,

SIR,

I have the honor to inform you that I arrived here on Tuesday evening the 8th instant. On Wednesday I addressed the Hon Secretary of State a note, informing him of my arrival and desire to know when it would suit his convenience that I should present my letter of Credence, a reply was immediately given designating 12 M the next day. Copies [of] the notes I hereto annex. Attended by Mr Amory Secretary of Legation I called at the appointed time, was very graciously received and delivered my credentials to the Hon Daniel Webster Secretary of State. Our interview was short, but brief as it was, we opened the subject of the free navigation of Red River. This right I am induced to hope from the liberal spirit manifested by Mr Webster will be conceded. The privilege of stopping our products for any other purpose than of reshipping to Foreign Ports free from Duty I fear will not be permitted, unless some remunerating privilege is granted by Texas to the United States, as it would be conceding to our nation privileges which other nations might claim under their Treaties of reciprocity. I shall still continue to press this matter knowing its importance to my fellow citizens

^a March 7, 1842. See Reily to Jones, March 11, 1842.

^b March 9, 1842. See Reily to Jones, March 11, 1842.

^c L. S.

At our next interview I shall urge upon the United States government through Mr Webster the consideration of our Indian relations.

My Predecessor Col Bee had had presented the synopsis of a Treaty, and the Government has been informed that the Texan Representative here would be clothed with ample powers to conclude one.

The subject of annexation has not yet been broached, I apprehend the Secretary of State will not be disposed to hold much if any positive conversation with me upon any subject, until satisfied of my power to enter into definite arrangements.

In regard to the resolutions adopted by the Congress of Texas, extending her jurisdiction over the Californias to the Pacific Mr Webster remarked "that it looked as if Texas was too grasping and might excite the jealousy of other nations" The despatches you gave me for Mr McIntosh at Paris, I brought hither, and Mr Amory obtained the favor at the State Department of having them placed in the Letter bag sent from that Department to the American Minister at Paris. This will ensure their safe delivery.

The letter of instructions dated 26th January Ultimo directed to me at Galveston I received at that point on my way to the United States. These shall be strictly obeyed.

Permit me to suggest the name of Asa A Brown Esq of Wilmington North Carolina, as Texan Consul for that point. This request is made in compliance with a letter from William H Washington member of Congress from North Carolina, who addressed Mr Amory the accompanying letter previous to my arrival on the subject, and recommends him as a Gentleman of great intelligence, high standing and anxious as well as able to render Texas essential service.

May I not trust soon to receive a volume of the Acts of last Congress, so as to be able to speak without hesitancy as to our Laws and Legislative proceedings, and not go by idle rumor.

* * * * *

I submit also herewith a copy of the letter of my predecessor Col Bee taking leave of the Government of the United States and dated 21st January last.

Col Bee forwarded to Mr. Amory from New Orleans prior to my arrival evidence of a claim of Mr John A Rodgers a citizen of Texas for duties on mules illegally exacted by the Collector of the district of Têche Louisiana, the correspondence respecting which between the Legation and the United States Government being Mr Amory's note to Mr Webster of February 28 Mr. Webster Secretary of State of the U. S. replies of 1st and 7th March and [the letter to Mr. Webster of] the Secretary of the Treasury of the United States of March 2d. all last past.

* Here is omitted a paragraph referring to Amory's claims on the Texan government.

March 15th. Since writing the foregoing, I have been presented to the President of the United States and was received very courteously, the conversation having been of a general nature.

Rest assured it shall be both my pleasure and duty to do all in my power to advance the reputation and prosperity of the Govt. I have the honor to represent.

I have secured lodging at Mrs Whitwells Capitol Hill, where the President of the Senate Mr Southard is residing with his family, constituting with myself and family and Mr Amory our entire mess. I append a communication by me for the Intelligencer.^a

With sentiments of highest respect

Yours

P. T. O.^b

JAMES REILY.

Mr Bee to Mr Webster.

LEGATION OF TEXAS
PENDLETON SOUTH CAROLINA

January 21st 1842

HON. DANIEL WEBSTER *Secretary of the United States*

SIR, The President of the Republic of Texas hav'g sent me a letter of recall, it becomes my duty, (being absent) in writing to take my respectful leave of the Government of the United States, in doing so Sir, be assured, the short time I had the honor of transacting business with your Department, was characterised by too much amenity on your part, not to have made a lasting impression. In withdrawing from the United States, I regret my absence from Washington prevents my waiting upon the President and assuring him of my constant wish for his individual happiness and the prosperity of his Government. I enclose herewith a letter from the Secretary of State of Texas. With assurances of high consideration

Yr Obt Servt.

