

his absence from Paris has occasioned the delay hitherto in acknowledging the receipt of this Note of His Excellency.

Mr Guizot has undoubtedly been informed that Her Britannic Majesty's Government have refused to act in concert with France and the United States in the proposed mediation.

Mr. Ashbel Smith has communicated to his Government the very prompt and friendly manner in which the Government of His Majesty the King of the French have responded to the invitation which he had the honor to make; and he has the satisfaction to believe that the friendly sentiments expressed in Mr Guizot's Note and the promptitude which His Majesty's Government have manifested to employ their good offices in favor of peace on this occasion, cannot fail to be very highly esteemed by his Government and the citizens of Texas.

Mr Ashbel Smith requests the honor of an interview with Mr Guizot at such time as may suit His Excellency's convenience.

Mr Ashbel Smith takes this occasion to renew to Mr Guizot the assurances of his very distinguished consideration

LEGATION OF TEXAS,

PARIS.

November 4, 1842.

Ashbel Smith to His Excellency Mr. Guizot.*

[Withdrawing the commission of Henri Castro as Texan consul-general in France, and announcing the revocation of Theodore Barbey's appointment as Texan consul at Paris.]

Mr Guizot to Ashbel Smith.

PARIS le 8 Novembre 1842

MONSIEUR,

Il résulte d'une plainte qui vient de me parvenir que M. Barbey, Consul du Texas a Paris, perçoit un droit de 10 francs pour le visa des passeports, délivrés aux sujets français qui se rendent dans cette république.

Je vous prie, Monsieur, de vouloir bien me faire connaître l'acte du Gouvernement Texien en vertu duquel s'opère cette perception

J'ai l'honneur d'être, Monsieur, avec une considération très distinguée

Votre très humble et très obéissant serviteur

GUIZOT

M. ASHBEL SMITH,
chargé d'affaires du Texas à Paris

* November 1, 1842.

Mr Guizot to Ashbel Smith,

PARIS, *le 10 Novembre 1842*

[Returning, in accordance with Smith's request, the commission as consul general of Texas at Paris which had been delivered to Henri Castro, and acknowledging information of the recall of Theodore Barbey, consul of Texas at Paris.]

Ashbel Smith to His Excellency Mr Guizot

PARIS, PLACE VENDOME No 1

November 10. 1842

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt this day of your letter dated the 8th Instant, stating that Mr Barbey formerly Texian Consul at Paris has collected of French subjects proceeding to the Republic of Texas ten francs for the *visa* of their passports; and inquiring what are the Laws of Texas on this subject.

I have the honor to state that within the Territories of the Republic of Texas, passports are not required under any circumstances, neither for their own citizens nor for strangers visiting that country; that there exists neither law nor custom to this effect; and consequently that the collection of any sum for the *visa* of passports is wholly unauthorized by the Government of Texas, and I presume unknown to them.

I have also to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the present date returning to me the commission of Mr. Henri Castro.

I take this occasion to renew to your Excellency assurances of the very distinguished consideration with which I have the honor to be

Your Excellency's

very obedient and

very humble Servant

signed

ASHBEL SMITH

His Excellency Mr. GUIZOT,

*Minister for Foreign Affairs, etc., etc. etc.*SMITH TO JONES.^a

LEGATION OF TEXAS

Paris, Nov 30. 1842

HON ANSON JONES

Secretary of State.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your Despatches of August 20th, which came to hand the 14th Instant.

^a A. L. S., indorsed "Recd 12th Jany 43."

The American Newspapers brought here by the last arrivals contain intelligence of the defeat of the Mexican army on our Western Frontier under General Woll with a loss of 100 killed and 250 wounded and prisoners, and of their rapid retreat to the Rio Grande. By the attention of our friends, the details have been very generally copied into the French Journals with appropriate comments, and have produced a very favorable effect on public opinion here in relation to our country. Our Consul General in London has also taken care that this intelligence should be properly presented to the English public through their newspapers.

