

CONVENTION^a

of Friendship, Commerce and navigation

between

the Republic of Texas

and

the Hanseatic Republics of

Lubeck, Bremen and Hamburg

The Republic of Texas, on the one part, and the Republics and free Hanseatic Cities of Lubeck, Bremen and Hamburg, (each State for itself separately,) on the other part, being desirous to give greater facility to their commercial intercourse, and to place the privileges of their navigation on a basis of the most extended liberality, have resolved to fix, in a manner clear, distinct and positive, the rules which shall be observed between the one and the other, by means of a Convention of Friendship, Commerce and Navigation.^b

For this most desirable object, the President of the Republic of Texas has conferred full powers on Colonel William Henry Daingerfield, Chargé d'Affaires of the said Republic near the Government of His Majesty the King of the Netherlands; and the Senate of the Republic and free Hanseatic City of Lubeck, the Senate of the Republic and free Hanseatic City of Bremen, and the Republic and free Hanseatic City of Hamburg have conferred full powers on Vincent Rumpff, their Minister resident near His Majesty the King of the French; who after having exchanged their said full powers, found in due and proper form, have agreed to the following Articles:

ARTICLE I.

There shall be a sincere and firm friendship between the Republic of Texas and the Hanseatic Republics in all the extent of their possessions and territories, and between their people and citizens, respectively, without distinction of persons or places.

The inhabitants of the respective countries shall enjoy liberty and security to proceed with their ships and cargoes to all places, ports and rivers where other foreigners are at present, or shall be in future admitted.

It is further agreed, that the vessels of each of the Contracting Parties, respectively, shall have the liberty to touch at several ports of the other Party in succession, to unload the whole or a part of the cargo at any of the respective ports, and to take in the whole or a part of the return freight at any of the ports, completing it in several ports successively.

But it is understood that this article does not include the coasting trade, the regulation of which is reserved by the Contracting Parties respectively, according to their own separate laws.

^a D. S.—The English and German versions are in parallel columns. This treaty was probably never presented to the Senate of Texas; but the manuscript secret Journals of the Senate for the only Congress elected subsequent to the conclusion of the treaty is missing, and no certain evidence has been found. Cf. Smith to Daingerfield, February 13, 1845. It was, however, ratified by the Senate of Bremen. See Daingerfield to Allen, July 1, 1845.

^b There is on file with the correspondence a copy of a resolution of the Senate of Bremen, dated August 9, 1843, with the autograph signature of President Smidt and the impression of the seal of the Republic, by which it is provided that Texan vessels shall be admitted to the ports of Bremen on the same terms, as to port charges and duties, as the ships of Bremen, so long as these enjoy like privileges in Texan ports.

ARTICLE II.

The Contracting Parties agree that, whatever kind of produce manufacture, or merchandise, of any foreign country, can be, from time to time lawfully imported into the Republic of Texas, in its own vessels, may be also imported in vessels of either of the said Hanseatic Republics; and that no higher or other duties upon the tonnage or cargo of the vessels shall be levied or collected, whether the importation be made in vessels of the one Party, or of the other. And, in like manner, that what ever kind of produce, manufacture, or merchandise, of any foreign country, can be, from time to time, lawfully imported into either of the said Hanseatic Republics in its own vessels, may be also imported in vessels of the Republic of Texas, and that no higher or other duties upon the tonnage or cargo of the vessels shall be levied or collected, whether the importation be made in vessels of either of the said Hanseatic Republics or of the Republic of Texas. And they further agree, that, whatever may be lawfully exported, or re-exported, by one Party, in its own vessels, to any foreign country, may in like manner, be exported or re-exported in the vessels of the other Party. And the same bounties, duties, and drawbacks, shall be allowed and collected, whether such exportation or re-exportation be made in vessels of the one Party or the other.

Nor shall higher, or other charges, of any kind, be imposed in the ports of the one party on vessels of the other, than are, or shall be payable in the same ports by national vessels.

ARTICLE III.

No higher or other duties shall be imposed on the importation into the Republic of Texas, of any article, the produce or Manufacture of the Hanseatic Republics of Lubeck, Bremen or Hamburg, or of any article the produce or Manufacture of the other States of the Germanic Confederation, which may be imported from the said Hanseatic Republics, into the Republic of Texas; and no higher or other duties shall be imposed on the importation, into either of the said Hanseatic Republics of any article, the produce or Manufacture of Texas, than are or shall be payable on the like article, being the produce or Manufacture of any other foreign country; Nor shall any other higher duties or charges be imposed by either Party on the exportation of any Articles to the Republic of Texas, or to the said Hanseatic Republics, respectively, than such as are, or shall be payable on the exportation of the like articles to any foreign country; Nor shall any prohibition be imposed on the importation of any Article, the produce or Manufacture of the Republic of Texas, or of the said Hanseatic Republics or of the other states of the Germanic Confederation, which may be exported from the ports of Lubeck, Bremen and Hamburg, to, or from the ports of Texas, or to or from the ports of the other Parties, which shall not equally extend to all other Nations.

