

CORRESPONDENCE WITH MEXICO.

FILISOLA TO SANTA ANNA.^aSECRET TREATY BETWEEN SANTA ANNA AND THE TEXAN GOVERNMENT.^bSANTA ANNA TO FILISOLA.^cPUBLIC TREATY BETWEEN SANTA ANNA AND THE TEXAN GOVERNMENT.^b

BURNET TO SANTA ANNA.

VELASCO. 17 May 1836

EXCELLENT SIR.

I have the honor to receive Your Excellency's communication of this day apprising me of the return of General Woll, and of the circumstances that conduced to it.^d

The government of Texas actuated by the principles of an enlightened humanity, and by a sincere desire to observe all the approved usages of the most civilized nations, cannot but regret that an event so painful as the one mentioned in Your Excellency's communication should have occurred. The conduct that has been manifested towards the prisoners whom the casualties of war have thrown into their power, affords indubitable testimony that no intention could exist on their part, to infringe, in the slightest degree, the equitable "rights of nations," in the person of General Woll.

I trust Your Excellency will readily perceive from the tenor of the letter of General Rusk to Genl Woll of 12 Inst., a copy of which accompanies Your Excellency's communication, that the reason of

^a April 28, 1836. See Calendar.

^b May 14, 1836. See Webb to Bee, March 7, 1839.

^c May 14, 1836 (translation). See Calendar. The copy found in the files varies slightly from that published, which is also without date.

^d This letter has not been found.

Genl Woll's recall to Camp was produced by the excitement produced by the cruel fate of those who had fallen into the power of Mexico. The manifestations of passion on the part of the leaders lead to some act of violence relative to the lives and irrational persons, who are to be found in those composed in part of volunteers.

In making these just concessions, I must remark, that no portion of them is to be compared with the uncourteous threats found in the communication which You transmit to me. The evidence of petulance on the part of the Government in its extension to this government from Mexico. The government of Texas can feel that it is not to be conducted, during the present contest, with the same impatience, age, and more especially when that is in such a conspicuous contrast, to the many acts of violence and warfare, that have characterized the conduct of the Mexican Government.

This government has never recognized the sense of the Sanctity of his position, and will not permit [it] to be violated.

In conclusion I would say to Your Excellency that it may be practicable General Woll to remain at the Head Quarters of the Mexican Army, but if your impatience decline all prudential considerations, I will depart at any moment with such measures as may be at our command.

With high considerations

I am

Your Excellency's

To His Excellency
DON ANTONIO LOPEZ

DE

SANTA ANNA

President etc

BURNET TO

EXCELLENT SIR,

I have the pleasure to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of this morning relative to the execution of the prisoners convicted and sentenced to death for the rebellion. I am glad to hear that the Aide of General Woll,

Genl Woll's recall to Camp was predicated in the apprehension that the excitement produced by the cruelties inflicted on our countrymen who had fallen into the power of Mexicans together with some alleged manifestations of passion on the part of Genl Woll himself, might lead to some act of violence relative to his person, by intemperate and irrational persons, who are to be found in all armies and especially in those composed in part of volunteers.

In making these just concessions to Your Excellency, I cannot but remark, that no portion of them is extracted by the intemperate and uncourteous threats found in the letter of Genl Woll to Genl Rusk, which You transmit to me. The terms of that letter convey more evidence of petulance on the part of the writer, than cause of apprehension to this government from his projected appeal to the world. The government of Texas can feel no hesitation in submitting their conduct, during the present contest, to the scrutiny of an enlightened age, and more especially when that conduct will be opposed in conspicuous contrast, to the many aberrations from the rules of civilized warfare, that have characterized the deportment of their enemies.

This government has never regarded General Woll as a prisoner of war. The detention of which he complains resulted from a deep sense of the Sanctity of his position and a careful anxiety to preserve [it] inviolate.

In conclusion I would say to Your Excellency that so soon as it may be practicable General Woll shall be safely conducted to the Head Quarters of the Mexican Army—but should the General's great impatience decline all prudential consideration, he is at liberty to depart at any moment with such means of protection as are at present at our command.

With high considerations

I am

Your Exce's Obt Sert

signed

DAVID G BURNET

To His Exc

DON ANTONIO LOPEZ

DE

SANTA ANNA

President etc

BURNET TO SANTA ANNA.

