

DONELSON TO BUCHANAN.<sup>a</sup>

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ALLEN TO DONELSON.<sup>b</sup>

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DONELSON TO ALLEN.<sup>c</sup>

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DONELSON TO BUCHANAN.<sup>c</sup>

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DONELSON TO BUCHANAN.<sup>c</sup>

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DONELSON TO ALLEN.<sup>c</sup>

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DONELSON TO CALHOUN.<sup>d</sup>

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SHAW TO DASHIELL.<sup>e</sup>

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BUCHANAN TO DONELSON.<sup>f</sup>

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DONELSON TO JONES.<sup>g</sup>

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RAYMOND TO BUCHANAN.<sup>h</sup>

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RAYMOND TO BUCHANAN.<sup>i</sup>

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RAYMOND TO ALLEN.<sup>j</sup>

No 146.

LEGATION OF TEXAS  
*Washington D. C. April 30th. 1845*

SIR,

On my return from a short visit to my friends in Pennsylvania and Ohio I had the pleasure of meeting at Wheeling, on the morning of the

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<sup>a</sup> April 12, 1845. See Calendar of Correspondence with the United States in Part I.  
<sup>b</sup> April 14, 1845. See Calendar of Correspondence with the United States in Part I.  
<sup>c</sup> A. L. S., April 16, 1845. See Calendar of Correspondence with the United States in Part I.  
<sup>d</sup> April 24, 1844. See Calendar of Correspondence with the United States in Part I.  
<sup>e</sup> April 26, 1845. See Calendar of Correspondence with the United States in Part I.  
<sup>f</sup> April 25, 1845. See Calendar of Correspondence with the United States in Part I.  
<sup>g</sup> April 29, 1845. See Calendar of Correspondence with the United States in Part I.  
<sup>h</sup> April 30, 1845. See Calendar of Correspondence with the United States in Part I.  
<sup>i</sup> April 30, 1845. See Raymond to Allen, April 30, 1845.  
<sup>j</sup> A. L. S.

26th. instant, the Hon Ashbel Smith en route to Europe. We travelled together to within ten miles of Baltimore. He designed sailing from Boston in the Packet of the 1st. proximo. From my conversation with him I am led to expect that the next mail from Texas will bring something definite in regard to the progress of annexation, though the Government seems to be pursuing, as it should do upon a subject of such deep and vital interest to the welfare of our infant Republic, a cautious, prudent and considerate course. Some there are in this and our own country who are disposed to censure the President because he will not rush heedlessly, recklessly and without deliberation right into the arms of the United States, but such men do not stop to reflect upon the fearful responsibility which rests on the Chief Magistrate of a nation when called to act upon a question involving such mighty consequences and so pregnant with weal or woe to the destinies of his country. Whatever is done should be well done.

In a conversation with Mr Buchanan, Secretary of State of the United States, on yesterday, concerning annexation, I expressed the opinion the whole question would probably be referred to the decision of the people of Texas and that their verdict would doubtless influence the course and policy of our Government in its final determination. He replied that such a course could not be objected to, but at the same time expressed great anxiety for speedy action.

A collision between this country and Mexico appears almost inevitable. Her efforts will probably be directed, mainly, against the commerce of the United States. This Government is preparing for the emergency and when the crisis arrives they will be ready to meet it. It is understood, here, that Mexico has proffered us the recognition of our independence on condition that we never become a part of the American Union. If this be so, her extreme sensitiveness on the subject of annexation must proceed from hostility to the United States, and she is placed in a rather unenviable, suspicious and double faced attitude.

I have not a particle of doubt that a large majority of the next Congress of the United States will be favorable to annexation, and I am strongly of opinion a treaty for that object would be ratified by the Senate.

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of a despatch from your department dated the 21st. ultimo, in reference to the two children of Mrs Simpson stolen by the Comanches; and in obedience to instructions have communicated the facts in their case to this Government, altho' it had been info[r]mally advised of the same several weeks before. Enclosed herewith I transmit you a copy of my communication of this date on the subject, to the Secretary of State.

