

GUIZOT TO JONES.^a

MONSIEUR

M. Ashbel Smith m'a transmis la lettre que vous m'avez fait l'honneur de m'écrire sous la date du 30 Juillet dernier, et par laquelle vous m'informez qu'un congé a été accordé à M. le Chargé d'Affaires de la République du Texas. J'ai été vivement touché des sentimens amicaux que vous voulez bien exprimer, au nom du Président de la République, à l'égard du Gouvernement du Roi, et je saisis avec plaisir cette occasion de vous renouveler l'assurance de notre désir réciproque de cultiver les bonnes relations qui existent entre les deux pays.

Agréez, Monsieur, l'assurance de la haute considération avec laquelle j'ai l'honneur d'être

de Votre Excellence

Le très humble et

très obéissant serviteur

GUIZOT.

Paris 4 Décembre 1844

M. ANSON JONES, *Secrétaire d'Etat de la République du Texas.*

ALLEN TO TERRELL.^b

[Announcing the personnel of the new administration.]

SALIGNY TO SMITH.^a

Légation de France
au Texas.

GALVESTON, le 4 Mars 1845

MONSIEUR,

Plusieurs Gouvernemens Etrangers se sont entendus avec celui de Sa Majesté pour la communication régulière et périodique des Lois, Ordonnances, Règlemens et Instructions en matière de douanes et d'accises. Cet échange de documens officiels est le plus sûr moyen d'acquérir la connaissance des actes qui peuvent intéresser le commerce de chaque nation, et je suis chargé, Monsieur, de vous proposer la conclusion d'un semblable arrangement entre le Gouvernement du Roi et celui du Texas.

Dans le cas où vous consentiriez à accueillir cette proposition, je vous prierais d'avoir la bonté de me faire parvenir, en triple exemplaire, le recueil de toutes les lois qui ont été promulguées par le

^a L. S.

^b December 9, 1884.

Gouvernement Texien depuis son Etablissement, et de faire transmettre de même à l'avenir à la Légation du Roi tous les documens de même nature qui seront publiés par la suite. De son côté, le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté mettrait à la disposition de la Mission Texienne à Paris un nombre égal d'exemplaires des recueils publiés par le Ministère du Commerce.

Agréez, Monsieur, l'assurance de la haute considération avec laquelle j'ai l'honneur d'être

Votre très humble et
très obéissant serviteur

A. DE SALIGNY

A l'Honorable ASHBEL SMITH, *Secrétaire d'Etat*
etc etc etc

SMITH TO SALIGNY.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Washington, the Brazos, March 13. 45

SIR.

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your note of the 4th instant, concerning the exchange between this Government and that of His French Majesty, of the Laws and official documents of the two countries respectively.

I embrace with pleasure on the part of Texas the proposal made in your communication, and I shall have transmitted without delay to the Legation of His Majesty, the King of the French, three copies of the Laws and of other official documents and regulations of Texas from the origin of this Government to the present time; and hereafter copies of all publications of a like nature will be transmitted in the same manner, according as they shall be issued from the press. For the Laws etc., politely offered by the Government of His Majesty to that of Texas allow me to make my acknowledgment and to add that I shall receive them with great satisfaction.

I embrace this occasion to present assurances of the very distinguished consideration and regard with which

I have the honor to be

Sir,

Your most obedient
humble Servant.

(Signed) ASHBEL SMITH

The Count DE SALIGNY,
Chargé d'Affaires of His Majesty, the King of the French.
etc. etc. etc.

TERRELL TO GUIZOT.^aTERRELL TO SMITH.^b(Despatch No 4^c)LEGATION OF TEXAS
Paris March 18th 1845To Hon ASHBEL SMITH
Secretary of State etc.

SIR.

