

TREAT TO CAÑEDO.^aTREAT TO CAÑEDO.^bTREAT TO CAÑEDO.^cTREAT TO ALMONTE.^dTREAT TO LAMAR.^e

[Confidential.]

MEXICO *Jany. 31st. 1840.**Evening.*

SIR.

Referring to my last respects of 22d. and which, have gone forward, I am now happy to have learned by last Evening's *post* that the Erie will *not* Sail until the 5th Proxo. and hence *this* will reach her, and accompany my preceding two despatches and Several duplicates which have been awaiting at V. Cruz an opportunity to go forward, and after some delay will now find a *good one* pr U. S. Ship *Erie*, which Vessel will *stop* off Balize.

As I anticipated in my *last* on the 24th inst.^f I sent forward the *perliminary communication* as stated in my last; BUT, in consequence of Some remarks, from Mr. Cañedo to my friend this letter was *not* delivered, but returned to me next day with a suggestion *that* while the *matter*, was *unobjectionable*, it would be *better* policy to modify the style and phrascology, and that the despatch should come through Mr. Pakenham, who had already profferd his good offices to the Govmt. in behalf of his Sovereigns,—to *all* which I assented, considering them *quite unessential* in *point of fact*, and knowing how very *sensitive* these people are, and more so on such a *delicate topic* as the *one in question* is at the *present moment*. Retaining the Substance, I altered the Style, etc. to remove the objections of some of the Cabinet more *nice* than *wise*, and to gratify the President. Mr. Pakenham was to *bear* the *Notes*. With this letter marked as *private* and *confidential*, I addressd. Mr. Cañedo a *private* and *personal* com-

^a January 24, 1840 (No. 1). See Treat to Lamar, February 7, 1840.

^b January 24, 1840 (No. 2). See Treat to Lamar, February 7, 1840.

^c January 24, 1840 (No. 4). See Treat to Lamar, February 21, 1840.

^d January 24, 1840 (No. 5). See Treat to Lamar, February 21, 1840.

^e A. L. S.

^f Not found.

munication, which I well *know* the Same effect as if the *Mexican* And after two interviews with and *repeatedly*, Seen Mr. Cañedo despatch, *three*, days since, wh P. that He would advise me th me, the question of reception been previously determined up ing, I Saw Mr. P. twice, and left his card. The Secy of St instructed by the President to see me at the Departmt of St of course attend tho *not well*, tho, I *fear* it will *not be*. I w referd. to tomorrow, as thi Night to reach the *Erie*.

Note In consequence of m copy *this page* in *Ink*. I ha on the *Sheet* for *transmission*.

It would be useless, at this conversations had with Mr friend and the Secretary of S much as it is *all* of a *preliminary* and Even the most important what importance *should be* *Something myself direct*. *But* do the subject ample justice that your Excellency will be the next *oppty* I will give you as may be necessary for me *not* have the proposed *inter* sired it of the Secy of State opportunity by *tomorros's* for the *Erie*, and Mr. Cañedo would have been *deferrd*.

This *so far* shows that Mr. Cañedo also sent me an apology for existing circumstances, I (Castillan) politeness.

After an Interview with Mr. Pakenham accompanied me to the Palace in the evening at 1 P M to Mr. Cañedo, who was at home and Soon after Mr. Pakenham

munication, which I well knew would produce to a certain Extent the Same effect as if the *Matter* was contained in the *official* note. And after two interviews with Mr. Pakenham, who had previously, and *repeatedly*, Seen Mr. Cañedo on the Subject, Mr P. delivered the despatch, *three*, days since, when the Secretary of State informed Mr P. that He would advise me thro him, Mr. P. *when* he would receive me, the question of reception or *seeing me* and hearing me having been previously determined upon. From this period until *this Evening*, I Saw Mr. P. twice, and he once calld. on me, but being out he left his card. The Secy of State has *now* informed Mr P that he is instructed by the President to say to Me through Mr P that he will see me at the Departmt of State tomorrow at 1. o'clk. where I shall of course attend tho *not well*, in Company with Mr P. If possible, tho, I *fear* it will *not be*. I will send you copies of the Notes above referrd. to *tomorrow*, as this letter must be prepared tomorrow Night to reach the *Erie*.

Note In consequence of *misplacing* my *Copying papers*, I must copy *this page in Ink*. I have an impression in my Book, but *not* on the *Sheet for transmission*—this is the *short remedy*.

It would be useless, at this moment, to give you the details of the conversations had with Mr Pakenham, and those between my *friend* and the Secretary of State, altho' not without interest; inasmuch as it is *all* of a *preliminary* and somewhat *general character*, and Even the most important items I can hardly *qualify*, or State what importance *should be* attached to them, until I get hold of *Something myself direct*. Besides, I have not time nor Strength to do the subject ample justice by this conveyance. I trust therefore, that your Excellency will be satisfied with the leading facts. By the next *oppty* I will give you *if possible* the copies and *such* points as may be necessary for matter to be clearly understood. I should *not* have the proposed *interview to morrow*, had I not specially desired it of the Secy of State thro' Mr P. on the ground that I had an opportunity by *tomorros's post* to place letters *in Vera Cruz* in time for the *Erie*, and Mr. Cañedo has *thus* indulged me, otherwise it would have been *deferrd.* until *Next Week*.

This *so far* shows that Mr. Cañedo is *courteous* to me *at least*. He *also* sent me an apology for not calling to see me, which, under the existing circumstances, I *must overlook*. So much for Mexican (Castillan) politeness.

MEXICO February 1st. 1840. *Evening*.

After an Interview with Mr. Pakenham this morning, he accompanied me to the Palace in his own Carriage, and presented me, at 1 P M to Mr. Cañedo, who received me Very cordially and courteously, and Soon after Mr. Pakenham *withdrew*, and I remained in unin-

interrupted conversation with Mr Cañedo until half past 2 o'clk. Mr. Cañedo, made me quite *at home* and *at once personally*, and gave me a long detail of *his position* in the Cabinet, its construction, principles, of action State of public opinion, difficulties in the way of *rapid progress in anything*, and advert to the *obstacles* which he had found with the President and his colleagues, as regards the *matter* and *manner* of my reception, and he had, by using Mr. Pakenham on the one hand, and arguing in favour of receiving and hearing me confidentially,^a and he was *finally authorized* by the President to listen to all I might have to Say, without saying much *directly* to the point. It seems that he as well as myself had, intended this as rather an *introductory interview*, to open the way, gain my confidence, and give me some *hints* which he thought would be useful, and *in which I had anticipated, him*. He was disposed to hear me, but, I suggested that my *lungs* would not, at the moment, permit me to *Speak at length*, and that if he had no objection, I would *place* on paper the Views Sentiments, and wishes of the Govmt., as regards Mexico, *which* would be perhaps so far preferable to a verbal Statement, that, if he found anything worth shewing to his colleagues and the President, he would have it in a Shape to Exhibit—to all *which* he assented. In *this* I had *my objects* and which I will not *now detain* You to Explain. He said however, he would see my *credentials*, that he might report to the President *briefly* the *general* and introductory interview. I had in my pocket my instructions and the subsequent letter of the Secy of State and Explained that I had brought no credential Separate and independent of my instructions—that I received *orders* from the President at Galveston, where a part of the Cabinet then were, but that the Seals of office being at Houston, and my departure urgent, the instructions had been thought sufficient, etc. etc.

