**Austin Papers, Vol. II, pp. 461-462**

**Transcription (Spanish, from transcript in Austin papers) and Translation (English)**

Another transcription (perhaps by Robert Bruce Blake) is at The Portal to Texas History:

<https://texashistory.unt.edu/ark:/67531/metapth216624/> ... but with incorrect date

**by Chris Kneupper, 27-May-2020**

* *italics added by transcriber*

**Letter from Stephen F. Austin to Manuel de Mier y Terán, about 1-Aug-1830**

Gral. Dn. (*General Don*) Manuel de Mier y Teran.

Muy Sr (*Señor*) Amigo De Toda Mi Confianza y Consideración

He recibido las dos apreciables de U. (*Usted*) por este correo fechas 10 y 29 de Junio po. po. (*próximo pasado*)

En la primera me dice U. (*Usted*) que mi amigo y primo (y no mi hermano) Juan Austin había dicho á U. (*Usted*) que no había yo recibido la carta de U (Usted) incluyendo copia de la capitulación de Tampico y acusando recibo de la copia borrador de mi mapa, esta es equivocación – la carta de U (*Usted*) vino á mis manos después de gran dilatación en el camino y antes de su llegada se recibió copia de la capitulación por conducto del Jefe del departamto (*departamento*), y fue traducido y publicado en La Gaceta de esta. Yo escribí á U. (*Usted*) y dirigí mi carta á Mexico ha causa de haber visto anunciado su Nombramto (*Nombramiento*) por la Secretaria de Guerra y remití á U. (*Usted*) un ejemplar de la publicación que hize en Ingles de las leyes de Colonización acompañada de una introducción histórica de mi colonia. Supongo que no llegaron á sus manos y ahora remito a U. (*Usted*) otro ejemplar.

El Sr (*Señor*) Don Francisco Ruiz y el Sor. (*Señor*) Elosua me manifestaron en Bexar los deseos de U. (*Usted*) sobre el establecimto (*establecimiento*) de un destacamto (*destacamento*) en el paso del Rio de los Brazos arriba, y ofrecí desde luego coadyuvar en cuanto pude. El Sor. (*Señor*) Ruiz me ha avisado estar ya en camino y próximo á llegar y salgo mañana par á verle y ayudar en cuanto sea posible, como medida preparatoria y a fin de corregir la opinión publica extraviada aquí como en Mexico y en los Estados del Norte, puse un parafo en la Gaceta de esta, del día 19 del pasado y otro en las demás Gacetas, cuyos números remito a U. (*Usted*). – En este correo contesto al Arteaga sobre el establecimto (*establecimiento*) en La Baca ofreciendo mis servicios en cuanto pude ser útil. Se ha completado el molino de vapor para sacar tablazones situado sobre el Rio Bufalo ramo del San Jacinto y si hubo buques de transporte no habrá dificultad en conseguir las maderas necesarios del molino, mi primo tuvo la desgracia de perder su balandra sobre la costa. Creo un buque de vapor seria muy apropósito para la navegación de las Bahías de Texas y el transporte de maderas á Matamoros.

Con la ultima carta de U. (*Usted*) recibí la copia del oficio de Exmo Sor Comte Gral. (*Excelentísimo Señor Comandante General*) al Sor (*Señor*) Jorge Fisher sobre suspender el establecimto (*establecimiento*) de la aduana de Galveston. Ala llegada de este Sr (*Señor*) aquí se presentó al Alcalde con su despacho del Ministerio de Hacienda expedido en tpo. (*tiempo*) del Sor (Señor) Zavala, fue reconocido por el Alcalde, y este me pasó oficio para facilitar los auxilios necesarios de la milicia cívica y yo expedí la correspondiente orden al efecto, queriendo de mi parte obedecer todas las ordenes y llevar á efecto las disposiciones de la Superioridad en cuanto fueron á mis alcances. Aunque pueda haber unas pocas introducciones de tabaco clandestino lo que se cortara en cuanto se ha posible, creo que será muy conducente no poner la Aduana por ahora por las muy justas razones que ha indicado. El Sor (Señor) Fisher ha suspendido sus operaciones de conformidad con la superior orden.

