

MEXICO 14 October 1840

DEAR SIR,

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your most obliging letter of the 10th. Inst. wherein you are so good as to express your sense of my exertions in favor of the pacifick objects of the Mission on which you have been employed in this Country.

Much as I regret the failure of our joint labours to bring about a friendly understanding between Texas and Mexico, I request you to be assured that I shall at all times retain an agreeable recollection of our intercourse while engaged in the prosecution of that object,—and altho' you cannot but view with a still greater degree of disappointment the result of which has attended so many months of anxious and persevering exertion on your part, allow me to record my humble opinion that every thing that zeal and ability could suggest as likely to lead to a favourable issue has been done by you in the execution of your Commission, and accordingly that you may enjoy the satisfaction of reflecting that if you have not succeeded it has been because success, under existing circumstances, was impossible.

With great esteem and regard, and with best wishes for your health and happiness,

I remain,

My dear Sir,

Yours faithfully,

Sigd. R PAKENHAM,

JAMES TREAT, Esq.

A true copy.

JAMES W. MOORE.

MEXICO 15 October 1840

SIR,

I regret to have to acquaint you that upon communicating with the Mexican Government upon the subject of an Armistice an arrangement to which you considered yourself authorized by your Instructions to Subscribe; on the part of the authorities of Texas, I see no prospects of their agreeing to a transaction of that kind upon terms approaching to those which you would be willing to accede to.

The Acting Minister of Foreign Affairs informed me yesterday, that this Government can entertain no proposals for an Armistice which shall not be presented with the previous sanction of the Texian authorities; and that, in no case, can they consent to a provisional line of demarcation to the Southward, or on this side, of the River of San Antonio.

COR

I have therefore re-
ent circumstances, not
the Mexican Governm

I have the honor
Sir,

Your

JAMES TREAT, Esq.

A true Copy,

JAMES W. MOORE.

SIR,

I have the honor to
the 14th. Inst.; by whic
which you act, you are so
"the Government of Tex
"commence offensive oper
"ing its Territory beyon
"Military Movement we
"with the view of forcin

I will take the earlie
tion to Her Majesty's Go
ciate the sentiments by w

I have the honor to

Sir,

Your

JAMES TREAT Esq.

A true Copy

JAMES W. MOORE.

MY DEAR SIR,

I was much vexed
your escort. I hope y
out a repetition of the

The enclosed Despa
have sent them by the
at Jalapa, but I thoug
ing them, and accordi
Cruz.

I have written to M
inclose a letter of int

CIATION.

MEXICO 14 October 1840

most obliging letter of
express your sense of my
Mission on which you

hours to bring about a
Mexico, I request you to
agreeable recollection of
on of that object,—and
degree of disappoint-
months of anxious and
to record my humble
could suggest as likely
you in the execution of
may enjoy the satisfac-
ed it has been because
possible.

wishes for your health

R PAKENHAM,

MEXICO 15 October 1840

communicating with
an Armistice an ar-
authorized by your
authorities of Texas,
action of that kind
would be willing to

med me yesterday,
ls for an Armistice
action of the Texian
nt to a provisional
de, of the River of

CORRESPONDENCE WITH MEXICO.

727

I have therefore reluctantly come to the opinion that, under present circumstances, nothing would be gained by further overtures to the Mexican Government upon this subject.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your Most Obedient
Humble Servant

Sigd. R. PAKENHAM.

JAMES TREAT, Esq.

A true Copy,

JAMES W. MOORE.

MEXICO, 21st. October, 1840

SIR,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 14th. Inst.; by which, in fulfilment of the instructions under which you act, you are so good as to make known to me "that should the Government of Texas be constrained to change its position, and commence offensive operations, it will not be with a view to extending its Territory beyond the Rio Grande, and any occupation or Military Movement west of that River will be temporary, and solely with the view of forcing the enemy to make peace."

I will take the earliest opportunity to communicate this declaration to Her Majesty's Government, who, I doubt not will fully appreciate the sentiments by which it has been dictated.

I have the honor to be with great respect,

Sir,

Your Most Obedient
Humble Servant

Sigd. R. PAKENHAM

JAMES TREAT Esq.

A true Copy

JAMES W. MOORE

MEXICO 5 Novr. 1840.