I Then shewed the introductory paragraph of my instructions relating to my *appointment Exclusively*, and Shewed the Signature of Judge Burnet, Acting Secy. of State, remarking that the handwriting of both papers, was entirely in that of the Judge, and I presumed was well known to Mr Almonte, etc. etc. He seemed quite satisfied *himself*, but stated that he knew the President would *not be*, and *feared* Almonte would *object*. He said that the Seal of State, in proof of the Signature gave validity to *ones powers*, and Should according to all usage be Separate and full for the objects intended, and *that document alone* would justify or authorize a discussion. I was obliged to admit the *fact, obvious enough*, no doubt, but suggested *Various Ways* of correcting the Evil, so that no time *Should be lost*. He seemed willing to overcome the difficulty, so far as he

^a Here something necessary for the construction of the sentence is omitted.

could, and promised to *End* the President and his colleagues, *but* point, as regards *others*.

With Mr Pakenham's *aid*, with my *progress* in carrying *Verbally* and by presenting whether I shall reach a *point* more than I can Venture whether the *remedies proposed* Cañedo will be Satisfactory Mr. Pakenham will feel *displeas* not, as I have not seen Mr P any or all these *may result in* forward *Me a regular credential* ing the Seal of the Republic with the Seal of the *State* the usual form will authorize *preliminary* arrangement *with* the basis, or principles of a *soforth*, according to *instructions* ward original and *duplicate* M. Burrough Esqr. United follow the *other*. If I *accomplish* Sign, and bind the Govmt. return. Should, as I take *time* be lost in forwarding *as far* as to enable me to go on *as* am just informed there will *be* Orleans. Should the *Labour* so than lose *any time from* that I *think* this should *not* might be directed *via the* to be forwarded *pr. first* the *first* vessel direct from *direct opportunities* offer, *the*

I said just enough to *produce* a desire to hear more Cañedo to hear me through shall try on monday.

I have not time for more I will report further in a *N. O.* in a week or ten days

Your will pardon *Hasty* my own room, and with *could*. I think I will be

could, and promised to Endeavor to do the same as regards the President and his colleagues, but could not *positively promise* on this point, as regards *others*.

With Mr Pakenhams aid, I Can *Manage this* so as not to interfere with my *progress* in carrying forward the discussion to a point *Verbally* and by presenting the written paper referred to. But, whether I shall reach a *point* where anything is to be *signed* or not is more than I can Venture to assert, *nor* can I say with certainty, whether the *remedies* proposed and listend. to favourably. by Mr. Cañedo will be Satisfactory to the President and Cabinet, or whether Mr. Pakenham will feel disposed to *help* me thro' this difficulty, or not, as I have not seen Mr P. since my leaving the Palace. However, any or all these *may result* it appears obvious that it is *best at once* to forward *Me a regular credential* Signed by the President, and having the Seal of the Republic, and countersigned by the Secy of State with the Seal of the *State Dept.*, if *any* there be. This *credential* in the usual form will authorize me to enter into any *permanent* or *preliminary* arrangement with the Govmt. of Mexico establishing the basis, or principles of a Treaty of Peace, *limits, recognition,* and soforth, according to *instructions* etc. etc. This Should come forward original and *duplicate*, addressd. *simply to Me and covered* to M. Burrough Esqr. United States Consul, *Vera Cruz*, and let one follow the *other*. If I accomplish anything, this will enable me to *Sign, and bind the Govmt.* etc. If it is not wanted, I will direct its return. Should, as I take it for granted, you concur in this, let no *time* be *lost* in forwarding *them*. Should I remove the difficulty so far as to enable me to go on, I will advise you in a few days, when I am just informed there will be *another* vessel from Vera Cruz to New Orleans. Should the Labour thus involved be in *vain*, why, better so than lose *any* time from its delay. I beg leave again to *Repeat* that I *think* this should *not* be omitted asingle moment. One Copy might be directed *via* the *Havanna* under cover to some one there, to be forwarded pr. *first good Vessel* for Vera Cruz—the other by the *first* vessel direct from N. O for Vera Cruz—if *two different direct opportunities* offer, *they* may of course be embraced.

I said just enough to Mr. Cañedo on the subject of *business*, to induce a desire to hear more and hence operate as an incentive to Mr. Cañedo to hear me through, under the proposed *remedies* which I shall try on monday.

I have not time for more, the Mail hour having nearly arrived. I will report further in a few days by the Vessel *said* to be going to N. O. in a week or ten days.

Your will pardon Haste, as I have been obliged to write away from my own room, and with such materials, and in such manner as I *best could*. I think I will be listened to throughout by Mr C. and, if I

effect nothing, I will know I *think, fully* and candidly, the Views of this govt. and *how far* they are disposed to go, If they are prepared to act at all. I am without any thing from you, but I hope you will soon send me something.

You will have seen Mr Pakenhams letter to Gen. Hamilton ere this, *but* you must *not* take *all* his opinions for gospel, tho' *in that* he may be *right*. He appears willing to serve my *objects* but I *think* I *discover* a *disposition* to *procrastinate*, which if *confirmed* I think I know the *object*. I shall continue to use his good offices, and endeavour to merit them by an *apparent* if not *real* *corresponding frankness*. Hoping my operations thus far may merit your approbation, I Remain dear Sir in great Haste, Your Most Obt Servant with the highest respect and consideration.

J TREAT

To

Gen. M B. LAMAR

*Austin**Texas.*TREAT TO LAMAR.^a

MEXICO Feb'y 1st. 1840.

SIR,

I have the honor to hand you herewith *copy* of the *contract* between the Bondholders of the Engl. Bonds against the Mexican Govmt. in London, and the *agents of the Mexican Govmt. also the Decree of Congress* authorizing the Consolidation of the *Said Bonds*, and confirming the Contract;^b and I will *add* by next vessel the regulations and instructions of this Govmt.^c which I could not do to-night.

You will *find this* a *Very important document*, and which I only recd last night, and could not dispose of the copy which must be returned. *Obtain a correct translation of it*, and it *cannot but* be *useful* to you in your *deliberations*. I have no time for *comment* and remain

Verry Respectly in grate haste
Your Obt Servant

JAMES TREAT

TREAT TO CAÑEDO.^d^a A. L. S.^b See Dublán y Lazano, *Legislación Mexicana*, III, p. 628-631. July 29, 1839.^c September 15, 1837. See *ibid.*, p. 624-628.^d February 4, 1840 (No. 6). See Treat to Lamar, February 21, 1840.

MY DEAR SIR.

I beg leave to refer you to the 31st. ulto. *letter with post* which I have got together at Vera Cruz by the pr. U. S. Ship Erie, to Sail on the 1st. ulto. I have only Sent forward *duo* ulto. *inclusive*, the balance I will send soon.

