

This however will all be remedied as I stated before by my awaiting you here up to the time mentioned above; My pleasure at seeing you then great as it would have been under any circumstances will be enhanced by this temporary disappointment.

truly yr friend

(Signed) DAINGERFIELD

HON ASHBELL SMITH
etc. etc. etc.

3 St James St London

JONES TO SMITH.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Washington [Texas] June 21st 1843

HON. ASHBEL SMITH

Charge d' Affaires of the Rep. of Texas

SIR,

My last despatches to you were of the 8th May and the 10th & 15th of the present month. * * *^a

The reply of Mr. Guizot to your communications to him concerning the manner in which hostilities are waged by Mexico against Texas, is extremely gratifying, and is received as a new proof of the friendship of France for Texas, as well as her regard for justice, and the rights of nations.

Your letter to Mr. Guizot in relation to the circular of the Prefect of the Department of Doubs is approved of. No complaints of the kind have been to my knowledge made here, nor have any such transactions as those mentioned by the Prefect been made known. There is however I learn a general complaint in relation to Mr. Castro, that his immigrants are brought to the country destitute in some measure of the necessary means for enabling them to settle either upon their own lands or others and much consequent dissatisfaction is said to exist on the part of those immigrants with the country and with Mr. Castro. All introduction of persons into this country who have not the requisite means of subsistence for the first year should be discouraged as much as possible.

In some of your former communications, you have requested copies of our Laws etc. for presentation to the library of the King as well as to that of the House of Commons of Great Britain It would give me much pleasure to furnish you full copies for these purposes, but owing to the detention of the archives and other Govt. property at

^aThe sentences omitted refer to Smith's salary.

Austin I am unable to do it at present, the Laws being all there So soon as they can be obtained, copies as requested will be forwarded to you.

The Department is well satisfied with your course in relation to the Letters of Marque sent you. You will retain the same untill further instructions.

I have recently enjoyed an opportunity of holding frequent personal interviews with M. le Vicomte Cramayel His Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires here, and feel satisfied that any unfavorable impressions which he may have received on his first arrival from the Presidents revocation of the Proclamation of the 11th Feb. 1840 have been removed. The intercourse of M. Cramayel with this government has given the highest possible satisfaction and I trust the mutual interest of the two countries will be promoted by the excellent understanding which now exists between this govt. and the representative of His Majesty

The Armistice now established between Texas and Mexico will I trust much facilitate all your negotiations in Europe, particularly those for the treaty with Spain, as well as those, with Mr. Bourgeois under his contract for the Million Loan. Both of these matters are of great importance, to Texas, and you will seize the present auspicious moment, to effect if possible their consummation

As our relations with Great Britain at this period, are very important and interesting it will probably be proper that you should, reside principally at London for the future.

Very Respectfully
Your obd't Serv't.

Signed ANSON JONES

SOMERVELL TO HAMILTON.^a

HAMILTON TO JONES.^b

DEPARTMENT OF WAR AND MARINE,
Washington [Texas], 27th June, 1843.

SIR:

Your official communication of 27th ulto, covering copy of the translation of a note addressed to you by the Chargé d'affaires of the French Government, relative to indignities alleged to have been offered to the Flag of that nation and to the person of her Consular

^a June 27, 1843. See Hamilton to Jones, June 27, 1843.

^b A. L. S.

Agent, Mr. Gilbeau, at San Antonio de Bexar, in the month of November last, by a portion of the troops of this Republic, then encamped near that place under the command of Brigadier General A. Somervell, was received in due time;^a and altho, it had the immediate attention of the Dept., it has not until this time possessed the necessary information to reply satisfactorily thereto.

General Somervell was promptly notified of the charges preferred against him, and ordered to repair forthwith to this place and report in person to the Dept to answer to them, but owing to irregularities in the mail or to his remote position from any Post Office his orders did not reach him until recently.

