

CORRESPONDENT AT VERA CRUZ^a TO BURNET.

HON. DAVID G. BURNET
Actg Secy. of State of the
Republic of Texas

VERA CRUZ, April 16, 1840.

SIR:

A friend acknowledges the reception of a letter of the 12th Ulto. covering a packet to the address of Mr. J. T. at City of Mexo, And which came to hand the 10th. Inst. and was duly forwarded the Same day, And which the writer has no reason to doubt has ere this reached its destination.

Yours etc.

 TREAT TO CAÑEDO.^b

 TREAT TO LAMAR.^c

[Confidential.]

MEXICO April 21st. 1840.

SIR.

I have the honor to enclose you duplicate of my last respects of 10th. instant sent you via Tampico and also a copy of a communication (marked B) made yesterday to the Secretary of State, to which I beg leave to refer you. On the Evening of the 15th. inst, I had the pleasure to receive a Communication from your Department of State, dated 12th March enclosing me the *Plenary powers* I had solicited, and a despatch for H. B. Majesty's Minister Plenipotentiary, R. Pakenham Esquire, which was delivered forthwith, and will be duly replied to by Mr P.

These advices were Very Welcome and opportune, I assure you, as I was thus enabled to make an important movement So soon as the pending holidays were over.

On Saturday 18th. inst, I had an interview with the Secretary of State, and informed him that I had received my *credential*, at which he Seemed gratified, and I exhibited to him the paper, of which he requested a *copy*, which I placed before him *Yesterday*, certified by myself, addressing him the official letter above referred to.

On receiving a reply from the Secretary naming a time, I shall call and shew my *original Credential*, and matters will *then*, stand, in a fair way as regards the Secretary and Myself, *so far as forms* are concerned.

^a Possibly United States Consul Marmaduke Burrough.
^b April 20, 1840. See Treat to Lamar, April 21, 1841.
^c A. L. S.

The Secretary has given the course he is desirous to pursue. The Special cabinet Council will meet before it all the papers are laid before the premises as Strongly recommended by the President and his colleagues. The papers and whole Subject will be discussed in their own opinion.

If the Council recommend a negotiation to Some point, in the opinion of the Council, they will then appeal to the President and powers to carry out the Govmermt, May think it necessary.

If we cannot get the President's members will not trust the Govmermt, may wish to fix Some general principles.

Congress may also give the terms and Stipulations which the Govmt. can close any Treaty.

The application to Congress in Secret Session, and myself *incognito*, as recommended.

Thus, you see exactly the ordeals through which the matter will pass to the final result.

It is sufficiently obvious that the Government, will act, and will be guided by the result.

If the matter Succeeds in Congress, I shall have Some matters that I can cause to be done.

This however, is the result of what the Secretary will do (you and marked A) and will be the result.

We must await the result, which is worth but very little.

The letter I have received is satisfactory, but it is only a preliminary instruction in conformity with what was communicated to Mr. P. (see his last Visit to Texas on several occasions, and as far as the result is concerned; and more fully, in length in my despatch to you.)

The Secretary has *privately* and *confidentially*, informed [me of] the course he is desirous to give to this Negotiation. He will call a *Special* cabinet Council to discuss the matter in question and place before it all the papers in relation thereto, advocating some action in the premises as Strongly as he can (without losing the Support of the President and his colleagues) he will press the Cabinet to pass the papers and whole Subject to the *Council* of the *Government* for its opinion.

If the Council recommend any action with a View to bring the negotiation to Some point, And the Cabinet (thus supported by the opinion of the Council) shall determine to go forward in the Matter, they will then appeal to the Legislature for the necessary *authorization* and *powers* to carry out such an amicable arrangement as the Govmermt, May think proper to make with the Govmt of Texas.

If we cannot get the *Vote* in *this case*, it may be because the chambers will not trust the Government with the *entire* negotiation, but may wish to fix Some *general bases* for the action of the Government.

