

RATIFICATION BY KING LOUIS PHILIPPE OF TREATY WITH TEXAS.^a
[Declaring the treaty approved, ratified, and confirmed.]

HENDERSON TO SECRETARY OF STATE OF TEXAS [BURNET].^b

Legation of Texas
at Paris.
Despatch No.

LONDON *October 16th. 1839.*

To The Honorable
The SECRETARY OF STATE

SIR

In my last despatch, I gave you all that had passed up to that date between Marshal Soult, Mr. Pontois and myself on the subject of the negotiation then pending between us. Soon after my last despatch was forwarded to you, Mr. Saligny, the Agent who had been sent by France to Texas, arrived in Paris. He had sent forward his report, which Marshal Soult had previously informed me was quite favorable to Texas.

I found however immediately upon the arrival of Mr. Saligny, that the French Government changed its views in regard to the terms of the Treaty. In the outset, Mr Pontois had said to me, that France would be willing to reduce the duty on Texian Cotton one fourth, provided Texas would make an equivalent reduction in her Tariff. Founded upon that consideration, I proposed to reduce the duty on French wines two fifths and one half on French Silks. I had refused in the outset to consent to reduce the duty on Brandies; but at a second interview with Mr. Pontois, he insisted so strongly that I should consent to some reduction however small, in order to secure the support of certain Members of the Chamber of Deputies to the step, Government was about to take in recognizing Texas, that I consented to a reduction on that article of one fifth. At the termination of our interview when the conversation as above related took place, Mr. Pontois expressed himself well pleased at what had passed between us. We met in a few days after that date, and after Mr. Saligny's arrival. He was present, and when Mr. Pontois made new demands upon me, which was, to reduce the duty on French Goods not included in our first agreement, and I objected, Mr Saligny said "that he was sure, that I had the power to consent to do so, because most of the officers of the Government of Texas had assured him during his stay in that Country, that Texas would be willing to make all such reductions, provided France would recognize." To which I

^a October 2, 1839 (copy). This copy is filed with the treaty and was doubtless transmitted with it.

^b A. L. S.

replied, that I had no such instructions and that I must act according to my written authority, and not in compliance with any information which might be conveyed to me through another channel. I firmly rejected Mr. Pontois's proposition in that respect, and we parted. Some little interruption took place about this time in the negotiation, caused by some information which I received from Genl. Hamilton (which I have heretofore explained in a letter—first, to Genl. Johnston Secretary of War, and —Secondly, to the President.^a) In the mean time, Genl. Hamilton arrived and explained all. Upon his arrival, Mr. Pontois harped much upon the importance of recognition by France, in order to aid Genl. Hamilton in his negotiation of the Texian Bonds. I also considered it important in that point of view, and was much strengthened in that opinion by my first interview with Genl. Hamilton; but I did not feel willing to *pay* for recognition, even in order to accomplish the important business of a loan. I soon discovered however that the French negotiator was determined to take advantage of that, as well as all other circumstances in order to force me to grant the most advantageous terms to France.

On the occasion of our next interview, Mr. Pontois informed me "that he had been mistaken in the quality of our Cotton, and that the Ministers of Finance and Commerce would not consent to any reduction." How he could have been mistaken in the quality of our Cotton, or how such a mistake could have influenced the French Government on that point, I am at a loss to know; because I told Mr. Pontois at our first interview, that the Texian Cotton was better than any raised in the United States, except the Sea Island. Moreover the duty upon Sea Island and Upland Cotton is the same in France. Therefore I am convinced that it was only an excuse to avoid making the promised reduction because Mr. Saligny assured them, that from what he saw and heard in Texas, I was authorized, and would do all I had proposed to do, without such concession on the part of France. When Mr. Pontois informed me that his Government would not consent to make the promised reduction on Cotton, I told him, that inasmuch as all of my propositions had been founded upon his proposed reduction upon that Staple article of Texas, we must commence *de novo*. He insisted most strongly on holding me to my first proposition, but I determined not to consent to it. He then assured me that unless I did consent to the reductions I had proposed, he would yield up his powers to Marshal Soult, as he was sure no other terms would be accepted by the Ministry. Nevertheless I still determine not to yield. I then separated from Mr. Pontois, and had a conversation with Genl. Hamilton, on the situation of Texas and the importance of recognition by France, so