ARTICLE IV.

Vessels of the Republic of Texas arriving at, or sailing out of the ports of the Hanseatic Republics; and vessels of the Hanseatic Republics, on their entry in the ports of the Republic of Texas, shall not be subject to other or higher duties of tonnage, of lightmoney, port charges or pilotage, quarantine, or any other affecting the body of the vessel, than those which are paid, or shall be paid, by the vessels of the country itself.

ARTICLE V.

No priority or preference shall be given, directly or indirectly, by any or either of the contracting parties, nor by any company, corporation, or agent acting on their behalf, or under their authority in the purchase of any article, the growth, produce, or manufacture of their States, respectively, imported into the other, on account of, or in reference to the character of the vessel, whether it be of the one party or the other, in which such article was imported; it being the true intent and meaning of the Contracting Parties, that no distinction or difference whatever shall be made in this respect.

ARTICLE VI

Any vessel, together with her cargo, belonging to either of the Hanseatic Republics of Lubeck, Bremen or Hamburgh, and coming from either of the said ports to the Republic of Texas, shall, for all purposes of this Convention, be deemed to have cleared from the Republic to which such vessel belongs; although, in fact, it may not have been the one from which she departed; and any vessel of the Republic of Texas and her cargo, trading to the ports of Lubeck, Bremen or Hambourgh, directly or in succession, shall, for the like purposes, be on the footing of a Hanseatic vessel, and her cargo making the same voyage.

ARTICLE VII

The Contracting Parties agree to consider and treat, respectively as vessels of the Republic of Texas, and as vessels of the Hanseatic Republics of Lubeck, Bremen and Hamburgh, all such, as being furnished by the competent authority, with a passeport or sea-letter, shall, under the then existing laws and regulations, be recognized as national vessels by the country to which they belong.

ARTICLE VIII.

The citizens of the Contracting Parties shall reciprocally enjoy the most complete and constant protection with respect to their persons and property, as well as to the free exercise of their religion.

They shall be free of all forced military service in the regular army, by land or by sea; no forced loans shall exclusively be imposed upon them, and their property shall be subject to no other charges, demands or taxes than what is paid by the natives of the country itself. But [it] is understood that the present stipulation does not include the service in the militia or the civic guard, in places where the law of the country may extend the service in the militia or the civic guard even to temporary residents, not naturalized by oath of allegiance, after a residence for a period fixed or to be fixed by law.

The citizens of each of the Contracting parties shall have power to dispose of their personal goods within the jurisdiction of the other, by sale, donation, testament or otherwise, and their representatives, being citizens of the other party, shall succeed to their said personal goods, whether by testament or ab intestato, and they may take possession thereof either by themselves or others acting for them, and dispose of the same at their will, paying such dues only as the inhabitants of the country wherein the said goods are, shall be subject to pay in like cases. And if in the case of real estate, the said heirs would be prevented from entering into the possession of the inheritance on account of their character of aliens, there shall be granted to them the term of five years to dispose of the same as they may think proper, and to withdraw the proceeds without molestation, nor any other charges than those which are imposed by the law of the country.

ARTICLE XV.

In cases where a merchant ship of one of the Contracting Parties may be searched by a ship of war of the other, it is agreed that the search shall only be made by a boat manned with at most six men, that the master of the merchant vessel shall not be obliged to quit his ship, and that the papers shall not be taken from on board.

If the merchant vessel is under convoy of a ship of war, no search shall take place, and the assurance of the Commandant of the Convoy on his word of honor that the merchant vessel has no contraband on board shall be held sufficient.

ARTICLE XVI.

The articles of contraband before enumerated in Article XIII which may be found in a vessel bound for an enemy's port, shall be subject to detention and confiscation, leaving free the rest of the cargo and the ship, that the owners may dispose of them as they see proper. No vessel of either of the Contracting Parties shall be detained on the high seas on account of having on board articles of contraband, whenever, the master, captain or supercargo of the said vessel will deliver up the articles of contraband to the Captor, unless the quantity of such articles be so great, or of so large a bulk, that they cannot be received on board the capturing ship without great inconvenience; but in this and in all other cases of just detention, the vessel detained shall be sent to the nearest convenient and safe port for trial and judgment according to law.

ARTICLE XVII.