VELASCO *19th May 1836.*

EXCELLENT SIR,

I have the pleasure to acknowledge the receipt of Your communication of this morning relative to the case of the Soldier who was convicted and sentenced to death for an assault on the person of the Aide of General Woll,

The humanity which prompts Your Excellency's mind on this occasion, is duly appreciated by the Government, and the culprit will receive a commutation of his merited punishment.

With great respect

I am

Your obt Servt

DAVID G BURNET

To His Excellency

DON ANTONIO LOPEZ

DE SANTA ANNA.

BURNET TO SANTA ANNA.^a

VELASCO 20 May 1836

To His Excellency

the President DON

ANTONIO LOPEZ DE SANTA

ANNA

SIR

I inclose to Your Excellency a passport for the Genl Adrian Woll; and I have the pleasure to inform You that dispositions are being made for the departure of the escort this evening, with the intention that they shall march from the opposite Side of the river early in the morning. With great consideration, I am

Your Excellency's

Most obt Servt

(Signed)

DAVID G. BURNET

BURNET TO SANTA ANNA.

VELASCO 20th May 1836

EXCELLENT SIR

Your esteemed letter of yesterday I have duly received.^b

The Scarcity of horses at this point renders it inconvenient to furnish a larger escort for Genl Woll than a Lieutenant and five men of the company of Capt Fisher. These can be prepared to depart this Evening if desirable—

Should it comport with the wishes of Gen Woll under his full knowledge of facts to accept of this conduct, Your Excellency will please signify it, and the necessary arrangements will be immediately made

With high Regard

I am

Your Excellencys

most Obt Sevt

signed

DAVID G BURNET

To his Excellency

President DON ANTONIO

LOPEZ DE SANTA ANNA

^aA. L. S.

^bThis letter has not been found.

FILISOLA TO SANTA ANNA

SANTA ANNA

EXCELLENT SIR,

When the cabinet of Texas has which I have complied with on my When protests have been made by perish with all your family rather than me;—and when General Filisola has treaty shall be religiously fulfilled, ever orders I have communicated hearing the clamors of certain in Orleans, issues a decree to the cabinet should set me on shore in order to, which I have so long languished—I lency the surprise which such conduct bers of the Cabinet inspired me with cannot but believe that my person are going to enjoy the barbarous geance. I beseech your Excellency board this vessel, because there are and I cannot leave it alive. I hope to answer me, and receive my Liberty. On board the schooner Velasco June 4th 1836.

(S)

To his Excellency the Prest

DAVID G. BURNET

SANTA ANNA

Office of the Private Secretary
Republic, General-in-chief of
MOST EXCELLENT SIR:

His Excellency the General
his communication of the 25th
follows:

[Here follows Filisola to Santa Anna]

I transcribe said communication information and the Cabinet's, in order that the Agreement made between

^a May 25, 1836 (extract). See Santa Anna's

^b Translation.

^c See Calendar.

FILISOLA TO SANTA ANNA.^aSANTA ANNA TO BURNET.^b

EXCELLENT SIR,

When the cabinet of Texas has ratified with me a solemn treaty which I have complied with on my part as far as my situation allows, When protests have been made by your Excellency, that you would perish with all your family rather than fail in what has been promised me;—and when General Filisola has replied that on his part the whole treaty shall be religiously fulfilled, having previously obeyed whatever orders I have communicated to him;—then your Excellency, hearing the clamors of certain individuals just arrived from New Orleans, issues a decree to the commander of this vessel, that he should set me on shore in order to continue the close confinement in which I have so long languished—I cannot conceal from your Excellency the surprise which such conduct has produced when the members of the Cabinet inspired me with so much confidence, and as I cannot but believe that my personal enemies have triumphed and are going to enjoy the barbarous pleasure of executing their vengeance. I beseech your Excellency at least, that I may be shot on board this vessel, because there are soldiers here who can execute it, and I cannot leave it alive. I hope your Excellency will be pleased to answer me, and receive my highest consideration. God and Liberty. On board the schooner of war Invincible, in the port of Velasco June 4th 1836.