The box of printed official documents for your Department, mentioned in my despatch No 145, Mr Williams, if he have not already

done so, will forward from Baltimore to Galveston the first opportunity. I hope to obtain some more before I take leave of this Government.

I am with high respect  
Your Most Obedient Servant

CHAS. H. RAYMOND

Hon. EBENEZER ALLEN

*Att'y Genl. and Secty of State ad interim*

*Washington*

*Texas.*

[Inclosed is a copy of Raymond to Buchanan, April 30, 1845. There were also probably inclosed in this despatch two other documents which are filed separately. These are Almonte to Calhoun, March 6, 1845; Buchanan to Almonte, March 10, 1845.<sup>a</sup>]

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DONELSON TO JONES.<sup>b</sup>

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ALLEN TO JONES.<sup>c</sup>

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ALLEN TO JONES.<sup>d</sup>

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DONELSON TO JONES.<sup>e</sup>

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DONELSON TO BUCHANAN.<sup>f</sup>

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CLARENDON TO TERRELL.<sup>g</sup>

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DONELSON TO BUCHANAN.<sup>g</sup>

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RAYMOND TO BUCHANAN.<sup>h</sup>

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<sup>a</sup> For all three of these letters, see Calendar of Correspondence with the United States in Part I.

<sup>b</sup> May 2, 1845. See Calendar of Correspondence with the United States in Part I.

<sup>c</sup> May 3, 1845. See Calendar of Correspondence with the United States in Part I.

<sup>d</sup> May 4, 1845. See Calendar of Correspondence with the United States in Part I.

<sup>e</sup> May 5, 1845. See Calendar of Correspondence with the United States in Part I.

<sup>f</sup> May 6, 1845. See Calendar of Correspondence with the United States in Part I.

<sup>g</sup> May 11, 1845. See Calendar of Correspondence with the United States in Part I.

<sup>h</sup> May 17, 1845. See Raymond to Allen, May 19, 1845.

BUCHANAN TO RAYMOND.<sup>a</sup>ALLEN TO DONELSON.<sup>b</sup>RAYMOND TO ALLEN.<sup>c</sup>

No 147.

LEGATION OF TEXAS  
*Washington [City] May 19th. 1845*

SIR

Enclosed herewith I have the honor to transmit to you a copy of my communication to Mr Buchanan Secretary of State of the United States, informing him of the acceptance of my resignation and my permission to return home;<sup>d</sup> and of his reply to the same.

I had a parting interview to day with the President and Secretary of State. They were considerably elated by the recent news from Texas, and expressed great gratification at the favorable prospect of annexation, and assured me that nothing should be wanting on the part of the Executive of this country towards ensuring to Texas her just rights after she shall have become a member of this Confederacy

On last friday evening I had the pleasure of a long conversation with the President in regard to annexation. He is of opinion, the wisest and safest course for Texas to pursue is to accede, at once, to the terms of the Joint Resolution, as proposed, and trust to the justice, honor, and magnanimity of this nation to correct whatever injustice may have been done to Texas by the Act of Congress. He has no confidence in the Whig Senators, on this question, and consequently believes it would be endangered by a treaty. He remarked there would not, probably, be a war between this country and Mexico growing out of the annexation, nor did he apprehend any difficulty with Great Britain on this or the Oregon question, nevertheless the Government of the United States would maintain the ground it had taken on these questions towards those countries. He asked if I had *any* doubts about the acceptance by the Government and people of Texas of the proposition for annexation now before them. I told him frankly and unhesitatingly that I entertained none whatever—that they had all along been in favor of the measure, and that one of the first acts of President Jones was to inform me that the annexation of Texas to the American Union was a measure earnestly desired by the Government, and to instruct me to use my most strenuous exertions in every proper manner for its accomplishment.

<sup>a</sup> May 19, 1845. See Raymond to Allen, May 19, 1845.

<sup>b</sup> May 19, 1845. See Calendar of Correspondence with the United States in Part I.

<sup>c</sup> A. L. S.

<sup>d</sup> May 17, 1845.