I also addressd. you Sep 1st. *inst.*, covering a *Memoire* between the Bondholders and their Agents, together with the Subject, and will soon place before the Govmt. given in virtue of a *Resolution* of the Govmt of the Agents in London *said papers*, as you will find (not time to give you) that I endeavor in my next to give you perhaps know more on subject. The Packet has arrived I have their bearing on my negotiation the attention of Mr Pakenham in the State, at least until I am able to appear from the *contract* that the of Land in Texas is *Sold* and if *sold*, the proceeds are *millions*, previously *hypothecated* I refer you to the translation but little of interest to *ad* Ultio. and 1st. inst. I have written *frequently*, and he has the Guarantee, *referred* to the State, so as to remove the *formal credentials*, embroiled on me. Mr. Pakenham will be accompanied by *me* *this evening*. Tomorrow will be accompanied by *me* my appointment, and *pro*

TREAT TO LAMAR.^a

[Confidential.]

MEXICO Feby 4th 1840.

Evening.

MY DEAR SIR.

I beg leave to refer you to my late respects of 7th. 18th. 22d. and 31st. ulto. *latter with post date of 1st. inst.* all which, I *think*, will have *got together* at Vera Cruz, and will be forwarded to *Pensacola* pr. U. S. Ship Erie, to Sail as I *am advised* to morrow from V. Cruz. I have only Sent forward duplicates of my advices up to *that of 7th. ulto. inclusive*, the balance are now being copied, and will go forward soon.

I also addressd. you Separately a few hasty lines under date of 1st. *inst.*, covering a *Manuscript Copy* in Spanish of the contract between the Bondholders in London and the Mexican Govmt. and their Agents, together with the decree of *Congress* in relation to the Subject, and will soon place in your hands the instructions of this Govmt. given in virtue of said Contract and law of Congress for the Govmt of the *Agents* in London. I again recommend to your attention *said papers*, as you will find by the translations (which I had not time to give you) that they are *worth* your attention. I will endeavor in my next to give you my views of the Matter, and Shall perhaps know more on subject *then* than I do *now*, for altho the English Packet has arrived I have *not found these* papers published, and their bearing on my negotiation is *such*, that I do not wish to call the attention of Mr Pakenham to the subject, nor *that* of the Secy of State, at least until I *am certain* how the matter *stands*. It will appear from the *contract* I have sent you, that *25 Millions* of Acres of Land in Texas is *Specially hypothecated* to the bond holders, and if *sold*, the proceeds to go to *them*. *This* is, in addition to *100 millions, previously hypothecated generally* for the same object. I refer you to the translation, at least until my *next letter*. I have but little of interest to *add* to my recent long and hasty letter of 31st. Ult. and 1st. inst. I have seen Mr. Pakenham the British Minister *frequently*, and he has profferd. since *Yesterday morning* to offer the Guarantee, *referrd. to in my last*, to Mr. Cañedo, the Secy of State, so as to remove the difficulty arising from the omission of the *formal credentials*, embracing the powers intended to be conferrd. on me. Mr. Pakenham would not be able to See the Secretary until *this evening*. Tomorrow, I will pass a Note to the Secretary, which will be accompanied by Mr. Pakenhams *Guarantee* of the validity of my appointment, and powers to treat etc, until the *powers* I have

^a A. L. S.

asked for in my last Should *arrive*, or time Should *Shew* that I have no occasion to use them for the purpose of signing *any arrangements*. *This being done*, I shall send in an *Exposition of your views*, and the wishes of the *Govmt of Texas*.

This paper I shall draw up, as near as may be in conformity with your instructions, and, Such as I think best calculated to awaken the feelings and excite the interests of Govmt. I consider a written paper of this character decidedly preferable to a *verbal* relation of the grounds of your application for *peace*, and the *pacific views* of your Govmt. As soon as I shall have sent it in, that is, by the *next conveyance*, You Shall have a Copy of it, and my other communications to the Secretary. Mr Pakenham has treated me, thus far, with great attention and seems disposed to aid me all in his power.

In fact, the more I see of him the better I *like him*, and my previous unfavourable impressions are in some considerable degree removed. When the Secretary Shall have sufficiently examined and weighed my Exposition I shall be prepared to submit to him *propositions*, should he signify a wish to receive them. I forgot, in My last to say that, aware of the *influence* of Mr. *Almonte* in the Cabinet Councils and with the President on *this Topic particularly*, I addressd. him a private and personal *letter* some days since, calculated to conciliate him in the disposal of this question, but as yet he has not replied to it, and has resented some indirect overtures which I have made to obtain a Verbal interview. He, I fear will strongly oppose my pretensions. But I will See if I cannot reach him thro' some other channel, if possible. I also omitted to Say that Lord Palmerston has directed Mr. Pakenham, to request a categorical reply to an *Extract* from the instructions given by the former to the latter, which was given long since to the secretary of State, in which Lord P— says clearly that they recommend an amicable adjustment of *this question*, and *intimates* that, after a reasonable time, they shall do as they did in the case (*similar*) between *Spain and Mexico*—*That is*, recommend recognition If it is not *done*, England will follow her *usual Laborious course* and *recognize*, Whenever her interests require it. *This is the Substance of the Note*. They have only replied *verbally* and he will *this week* endeavor to get a *More Specific* answer.

I have nothing further of interest but will write again within a week, and add all that may occur.

Pardon my Scrawls, as my Copy book is bad. Hoping daily to hear from the Govmt, I Remain Very Cordially and truly, and with great consideration, in *Haste* Your Obt Servant

JAMES TREAT.

To

Gen M B LAMAR
Texas.

To Hon BARNARD E BEE
SIR,

Since your departure the
Benjm H Johnson, and his

With a view to the more
tion of the Presidents Pro
part of the Soldiers and
the Government of Texas,
the Rio Grande, Col John
that by his presence, the deli
were laboring might be dis
not compromised, by their
a part against what they
appears from the most au
able to obtain that Colonel
mission, and left Carmago
crossing the Rio Grande
the whole party, consisting
circumstances of fiendish
of the most uncivilized sav

It will be thus seen, that
President, has been sealed,
citizens, and a most gallan
chivalry and patriotic dev
doubtless avail yourself of
and tragic fate of Col Jo
Mexican Minister, and the
however) this additional
of our Government.

A delicate regard for the
friendly services as mediat
as a humane determination
yond the limit forced on
our own safety, required
civil war, waging west of

* February 5, 1840. See

* See Records of Department

* Inadvertently written for

WRIGHT TO BEE.^aLIPSCOMB TO BEE.^bDEPARTMENT OF STATE
City of Austin 6th Feby '40

TO HON BARNARD E BEE

SIR,

Since your departure the fate of our gallant Citizen Soldier Col Benjm H Johnson, and his party, has been ascertained.

With a view to the more certain publication and general promulgation of the Presidents Proclamation "enjoining neutrality on the part of the Soldiers and Citizens of Texas, in the contest between the Government of Texas,^c and the Federalists, on the west side of the Rio Grande, Col Johnson and his party had been despatched, that by his presence, the delusion, under which some of our citizens were laboring might be dispelled, and the policy of the President not compromised, by their misguided and imprudent zeal in taking a part against what they supposed to be the common enemy. It appears from the most authentic information, that we have been able to obtain that Colonel Johnson had executed the object of his mission, and left Carmago about the 15th Decr. last, and after crossing the Rio Grande on his way home, was intercepted, and the whole party, consisting of eight or ten persons, put to death with circumstances of fiendish cruelty, that could only be characteristic of the most uncivilized savages.