^a These letters have not been found.

far as the negotiation of the Bonds he had in charge was concerned. Genl. Hamilton seemed to think that every thing depended upon the success of my negotiation with France, and advised me most strongly to make the reductions I had first proposed, notwithstanding the French Government refused to carry out the proposition made by their representative. I was induced mainly by the above consideration to consent to make the reduction which the French Government insisted on, rather than delay the matter until I could write home for the advice of the President.

You will see that the article of the Treaty which provides for the reduction of the duties on Wines and Brandies stipulates, that if Texas shall hereafter reduce the duty on similar articles of other Countries, then, there shall be made a corresponding reduction on the French Wines and Brandies—freely, if the reduction is freely made, and by France paying the same compensation, if the reduction is conditional. I consented to that provision upon mature reflection for two reasons. In the first place, England and all other European States whose recognition is at this time much desired by Texas, have no such articles to export, and consequently such a stipulation cannot embarrass Texas in her negotiations with them. In the second place, I saw that nothing would be more easy than to destroy the whole advantage, which France hopes to receive by that provision, in case Texas shall hereafter find it necessary to treat with any Country which does produce Wines and Brandies.

Suppose for instance that Texas wished to make a Treaty with Spain; and that Spain required her to make a reduction of duties on her Wines and Brandies. It would only be necessary to set forth in the Treaty, that in consideration of Spain permitting the Cotton of Texas (an article of which she does not import a pound) to be sold in her Ports without duty, or at a very small duty, Texas consents to Reduce the duty on Spanish Wines and Brandies. Or suppose in treating with Austria, that a reduction is made on her Wines in consideration of a reduction being made by her on Texian Sugar. Either of these provisions would defeat the whole benefit which France desired to secure by that Article, as France is forbidden by her Beet root Sugar system to reduce the duty on Foreign Sugar, and her revenue system on the other hand would prevent her reducing the duty on Texian Cotton. I refused to extend the same provision to French Silks, (as you will see by the Treaty) because that would have embarrassed Texas in her negotiations with England, as she also, manufactures Silk. With these views, I consented to that article which at first seemed too important an advantage to be given for recognition alone.

The object of adopting the “additional Articles” is to enable Texas to conceal from other Nations that she has consented to require any

other qualification for her vessels than that of being owned by a Texian Citizen, so that they may not be induced to require a similar qualification.

I had hoped in the beginning that France would require no such qualification, and I had considerable difficulty in making as good terms for the vessels of Texas as those contained in the additional Articles. The French Government insisted most strongly, that no vessel of either Nation should be considered as a National vessel, and entitled to carry on a direct trade between the two Countries, unless she should have been *built* in the Country to which she belonged and three fourths of her Crew were Citizens of the same. With such requisitions, I knew, Texas could not for many years carry on any part of the direct trade and therefore I informed Mr. Pontois, that if France insisted on that condition, the Treaty must be broken off, or at least delayed until I could take the opinion of my Government on the subject, and that I would certainly advise her not to make such a stipulation. When he discovered that I was firm in that determination, he consented to the modification as contained in the additional Articles. Under that agreement, I am disposed to think that Texas will do most, if not the whole of the carrying trade—First, because the vessels of France engaged in Foreign trade are too large, and draw too much water to enter our Ports, and Secondly, they are wanting in enterprize, and never have been able to compete with Americans in the carrying trade. I insisted on having the Treaty written and Signed in the *alternate*, a matter which I considered of importance only in treating with European Nations, where such matters of form are considered as matters of substance. Moreover, this being the first Treaty made by Texas, it will serve as a precedent in all future negotiations. I also insisted on inserting in the clause which refers to the exchange of ratification, that it might be done in Austin. Marshal Soult also promised me, that he would send a person to Texas without any unnecessary delay to attend to the exchange of ratification, and to Reside near the Government.

