

CORRESPONDENCE WITH THE HANSE TOWNS.

JONES TO DAINGERFIELD.^a

[Relative to order of blockade of Mexican ports.]

JONES TO DAINGERFIELD.^b

[Instructions to Daingerfield as *chargé d'affaires* to the Netherlands, Belgium, and the Hanse Towns.]

DAINGERFIELD TO JONES.^c

GALVESTON *Feb'y 3rd 1843*

MY DEAR DR.

The Boat is just leaving and Mr Kaufmans information as to the proper address of the Hanse towns has been delayed by Mr Borden untill the present moment. I have only time therefore to say to you that Mr Kaufman says that the address is "*to the Senate of The Free Hanseatic town of Bremen;*" and so of Luebeck, Hamburgh and Frankfort on the Maine. Mr Kaufman will perhaps write you more at length by the next boat. I would not write you now but that Mr. Borden seems so anxious as the delay has been caused by his error. I shall leave here on Saturday the the fifth instant. I have only time to add my best wishes for yrself and family.

Yrs most truly

WM HNY DAINGERFIELD

P. S. We arrived here but *an hour or so ago*. No News.

DAINGERFIELD TO JONES.^d

^a March 26, 1842. See Correspondence with the Netherlands.

^b January 20, 1843. See Correspondence with the Netherlands.

^c A. L. S.

^d February 4, 1843. See Calendar.

JONES TO DAINGERFIELD.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Washington Feb. 20th 1843

To WM. HENRY DAINGERFIELD Esq.
*Charge d' Affaires of the Republic
of Texas etc. etc.*

SIR

Enclosed herewith I have the honor to transmit you letters of Credence to the Senates of the Free Hanseatic Cities of Bremen Hamburg Lubeck and Frankfort, and a Full Power to treat with the Governments of each of those cities respectively, and also with the Govt. of His Majesty the King of the Belgians, and to conclude Treaties of Amity Commerce and Navigation with them

So soon therefore as you shall have fulfilled the instructions you have already had from this Department, and in the event of a disposition being expressed on the part of the King of the Belgians to establish friendly and commercial relations with Texas, you are authorized to enter into a negotiation of a treaty of Amity Commerce and Navigation, with that Government

The basis of the treaty you will propose should be that of perfect reciprocity, and similar in its provisions generally to the ones negotiated with Holland and France. In the event Belgium should wish to stipulate for a discrimination to be made in the ports of Texas for her manufactures of linen and fire arms, you are authorized to grant the same, but only in consideration of some immunity of equivalent value to Texas.

It is very desirable to establish friendly and commercial relations with some of the Free Hanseatic Cities at as early a period as possible particularly with Bremen and Hamburg between which places and Texas, a considerable trade has been for some time carried on, and from which we have a prospect of deriving a valuable addition to our population by immigration from Germany. The Cities of Lubeck and Frankfort are also of sufficient importance to make it the mutual interest of Texas and those Cities to establish similar relations

You will therefore at the earliest convenient moment put yourself in communication with the Governments of those cities and when received in your official capacity proceed to the effectuation of this object.

You can either agree to a commercial and consular arrangement, convention, or formal Treaty with the Hanse Towns, as may seem most expedient to you and as may be most in accordance with the use and practice of other nations in their intercourse with them.

The basis of perfect reciprocity will be observed by you in all these cases and the Stipulations contained in the Treaties between Texas and the Netherlands or France will be your guide generally in relation to all the details. Some small variations, should circumstances seem to require, not touching the important principles of that Treaty may be made.

In all instances you will request the appointment of Consuls to be made so soon as treaty stipulations are concluded, and recommend suitable persons in Belgium and the Hanse Towns for appointment as such by Texas.

Perfectly aware as I am, of your intimate knowledge of the affairs of Texas, and what will promote its interests, as well as your acquaintance with the wishes and views of the Government in regard to the establishment of the relations, which it is the object of your Mission to secure to Texas, further or more detailed instructions are deemed unnecessary at the present time. Should you have occasion to refer to the department for information in regard to any particular matter concerning which you may need direction it will be immediately furnished you.

