

Letters Between Stephen F. Austin and Edward Lovelace
(1821-1822)

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Edward Lovelace to Stephen F. Austin, 11-20-1821

Summary: Loan of \$500.

New Orleans, Novr. 20. 1821

One hundred Twenty days after date (this my only exchange same tenor and date) pay Mr Stephen F Austin or order Five Hundred Dollars value received and charge the same to

Yr Obt Servt

Edward Lovelace

Messrs. Reynolds and Ralston New Orleans

[Endorsed:]

Amt _____ \$500 2 1/2
% per acceptg _____ 12. 50 _____ 512.
50

Recd Pay of the above Amt say Five Hundred & Twelve 50/100 Dolls

Reynolds & Ralston

Hugh Bell

N. O. 30th March 1822

Source

Eugene Barker, ed., *Annual Report of the American Historical Association for the Year 1919: The Austin Papers*, (Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1924), 3 vols., Vol 1, Part 1, pp. 431

Stephen F. Austin to Edward and John Lovelace, 11-25-1821

Summary: Austin to secure a grant for them adjoining Galveston Bay.

Agreement Between Austin and Edward and John Lovelace This agreement between Stephen F Austin of the one part, and Edward Lovelace and John Lovelace acting for themselves and as agents for Richard and George Lovelace of the other part witnesseth, that the said Austin agrees to apply to the Government of Mexico through the authorities at St Antonio or at the Seat of Government of the internal Provinces for a concession or concessions to embrace as much land as can be obtained round the Bay of Galveston, or between the Brazos and Sabine rivers—Said land is to be in the name of Stephen F. Austin and company, or in the names of Edward Lovelace, George Lovelace John Lovelace, Richard Lovelace and Francis Walls, or either of them as may be deemed best and all the land obtained in either of said names by said Austin within the limits before mentioned Shall be for the joint and mutual benefit of Said Austin and Said Edward, George, John, Richard, and Francis, each of whom Shall own one undivided Sixth part of said Land The said Edward has advanced to said Austin four hundred Dollars to pay his expences in attending to the above objects.—

In testimony of which the Said Austin and Edward and John have here to Set their hands this 25 day of Nov 1821—

Stephen F. Austin [Rubric]

Edward Lovelace

John Lovelace

Source

Eugene Barker, ed., *Annual Report of the American Historical Association for the Year 1919: The Austin Papers*, (Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1924), 3 vols., Vol 1, Part 1, pp. 437

Edward Lovelace to Stephen F. Austin, 06-26-1822

Summary: Coast explorations. Excellence of Galveston harbor. Drought. No corn.

River Brazos—1 mile below the de la Bahia Road West side

June 26th 1822

Judge Austin

Dear Sir We sailed passed the Brazos the 2nd day of Decr last lays in Latitude 29°-10-12. We arrived at the mouth of this River the 23rd of the same month, from the best observation it is in Latitude 29° 16' N Mr Little has established himself on this River 90 miles from the sea coast Latitude 29°-38 N. The drouth have been so prevalent that we shall make no corn this year The depth of Water on the bar at the mouth of this River is at low tide 4 1/2 to 5 feet high tide 6 or 7 one quarter of a mile from the Land At the mouth of the Colorado a vessel cannot come nearer Land than from 5 to 6 miles, Galveston will be the sea Port sir, for this province, water plenty, good Harbour, also the anchorage are exceled by non, dont fail my Dear Sir to petition for the Lands agreed on between us previous to our parting in New Orleans, also Galveston as it will be the grand object

Accept my highest wishes for your welfare and am anxious to hear from you

Edward Lovelace.

Source

Eugene Barker, ed., *Annual Report of the American Historical Association for the Year 1919: The Austin Papers*, (Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1924), 3 vols., Vol 1, Part 1, pp. 526

Stephen F. Austin to Edward Lovelace, 11-22-1822

Summary: Summary of political movements in Mexico. Difficulty over the status of slavery. Mexicans not prepared for a republican government.