(Signed)

ANTONIO LOPEZ DE
SANTA ANNA.To his Excellency the Prest
DAVID G. BURNETSANTA ANNA TO BURNET.^b

Office of the Private Secretary to the President of the Mexican Republic, General-in-chief of this Army of Operations

MOST EXCELLENT SIR:

His Excellency the General of Division, Don Vicente Filisola, in his communication of the 25th May ulto. says to me that which follows:

[Here follows Filisola to Santa Anna, May 25, 1836.]^c

I transcribe said communication to your Excellency for your information and the Cabinets, in order that you may be acquainted, that the Agreement made between us the 14th May last, has been

^a May 25, 1836 (extract). See Santa Anna to Burnet, June 8, 1836.

^b Translation.

^c See Calendar.

fulfilled on the part of H. Excellency General Don Vincent Filisola, which agreement was sent on to him, through General Don T. J. Rusk.

On this occasion I repeat to you my consideration. God and Liberty. Velasco 8th June 1836

Signed ANTO. LOPEZ DE SANTA ANNA.

To H. E. the President
DAVID G. BURNETT.

SANTA ANNA TO BURNET.^a

Office of the Private Secretary to the President of the Republic of Mexico, General-in-Chief of the Army of Operations.

YOUR EXCELLENCY,

The tumultuous excitement which compelled your Excy. to dictate the unexpected measure of my return to shore from on board the Schooner of War *Invincible*, having disappeared with the absence of those who promoted it, the time I believe is arrived for your Excy. and Cabinet to think of carrying into effect my voyage to Vera Cruz, pursuant to the treaty made on the 14th. May last for the Commissioners who delivered to me your Excellency's note, Baily Hardeman, Secretary of the Treasury, Memucan Hunt, J. Pinckney Henderson, and Benj. F. Smith, assured me that within four days the excitement which compelled your Excy to that measure would subside and that I should return to the same vessel, for which reason I yielded, and desisted from the determination I had communicated to your Excy in my Official of that date.^b

Be pleased to communicate to me your resolution, in order to remove my present state of uncertainty, after the treaty celebrated and which has been already fulfilled on my part.

I repeat the sentiments of my consideration and regard. God and Liberty. Velasco 8th. June 1836.

Signed ANTO. LOPEZ DE SANTA ANNA.

His Excy.

President DAVID G. BURNETT.

SANTA ANNA TO BURNET.^c

BURNET TO SANTA ANNA.^d

^a Translation.

^b Referring apparently to his letter of May 4, in which he expressed his determination not to leave the *Invincible* alive.

^c June 9, 1836. See Calendar.

^d June 10, 1836. See Calendar.

BURNET TO SANTA ANNA

[Acknowledging receipt of Santa Anna's letter of May 21, 1836, transcribing despatch of Filisola, May 21, 1836.]

SANTA ANNA TO BURNET

PROCLAMATION OF BLOCKADE

SANTA ANNA TO BURNET

A S. E. el Gral. Sam. Houston.

MUY SEÑOR MIO Y DE MI APRECIO

Adjunto à V. la contestacion original de la carta de 4 de Julio, para que se imponga

La advertencia del Gobierno de Mexico, contraida á manifestar, *no sér obligatorio*, refuerza cuanto tengo que decir, precisa è indispensable mi presencia en el campo, cuanto aqui haga ó escriba, de lo contrario, como al otro lado del rio Bravo de Arriaga, convencerse de una vez, q. con dificultad el 14 de Mayo, no se hace mas, q. por la independencia de Tejas estaria a punto de reconocerse, si el tumulto de Velasco no se hubiera disipada, cuando se dispuso por la autoridad de V. se pierde es precioso, y quizá no volveria a ser pues injustas desconfianzas tan perjudiciales para el ofendido. Las acciones de V. con ningun acto indigno en la guerra.

Las razones antes dichas me persuaden q. se escriba al Ministro Mexicano, para que de tiempo podria yo pasar à V. para una entrevista con el Gen. Jackson.

Medite V. lo mas conveniente para el adicto amigo Segó. Servidor

Q. B. S. M.

^a June 15, 1836.

^b July 4, 1836. See Webb to Burnet.

^c July 21, 1836. See *Telegraph* and *Register*.

^d L. S.

^e See the two letters of Santa Anna to Burnet.

BURNET TO SANTA ANNA.^a

[Acknowledging receipt of Santa Anna's letter of June 8, 1836, transcribing despatch of Filisola, May 25, 1836.]

SANTA ANNA TO JACKSON.^bPROCLAMATION OF BLOCKADE OF MEXICAN PORTS.^cSANTA ANNA TO HOUSTON.^d

A S. E. el Gral. Saml. Houston.