I have the honor to be
with the highest respect
Your obt Svt

Signed ANSON JONES

MEMORANDUM OF DAINGERFIELD.*

Memorandum

FRANCFORT, ON THE MAINE, *9th. September 1843*

In accordance with the note of President de Meyer of yesterday, I called on him at 10 A M to day and delivered my full powers from the government of Texas; I expressed to him the desire of my Government to establish friendly relations with the authorities of the free city of Francfort, and to have resident therein a representative who would give direction to the emigration, which under the Patronage of Several of the nobles of Germany was beginning to set towards the shores of Texas; I stated to him that the government of Texas was particularly desirous to encourage German emigration as the habits of German emigrants were those of industry œconomy and order,—as was evident, from their settlements in many of the most prosperous agricultural districts of the United States, [and] that in order the better to attain this object, my Government would be pleased to appoint some worthy citizen of the good city of Francfort as Con-

* See Records of Department of State (Texas), Book 55, pp. 20-22.

sular agent. To this he replied, That he would with great pleasure submit the communications of the Government of Texas to the Senate which would meet within three days, and that he would then, in as short a time as possible, make known to me the answer of that body; That if my affairs required that I should repair to the Hague, [and] he would send the answer of the Senate to that place. I replied that perhaps it would be as well to empower Mr Vincent Rumpff who is the representative of the Hansetowns at Paris to make such arrangements as would be of a General character, in relation to all the free cities of Germany. With this the interview ended.

MEYER TO DAINGERFIELD.^a

[Acknowledges receipt of Daingerfield's letter of September 9,^b 1843, and makes an appointment for the interview asked by Daingerfield.]

DAINGERFIELD TO MEYER.^c

[Asks an appointment to deliver communications from Texas to the Senate of Frankfort concerning certain matters of amity and commerce.]

DAINGERFIELD TO JONES.^d

THE HAGUE, *Sept. 25th. 1843.*

SIR

The last communication which the undersigned had the honor to address your Excellency, was dated Paris July 31st. 1843.^e Immediately after that date he left Paris, and being assured that it was a season when almost the entire diplomatic corps, at the several Courts, were on voyage, a custom which has been more observed this summer than usual, in sequence of the Royal examples of the Queen of England, the Emperor of Russia and the King of Belgium, the last of whom has been absent nearly all the Season, the undersigned determined to pass by Frankfort on the Maine, and whilst he delivered the letters of credence with which he was charged to the High Senate of that City, to give an eye to the movements of a society formed for the purpose of encouraging emigration to Texas, and which rumor said numbered among its members a large portion of the Dukes and Princes of the smaller German States.

^a September 8, 1843. See Records of Department of State (Texas), Book 55, p. 20.

^b Evidently there was a mistake in the copying that accounts for the fact that Meyer's letter is dated on the day previous to the one on which the letter that it answers is dated.

^c September 9, 1843.

^d See Records of Department of State (Texas), Book 42, pp. 407-411.

^e See Correspondence with France.

The letters of credence of the undersigned to the Senate of Frankfort were delivered to the President Frederick de Meyer, who, whilst he received them most graciously, assured the undersigned that Frankfort, though a rich City and the head quarters of the continental Bankers, had but a limited foreign commerce, and that as to all matters, touching this commerce the free city formed part and parcel of what is termed the Zollverein or German Customs union, at the head of which are Prussia and Austria. Of this the undersigned had been previously informed. The Burgomaster promised, however, to lay the matter before the Senate, at their first meeting, which would occur in some weeks, and to send their answer to the undersigned at the Hague, and a mutual understanding was had that although a treaty might not be possible, on the part of the free City, acting as independent and separate from the Customs Union of Zollverein, yet still some such arrangement might be made as would allow of the appointment of Consular Agents by the two Countries. The undersigned is convinced that the appointment of a Consul of high standing and character, on our part, at Frankfort, would be of importance to our country, as the undersigned thinks Your Excellency will perceive that there is a deep and pervading interest taken by the German States in an emigration to Texas, and if that interest which now exhibits itself in almost daily articles in the German Gazettes is fostered into action that the means of that action will be found in Frankfort, the head quarters of the Rothschilds and Batemans and other Bankers, the real sovereigns of Europe. The undersigned finding that nothing further could be done at Frankfort, until some weeks had elapsed, devoted his time to enquiring as to the character, origin, motives and members of the Society, heretofore alluded to, which has its head quarters on the Rhine at Mayence, a City not far from Frankfort. The enquiries of the undersigned resulted in his being informed, that the Society was called "A Society for the Protection of German Settlers in Texas", and consisted of Prince Frederick of Prussia, Land Graff of Hesse Hamburg, Duke of Nassau, Prince of Leiningen, Prince of Neuwied, the 3 Princes of Solms, The Counts of Leiningen (one of whom has been in Texas), Count Ysenburgh, 2 Counts Boos-Waldeck, (one of whom is now in Texas), Count Leiningen, 2 Counts of Colloredo, Count Hatzfeld, Count of Irier [sic] and Count of Castell. Of this number I had interviews with the Land Graff of Hesse Hamburg the Duke of Nassau a very wealthy Sovereign, and on the eve of a matrimonial alliance with the Emperor of Russia, Prince Solms (step son to the Duke of Cumberland, now King of Hanover, uncle to Victoria), the Prince of Leiningen (Governor of Mayence) and Counts Castell and Leiningen.* During the stay at Mayence of the undersigned, Mr