The Contracting Parties, desiring to live in peace and harmony with all the other nations of the earth, by means of a policy frank and equally friendly with all, engage, mutually, not to grant any particular favor to other nations, in respect of commerce and navigation, which shall not immediately become common to the other Party, who shall enjoy the same freely, if the concession was freely made, or on allowing the same compensation, if the concession was conditional.

ARTICLE XVIII.

In consideration of the national and political connection existing between the Hanseatic Republics And the other States of the Germanic Confederation, and it being highly important to all the Contracting Parties that the stipulations of the present Convention may as soon as possible extend to all the States of the said Confederation, it is further agreed that in case one or more of the said States should be disposed to adhere to the present Convention with the Republic of Texas, the accession to it shall always be left free and open to them, either under the form of a distinct Convention, or only by means of an exchange of official Declarations. And it is understood that the said acceding Powers shall be placed, for all the intents and purposes of the present Convention, on the same footing as the Hanseatic Republics, and that they shall enjoy the same advantages and privileges, being subject to the same conditions, stipulations and obligations.

ARTICLE XIX.

The present Convention shall be in force for the term of twelve years, from the date thereof, and further, until the end of twelve Months after the Government of the Republic of Texas, on the one part, or the Hanseatic Republics of

the Lubeck, Bremen or Hamburg, or either of them, on the other part, shall have given notice of their intention to terminate the same; each of the said Contracting Parties reserving to itself the right of giving such notice to the other, at the end of the said term of twelve years; and it is hereby agreed between them, that at the expiration of twelve Months after such shall have been received by either of the Parties from the other, this Convention, and all the provisions thereof, shall altogether cease and determine, as far as regards the States giving and receiving such notice; it being always understood and agreed, that if one or more of the Hanseatic Republics aforesaid, shall, at the expiration of twelve years from the date hereof, give or receive notice of the proposed termination of this Convention, it shall, nevertheless remain in full force and operation, as far as regards the remaining Hanseatic Republics, or Republic, which may not have given or received such notice.

ARTICLE XX.

The present Convention being approved and ratified by the President of the Republic of Texas, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate thereof, and by the Senates of the Hanseatic Republics of Lubeck, Bremen and Hamburg, the ratifications shall be exchanged at the City of Galveston, within twelve Months from the date thereof, or sooner if possible.

In faith whereof, we the Plenipotentiaries of the Contracting Parties, have signed the present Convention and have thereto affixed our seals.

Done, in quadruplicate, at Paris, on the seventeenth day of April, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and forty four, in the eighth year of the Independence of the Republic of Texas.

WM. HENRY DAINGERFIELD.
[Seal.]

V. RUMPF
[Seal.]

DAINGERFIELD TO JONES.^a

PARIS April 22nd 1844

HON ANSON JONES
Secretary of State

SIR

Mr Bourgeois d'Orvanne, who is already known to you so well that an introduction would be needless, is about leaving for Texas. Our Government in confiding to him a large grant of Land and the negotiation of a Loan in Europe has shown the estimate which it placed upon his character.

His exertions to render efficient his Grant in the manner most useful to the country, and beneficial to all concerned have been constant and untiring, and he has spared neither time, money nor trouble to bring his enterprise to a successful issue. Of his success with the German society for the "Protection of Emigrants to Texas," I have already spoken in my dispatch, by Mr Castro, of the 20th. of

^a See Records of Department of State (Texas), Book 42, p. 496.

this month. The result of that success will be that the whole flood of German Emigrants will be, through their means directed towards Texas; but His Serene Highness, Prince Charles of Solms, who is accompanied by Mr Bourgeois, will explain all this, and will fully lay before you all their plans.

Accept Sir, the assurances of the distinguished consideration with which I have the honor to remain,

Yr most Obdt humble Svt

WM HENRY DAINGERFIELD
Chargé d'Affaires of Texas at the Hague.

DAINGERFIELD TO JONES.^a

DAINGERFIELD TO JONES.^b

THE HAGUE *July 28th 1844*

To the Hon. ANSON JONES
Secretary of State

The last despatch which the Undersigned Chargé d'Affaires of Texas at the Hague had the honour to address his Excellency the Secretary of State was dated Paris April 22nd 1844, and entrusted to the care of Mr. Henri Castro,^c together with the treaty just then concluded with the Hanse towns. Mr Castro was furnished with written instructions by the Undersigned to forward the treaty and despatches through the Consul at London in case his journey should be unexpectedly terminated in England, or through the nearest Agent of the Republic in the United States in case he should be prevented from prosecuting his intended trip to Texas. The Undersigned has received information of the safe arrival of Mr. Castro at New Orleans on the 19th of June and of his intention to prosecute his journey to Texas by the Steamer of the 22nd of same month.

