

México y el de la provincia rebelde. Originales se hallan las minutas de la famosa respuesta á Rejón, instrucciones á los cónsules y agentes diplomáticos, pasaportes y nombramientos, y cartas confidenciales de Calhoun Webster, Howard, Shannon, Horeston, Upshur, Tyler, Murphy, etc.

Casi no hay un solo documento de este expediente que no arroje una gran luz sobre las causas de la guerra americana, la forma en que se concertó y llevó á cabo y los planes de los promovedores. Pocas piezas de este legajo han sido publicadas, pues según parece constituían el archivo oficial y particular del ministro Murphy, representante de los Estados Unidos en Tejas.

Escojo al azar este documento que puede dar idea de la importancia de los otros. Es de mano del famoso juez Arthur Upshur, secretario de Estado de Tyler:

«Private and confidential.—Washington, 23 Jan. 1844.—Sir: As a private opportunity offer, I avail myself of it to send a duplicate of my dispatches. In my letter of the 16th. instant I stated that I was not surprised at the reluctance of President Houston to conclude a treaty of annexation so long as the succes of the measure was doubtful. Upon reflection I incline strongly to think that there is very little in that view of the subject. England extends her protection to Texas, not for the sake of Texas, but for her own sake. She can make just as advantageous an arrangement after the rejection of the treaty as before; and she will be just as anxious to make it. Indeed as the object of her own commerce, she will be naturally be inclined to make her arrangements upon a more permanent and extended scale, when she perceives that there is no longer any danger that the United States will interfere with her. I do not think, therefore, that this consideration need influence General Houston. Indeed the ratification of the treaty by this government may now be regarded as certain. Every day strengthens the conviction that the measure is desired by all part of our country.

«I trust, Sir, to your zeal and patriotism to push this matter promptly and earnestly. The salvation of our Union depend of its success.

«I will not reiterate what I have already said upon this subject, but leave to your reflection the momentous issues now depending on your judgement and industry.

«Captain Tod, who bears this, has my confidence. I hope you will convers with him freely.

«Your obedient servant

«A. Upshur.»

Tejas, Historia de la época colonial.—«Documentos para la historia política y civil de la provincia de Texas.» Dos tomos folio menor, pasta de pergamino, el primero de 301 y el segundo de