*There are apparently several unnecessary repetitions in this list. For a better enumeration, see Roemer, *Texas*, pp. 20-21.

Bourgeois d'Orvanne arrived from Paris, for the purpose of negotiating a sale of his contract to this society, and as the undersigned was informed, by himself, succeeded in doing so; but as both parties evinced repugnance to the undersigned knowing any thing of their arrangements, he confined himself strictly to giving all the information with regard to Bourgeois' grant, which the Society desired for the purpose of enabling them correctly to understand its position, character of soil, title etc. etc.

The undersigned felt disposed to encourage the purchase, on the part of this Society of the Grant to M Bourgeois, for the reason—The one, that in his, B's hands, it must remain in idle suspension, because of his inability to comply with its conditions, and useless to the Government of Texas, because of its being fettered by the grant; The other because the undersigned deemed it an entering wedge to still further operations, on the part of this association, and an earnest of their intentions and ability to do more. The undersigned finding a reluctance, both on the part of M. Bourgeois and this association, to take him into their counsels, the undersigned contented himself with merely throwing out such remarks, as to the character of the country in which the grant lies, as would afford a correct idea of its advantages, as to fertility and position and possible condition as to former locations. In fine he restricted himself to the performance of what he deemed his duty, so that the members of the association might not hereafter have it to say that they were misled or deceived in the presence and hearing of an accredited agent of the Government of Texas. The undersigned then endeavored to obtain from the active members of the association as accurate an idea as possible of their future plans and intentions, the results of which endeavors were the obtaining a list of the members of the association, the names of which are heretofore given, and a proposition in writing, signed by the authorised agents of the association of which the following is a true copy.

1st. The Society would engage itself (a) to introduce to Texas and to settle there within a certain period of time from twelve hundred upward to ten thousand (10,000) german families and single men or about that number suiting the wishes of the Government (b) to negotiate at suitable terms and with the necessary guarantee of repayment given by the Government of Texas, a loan of one million of dollars to the profit of the said Government (c) to obtain from the respective Governments of Germany the permission for the subjects of the Republic of Texas to import the now products of the country under moderate tolls and customs into the estates belonging to the German customs [union].—(Zoll-Verein)

2. Whereas the Government of Texas on its side would engage itself (a) to yield to the Society a grant in proportion to the number

of emigrants fixed in the contract to be granted and colonised on the same terms and conditions heretofore made with especial regard that all lands not fit for cultivation shall be omitted (b) To allow the society as such besides the free introduction or importation of the property of the single settlers to import free from any charge or custom during a longer period of time to be fixed in the contract productions of Germany to the amount of two hundred thousand dollars per annum. Mentz (Mayence) September the 14th. 1843. Authorised by the Society for protecting German settlers in Texas. (signed Charles Prince of Solms^a, Victor Count of Leiningen, Charles Count of Castell.

With a modification of the arrangement in M Bourgeois's Grant to the end that the lands granted to the settlers under this association should be placed in greater contiguity so that every two alternate sections should be reserved to the Government, which modification is expressed in the introductory remarks to their definite proposition. Such are the arrangements into which this society is desirous of entering, given in their own language and terms without any modification, on the part of the undersigned, who was desirous that they should be left perfectly free in this their first offer to express their own plans in their own way. Of their ability to carry out any contract which they may undertake the undersigned has not the slightest doubt or question. Of their strong desire to enter into some arrangement with his Government he is equally convinced. In submitting these views of this association to your Excellency the undersigned, *at the earnest desire of the association* would respectfully suggest the propriety of his being vested with powers touching this matter, to such an extent and in such form as to your Excellency may seem best.