The Undersigned has lately recd. from Mr Henry F Fisher a communication dated at Bremen May the 8th by which he is informed that Mr Smidt President of the Senate of that city had stated to Mr F that on that day the treaty would be ratified by the Senate of Bremen and that in anticipation of such a ratification on his Mr. Fs request an Exequatur had been granted him as Consul of the Republic of Texas for the Port of Bremen. The Undersigned at the date of his last despatch was not aware of the appointment of Mr Fisher to that Post and he consequently recommended to His Excellency the

^a April 22, 1844. See Calendar.

^b A. L. S. Though written from the Hague, the letter refers mainly to relations with the Hanse Towns and with Belgium.

^c Castro must have carried the dispatches both of the 20th and the 22d of April.

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Secretary of State (at the suggestion of Mr Smidt President of the Senate of Bremen communicated through the Minister Resident at Paris) a Mr Kulenkampff as a proper person for Consul of the Republic in that City. As to the appointment of Consuls the Undersigned would beg leave to suggest, that no difficulty whatever exists in obtaining the acceptance of that office by Gentlemen of the first commercial standing in any of the Sea-Ports of Europe. The Title, the Uniform the exemption from certain military duties which it affords are in the eyes of the most wealthy attractions which more than counterbalance, the labour the trouble and the expence incident to the appointment. On the other hand in the present limited state of our commerce, the office can be of no profit or benefit to any citizen of the Republic. As far as the experience of the Undersigned goes the foreigner brings to the discharge of his duties, much zeal, much energy, the already acquired confidence of those among whom he lives and consequently great efficiency. Whilst on this subject the Undersigned would beg leave to pay a well merited tribute, to the Consuls at Amsterdam and at Rotterdam, Messrs Herckennrath and Crooswick for the active zeal and interest which they have at all times and [under] all circumstances manifested for the well being of the Republic which they so creditably represent.

Since the last despatch of the Undersigned nothing has transpired in reference to the negotiation with Belgium, which can lead the undersigned to conclude at what time the affair may be definitely arranged. The last interview which the Undersigned had with the Minister of Foreign Affairs at Brussells on the 15th instant, was not as satisfactory as might have been desired. The pending application of the Government of Texas for annexation to that of the U States was made the ostensible ground of delay. The real cause is the timidity of the Minister who fears to give offence to the numerous parties interested in the scheme of Guatemala colonization. But despite of the coldness of the Minister the Undersigned has the utmost confidence in his ultimate success. The grounds of this confidence are the very strong desire which exists on the part of several of the most wealthy and influential merchants of Antwerp, with whom the Undersigned was put in communication by Mr Vandenberg a Gentn in every way worthy of the confidence which the Executive of Texas has lately shewn him. From these Gentlemen the Undersigned recd the most positive assurance that he might daily expect the accomplishment of his wishes. The Undersigned is indeed very desirous to accomplish this negotiation and despite of his anxiety to return to his home and his private affairs, he will if it seem good to his Excellency the Secretary of State to remain in Europe untill its accomplishment sets the seal to the work which His

Excellency has entrusted to his care, and which it touches his honour and his honest pride to bring to a successful termination.

His Excellency the Secretary of State will permit the Undersigned to suggest, that in the present exceedingly uncertain state of the question of annexation it would seem trusting too much to the doubtful hazard of that event to relax much less to abandon our relations with European Powers. In the absence of any Instructions, the Undersigned has met the objections made to our pending application for annexation, as suspending our national existence by the remark that we must treat affairs as we find them actually existing, that diplomatists must deal with facts and not with probabilities much less with possibilities. That in this light the nationality of Texas must be viewed, and consequently its actual and existing capacity to enter into negotiations must be considered. That annexation can only be considered as a possibility or if you please, a probability of greater or less intensity, or more or less remote. But still only a probability. That there is not a Government in Europe which may not possibly or even probably change its form—and that within a space of time more brief than that required for annexation. And yet that no one would think of raising this possibility or probability as an objection to the formation of merely commercial treaties, on the footing of perfect reciprocity.

In addition to the accomplishment of a treaty of commerce with Belgium, the Undersigned only awaits the instructions of his Excellency the Secy of State as to the steps which must be taken to render available that article in the treaty lately concluded with the Hanse towns, whereby the States of the German Confederation are admitted as Parties upon the filing of an official declaration of their wishes in that regard. The promptness of the Senate of Bremen in ratifying this treaty may be considered as a fair exponent of the favourable light in which it will be viewed by the German States and a forerunner of the readiness with which they will avail themselves of its provisions. Their acceptance of the treaty will enable the Government of Texas to nominate Consuls of the highest respectability throughout all that portion of Europe, and thus correct information and efficient aid will be rendered to immense numbers desirous of Emigrating from that quarter.