The only matters now pending here are the Snively and Red River cases. I learn, upon inquiry, that Congress made no provision for the payment of our claims of indemnification in the cases alluded to—the reason assigned is that the evidence was not furnished in time for examination and action. I presume there will be no difficulty in obtaining the necessary appropriations the ensuing session of Congress.

I shall leave here to-morrow morning for Cincinnati, Ohio, where I shall stop a few days and then proceed to Washington, Texas, where I expect to arrive about the meeting of Congress.

The Archives of the Legation I have placed in the hands of John Underwood Esq of the Treasury Department, where they will remain safely and securely until my successor arrives.

My last dispatch from your Department bears date the 21st. of March, last. I have received the "National Register" of the 1st. instant.

Judge Toler sailed from New York for Texas, about a week ago, on board the barque "Star Republic."

I have the honor to be, with sentiments of highest consideration  
Your Most Obedt. Servt.

CHAS. H. RAYMOND

HON. EBENEZER ALLEN  
*Secretary of State  
ad interim,  
Etc. Etc. Etc.*

[Inclosed are Raymond to Buchanan, May 17, 1845, taking leave, and Buchanan to Raymond, May 19, 1845, in acknowledgment.]

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DE CYPREY TO JONES.<sup>a</sup>

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DONELSON TO ALLEN.<sup>b</sup>

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DONELSON TO BUCHANAN.<sup>c</sup>

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DONELSON TO JONES.<sup>d</sup>

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DONELSON TO BUCHANAN.<sup>e</sup>

<sup>a</sup> May 20, 1845. See Calendar of Correspondence with the United States in Part I.

<sup>b</sup> A. L. S., May 24, 1845. See Calendar of Correspondence with the United States in Part I.

<sup>c</sup> May 24, 1845. See Calendar of Correspondence with the United States in Part I.

<sup>d</sup> June 1, 1845. See Calendar of Correspondence with the United States in Part I. No copy has been found in the archives.

<sup>e</sup> June 2, 1845. See Calendar of Correspondence with the United States in Part I.

BUCHANAN TO DONELSON.<sup>a</sup>

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DONELSON TO BUCHANAN.<sup>b</sup>

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PROCLAMATION ENJOINING CESSATION OF HOSTILITIES AGAINST  
MEXICO.<sup>c</sup>

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ALLEN TO JONES.<sup>d</sup>

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JONES TO DE CYPREY.<sup>e</sup>

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DONELSON TO ALLEN.<sup>f</sup>

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DONELSON TO BUCHANAN.<sup>g</sup>

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DONELSON TO BUCHANAN.<sup>h</sup>

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DONELSON TO ALLEN.<sup>i</sup>

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BUCHANAN TO DONELSON.<sup>j</sup>

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DONELSON TO BUCHANAN.<sup>k</sup>

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RAYMOND TO JONES.<sup>l</sup>

<sup>a</sup> June 3, 1845. See Calendar of Correspondence with the United States in Part I.

<sup>b</sup> June 4, 1845. See Calendar of Correspondence with the United States in Part I.

<sup>c</sup> June 4, 1845. See *Senate Journal*, 9th Tex. Cong., Extra Session, p. 37. Copy inclosed with Allen to Kaufman, July 10, 1845.

<sup>d</sup> June 5, 1845. See Calendar of Correspondence with the United States in Part I.

<sup>e</sup> June 6, 1845. See Calendar of Correspondence with the United States in Part I.

<sup>f</sup> L. S., June 11, 1845. See Calendar of Correspondence with the United States in Part I.

<sup>g</sup> June 11, 1845. See Calendar of Correspondence with the United States in Part I.

<sup>h</sup> June 13, 1845. See Calendar of Correspondence with the United States in Part I.

<sup>i</sup> L. S., June 13, 1845. See Calendar of Correspondence with the United States in Part I.

<sup>j</sup> June 15, 1845. See Calendar of Correspondence with the United States in Part I.

<sup>k</sup> June 19, 1845. See Calendar of Correspondence with the United States in Part I.

<sup>l</sup> June 21, 1845. See Calendar of Correspondence with the United States in Part I.