A few days after the conclusion of the Treaty with France, I received an intimation from Count Leon the Belgian Minister, that he would be glad to have an interview with me, on the subject of a Treaty between Texas and Belgium, which I of course readily consented to. Accordingly I called at his residence, and in the outset told him, that I had no power from my Government to act in the business, and that therefore, what passed between us must be considered as unofficial. I at the same time informed him, that I had written to my Government, and advised them to appoint a Minister to proceed to Belgium for that purpose, which I doubted not they would do. He then informed me, that he had received from his

Government, full power to treat with me in Paris, and expressed his desire to have the honor of making the first Treaty with Texas. I replied that my only reason for recommending to my Government to appoint a Minister whose duty it should be to proceed to Belgium was, that I thought it would be more acceptable to Belgium, because that would seem to be the most respectful course; but that inasmuch as he had received full authority to act in the business from his Government, I would write to my own, immediately upon my arrival in London, and recommend them to give their representative at Paris authority to enter into a treaty with Belgium. After I had had a free and very full conversation with the Count on the subject of the intercourse between the two Nations, I was so much pleased with his frankness, intelligence and liberality, that I assured him that I would immediately communicate all that passed between us to my Government, and recommend them to authorize their Minister at Paris to enter upon a negotiation with him.

During our interview (which lasted about two hours) Count Leon explained to me the Tariff of Belgium, which is the most moderate in Europe. The duty, for instance on Foreign Sugar, imported direct in Belgian, or the vessels of the State where it is raised, is only about thirty Cents on 100 Killogramms (about 200 pounds). It seems to me that the advantage Texas would receive from finding such a Market for her sugar alone, ought to be sufficient to make her anxious to enter into a Treaty with Belgium.

I said to the Count that all Texas desired, was to make a Treaty upon reciprocal terms. He observed in reply, that Belgium only desired to have her Commerce with Texas placed upon the terms of the most favoured Nation, and that she would extend the same favour to Texas. I replied, that nothing I was sure, could be more acceptable to the Government and People of Texas; and with one who entertained such views, the Representative of Texas would find no difficulty in Treating. I am persuaded that I could have entered into a Treaty with Count Leon, even without any powers from my Government, with the understanding that it was made without authority—to be kept a perfect secret, and subject to the approval of the President and ratification of the Senate; and I would have made the proposition, but I feared the President would have considered it as presumptuous in me to enter into a Treaty, not only without instructions, but without a commission. I will see the Count again when I return to Paris, which it is probable I shall do in the course of ten days.

I am Sir

Your Most obt.

and very humble Servant

J. PINCKNEY HENDERSON

CERTIFICATE OF EXCHANGE OF RATIFICATIONS OF TREATY OF AMITY,
NAVIGATION, AND COMMERCE BETWEEN FRANCE AND TEXAS.^aLIPSCOMB TO HAMILTON.^bDEPARTMENT OF STATE
Austin 24th Feby 1840.

To

HONL JAMES HAMILTON

SIR,

Since the arrival of Mr Saligny and the exchange of Ratifications of the Treaty between his Government and ours, I have had various demi official conversations with him, on the subject of a loan, and the prospect of your successfully negotiating it in France; the result of which is an impression, on my mind, *that if a fair equivalent can be afforded by this Government, that his would not be unwilling to give something like a moral Guarantee or security for the final redemption of our bonds;* and I have been further induced to believe, that the only equivalent that France would expect from us would be in such advantageous commercial arrangements as would give her a prospect of supplying the Mexican trade with her manufactures through the Ports of Texas. Should you find such to be a favorite object with the French, you will be fully authorized to give the most positive assurance that if the Loan can be effected, through any facilities such as I have above referred to, that a large amount of the money will be expended by this Government in strengthening by a line of posts the whole of our frontier, from the mouth of the Rio Grande to Santa Fee, thereby insuring protection to French Commercial enterprize, and that this trade will be put on the most favorable footing, enabling capitalists, to force their goods into the rich province of Chihuahua, and even into the centre of the Mexican Republic. That this can be done, by opening our ports to the reception of French goods, is at once obvious to the most superficial observer. You can further show the facility that will thus be afforded to the manufacturers of France making way into the United States, such at least as are now subjected to high impost duties in that Government; this last consideration of course must be *sub Rosa*, for altho there is nothing in our relations with that Government, that will require us to regulate our Impost duties by her Scale, yet it is best not, to excite Jealousy, unless we are certain of success. I have only given you hints that I know you will improve, should an opportunity

^a February 14, 1840; signed by A. de Saligny and Abner S. Lipscomb. The contents of the document are sufficiently indicated by the title.