Since the commencement of this despatch the Undersigned has recd a letter from Mr. Maximilien Vanderburgh of Antwerp, the Gentleman hereinbefore mentioned, stating that the Chamber of Commerce of that City, had the day before adopted the resolution of forwarding an official petition to the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Belgium requesting the immediate recognition on the part of the Belgian Government of the Government of Texas, and the opening of

negotiations for a treaty of commerce. So respectable an interposition cannot be without great weight and consequent influence and the Undersigned has great confidence in its speedy and complete success.

The Undersigned has the honour to remain with great respect His Excellency's Most Obedt Svt

WM HENRY DAINGERFIELD
Chargé d' Affaires of Texas
at the Hague

HON ANSON JONES
etc. etc. etc.

HUGHES TO JONES.^a

DAINGERFIELD TO SIEVEKING.^b

[Asks an interview for the purpose of presenting his credentials as chargé d'affaires to the city of Hamburg.]

DAINGERFIELD TO JONES.^c

DAINGERFIELD TO GILDMEISTER.^d

LEGATION OF TEXAS
Hamburgh 21st, Decr. 1844

To His Excellence
 Senator GILDMEISTER
Bremen.

SIR

Yours of the 12th inst. announcing the Ratification of the treaty by the Senate of Bremen has been received. I am glad that our Sister Republic has found it good to give the finishing stroke to that golden link of amity and commerce which will I trust forever bind her and Texas together in the bonds of mutual good fellowship and peace. Believe me my dear Sir I would have most willingly made the alteration in the treaty desired by you in the conference with which you honoured me at Hamburgh, had I not deemed it my duty to my country to shew the Senate of Hamburgh that however disposed to afford reasonable indulgences to the fears of Rapine and plunder by the President of Mexico on the point of the latter, we were not disposed to depart from the terms of a written agreement, without some

^a July 30, 1844. See Calendar. Cf. same to same, June 10, 1839, in Correspondence with Great Britain.

^b October 9, 1844. See Records of Department of State (Texas), Book 55, p. 105.

^c November 8, 1844. See Calendar.

^d See Records of Department of State (Texas), Book 55, pp. 112-113.

promise that such a departure would be followed by definite and favourable action on the part of the Authorities of this place.

I beg you Sir, to convey to the Authorities of Bremen my most sincere congratulations on this auspicious event and to accept for yourself the assurances of the exalted consideration and distinguished respect with which I have the honour to remain

Yr Excellency's

Most Obedient Svt

(Signed)

WM HENRY DAINGERFIELD

Chargé d'Affaires of Texas

near the free Cities of Germany.

SIEVEKING TO DAINGERFIELD.^a

SIR

Having taken into consideration, the tenor of this morning's conversation in which on the eve of your departure for Berlin, you urged the necessity of a decision respecting the convention negotiated by you in behalf of the Republic of Texas with the Hanseatic Minister at Paris, I have the honor to state that owing to different circumstances, it appears disirable to postpone the continuation of this negotiation, for a period which I most sincerely wish to see abridged by the course of events. I hope the convenience of Your Government and your own will not oppose the acceleration of your return to Hamburgh in case this anticipation should be realized.

Believe me with the highest regard

Sir

Your Most obedient,
humble servant

(Signed)

R SIEVEKING

HAMBURGH *13th January 1845*

To Colonel DAINGERFIELD

*Chargé d'Affaires of the
Republic of Texas.*

DAINGERFIELD TO TERRELL.^b

LEGATION OF TEXAS, AT

Hamburgh 14th January 1845

Genl. G. W. TERRELL, *Chargé d' Affaires
Of Texas at London.*

MY DEAR SIR

A hearty sincere and affectionate wellcome to Europe, first, a deep sigh that I cannot come to London to see you, and then let me talk to you of business, for I am much pressed for time and write this

^a See Records of Department of State (Texas), Book 55, p. 113.

^b See Records of Department of State (Texas), Book 55, pp. 109-111.