DONELSON TO STOCKTON.<sup>a</sup>

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ALLEN TO DONELSON.<sup>b</sup>

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DONELSON TO BUCHANAN.<sup>c</sup>

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DONELSON TO ALLEN.<sup>d</sup>

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ALLEN TO DONELSON.<sup>e</sup>

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DONELSON TO ALLEN.<sup>f</sup>

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DONELSON TO ALLEN.<sup>g</sup>

[Wishes to leave the books and property of the legation in charge of the department of state of Texas, subject to the orders of the United States, and requests that a clerk be sent to make out an inventory and give a receipt].<sup>h</sup>

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ALLEN TO DONELSON.<sup>i</sup>

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ALLEN TO DONELSON.<sup>j</sup>

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DONELSON TO TAYLOR.<sup>k</sup>

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DONELSON TO ALLEN.<sup>l</sup>

<sup>a</sup> June 22, 1845. See Calendar of Correspondence with the United States in Part I.

<sup>b</sup> June 23, 1845 (as to annexation). See Calendar of Correspondence with the United States in Part I.

<sup>c</sup> June 23, 1845. See Calendar of Correspondence with the United States in Part I.

<sup>d</sup> L. S., June 23, 1845 (acknowledging receipt of letter concerning annexation). See Calendar of Correspondence with the United States in Part I.

<sup>e</sup> June 23, 1845 (as to resolution tendering the gratitude of Texas to Jackson). See Calendar of Correspondence with the United States in Part I.

<sup>f</sup> A. L. S., June 23, 1845 (acknowledging receipt of letter transmitting resolution of gratitude to Jackson). See Calendar of Correspondence with the United States in Part I.

<sup>g</sup> A. L. S., June 24, 1845.

<sup>h</sup> With the correspondence is filed a copy of the receipt dated June 30, 1845, signed by Chas. Mariner, Acting Chief Clerk.

<sup>i</sup> June 26, 1845. See Calendar of Correspondence with the United States in Part I.

<sup>j</sup> June 28, 1845. See Calendar of Correspondence with the United States in Part I.

<sup>k</sup> L. S., June 30, 1845. See Calendar of Correspondence with the United States in Part I.

ALLEN TO JONES.<sup>a</sup>

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DONELSON TO BUCHANAN.<sup>a</sup>

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DONELSON TO BUCHANAN.<sup>a</sup>

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RUSK TO DONELSON.<sup>b</sup>

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DONELSON TO RUSK.<sup>c</sup>

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DONELSON TO BUCHANAN.<sup>c</sup>

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RUSK TO DONELSON.<sup>d</sup>

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RAYMOND TO JONES.<sup>e</sup>

[Transmits a copy of a resolution relative to the occupation of Texas by United States troops adopted by the Texan convention that day].<sup>f</sup>

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DONELSON TO BUCHANAN.<sup>g</sup>

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DONELSON TO TAYLOR.<sup>g</sup>

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ALLEN TO KAUFMAN.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
Washington [Texas] 10 July 1845

SIR—

This Department is charged by the Executive to communicate through you to His Excellency the President of the United States

<sup>a</sup> July 2, 1845. See Calendar of Correspondence with the United States in Part I.

<sup>b</sup> July 5, 1845. See Calendar of Correspondence with the United States in Part I.

<sup>c</sup> July 6, 1845. See Calendar of Correspondence with the United States in Part I.

<sup>d</sup> July 7, 1845. See Calendar of Correspondence with the United States in Part I.

<sup>e</sup> A. L. S., July 7, 1845.

<sup>f</sup> For the resolution see Calendar of Correspondence with the United States in Part I under title of Rusk to Donelson, July 7, 1845.

<sup>g</sup> July 7, 1845. See Calendar of Correspondence with the United States in Part I.



the enclosed Documents, consisting of a copy of the Joint Resolution adopted by the Texian Congress, and approved on the 21st ultimo, "tendering to Gen Andrew Jackson the tribute of a nations Gratitude-"; and a copy of the Ordinance adopted by the Convention of Delegates on the 4th instant, manifesting their consent to the terms conditions and guaranties, contained in the two first sections of the Joint Resolution adopted by the Congress of the United States, and presented to this Government on the 31st of March last, by their Chargé d' affaires—the Hon Mr Donelson, as the basis for consummating the Annexation of Texas to the Federal Union.<sup>a</sup>

In performing this duty now assigned you, you will avail yourself of the occasion to present to His Excellency renewed assurances of the distinguished consideration and regard of the President of this Republic.