La opinión publica ha variado notablemte (*notablemente*), aquí desde la salida de la Gaceta del 19 del po po. (*próximo pasado*) y habrá variación gral. (*general*) en el Norte en pocos meses con respecto á los asuntos de Mexico. Parece nada mas que el error se había apoderado de la opinión en todas partes – yo deseo con seguir pruebas detalladas de la conducta de Poinsett les pondría en Ingles y delante el publico.

------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

General Don Manuel de Mier y Teran.

Dear Sir Friend Of All My Trust and Consideration

I have received the two valuable ones from you by mail on 1st and 29th of June past.

In the first, you tell me that my friend and cousin (and not my brother) John Austin had told you that I had not received your letter, including a copy of the Capitulation of Tampico and acknowledging receipt of the draft copy of my map, this is a mistake - your letter came into my hands after a long delay on the road and before its arrival, a copy of the capitulation was received through the head of the department, and it was translated and published in the Gazette here. I wrote to you and addressed my letter to Mexico because you had seen your appointment announced by the Secretary of War and I sent you a copy of the publication I made in English of the laws of colonization accompanied by a historical introduction to my colony. I suppose they did not come into your hands and now I send you another copy.

Sir Don Francisco Ruiz and Sir Elosúa expressed to me in Béxar your wishes regarding the establishment of a detachment on the Brazos River pass above, and I certainly offered to help as far as I could. Mr. Ruiz has warned me to be on my way and close to arriving and I am leaving tomorrow to see and help him as much as possible, as a preparatory measure and in order to correct the lost public opinion here as in Mexico and in the Northern States, I put a paragraph in the Gazette here, from the 19th of the past month and another in the other Gazettes, whose numbers I refer to you. - In this mail I reply to Arteaga about the establishment in La Baca offering my services as soon as I could be useful. The steam mill has been completed to remove lumber located on the Buffalo Bayou branch of the San Jacinto and if there were transport ships there will be no difficulty in obtaining the necessary wood from the mill, my cousin had the misfortune to lose his sloop on the coast. I believe a steamship would be very suitable for the navigation of the Texas Bays and the transportation of lumber to Matamoros.

With your last letter, I received a copy of the letter from His Excellency the Commanding General to Sir Jorge Fisher on suspending the establishment of the Galveston customs. Upon the arrival of this officer, he presented himself to the Mayor with his office from the Ministry of Finance issued at the time of Mr. Zavala, was recognized by the Mayor, and he passed an official letter to facilitate the necessary aid from the civic militia and I issued the corresponding order for this purpose, wanting on my part to obey all orders and to carry out the provisions of the Superiority as soon as they were within my reach. Although there may be a few introductions of clandestine tobacco that will be cut as soon as possible, I think it will be very conducive not to put Customs at the moment for the very just reasons that you have indicated. Mr. Fisher has suspended his operations pursuant to the superior order.

Public opinion has changed remarkably, here since the publication of the Gazette of the 19th of the past month (i.e., 19-Jun-1830) and there will be general variation in the North in a few months regarding the affairs of Mexico. It seems nothing more than the error had seized opinion everywhere - I wish to follow detailed evidence of Poinsett's conduct would put them in English and before the public.

***Note:*** *this letter seems to have been written slightly after the letter that Stephen F. Austin wrote to Aniceto Arteaga on 13-Jul-1830, and indeed the first sentence mentions the arrival of Terán’s letter of June 29th, so this must have been written in late July before Austin traveled to Fort Tenochtitlan.*

***Note:*** *If readers have suggestions for improvement of the transcription or translation, please feel free to contact the first-listed transcriber above.*