Congress *may* also grant the full powers *to treat conditioned* that the *terms* and *Stipulations* shall be submitted for *approval* before the Govmt. can *close* any Treaty.

The application to Congress, if made, and their Action will be in *Secret Session*, and my Mission will *still* be continued a *Secret*, and myself *incognito*, as regards my Agency.

Thus, you see exactly how matters *now Stand*, and the various *ordeals* through which the question must pass before we reach any *final* result.

It is sufficiently obvious that if *Congress* will *authorize* [it], the *Government*, will *act*, and I think promptly.

If the matter Succeeds with the Cabinet *and* Council and *reaches* Congress, I shall have Some hopes of Success, for I have *So arranged* matters that I can cause *some influence* there myself, if necessary.

This however, is the favourable side of the picture. I must See what the Secretary will Say to my *proposition*, (already forwarded you and marked A) and whether our plans *work* as we desire.

We must await the issue, as any opinions *in advance* would be worth but *very* little.

The letter I have received from the Dept. of State is Very Satisfactory, but it is *entirely silent* as regards any *new* or *modified* instructions in conformity to the Views of Gen. Hamilton, as communicated to Mr. P. (*Pakenham*,) and myself, both *before* and *after* his last Visit to Texas. I have adverted to this point on Several occasions, and as far back as my Respects of 20th. and 31st December; and *more fully*, under date of Jany. 18th.; and *Still more at length* in my despatch of 15th. February.

Mr. Pakenham, has been of opinion (and Still is, tho' *not* so strongly as heretofore) that you will not obtain your Recognition on this *first attempt*; but that some preliminary arrangement might be entered upon, such as an *Armistice* for a given time, within which the Mexican Govmt. would agree to prepare itself for a full Recognition, and consequent Treaty of Peace, Commerce, Limits etc.

This would be somewhat in accordance with Gen. Hamiltons views and Ideas, and what I wish to know is *whether these* are the Views of Your Govmt, and *how far* (if at all) I am to act in accordance with them. My previous letters are so full and explicit that I refer you to them, and cannot doubt but I shall Soon receive Some information touching these points So necessary for my Govmt. *if I fail in my pending application and plans.*

I also take leave to remark that the letter referd. to from the Dept. of State contained not a word about *funds* to my order in New Orleans. *See my requests* in letter of 31st. december and subsequent ones.

Awaiting with anxious Solicitude, the Action of the Cabinet *here*; and also the receipt of your *further advices*, I close with a promise to advise You the moment anything of Moment occurs.

I felicitate Y. E, on the return of this auspicious day which gave birth to a new Republic, over whose happy destinies you now preside.

I have the honor to be with great Respect,
Your obedient Servant.

JAMES TREAT

To
Gen M B. LAMAR
Texas.

[Copy B.]

[Confidential.]

MEXICO April 20th. 1840.

MOST EXCELLENT SIR.

I have the honor to present to Y. E the enclosed Copy of my Credential and plenary powers just received from the President of Texas, which document I Solicited in consequence of Your Excellency's observation *that* without Said powers I could not explain the views and wishes of the Government of Texas; and also in order that my authority to confer and act in the premises, and to bind the said Government of Texas to the fulfilment of any act or acts of mine might be perfect and Complete.

I would, therefore, respectfully ask of Y. E. to have the goodness to appoint a time when I can have the honor to present myself to Y. E, and exhibit the *original* of said paper.

It affords me the utmost satisfaction to iterate to Y. E the Commands and Government of Texas, and the Government of Mexico wishes that the present amicable adjustment of the two Countries as shall be alike beneficial. May be duly appreciated by the Government, as it most concerns the Interest of Texas.

With these assurances Y. E. will, I trust, permit me to be firmly persuaded that the result that can ever occur, at least in the present and favourably all questions. Secure a perpetual peace that must result from the present course.

I therefore flatter Myself that your early action on the subject of the present circumstances of the Case will be most beneficial.