I have the honor to remain with sentiments of high respect,  
Your very obedient and Faithful Servant

E. ALLEN  
*Secretary of State.*

HON DAVID S. KAUFMAN  
*Chargé d' Affaires of Texas*  
*etc etc etc*

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ALLEN TO KAUFMAN.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
*Washington [Texas] 10 July 1845*

SIR—

This Department is in receipt of your note under date of the 28th. ultimo signifying your acceptance of the appointment tendered by the Executive of Chargé d' Affaires of this Republic to the United States. Having already been furnished with Letters of Credence and your Commission, it remains for this Department to impart such instructions as may be deemed proper for guidance in the discharge of your diplomatic functions.

You are accordingly directed to repair with as little delay as possible to your post at the City of Washington on the Potomac—there to take possession of the archives, seals, papers and books belonging to the Texian Legation, and to establish your residence near the Government to which you are accredited.

On your arrival, you will call upon the Secretary of Foreign Affairs, present to him in person the Letters of Credence with which you are furnished; and request to be informed of the time and place at which, you may be admitted to an interview with His Excellency the President of the United States;—at which interview you will tender to him

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<sup>a</sup> See *Niles' Register*, LXVIII, 344; Gammel, *Laws of Texas*, II, 1228-1230.

the salutations of His Excellency the President of Texas, with the assurance of his friendly dispositions and cheerful cooperation in carrying out and perfecting, the policy and measure of *Annexation* according to the terms of the adopted and pending basis.

In the existing attitude of relations between Texas and the United States, the strong necessity for the utmost good understanding, unity of purpose and mutual confidence between the Executive Governments of the two countries, will naturally suggest itself to your mind. However confident each of the interested Powers may be in the anticipation of a speedy and propitious union of the two countries; and notwithstanding the consent of the existing Government of Texas in its Executive and Legislative branches, and the consent of the Delegates in convention, have been given to the proposition; still it should not be disguised, that the consummation of the measure is not yet secure from the dangers of defeat, even in this country.

There are many secret but influential opposers of the measure, who have been borne along by the current of popular excitement, ostensibly extending to it their support, but who are awaiting only an opportunity to resist and defeat it.

Matters of local interest and subjects of irreconcilable discord, incentives to partisanship, intrigue and disorganization are attempted to be pressed upon the Convention, tending to *revolution* instead of *annexation*, and threatening to incorporate in the projected constitution, matters incompatible with the principles of the Constitution of the United States.

These considerations evince the importance of perfect concert and harmony of action, and of coincidence and cooperation of purpose, no less than prudent circumspection, on the part of those respectively charged with the administration of the two Governments.

The Policy pursued therefore, by the Executive of Texas pending negotiations touching annexation, towards the Governments of England, France and Mexico, should be understood and appreciated by the American Cabinet.

The many misrepresentations that have been industriously circulated both by the press and by designing individuals in both countries, are calculated to lead to error; but the President would not do that Cabinet the injustice to entertain the supposition that any of its members can have consented to receive impressions from such sources.

When the overture for annexation was communicated on the part of the United States by their Chargé d' Affaires, the Hon Mr Donelson, to this Government on the 31st of March last, the latter had long been on terms of friendly national intercourse with the sovereignties of England and France, whose diplomatic agents were then residing near this Government. That overture in view of the President, created no cause or excuse on the part of Texas, for an

abrupt termination of that intercourse. To its continuance, the presence of a diplomatic agent of this Republic at the Courts of London and Paris, was necessary; and Mr Smith, who had then but recently returned from Europe, was sent back to resume the function of Chargé d' Affaires of Texas, some time suspended by absence from his post, and by the Senate's rejection of the appointment of Mr Terrell. The intercourse of Mr Smith with those Courts, under the instructions of the Executive, has doubtless had an effect to reconcile their Sovereigns to the policy of annexation. But, aside from this consideration, the usages of national courtesy and comity required such a measure on the part of the Executive of Texas; especially at a juncture, when a change in the policy of the country, not favored by the European Powers, was about to take place; in order that the proper explanations concerning the course of the authorities and people of Texas might be seasonably made to those Powers.