I have availed myself of the effect of the favorable intelligence from Texas to renew my endeavors to extend our diplomatic relations in Europe.

The domestic condition of Spain is such that no negotiations can be now conducted with that country. Insurrections and revolutionary movements are again the order of the day. Barcelona is in possession of the insurgents. The power of Espartero appears to be somewhat precarious. His Ministerial candidate for the presidency of the Cortes was defeated by a large majority. The Cortes have been prorogued—a step usually preliminary to their dissolution. I think however we shall be able to form a Treaty when tranquility shall be restored in that country. The Prince of Peace, now resident in Paris, who is supposed to still possess considerable influence in Spain has promised his aid to effect a treaty.

I had an interview with the Swedish Minister on the 26th Instant in reference to the establishment of diplomatic and commercial relations between Texas and Sweden. The matter had been prepared beforehand. The King of Sweden, Bernadotte is understood to have expressed his willingness to make a treaty with our country. The Minister appeared also favorably inclined; and it was agreed between us that I should address him a note on this subject. I have done so; I also suggested that he should be furnished with powers to negotiate with the Representatives of Texas in Paris a treaty conformable in general to those made between Texas and other Powers. I shall probably receive an answer in a short time. My general instructions it appears to me would enable me to negotiate the terms of a Treaty, but to conclude it the requisite powers must be transmitted.

The Minister of the Hanse Towns has not yet returned to Paris.

My former Dispatches have communicated with numerous details, the rejection of the mediation of Great Britain by Santa Anna's Government:—the friendly zeal which the French Government manifested to unite in a "triple representation" to Mexico;—and the refusal of the British Cabinet to act in concert with France and the United States in this matter. My official communication, and still

more at length my private letters to His Excellency the President and to the Secretary of State have explained the motives of the refusal of England.^a

The conduct of the British Govt. on this occasion has not been dictated so much by their feelings towards Texas as by their relations with Mexico and with the two Powers proposing to unite with them in the "triple representation," as well as by the relations of these latter Powers with Mexico. The relations of the British and Mexico Govts. are very intimate,—whereby, England enjoys a considerable monopoly of Mexican commerce. France and the U. States are believed to be held in decided disfavor in Mexico, and England will not afford the two Powers first named any pretext or occasion for changing their position to one of greater amity with Mexico. Nor will England range herself, in appearance even, on the side of these two Powers, by interposing *conjointly with them* in our affairs. I may also mention that though the present French Minister for Foreign Affairs, Monsieur Guizot is supposed to have been highly esteemed in England, the relations of France and England are by no means very friendly; and while England with other European Powers is isolating France on some questions of European Policy, it will not embarrass this attitude by a cooperation with France in matters which are deemed of less importance.

The opinions expressed in my former Dispatches that the danger of hostilities between the U. States and Great Britain was at one time imminent and that it was then the determination of the British Cabinet to drag Mexico into the war, have received much confirmation since my arrival in France. The resolve of England to attack New York in the event of McLeod's being punished, was communicated to the American Govt and this information emanated *directly* from the French Govt. Under these circumstances, facilities were afforded the Mexican Consul at London to build the Anglo-Mexican Steamers, Guadalupe and Montezuma—as it was not very improbable that they might be employed against the U. States—and thus the British Govt were estopped from any efficient action in relation to these vessels last summer. It may appear singular that the British Govt should attribute much importance to Mexico, but though aware of its feebleness when unaided, they entertain a high estimate of its usefulness as an auxiliary especially in a war with the U. States.

The British Govt really desires in my opinion the establishment of Peace between Texas and Mexico, but they will not urge their mediation in a manner nor to an extent that may prove unpalatable to Mexico. The permission by the British Government of the Anglo-Mexican Steamers to sail after they had avowedly violated the British

^a Cf. Smith to Jones, October 17, 1842. No private letters have been found that can be identified as among those here referred to.

municipal laws and with full knowledge of their destination, and their refusal to unite in the "triple representation" must have already led the Texian Govt to anticipate but little from the continued proffer of their good offices to Mexico. We ought not to estimate too highly their professions of very friendly feelings.