^b See Records of Department of State (Texas), Book 54, pp. 12-13.

present itself. Nothing has transpired since your departure, to diminish the importance, to us of your success. In truth it is of such vital importance to effect the Loan; that we are prepared to give France great and essential advantages, should it become necessary, for her assistance in effecting the object.

With great consideration I have

The honor to be

Your obedient

Servant

ABNER S. LIPSCOMB

Secretary of State.

SALIGNY TO LIPSCOMB.^a

NEW ORLEANS, *March the 6th. 1840.*

DEAR SIR,

I had a good deal of difficulty in finding here a man who could write both the french and english language correctly and with a good hand; and, in consequence, I could not send you the copy of the treaty on the 1st of March, by the Columbia. I put it to day on board the Neptune and request the collector of Galveston to despatch you an expres, without the slightest delay.

Be kind enough to have it signed by the President and yourself and return it to me by the same express. I'll send it to my Government as soon as I receive it. The President, you know must put his initial letters on every page.

I have not heard yet from General Hamilton. I know he is now in Charleston and contemplates leaving there for Europe in a short time. I wrote him but could not go to Charleston, [as]^b I first intended. I have been unwell ever since I got here and am now confined in my room by a very severe attack of Rheumatism.

Public opinion here, does not seem, in general, to be very favorable to Texas. That must be accounted for by the jealousy of the merchants of New Orleans: they begin to be alarmed at your fair prospect. But it must be confessed that the possibility of an invasion by the Mexicans has had a very injurious effect: your currency is now worth almost nothing 20 cents in the dollar: some has been sold for 18. If I can raise some money due me, I'll buy of it to the extent of ten or twelve 1,000 dollars good money, as a proof of my confidence in the ability of your Govt. to redeem it.

I hope you have succeeded in purchasing the Island for me at the sale of the 24th. I wish to hear from you on that subject that I might send you the necessary funds.

^a A. L. S.

^b Torn off.

I'll remain here till the 5th of April and will be in Austin by the middle of that month.

Be good enough, my dear sir, to present my regard to the President, Judge Burnet, Judge Webb etc. etc.; and believe me

Respectfully yours

A. DE SALIGNY

(remind me to Mr. and Mrs. Bullock, and give the former 200 Dollars which I owe him)

HAMILTON TO LAMAR.^a

CHARLESTON *March 24th 1840*

MY DEAR SIR

I find that Mr. Henry Williams a brother of Mr. Samuel Williams, has just arrived here from Baltimore, on his way to Texas. This gentleman has been a staunch friend of the Republic, and to his judgment, skill and zeal, we partly owe the successful construction of the vessels of war that were built at Baltimore. Mr Williams proposes suggesting to you, to allow one of the Brigs to go out to France as a letter of Marque. He proposes putting a cargo of cotton on board of her, and if she is kept in fine order, and makes a striking appearance at Havre, She cannot fail to have a very beneficial effect on Mr Burnley's and my negotiation. Her freight will more than pay expenses out and home, and we may load her with the munitions of war, arms, cannon, clothing and Military equipments which, I have suggested to the Secretary of War in a letter which accompanies this, had better be purchased in France, where they may be procured for 50 per cent less than in the United States, besides such a purchase pending the Negotiation of our loan, cannot fail to have a very beneficial influence on our success. I feel almost satisfied, that it will confirm the French Government in the disposition which they entertained last autumn, to advance us a Million out of their own coffers. I refer you to my letter to the Secretary of the Treasury for all that I have found it necessary to say in relation to the loan and our prospects. I will write you immediately on my arrival in France more fully on this subject, as I proximately, I trust, approach its consumation. I shall feel it my duty to write you on the political situation of Europe, more particularly as the destinies of Texas may be influenced by it. I still hope for a pacification with Mexico, and that your administration may be illustrated by the establishment of peace and the public credit of your country. I have been waiting here for the last month for the despatches for which I wrote from New Orleans on the 7th of January to the Secretary of the Treasury to wit: for the papers connected with the tariff, and the reduction of