Mr Smith having satisfactorily performed the duties of his mission, was recalled early in June ultimo.

The good offices of England and France to obtain a recognition of the independence of this Republic from Mexico, had been solicited and obtained by the Executive of Texas, long before the adoption by the American Congress, of the Joint Resolution, proffering the alternative and defining the basis of *annexation* to the Federal Union. Among the high obligations to the community imposed upon the Executive by the very tenure of his official charge, that of securing *acknowledged independence* to the nation, with its incidents of quiet and freedom from the distresses of frontier and marauding warfare; protecting the industry and nascent resources of the country from the paralysing influence of threatened hostilities; and securing to the Republic additional dignity and elevation in the scale of nationality, was paramount; and one, for the violation of which, no dispensation could prevail. Surely the impression cannot obtain, that the arrival from the United States of the proposition for annexation, however welcome to the authorities and people of Texas, could operate to discharge her Executive from the performance of a duty so imperative, as that of using his best efforts to secure an acknowledgment of her independence from Mexico. Negotiations to gain that acknowledgment and to procure the consent of the United States to the measure of annexation, had long been simultaneously carried on. Never was it supposed that those negotiations aimed at the attainment of objects, incompatible with each other: and the Executive conceives that his course would have been most censurable, circumstanced as the country then was, if he had failed to use every honorable means for the accomplishment of each and both those objects.

The acceptance of a proposition for annexation necessarily referred itself to the decision of the nation, not to that of the Executive; and

the Chief Magistrate, having it in his power to present to the nation such a proposition from the United States, along with a recognition of its independence from Mexico, was no more at liberty to withhold the *one* than the *other*. The people were entitled to choose between the two alternatives.

Impressed by such considerations the Executive in March last, placed at the disposal of the representatives of France and Great Britain, upon their renewal of the offer of the good offices of those Powers with Mexico, for a peaceful settlement of the difficulties between the two republics, upon the basis of her acknowledgment of the independence of Texas, with the understanding that the latter would maintain her separate existence;—a statement of conditions preliminary to a treaty of peace.

These conditions were subsequently acceded to by Mexico, and remitted to this Government through the diplomatic functionaries of France and England.

Upon their reception, the President issued his proclamation to the People of Texas dated the 4th of June last; wherein are stated the "circumstances which preceded and led to that understanding with Mexico," and the principles which influenced him in the transaction.<sup>a</sup>

From that Proclamation (a copy whereof is enclosed for reference) it will be seen that the Executive, on placing in the hands of the British and French Ministers, the preliminaries referred to, declared his readiness "to submit them to the people of this country for their decision and action, as soon as they were adopted by the Government of Mexico; "—that those functionaries and their respective Governments were emphatically reminded," that he was no more than the agent of the people;— that he could neither direct, control, nor influence their decision; and that his bounden duty was to carry out their determination constitutionally ascertained and expressed, be it what it might; "—that our Representative at the Courts of France and Great Britain was specially instructed to press upon the attention of those Governments, that, if the people of Texas should determine to put an end to the separate existence of the country, the Executive, so far as depended upon his official action, must and would give immediate and full effect to their will."

The inconsistency, illiberality and injustice of charging that any measure of policy hitherto adopted or pursued by the Executive originated in a spirit of hostility to the cause of annexation, it is believed are now manifest. The good offices of England and France had been invoked and conceded;—the unwillingness of those Powers to see Texas merge her nationality was understood; the President in accepting their invited intervention; in reminding them that its results were to be submitted to the decision of the nation; in impress-

<sup>a</sup> See *Niles' Register*, LXVIII, 258.

ing at the Courts of Great Britain and France, that, to choose between a distinct national existence, and incorporation with the Union, was alone the prerogative of the Texian people; in receiving and presenting for their choice *those alternatives*, as proffered by the United States on the one hand, and by Mexico on the other:—has but acted in that spirit of impartiality and justice, which the relations of Texas with each of those several powers impelled him to assume; animated at the same time by an earnest desire faithfully to discharge his official obligations towards the people of this Republic.