in order to put you in full possession of the facts of my very painful position here. Last winter as you well know, I negotiated a treaty with the Hanz towns of which Hamburg is the principal and by consequence the residence of the Diplomatic Agents. Having found that there were difficulties thrown in the way of the ratification of the aforesaid treaty, by the several senates, and that some sinister hand was putting stumbling blocks in my way I left the Hague in Sept. last and came immediately here, determined to bring the affair to a conclusion in one way or the other. Shortly after my arrival the Mexican Resident here protested agst my reception, and for some days all the vessels in the harbour, bound to Mexico were detained in consequence of this Protest. The Merchants of Hamburg were in the greatest alarm lest Santa Anna would lay violent hands on their effects in Mexico as a punishment, for having dared to receive within their city an Envoy from the Rebel Texans. The Mexican Resident demanded of the Senate that they should signify that my presence was not agreeable and the Senate with the timidity which characterises all commercial bodies no doubt wished that I had been drowned in the North Sea on my passage over from Holland. At the first interview I gave them to understand that whilst I would leave no means unturned to deprecate the effects of Santa Annas dreaded wrath towards them, yet there was one point that the honour of my Country would not permit me to have concealed or denied, and that was their complete recognition of Texas from the day of their acceptance of my full powers. Of course this decided step had the desired effect of putting an end to the question of my being asked to depart as under my view of the Case, to do so was no longer practicable short of a down right violation of international law. Having thus established a foothold I was determined to leave the rest so far as Hamburg was concerned, to time which in the end sets all things right. But I continued my advances on Bremen cautiously, prudently but decidedly. An Envoy was sent over to confer with me on the part of that city. I succeeded in alarming him by an *indifference* as to the treaty, which was *not very forced*, so disgusted had I become with all the petteyness of the affair. He returned home in a fright and the treaty was at once ratified by Bremen. The affair still drags on with Hamb[ur]g and Lubeck. I had a conference with the Minister of Foreign Affairs or Syndic yesterday. The aspect of things, on the other side of the Atlantic has lowered his tone, and he requests as a favor that the negotiation should be postponed for a few months, intimating at the end of that period that the treaty should be ratified. This I took the precaution to obtain in writing so that with a little patience I am sure of success.

I confess that I have been so *worried* and *badgered* that I am most eager and anxious to defeat the Mexican Machinations in an affair

which has made some noise in the diplomatic Circles of Europe. For Gods sake do not let the Texan Govert step in, in a manner to spoil all. Instead of weakening my position they should strengthen it by all the means in their power. I have served my country faithfully and well to the best of my poor abilities. I trust they will not desert me in the hour of necessity. Will you at *once* communicate all these circumstances to them, and request, that whatever may have been their previous disposition in my affair, that they will do nothing which may have the appearance of casting a censure on my conduct. I leave for Berlin, tomorrow where I hope to hear from you, as soon as you arrive in London. Direct your letter, Hotel de Russie, Berlin Via Ostend. My business in Berlin is to attend to the German Association for the protection of Emigrants to Texas. I shall write you again from that city. God bless you and believe me etc. etc.

(Signed) WM HENRY DAINGERFIELD
Charge d'Affaires etc.

SMITH TO DAINGERFIELD.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WASHINGTON ON THE BRAZOS
February 13, 1845

SIR

In the appropriation bill passed by the Congress of Texas at their recent session, no sum was set apart for the missions with which you are charged. In this state of things His Excellency the President cannot consistently with his ideas of justice to yourself ask you to remain at your post. At the date of our last advices from Washington on the Potomac, several propositions for the annexation of Texas were under discussion by the American Congress; some one of which that may be acceptable to this country, it is hoped will be adopted. This event would terminate our foreign relations. If however, no acceptable measure of annexation shall be passed by the Congress of the U. S. this Gov. will then consider the propriety of entering into arrangements with other Governments, which arrangements would have for their object the developement of our agricultural resources and the increase of our commerce. Should any negotiations of this nature require to be conducted in Europe, it will be advisable that the person empowered to conduct them on the part of Texas shall have previously a full personal communication with His Exy the President in order that he may be clearly possessed of the views of this Gov. and the wishes of our citizens.

The Senate refused to confirm the nomination of the Hon G. W. Terrell.* If annexation do not take place, an appointment will be

* Cf. Terrell to Daingerfield, March 22, 1845, in Correspondence with Great Britain.

made of a gentleman to reside near the Courts of Great Britain and France in the quality of Minister Chargé d'Affaires of Texas.

In view of the above facts and considerations H. E. the P deems it on the whole expedient that you should avail yourself of the leave of absence you asked for, last year, and return to Texas at your earliest convenience. I am also instructed by the President to say that the manner in which you have executed the duties of your mission has been entirely satisfactory to His Excellency.

I have the honor to be

Yr Vy Obt St

Hon W. H. DAINGERFIELD

etc. etc. etc.

