

Hermitage<sup>th</sup>  
March 12<sup>th</sup> 1845

Genl Sam Houston,  
Ex president of the  
Republic of Texas,

My dear Genl,

This will be handed  
to you by our mutual friend Major A. S. Donelson  
who returns to Texas, to take you by the  
hand & to welcome you into our glorious  
Union. I congratulate you, I congratulate  
Texas, and the United States on this glorious  
result, on which depended the safety,  
and prosperity of both Texas & the U. States.

The Congress of the United States, with  
the President has sanctioned Texas to  
our glorious Union as far as she could  
without the consent of Texas, which  
all the Democracy of this Union believe  
will be speedily yielded to by the people  
of Texas thro her constituted authorities.

Now behold the great American Eagle  
with her Stars & Stripes hovering over the  
Lone Star of Texas, with cheering voice  
welcoming it into our glorious Union  
and proclaiming to Mexico & all foreign  
governments in stentorian voice, you  
must not attempt to tread upon Texas  
- that the United Stars & Stripes <sup>now</sup> defend  
her glorious result, in which Genl  
you have acted a noble part, and your  
name is now recorded amongst the  
heroes - the Patriots, & Philanthropists - Yours  
G. Lewis

have yet more to do - you have now  
to lay the basis by proper Legislation  
& reform modelling your constitution  
for the future greatness, your wealth  
& prosperity of your state. And first by  
proper Legislation to guard and pro-  
tect the morals of your people - keep  
us from temptations. This the Gen-  
Is this end you must shut the door  
against all foreign grants for land,  
guarding all grants issued by the con-  
-stituted authorities of Texas - all others  
to be barred by positive law. You  
must with care husband your vacant  
land to meet your national debt, and  
after that is paid, provide for the prosperity  
of your state by funds for education  
& the improvement of your country -  
you must at once close the door against  
all colonization grants, & particularly  
that to the Scorp Mercier who is of  
bankrupt means & in character  
& could <sup>not</sup> raise the wherewith, to send one  
family to Texas. By guarding your un-  
-appropriated lands against all grants -  
By issuing scrip bearing interest at three  
percent to the amount of your debt <sup>it will soon be paid</sup>  
by placing a minimum price on  
your land & granting, with proper  
guards & limitations, preemptive  
rights to actual settlers, you will  
soon pay off your public debt, and  
have more wealth left than any  
state in our Union - But to protect yr  
morals, & to cap the chimney of your prosper-  
-ity -

prosperity, & protect the labour of your  
country, you must provide in your con-  
-stitution by a positive provision, that your  
Legislature never shall establish a Bank, or any  
corporation whatever with a power to issue  
paper - that no Banks shall be established by  
the Legislature except on a specie basis,  
and then only with the power of receiving  
deposits & exchange - there never was, or  
could be use for any other kind, except for  
speculators, & gamblers in stock &c, and  
this to the utter ruin of the labour, and  
minds of a country - A specie currency  
gives life & activity to the producing classes,  
on which the prosperity of all is founded -  
with these hasty & undigested hints, I  
must close, for I am greatly afflicted, and  
debilitated, & write with much pain, and  
make these crude suggestions to you as  
your sincere friend, that you may be-  
-lieve yet your country still more by con-  
-sulting them.

If providence spares me, to next  
summer of which I have great doubts, I  
hope to see you, your amiable lady &  
charming boy at the Hermitage, where  
you will receive a hearty welcome, not on  
your way only to see your relatives, but  
on your way to the Senate of the U. States  
to take your seat with the sages of our  
union representing, in part, the Sovereign-  
-ity of the noble State of Texas - accept the  
the tender of ~~the hand~~ <sup>to you & your</sup> salutation of my-  
-self & ~~ours~~ <sup>to you & your</sup> I believe me yr friend  
Andrew Jackson

Madison Jackson

For Mrs

Genl. Saml. Houston  
" Ex President of Texas

Texas

By Major  
A. J. Donelson  
Charge de Affairs  
to Texas -