The very favorable disposition manifested by the French Govt. by their readiness to participate in a "triple representation" may induce the Texian Govt to propose a joint mediation by France and the U. States. In this case it would be highly advisable in my opinion that such a proposition should originate with the U. States Govt, or at least that they should signify through their Minister at this Court or to our Minister at Washington their readiness to act with France alone and without the cooperation of England; otherwise, France might be unwilling to accept the initiative step in an affair of some delicacy since the refusal of England.

On a review of our relations in Europe generally I have the satisfaction to state that frequent evidences are presented that our country and institutions are rapidly becoming more highly and more justly appreciated both in England and on the Continent. When the apprehension created by the sailing of the Anglo-Mexican Steamers shall have subsided, and especially on the establishment of peace, there will be no lack of as many emigrants from Europe as we shall think desirable consisting of persons of good character and possessing means to cultivate our soil and develop the other resources of our country.

From some disclosures recently made on Change in London it appears that Mr Lizardi the Mexican Consul has issued upwards of £600000 of Mexican Bonds—about 3 millions of Dollars, more than he was authorized to do. It was stated in one of the London Newspapers that there was reason to believe these bonds were issued to cover the expenses of the expedition against Texas. Mr Lizardi states they were issued to cover his commissions, expenses, etc. The transaction cannot fail to produce an injurious effect on the credit of Mexico, and to be indirectly serviceable to Texas by cooling the ardor of the friends of Mexico in England.

Mr Castro has communicated to me that he will dispatch a second ship of Emigrants to Texas on the 25th of December from Dunquerque and a vessel monthly for the three subsequent months. He appears to be actively and successfully engaged in introducing colonists, who, he states, are of good character and possessed of means. He is aware that the country set apart beyond San Antonio cannot now be occupied in security, but anticipates that another section of territory will be appropriated in lieu of that formerly designated. It appears to me desirable that the reports of these emigrants should confirm the favorable opinions of our country and institutions which are now increasing in France.

I forwarded you some time since the application of Mr. Escalon to be Texian Consul at Marseilles.^a I find on a list of Texian Consuls the name of Louis Grousset for the same port. This list was made out by Mr Teulon in Galveston. Mr Grousset informed me a few days since that he has not received his commission. Both persons are I believe respectable and competent; I shall await your decision.

Complaint was made to me some time ago that Mr. Barbey former Consul at Paris had charged emigrants to Texas 10 francs for the *visa* of their passports.^b I stated in reply to Mr Guizot that passports were not required in Texas and that the charge was unauthorized. I believe the revocation of Mr Barbey was satisfactory to this Government.

When in New Orleans on my way to Europe I left in charge of our former Consul Mr Edmonds a Box containing copies of Laws besides other valuable public documents for the use of Texian Agents in Europe, and several of my private books of much value. This Box was to be forwarded to Mr Paravey our Consul at Havre. It has not come to hand. Will you direct Mr Bryan our Consul to look after it and forward it when found?

I have the honor to be
Very respectfully
Your obed. Servt

ASHBEL SMITH.

TERRELL TO SMITH.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
Washington [Texas] Decr 10th 1842

HON ASHBEL SMITH
Charge d'Affaires of Texas etc.

SIR,

Your despatch No. 25 on the subject of a loan proposed to be negotiated in Europe for the Govt of Texas, has been submitted to the President, and has received his careful consideration.

His Excellency instructs me to say in reply, that in his opinion, such commercial immunities as those suggested by you to be extended to France, as an equivalent for a guaranty on her part of the bonds of Texas, would not be extended to any Nation by our Congress.

If France would extend to Texas the aid of her influence in the shape of a guaranty for a loan, the President would be willing to hypothecate, (as he is authorised to do) as a security to France, a sufficient amount of the public domain to ensure the ultimate redemption of the bonds which might be thus guaranteed by France. Or

^a Cf. Smith to Jones, November 13, 1842.