DAINGERFIELD TO ALLEN.^a

LEGATION OF TEXAS AT THE
Hague Vienne ^b 1st July '45

To the Hon. the Secretary of
State of Rep. of Texas

SIR

It is now some six months since the Undersigned Chargé d' Affaires of the Republic of Texas at the Hague has had the honour to receive any communication from the state department. The communication referred to as received at that date, was dated Washington 9th Decr 1844 and contained simply an announcement of the election of President Jones and of the formation of his cabinet. The Undersigned finding himself without instructions, other than those general ones with which he was furnished at the commencement of his mission, urging upon him the negotiation of treaties with Belgium and the Hanseatic cities and directing him to keep the Chargé d' Affaires of the Republic at London and Paris advised of all his movements, bent all his efforts to the accomplishment of these two objects and communicated regularly to the Hon Ashbell Smith, up to the time of his departure from England, and to his successor the Hon Geo. W Terrell all that he deemed it important for them to know touching the very peculiar and interesting attitude which the treaty negotiated by the Undersigned with the Hanseatic cities had assumed. At the same time he communicated directly to His Excellency the President, the fact that Mexico, and as the Undersigned believed one or more European Powers were endeavouring to render abortive the treaty referred to by preventing its confirmation by the Senates of the Hanseatic cities, and that a strong attempt was had to drive the Undersigned

^a A. L. S.

^b Written at Vienna. Though Daingerfield writes as *chargé* at the Hague, the subject matter indicates that the letter should be placed in the Correspondence with the Hanse Towns.

from the very favourable position which he had established with those cities. The Undersigned further informed the Representative of Texas at London and Paris, that in despite of these efforts, he had succeeded in obtaining from the Senate of Bremen a confirmation of the treaty and that he had sent the same to Texas by Mr D Klaenner, who left Bremen in the month of December 1844 as Consul for that city at the Port of Galveston. And further that he had obtained from the Secretary of State of the City of Hambg. an implied promise under date of the 18th of January 1845, that if matters continued in the attitude, which they then occupied, that the Senate of Hambg. would also in a reasonable time confirm the treaty. That the Undersigned deeming it of the highest importance that the good will of the Zollverein or Germans Customs Union towards the Republic of Texas should be propitiated not only with reference to future commercial relations, but as having an important bearing on the so much desired confirmation of the treaty in question, had repaired to the Court of Prussia, the head and Principal of said Customs Union, and had there put himself in communication, with the President of the Department of Commerce, His Excellency Baron Roenne and with his Royall Highness Prince Frederick of Prussia, and that the result of these interviews was highly satisfactory. That having accomplished this he had repaired to the Court of Austria with the like views and intentions and that he had been arrested in his plan of operations, by the passage of the Law of the Congress of the United States for the annexation of Texas, which placed the future condition of the Republic in so doubtful an attitude as to render for the moment all further operations in any quarter impossible.

The Undersigned finding himself in this position deemed it due to the honour of the Country he represented not to present himself either at the Bar of the Senate of Hamburg, or at the Court of Belgium, untill the question of Annexation had been determined. From all that the Undersigned can learn he entertains no doubt that by this time the People of Texas have determined upon a surrender of their independent and seperate existence, and have already become a member of the great American family. It thus becomes the duty of the Undersigned to request at the hands of the Hon the Secretary of State instructions as to the manner in which this fact shall be communicated, to the Governments near which the Undersigned is accredited. A decent regard for Public opinion and a proper sense of gratitude, towards those Governments which have held out the hand of friendship and recognition, would seem to require a particular and formal announcement of the fact that the nationality which they so kindly and frankly acknowledged has for motives of paramount public good ceased to exist. The Undersigned would therefore respectfully request the Hon the Secretary of State to forward to him,

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at the Hague, to the care of the American Legation at that Court, instructions not only on this head, but further as to what disposition it may please the Hon Secretary to have made of the Archives of the Legations at the Hague, Brussels and the Hanseatic Cities, now in his possession and safe keeping. The Undersigned has delayed this communication, untill the convocation of the Texan Congress rendered it probable that the question of annexation would speedily be disposed of, and further, untill the safe opportunity afforded by the departure of a Special Courier, as bearer of Despatches to the Government of the United States, afforded the certainty that this despatch would reach the hands of the Honourable the Secretary of State of the Republic of Texas, without being subjected to the chances of dishonourable violation, from which communications on public matters forwarded by the ordinary course of the Post are not at all times exempt.

The Undersigned avails himself of the present opportunity to renew to the Hon the Secretary of State, the expressions of the high consideration with which he remains the Hon Secretary's

Most Obedt. Servt.

WM HENRY DAINGERFIELD
Chargé d' Affaires of Texas
at the Hague, Belgium
and the Hanseatic Cities

To
 The Honourable,
 The Secretary of State,
 of the
 Republic of Texas
 Washington, Texas

DAINGERFIELD TO SMITH.^a

VIENNA 1st. July 1845

Honble A SMITH
Chargé d' Affaires of Texas
 At London

MY DEAR SMITH

I wrote to you on the sixth of last month (June)^b and addressed my letter to the care of L M Rate Esqr Texan Consul Genl at London No 15 Bishops Gate Street. To that letter as yet I have received no answer. The near approach of the period when I am under a promise to give to the Honble Senate of Hamburg a definite answer on the question of Annexation by which their course with reference

^a See Records of Department of State (Texas), Book 55, pp. 137-141.