I have been in this Capital since the 12th day of Feby, and until yesterday evening I have never been able to procure an interview with the Minister for Foreign Affairs on business. At my first interview with him (which was merely a reception, and which did not take place until near a week after his first appointment) he said I must first be received by the King, and he would then have a conference with me on my business—and he said he would attend to it immediately. I waited some time and called again to see the Minister, but could not see him. I addressed him a note, but recd no answer—after some time I called again, but could not see him; I addressed him another note, but as before received no reply. The American Minister had told me that I would find Mr. Guizot *very shy* on the subject of Texan affairs—that it was a sore subject with him etc. I found it necessary to take some decided stand, and prepared a letter to Mr. Guizot (a copy of which is herewith transmitted) but before forwarding it, being anxious to avert the consequences which I feared would result, I concluded to consult Lord Cowley^d on the subject; his Lordship begged me not to send the letter until he could see Mr. Guizot—I complied—the consequence has been a *very polite* note from Mr. Guizot yesterday morning, inviting me to an interview in the evening; and in the course of the day another notifying me that the King would receive me to day at one o'clock. Although I did not send the letter, I have reason to believe that Lord Cowley (to whom I read it) informed the Minister of its character, and in my interview with him I felt bound in candour to do the same. The letter itself is sufficiently explanatory of the circumstances under which it is written—therefore I enter into no further explanation of them. I forward it to your deptmt, that you may see to what condition things have been brought here—and

^a March 15, 1845. See Terrell to Smith, March 18, 1845.^b A. L. S.^c Dispatches 1, 2, and 3, dated, respectively, January 21, January 27, and February 13, are in the Correspondence with Great Britain.^d Minister of Great Britain at Paris.

also to get the opinion of the deptmt as to the propriety of the course proposed and the one adopted, as my future guide should another such contingency arise, which however I do not think at all likely.

At one o'clock to day I attended at the Tuileries, and had a *most gracious reception* by the King.

I made to His Majesty a short address to which he returned a very appropriate reply—both of which I shall write out, as well as I can, and forward to your deptmt. His majesty entered into familiar conversation with me in regard to the condition of affairs in Texas—about which he evinced much solicitude—and also the U States, concerning both of which countries he displayed an extent and accuracy of information, even extending to localities and particulars, at which I was much surprised, and which shows the concern he feels in the welfare of these countries.

In my interview with the Minister for Foreign Affairs I made to him (in accordance with my instructions from your deptmt) a proposition for some modifications in the existing treaty between the two countries, having in view the introduction of the products of Texan labour into the ports of France upon more favorable terms than are at present allowed. He replied that it would be useless to enter upon a negotiation of that character until the question of the Annexation of Texas to the U States should be disposed of. Should Texas determine to remain an independent nation, as soon as I am prepared to announce that fact to him, he will be ready to entertain any propositions of that character I may have to make. That it is the disposition of France to continue to cultivate the most friendly relations and extended commercial intercourse with Texas. That his Govt have evinced that disposition on all proper occasions—and especially in the instructions which they have given to their Ministers both in Texas and Mexico—which he said were fully as strong as those of the English Cabinet to their Ministers. These things, as far as the facts mentioned are concerned, I have no doubt are all so—but whether the Minister's wishes are in accordance with them I question somewhat—and this both from what Col King told me, and from the fact that the *Debats*, the Minister's own paper has lately come out (rather vaguely) in favor of annexation. In this I hope I may prove to be mistaken.

The King, I have not the least doubt, is at heart in favor of Texas remaining an independent Nation. He looked *all sincerity* when he said so, and used a good many arguments in favor of it, principally growing out of our agricultural and commercial interests—and finally said he could not see how Texas would be benefited *in any particular* by annexation.

I am completely in the dark as to the condition of things at home. I have heard nothing from Texas since the 11th Jany—and have received but one despatch from your deptmt since I left. We are looking for news now every day however, by the Halifax Steamer of the 4th Inst.

My health has been seriously injured by being compelled to remain here during the prevalence of the harsh winds of this month—the weather is said to be almost unprecedented. More snow fell here on the 15th than I have seen before in ten years—and it has been snowing half the time to day. The consequence is that I have been almost entirely confined to my room—and the disease in my lungs has been very much aggravated. What is to be the result I can not pretend to determine.

With great respect
Your obdt servt

G. W. TERRELL

Address to the King.

I appear before your Majesty as the representative of the youthful Republic of Texas, and I assure you Sir, it is with feelings of no ordinary emotion that I, a plain republican, unused to the ceremony and the pageantry of Courts, find myself in this responsible capacity, in presence of the sovereign of one of the mightiest nations of the earth.