In the exercise of their right, the people have so manifested their decided preference for *annexation* over the correlative proposition;—a preference deriving higher merit from the acknowledged value of the rejected *alternative*;—that the Executive conceives he would prove recreant to his trust, should he not exclusively devote his energies to a prompt and faithful consummation of the measure of annexation, according to the terms of the pending overture.

You will fully communicate the preceding views and sentiments entertained by the Executive, to the President of the United States; and assure His Excellency of his readiness and zeal to cooperate in any measure calculated to hasten and secure the Union of the two Republics.

You will keep this Department duly informed of your proceedings, and of all matters important in your judgment to be communicated for the information of the Government.

With these instructions, accept the assurance of distinguished consideration and regard with which I have the honor to be

Your Very Obedient and Faithful Servant

EBENR ALLEN  
*Secretary of State.*

HON. DAVID S. KAUFMAN  
*Chargé d' Affaires of Texas*  
*etc etc etc*

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DONELSON TO BUCHANAN.<sup>a</sup>

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JONES TO POLK.<sup>b</sup>

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT  
*Washington, on the Brazos. July 12th. 1845.*

To His Excellency JAMES K. POLK,  
*Etc. Etc. Etc.*

SIR.

I avail myself with much pleasure of the opportunity afforded me by the return of General Besançon to address your Excellency

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<sup>a</sup> July 11, 1845. See Calendar of Correspondence with the United States in Part I.

<sup>b</sup> See Records of Department of State (Texas), Book 47, p. 40.

this letter, and to communicate to you the gratifying intelligence, that the Deputies of the People of Texas assembled in Convention at the City of Austin on the 4th. Instant, and adopted on that day an ordinance expressing the acceptance and assent of the people to the proposals made by the government of the United States on the subject of the Annexation of Texas to the American Union.

This assent given with promptness and with much unanimity affords the assurance that this great measure, to the success of which, your Excellency is so sincerely attached, will be consummated without further difficulty and as I ardently hope in peace.

I shall have the further satisfaction to transmit to you very soon by request of the Convention, a copy of the ordinance I have now reference to, which will be placed in your hands by Mr. D. S. Kaufman, whom I have caused to be accredited as Chargé d'Affaires of Texas near your Government, and I beg you to accept in the meantime, assurances of the high regard with which I am

Your Excellency's

Most Obedient

and very humble servant

ANSON JONES

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DONELSON TO ALLEN.<sup>a</sup>

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DONELSON TO BUCHANAN.<sup>b</sup>

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DONELSON TO TAYLOR.<sup>c</sup>

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DONELSON TO BUCHANAN.<sup>c</sup>

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JONES TO MOUTON.<sup>d</sup>

[Asks for the restoration of certain slaves to Mrs. Mary E. H. Shotwell, who were unlawfully taken from her by N. J. Moore and Samuel Stevens and carried to New Orleans, where they are now held.]

<sup>a</sup> A. L. S., July 16, 1845. See Calendar of Correspondence with the United States in Part I.

<sup>b</sup> July 22, 1845. See Calendar of Correspondence with the United States in Part I.

<sup>c</sup> July 24, 1845. See Calendar of Correspondence with the United States in Part I.

<sup>d</sup> L. S., July 25, 1845. In the files of the correspondence is a letter from Mrs. Shotwell to Jones, July 14, 1845, transmitting a copy of a memorial from her of July 16, 1845—the memorial was attested after the letter was signed—, asking for the recovery of the slaves. Mouton was governor of Louisiana. See Allen to Mrs. Shotwell, July 28, 1845.