Orazimbo, Oct. 24 de 1836.

MUY SEÑOR MIO Y DE MI APRECIO:

Adjunto à V. la contestacion original del Presidente Jackson á mi carta de 4 de Julio, para que se imponga de su contenido.

La advertencia del Gobierno de Mexico, q. esplica el Gen. Jackson, contraida á manifestar, *no sér obligatoria á las autoridades de aquella Nacion ninguna transacion hecha conmigo mientras permanezca prisionero*, refuerza cuanto tengo manifestado con repeticion, de sér precisa è indispensable mi presencia en aquel Gabinete, è insignificante cuanto aqui haga ó escriba, despues de retirar al Ejército Mexicano al otro lado del rio Bravo del Norte. Es necesario Sôr. mio, convencerse de una vez, q. condilatárel cumplimto. del convenio de 14 de Mayo, no se hace mas, q. perjudicár todos los intereses. La independencia de Tejas estaria a esta fha. reconocida, ó procsima á reconocerse, si el tumulto de Velasco^e no hubiese impedido mi partida, cuando se dispuso por la autoridad competente. El tiempo q. se pierde es precioso, y quizá no volverá á presentarse. Desaparezcan pues injustas desconfianzas tan depresivas para los ofensores, como pa. el ofendido. Las acciones de mi vida publica no se mancharán con ningun acto indigno en la prosperidad, ò en la desgracia.

Las razones ante-dichas me hacen creer innecesaria cualquiera cosa q. se escriba al Ministro Mexicano en los Estados Unidos; y en ahorro de tiempo podria yo pasar á Washington, pues no hay duda q. una entrevista con el Gen. Jackson traeria bien para todos.

Medita V. lo mas conveniente, y cuente con la deferencia de su adicto amigo Sego. Servidor

Q. B. S. M.

ANT. LOPEZ DE SANTA ANNA
[Rúbrica]

^a June 15, 1836.

^b July 4, 1836. See Webb to Bee, March 7, 1839.

^c July 21, 1836. See *Telegraph and Texas Register*, August 16, 1836.

^d L. S.

^e See the two letters of Santa Anna to Burnet written June 8, 1836.

P. D.

He hablado estensamente con el General Austin y Corl. Bee sobre el objeto importante de mi visita á Washington, prefiriendo este seguro conducto, al papel. Por tanto a estos Söes. me refiero en todo lo concerniente al particular.

L. DE STA. ANNA
[Rúbrica.]

HOUSTON'S MEMORANDUM FOR SANTA ANNA.^a

[Suggests that Santa Anna write to the Mexican minister at Washington enjoining obedience to orders, also an official letter to Jackson and a confidential one favoring annexation of Texas to the United States; and defines his own attitude towards the release of Santa Anna.]

PROCLAMATION REVOKING TEXAN BLOCKADE OF MEXICAN PORTS.^b

AUSTIN TO MARTÍNEZ.^c

REPUBLIC OF TEXAS

Department of State

COLUMBIA TEXAS *Novr. 30th. 1836*

His Excellency the President of Texas, animated by those noble and liberal sentiments of humanity and liberality which have characterized the people and Govt. of Texas, in the contest with Mexico; has directed me to open a correspondence through you, for the purpose of arranging for the mutual release of all the prisoners of war in the possession of either party, and to say to you that this object can be effected on the following terms.

1. All the Texian prisoners of war at Matamoros or else where in the possession of the Mexican Govt., shall be delivered at Brazos Santiago to an agent of this Govt. who will be appointed for that purpose.
2. The same number of Mexican prisoners according to rank, shall be set at liberty, in exchange for said Texian prisoners, and delivered to an agent of the Mexican Govt. at Galveston.
3. All the other Mexican prisoners of war in the possession of this Govt. shall be liberated on their parole of honor, not to serve against Texas, nor in the Mexican army at any point or place whatever during the war, unless they are first regularly exchanged.

^a October 25, 1836. See Crane, *Life of Sam Houston*, 122-123.

^b November 1, 1836. See *Telegraph and Texas Register*, November 16, 1836.

^c There are on record also letters from Austin to T. Toby & Bro. and to A. J. Yates, dated respectively November 30 and December 12, requesting their help in bringing about the proposed exchange of prisoners.