This embarrassment however, is much relieved by the character, which all accounts concur in giving, of your Majesty's republican simplicity and urbanity of manners, in all the relations both of social and political life; nor is it unmingled with some degree of pride and self-gratulation, that I represent a republic at the Court of the King of the French—that magnanimous and chivalrous people, who have ever been foremost in the recognition of republican states and republican principles. It is a sentiment deeply cherished by the people of Texas, that France was the first European power to take the infant Republic by the hand, while her steps were yet tottering and her confidence still faltered, and welcome her into the great family of nations.

I am instructed by my Govt to make known to that of your Majesty, the high appreciation placed by it upon the uniform friendship manifested by France towards Texas, from the earliest dawn of her national existence—and it is made my duty, as it shall be my pleasure, to continue to cultivate that good intelligence and those friendly relations, which have heretofore so happily subsisted—and if possible even to strengthen and extend the bonds of friendship and the intercourse between the two Countries.

I am also instructed to express to your Majesty the sense of obligation felt by the govt and the people of Texas, for the generous efforts made by your Govt to adjust the difficulties existing between Texas and her mother republic—and I trust that I shall so conduct myself, as the representative of my country, as to convince your Majesty that we merit a continuance of those good offices in our behalf; indeed Sir, I fondly cherish the hope that the fact of having been instrumental in giving peace and permanent independence to a young and rising Republic will, in future times, constitute the brightest page in the history of your Majesty's illustrious reign.

There is yet another part of my duty which I assure you Sir, I perform with sincere pleasure—that of expressing the wishes of my Govt for your Majesty's health, happiness, and long continued and prosperous reign—and also for the happiness and prosperity of your whole Royal family.

The King's reply.

I am pleased to hear these sentiments from your Govt. France is proud of having been the first nation to recognize the independence of the U States—and also that she was the first of the Nations of Europe that recognised the independence of Texas. You will please make known to your Govt that France has ever felt, and continues to feel, a deep interest in the welfare and prosperity of your young and promising Republic. You have shown yourselves worthy of independence, and it is the wish of the French Govt to see you maintain it, and remain a separate and independent nation. We have exerted all our moral energies, and will continue to do so, to procure the recognition of your independence by Mexico; and you may assure your Govt that no exertion—consistent with our obligations to other Govts—shall be wanting on the part of France, to bring about a result so desirable; and which it is my opinion is for the interest of the U States as well as of Texas.

I have always been a warm friend of the U. States—and so I am of Texas—for I look upon you all as the same people, but I believe it is for the interest of both nations that you should remain separate.

His Majesty then (in a conversational tone) repeated that he felt great solicitude for the prosperity of Texas—and would continue to do every[thing] within the compass of his power to advance her interests.

He was pleased also to remark that he knew my character—was apprised of the course I had taken as a member of the late administration—was glad to see me here, and hoped I would find my residence at the French Court agreeable etc.

After a very interesting conversation of about half an hour, concerning America and American affairs generally, I retired, under a most favorable impression of the King's goodness of heart, and his sincere friendship for Texas.

Col King (the American Minister) requests to be remembered to you—and that his respects be presented to the President—he has read his excellency's message and is very much pleased with it.

Please make my regards to all the members of the Cabinet, and accept for yourself assurances of the high respect with which I remain

Your obdt servt

G. W. TERRELL

[Mr. Terrell to Mr. Guizot.]

LEGATION OF TEXAS

Paris March 15th 1845

The undersigned, Chargé d' Affaires of the Republic of Texas, etc. presents his compliments to his Excellency the Minister for Foreign Affairs, and would respectfully suggest to the Minister that he has waited, at least *a reasonable time*, for the redemption of the promise made to him at his first interview with the Minister, and repeated on the Minister's last reception night. It is therefore with the most painful reluctance, that he feels himself driven to the necessity of announcing to Mr Guizot that, should this communication share the fate of its predecessors on the same subject, he shall feel himself compelled, under an imperious sense of the obligation he owes to his Government, to take his leave of the French Court immediately. For he cannot, consistently with his sense of propriety, compromit the dignity of the Country he has the honor to represent (however insignificant it may appear in the estimation of a great nation) nor his own personal independence, so far as to consent to remain at a Court where it is evident to him he is not regarded in the capacity of a minister, representing a nation; where his written communications appear to lie totally neglected on the Minister's table; where his verbal applications seem destined to share no better fate—and where, in a word, he has, from the time of his arrival, experienced little else than cold indifference if not absolute neglect.

