

London England
Nov 25th 1837

My dear Sir

Since my last official despatch nothing has transpired here worth relating I had hoped to have been able before this time to inform you of the result of my Mission to this Court but owing to the very great accumulation of business before the Court & of a domestic nature they have not yet reached the business which I have laid before them altho they have been in almost daily session for about two weeks. Lord Palmerston assures me however that they will give it their attention at the earliest period possible, I shall continue to press the business as much as the delicacy of my situation will allow and shall accordingly call upon Lord Palmerston during the coming week & urge a decision once more. From all that has passed between us, I rather believe that Lord P. is in favour of immediate recognition

What influence he can have over the other Ministers I cannot say. I fear however that the weakness of the Majority of the Administration in Parliament will present an immediate recognition of the independence of our Republic; because their majority mainly depends upon the support of the Radical or Abolition party & that party are the strongest anti-slavery politicians in the Kingdom & the Ministry will I think be compelled to do nothing which would offend them. Abolition within a day or two has made a violent speech in an anti-slavery meeting in which he took occasion to abuse the U.S. and Texas very much. This shows how his party will vote on every question touching our interests; and unless the Tories and Whigs should coalesce this session (which it is rumored they will do) I think this Govt. will not recognize Texas immediately. This is my opinion which is founded on the state of parties in Parliament & English feeling & not on any thing which has passed between this Govt. & myself in our intercourse. It is rumored here that Lord Palmerston will soon go out of office & that his place will be filled by Lord Durham. I mention this as Lord P. is a friend of Texas & a very pleasant person

P.S. Remember me most kindly to our friend the Govt.; Sir Rogers & my other friends & do write to me and give me the news, such as the doing of Congress or there are important things to the known as Lord P. often enquires of me & I know nothing

to transact business with. I hope however to procure the action of the Govt. on my business before this change takes place. I have heretofore forwarded to you despatches nos 1 & 2 as well as duplicates thereof. I hope soon to learn from you that full compensation has been made to the Captain, for the capture & detention of the Eliza Waples. You will see the necessity of my being able to say so to Lord Palmerston. If I fail, or succeed here I shall deem it necessary to proceed to France. I think I shall in a few days sound the French Ministers upon the disposition of his Govt. towards Texas. I hope you have forwarded my Commission to the Minister with Plenary powers to France. because I should never do to go to that Court without power to make a treaty or any other power than to "solicit the recognition of the independence of Texas" that Govt. would see at once that it would be of no advantage to it to recognize Texas when there was no one with power to make a treaty. Mr. Stevenson the American Minister says this ought by all means to be attended to before I go to France & so I said before I left Texas. Please send also the blank letters of credence for the Queen Dowager & the Queen of France as that is also necessary in case recognition is not made. Yours with much respect
J Puckney Henderson