I have the honor to be, Sir, Your Excellency's

Your Excellency's

To H. E. Sr. Dn JUAN
DÍOS CAÑEDO, *Secretario*
State and of
Foreign Relations
Mexico.

BEE TO SECRETARY

DEAR SIR,

I have but seldom was informed that you would be so was doubtful of the Hon...

* It should be noted that the preceding Bee's letter.

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It affords me the utmost pleasure and satisfaction to be able to reiterate to Y. E. the Continued and Sincere desire of the President and Government of Texas for Peace and a good understanding with the Government of Mexico and its citizens, and its most earnest wishes that the present highly favourable opportunity for such an amicable adjustment of Existing differences between the two Countries as shall be alike honourable and advantageous to both parties May be duly appreciated by H. E., the President of Mexico and its Government, *as it most especially is* by the President and Government of Texas.

With these assurances, which I feel myself authorized to make, Y. E. will, I trust, permit me to add *on my own part* that I am most firmly persuaded that the *present* is the most opportune moment that can ever occur, *at least So far as regards Texas*, to adjust finally and favourably all questions in relation to that Country, and thus Secure a perpetual peace, and the numerous benefits and advantages that must result from the friendly relations, which will immediately ensue.

I therefore flatter Myself that I may be permitted to anticipate as early action on the subject, on the part of Y. E.'s Government, as the circumstances of the Case will permit.

I have the honor to be, with great respect, and the highest consideration

Your Excellency's Most obedient and Hble Servant.

Signd JAMES TREAT
*Confidential Agent and Special
 Commissioner of the Government of
 Texas.*

To H. E. Sr. Dn JUAN DE
 DIOS CAÑEDO, *Secretary of
 State and of
 Foreign Relations*
 Mexico.

BEE TO SECRETARY OF STATE OF TEXAS [LIPSCOMB].^a

(Copy.)

[Confidential.]

MEXICO 5th Feby 1840.

DEAR SIR,

I have but seldom written to you owing to my having been informed that you would be absent from Orleans, and further that I was doubtful of the House's fidelity which you referred me to write

^a It should be noted that the inclosure (A. S. Wright to Bee) comes first in order, preceding Bee's letter.

to, owing to their relations with Mexico. You are aware no doubt from my previous letters that war has been declared against Texas and that some time since the troops marched from here Pueblo Vera Cruz etc. to Monterey Matamoras and Tampico in order to embody near the Rio Grande, and as soon as a Sufficient number is collected with sufficient equipments to march into Texas. Troops to this day are Gathering from various parts of the Republic and marching to the Rio Grande country. The army is at present estimated at Eight thousand Infantry and horse and daily Augmenting, and the Congress has passed a direct law authorizing the Government to draw one million of Dollars from the Marine Customs to defray in part [expenses] in the Texas war. The same law authorizes the Government to lay a war tax of 6½ cts monthly on each individual of the Republic to be collected monthly during the said war, Counting 8000000 of souls we have a monthly tax of at least (throwing away one half) \$250000.

Much time has been and is taken up by both houses relative to this interesting Country (Texas) and it is too rich a prize they think to be lost without an effort

I have understood that a Mr Treat of this place was authorized to make a proposition in behalf of Texas, and that Toledo was engaged as the Texas emissary, that Texas had offered \$8000000—report from a private source says that said Minister offered \$4000000, expect'g to keep the balance if Accepted. This may not be true, but be it as it may, Texas if she has offered this sum is very blind in so doing—if she would know anything of the present State of this Country she would be convinced that this money would be thrown to the winds and [. . .] mass of people composing various parties who would Only laugh at a law of recognition made by an opposite party in power today and removed from their seats on the morrow

If the Centralists were to recognize that Country from the best motives possible, and to the greatest welfare of the Country, the opposite party would take an advantage of the same, raise the hue and cry of Treachery, and the consequence would be a general Revolution It is more than the Centrals dare do, in the present state of affairs to recognize Texas.