^b See Guizot to Smith, November 8, 1842, in Smith to Jones, November 13, 1842.

if France preferred it, some such immunities and privileges as were proposed by the bill usually denominated the "Franco Texienne Bill" in 1841.^a

The negotiations upon this subject have heretofore been so tardy, and the different aspects they have assumed so varied—first exciting the hopes of the nation to the highest pitch of confident expectation, then subjecting us to the mortification of "hope deferred," and uniformly ending in the humiliation and the increased depression of National credit, ever consequent upon the entire failure of high wrought expectations and pompous parade incident to transactions of this character—that the President has, in a great measure, lost confidence in the success of almost any proposition which should be made by this Govtmt having in view the obtainment of a loan.

If however, the Government of France would guaranty the bonds of Texas to the amount of one million of dollars, upon the terms above suggested, or if any of the capitalists of that country would make us a loan upon those or any similar terms, and will send an agent to this country fully authorised to negotiate with the govt on the subject, the President will take immediate action upon it.

Should one be sent out, it is of the last importance to Texas that he should not only be clothed with full powers to conclude such a contract but also to *draw for the money immedeatly*, as this country is in very great need of funds, and if she can realise any from such a source, it is important to her interests that it be done speedily.

Upon a strict scrutiny in the Department, I find that your Despatches Nos. 3, 4, 13, 14, 16, 18, 19 and 21 have never been received at this Department. Two letters dated 15 and 31st August both dated Nov 17, and those of date May 17th Augst 1st and Septr 8th not numbered have been received, together with copies of correspondence from 12th May to 8th July)^b

I remain,

Dr Sir

With much respect

Your obdt Servt

G. W. TERRELL

Atty Genl. and Acting Secretary of State.

P. S.

Do not imagine that the pompous addenda to my name proceeds from any disposition to make an ostentatious display of titles. It is a mere whim of the "Old Chief".^c G. W. T.

^a See note ^a, p. 1008.

^b No. 3 has not been found; No. 4 was the dispatch of May 17, 1842; No. 13 seems to have been lost; 16 was the dispatch misnumbered "17" of August 15; the dispatch of August 1 should probably have been numbered 14; and those of September 8 and 19 respectively 19 and 21.

^c That is President Houston.

JONES TO SMITH.

DEPT OF STATE

Town of Washington Decr. 23d 1842

Honl ASHBEL SMITH
Charge d'Affaires of Texas
etc. etc. etc.

SIR

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter to this Department under date of the 31st Oct. 1842 and written from Paris. Since the last letter from this Department to you was written being Mr. Terrill's Dispatch of the 10th Inst, Mr. James Reily our late Chargé d'Affaires at Washington has arrived bringing with him the Treaty of 'Amity Commerce and Navigation' which he concluded at that place with Mr. Webster on the 30th July last. This Treaty has been submitted to the Senate and received its Sanction. The general provisions of it are similar to those of commercial Treaties with the United States generally. Some important stipulations however of a different character are contained in it. These are the following. 1st. A mutual agreement to surrender all persons, charged with any crime amounting to felony or grand larceny, upon such proof being made as would justify their^a commitment for trial, by the laws of the place where they are arrested. 2d. The Sabine from its source to the sea the Red River and all rivers having their sources or origin in the territory of Texas running in part of their course through that territory or forming the boundary between the United States and Texas and emptying into the Mississippi and the Mississippi itself from and including the mouth or mouths of said rivers to the Sea shall be free to be navigated and common to both Nations. 3d. the provisions contained in Article V which is as follows

ART. V

The two contracting parties agree etc.

^b* * * The concessions made in this article to the United States viz: the right of introducing their productions and manufactures into this country for transportation to the interior and northern parts of Mexico, and the privilege of repacking the same for that purpose, are and will be of considerable importance. These are the privileges which it was understood Mr. Bourgeois was anxious to procure and formed the principal object of his visit to this country.