Upon his arrival here, yesterday, his attention was immediately called to the subject, and the nature of the charges more particularly explained. A copy of his answer to them is herewith transmitted, from which it will be seen that he disclaims any intention, even the remotest, of offering insult to the French Flag, or of giving the slightest offence to Mr. Gilbeau either as a functionary of that Government or as a citizen of this Republic.

The extremity to which the army was reduced, obliged him, as reported at the time to the Department, to resort to impressment—every other means having failed to supply it with Provisions and ammunition. This system of raising supplies has been prohibited by the authorities of the Country, and would not be tolerated except in cases of the last necessity. It has become odious every where by the constant abuse of it. It becomes the duty therefore of every officer who may be charged with the execution of orders of this character, to conciliate by his manly and correct officer-like deportment, and especially to abstain from giving offence to citizens upon whose Property his requisitions are levied.

If Quarter Master Davis, who made the levy in this instance, was so far forgetful of that sense of propriety which should have characterized an officer—of the duties which he owed to his superior and to the laws of his country, as to disregard and treat with contempt the Flag of a Nation whose relations entitle it to the respect of every citizen of the country, and especially of its officers; and to menace or offer violence to the Functionary who had invoked its protection, his conduct—unofficer-like and unauthorized, as it was, merited the severest punishment. It has been officially disavowed by the Commanding officer, and should have been made known to him upon the spot.

Mr. Davis is supposed to have been killed by the Indians while on his homeward march from the army in December following. Should

^a Jones's letter has not been found; the inclosure was a translation of Cramayel to Jones written in March.

he be still living and make his appearance, be assured that he will receive the fullest reward that his conduct, in this respect entitles him. Of the details made to assist him in the execution of the order, no record of their names can now be found or of the companies from which they were detached. Hence its impossible to identify them.

With the hope that the facts communicated will prove satisfactory.

I have the honor to be

With great respect,

Your obt. servt.

M. C. HAMILTON,
actg. Sec. of War and Marine

HON. ANSON JONES,
Secretary of State.

(Copy.)

WASHINGTON [TEXAS], *27th June, 1843.*

To

M. C. HAMILTON Esq.
Actg. Sec. of War and Marine.

SIR:

It was not until recently that your letter reached me, on the subject of the reputed insult offered to the French Flag at San Antonio. The subject of your letter is so important that I feel deeply impressed, and avail myself of the first moment to respond and render such a statement of facts as will be sustained by truth.

On the 18th November, 1842, I advised the Department that the necessity of the case (as much as I abhor'd it) would compel me to resort to impressment to procure such articles as would be indispensably necessary to keep the Army together. In consequence, the next day, on the 19th, I issued special Order No. 5. (to which I beg leave to refer you as returned to the Dept. of War and Marine) requiring Quarter Master General Wm. G. Cooke to procure for the use of the South western army, five kegs Rifle Power, five hundred pounds Lead and ten or twelve Bushels Salt—that, in the event of his not being able to procure them on the credit of the Government, to have recourse to impressment to obtain them. That the burthen which might have fallen on any other Texian citizen fell on M. Gilbeau for three sacks of salt and 209 lbs Lead, in accordance with the order above alluded to; but that any indignity was offered or intended to be offered by me to the French Flag, I utterly disavow; for I hold in too high estimation (a sentiment I believe in common with Texian) the friendship of the French Nation, to authorize or countenance any act which might be in the least calculated to disturb the harmony

and amicable relations which at present exist between the two Government—or could by probability be construed into an intent to insult the French Flag.

No report of any such misconduct was made to me, which accounts for there having been no enquiry into the matter at the time. Quarter Master H. C. Davis, the officer in the actual discharge of the duty, has since, as report says, been killed by the Comanche Indians—consequently no further information can be procured as to who the guilty persons were.

I have the honor to be
Very respectfully
Your obt. Servt.
signed

A. SOMERVELL,
Brigadier General
1st Brigade T. M.

A correct copy of the original on file

M. C. HAMILTON
actg. sec. War & Marine.

WASHINGTON,
27th. June, 1843.