Lord Palmerston of England, some time since in a private letter to the Mexican Minister of Foreign affairs in this City, Canedo writes thus or to the same amount "if you do not recognize Texas we shall" Canedo answered that they were in no mood to recognize Texas, and that he must not think that they had abandoned the Country, but were making every preparation in their power to retake it.

* Here some words are omitted by the copyist.

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The press I am sorry to inform You is no longer free, and no political question can hereafter be discussed under very heavy penalties, so that you can no longer receive news from the Public prints.

The Act of the freedom of the press has been thought to be injurious to the Republic owing to its giving intelligence to the enemy of the movements of the Army Government, etc. This was set on foot by Canedo the Minister of Foreign relations.

A part of the lands on the Rio Grande have been given to the English as Collateral security.

The French Minister has informed me that France is dissatisfied with Baudin's Treaty. I presume that you are aware that France has recognized the Independence of Texas.

Genl. Santa Anna has asked for a passport to leave the Country for Columbia etc and obtained it without any difficulty.

The Small pox is making its Usual ravages in this City.

The Spanish Minister has lately Arrived and was received in Great pomp, and a ball given on the occasion—you must not be surprized if Mexico does not throw her self under the Spanish protection.

Mexico now trembles to the very centre—foreseeing that her tawny sons and daughters must eventually fall. The Americans it is very plain to be seen must people the Country—Mexico must either come under the Yoke of a Foreign nation or be lost entirely, her external brawls wars and schisms are fast diminishing the last ray of hope.

The Californias With her precious pearls and fisheries of sperm whale, is entirely neglected Sonora with her rich gold mines is inhabited by wild savages.

The ^a are more fascinating mineral region of Chihuahua have Almost become entire wastes owing to the fierce race called Apaches who never Can be Conquered by the Spaniards.

The rich mines of Guana[Jua]ta and Zara Goza ^b and round about Guadalajara and else where have been labouring under a thousand disadvantages, for Want of Quicksilver, Experienced mineral Chemists, and useful machines. Some of the richest ores lost being covered by water. The roads are miserable, And Mule Carriage Eat up the Life and profit of the ^c and Agriculturist. If you wish another brush to this cast your pencil into the blades of the assassin's knife and Add to this Ten thousand robbers who Swarm throughout this more than wretched Country which would become by an industrious people one of the finest districts of the Globe.

^a Something is here omitted in the copy on file.

^b Zaragoza.

^c Here the copy on file has something omitted.

I conclude dear Sir by informing you that you have no time to lose, that the enemy are increasing daily and there is no knowing the day when they will cross the Rio Grande please write me and do not neglect to do so as I am uneasy having never heard from Mr Bryan—although I have written him on various occasions. Direct your letter to come by Mr. Snyder Vera Cruz who will forward the same.

I am dear Sir

Your very Obt Servt

B

To Col. BEE

N. B. Be careful to guard your words when you write me in Case that the letter should fall into the wrong hands.

WASHINGTON [D. C.] April 21st. 1840.

To the HON SECY OF STATE OF TEXAS.
Sir,

Conceiving that the foregoing letter contains matter both interesting and of an important bearing upon the Policy, Safety, and Welfare of Texas, (although not to be sure of very recent date) I have concluded to send you the copy complete, in order that you may be better able by having the whole, to judge of the value of the information. (although that part of it in relation to Mr Treat, in my opinion is not Worthy of Consideration—and I should not send the copy thus entire but in the full belief that it will be treated as strictly Confidential, and if preserved be placed in the Secret Archives of the State Department. The author is a Gentleman whose acquaintance I made in Mexico when there as the late Agent of Texas. and who I engaged to keep me informed of movements there.

I have the honor to Remain

Your Obt Servt

TREAT TO LAMAR.²

[Private.]

MEXICO April 24th. 1840.

SIR,

I have detained these despatches *until* I ascertained *whether* there was a conveyance for them at Vera Cruz, and *being none*, I shall send them by *tomorrow's post* to Tampico, *where* they must take *their chance* for an opportunity for N. Orleans.