It will be thus seen, that the good faith and moderation of the President, has been sealed, by the blood of some of our most worthy citizens, and a most gallant officer, who was surpassed by none, for chivalry and patriotic devotion, to his Country's service. You will doubtless avail yourself of the circumstances, attending the mission, and tragic fate of Col Johnson and his party, to impress on the Mexican Minister, and the Cabinet at Washington (with due delicacy however) this additional evidence of the moderation and humanity of our Government.

A delicate regard for the Government of the United States, whose friendly services as mediator had been so generously tendered, as well as a humane determination, not to extend the horrors of War beyond the limit forced on us by necessity, and a prudent regard to our own safety, required forbid our Government taking part in the civil war, waging west of the Rio Grande. It must be obvious, that

^a February 5, 1840. See Bee to Secretary of State, Texas, April 21, 1840.

^b See Records of Department of State (Texas), Book 54, pp. 10-12.

^c Inadvertently written for Mexico.

until a pacification between our Government and the Republic of Mexico, every attempt of the latter to restrain the insurrectionary movements of the Federalists, will be wholly abortive; as the prospect of a retreat on the east bank of the Rio Grande, in the event of failure, will always afford encouragement to a renewal of their efforts. This would be effectually and forever terminated by a treaty of Amity and friendship, between Mexico and Texas. I send you enclosed a copy of the Presidents Proclamation referred to in the commencement of my letter.

Your Nomination has been ratified by the Senate and you will receive by the present conveyance your Commission

With great consideration I have the
honor to be Your obdt servt

ABNER S. LIPSCOMB
Secretary of State.

Honorable

BARNARD E BEE
*Chargé D'Affaires of Texas
Near the Govt U. States.*

* * * * *

TREAT TO LAMAR.^b

[Private.]

MEXICO feby. 6th. 1840.

SIR,

I have the honor to enclose you duplicate of my respects, of 18th Ultio, to which I beg leave to refer you, in case the *original* is not at hand. I had intended, and so promised you, in my last, to send other duplicates and copies, but have just heard that a Vessel is about departing from Vera Cruz, of which I was not apprized, and I have only time *now* to hand you the Enclosed hoping that *this nights post* will convey this *letter* in time to Vera Cruz for the Vessel in question. Another oppty will soon present itself, and I will embrace it to send you copies of my letters to the Secretary of State, and duplicates of my last. I am sorry to inform you that the Secy of State seems to have changed his mind Somewhat, and has required of Mr. Pakenham a formal and official *Guarantee*, binding his Govmt. to the fulfilment of any *Stipulations* that *Mexico and Texas might*

^a The omitted postscript relates to Bee's salary.

^b A. L. S.

Enter into, when in one
was called a *Guarantee*,
Stating that He has seen
to treat and *bind* the Govt
paper now required of
reason hesitates about

We shall make another
remove the difficulty so
until the credentials are
time or *procrastinate*,
all events, you will per
credentials Should forthw
ample and full, that no
If by Tampico, My letter
British Minister and for
Cruz^a as the department
consul. The very fact
credentials will *compel* th
therefore hope they will
will address Mr Cañedo
to accept of Mr Paken
gress in our discussion

Meantime, the *document*
come the difficulty some
President and *Almonte*,
to gain time they may
which I hope will be
Mr. Pakenham acts *well*
which I had *before* som
matter upon the *Govt*
think *this* would not
from Gen Hamilton
from any quarter I
fearing I shall miss th
Very faithfully

To Gen M B LAMAR

^a That is, if by Vera Cruz
^b One of these was probably
Correspondence with Great
^c February 7, 1840. See

Enter into, when in our verbal interview he *merely* required what was called a *Guarantee*, but only then required to be an official letter, *Stating that* He has seen satisfactory *evidence* that I was *authorized* to treat and *bind* the Govmt. of *Texas* within my instructions. The paper now required of Mr Pakenham is *unusual*, and he with some reason hesitates about giving it.

We shall make another trial with Mr. Cañedo, and endeavor to remove the difficulty so far as to go on with our conferences at *least*, until the credentials are received. This may be a pretext to gain time or *procrastinate*, but we shall see tomorrow or next day—at all events, you will perceive the necessity as I conceive that the *Credentials* Should forthwith be sent in *duplicate*, and let them be ample and full, that no further pretext or Excuse will *avail them*. If by Tampico, My letters may be covered to R. Pakenham, the *British Minister* and forwarded to the British consul *there*—at Vera Cruz^a as the department is already advised—Under cover to the Am consul. The very fact *that* they make the Excuse of want of *formal credentials* will *compel* them to *hear and decide when I get them*. I therefore hope they will be sent without delay and *in full form*. I will address Mr Cañedo a private personal *note*, urging upon him to accept of Mr Pakenham's written *assurance* so that we may progress in our discussions.

Meantime, the *documents* refered to arrive. I think we will overcome the difficulty somehow or other, if it has originated with the President and *Almonte*, as I apprehend. *But* if it is a mere *pretext* to gain time they may *compel* me to *wait* until my powers come, which I hope will be *very soon*. I am pretty well satisfied *now* that Mr. Pakenham acts *with me*, or honestly *labors in my behalf*—of *which* I had *before* some *Misgivings*. If I find it best to *press* the matter upon the *Govmt*, I can find ways and means to do so, but I think *this* would not be politic. Mr Pakenham has letters today from Gen Hamilton which I shall see tomorrow.^b I have *nothing from any quarter* I cannot say more, indeed, I write in *great Haste* fearing I *shall miss* this post.

Very faithfully Yours etc.

JAMES TREAT

To Gen M B LAMAR

TREAT TO CAÑEDO.^c

^a That is, if by Vera Cruz, etc.

^b One of these was probably the letter from New Orleans of January 2 and 3, 1840. See Correspondence with Great Britain.

^c February 7, 1840. See Treat to Lamar, February 7, 1840.

TREAT TO LAMAR.^a

[Private.]

MEXICO Februry 7th. 1840.

SIR

I have the honor to transmit you *herewith* copies of letters No. 1 and 3,^b which, which I have had occasion and intend hereafter, to address to H. E. Mr Cañedo, Secretary of State in relation to the object of my mission, and I beg leave to submit a few remarks in relation to *each* communication, which I beg your Excellency will take into consideration, in perusing said letters, as *without* some Explanations, I fear, they might not be well understood, and *perhaps* they would not merit Y. E. approbation. I am aware Sir, that *such papers* Should *Speak for*, and *Explain themselves*; but I trust that when Y. E. shall have received all my advices, up to the present date, you will be convinced, of the difficulty of my position, under the existing circumstances, and therefore, that to secure an *interview*, and a *full hearing*, was the only way in which I could carry out your instructions, or even learn anything of the Views and Intentions of this Government as Regards Texas.

To Effect these objects, (without which my mission would be entirely abortive) I have had to bend somewhat to circumstances, under the direction *given me*, and to adopt *that course* which I thought best calculated to secure *first* the *primary objects* above indicated. Having already explained to you in former communications the *causes* of my delay in approaching the Govmt. and the course I adopted during this interval, I will now submit my letters, with such brief explanatory remarks as, I hope, will prevent any unfavourable impressions which the *mere perusal* of the *letters* might leave on the mind of Y. E. and I shall be *happy*, if in view of the *whole subject*, I shall be so fortunate as to *merit* your full approbation, in the prosecution of my *difficult task*.