City of Mexico November 22nd 1822

Dr Sir

When I arrived here Congress were sitting but progressing very slowly, the discord and jealousy manifested from the first day of the session of Congress against the Generalissimo Iturbide (now Emperor) was increasing daily and everything was at a stand - There were three distinct parties in Congress, one for a Bourbon King, one for an Emperor from this country, and the other for a Republic, in this state of things the government was approximating towards Anarchy, when on the night of the 18 of May the army stationed in this city proclaimed Iturbide Emperor, the next day Congress elected him in due form and on the 21 he took the oath, these things put a stop to all business for some time - Agreeably to the Emperors Oath he could do nothing without the consent of Congress and this body moved most astonishingly slow and were more occupied in watching the Emperor than in attending to the interest of the country - On the 21 July the Emperor was crowned, and very soon after serious collisions began to arise between him and Congress, the latter wished to keep all power in their hands and things were getting worse every day all was at a dead stand, for Congress would do nothing for fear of granting a little power to the executive, and the Emperor could do nothing so long as Congress existed without its sanction - In this state of things it was in vain for an individual to urge his business, however important and mine with all other individual applications was laid on one side— Matters progressed in this manner from bad to worse and were again verging towards Anarchy; one dangerous conspiracy was discovered and quelled by the imprisonment of about 70, amongst whom were 20 members of Congress and at length finding that nothing but an extraordinary and desicive step could save the nation from the confusion and the established government from ruin, the Emperor desolved congress by a decree of his own on the 31 of October last and created a national Junta of his own choosing from amongst the members of Congress - since then things have gone on better and with more harmony - My business relative to the settlement is now acting on and in less than 10 days I shall be dispatched with everything freely arranged. The principal difficulty is slavery, this they will not admit - as the law is all slaves are to be free in ten years, but I am trying to have it amended so as to make them slaves for life and their children free at 21 years - but do not think I shall succeed in this point, and that the law will pass as it now is, that is, that the slaves introduced by the settlers shall be free after 10 years - As regards all other matters there will be no difficulty, I will write you again from here after I get through and let you know the particulars. I am doubtful nothing can be done about getting land at or near Galveston, the government seems opposed to any settlement being formed so near the borders of the United States, when I return to Texas I will write you very fully - you must not be frightened at the name of an Imperial government, you like myself have lived under a Monarchy, when Louisiana belonged to Spain and I think we lived as happy then as under the government of the

United States - The Emperor has his enemies and in the United States the Democrats will abuse him no doubt, but he is doing the best for his country. These people will not do for a Republic nothing but a Monarchy can save them from Anarchy -

Stephen F. Austin

This is a true copy of the letter, recd from S. F. Austin. Received from Mrs. Bell and I presume was addressed to her

husband Josiah H Bell.

Guy M Bryan

Source

Eugene Barker, ed., *Annual Report of the American Historical Association for the Year 1919: The Austin Papers*, (Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1924), 3 vols., Vol 1, Part 1, pp. 554-555

Stephen F. Austin to Edward Lovelace, 03-30-1822

Summary: Final settlement in 1847.

Stephen F. Austin To Edward Lovelace Dr.

March [30] 1822

To this sum paid you by Messrs Reynolds and Ralston in compliance with my written request dated the 20 Novr 1821 and payable in one hundred and twenty days after date which was paid you _____ \$500. 00 This sum for accepting said order. _____ 12. 50 _____ 512. 50 Interest on the above from 30th of March 1822 to _____ This sum loaned you at Natchez in Novr 1821 _____ 100. 00 Additional sum advanced for you in New Orleans 1st Dec 1821 ___ 100. 00 Int on the two last charges from 1st of Dec 1821 _____

Recd May 8, 1847 from James F Perry and wife and William G Hill and wife a Deed for seven hundred and forty acres of land on Mill Creek in Austin County Texas in full payment for the above account and interest

Harris and Pease Attorneys at Law.

Source

Eugene Barker, ed., *Annual Report of the American Historical Association for the Year 1919: The Austin Papers*, (Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1924), 3 vols., Vol 1, Part 1, pp. 490