B. E. BEE.

Mr Amory to Mr Webster

LEGATION OF TEXAS
Washington Feby 28 '42.

To Hon Daniel Webster Secretary of State of the United States. The Undersigned Actg Chargé etc of Texas has the honor to enclose a memorial of John A Rodgers a citizen of Texas to the Secretary of the Treasury of the United States together with testimony in proof of the allegations therein contained. It seems an amount, \$180, was illegally exacted from Mr Rodgers on arrival in the United

^a See issue for March 17, 1842, under headline "Texas."

^b I. e., "Please turn over."

States from Texas, by Mr. John W Dough Collector for the District of Teche, Louisiana, which the said Rodgers requests may be refunded to him. The undersigned has earnestly to call Mr Webster's attention to the injustice complained of in order that prompt redress may be afforded. The undersigned offers to Mr Webster renewed assurances of his high consideration.

NATHL AMORY.

Mr Webster to Mr Amory

DEPARTMENT OF STATE, *Washington [City], March 1st 1842*

The Undersigned, Secretary of State of the United States, has the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the note of yesterday, from Mr Amory, The Secretary of Legation of Texas, relative to an alleged illegal exaction of duties on certain animals introduced into the United States from Texas, by the way of the District of Teche, in Louisiana.

The Undersigned has the honor to acquaint Mr Amory, that a copy of his note and the original papers accompanying it have been communicated to the Secretary of the Treasury, to whose Department the subject belongs. The Undersigned avails himself of this occasion to offer to Mr Amory renewed assurances of his high consideration

DANIEL WEBSTER

Mr Webster to Mr Amory

DEPARTMENT OF STATE, *Washington [City], 7th March 1842*

The undersigned, Secretary of State of the United States, has the honor to communicate a copy of the answer of the Secretary of the Treasury to the letter from this Department, transmitting a copy of the note of Mr Amory, Acting Chargé of Texas, of the 28th Ultimo, upon the subject of duties supposed to have been illegally charged upon certain animals introduced into the United States from Texas by the way of the District of Teche in Louisiana

The Undersigned avails himself of the occasion to offer to Mr Amory renewed assurances of his high consideration

DANIEL WEBSTER.

Mr Forward to Mr Webster

To Hon. Daniel Webster, Secretary of State at Washington, (Treasury Department March 2d-1842) Sir In reference to the case presented in the note of the acting Chargé d'Affaires of Texas, and the accompanying papers, enclosed in your communication of the 1st

instant, respecting duties charged by the Collector of the District of Têche on certain animals imported from Texas by Mr John A Rodgers a citizen of that Republic, I have the honor to state, that on the 23d Ulto; the First Comptroller of the Treasury instructed John W Dough, Esq Collector of the District mentioned, to refund the duties to the party, provided the fact should be clearly established that the animals in question were brought within the limits of the United States prior to the day when the Act "relating to duties and drawbacks," approved the 11th September, 1841, went into operation. I have the honor to be very respectfully

Your ob't Servt.

W. FORWARD
Sec'y of the Treas'y.

Mr Reily to Mr Webster.

LEGATION OF TEXAS, *Washington, 9th March '42.*

The undersigned having been appointed Minister Chargé d'Affaires, of the Republic of Texas, near the Government of the United States, has the honor to inform Mr. Webster Secretary of State of the United States of his arrival and to request to be informed at what time it will be convenient to Mr Webster to receive him for the purpose of presenting his letter of Credence. The Undersigned takes the present occasion to offer to Mr Webster assurances of his high consideration

JAMES REILY.

Mr Webster to Mr Reily.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE *Washington [City,] March 9th 1842.*

The Undersigned, Secretary of State of the United States, has the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the note of this day from Mr. Reily, announcing his arrival in this City, stating that he had been appointed Minister Chargé d'Affaires of the Republic of Texas to this Government, and asking that a time might be named for him to present his letter of Credence.

The Undersigned has the honor to inform Mr. Reily in reply that he will be happy to receive him for that purpose at the Department at 12 o'clock, tomorrow, the 10th instant.

The Undersigned avails himself of this occasion to offer to Mr Reily assurances of his distinguished consideration.

DANIEL WEBSTER.

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