He was willing to believe, as long as he could find, within himself, a plausible pretext for such a supposition, that these things were rather accidental than designed; but when he perceives the same course of conduct persisted in for such a length of time (notwithstanding his continued efforts to avert it) without any reason, excuse, apology or explanation for it, he is forced to the conclusion that all this apparent neglect cannot be the result of mere casualty.

What constitutes politeness in the polished circles of Europe, and especially within the precincts of the refined Court of the Tuilleries, the undersigned has had no means of ascertaining, but with us un-couth Americans it is considered politeness to treat all public functionaries, of whatever grade, with at least common courtesy—and their communications, when couched in respectful terms, are always deemed worthy of an answer.

Texas is fully apprised of the position she occupies in the Great Commonwealth of Nations. She as yet puts forth no pretensions to the first rank in this great family circle. She does expect however that her representatives at foreign courts will be treated with the common courtesy, the ordinary civility usually accorded to Ministers of their grade. More than this she does not ask—with less she will not be satisfied.

Has the Chargé d' Affaires of Texas received this *common courtesy* since his arrival in France? Has he received *any courtesy* whatever at the hands of any members of the French Government? Let facts answer these questions. Lest such trivial circumstances should have escaped the recollection of the Minister, in the multiplicity of his important avocations, the undersigned will briefly pass in review the leading incidents which have occurred between them since his arrival in Paris. Immediately on his arrival (more than a month since) he addressed a note to the Minister for Foreign Affairs announcing the fact, and requesting that a time might be appointed for his reception, at the Minister's convenience. This note was promptly responded to, appointing the afternoon of the 15th ult—for his reception. He attended at the time designated, and to his great surprise was informed that the Minister had left his office several hours before. No message was left for him—no excuse or apology for his non reception was made. He concluded he would of course receive a note from the Minister in a day or two, appointing another time for his reception. This he then thought, and still thinks, common politeness, not to say official courtesy, required. In this expectation he was disappointed. It was a small matter however, and he cared nothing about it; and never should have recurred to it again had it not been followed up, in the manner it has been, by the same character of conduct. He waited three or four days and addressed a second note to the Minister—to which Mr. Guizot replied on the next day, appointing the evening of that day to receive him. He went and was received by the Minister. No apology was made or explanation given for his disappointment on the former occasion, and when he mentioned the circumstance (which he did from the fear that he himself had made some mistake) the Minister replied, *with great indifference*, that he was compelled to leave his office on business.

Mr. Guizot will doubtless recollect that he then proposed to the undersigned (for he did not ask it) that he would see the King immediately to know when his Majesty could receive him, and would let him know by letter when he would be received. After which he would appoint a day for a conference with him on the business of his mission.

Mr. Guizot is aware that the undersigned is labouring under a severe disease of the lungs, which he informed Mr. Guizot, at an early period, was much aggravated by his stay in Paris—hence his anxiety on this subject—it being all important to him to get away as soon as possible, until the harsh weather should have passed off. He waited a week in daily expectation of hearing from the Minister, but nothing came. He then addressed a note to Mr. Guizot, stating his unpleasant and indeed critical situation, and the *indispensable necessity* he was under of removing to a climate more congenial to his condition, and *requesting it as a favor* of the Minister, if convenient, to procure him the proposed audience of the King in the course of that week. To that note he received no reply. He waited till the end of the week and called to see the Minister—the Minister was engaged, he could not see him. He then waited until the next reception night of the Minister (the 4th Inst). There it was with great difficulty he obtained *one minute's* conversation with the Minister, who informed him that he had seen the King on the subject, and supposed he had received the undersigned. He then repeated to the Minister, that under the advice of physicians, he found himself compelled to leave Paris immediately, or run imminent hazard by remaining here—that not only his present health and comfort, but his life itself depended upon his exercising the utmost precaution for its preservation. The Minister then promised him he would attend to his business *the next day*—and that is the last he has heard of it. After the lapse of about a week he again waited on the Minister for the purpose of making a different proposition to him—he sent in his card, but the Minister was engaged and could not see him. He then addressed the Minister another note, stating that the honor of being presented to his Majesty the King (although very desirable) was a matter of no consequence to him, compared to the condition of his health—that it was *absolutely necessary* for him to leave Paris, and if the Minister would afford him an interview of *one hour* on business, it was all he asked during his present stay in Paris. Of this note also the Minister appears to have taken no notice whatever. A request so moderate and, under the circumstances, so reasonable, it would be supposed not only common politeness, but the common sentiments of humanity would have prompted the Minister to grant. To say that the Minister could not, since the date of this note, have afforded to the undersigned an interview of *one hour*, without prejudice to his

other engagements, would be a statement so preposterously absurd, that the Minister would hardly expose himself to the ridicule he would incur by making it.