MY DEAR SIR,

I was much vexed by the disappointment which occurred about your escort. I hope you will have reached your journey's end without a repetition of the same annoyances.

The enclosed Desps. arrived by the Post of Monday last. I might have sent them by the Post of the day before yesterday, to find you at Jalapa, but I thought there might be some risk of your not receiving them, and accordingly determined to consign them direct to Vera Cruz.

I have written to Mr. Giffard in the sense we agreed upon, and I inclose a letter of introduction to Captain Frazer of H. M's. Ship

"Sappho" in case you should require his assistance, in effecting your embarkation.

There is no news here worth repeating to you,—but I was exceedingly glad to hear, the other day, from Dr. Jeeker, that he is quite satisfied about the state of your lungs. In fact he says that as far as your lungs are concerned you may live a thousand years. I mention this because, altho' he may have said the same to you, patients sometimes do not place as much confidence in what Doctor's say to them about their case, as in what they say to a third party. I have no doubt that you will have found great benefit to your general health by the change to a Milder Climate.

Do not forget your promise to write to me from time to time, and above all things recollect that I consider my Commission still open to be the medium of conveying any fresh pacific overtures which it may be thought advisable to make to the Mexican Govt.

My firm conviction is that you wd. gain nothing by attacking or insulting the Mexicans, but on the contrary bring down great mischief upon yourselves. You may be quite sure that if you do not molest them it will be a long time before they think of attacking you, and meanwhile you will be acquiring strength instead of wasting it, as would be the case if you brought about a state of active hostilities.

This conviction induced me to write to Genl. Hamilton in Dec.* last to the following effect.

"I admit that the present condition of Mexico is not the most favourable for the recommencement of offensive operations against Texas, upon a scale likely to lead to important results, but I am also strongly of opinion that an attack upon any part of the National Territory by a Foreign force would not fail to rouse the latent energies of the Country and induce the Mexicans to submit to extraordinary sacrifices in undertaking measures of retaliation, and thus give rise to a state of things far more likely to retard than to accelerate the establishment of friendly relations between the two Countries."

This advice I now repeat to you as the friend and well-wisher of Texas, and if you should incline to the same opinion I trust that you will be able to make it prevail in the proper quarter.

Goodbye, my dear Sir, Believe me, with best wishes,

Yours always

Very Sincerely

JAMES TREAT Esq.

A true Copy

JAMES W. MOORE

(Sigd.)

R PAKENHAM

* The 12th. See the letter inclosed in Hamilton to Burnet, January 5, 1840, in Correspondence with Great Britain.

SIR,

Enclosed, please find which I have endeavoured by every effort and

Whether I shall succeed at all, it will probably

I send this down to present itself to send using for this purpose able to do when I last

The Packet was to have been postponed until the meeting between Mr. Pakenham to demand his passport Packet's Courier, and the satisfaction of Mr. Pakenham

This quasi blow upon me I begin again to morrow Land lies, and if, as the stantier for the Coast vessels, if at hand Without

I Remain very

Your Obedient

To Com: E. W. Moore
Comdg. of Texas
Gulf of Mexico

A true copy,
JAMES W. MOORE

SIR,

Your two favours have been handed on the 20th inst. by the Courier; their contents have been forwarded to you for the details of one of your Vessels. I am also much gratified to hear that you will promptly the San Jacinto she return and rejoice

* Inadvertent

[Confidential.]

CITY OF MEXICO, *October 6th. 1840.*

SIR,

Enclosed, please find Copy of my communication of 31st.^a Ult. which I have endeavoured to get to you, or some one of your vessels, by every effort and precaution in my power to make *from this place*.

Whether I shall succeed or not remains to be seen. If you get it *at all*, it will probably be *to day*.

I send this down to Vera Cruz to avail of any oppty. that *may* present itself to send out to You, for I have been disappointed in using for this purpose the *English Packet*, as I expected I should be able to do when I last wrote you.

The Packet was to have sailed from Vera Cruz this day, but has been postponed until the 9th. inst, in consequence of a misunderstanding between Mr. Pakenham and this Govmt. Mr. P. being compelled to demand his passports, and after several days detention of the *Packet's Courier*, and negotiation, the matter has been settled to the satisfaction of Mr. Pakenham.