No. 1. is a despatch I *had prepared* to announce my *arrival* and my *character*^c here to the Secretary of State, as soon as I thought the way was prepared for its *probable* favourable reception by Government. (The *first clause* requires no remark). The second clause was framed under a full conviction *that*, unless I convinced the Govmt. that my *character* was *entirely unknown* to the *public*, and might be so *continued*, (if the Govmt. would keep *their own secrets*) I should not even *obtain* a hearing, and hence the importance I have attached to this point. The *third clause* I inserted because I feared the Secretary might be willing to *talk*, while he might be *unwilling* to *write*, and

^a A. L. S^b No. 2 is also inclosed. Its omission from this list is doubtless inadvertent.^c That is, his official position.

hence the entire option was wanted the opportunity of any *definite action* was had. I was desirous to say *some* President and Almonte to both very obstinate on the assurance of Y. E. to the *The fifth clause*, requires no to Govmt. for my remaining as I knew Almonte was a course presumed that he had of the fact.

This letter, having *Subm* it to him for delivery to the day unopened, with the would please the *President*, *adulatory enough*, or *smooth* be fatal to my application No 2: was substituted.

In regard to this letter once perceive that it was *object*, that of so far *gr* authorize the Secretary to and it produced the *de* compound of Mexican *L* adapt to the case. The *re* interview, and it was *ag* views and wishes of Your *culty* being that now under *formal credentials*, which Mr. Pakenham; it remained as Mr. P. has an interview *cellency* will therefore 2; in view of this *ac* Views of Your Govmt. that it might be *seen* and *perchance* produce *some* with *some reluctance*, as which I have been able to make it *clear* and *deavored* so to frame it those whom I have to *Entire Approval*, but

^c This word is plainly written

hence the entire option was given him, while, as you will perceive I wanted the opportunity of a conversation with the Minister, *before* any definite action was had by the Cabinet. In the *fourth clause*, I was desirous to say *something* that would favourably incline the *President* and *Almonte* to give me a hearing, as I knew they were both very obstinate on this Subject, and *hence* I made the formal assurance of Y. E. to the President of Mexo. of desire for Peace. The *fifth clause*, requires no remark. The *sixth clause* was to account to Govmt. for my remaining so long *here*, without presenting myself as I knew *Almonte* was aware of the day of my arrival here, and of course presumed that he *had*, or *might* have informed his colleagues of the *fact*.

This letter, having *Submitted* to my friend for perusal, I handed it to him for delivery to the Secretary, *but* it was returned the next day unopened, with the opinion *that* it was *not* *Such* a letter as would please the *President*, being too *plain* and *categorical*, and not *adulatory enough*, or *smooth* enough to suit *these* people, and might be *fatal* to my application for a conference; and after some reflection No 2: was substituted.

In regard to this letter *No 2*, I have but little to say. You will at once perceive that it was *framed* to *please*, and had only *one leading object*, that of so far gratifying the *President* and *Almonte* as to authorize the Secretary to listen to me, and see what I had to say; and it produced the desired effect. *In fact*, the said letter is a *compound* of *Mexican Ideas*, put in *Such* English as I could best adapt to *the case*. The result, *you know*, that I was admitted to an interview, and it was agreed that I should present in writing the views and wishes of Your Excellency, the only intermediate *difficulty* being *that* now under discussion between us, of the *omission* of *formal credentials*, which, it was admitted, could be remedied by Mr. Pakenham; it remains to be seen today whether we shall succeed, as Mr. P. has an interview with Mr. Cañedo at 2 P. M. Your Excellency will therefore make due *allowance* for this Document, No 2; in view of this *acclaration*.* As regards No. 3, containing the Views of Your Govmt. which I have preferred, committing to *paper*, that it might be *seen* and perused by the *President* and *Cabinet*, and *perchance* produce *some effect*; I hand it to *Your Excy* herewith, with *some reluctance*, as it will shew how *humble* has been the *talent*, which I have been able to bring to bear, on this Subject. I *Sought* to make it *clear* and *intelligible* and also *Respectful*, and have endeavored so to frame it, as to carry *Some conviction* to the minds of those whom I have to deal in this matter. I can hardly expect its *Entire Approval*, but again claim for it Y. E's. indulgence and con-

* This word is plainly written. Probably Mr. Treat meant elucidation or declaration.

sideration. I may make some alterations or variations in it before I send it to the Secretary, of which I will apprise You. It will *not however, be essentially changed.*

I have no time for more, and address you *now in very great Haste,* for which I ask your favorable consideration.

I Remain with great consideration and Respect,
Your obedient Servant.

JAMES TREAT

To Gen M. B. LAMAR.

["Confidential."]

Copy.
No. 1.

CITY OF MEXICO, *January 24th. 1840.*

MOST EXCELLENT SIR:

I have the honor to inform Your Excellency, that having been appointed by the President of the Republic of Texas *Special and Confidential Agent* of that Government to confer with the President of the Mexican Republic respecting existing differences, I am prepared to enter upon the fulfilment of the duties which devolve upon me *whenever* your Excellency will have the goodness to inform me of your readiness to receive me for this purpose.

In the *interim*, I beg leave to observe to your Excellency, that my appointment to this *confidential Agency*, was intended to be Kept entirely Secret, and has been So Kept as far as practicable, for the mutual convenience (as was Supposed) of both parties. I therefore respectfully suggest to Y. E. the expediency (Should his Excellency the President of Mexico concur) of still so *considering it*, until the result of my mission shall be develloped, or, until the parties *respectively* may think proper to divulge it; and more especially, should the overtures which I shall have the honor to make (when admitted to a conference, on this important Subject) be entertained and acted upon by H. E., the President of Mexico.

I leave entirely with your Excellency the manner of conducting this business, whether verbally or by correspondence; but, at the same time, I beg leave to suggest, as quite obvious, that a *private interview* between Your Excellency and myself may perhaps be the Most Conducive to a prompt and clear understanding of the Matter. Y. E. will, however decide on this point, as may appear most convenient.

I trust I may so far *further* trespass on the time of Y. E. as to fulfil, in this preliminary communication, *one point of duty*, and it may properly be considered *the first*. Permit me then, through Your Excellency, to inform His Excellency, the President of the Mexican Republic, that I am especially directed by the President of Texas to

assure H. E. that the President of Texas is most earnestly and Sincerely desirous that the peace should be secured, with honor to both Governments.

When I shall have the honor to receive from Y. E. the Views of the Government of Mexico on the *particulars*, which would be necessary to be settled.

If I have not sooner perceived the necessity, I have been anxiously awaiting an opportunity to remove *entirely* any impression which might have been entertained in Mexico *may have entertained* on the part of the Government of Mexico, *directly*, in the enlistment of the Ranks of the forces recently raised.

And altho I have not yet received any unequivocal *proofs*, I can assure you that the Government of Mexico, in the most solemn manner, disavows these apprehensions, should they be entertained by your Excellency.