4. The said Texian prisoners by the said agent of this Govt. of the United States of America expense of this Govt. and in manner be embarked at Galveston America chartered for the expense of the Mexican Govt.

5. The necessary provisions for Mexican authorities to receive Texas prisoners at Matamoros, this Govt. to the Mexican prisoners at Galveston, prisoners on board of vessels so that they shall not be armed vessels, cruisers.

In order to save delay made through Thos. Tolson the above proposition is fully authorised by this Govt. in every particular.

I take this occasion to give you my personal consideration and

To DON FRANCISCO MARTINEZ
Mexican Consul New Orleans

To his Excellency
SAM. HOUSTON
President of the Republic

SIR

I have the honor to say to you and all in excellent health by the mouth of Clear Creek Pattitio's^b plantation (located) crossed the Sabine, at Bayou thence Opelousus^c and then took Steam Boat, after

4. The said Texian prisoners shall be embarked at Brazos Santiago, by the said agent of this Govt. in a vessell or vessells under the flag of the United States of America chartered for that purpose at the expense of this Govt. and the said Mexican prisoners shall in like manner be embarked at Galveston in vessells of the United States of America chartered for that purpose by the said Mexican agent at the expense of the Mexican Govt.

5. The necessary passports shall be mutually furnished by the Mexican authorities to the Texas agent who takes charge of the Texas prisoners at Matamoros and Brazos Santiago, and by those of this Govt. to the Mexican agent who takes charge of the Mexican prisoners at Galveston, and also a safe conduct for the vessells and prisoners on board of them, to their respective ports of destination, so that they shall not in any manner be detained or molested by the armed vessells, cruisers or forces of either party

In order to save delay, the answer to this communication may be made through Thos. Toby Texas agent in New Orleans, and should the above proposition be acceded to, the said Thos. Toby will be fully authorised by this Govt. to close the terms for its prompt fulfilment in every particular.

I take this occasion to present to you the assurances of my personal consideration and respect.

S. F. AUSTIN
Sec. of State

To DON FRANCISCO PIZARRO }
MARTINEZ }
Mexican Consul New Orleans }

HOCKLEY TO HOUSTON.^a

ON BOARD THE S BOAT TENNESSEAN
near Natchez 13th Decr. 1836

To his Excellency
SAM. HOUSTON
President of the Republic of Texas

SIR

I have the honor to report our progress thus far without accident and all in excellent health. We had a severe and fatiguing ride—by the mouth of Clear Creek—Cedar Bayou—Lynchburg—Old river—Pattitio's ^b plantation (at which the General rested part of the day) crossed the Sabine, at Ballew's ferry—at which the guard is stationed thence Opelousus ^c and to Negroville or Washington fm. which we took Steam Boat, after but a few hours Detention—and arrived at

^a A. L. S.

^b Probably Patillo's.

^c Opelousas.

Plaquemine of the Mississippi River at noon 11th. In about two hours from our arrival the Tennessean appeared in sight and we were received on board. Thus far we have no reason to complain—the weather having been remarkably fine during our journey and we have been generally fortunate in meeting conveyances. I shall proceed in this Boat to the Mouth of Cumberland river (unless overtaken by a Louisville Boat) and from thence have the chances from the Boat's passing up this river—those from St Louis and from Nashville to Louisville—from whence the packets Boats run regularly up the river. The Ohio is said to be clear of Ice but the weather intensely cold.

We escaped recognition or detention most wonderfully—but two or three instances having occurred—and they unimportant.

Genl. St. Anna, Col Almonte, Col. Bee and Maj. Patton^a present their respects to your Excellency, With whom I have the honor to offer my own, and to be—

With high respect

Your Excellencys

Most obedient Servant

GEO. W. HOCKLEY

HOCKLEY TO HOUSTON.^b

MY DEAR SIR,

Should opportunity of^c I should be pleased that my thanks (and probably those of the Republic might be added) to Mr. Saml. Whiting—for the accurate description of our persons, and the names of my companions, given to the persons in charge of the Steam Boat—Cayuga at Lynchburg. It had its full effect in causing me great annoyance for the time—which I presume will be satisfactory. But I would advise when next he attempts manouvering with a soldier, even as young as myself that it would be proper to look well to his *rear* as well as his *front*. We are all in fine spirits and health as you will find by our Letters as I believe Col Bee and Maj Patton, both write by this oppy. Very respectfully and

Sincerely Your friend and

ob. Sv.