^a See Records of Department of State (Texas), Book 41, pp. 413-414.

duties on articles of French Merchandize.^a I cannot afford to wait here longer than a week or ten days more, as I must be in Paris before the adjournment of the Chamber of Deputies, as we may have to appeal to Legislative sanction for the aid France may be disposed to render us. I have however written to Dr. Starr^b to forward the papers with all possible dispatch, as they can follow me in the Great Western on the 9th May. I beg his special and prompt attention to this request, which I deem essential to our success.

With my best wishes, and the salutations of my great respect and esteem, I have the honor to remain, Your Most Obt. Servt and Friend

J. HAMILTON

His Excellency
MIRABEAU B LAMAR

P. S. If the Brig should go to France, be so good as to have her consigned to Lewis Rogers & Co.

HUGHES TO JONES.^c

ACCOUNT OF BULLOCK AGAINST SALIGNY.^d

AFFIDAVIT OF LATHAM.^e

STARR TO LEVEY.^f

LATHAM TO STARR.^g

DECLARATION OF WYSE IN REGARD TO GOODS SHIPPED ON THE ANNA MARIA.^h

^a This letter has not been found.

^b The secretary of the treasury.

^c March 24, 1840. See Calendar.

^d July 24, [1840]. See Saligny to Mayfield, March 21, 1841.

^e July 31, 1840. See Levey to Mayfield, March 29, 1841, in correspondence inclosed with Mayfield to McIntosh, May 12, 1841.

^f August 4, [1840]. See Levey to Mayfield, March 29, 1841, in correspondence inclosed with Mayfield to McIntosh, May 12, 1841.

^g August 4, 1840. Receipt. See Levey to Mayfield, March 29, 1841, in correspondence inclosed with Mayfield to McIntosh, May 12, 1841.

^h October 28, 1840. See Saligny to Jones, April 29, 1842.

INVOICE OF GOODS CONSIGNED TO JOSÉ DEL RIO ON THE ANNA MARIA.^a

SALIGNY TO LIPSCOMB.^b

[Informing Lipscomb that Saligny has appointed James Foulhouze vice-consul for France at Galveston.]

RECEIPT OF DEMORSE TO SALIGNY.^c

DECLARATION OF SALIGNY RELATIVE TO RECEIPT OF DEMORSE.^d

INVOICE OF GOODS CONSIGNED TO J. LABRUÈRE ON THE ANNA MARIA.^e

SISOS TO GLOUX.^f

GLOUX TO DE CYPREY.^g

DE CYPREY TO SALIGNY.^h

HAMILTON TO GUIZOT.ⁱ

BURNLEY TO LAMAR.^j

LOUISVILLE KENTY. *Jan'y 30th 1841.*

DEAR SIR,

A week since, I received a letter from Gen. Hamilton, dated on the 5th of this month, from New Orleans, informing me that the Congress of Texas had adopted the amendments to the loan law, which were thought necessary to promote the success of that important

^a October 28, 1840. See Saligny to Jones, April 29, 1842.

^b A. L. S., November 12, 1840.

^c November 27, 1840. See Smith to Saligny, March 21, 1845.

^d November 28, 1840. See Smith to Saligny, March 21, 1845.

^e November 29, 1840. See Saligny to Jones, April 29, 1842.

^f December 16, 1840. See Saligny to Jones, April 29, 1842.

^g December 19, 1840. See Saligny to Jones, April 29, 1842.

^h December 30, 1840. See Saligny to Jones, April 29, 1842.

ⁱ January 21, 1841. See Hamilton to Lipscomb, February 1, 1841.

^j See Records of Department of State (Texas), Book 41, pp. 410-411.

