

80. SAN FELIPE DE AUSTIN. CITIZENS.

iii Libertad, Constitucion, y Federacion!!! [Text begins:] Los Ciudadanos de la jurisdiccion de Austin reunidos en una junta pública se dirigen á sus conciudadanos de Coahuila y Texas. . . . [Dated and signed at end:] Dios y libertad. San Felipe de Austin, Junio 22 de 1835. — R. M. Williamson, presidente.—Moseley Baker, secretario. Es copia, San Felipe de Austin, Junio 22 de 1835. — Moseley Baker. — Es copia, Bejar Julio 15 de 1835. — Ugartechea.

[n.p. 1835.]

Broadsheet. 25.1 x 20 cm.

This statement of the wrongs recently inflicted on Texas by the general government, followed by an eloquent appeal to Texans of Mexican birth, and those who were citizens by adoption, to strive to preserve the rights granted the states under the Constitution of 1824, was adopted at a meeting held at San Felipe on June 22, 1835, presided over by Judge Robert M. Williamson, or "Three-Legged Willie" as he was usually affectionately called.

The address lists specifically eight grievances which include: dissolution of the legislature by military force, the federal decree abolishing the state militia and demanding the surrender of arms, the arrest of the governor of the state, the alteration of the constitution by legislative decree, the creation of a dictator with absolute powers, and the evident determination of those in power at Mexico to abolish the rights of the states granted by the constitution of 1824.

The action taken at this meeting and at the meeting probably held later in the day, which authorized the expedition by Travis against the Mexican custom house at Anahuac, marks the beginning of the Texas revolution, and this broadside stating the aims of the revolutionary party is, therefore, most important.

It is puzzling that this document listing the grievances of the Mexican rule of Texas should have been endorsed for publication by Ugartechea, who was then military commandant of the Mexican forces in the state of Coahuila and Texas with headquarters at Bexar, unless, perhaps, it was to report to his superiors in Mexico the then state of mind of the Texans. It seems to me more likely that it was printed in Matamoros or in Mexico City than by F. C. Gray at Brazoria. A comparison of type, however, shows that it might have been printed by

Gray. I should add that the set-up of the broadside is unlike that of any Matamoros printing of 1835 in my collection.

We do know that this *Pronunciamiento* was published in 1835 in Mexico City with the imprint, "Mejico, 1835. Reimpreso por Francisco Torres, en las Escalerillas núm. 13," probably as news of the revolt of Texas. This Mexico City broadside is clearly another printing of the broadside under discussion and is listed here in Part II.

Except for the contemporary reprint in Mexico City, I have not run across any contemporary or modern reprint of this document, but it is summarized in Johnson and Barker's *Texas and Texans*, Vol. I, p. 207-208, and is said there to have been printed in English as well as in Spanish, "and circulated," that is in Texas. No location for a copy in English was given by Johnson and Barker and I have not been able to find one. They say that their summary is from the Spanish copy in the Austin Papers, but this document is not listed in the printed *Austin Papers*.

LOCATIONS: CtY. TxU. TWS.

81. SAN FELIPE DE AUSTIN. COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Circular from the Committee of Safety of the Jurisdiction of Austin. [Text begins:] All are aware of the present movements of volunteers towards the western frontiers. . . . [Signed and dated near foot of third column:] S. F. Austin. Chairman of the Committee of the Jurisdiction of Austin. San Felipe de Austin. October 3, 1823 [i.e. 1835]. [Three extracts of letters follow.]

[San Felipe de Austin: Printed by Baker & Bordens. 1835.]

Broadside in four columns. 38.6 x 32.6 cm.

LOCATIONS: Tx.

- 81A. — A second issue, with proper date, "October 3, 1835.", changes in wording and corrections of typographical errors, and with the type rearranged to allow for the addition of an imprint at end and of four lines omitted in the earlier issue from the first sentence of extract No. 1.

[At end:] Printed by Baker & Bordens, San Felipe de Austin, [1835.]