This *quasi* blow up with Mr. P. has cost me a *week's lost time*, but I *begin* again to *morrow* and shall know in a *very few days how the Land lies*, and if, as I anticipate, nothing be done, I shall leave *instantly* for the Coast and endeavour to find you, or one of your Vessels, if at hand Without any thing further of interest at present,

I Remain very Cordially and Respectfully,

Your Obedient Servant,

Sigd.

JAMES TREAT

To Com: E. W. MOORE

*Comdg. of Texan Squadron
Gulf of Mexo.*

A true copy,

JAMES W. MOORE

[Confidential.]

MEXICO *September 30th. 1840.*

SIR,

Your two favours of 25th. Augt. and 17th. Sept. were placed in my hands on the 20th inst. having come up by the *British Cabinet Courier*; their contents have been duly examined, and I am much indebted to you for the details of your movements, and the proffered service of one of your Vessels, to receive further communications from me. I am also much gratified that you found it convenient to despatch thus *promptly* the *San Jacinto* with my communications to Govmt. Should she return and rejoin you, I trust we shall both receive fresh advices

^a Inadvertently written for 30th. See inclosed copy referred to.

from Govmt. which, *to me*, will be very gratifying, as my latest dates are 15th. June.^a

I notice the assurances you give me that no Molestation had been offered to any Mexican Vessel or property by the Squadron, which I have no doubt are entirely correct. But the Govmt. here have information of several cases of annoyance, which they affect to believe, or perhaps *really* think correct, as they are in two instances backed by declarations made by the sufferers before the Captain of the port of Vera Cruz. I will state these cases, as I feel satisfied you can disprove them.

The Vessel called *Amalia*, Cap. *Tomas Nardis*, sailed from Tuxpain on the 8th. Augt. and arrived at Va. Cruz on the 11th. This Captain declares that on the 9th. or 10th. of same month he saw a Schooner at anchor near the shore, about 8 leagues to the Northward of Va. Cruz; that on seeing her (the Mexican) the said Schooner got underway and chased under Mexican flag; on coming up, the flag was changed for the Texan, the Mexican boarded, and from her taken some 200 or 300 lbs. of brown sugar, a demijohn of Brandy, and some vegetables, and that asking if they had *any money* on board the Schooner left them. The Schooner *Idelo* was chased at the same time, but not boarded.

A recent account which has been sent up to Govmt. states that one of of the Texan Vessels took from a fisherman *all his fish*, and gave him as compensation a *five Dollar Treasury Note of Texas*, which has been sent up to Govmt. Another statement is that your crews have landed on the coast several times and taken off cattle *without compensation*.

Of course there are many other rumours not worth repeating, but those above named seem to be credited by the Govmt. and the two first stated being *official*, they have a right to assume, that they are true, until disproven.

I mention these matters more for your own information or govmt. than because they are of any importance to me here, as I am situated now, but if I had a statement disproving or denying these facts from an *official* or *responsible source*, I should certainly lay it before the Government.

I notice that you will continue to keep a Vessel at the place named, to receive my communications, which will be a great convenience in every way. I also notice what you say about using the waters of Mexico for your Vessels, and concur with you in your remarks, under existing circumstances.

I have not written you until now, as no oppty. has presented to send out my letter, and because I have been expecting my mission would terminate *promptly*, ever since the date of my last. The Govmt.

^a Probably incorrectly copied for the 13th.

have now refused *en* before them for *Peas* with them the project *week* for the result. I agree on anything; but the parties come to a

I have insisted on notwithstanding the agreed to wait a week

The Secretary of his place will be filled a permanent appointm

I shall lose no time here, and without del place appointed, if the N. Orleans, by Havana

I send this down to Ann Louise. If an look out for the Engl or the next day, wh communication from opportunity offers, be of interest, and may

I remain Very Yours

To

Com: E. W. Tewn. E.

A true Copy.

JAMES W. M

HONOURABLE AND

I have the hon the Pacific by way been Remaining for formation of our evil of Texas.