²A. L. S.

This delay enables me to Your Dept. of State Mr P. from Judge Burr

My formal call on the invitation took place of form, nothing occurred should Soon have the he should endeavour to in my respects of 21st

We must now await the question, on the the intentions of Govt out a moment's unsatisfaction.

I reported, in a pending before Congress ery of Texas was supposed was final appears, (as these persons to themselves.) the Committee of the House Bill, with Some alterations House, and its provisions "Article of the project"

It is generally believed that will decide.

I asked the Secretary that Bill would not to which he replied in bill, in my opinion, considered a dead Letter

This confirmed my plated by it is wanted the Govmt. can apply of Texas; the Protection or may distribute it,

So that there is nothing on Texas, except in the Senate, if they as regards my direct

April 25th. Evening Mr Cañedo, and also the 27th. inst, he should things looked well.

This delay enables me to hand you a despatch from Mr Pakenham to Your Dept. of *State*, in answer to the one recently received by Mr P. from Judge Burnet.

My formal call on the Secretary of State by his Special Note of invitation took place *yesterday*, [at] which, being *purely* a matter of *form*, nothing occurred of any moment. The Secretary said he should soon have the papers ready to place before the Cabinet, when he should endeavour to give the business *the course* already indicated, in my respects of 21st. inst *herewith*.

We must *now* await quietly a few days, until I know, the *fate* of the question, on the part of the Cabinet, which *may be* indicative of the intentions of Government; and *which* I will report upon, without a moment's unnecessary delay, for your further Government and Satisfaction.

I reported, in a former Communication, *that* the Bill so long pending before Congress to provide *Ways, and Means* for the recovery of Texas was *finally lost in the Senate*. This was *true*, and I supposed was *final and decisive* of the *fate* of the *measure*. But it appears, (as these people have a way in almost every thing *peculiar to themselves*.) the Secretary of War *re-urged* the Matter, the Committee of the House *again* took up the Subject, and reported a *new Bill*, with Some alterations, and it is *now* under discussion in the House, and its provisions approved of by that body, up to the 7th "*Article of the project*."

It is generally believed that it will pass the Deputies, and as generally thought that the Senate will *reject it*. A few days will decide.

I asked the Secretary of State yesterday whether the passage of *that Bill* would not *interfere* with *his plans*, and those of the Cabinet, to which he replied in *the negative*. Said he, in the *first* place, the bill, in my opinion, will *not pass*; and, if it should, it may be considered a *dead Letter*, so far as Texas is concerned.

This confirmed my previous opinion that the Revenue contemplated by it is wanted for *other* purposes. As the bill *now stands*, the Govmt. can apply the proceeds of the Revenue to the *Restoration of Texas*; the *Protection* of the frontiers from *Indian depredations*; or may *distribute* it, at *discretion*, among the Departments.

So that there is nothing, scarcely, in Said bill, which has any bearing on Texas, *except its Title*. My friends will *stop it, nevertheless*, in the Senate, *if they can*, as it will have a good effect on the Cabinet as regards my *direct progress*.

April 25th. Evening. Since writing the foregoing, I have seen Mr Cañedo, and also Mr. Pakenham. The *former*, told me *that*, on the 27th. inst, he should open *my affair* to the *Cabinet*, and he thought things looked well.

Mr Pakenham, since I saw him, has sent me his Letter (open) to the Hon. Judge Burnet, instead of to the Hon the Secretary of State, as I had, *without reflection*, supposed.

You are of course *well aware* that Mr. P cannot address himself *officially*, nor *give* any *official titles* of Recognition, in his letters to any *public functionary*, where the *country* is not recognized by *his Sovereign*. Hence the Style of the letter *herewith*. He requested me to make *this* remark, altho', it [is] obvious that no exception could be taken. I think the contents quite Satisfactory. You will therefore I trust, look over the Expressions of "*Gen Lamar*" and "*Texian Authorities*" as an *official obligation*, on his *part only*. Pardon haste, and believe me Very truly and with great respect

Your obedient Servant

JAMES TREAT

To

Gen. M. B. LAMAR
Texas.