In case Mr. Bourgeois is not already furnished with the facilities necessary to enable him to carry out his contract for a Loan of

^a Their.

^bAt this point in the original is inserted the direction to the clerk who was to make a copy of the letter for Smith "(copy the whole)." For the article which was to be copied, see Correspondence with the United States, in Part I, p. 623.

\$1,000,000 to this Govt^a and the guarantee of the French Govt. becomes requisite for this purpose you are authorized to treat with France for such guarantee and in consideration therefor to stipulate on the part of Texas to allow her privileges and commercial advantages, similar to those granted the United States in the above recited 5th Article. In case this can be done it may enable Mr. Bourgeois to carry out the contract already formed, and thus place us in the possession of funds at an earlier period than could otherwise be done, and perhaps save the necessity of "Sending an agent to this country authorized to negotiate" as suggested in Mr. Terrill's last note. In case however, the guarantee of France should be thus obtained and extended to the Loan of Mr. Bourgeois it would be necessary that he should give an equivalent, which would probably be, the increasing the price to be paid for the Bonds from 75 cts on the dollar to near par, or perhaps even an advance upon par as the rate of interest is so high.

For the purpose of enabling you to treat efficiently with the French Govt. a full power will be sent you pr next mail. In the mean time you can sound the French Govt. on the subject, and confer with Mr. Bourgeois in reference to the matter.

Congress are progressing very harmoniously at present. But two Bills however have been yet passed and these of little importance. The Tariff will be continued probably with some very trifling modifications

The President has issued a proclamation revoking the proclamation of Feb. 11th 1840^b abolishing temporarily the duties on French wines imported into Texas. This is to take effect on the 15th Feb next, after which time the duties imposed by Law and the Treaty with France are to be demanded by the Collectors of Customs.^c

The Viscount Cramayel^d has not yet arrived at this place—

The various tribes of hostile Indians residing within our limits and upon our borders, having intimated a strong desire to make peace, the 9th of Feb. next has been appointed at the Waco Village on the Brazos, to hold a general Council with them for this purpose. The President of the United States has consented to send Commissioners to the council for the purpose of making that power a party to the Treaty, and of guaranteeing its faithful performance by the

^a The contract was made June 14, 1842, in accordance with a law approved January 27, 1839 (see Gammel, *Laws of Texas*, II, 62-63), authorizing the President to make such contracts. The instrument itself has not been found. Bourgeois's report concerning his efforts to secure this loan was made to Jones, July 8, 1844. See Financial Papers, State Library.

^b For the proclamation of this date, see Gammel, *Laws of Texas*, II, 662.

^c See Gammel, *Laws of Texas*, II, 878, for the revoking proclamation, which was dated December 21, 1842.

^d Cramayel.

Indians and Texas, mutually. No Indian depredations have been committed upon any of our frontiers for the last three months, a strong evidence that the various tribes are sincere in their professions of a desire for peace with Texas. It is much to be hoped that a general pacification of all the Indians may be effected, previous to the season when the Mexicans will probably invade us, should they be enabled to do so the coming year which I very much doubt.

I have the honor to be

very Resp

Your ob Ser

Signed ANSON JONES

SMITH TO JONES.^a

[Introducing Etienne Mercier, who comes to Texas in charge of the second company of Castro's colonists.]

POWER FROM HOUSTON TO SMITH TO CONCLUDE A TREATY WITH THE KING OF THE FRENCH.^b

[Empowering Smith to conclude a treaty of amity, commerce, navigation, commercial privileges and national guarantees with France.]

JONES TO SMITH.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Washington [Texas] Decr. 26th 1842

HON. ASHBEL SMITH

Charge d' Affairs of Texas etc.

SIR,

Since the letter of Mr. Terrill of the 10th Inst. the President has concluded to review his decision in relation to granting letters of Marque and Reprisal, and to grant a very limited number. Two blank Commissions are herewith enclosed for your disposition, which you will fill up and use, in case you find suitable persons to receive them. They should be granted with the greatest possible caution and only to individuals of such well known character and respectability as will constitute the best possible guarantee that this country

^aA. L. S., December 26, 1842.