Meanwhile, I resolved to announce myself, to Y. E. in order to give you the assurance I *now give* you.

I await the satisfaction of your *confidential communication*, as soon as it shall be received.

I have the honor, to be, with the most perfect respect, Y. E.'s. most obedient and
Very Humble Servant.

To H. E. Señor Don
JUAN DE DIOS CANALES,
*Minister of Foreign
Affairs of the Mexican
Republic, Mexico.*

Copy No. 2.

MOST EXCELLENT SIR:

The present Age is distinguished by the fact that the interests of all nations find existing everywhere and interests are closely connected.

* Referring to the co-operation of Mexico in the fall of 1839. See the *City Gazette*, January 1, 1840; and be noted that the available files of 1839, to April 8, 1840.) *Of. No.*

assure H. E. that the President and Government of Texas most earnestly and Sincerely desire a peace with Mexico, and it is firmly believed by them that the time has now arrived when *that Peace* should be secured, with honor and advantage to both parties.

When I shall have the honor of an interview, and of presenting to Y. E. the Views of the Government of Texas, I can enter into *further particulars*, which would be improper in this communication.

If I have not sooner presented myself to Y. E. it has been because I have been anxiously awaiting advices that would enable me to remove *entirely* any impressions or Suspicions which, the President of Mexico *may have entertained*, as regards any knowledge or cooperation, on the part of the Government of Texas, either *directly* or *indirectly*, in the enlistment of some of its citizens or residents in the Ranks of the forces recently in arms on your Northern Frontier.^a

And altho I have not yet received these expected additional and unequivocal *proofs*, I can however, assure Y. E. the President of Mexico, in the most solemn and positive manner, of the negative of these apprehensions, should any such *still* exist in the mind of His Excellency.

Meanwhile, I resolved that, without further delay, it was my duty to announce myself, to Y. E. and shall be happy to furnish the *proofs*, of the assurance I *now give*, whenever I receive them.

I await the satisfaction of Your Excellency's reply, to this *confidential communication*, as soon, as it may suit Y. E's. convenience.

I have the honor, to be, with the highest regards and, consideration, Y. E's. most obedient and

Very Humble Servant.

Signed JAMES TREAT.

To H. E. Señor Don
JUAN DE DIOS CANEDO,
*Minister of Foreign
Affairs of the Mexican
Republic, Mexico.*

Copy No. 2.

MEXICO, *January 24th. 1840.*

MOST EXCELLENT SIR:

The present Age is distinguished from the past, inasmuch as we find existing everywhere Simple and natural Laws; mutual rights and interests are closely examined, and made to overcome the mere

^a Referring to the co-operation of Ross and Jordan with the Federalists in the invasion of Mexico in the fall of 1839. See proclamation of Lamar, December 21, 1839, in *Austin City Gazette*, January 1, 1840; *Telegraph and Texas Register*, April 8, 1840. (It should be noted that the available files of the last mentioned paper have a gap from December 25, 1839, to April 8, 1840.) *Of. Niles' Register*, LVII, p. 354.

prejudices of men; and the welfare of all is duly weighed and Scrutinized, more with a View to the *future*, than the *present*; so that *true Glory is now*, only Sought in those measures of pacific policy dictated by the Superior lights of the present day.

War itself has not now for its object *devastation*, as this motive is detested, even by those farthest removed from the scene of action, because *in point of fact* this would be to retrograde or, at least, suspend and retard civilization and the happiness of mankind.

Texas believes herself entitled to general consideration, because she is perfectly convinced of these salutary truths, and She cannot believe Mexico so unjust as to be governed by principles, which would eclipse the glory she has already acquired by her past acts, as well as the reputation for prudence and circumspection for which she is so much distinguished among the Nations of the late Spanish America's.

In view of these convictions, in which it is gratifying to render due justice to Mexico, Texas despatched at the commencement of last Year An Agent to Mexico, for the purpose of establishing a good understanding, between the two countries upon a rational and permanent basis, which would secure to each a friendly intercourse, and all the advantages of reciprocal commercial relations, together with those good feelings, which would present to the world the most flattering aspect.

Texas might have adopted a different course, but she was unwilling thus, to resent her injuries, and, while she deplores the past misfortunes of her people, she has the Satisfaction of not having abandoned those principles which in 1836 induced her to bury her griefs, rather than cause injuries to Mexico.

Mexico had received abundant proofs during the preceding year of the pacific disposition of Texas, one of which was the observance of the most rigid neutrality in the Struggle between Mexico and France;^a and, notwithstanding this, Texas saw with regret its Agent rejected in a Manner so different from what might have been expected, in view of the considerations she had manifested towards the Mother country. This, circumstance would have exonerated Texas in the estimation of the public from all responsibility, and justified her in acting independently in all her subsequent measures, without any further considerations towards a people who appeared to be, under the influence of unworthy motives and antipathies. Texas, notwithstanding all those circumstances, is disposed to satisfy fully her own principles, and is therefore, unwilling to run the slightest risk of misconception, as regards the principles and feelings of the Mexican Government, which, perhaps, was prevented (on the occasion

^a The attack on Vera Cruz by the French, November, 1838.

referred to by the Under-
sideration of *then existing*
doubts, which there was *no*

In view, therefore, of *the*
by sentiments of good *will*
Government, the undersigned
confidential Agent of *the*
present with due *Secrecy*
to present himself to Y. *and*
ciples and wishes by *which*
arrange all matters *which*
both countries.

The Undersigned, *con*
this Capital at a period *of*
received the most positive
the conduct of Texas in *the*
have occurred in some *of*
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propitious to both countr
request he has the honor
and of foreign relations,
the undersigned a *private*
credentials, and refer *brief*

The undersigned has
highest Respect and *com*
and Very humble Servant

To

H. E. Sr. Dn. Ju
Secretary of

Copy No. 3.

*Brief Exposition of
and policy of a prom
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ary; and all the con
intercourse between*

In the first place,
peace with Mexico, w

referred to by the Undersigned) from acting otherwise, either in consideration of *then* existing circumstances, or probably in view of doubts, which there was no opportunity to explain.

In view, therefore, of the preceding reflections, and animated *still* by sentiments of good will towards the Mexican Republic and its Government, the undersigned has been appointed *private special* and confidential Agent of the Government of Texas, (acting for the present with due Secrecy and reserve) and he is fully authorized to present himself to Y. E. and enter at length into the Views principles and wishes by which it is animated, as well as to discuss and arrange all matters which may be considered of mutual interest to both countries.

The Undersigned, congratulates himself on having arrived in this Capital at a period when the Supreme Govmt. of Mexico has received the most positive assurances, as regards the impartiality of the conduct of Texas in the recent dissensions, which unfortunately have occurred in some of the Northern provinces, and he flatters himself that this circumstance in connection with various others, propitious to both countries will Secure a favourable reception to the request he has the honor to make to H. E., the Secretary of State and of foreign relations, that H. E. will have the goodness to grant the undersigned a private conference, in which he can present his credentials, and refer briefly to the objects of his mission.

The undersigned has the honor to subscribe himself, with the highest Respect and consideration, Your Excellency's Most obedient and Very humble Servant.

Signed JAMES TREAT.

To

H. E. SR. DR. JUAN DE DIOS CAÑEDO,
Secretary of State and of foreign Relations.

Copy No. 3.