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negotiation—and that it was your wish, that I should continue my efforts, in the character of commissioner, to procure the money for Texas in Europe. I immediately replied to Gen. Hamilton, that I should hold myself ready to depart from New York, on any day he might be prepared to sail—and I am daily expecting a letter from him (which he promised to write me) after his arrival in Charleston, fixing on some early day for our departure. I avail myself of the first Boat descending the Ohio, since the River broke up, to thank you for the continuance of your confidence, after so many failures. It places me under renewed obligations to the country, and to you personally—which I will repay with zeal and fidelity, at least, if not with success—unless things are in a worse condition than when I left Europe. I cannot doubt we must succeed—you may at least rely on my never quitting the country, while I think there is the least chance of accomplishing the objects of our Mission. I was sorry to learn from Gen. H. that my letter of the 3 Decemr. from Baltimore, did not reach you before his departure from Austin. That letter will have informed you, that I probably failed to procure an advance of a Million in France, for want of the requisite authority in the Law to pledge the Bonds—and altho I now hope, from the improvement made in the law, that we shall be able to effect, the more desirable object of selling the Bonds—yet in the event of a disappointment in that particular, it is so desirable that Texas should have money without delay, and the procuring an advance, would so much hasten and facilitate a sale, that I beg leave to renew to your Excellency, the suggestion, of having the power to pledge the bonds for an advance, added to the Law and our instructions,—and if Congress shall have adjourned, to meet again in the Spring, I beg to call your attention to the matter then—for we may be detained in Europe, and find an advance the only practicable mode of raising money for you. For the same reasons, and others stated in my letter of 3rd. Decr. I also beg leave to call your attention to the suggestion, that Congress should vest you with the power to repeal all duties on French Wines, whenever, in your judgment the public interest would be promoted by it. The possibility of a war between Great Britain and the United States, which is now being talked about very seriously in Congress, in consequence of the difficulties about the Maine boundary question, may have the effect of driving us to the Continent as our only hope of raising money—and adds strength to the other reasons for preparing for such an alternative. If these suggestions do not correspond with your own views of the true policy of Texas, I beg you will receive them as made by me from a strong desire to be prepared at all points, to attain success, if it be at all attainable. Since I wrote you last, I have received letters from our

most influential friends in London, saying that the amount of British Capital which would be employed in commercial operations in Texas: provided we had a law of limited partnership, is likely to be immediately so great, that they consider the adoption of such a law, of immense importance to Texas, and urge me to press it upon the notice of your Excellency. Accordingly I beg to refer you to what I said on that subject in my letter from Baltimore. Meeting with an acquaintance two weeks ago, on the eve of his departure for Orleans, at the moment of receiving the Pennsylvania law of limited partnerships, and having no time to write, I handed the copy to this acquaintance, who was also a friend of Col. Love's and requested him to enclose it to Col. Love from Orleans, with a request to him, that he would forward it to you. I hope you have received it. I have not received the New York law, as I expected, or I would send it to you. My last letters from London are of the 6th of Decr. They speak of a considerable improvement in the demand for American Stocks—and that considerable sales had been made—the still at very reduced prices. They also speak of money matters getting easier—and express confidence in our being able to do something for Texas in the Spring.

With sentiments of high respects and esteem, I have the honor to be
your Excellency's Obt Servant

A T. BURNLEY

To

His Excellency
MIRABEAU B LAMAR

SALIGNY TO TERRELL.^a

[Requests an exequatur for Jean-Elisée Barlezat, vice-consul of France for the ports of Galveston and St. Louis, in place of James Foulhouze, recalled.]

HAMILTON TO LIPSCOMB.^b

PARIS *Febry. 1st. 1841.*

To the Hon.

ABNER S LIPSCOMB

Secry of State of the Republic of Texas.

SIR:

Since the departure of my colleague Mr. Burnley I have to report— That on the arrival of the Halifax Steamer whose mail left New York on the 1st. January advices were received of the com-

^a A. L. S., January 31, 1841.