PAKENHAM TO BURNET.^a

MEXICO, 25th. April 1840.

SIR,

I have had the honour to receive from the hands of Mr. James Treat your letter of the 12th. March; and I am much gratified to find from it that the steps taken by me, in fulfilment of the instructions of Her Majesty's Government, towards effecting an arrangement between this Country and Texas, have been viewed with satisfaction by the Texian Authorities.

The difficulties which had existed with regard to the recognition of Mr. Treat as Agent for Texas having been removed by the full power lately transmitted to him, he will now possess the advantage of communicating freely and directly with the Mexican Government; and it will afford me sincere pleasure to continue to cooperate with him whenever he may think my assistance desirable.

I have to request that you will be pleased to present my respects to General Lamar, and to accept the assurance of the high consideration with which I have the honor to be

Sir,

Your most obedient
humble Servant,

R PAKENHAM.

The Honble.

DAVID G. BURNET

etc etc etc

^a A. L. S.

SIR.

I avail of the
duplicate Copies of
in case the original
which I beg leave to

I had *hoped* that
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I trust however, in
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I have addressed
on *other business*,
refer You, hoping
in this matter.

With great respect

Your most ob

To

Gen. M. B. L

BEE TO SAC

Letter No. 1.

DEAR SIR:

I arrived here on
day (Sunday) a Bull

^a April 28, 1840 (extra)

^b A. L. S.

^c It should be noted that
Wright, the whole forming

^d 1839.

BEE TO TREAT.^aTREAT TO LAMAR.^b

[Private.]

MEXICO April 30th. 1840.

Thursday, 12 o'clock.

SIR.

I avail of the English *Cabinet Courier* to hand you, herewith, duplicate Copies of my last respects of 21st. 24th. and 25th. inst. in case the originals, sent *via*. Tampico, Should be *delayed*; and to which I beg leave to refer you.

I had *hoped* that I might be able to say *something*, by *this conveyance*, of the *result* of the session of the Cabinet on Monday, in relation to *our affairs*, and, for *that* purpose, I had omitted addressing you up to *this*, the *latest moment*; but neither Mr: Pakenham nor myself have been able to see the Secretary *this week* from his indisposition, and the many occupations of the Cabinet, who, with the Ministers, are often in *Session* on *home affairs*.

I trust however, in *my next*, to be able to apprise you Something of the *result* of this *first formal Step* in my negotiations.

I have addressed the Hon. Secretary of State, a *separate despatch* on *other business*, which goes *with this*, and to which permit me to refer You, hoping for your approbation, in the course I have pursued in this matter.

With great respect and Consideration, I am, Sir,
Your most obt Servt.

JAMES TREAT

To

Gen. M. B. LAMAR
Austin
Texas.

BEE TO SECRETARY OF STATE OF TEXAS [LIPSCOMB].^c

Letter No. 1.

VERA CRUZ Augst 29th. 1840.^d

DEAR SIR:

I arrived here on the 28th. which was yesterday week, on which day (Sunday) a Bull fight took place, and another yesterday, in honor

^a April 28, 1840 (extract). See Treat to Lamar, July 4, 1840.

^b A. L. S.

^c It should be noted that Bee's letter follows a transcribed series of three letters from Wright, the whole forming a single manuscript.

^d 1839.

it is said, to Santa Annas return here as Commandante General of this "placa." The present Commandante, General Don Francisco de Paula Taro, of Vera Cruz who is brother in law to Santa Anna, will then of course be Teniente General or Second in Command. Santa Anna is however delicate in health and is at his Estancia (Farm) some thirty miles from Vera Cruz, but I have my doubts about his being in a delicate State of health, owing to private Conversations overheard. Some Strangers (Merchants) say they have their doubts as to his returning to Vera Cruz, and I have been unable to learn particulars, as every thing is kept within the knowledge of the few. The mass of the people are a conglomerated mass of colour and as ignorant as they are mixed. When I arrived there were several French men of war here, but they were only awaiting some of the Government Claims. They received Two hundred thousand dollars, which Cost the Mexican Government (it is said) near half a Million to raise it. These Vessels of war have left and there is nothing here but a small English packet lately from Tampico, and two other english vessels of war lying off.

