

ALLEN TO ELLIOT.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
WASHINGTON ON THE BRAZOS,*July 10th, 1845.*

The undersigned, Secretary of State of the Republic of Texas, has the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the note addressed to him, under date of the 13th Ultimo, by Captain Elliot, Her Britannic Majesty's Chargé d' Affaires, near this government, announcing the necessity of his departure to seek in a change of climate for restoration of health;—also, conveying the assurances of his kind regard to his Excellency, the President, and his cordial wishes for the continued honor and prosperity of the Republic and people of Texas.

The President has read the note of Captain Elliot with such sensations as its contents are so well calculated to awaken; and has charged the undersigned with the duty of communicating his sentiments in reply.

Among the causes likely to suspend those relations of intercourse both official and personal, which have so long and so happily subsisted between Captain Elliot and this Government, the information contained in his note that ill health is the immediate cause of his contemplated absence, is deeply regretted by the President.

The good offices and friendly dispositions of Her Majesty's Government towards this Republic, early manifested by a recognition of the independence and nationality of Texas; the institution of treaty relations; the benefits of long and uninterrupted commercial intercourse between the citizens of the two countries; and the magnanimity which has always distinguished the deportment of the English Government towards this, under all the various circumstances of their mutual connexions and relations;—a deportment ever friendly towards the Texian Nation and consistent with its honor and its interest; added to the ever kind and pleasing demeanor of Her Majesty's accomplished Representative throughout his diplomatic intercourse with the authorities of this Republic, are considerations which claim the expression of honorable and sincere acknowledgments from the Government and people of Texas.

It has become the duty of the undersigned to acquaint Capt. Elliot with the acceptance, on the part of this Republic, of the overture from the United States for Annexation. By the Congress this acceptance was signified by a joint resolution, adopted by both Houses in Special Session, and approved by the Executive on the 23d Ultimo.

The Convention assembled at Austin on the 4th Instant, manifested its consent to the terms of the same overture by an ordinance passed on that day. The preliminaries for a treaty with Mexico, on the basis of the continued separate nationality and independence of

Texas have been rejected by the Senate. These manifestations hardly admit of a doubt that the incorporation of Texas with the Federal Union is destined to an early consummation, so far as that alternative depends upon the action of the People of this Republic;—whose decision in the matter, the Executive, from the nature of his official relations to the community, which has charged him with the administration of its affairs, is bound to carry out.

During the continuance of political and diplomatic intercourse between this Republic and other nations, it has been the constant aim, and desire of his Excellency to observe a course of equal justice towards all and to cultivate with each, relations of amity, founded upon a just estimate of national rights and honor; and a belief that his efforts in this respect are appreciated by Her Majesty's Government, is to him a source of high gratification.

Under a sense of the uniformly amicable and elevated course of the English Government already referred to, and of the courtesy and kindness of feeling which have ever characterized the official and personal intercourse of Captain Elliot with the authorities of Texas, the announcement of his departure, unwelcome as it really is, would be the more regretted by the President, but for the occasion thereby furnished, to convey to Her Britannic Majesty, an expression of his earnest wishes, that she may be blest with length of days and with the honor of a happy and peaceful reign; and to Captain Elliot personally, the assurance of his high regard and unqualified esteem; and the undersigned, animated by like sentiments, requests Captain Elliot to accept the distinguished consideration and regard, with which he has the honor to remain

His Most Faithful

and

Obedient Servant

(Signed)

EBENR. ALLEN.

Captain CHARLES ELLIOT

*Chargé d'Affaires of Her B. Majesty
etc. etc. etc.*

TERRELL TO JONES.^a

SMITH TO ALLEN.^b

[Announcing Smith's arrival at Galveston on September 24.]

ABERDEEN TO ELLIOT.^c

^a July 25, 1845. See Calendar.

^b A. L. S., September 25, 1845. Private.

^c December 3, 1845. See Elliot to Allen, January 4, 1846.