DAINGERFIELD TO JONES.^a

HOTEL DE PARIS. RUE RICHELIEU,
June 28th 1843

Hon. ANSON JONES, *Secy of State*
SIR

The last communication I had the honour to address the Department of State was from New York on the 16th of May. I arrived in Havre on the 5th of June and immediately sought out Mr Paravay our Consul at that port, but, unfortunately he was out of town and did not return before I left that city. Not doubting from the information obtained from Mr Brower our Consul in New York that I should find the Hon Ashbell Smith at Paris I hastened on to this city. Upon arriving here I took immediate steps through the American Consul to find the address of our Consul, and through him, to learn the address of the Hon A Smith who I found was in London though daily expected to return to Paris. I have not been able to see the Consul yet—by other means I found out the address of Mr

^aA. L. S. While Daingerfield was accredited to other governments, this letter relates mainly to the situation in Paris, and it is therefore classified with the Correspondence with France.

Smith and immediately wrote to him. His answer informed me that he would return to Paris about the 1st of July and I determined to await his arrival, as in my future communication, with persons on the Continent the ability to converse in French will be the utmost importance to me and I thought that my time would be much better employed in Paris than in making a hasty trip to London and after staying there a few days, making as hasty a return. My instructions allowed me a month in Paris and I could await the arrival of Mr Smith until the 1st of July and have seven days to spare. I have accordingly remained here and have sought every opportunity of putting myself in communication with all those who were interested in Texan Affairs. I have seen Mr Bourgeois D'Orvanne, Mr Saligny and Mr Castro. I have been prompt in answering the enquiries of all these Gentlemen on the subject of Texan Affairs, and I have endeavoured to assure them that under the present administration, despite of the cavillings of some of the public journals, the march of the country is onward. I have not been idle in feeling my way as to the formation of the treaty with Belgium and the Hanse towns with which I am charged, and I have endeavoured to fortify my position with such acquaintances and friends as will be able and willing to assist me in the great work of my mission. I shall remain here awaiting the Hon Ashbell Smith until the first of the next month. after full communication with him I shall hasten in pursuance of my instructions to the Hague.

My former position as Secretary of the Treasury has induced some of the friends of the Republic of Texas to broach the subject of a loan of a million of dollars. I have replied to them very frankly that there exists no legislative sanction at present for the negotiation of a Loan in *Europe* and in fact that the country is not in the *market* as a *borrower*. But that if they choose to take the initiative and will lay before me the terms on which they would lend a million or more I would after *being fully satisfied* of the ability and good faith of those who make the propositions communicate them to my Government. Perhaps my next despatch will contain something more definite on this subject. The affairs of Ireland and Spain are those which at present most occupy the attention of the political Coteries.

I acknowledge with great pleasure the civilities both private and official on the part of Mr Ledyard the American Chargé D Affaires and the attentions of Mr Bourgeois D'Orvanne who is well known to the present head of the Department.

With sentiments of the highest respect I have the Honour to remain
Yr Most Obedt Svt

WM HENRY DAINGERFIELD *etc. etc.*

CRAMAYEL TO JONES.^a*Particulière*

GALVESTON 20 Juillet 1843

CHER MONSIEUR,

J'ai reçu la lettre que vous m'avez fait l'honneur de m'écrire, en date du 9 de ce mois, et j'allais y répondre en vous adressant mes remerciements pour la bonté que vous aviez eue de tenir si exactement votre promesse, lorsque j'ai reçu du Président lui-même l'avis de son prochain départ pour le conseil des Indiens. Dans ma réponse je lui explique les raisons qui m'empêchent de me rendre à son invitation et qui me font renoncer au projet de ce voyage; je crois donc superflu de vous les répéter. Le Capne. Elliot restera également à Galveston, craignant aussi la longueur et les fatigues de la route par une saison aussi chaude.