There is something in the conduct of the Minister throughout this whole transaction, that is to the mind of the undersigned incomprehensibly mysterious. Had he been told that a Minister of the Cabinet of France was capable of treating the representative of a *small state* in this manner, he would have been disposed to repel it as a slander upon the well known magnanimity of the French character. But when he has realised the fact in his own person, he is compelled to believe it, although it fills him with utter astonishment, and he is wholly at a loss to account for it.

It was the wish of the undersigned, in accordance with instructions from his Government, to have submitted to the Minister for Foreign Affairs, some propositions in relation to the reciprocal interests of the two countries, but he deems it useless again to ask an interview with the Minister, inasmuch as Mr. Guizot proposed to grant him a conference on the business of his mission (and to which resolution he seems determined to adhere) only after he should have been received by the King—and his Majesty has not condescended to receive him.

It is with very great diffidence that the undersigned would venture to make any suggestion to the Minister for Foreign Affairs, in relation to the National policy of his country. Believing however, that the Minister's mind has been so much preoccupied with other matters of great concern to the nation that he has not bestowed that consideration on this subject which its importance entitled it to—he would, with great deference, intimate to the Minister that a very little reflection must convince a Minister of Mr. Guizot's forecast and comprehensive sagacity that, however inconsiderable that country may appear at present, extended commercial intercourse with Texas is the interest of France. It results from the unvarying laws of human nature, that a country favorably situated for commerce—embracing every variety of both soil and climate, and which is rapidly filling up with a race of people who have never been known to recede—possessed of the most indomitable energy and enterprising enterprise, must in time, become very considerable amongst the nations of the earth.

France has at present a firm hold on this people—greatly above that of all other European nations, and it would be a very easy matter for her to retain it. Her citizens would there find a ready and constantly increasing market for large quantities of their manufactures and other products, such as silks, cloths, merinos and other wollens—clothing of every description—fine wares—liquors both spiritous and vinous—and many other kinds of merchandise, for

supplies of which Texas looks now almost exclusively to France. In addition to this the French merchant ships would, for years to come, enjoy almost the entire benefit of the carrying trade between the two countries.

Although weak in numbers, the Texans are a very proud and independent people, and would not tamely brook an insult on even a pointed slight offered them in the person of their representative. The undersigned would therefore take the liberty to admonish the Minister for Foreign Affairs that a perseverance in a course of such *palpable neglect* as has heretofore characterized his conduct towards the undersigned, might at least incur the hazard of losing to his countrymen the advantages of a very lucrative trade, and of alienating from France the hearty affection of a people whose friendship may one day be considered worth preserving.

The uniform friendship heretofore manifested by France towards Texas, has made a deep impression on the minds of both the Government and the citizens of that country—nay it has sunk into the very hearts of the people; nor is there a single individual of the Republic by whom this sentiment is cherished more fondly than by the writer of this letter. Indeed from the earliest period of his historical researches, he has looked upon the French as amongst the mightiest nations which the annals of the civilised world presents to the view of mankind. Her greatness and her grandeur have been the subject of his enthusiastic admiration; and he came to Paris animated with these sentiments towards France and the French people—it is therefore with unaffected sincerity that he assures Mr. Guizot it will be to him a source of the most poignant regret that any thing should occur calculated to change his opinion of the magnanimity of the French character, and to leave him no alternative, consistently with his sense of duty his government and his people, but to retire from a Court combining in his estimation so many interesting associations.