ELLIOT TO JONES.^aELLIOT TO ALLEN.^bNEW ORLEANS *January 4th. 1846.*

The Undersigned Her Britannic Majesty's 'Chargé d' Affaires to the Republic of Texas has the honour to acquaint Mr. Allen that He has this morning arrived here on his way to Texas; but being prevented by indisposition from going on in the boat on the point of leaving New Orleans for that destination, He deems it proper to lose no time in transmitting the accompanying copy of a despatch from the Earl of Aberdeen to his address, for the information of the Government of Texas.

He hopes to be able to proceed by the next boat which will leave New Orleans in the course of a few days, when he will immediately have the honour of paying his respects to the President.

The Undersigned takes this occasion to renew to Mr. Allen the expressions of high consideration with which He has the honour remain, His Most faithful
and obedient Servant

CHARLES ELLIOT

To The Honourable
EBENEZER ALLEN
*Secretary of State
to the Republic of Texas*

(Copy ^c)

CHARLES ELLIOT

FOREIGN OFFICE

Decr. 3, 1845.

SIR,

As the period is now approaching at which it seems probable that the annexation of Texas to the United States will be definitively arranged, Her Majesty's Government deem it advisable that the attention of the Texian Government should be called to the treaties existing between Great Britain and Texas; and that they should be reminded that the voluntary surrender of their independence by the Government and people of Texas will not annul those Treaties; on the contrary that their stipulations will remain in precisely the same position as if Texas had continued an independent Power: and that

^a January 4, 1846. See Calendar.^b A. L. S.^c On the back is written "send to Capt. Elliot care G. H. Cocke, Galveston with a copy of President's veto message on the Bill extending the boundaries of Texas to the Pacific, Dancy's Bill."

so long therefore as those treaties are in force, Great Britain will have a right to require that the engagements contracted by them should be fulfilled on the part of Texas, as they would be fulfilled on the part of Great Britain. I have to desire that on your arrival at the Seat of Government in Texas, you will make a communication to the above effect to the Secretary of State, and place in his hands a copy of that despatch as a record of that communication.

I am with great truth

Sir,

Your most obedient

Humble Servant

(signed)

ABERDEEN.

ALLEN TO ELLIOT.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Austin 4 Feby 1846.

The undersigned Secretary of State of the Republic of Texas having just returned to the Seat of Government after a temporary absence has received the note addressed to him by Capt. Elliot Her Britannic Majesty's Chargé d'affaires etc. etc. etc. under date of the 4th ultimo, transmitting the Copy of a despatch from the Earl of Aberdeen dated the 3d of Decr last calling the attention of this Government to the treaties existing between Great Britain and Texas, and notifying it that the former will have a right to require that the engagements contained in them should be fulfilled on the part of the latter, notwithstanding the voluntary surrender of her independence by her Government and people, as those engagements would be fulfilled on the part of Great Britain.

In a communication addressed to Capt Elliot under date of the 10th of July last, the undersigned referred to the measures which had then been adopted on the part of this Republic in pursuance of the overture for annexation from the United States, and expressed a conviction, that the union of the two Republics was destined to an early consummation, so far as that result depended upon the action of the people of Texas, whose decision in the matter the Executive was in duty bound to carry out.

By a recent Act of the Congress of the United States the final step necessary to that consummation was taken and Texas was admitted as a state in the Confederacy.

During the existance of Texas as an independent Republic, the obligations of her treaty stipulations with Great Britain have been and will continue to be on her part observed with the same fidelity, which has ever marked the fulfillment of those obligations on the part of

Her Majesty's Government. But after the organization of the State Government shall have succeeded to that of the Republic, the settlement of all questions growing out of her existing treaty relations with foreign powers must, so far as Texas is concerned be necessarily referred to the Government of the United States.

The undersigned avails himself of the occasion to renew to Capt Elliot the assurances of distinguished consideration with which he has the honor to remain

His most obedient

and

Faithful Servant—

EBNR ALLEN

Captain CHARLES ELLIOT

*Chargé d'Affaires of Her Britannic Majesty
etc. etc. etc.*