^b December 26, 1842.

will not be injured in its interests, or the commerce of neutral and friendly nations depredated upon by them. There is but little Mexican commerce in the Gulf of Mexico or on the Atlantic, but it is believed that cruizers on the Pacific side of the continent might take valuable prizes, in case they proceeded there with entire secrecy. It is with reference to this fact principally that the President has consented that these Commissions should be granted. Should you issue any you will please report the same immediately to this Department.

Enclosed I also send you a full power to treat with the Govt. of France for its guarantee, of a Loan to Texas. In case this can be done you are authorized to stipulate for such commercial privileges to France as shall be a just equivalent for such guarantee, within the instructions heretofore given you on this subject. It would be very desirable also to obtain the privilege of introducing Texas cotton into France at a diminished duty or free of duty, for a limited number of years, as in the United States. This would give an immediate impulse to the growth and cultivation of the principle staples of this country which at this time would be of most essential benefit to its welfare. There will be no objection to admitting French wines into Texas free of duty (as heretofore) in the event of France being willing to grant a corresponding immunity to Texas, in any shape.

The letter of Plenipotence I believe is somewhat deficient in formality. This arose from the fact that the Department not being in possession of the Archives (which are still detained at Austin) I had no form for my guide in drawing it up. It is presumed however that it will answer the purpose. Another will be sent as soon as a proper form can be obtained.

Your correspondence with the Spanish Minister Gen. Sancho on the subject of the Blockade of the Mexican ports, and the establishment of amicable relations between this country and Spain is highly approved by the President. Should it result in an offer on the part of that country to treat, no time will be lost by this Govt in availing itself of the opportunity to establish those relations with that ancient power.

So soon as you shall have had time to conclude the important negotiations with which you are at present interested, instructions and power will probably be sent you to conclude treaties with Belgium and the Hanse Towns. Much will depend however upon the appropriations which may be made by Congress at its present session. The extravagance of the late administration in the useless waste of Millions,—the failure of the crops this year,—and the general depression of monetary affairs throughout the South at this time, unite in producing a most unfavorable state of things here at present, and the

extremest economy has to be used both by the Govt. and by individuals. I feel full confidence however, that the country will triumph over its present difficulties, and learning wisdom from the severe lessons of the past, advance steadily in prosperity, and increase in wealth and strength.

Our currency still continues considerably embarrassed, and although but little over \$125,000 of Exchequer Bills had been issued when Congress met, those Bills still continue to be depreciated 50 per cent. When once the Tariff question is settled, if the present rate of duties should be continued, upon imports generally, it is believed these Bills will soon be at par.

The proposed appropriation of Congress this year for the entire expense of Government and for all disbursements is only about \$130,000. The Collector of Customs at Galveston informs me that he will receive, at that one port, alone over \$150,000 during the present financial year. This will leave, the whole amount of duties to be collected at all the other ports of entry, and the direct Taxes (saying nothing of the land Dues) unexpended, and at the disposal of Congress next year.

Mr H. Castro has written to this Department complaining that unfounded assertions injurious to his character had been made, and was answered that his Exequator having been refused by His Majesty the King of the French, was a fact upon which the President was necessarily bound to base his conclusions in the premises. Mr C also complained that the contract with Mr. Bourgeois and Ducos for a concession of land to establish a colony upon was an infringement of his rights and calculated or intended to prejudice the success of his own colony. To this he was answered that no such infringement had been made and that the contract with Mr. Bourgeois and Ducos was an act of State policy, and not intended in the least degree, to conflict with or prejudice the one made with him. Mr Castro was never assured, as he seems to think, by this government, that he was to have the monopoly of colonizing in this country, with French emigrants.