^b See Records of Department of State (Texas), Book 41, pp. 470-471.

mencement of active hostilities between Texas and Mexico, and the entire failure of Mr Treat's Mission. I am sorry to say that this intelligence had a tendency to suspend my negotiations with the London House with whom I was in Treaty. As unpropitious as this news was, it was of comparatively little weight to the publication in the London prints, of a resolution which it was said had actually passed the Congress of Texas, holding out the promise of unlicensed booty to whomsoever in an Army of Five thousand men would invade Mexico. Altho Arista's proclamation and other circumstances would have amply justified this, or any other retaliatory measures, yet it came in a little unfortunately, for if the intelligence from Texas and Mexico, had been of a different cast, I think, I should without failure have obtained an advance of a Million, with a certainty of a negotiation of the residue of the Loan in a short period.

Thus situated, as not a moment was to be lost, if you were really about to go to war, I hastened over to France, and have commenced here with the assistance of active influential persons, a negotiation with the House and Bank of Lafitte & Co. who are giving a thorough and cordial consideration of the securities and terms of the loan, with impressions I think, favorable to it. I think my prospects altogether auspicious, and if Mr. Lafitte does take my negotiation up, it will be carried through very promptly and for the whole amount.

In the mean time I have opened a negotiation with the French Government, and herewith do myself the honor of transmitting a copy of my despatch. The conseil of His Majesty will I believe meet in the course of three or four days, for the purpose of coming to some decision on my propositions. If I could obtain the guarantee of the French Govnt. it would be worth two Millions to Texas. I think the Government will have to do something, and I mean that something shall be effected, or I will not accept it as an equivalent, for what we have done for French Industry and Commerce. They are entirely engaged with fortification question, but if they once go into the subject of the future relations of Texas, with France, or rather what they may be made, I confidently hope for the most essential aid.

From the preliminary arrangements Mr Burnley and myself have made with certain land and Emigrating companies, I feel entirely satisfied that a debt of Ten Millions, Texas can pay in Ten years, without imposing a dollar taxation upon her people, by a judicious sale of public lands in Great Britain, and on the Continent. I hope Mr Burnley will have had time fully to develop his views, of the valuable mass of facts he has accumulated on this subject.

I learn in a letter from Philadelphia that the Secretary of the Navy has animadverted in terms of censure on the conduct of Messrs.

Burnley and Brancker, for not having made their report on the account current and vouchers in reference to the purchase of the Zavala. I was surprised that the accounts were not received. I beg leave to offer you the following statement of facts, which I will thank you forthwith to communicate to Mr Cooke, who I presume still fills that Department.

In June 1839 after Messrs Burnley and Brancker had audited accounts just as Mr Burnley was going to Europe, he gave me a package carefully sealed and signed by Mr. Brancker and himself, containing the accounts and vouchers, which I placed in the hands of Col. Drayton to take to Philadelphia, to be given either to Mr Biddle or Mr Dunlap, the President of the bank of the U. S. to be placed in the vaults of the Bank, with a request that they should beg Gen Dunlap, the Texas Minister to send them on by the first safe opportunity to Texas.

They must therefore be safely in the vaults of the institution in question. I had supposed they were long since in Texas. But you will see that no possible blame attaches to either Mr Burnley or Mr Brancker.

A correspondent from New York, writes me, that a rumor prevailed there on the authority of a Houston paper, that the "Loan Commissioners were recalled"—as I have received no official notification of any such fact, or even seen the news-paper paragraph to which reference is made, I shall continue to use my strenuous exertions to serve the Republic and fulfil the objects of my Mission, until officially apprised that the above rumor is invested with official authenticity. It certainly would be a mortifying circumstance, that after procuring with intense labor those preliminary recognitions essential to success, and just on the eve of consummating it, that the very Government most to be served by the establishment of its public credit, should defeat the measure, so essential to its own interests and prosperity. I cannot believe a step so precipitate can be designed by Congress.

I shall say nothing of my sacrifices, labor, and anxious exertions for the last two years to effect these objects, in which I have neglected my own affairs, deprived myself of the society of my wife and children, and advanced my own money freely on all occasions for your Government.

I shall say nothing of these things, because they belong to considerations of a personal character. Whilst my Commission lasts, count on my continued exertions to promote the interests and honor of Texas.

I remain Sir, with the highest consideration, Your Obt Servt

J HAMILTON.