[FEB. 7, 1840?]^a

Brief Exposition of some of the reasons in favour of the expediency and policy of a prompt and amicable arrangement of existing difficulties between Mexico and Texas, and a Speedy Recognition of the Independence of the latter, on the part of the former, under Treaty Stipulations, which Shall Secure a permanent peace; a fixed boundary; and all the consequent advantages of a free and well regulated intercourse between the two countries.

In the first place, Texas, most sincerely and earnestly desires a peace with Mexico, which shall be lasting and honourable, as well as

^a The date, with the brackets, is pencilled in.

beneficial, to both parties; of which satisfactory proofs might be adduced, were they deemed necessary, And,

In the Second place, Texas most fully and firmly believes that, in asking Mexico for a peace and recognition under Treaty provisions She does not require of her any sacrifices, that will not be fully compensated for, by the benefits She will derive from the peaceful and friendly commercial Relations which will grow out of these pacific measures of Policy.

The following propositions, it is believed, will require no special evidence to Support them.

1st. That there is an entire dissimilarity in the education, habits, dispositions, and pursuits of the inhabitants of the two Countries Which will forever prevent them from assimilating and moving harmoniously together under any system, were they again United.

2d. That there is a total incompatibility of Ideas entertained by the people of the two countries as to those forms of Government best adapted to Secure the rights and provide for the wants of Society.

3d. That conflicts would inevitably arise from this incompatibility of sentiments, and evils would indispensably result therefrom, should the Anglo-Saxon race now inhabiting Texas be again con-mingled under the same form of Government with a Mexican population.

4th. That Texas would be a possession, not only inconvenient, but almost worthless to Mexico from its remoteness from the Seat of Government, and the main body of her population, as well also as from its contiguity to the United States, Where under any circumstances its intercourse must principally tend.

5th. That Mexico would (*obviously*) experience great difficulties, and incur great expence, in keeping the Indians within and bordering on Texas in check, at so great a distance from its population and resources.

6th. That there would necessarily result great benefit and advantage to both countries, from a friendly intercourse and Trade, conducted on the basis of Good Faith, and in the Spirit of kindness and harmony.

To the preceding, many other facts, equally self-evident, might be added; but these are deemed sufficient, for present purposes.

In proof of the pacific policy of the Government of Texas, whose people entertain no feelings of antipathy against Mexico or her people, it may Suffice merely to refer to the disposition which Texas has constantly manifested, since the battle of San Jacinto, to rely on friendly negotiations in the adjustment of her differences with Mexico, rather than any further resort to War.

Had Texas been disposed to adopt or encourage a hostile feeling towards Mexico, She has had inviting opportunities for invading that country, not only during the domestic conflicts by which from time

to time it has been harassed by the Government of Texas, the embarrassment produced by the Government of Texas, reposing confidence in the medium of pacific measures.

If any confirmation of this act of the President of the United States to entertain, propositions in the name, and behalf, of some faction in arms against the Government of Texas.

Had the Govmt. of Texas been embarrassed, by such a course of inconvenience and Expences, it cannot be denied that the Government of Texas, by such a course of inconvenience and Expences, and advantages, furnished to Texas for amity, a decided attempt on the part of Texas for amity, and this injustice and wrong hands of Mexico.

If we look into the actual state of Texas, yet passed the threshold of her independence from its earliest moments, she has been consolidating her institutions until, as she herself now regards her internal and external affairs, she now prefers on the particular, since Texas is willing to make a generous sacrifice, by allowing Mexico to have the benefit of an act of grace as Mexico has granted prompt recognition, and a

If we merely take a glance at her borders; the improvement and rapidly increasing population and her future prospects, her negotiated Loan; her able and numerous body of Citizen Soldiers, standing force, sufficient to defend her, which altho' small, consists of a well appointed Veteran Army, we should find many, if not all, the elements of stability, as well as self-dependence.

If we further examine the state of Texas, that Since her recognition

to time it has been harassed on the one hand, but also during the embarrassment produced by the French invasion on the other; * yet the Government of Texas has abstained from any hostile action, reposing confidence in its own aspirations for peace, through the medium of pacific measures of policy, towards the Mother country.

If any confirmation of the continuation of this peaceful disposition is wanted, it may be found in a very recent and highly creditable act of the President of that Republic, who rejected, or rather refused to entertain, propositions of Alliance or co-operation, made in the name, and behalf, of some of the Northern States, by the chiefs of a faction in arms against the Government of Mexico.

Had the Govmt. of Texas been disposed to countenance these overtures, it cannot be denied that Mexico would have been annoyed and embarrassed, by such a course, and thereby Exposed to considerable inconvenience and Expense. This forbearance, under such inducements and advantages, furnishes strong evidence of the earnest desire of Texas for amity, a desire which nothing will destroy, but an evident attempt on the part of Mexico to do her injustice and Wrong; and this injustice and wrong Texas is yet unwilling to expect at the hands of Mexico.

If we look into the actual condition of the Young Republic, scarcely yet passed the threshold of its existence, we find it has been occupied from its earliest moments to the present period in forming and consolidating her institutions and confirming her Political Government, until, as she herself now believes, she stands in a position, both as regards her internal and external situation, to justify her in the claim she now prefers on the parent Country for Recognition, and especially, since Texas is willing on her part to make a liberal, and even generous sacrifice, by allowing a rational consideration for such an act of grace as Mexico now has it in her power to bestow, by a prompt recognition, and a liberal boundary.

* If we merely take a glance, at the tranquility which prevails within her borders; the improvements every where taking place; her present, and rapidly increasing population; the present state of her finances, and her future prospects, through the medium of her partially negotiated Loan; her ability for self defence, consisting of a numerous body of Citizen Soldiers, at all times available, and a regular standing force, sufficient for any sudden emergency; also, her Marine, which altho' small, consists, nevertheless, of some eight or ten efficient and well appointed Vessels of War, including an armed steamer; we should find many, if not all, the substantial elements of political stability, as well as self-defence.

If we further examine her external relations, it will be found, that Since her recognition by the United States, (whose Government

* *Of. notes* *, p. 551, and *, p. 552.

has long since established, diplomatic relations and commercial intercourse with her, and is now engaged in running the line of demarcation between the two countries, in conformity with the Treaty between Spain and the U. States) progress has also been made in securing the advantages of an early intercourse, both diplomatic and commercial, with the first Maritime powers of Europe,^a the result of which, so far as is yet known, is an established commercial intercourse between Great Britain and Texas, by which the flag and productions of Texas, are received, and protected, in British Ports, the same, as Mexican;^b and more recently a Treaty of Re-cognition, Amity and Commerce, between the King of the French and Texas, founded upon principles of perfect reciprocity, and the consequent appointment of a French chargé d'Affairs, near that Government.

And it is furthermore believed that England will soon be disposed to adopt a similar course, Satisfied, as she probably is that the true interests of Mexico will be best promoted by a prompt and amicable arrangement with Texas.

Numerous other facts, as well as arguments, might be further adduced, in confirmation of what has already been stated but it is thought entirely superfluous, inasmuch as His Excellency the President of the Mexican Republic, as well as his constitutional advisers, must necessarily be very well acquainted with the true situation and exact condition of things, as regards the subject under Consideration, which, in every point of View, is important.