Dans ma lettre au Président, je lui dis un mot de l'impression qui a été produite en France par sa proclamation du mois de décembre dernier qui supprimait la franchise dont jouissaient jusqu'alors nos vins. J'ai effectivement reçu à cet égard des informations officielles qui ne me permettent pas de douter de l'effet produit par cette mesure. Ainsi que je vous l'avais fait pressentir, Monsieur, ce n'est point l'effet matériel de cette mesure, si peu intéressante au fond pour le commerce Français, qui a été principalement senti mais le peu d'à propos et de convenance qu'elle avait dans ce moment. Maintenant que je connais plus particulièrement le Général et que je suis plus à même d'apprécier le fond de ses intentions, je serai disposé pour ma part à atténuer autant que possible un effet si fâcheux et j'attends avec impatience que vous me donniez occasion de le faire en m'appuyant sur quelque fait nouveau d'un caractère opposé.

J'ai du reste l'assurance que mon gouvernement continue à porter l'intérêt le plus vif à la cause Texienne et à l'appuyer de son influence près du cabinet Mexicain.

Recevez, Monsieur, la nouvelle assurance de ma considération la plus distinguée.

Vte. J. DE CRAMAYEL

à l'habl. M. ANSON JONES, etc., etc., etc.

DAINGERFIELD TO SECRETARY OF STATE [JONES].^b

PARIS July 31st 1843

To the Hon SECRETARY OF STATE—

SIR

The arrival of the Hon A Smith delayed from day to day during the last month by affairs of importance at the Court of St James, took place on the 24th instant. Immediately thereon steps were taken

^a A. L. S.^b A. L. S. See note ^a, p. 1456.

by that Gentleman to procure me an introduction to the Secretary of Foreign Affairs and a presentation to the King of the French. Both have taken place, the presentation to the King at the Chateau of Neuilly to day. The reception of his Majesty was most kind most cordial and most *congratulatory*. His last words were those of warm felicitation on the bright prospect which opened upon Texas by reason of the amnesty which he sincerely hoped would ripen into a sound and lasting peace between ourselves and the Mexicans, whom he said he was glad to find had learned the lesson of wisdom that the resources of a nation could be much better employed in the amelioration of their own condition than in the prosecution of a useless and savage war. In fine the manner and conversation of his Majesty betokened the most lively interest in our welfare. Having communicated to the Hon A Smith all the information as to the State of affairs at home which I possessed and having been duly presented, a matter which I deemed would be of some importance in my future negotiations with Belgium owing to the close alliance between the sovereigns of the two countrys I shall immediately in obedience to my instructions take my departure for the Hague.

The Hon Mr Smith, has mentioned to me a matter with reference to the division of the diplomatic duties in Europe, which meets my entire concurrence. It is to put all the continental affairs under one charge and the affairs of Great Britain under another. He has told me that he will make it the subject of a communication by the present mail to the Secretary of State. I am of opinion that the interests of the country would be greatly subserved by a division so natural and so just and as the Hon Mr. Smith seems strongly inclined towards England, I would have no objection to taking the continent and making Paris my headquarters. I allude to this matter now in order to express to the Hon Secretary of State my entire concurrence not only in the opinion of the Hon Mr Smith as to the propriety of the division but also in his desire to take the duties on the continent as my share of the labour leaving to him those occurring in England with which Country he has already had such diplomatic intercourse as I am sure must have raised him to a high mark in the estimation of his talents and skill by those with whom he corresponded.

I have informed the Hon Mr. Smith that I would leave this subject entirely to his care in laying it before the Hon Secretary of State and that I would do nothing more than submit to the Hon Secretary of State my cordial concurrence in the division of the duties and their allotment to individuals after the manner above mentioned.

I take this opportunity of expressing to the Hon Secretary of State the high respect and consideration with which I have the honour to be
his Most Obedt Svt

WM HENRY DAINGERFIELD
Chargé D'Affaires etc. etc. etc.