With regard to the proposed loan of a million of dollars the undersigned is led to believe that the attention of the society was directed towards it by some proposition on the part of M. Bourgeois to transfer to the association the authority granted him by the Republic to make the negotiation.^b How far the authority is transferrable seems to the undersigned a question? He is convinced that the negotiation of a loan in Europe unconnected with some stipulation which shall grant to the guarantor of its repayment; whether that Guarantor be a society of individuals or a nation, some advantage in trade or some concession of Land, is impossible. Concessions of Land seem to the undersigned more simple and easy in their operation, free from the objection of hazarding a disturbance of the course of commerce and of more easy application to a society of individuals than immunities in trade. An idea has, however, become very preva-

^a And Lord of Braunfels, the founder of the town of New Braunfels, Texas, to which he gave its name.

^b Cf. note a, p. 1406.

lent in Europe that these concessions are of such easy acquisition in Texas, that they are not considered valuable. If your Excellency shall deem it advisable to empower the undersigned to treat with this German association upon either of the proposed questions of a concession of Land or the negotiation of a Loan, or upon both, the undersigned will gladly bring to the performance of the allotted task all the information and personal influence which it has been his constant effort to obtain and conciliate ever since his arrival in Europe.

The undersigned has not as yet made any direct advance towards the Government of the King of the Belgians, nor towards that of the Hanseatic Cities, with the exception of Frankfort, because upon consultation with the Hon Ashbel Smith, at Paris, it was understood that the chances of an advantageous negotiation with both would be increased by a little delay, not only, by reason of the improving condition of affairs in Texas, but in the United States with which country we are closely identified in the European mind. Another reason for delay, on the part of the undersigned, was his anxiety to obtain from your Excellency more specific instructions, as to how far, in case of a guarantee of our Bonds being offered by either Belgium or one of the Hanseatic Cities, correlative commercial advantages might be offered them.

The undersigned would respectfully suggest that in case he should be authorized to enter into any negotiation with the German Society, heretofore mentioned, and indeed in any event, that he should be provided with letters of credence and full powers to the Courts of Prussia and Austria, both of which exercise a most important influence over all the smaller German States and the former stands decidedly at the head of the Customs Union of Germany of the Zollverein. The undersigned is deeply convinced that there is an interest awakened in Germany on the subject of Texas, which may be fostered into the most advantageous results towards that Republic. He is further convinced that the society for the protection of German Emigrants in Texas has the command of very large means, and that their intention is so to conduct their affairs after such a manner as will place the emigrant not as a beggar upon the shores of Texas but [with] all his immediate wants and the means of commencing a farm amply and fully provided for.

The undersigned has received, at the hands of the Hon Mr Christopher Hughes, Chargé d'Affaires of the United States of America, at this Court, every possible courtesy and attention, and on this occasion, as on all others, where an opportunity has occurred, this Gentleman has shown himself the loyal and warm friend of our country. The undersigned attributes his prompt and cordial reception by the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Baron de Schimmelpenninck, and his

early presentation to His Majesty the King of the Netherlands by that functionary, to the part which the Hon Mr Hughes was kind enough to take in preparing and interesting the mind of His Excellency in the affairs of Texas. His Majesty the King of the Netherlands, in his interview with the undersigned, twice alluded to the interest which the Hon Mr Hughes seemed pleased to take in the affairs of our country; and His Majesty seemed to appreciate with pleasure the kindness thus manifested towards us by the Representative of our sister neighbor. The reception of the undersigned by His Majesty was gracious and cordial, and he expressed a sincere desire that the blessings of peace should soon be granted us, in the train of which he had no doubt would quickly follow the amplest prosperity.

The undersigned will endeavor to procure, in obedience to the instructions of your Excellency, the appointment of a diplomatic agent to Texas on the part of His Majesty the King of the Netherlands. But such are the difficulties, of a *pecuniary character* with which the Government finds itself at this moment beset, that the undersigned cannot indulge in any very great hopes of success. The present moment too would not be a propitious one for urging any matter even though it were of minor importance, as both the Office of foreign Affairs and that of Finance are only held by ad interim appointments.

The Undersigned avails himself of this occasion to renew to His Excellency, the Secretary of State, the assurances of his distinguished consideration.

WM HENRY DAINGERFIELD,
Minister Chargé d Affaires
etc. etc. etc. etc.

To
His Excellency, ANSON JONES,
Secretary of State etc etc etc
etc. etc. etc. etc.