The principal advantages, which will result to both parties from this, much desired amicable arrangement, (besides the very important considerations of Peace; boundaries; Treaty of Friendship and Commerce) will be those arising from an internal and External Trade between the two countries, both of which are as important, (and probably more so) to Mexico, as to Texas itself.

On the other hand, the renewal of active hostilities by either party, altho' its immediate consequences might not be feared or felt by either, would doubtless be productive of much evil, as it would, Engender a Spirit of hostility, enmity, and revenge, which happily does not now exist, at least in Texas; and would inevitably tend to destroy and obliterate those friendly feelings, which ought ever to exist between a frontier population so extended as the one referred to.

With right and proper feelings on the frontiers inculcated by the respective Governments, it would be easy to carry into effect, in good faith, such Treaty Stipulations as might be agreed upon; while ex-

^a Up to the date of this letter, France was the only European power that had recognized Texas. The treaty with that nation was signed September 25, 1839. Ratifications, however, were not exchanged till February 14, 1840. See Gammel, *Laws of Texas*, II, P. 655-662. * But see next note.

^b This agreement, conceded by Palmerston in a letter to Henderson, April 1, 1838 (enclosed with Henderson to Irion, April 12, in Correspondence with Great Britain) was in its effect a commercial treaty between Great Britain and Texas.

actly the reverse would population became

The alternative of W attended with great and unforeseen evils,

As regards a pass Statu Quo of affairs, of Texas, as she can greater sacrifice than attitude she might be

No course of policy cally pointed out by the not acted upon. Unde matter having been upon, in preference to full conviction that Mexico would meet the peaceful Spirit of the best interests, and hence ing to her peace and

One effort has already amicable sentiments but from various un examine, this measure

Unwilling, however adopted without first Government of) Me which, she believes, the part of Mexico; an interest proportion War and the length dice) since she first

She has now fulfilled act of Justice toward and will, be approved approbation of the World.

It may be once result, with great Sheath the Sword, Mexico and her pe

Should, however, tions of a friendly

* The effort referred to and left before the end of

actly the reverse would be the fact, just in proportion as the frontier population became embittered by further hostilities.

The alternative of War, whatever may be its final results, must be attended with great loss of Lives and Treasure, besides the numerous and unforeseen evils, which always follow in its train.

As regards a passive war, *that is*, a continuation of the present *Statu Quo* of affairs, it is diametrically opposed to the best interests of Texas, as she cannot remain in her present position without a greater sacrifice than she would be required to make, in any other attitude she might be called upon, or think proper, herself to assume.

No course of policy, as regards the Parent country, was Specifically pointed out by the preceding administration, or if adopted, was not acted upon. Under the Administration of General Lamar, this matter having been duly considered, a pacific policy was decided upon, in preference to the adoption of measures of hostility, under a full conviction that at a proper time and after due consideration, Mexico would meet these friendly views, as more consonant with the peaceful Spirit of the present age, as well as in accordance with her best interests, and hence appreciate these overtures of Texas, by according to her peace and Recognition.

One effort has already been made by Texas to make known these amicable sentiments to the President and Government of Mexico; but from various unforeseen causes, which it is not proposed now to examine, this measure produced no result.^a

Unwilling, however to abandon the policy She has voluntarily adopted without first ascertaining the Views and disposition of (the Government of) Mexico, she has now adopted the present course, which, she believes, will be considered entirely unobjectionable, on the part of Mexico; and she is at this moment awaiting the Issue with an interest proportional to the magnitude of the question of Peace or War and the length of time which has elapsed (to her great prejudice) since she first marked out for herself this friendly course.

She has now fulfilled a duty to herself, and performed a voluntary act of Justice towards her parent country, which she thinks should, and will, be appreciated by Mexico; and, in any event, meet the approbation of the friends of humanity, throughout the civilized World.

It may be once more repeated that Texas is now waiting the result, with great confidence, that it will be Such as to enable her to Sheath the Sword, and henceforth become friends and neighbors with Mexico and her people.

Should, however, Texas be disappointed in her hopes and expectations of a friendly and honourable arrangement, she must, of course,

^a The effort referred to was Bee's mission. Bee reached Vera Cruz early in May, 1839, and left before the end of the same month.

prepare herself, (if indeed, she is not already prepared) for the Alternative, and will thenceforward consider herself exonerated from all blame and responsibility, consequent upon the non-Success of this Second, (and probably the last) friendly overture to Mexico, for Peace and all its happy concomitants.

To this hasty, and in many respects imperfect Exposé, other considerations might still be Super-added, and especially in reference to the uncontrollable evils which must result from renewed hostilities, which might be much prolonged; but they are omitted, and will doubtless be properly understood and duly appreciated, by H. E. the President of Mexico, as well as by those who may be called upon to deliberate with him, in relation to this important matter.

The object of this statement has been to represent, in all good faith and with great frankness, the well known wishes of the President of Texas, and the Views of that Government, and further to call the attention of H. E. the President and Government of Mexico to this important subject, in all its various aspects and bearings, with a view to its early decision in relation thereto.

This being accomplished, the preceding facts, inferences, arguments, and reasonings, are, with all due respect, submitted for such consideration and action, as His Excellency the President of the Republic may consider them justly entitled to.

In fulfilling the high confidence which has been reposed in the Undersigned, by the President of Texas, it has been the primary object of the writer to transcribe faithfully the views of the Government of Texas, and at the Same time carefully to avoid everything that could, even in the Slightest degree offend the honor or the dignity of the Republic of Mexico, or its chief Magistrate and Government; and he flatters himself that he has succeeded.

If unhappily he should be deceived, he relies upon the kind indulgence of H. E. the President, as well as that of Y. E., to attribute it to inadvertence and the very Slender and humble talents with which the Undersigned, unfortunately, has been able to illustrate this highly important Topic.

The Undersigned concludes by tendering his most respectful considerations and highest regard to H. E. the Secretary of State for foreign affairs, and through him to H. E. the President of the Mexican Republic.

Your Excellency's Most obedient Servant
 To H. E. Sr. Dr. JUAN DE
 DIOS CANEDO, *Secretary of State and*
of foreign affairs.
Mexico.

JAMES TREAT

SIR.

I beg leave to refer you to an instant, covering a *manuscript* of the *Decree of Congress*, then called your attention, and worth a *translation* and an

According to my promise given by the President in *Government* in carrying out *decree* of Congress which you complete *the document*. On impression was clear on my holders of the converted *Stock* 100,000 of acres of Lands, in of the Contract, *first clause* final *total* payment of the *new stock*; and in case of to be paid to the Bondholders the obvious reading of the *original* examination, however, leads tion. The 100 millions, in named, *are undoubtedly hyp* any one of these Departments the proceeds appropriated, *have* 100 Millions of acres *re* the *hypothecation* is *comple* lions. This, interpretation *or not*, because no one *depar* of which the 100 Millions *Security* of the Bondholders 100 Millions should be *enore* 7th of the Contract, in the Expressly reserved, or *Spe* future *decree* of Congress, *or* "communication with the *A* "nization. These said lan "priated to the Deferred *to* "whole debt, and which be