^b This letter has not been found.

to our treaty will be determined, naturally renders me exceedingly anxious to hear something from some authorised Agent of the Texan Government, as to the probable result of that question; so that in case I shall not by the end of the present month (the time agreed upon with the Honble Senate) [be prepared] to speak definitely, I may at least be able to say something which shall have a better foundation than the mere rumours and reports of the miserable American journals. You may remember that I kept you advised up to the very moment of your departure from England for the U S of the curious attitude which Texan affairs had assumed in the North of Europe and of the manifest scheme which had been concocted at Hamburgh to drive me from the favourable position which after great labour I had succeeded in Establishing for Texas, with the Hanseatique cities. Your answer to that letter^a written the very day of your departure from England for Texas assured me that you would duly lay before the Govt at Home the position in which I was placed and you were pleased to say that you would not fail duly to represent to the Texan Government the efforts I have made and the success I had obtained in the cause of the Country. After your departure from Europe, I succeeded in obtaining despite of the intrigues at Hamburgh a separate ratification by the Senate of Bremen. This ratification I sent home in December last by Mr Klaenner, Consul for the Port of Bremen at Galveston, under the treaty. No acknowledgement of its reception by the Texan Govt has ever been sent to me. I wrote to the actual President and to the Ex President of the Republic. No answer!! On hearing of your appointment as Secretary of State of Texas, I was sure that the embarrasment of my position would be removed. I was sure that you who were so well acquainted with all these matters would give me your views on them. But my communications from the Gouverment of Texas, have been solely restricted, to a communication from the acting Secretary of State of Texas of the Election of President Jones and the formation of the new Cabinet. In the absence of a Chargé d' Affaires at London I communicated regularly with Mr Rate the Consul Genl at London and on the arrival of Genl Terrell with him. In my letters I informed them both that I had determined to go to Berlin, as I saw from a conversation with the Secretary of State at Hamburgh that nothing could be done by remaining longer there; but that by feigning to open negotiations with the Zoll-Verrein, the jealousy of the Senate would be awakened. This I accordingly did. The passage of the Law of the Congress of the U S for the annexation of Texas arrested me in the midst of these operations. I then determined to await here at a distance from all the courts with which I had opened

^a No letters exchanged between Dalingerfield and Smith near the time of Smith's departure from England have been found.

communications the final result of this question of annexation and here I am still abiding its result. In this course I was guided by the opinion that with me it was a paramount duty to maintain unqualifiedly the separate nationality of our country up to the moment when I was informed officially that that nationality had ceased to exist; of the correctness of this determination I am fully satisfied, not only by mature reflexion but by the concurring opinion of those in whose sound judgment and intelligence I have the greatest confidence. The news from America justified our entertaining the opinion that the Texas Congress will agree to the plan of annexation proposed by the United States. In that event is it not so that all our foreign relations cease and are at an end. What is the better opinion on this head. But be this as it may a decent respect for the courtesies of life requires, that the fact should be officially communicated to the Governments of those countries who have honoured us with their recognition and contenance during the period of our national existence. Such seems to me emphatically the case with reference to Holland which was the earliest of our friends. I think that they should be reminded of this at home where they are of course not so precise in these matters. I pray you on the receipt of this write to me and give me your ideas at large on the various topics of this letter. I send this under cover to an American^a friend who will hand it to you in person or see that you get it. I have great confidence in your opinions and therefore desire to have them in extenso. I shall await here an answer from you to this, and some thing definite and certain on the subject of annexation. I remain very sincerely your friend and Obdt Svt

(Signed)

WM HENRY DANGERFIELD
Chargé d' Affaires of Texas
at the Hague

DAINGERFIELD TO SMIDT.^b

[Transmits Daingerfield's letters of credence as *chargé d'affaires* of Texas at Bremen.]

SMIDT TO DAINGERFIELD.^c

[Acknowledging the receipt of Daingerfield's letters of credence, and adding a cordial expression of the good will of Bremen for the people of Texas.]

^a On the margin of the record book is written, evidently by Daingerfield referring to his "American friend", "N. B. Mr Charles Chouteau then in London, from whom by due course of Mail I recd. an answer stating that my letter had reached Mr Smith—from Mr. Smith no answer ever reached me." Cf. note b, p. 1523.

^b August 26, 1845. See Records of Department of State (Texas), Book 55, pp. 145-146.

^c August 28, 1845; a copy of the German. See Records of Department of State (Texas), Book 55, p. 146.