From time to the knew. At present

ing, as my latest dates

Molestation had been
the Squadron, which I
Govmt. here have in-
they affect to believe,
two instances backed
Captain of the port
satisfied you can dis-

sailed from Tuxpain
11th. This Captain
he saw a Schooner
Northward of Va.
Schooner got under-
g up, the flag was
and from her taken
of Brandy, and some
oney on board the
chased at the same

Govmt. states that
an *all his fish*, and
ry Note of Texas,
ement is that your
and taken off cattle

orth repeating, but
t. and the two first
that they are true,

rmation or govmt.
a, as I am situated
g these facts from
y lay it before the

t the place named,
at convenience in
ing the waters of
ur remarks, under

has presented to
cting my mission
last. The Govmt.

have now refused *en toto* the conditions I had so long since placed before them for *Peace* and *Recognition*; and I am now discussing with them the project of an *Armistice*, and have agreed to wait *one week* for the result. I have but very little expectation that we shall agree on anything; but I will apprise you of the result the moment the parties come to a conclusion.

I have insisted on my Passport, and it has been granted this day, notwithstanding the question of Armistice is pending, and I have agreed to wait a week for the result.

The Secretary of State will resign in a day or two, but whether his place will be filled *ad interim* by one of the other Secretaries, or a permanent appointment be made, I cannot say.

I shall lose no time in reaching Va. Cruz as soon as I close up here, and without delay join your ship, or the Schooner, at the place appointed, *if there*; if not, shall make the best of my way to N. Orleans, by Havana, or the shortest route within my *reach*.

I send this down to Va. Cruz, to go out to you by the Am. Packet Ann Louise. If an arrangement *can be made*, and if you receive it, look out for the English Packet, to sail from Vera Cruz the *same*, or *the next day*, where you *may*, and probably *will* find another communication from me, and perhaps despatches for Govt. If any opportunity offers, send a copy of this to Govt., as its contents will be of interest, and may reach them *before* my own despatches.

I remain Very respectfully and cordially,

Yours etc.

Sigd. J. TREAT

To

Com: E. W. MOORE
Tewn. Squadron
etc, etc:

A true Copy.

JAMES W. MOORE

WRIGHT TO LAMAR.^a

CITY OF ORLEANS *March 18th. 1841*

HONOURABLE AND RESPECTED SIR

I have the honor of informing you that I have just arrived from the Pacific by way of the City of Mexico, in which Republic I have been Remaining for the last two years in order to gather every information of our common enemy (Mexico) Relative to the good or evil of Texas.

From time to time I Remitted to Texas and to Col Bee, of what I knew. At present Mexico is very low in the mouth. Though she

^a A. L. S.

has realized one million five hundred thousand dollars out of the Late five million Loan, they will be unable to accomplish nothing though ever so willing. You have no doubt some knowledge of the manner that the Mexicans maneuver. Those Gentlemen at the Heads of departments make a great hugh and Cry when Low in pocket, that money and an army must be Raised to go against Texas. But so soon as they have this money secured, they hush up apply the money to other purposes, generally to the agrandizement of themselves or party. So I expect it will be with the present Loan obtained. When I Left Mexico nothing was said of an expedition to Texas. Nothing said Relative to their Fleet. In Guadalajara I found nothing doing, in Guanajato, Queretero, St. Luis Potosi Durango and Zacatexas. Do.^a General Arista was pursuing some 300 Camanches who had penetrated far down into the Country laying waste every thing in their way, having taken many Mexican woman and children prisoners And having killed several hundred Mexicans.

The despatches from the San Bernard had not reached Mexico, [but] had I think Reached Vera Cruz. Mexico I think will not Recognise Texas to the very last extreme. I am afraid she will be too proud. Some fears must always be kept up by the Texians on the frontiers, as they May Like the Camanches some day do mischief on the settlements. Texas must Never sleep, must never believe a Smoth and fair tale, be always on the Alert, And teach the Mexicans to fear for they Can't love nor be true.

Although I have made these Last Remarks, I would not be understood that the Mexicans were at present Like to commit hostilities on the outposts, in strowling parties, but that it must be the duty of the Texian Government to provide against such hostilities, which I think will likely take place if not soon, at some later period.

I am Dear Sir with much Respect

Your humble Servant,

A. S. WRIGHT.

[Next follows a long note which has been published.^b]

MAYFIELD TO WEBB.^c

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Austin 22d. March 1841.