ALLEN TO MRS. SHOTWELL.<sup>a</sup>

[Transmits Allen to Mouton, July 25, 1845, to have the blanks filled and to be forwarded by mail.]

ALLEN TO DONELSON.<sup>b</sup>BUCHANAN TO DONELSON.<sup>b</sup>BUCHANAN TO ALLEN.<sup>c</sup>CRAWFORD TO DONELSON.<sup>d</sup>

## ALLEN TO LEE.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
Washington [Texas] 2 August 1845.<sup>e</sup>

SIR

Advices have reached this department that the Hon David S. Kauphman <sup>f</sup> is sick at Nacogdoches, and that some weeks may elapse before he will be able to repair to his post as Chargé d'Affaires of this Republic at the City of Washington. It is hoped that his confinement will be of short duration, and that he will soon be able to assume the discharge of his official functions.

But it is deemed necessary in the mean time that this Government should be represented by a proper diplomatic agent near the Government of the United States.

By virtue of your appointment as Secretary of Legation, you are authorised to discharge the duties of Acting Chargé d'Affaires in the event of the absence of the principal officer from his post; and it is deemed advisable by the President that you enter upon the discharge of those duties, upon your reaching Washington unless the arrival of Mr Kauphman may be relied on in course of one or two weeks in which event you are to be governed by your own discretion under the circumstances of the case.

Together with a proper commission, Letters of Credence, and an office copy of the same, addressed to the Secretary of Foreign Affairs of the United States will be herewith furnished you.

You will proceed therefore with all convenient despatch to the City of Washington on the Potomac, where you will take possession of the archives, seals and books belonging to the Texian Legation

<sup>a</sup> July 28, 1845.

<sup>b</sup> July 28, 1845. See Calendar of Correspondence with the United States in Part I.

<sup>c</sup> L. S., July 28, 1845. See Donelson to Allen, August 14, 1845 (transmitting certain letters).

<sup>d</sup> July 29, 1845. See Donelson to Allen, August 14, 1845.

<sup>e</sup> Received August 31. See Lee to Allen, September 8, 1845.

<sup>f</sup> Kaufman.

there; and on your arrival, call upon the Secretary of State of the United States, and deliver to him in person your original Letters of Credence, retaining the office copy.

You will request of him to be presented at the proper time and place, to His Excellency the President of the United States, and tender to him at the audience, the salutations of His Excellency the President of Texas, with the assurance of his friendly dispositions and cheerful cooperation in carrying out and perfecting the policy and measure of *annexation*, according to the terms of the adopted and pending basis.

For your further guidance, you will open the Letter of Instructions addressed to the Hon. David S. Kaufman Chargé d'Affaires of Texas, and be governed by the directions therein contained.

You will keep this department duly informed of your proceedings and of all matters which you may deem important to be communicated to this Government; and on the arrival of Mr Kauphman to take charge of the Legation, acquaint him with whatever may have transpired therein, during the interval of his detention or absence therefrom.

With those instructions, I have only to add the assurance of distinguished consideration with which

I am

Your Obedient Servant

EBNR. ALLEN.  
*Secretary of State.*

Hon. WILLIAM D. LEE  
*Acting Chargé d'Affaires of Texas*  
*etc etc etc*

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DONELSON TO ALLEN.<sup>a</sup>

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MASON TO RHODES.<sup>b</sup>

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DONELSON TO ALLEN.<sup>c</sup>

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DONELSON TO ALLEN.<sup>d</sup>

[Inclosed are Buchanan to Allen, July 28, 1845, announcing that Donelson has leave to return to the United States, and Crawford to Donelson July 29, 1845 which follows.]

<sup>a</sup> A. L. S., August 5, 1845. See Calendar of Correspondence with the United States in Part I.

<sup>b</sup> August 7, 1845. See Rhodes to Allen, August 21, 1845 (announcing the authority of Rhodes to communicate with the Texan government).

<sup>c</sup> L. S., August 14, 1845 (concerning annexation). See Calendar of Correspondence with the United States in Part I.

<sup>d</sup> L. S., August 14, 1845 (transmitting certain letters). See Calendar of Correspondence with the United States in Part I.