If the undersigned has been mistaken in any of the facts or inferences stated in the foregoing letter—if he has misconceived either the conduct or the motives of Mr. Guizot, he will be most happy to be corrected—for he assures Mr. Guizot that in writing this letter he is not influenced either by whim, caprice or temper—it is done, (more in sorrow than in anger) and he has been prompted to the course he has adopted alone by a deliberate conviction of what is due to his Government, and to himself as its representative. And least of all does he *seek* a controversy with Mr. Guizot, conscious as he is of the position that both his Government and himself must occupy in a contest with a Minister of the French Cabinet. But he would be a very unworthy representative of the people of Texas, if he permitted any such considerations so to influence his conduct as to cause him to shrink from the performance of any duty which his station devolved upon him.

Wishing to France as much prosperity and glory as fall to the lot of a nation—to her good King a long, peaceful and prosperous reign—and to the Minister for Foreign Affairs as much reputation and individual happiness as his great abilities and untiring zeal in the service of his country so eminently merit—the undersigned renews to Mr. Guizot assurances of the high consideration with which he remains his Excellency's

Most Obedt Servt

G. W. TERRELL

To his Excellency the
MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS

SMITH TO SALIGNY.

WASHINGTON ON THE BRAZOS

March 21, 1845.

MY DEAR COUNT,

His Excellency the President has placed in my hands the documents communicated by yourself to him, relative to the Texas Promissory Notes you deposited with the Stock Commissioner in November 1840.* It would be wholly unnecessary to admit in formal terms the justice of your claim for payment; for its justice is most obvious.

The office of Stock Commissioner has been abolished; and I suppose you would not at the present prices of Texas liabilities, wish to receive the stock to which you were entitled, even if it were practicable at this time to issue bonds for the same.

Nor can the Treasury Department afford any facility for the present liquidation of your claim; for as you are aware, no money can be drawn from the Treasury except upon a specific appropriation, made by the Congress.

While therefore the President perceives the undeniable justice of your claim, he is unable to cause payment to be made by reason of the obstacles interposed by the Constitution and Laws.

Under the circumstances, Congress alone it is believed, can apply the remedy. If it is your wish the Government will have this matter presented to the Congress at their next session, and will use all proper means for obtaining through them a satisfactory settlement of your demand. Or will you write me a line to suggest any other feasible manner of adjustment that will be more agreeable to yourself, and it shall receive the prompt consideration of the Government.

*The documents referred to are copies of Saligny to Houston, June 6, 1842, with an inclosed receipt and memorandum, and of Houston to Saligny, June 8, 1842. They are filed with Smith's letter of March 21, 1845, and with them is an inclosing band on which is written, "Miscellaneous Papers relative to certain promissory notes of the Government deposited by Hon. A. de Saligny, for funding. Answered by Hon. Secy. of State in a private letter Mar. 22d 1845. *Not to be recorded*, but filed for future reference. J. C. Eldredge Chief Clerk."

The President regret deeply that this matter should remain so long unsettled, and that the amount due should be so long withheld from the possession of its just owner.

With sentiments of the highest regards and consideration, I am,
dear Count,

truly and faithfully
Yours

ASHBEL SMITH.

The Count DUBOIS DE SALIGNY
etc. etc. etc.

SALIGNY TO JONES.^a

DE CYPREY TO JONES.^b

SALIGNY TO JONES.^c

JONES TO DE CYPREY.^d

SALIGNY TO ALLEN.^e

[Announcing the appointment of Mr. Arcieri as provisional consular agent of France at Galveston during the absence of M. Cobb.]

LIPSCOMB TO MCINTOSH.^f

[Relative to McIntosh's salary as chargé d'affaires to France.]

SALIGNY TO ALLEN.

Légation de France
au Texas.

NOUVELLE ORLÉANS, le 14 Janvier 1846.

MONSIEUR,

Dans les différentes entrevues que j'eus l'honneur d'avoir, au mois de mars dernier, soit avec Son Excellence le Président, soit avec votre prédécesseur, l'Honorable Ashbel Smith, et avec vous-même, j'appelai l'attention sérieuse du Cabinet Texien sur une question importante, qui n'avait point, d'ailleurs, échappé à sa sagacité: je veux parler des rapports commerciaux entre la France et le Texas, tels qu'ils ont été réglés par le Traité conclu, le 25 Septembre 1839, entre les deux Pays, et dont la durée n'expirera qu'en février 1848.

^a April 3, 1845. See Calendar.

^b May 20, 1845. See Calendar.