HON. JAMES WEBB.

SIR.

The President having appointed you Minister Plenipotentiary for the Republic of Texas to the Republic of Mexico, I have the Honor

^a Ditto.

^b See Calendar.

^c L. S.

to hand you herewith
to inform you, that
instructions from the
Armed Vessels, to tal
port on the Coast of

By a Convention
Hamilton on the 14
with its ratification
Brittannic Majesty
Mediation in the sea
Country and Mexico
open and conduct
of that Mediation as
permanent peace. Y
Mr Packenham Her
the preliminary mea
after consultation, pu
for the attainment of
from the spirit of you

Upon your reaching
the Commandant of
such channel, as you
and if you are not
safe conducts and p
such measures as yo
with Mr Packenham
whether or not you
this Government
templated by the c
mean time, you wil
receive answers to
some more friendl
you may expect re

The Vessel whi
Control and direc
finally discharge
times freely give
mand of her, as y
instructions he
may require.

Should negot
you will consid
Barnard. E. Be
the instructions

to hand you herewith your Commission and Credentials as such, and to inform you, that you will find prepared for you at Galveston, under instructions from the Secretary of War and Navy, one of the Public Armed Vessels, to take you and your suite to Vera Cruz, or such other port on the Coast of Mexico, as you may select for your debarkation.

By a Convention entered into between Lord Palmerston and Gen. Hamilton on the 14th day of Novr. last, (a certified copy of which, with its ratification is furnished you,) you will perceive that her Britannic Majesty's Government has offered its interposition and Mediation in the settlement of the differences existing between this Country and Mexico, and the primary object of your Mission is to open and conduct such negotiations under the auspicious influences of that Mediation as it is hoped, will lead to the establishment of a permanent peace. You will therefore advise freely with the Hon. Mr Packenham Her Britannic Majestys Minister at Mexico, as to the preliminary measures, you may find it necessary to adopt, and after consultation, pursue such plans, as may appear most advisable for the attainment of the objects you have in view, not departing from the spirit of your general instructions.

Upon your reaching the Mexican Coast, you will make known to the Commandant of the place, at which you shall seek to land, through such channel, as you find most convenient, the objects of your mission, and if you are not immediately furnished by him with the necessary safe conducts and passports for the city of Mexico, you will adopt such measures as you may deem most advisable for communicating with Mr Packenham with the view of ascertaining through him, whether or not you will be received and accredited as the agent of this Government for the Purpose of entering into negotiations contemplated by the convention to which I have refer'd you; and in the mean time, you will remain in Port, if permitted to do so untill you receive answers to your despatches. Otherwise you will proceed to some more friendly port where you will remain untill such time as you may expect replies from Mr Packenham.

The Vessel which will take you down will be entirely under your Control and direction as regards her movements untill you shall have finally discharged her from this service. You will therefore at all times freely give such instructions to the Officer who will be in Command of her, as you may deem best for your purposes and under such instructions he will take you from place to place as circumstances may require.

Should negotiations be opened with the Authorities of Mexico, you will consider the letter addressed by the Department to the Hon. Barnard. E. Bee, under date of February 20th 1839 as the basis of the instructions under which you will conduct those negotiations, ex-

ON.
dollars out of the
accomplish nothing
knowledge of the
amen at the Heads
ow in pocket, that
exas. But so soon
ply the money to
emselves or party.
ed. When I Left
as. Nothing said
nothing doing, in
Zacatecas. Do.
s who had pene-
ry thing in their
en prisoners And

reached Mexico,
ink will not Rec-
d she will be too
Texians on the
y do mischief on
never believe a
ch the Mexicans

ld not be under-
nmit hostilities
t be the duty of
ilities, which I
eriod.

A. S. WRIGHT.

OF STATE
March 1841.

potentiary for
ve the Honor

S.

cept so far as the same is Modified by the Convention with England and by specific points of instruction hereinafter contained.