Bustamente has taken the Presidential Chair in Mexico, not I presume with the good wishes of Santa Anna, but owing to the will of the leading Characters of the various juntas who are at the head of Government in Mexico. General Filasola is said to be at present in the City of Mexico. He is one of the instigators of war against ——^a but at present his influence is not to be Considered. Santa Anna it is rumored has not yet lost his ambitious Spirit but walks erect with his artificial foot and thinks he is as able to Command an army or Conduct a campaign as he ever was, and no doubt is looking forward to another Revolution in his favor. Thousands are Said to be on the eve of raising the hue and cry of "Viva Santa Ana" You may shortly expect not an invasion of —— but of the City of Mexico. The account published in the New Orleans [Commercial] Bulletin of the 11th and 13th of July of the sixty Thousand men having been called for, to march against the Republic of —— was correct, and it appears that some few men have been raised for that purpose, but some were dismissed under certain conditions, and for the present as far as I can learn the expedition is postponed, some say until January, others who have some knowledge of the movements say that the sixty thousand men are to be raised to defend the various Mexican ports and not to invade Texas. But one thing is certain that Sixty Thousand men have been ordered to be raised, in order to retake —— and the opinion of the people here is that

^a The blanks that occur in this letter represent words which in the original are written in cipher. The character is the same in every case but one, the exception being noted where it is found, and the word meant is evidently Texas.

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^a Comparison between
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—— will be invaded, and I give you in confidence the American Consul as one of my informants, and I am convinced that it is the intention of the Government at present; but when or how they can accomplish their end in view, God only knows.

1st. Their treasury is empty, their credit is bad, their paper worth not over fifty Cents in the dollar, was given payable in the Custom House in this City (Vera Cruz).

2nd. Who shall take Charge of the troops? Jealousy stalks abroad in the Country, and who can be trusted? None, he who commands the army may command Mexico. But take away the army, and up springs a petty tyrant, and with the voice of the Rabble puts himself at the head of the government

3rd. It is true there arrived here two cargoes of ammunition, and three more are expected, but such was the State of affairs here, that they had not money enough to pay the caravans to take it to Mexico. It was however taken to the City. It is also reported, that Mexico has made a requisition, ~~in~~ England for a large Stock of arms, which are shortly expected. Some however doubt the validity of the report; but let not this sink into the minds of the ——^a even if it should prove true; these arms will only be put into the hands of walking statutes, who will only use them in a measure mechanically or by force destitute of that invigorated spirit which influences and propels the true Patriot to take up the cause and fight for his Country. They also talk of Calling for Volunteers, in order they say, to make a general feeling predominate throughout the Camp, and Country, that of a universal wish for the extermination of the "Rebels and Pirates!" "*Who against the laws of all Nations have taken possession of the Country,*" may be exterminated! But when I think of the soldiers of this country who scarcely ever receive their pay, who are sadly clad, and have often to travel without shoes, [it] makes me of the opinion that a third who start for the Republic of —— will never be able to reach it, and those who do will be so much enfeebled by bad treatment and long marches that a thousand —— may drive Ten Thousands of them from their Shores by good management and regular discipline. I would say more, but as I leave in the morning for Jalapa and from thence to Pueblo, and thence for the Capitol, think it prudent to wait until I can give something more Certain but give you to understand that it is my opinion that —— will not be invaded for some twelve months to come.

I am dear Sir Your Very humble Servt.

^a Comparison between the character used here and that used at other places in this letter indicates, as one might judge from the context, that the word here intended is Texans.