^c May, 1845. See Calendar.

^d June 6, 1845. See Calendar.

^e June 14, 1845.

^f August 15, 1845. See Records of Department of State (Texas), Book, 38, p. 149.

Prévoyant l'hypothèse où, contrairement aux désirs de la France, le Texas renoncerait à sa nationalité distincte et séparée, j'exprimai alors, au nom du Gouvernement du Roi, la ferme confiance que le Gouvernement Texien ne songerait, en aucun cas, à se soustraire aux engagements contractés par lui envers la France, et qu'il ferait ses dispositions pour assurer la pleine et entière exécution de la convention précitée.

En réponse, je reçus de son Excellence le Président ainsi que de l'Honorable Ashbel Smith, et, plus tard, de vous-même, lorsque le Département d'Etat eut été confié à votre direction, l'assurance formelle que le Cabinet Texien tenait à remplir scrupuleusement toutes ses obligations, et que, malgré les difficultés que pourrait présenter cette question si le Texas venait à s'incorporer à un autre Pays, il ne négligerait aucune des mesures nécessaires et praticables pour satisfaire à la juste attente de la France. J'ignore, Monsieur, quelles sont celles qu'il a jugé à propos de prendre pour assurer ce résultat: mais tout en me reposant à cet égard sur la loyauté connue de Son Excellence le Président et de son Cabinet, je dois, dans la situation des choses, et pour obéir aux intentions du Gouvernement du Roi, insister de nouveau auprès du Gouvernement Texien sur les considérations que je lui ai précédemment soumises, et lui rappeler les obligations dont la France attend avec confiance le fidèle accomplissement.

Je vous prie d'agréer l'assurance de la haute considération avec laquelle j'ai l'honneur d'être,

Monsieur,

Votre très humble et
très obéissant serviteur

A. DE SALIGNY

à l'Hon.

EBENEZER ALLEN,
Secrétaire d'Etat.

ALLEN TO SALIGNY.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Austin [Texas] 10th Feby. 1846.

The undersigned Secretary of State of the Republic of Texas having just received the note which Monsieur the Count de Saligny, Chargé d' Affaires of His Majesty the King of the French near this Government did him the honor to address to him under date of the 14th ultimo on the subject of the commercial and other relations subsisting between France and Texas under the treaty concluded on the 25th September 1845* and referring to some conversations

* 1839.

alluding to the same subject which occurred between Monsieur de Saligny and several members of the Texian Cabinet in the month of March last.

Those members did not intend at any of the interviews referred to by Monsieur de Saligny to leave upon his mind the impression that the Texian Government would in the event of the proffer for annexation then anticipated from the United States, interpose to prescribe for the latter any steps or measures in reference to that treaty, to be adopted as conditions precedent to the acceptance by Texas of such proffer, (and to be carried out by the United States after the Union then contemplated between the two Republics should be consummated.)

Of the alternative propositions, embraced in the Joint Resolution adopted by the Federal Congress for carrying into effect the proposed measure of annexation, the one selected by the Executive of that Government and proffered to this on the 31st day of March last, precluded the latter from interposing any new terms or conditions, and referred itself simply for acceptance or rejection to the Government and people of Texas. The acceptance of the terms of that overture, has as Monsieur de Saligny is aware been accorded and manifested on the part of this Republic; and the Congress of the United States by a recent act has admitted Texas as a State into the Union under the Constitution adopted by the Convention of Delegates assembled at Austin in July last.

During the existence of Texas as a separate and independent Republic it has been and will continue to be the object and intention of her Government to fulfil and discharge all the obligations devolving upon her in virtue of the treaty referred to; but the President is of opinion that it cannot be justly insisted on the part of France, that this Government during the pendency and progress of the steps prescribed for Texas by the terms of the elected overtures was called upon to attempt to settle or discuss with the United States any question appertaining to the interests of France as connected with that treaty; its continuance or force after the consummation of the union between the two Republics.

After the state Government shall have taken the place of the existing Government, all questions of the nature above described, must so far as Texas is concerned, be necessarily referred to the Government of the United States, whose long established friendly relations with France afford the strongest guaranty that her interests and rights will be treated with the same just consideration and respect, which, as ever before the annexation of Texas, will continue to influence the Federal Government afterwards.

The Undersigned etc. etc.