It has suggested itself to the President that in your discussions respecting boundary. embarrassments may arise which will be difficult to adjust growing out of the locality of the harbor known as the Brasos Santiago and its importance to the Rio Grande, as being the only convenient shipping port for the commerce of that River. This harbour is entirely within the limits of Texas, as defined by the act of Congress of 19th Dec 1836, and as nothing less than those limits can be accepted for our boundary, you may find this, the most difficult point of adjustment which will be presented in your negotiations. It is certainly not to be expected that Mexico will willingly yield the entire control of a port, so essential to the existence of all commercial advantages which she may expect to derive from the Navigation of the Rio Grande, and this consideration may prevent their conceding to us that River, as the proper boundary between the two countries, when no other would be deemed of sufficient importance to be pertinaciously insisted upon. It is certainly desirable that we should possess the entire and exclusive Control over all the harbours and waters within our acknowledged limits and it is expected that you will urge the right to the exercise of such exclusive Control over the harbor of the Brasos Santiago so long as you can do so, without jeopardizing your whole negotiations. This however must be avoided if it can be done by a reasonable and fair compromise of the question, for the establishment of Peace with Mexico is at this time a matter of too much importance to the Prosperity of Texas, to permit us to insist upon points, which would defeat it, when those points do not involve the honour or integrity of the Nation, or the yielding of any essential right. I am therefore instructed by the President to say to you, that should Mexico claim the right to the free use of the Brasos Santiago as a Sine qua non to a treaty of peace and recognition, you are at liberty to concede it, so far as to stipulate that she shall have the free right to enter it with her vessels and commerce at all times and as freely depart from it, without being subject to any of the rules or restrictions which may be adopted by this Government for the regulation of its own commerce and that she shall also be entitled to some convenient position upon it, as a place for deposite for her Merchandises and produce, and to a free transit across the land for such Merchandises and produce to the most convenient point for shipment upon the Rio Grande: and that these priviledges shall be continued to her as long as the country bordering on the Western Bank of the River shall remain under the Control of and belong to her Government, but should that Country either by treaty with a foreign power, or by other means pass into the hands [of another nation] and be no longer under the Control of her authorities, such stipulation is to

cease, and all future negotiations as open to negotiation with right with Texas to Na interrupted harmony betw tance to both, should for the purpose of shew Government will herea vent as far as possible Mexican Territory, and affairs, or in any inter Mexican States or any

It is not considered in detail to the various pe either of peace and recog are intimately acquainted is essential to its prosper judgment and discretion fully confides to you its honor interests and chara will be safely preserved

If after the commence disposition manifested by tract them for the purp inclinacion for adjustme bring them to a close wait for special permis however must be left en which while it will dict and unmeaning discuss suggest to you the impr pertinacity matters, wh mildness and forbearan

If you are not permit of Mexico, or having continue them, without ing this Government of Yucatan, and ascertain would be willing to tal wage against Mexico. you will sound the pe furnished with author you may suggest to the agent to this Govern give them assurances such an agent. In co

tion with England
contained.

in your discussions
which will be diffi-
culty known as the
Rio Grande, as being the
mouth of that River. This
is defined by the act
less than those limits
this, the most diffi-
culty in your negotiations.
I will willingly yield the
control of all commer-
cial navigation
from the Navigation
to prevent their con-
flict between the two coun-
tries of importance to be
remembered that we should
control the harbours and
is expected that you
will have Control over the
navigation can do so, without
any other must be avoided
in case of the question,
at this time a matter
is, to permit us to
those points do not
the yielding of any
I am confident to say to
in case of the Brasos
I am confident recognition, you
that she shall have
commerce at all times
to any of the rules
I am confident for the reg-
ulation is entitled to some
control for her Merchan-
dise and for such Mer-
chant shipping
I am confident to be continued to
the Bank of the
to her Govern-
ment a foreign power,
and no stipulation is to

cease, and all future regulations upon the subject will be considered as open to negotiation with the power that may then claim the joint right with Texas to Navigate the River. As the continuance of uninterrupted harmony between the two Countries will be of vast importance to both, should their present difficulties be adjusted, you may for the purpose of shewing our desire to promote it, stipulate that this Government will hereafter by the rigid enforcement of its laws, prevent as far as possible all encroachments by its citizens upon the Mexican Territory, and all interference on their part in her domestic affairs, or in any internal difficulties which may arise between the Mexican States or any of the citizens thereof.