A contract was recently concluded with Capt Victor Pirson of Belgium to introduce a colony of one thousand European emigrants upon the Rio Grande. It is however the intention of the President to grant no more concessions for colonization purposes, at present.^a

Very respectfully
Your obdt servt,

ANSON JONES

^aThe contracts referred to in this letter are all on file with the Colonization Papers in the State Library. That of Castro is dated February 15, 1842; that of Bourgeois, June 3, 1842; and that of Pirson, November 18, 1842.

JONES TO BOURGEOIS,^a

DEPARTMENT OF STATE (TEXAS)

Town of Washington Decr. 26th 1842

MR. AL. BOURGEOIS (D.'ORVANNE)

DEAR SIR,

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your letter of August 27th,^b which came to hand some few weeks since. The letter of the 31st July to which you refer has never been received.

Should you not have concluded successfully the procurement of the Loan according to our convention of the 14th June last, from any cause perhaps some modifications may be made therein, which will ensure success in its negotiation. For this purpose I have written Mr. Ashbel Smith our Chargé d'Affaires to France requesting him to confer with you on the subject, with a view to the future adoption of such modifications. He is acquainted with the views of the Texian Government, in regard to this matter and will more fully explain them, to you in person than I might be able to do in writing.

Be pleased, Sir, to receive the assurances of the very high regard with which I remain

Faithfully

Your friend

and Most Obt Svt

(Signed)

ANSON JONES.

SMITH TO JONES.^b

No 32

32

LEGATION OF TEXAS, PARIS

30th December 1842

The Hon ANSON JONES

Secretary of State

SIR,

I have the honor herewith to transmit two communications from Monsieur Bourgeois on the subject of a Loan for Texas. With the modifications proposed in his Notes he expresses great confidence in being able to negotiate a Loan.^c

^aA. L. S.^bThis letter, which deals with the subject of the loan which Bourgeois had undertaken to secure, is in the Financial Papers in the State Library. That of July 1 and the convention of June 14 have not been found.^cThe two communications referred to are both dated December 27, 1842. They are on file with the Colonization Papers in the State Library. Their contents are sufficiently indicated by Smith.

It is proposed you perceive, that the interest coupons shall be receivable for custom-house dues;—and that the Representative of Texas in Europe shall be authorized to countersign provisional bonds, until bonds duly signed by the authorities of the country can be got out.

In case the French Government shall guarantee the Loan, it is proposed to allow the introduction into Texas of French products imported in French or Texian vessels, at one fifth of the duties paid by other nations.

In case the guarantee of the French Government be not had, the contractors of the Loan are then to have the privilege of introducing annually into Texas two vessels of not more than 400 tons burthen loaded with French products, at one fifth of the duties paid by other ships.

It is also proposed that the Mexicans be permitted to visit without annoyance our frontiers for the purpose of trading.

Mr Bourgeois also proposes to be authorized to grant 100 Acres of land situated in his concession to each holder of bonds for 200 dollars; always provided a settler be placed on each 100 acre tract, agreeably to the *other* terms of his present contract. According to the terms of his Contract, each settler would receive 320 acres;—he wishes to be authorized to furnish 100 acres each to certain settlers.

His Excellency the President will decide whether in his opinion a loan on such terms would be desirable for Texas. A loan on the customary terms could not be negotiated in Europe at this time. After careful attention to this subject I incline to the opinion that on conditions similar to those proposed by Monsieur Bourgeois a loan may be obtained. These conditions are *stringent* but, if deemed advisable by the Government I shall be ready to conform to such instructions as may be given me on this subject.

A translation of Mons. Bourgeois' plan is annexed to his original notes.

I have the honor to be
most respectfully
Your very obedient servant

ASHBEL SMITH.

Nota. My despatches by the present mail are large. I am in the habit of transmitting copies of every official communication which I make or receive, by the first steamer which sails thereafter from Europe; excepting of course copies of notes which have no general importance. I have received several notes of the latter character from Mr Guizot which have not been communicated. Is it the wish of the Department that I shall continue to transmit *by mail* as heretofore, copies of my correspondence on subjects of general interest?

ASHBEL SMITH