GEO. W. HOCKLEY

S. B. Tennessean 18 Decr 1836

His Exy

SAM HOUSTON

Presidt. Repl of Texas

^a Hockley, Bee, and Patton were on their way to Washington with Santa Anna and Almonte.

^b A. L. S.

^c Offer.

DEAR GEN'L,

We had a fatiguing journey to your friend's House more than 30 miles to induce Genl Santa Anna to make better progress in the boats than on our ponys" but we had difficulties overcome us. We arrived without accident and there are Nine Miles of Plaquemine to be crossed—riage—and where this Boat was Natchez last night Col. Hockley bro't our friend Mr. Ross on board this place. He has promised to go to Louisville or Wheeling we were in anxiety. Gen'l S. A. is in the city. Your kindness to him you may see. You are by this I am in the hands of cares of office—the crowd, the "fleas" of Columbia will all be the charm of Home. I am told you will give me more pleasure when you are reinstored to health on your farm. We have no news of the election—he carried Pennsylvania had been expected. Tennessee White!^c all unite in remembering

I am my dear Sir

With great esteem

and under a

very res

Maj Gen

SAM HOUSTON,

Texas

^a A. L. S.

^b Probably "Groce's Retreat" on the

^c Hugh L. White of that State, one of the

BEE TO HOUSTON.^a

VICKSBURGH 14th [December] 36

Steam Boat

Tennessean.

DEAR GEN'L,

We had a fatiguing journey of twelve days from your hospitable friend's House more through water than on Land—in so much, as to induce Genl Santa Anna to say—"he believed he would have made better progress in the Independence Commodore Hawkins—than on our ponys" but we were on too important a Mission to let difficulties overcome us. We reached Washington (Negroville) without accident and there took Steam Boat which took us within Nine Miles of Plaquemine to which place we were conveyed in a carriage—and *where* this Boat very soon made her appearance. At Nachez last night Col. Hockley went ashore for a Moment and bro't our friend Mr. Ross on board—who has continued with us to this place. He has promised to forward our letters to you. At Louisville or Wheeling we will drop you a line to relieve you of all anxiety. Gen'l S. A. is in fine spirits and speaks of you often. Your kindness to him you may be assured will not soon be forgotten. You are by this I am in hopes at your favorite "Retreat"^b—the cares of office—the crowd, the confusion, to say nothing of the "fleas" of Columbia will all be obliterated in the quiet and the charm of Home. I am told, it is a delightful place—and nothing will give me more pleasure than to hear from your own pen that you are reinstored to health and are living on the pure milk of the farm. We have no news except the *certainty* of Mr. Van Burens election—he *carried* Pennsylvania and *lost* Georgia—the converse had been expected. Tennessee supported your old friend Judge White!^c all unite in remembrance

I am my dear Sir

With great esteem

and under a thousand obligations

very respectfully

Yours

BARNARD E BEE

Maj Gen

SAM HOUSTON,

Texas

^a A. L. S.^b Probably "Groce's Retreat" on the Brazos, near where the town of Hempstead now stands.^c Hugh L. White of that State, one of the three Whig candidates for president.

MARTÍNEZ TO AUSTIN.^a

Consulado Mexicano,
en
Nueva-Orleans.

El 27 del presente me entregó el Sr Tomás Toby, Agente de Texas en esta plaza, la nota que con fecha 30 del mes proximo anterior se sirvió V. dirigirme, á fin de abrir por mi conducto una negociacion para el cángo-de Prisioneros, bajo las bases que establecen las cinco proposiciones que dicha nota expresa.

Por el Bergantin Americano D. H. Miller, su capitan Driscoll, que el propio dia 27 dió la vela de este puerto, con destino á Tampico, elevé á conocimiento del Sr Presidente interino dela Republica, la comunicacion de V.; á quien quedo en participar, oportunamente, lo que en vista de ella, resuelva Su Ecselencia

Entre tanto, correspondo gustoso á la cortesía de V., presentandole igualmente las seguridades de mi personal consideracion y respeto.

Dios y Libertad, Nueva Orleans Diciembre 29 de 1836.

FRAN. PIZARRO
MARTINEZ

Al Sr S. F. AUSTIN,
Secretario de Estado,
Texas.