It is not considered necessary in this communication to advert in detail to the various points which should be embraced in a treaty, either of peace and recognition, or of Commerce with Mexico. You are intimately acquainted with the condition of the Country and what is essential to its prosperity, and the President relying upon your judgment and discretion in conducting the negotiation, most cheerfully confides to you its details under the fullest assurance that the honor interests and character of Texas will be maintained by you, and will be safely preserved in your hands.

If after the commencement of your negotiations, you shall find a disposition manifested by those with whom you are treating to protract them for the purposes of delay, without exhibiting a serious inclination for adjustment, you will at any moment be at liberty to bring them to a close and return home and will not be required to wait for special permission to do so from this Department. This however must be left entirely to the exercise of a sound discretion, which while it will dictate the propriety of putting an end to useless and unmeaning discussions that can result in no benefit will equally suggest to you the impropriety of urging with intemperate haste and pertinacity matters, which you deem essential, and which you may by mildness and forbearance ultimately succeed in attaining.

If you are not permitted to open negotiations with the Government of Mexico, or having opened them, should find it necessary to discontinue them, without any beneficial results, you will after notifying this Government of the fact be at liberty, to return by the way of Yucatan and ascertain what part the Government of that country would be willing to take in a war which Texas might be compelled to wage against Mexico. In doing this however it is only expected that you will sound the people of Yucatan on the subject as you are not furnished with authority to enter into any treaty stipulations, but you may suggest to the authorities the propriety of their sending an agent to this Government with full powers to treat and you may give them assurances of our friendship and willingness to receive such an agent. In conducting negotiations of so much delicacy and

importance as those with which you are charged to the Government of Mexico, to a final and satisfactory conclusion, the President is aware that a control of funds beyond what is allowed for your salary and outfit may be essential to you. He has therefore given me instructions to furnish you with Authority to draw either directly upon this Government, or through our loan Commissioners, for any sum not exceeding fifty thousand dollars, which you may deem necessary, but it is expected that this right to draw for funds will not be exercised except you find it absolutely essential to your success.

In this however, as in most other things connected with your Mission, your own discretion must be the guide for your Conduct, as your well known character for honor and probity is with him a sufficient guarantee that his confidence in its exercise will not have been misplaced.

Wishing you full success in the accomplishment of the Arduous duties you have undertaken and a safe return to your Country and friends,

I have the honor to remain
with high respect
Your Obt. Servt.

J. S. MAYFIELD.

Documents furnished Judge Webb Commissions as Minister Plenipotentiary and Envoy Extraordinary, and as Agent to Mexico, credentials as each, same as credentials to Col Bee 1839.^a

Copy of Treaty with Santa Anna.^b

Copy of Instructions to Col Bee as agent to Mexico 1839^c

Extract of instructions to Jas Treat Esq^d

Secret Joint Resolution, relative to Mexico^e

Secret Resolution of Senate, Jany 4.

Authority to draw on Hamilton and Burnley^f

2 copies of convention with England^g

Act to define Boundaries of Texas.^h

Letter of credence to Mr. Pakenhamⁱ

^a These commissions and letters of credence have not been found. Their contents, however, can be sufficiently inferred from a comparison of the summaries which were given of like documents issued to Dee, February 20, 1839.

^b The secret treaty signed May 14, 1836. See *House Journal*, 1st Tex. Cong., 1st sess., p. 25; *Niles' Register*, LXIX, 98.

^c See Webb to Bee, February 20, 1839.

^d The instructions were contained in Burnet to Treat, August 9, 1839, and same to same, August 19, 1839. What extracts were made for Webb cannot here be stated.

^e See note *a.*, p. 882.

^f Document dated March 30, 1841.

^g See Gammel, *Laws of Texas*, II, 886-887.

^h *Ibid.*, I, 1193-1194.

ⁱ Mayfield to Pakenham, March 30, 1841.

[Asking credence of
Government which
mediator between Tex
dinary and minister

LAMAR TO INHABITANTS

GENTLEMEN.

Herewith you will
missioners on the par
expedition about to
the chief directions.

^a March 30, 1841.

^b April 21, 1841. See *C*

^c May 31, 1841. See *cor*

^d June 1, 1841. See *cor*

^e June 5, 1841. See *Cal*

^f June 8, 1841. See *cor*

^g June 10, 1841. See *cor*

^h See Records of Departm