DAINGERFIELD TO RUMPF.^a

PARIS, 5th of January 1844

To His Excellency, Mr.
V RUMPF. *Minister Plenipo. and Envoy Extr.*
of the Free cities at Paris.

The undersigned Chargé d' affaires of the Republic of Texas at the Hague, has the Honour, to inform Mr V Rumpff Minister

^a See Records of Department of State (Texas), Book 55, pp. 65-66.

Plenipo and Eny Extraordiny of the free cities of Germany at Paris, that he the Undersigned is the bearer of letters of credence on the part of the Government of Republic of Texas, addressed to the Senates of each of the free Hanseatic cities of Hamburgh, Bremen and Lubeck, and that he had letters of the same Character to the Honourables the Senate of the free city of Francfort on the Maine, which last he had the honour to deliver to the Burgomaster of the city of Francfort in September last; That by these letters the undersigned is empowered on the part of the Govt. of Texas to treat with the Governments of the respective cities above mentioned, which letters the undersigned has by unavoidable circumstances, been prevented from delivering in person, notwithstanding his strong desire so to do, but finding himself in Paris, on other business connected with his Government, and aware of the peculiar facilities which yr Excellency's Knowledge of the English language, and acquaintance with the institutions and commerce of the United States of America, with which those of Texas are almost indetical, would naturally afford, in conducting the desired Negotiation, the undersigned respectfully requests that Yr Excellency would obtain such powers, as would afford the Undersigned the opportunity of conferring with Yr Excellency, on the intended treaty, by the negotiation of which, the already increasing commerce between the respective Countries would be greatly fostered.

The Undersigned avails himself of this occasion to offer to His Excellency Mr V Rumpff, Minister Plenipotentiary and Envoy Extraordinary of the free cities of Germany at Paris the assurance of his most distinguished consideration.

Signed. WM HENRY DAINGERFIELD
 Chargé d' Affaires de Texas
 etc. etc. etc.

DAINGERFIELD TO SMITH.^a

PARIS 14th February 1844.

Hon. A SMITH *Chargé d' Affaires*
 of Texas. etc. etc.

MY DEAR SIR

I herewith send you for examination a pamphlet, containing the existing treaties between the free Hanseatic Cities and other Countries with which they have diplomatic Relations.

Mr V Rumpff, the Minister Resident of the free cities at Paris with whom I am in communication as to the treaty between those

^a See Records of Department of State (Texas), Book 55, p. 67. On the margin is written "No answer received to this note, but a verbal conference."

Governments and that of Texas, thinks that the treaty with Venezuela, or that between the United States and the free Cities, both of which I have turned down in the before mentioned pamphlet, for your examination would either the one or the other suit our purpose. In return I have sent him for *inspection* our treaty with Holland. Will you give me your opinion on the subject, accompanied by any suggestions you may think proper to offer, by tomorrow at 2 P. M.

Yours most truly

(Signed)

(DAINGERFIELD)

DAINGERFIELD TO RUMPF.^a

PARIS 17th March 1844

His Excellency V RUMPF

Minister etc. etc.

MY DEAR SIR

Your note of the 14th inst was handed to me yesterday evening. Your additions to the first and seventh article of the "projet" meet my entire approbation.

As for the 3rd article I am glad that the changes which I had the honour to propose on the 13th instant have had the effect, which in making them I desired to produce, that of showing you that the Govt. of Texas is desirous to treat the Hansatic Republics, with that liberality which it feels to be due them as the *Pioneers* of Commerce between Texas and the Continental States of Europe; But I must state that when you desire to "limit the stipulation to articles shipped in vessells of the contracting parties," that I cannot consent to the limitation so far as the same is applicable to the exportation of Texas. In the present state of our national Shipping this limitation would be exceedingly inconvenient. I propose therefore to *Strike out* from the third Article the words, in the 2nd line thereof, "by vessells of the Republic of Texas" in other words to make such alterations in said third article as will more clearly appear by the annexed projet of said article which I have the honour herewith to submit. In making this alteration I have the honour to call your attention to the fact that I consent to yr proposed addition of the words "whatever be its origin" which will certainly tend to obviate the possibility of error or misapprehension, and that I have no objection to the restriction of the character of the vessells when applied to all the other clauses of Article third. I have the honour to remain. etc. etc.

Signed,

WM HENRY DAINGERFIELD

^a See Records of Department of State (Texas), Book 55, pp. 67-68.