YATES TO AUSTIN.^b

Official to the Department of State No 1.
His Excellency

Gen. STEPHEN F. AUSTIN
Secretary of State

SIR

In compliance with your instructions of 12th Decr. last, I called on Messrs T Toby and brother and inquired what had been done relative to the proposition from the Govt. of Texas for the exchange of prisoners. Thos. Toby Esq. informed that the letter to the Mexican Consul and their instructions on the subject from your department had just been received. The letter was showed me by Mr T Toby and I showed him your letter of instructions to me, but he seemed of opinion the matter could be managed without any intervention of another person, and desired to have the interview with the Consul alone. He has had that interview, and received a written reply, the tenor of which is favorable, and the original he will no doubt send by the first opportunity

I remain Sir very respectfully
Your obedt servt.

A. J. YATES

NEW ORLEANS *Jany. 4. 1837.*

^a A. L. S.; accompanied by an English translation made by Nathaniel Amory, May 2, 1839.

^b A. L. S.

T. TOBY Esqr
D SIR

The draft shall send up to St Louis. The news of St Anna's release is far from Mexico and there is not any convention that he may enter into on his part that his mortal enemy has arrived from here we have about 1200 men in good condition I should suppose. The Genl in command and here he would be received at the camp at Monte Rea. where he is now likely will probably put the whole country in things stand now there is nothing at that somewhat interest you I do not here very long, so that there is no occasion Navy seems to be laying up in order pretty fair and 700,000 expected in five of which will come by the Schr Cora, can learn I think in the end every you expect, however, I will be better little later.

DEAR SIR.

Things are about in the same state you. The country is very quiet, and movement whatsoever Yesterday, claimed in all the public places—was any one and by those few with about near 2000 men in good condition. Feby. but what they are here for no Texas—was such an order to be issued a man Tis a service very unpopular the most enlightened Mexicans as a therefore there is little to be feared of St Anna whenever he does come breaking, and they will require all to fight against each other without success

^a This letter is inserted here as representing information coming in various ways, especially through its agents, like Toby's action. It was, of course, transmitted by Toby, whose name is in the original from Orleans.

CORRESPONDENT IN TAMPICO TO TOBY.^a

T. TOBY Esqr

TAMPICO 7th Jany 1837.

D SIR

The draft shall send up to St Louis Potosi the first mail day. The news of St Anna's release is far from being pleasing intelligence to Mexico and there is not any convention with the Government of U S. that he may enter into on his part that will be fulfilled. Bustamente his mortal enemy has arrived from Europe and is in Mexico. Here we have about 1200 men in good condition, destined no where now, I should suppose. The Genl in command is St Anna greatest enemy and here he would be received at the cannons mouth. Bravo is still at Monte Rea. where he is now likely to remain. St Anna's release will probably put the whole country in a bloody revolution, and as things stand now there is nothing At present to fear to the parties that somewhat interest you I do not think it likely that I shall be here very long, so that there is no occasion to write. The Mexican Navy seems to be laying up in ordinary at Vera Cruz. Business pretty fair and 700,000 expected in five or six days, from 2 to 300,000 of which will come by the Schr Cora, and Danl H Miller from what I can learn I think in the end everything will turn out better than you expect, however, I will be better able to inform the prospect a little later.

CORRESPONDENT IN TAMPICO TO [TOBY].^a

DEAR SIR.

TAMPICO Jany 26 1837

Things are about in the same state as they were when I last wrote you. The country is very quiet, and I hear no talk of any military movement whatsoever Yesterday, the new constitution was proclaimed in all the public places—which was listened to scarcely by any one and by those few with complete apathy. We have here near 2000 men in good condition. They are fully paid up to the 1st Feby. but what they are here for no one knows. As to going against Texas—was such an order to be issued I believe they would resist to a man Tis a service very unpopular, and tis generally considered by the most enlightened Mexicans as a country lost to them for ever—therefore there is little to be feared for the future. The appearance of St Anna whenever he does come will be the signal of a terrible outbreaking, and they will require all the force they can command to fight against each other without sending troops out of the Country.

^a This letter is inserted here as representing information of a kind that the Texan government was gathering in various ways, especially through its agents, like Toby, and by which it was more or less guided in its action. It was, of course, transmitted by Toby, whose house—T. Toby, & Bro.—were Texan agents in New Orleans.