



*Unit 4:*  
***The Mexican  
National Era***

*Lesson 8:*  
***Growing Tension  
in Texas***

*Old Stone Fort Nacogdoches. in*

# Warm-up

Follow the directions below to complete your warm-up



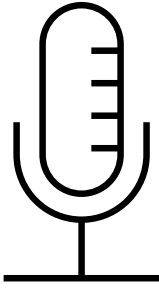
- Read the four events we **MIGHT** see in class today.



- Choose two that you think actually happened, and two that you think didn't happen.
- Share your responses with a partner

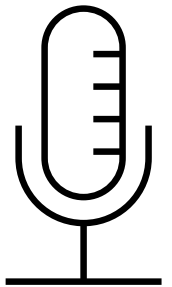


# Share with the class:



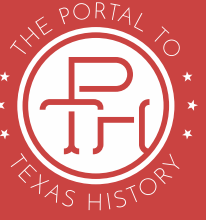
One event I think happened is  
that           (read one event)          

One event I think didn't happen  
is that           (read one event)          





# Essential Questions



*What were six significant events during this era that led to increased issues and tension in Texas and across Mexico? What is the cause-and-effect relationship between each event?*

# In Today's Lesson

1. ***We will** analyze six significant events that led to increased tension in Texas and Mexico.*
2. ***I will** record key information about each event including its significance to the era. I will be able to demonstrate the cause-and-effect relationship between each event.*



# Introduction

The Fredonian Rebellion in 1826 worried leaders in Mexico City and created new tensions between the people in Texas and Mexico's national government.

At the same time, political disagreements between Federalists and Centralists in Mexico were growing. Many across the country were deeply dissatisfied with the government in Mexico City.

The Anglos and Tejanos in Texas didn't know it yet, but the growing tension in the state and the country was leading them closer and closer to war . . .



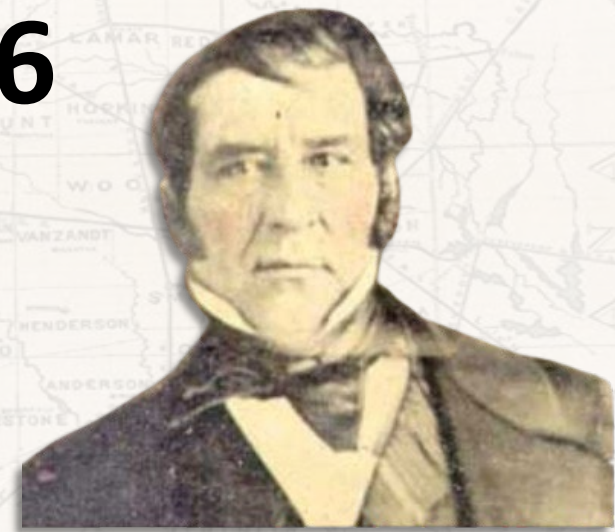
# The Fredonian Rebellion, 1826

Hopefully, we remember this from our last assignment, but just in case, here is a quick review:

An Anglo-American empresario named **Haden Edwards** took over a fort near **Nacogdoches**, claiming the land was independent of Mexico. He said he renamed the land “**The Republic of Fredonia.**”

The **Mexican military** put a swift end to the rebellion with the help of **Stephen F. Austin** and Austin’s militia. Edwards and his men fled Texas. This event became known as the **Fredonian Rebellion.**

Even though the rebellion was completely **unsuccessful**, it greatly troubled the Mexican government. **Many in the government were eager to find out if other Anglo-American empresarios shared Edwards’ desire to rebel against Mexico.**



*Haden Edwards*



*“The Old Stone Fort”  
The Portal to Texas History*

# The Fredonian Rebellion

## Notes



- **What:** A small, unsuccessful Anglo rebellion against the Mexican government.
- **Who:** An Anglo-American empresario named Haden Edwards led the rebellion. Stephen F. Austin helped stop it.
- **Where:** East Texas – Nacogdoches
- **Why is it Significant:** Mexico easily stopped the rebellion with Austin's help, but it caused the government to become concerned about Anglos in Texas.

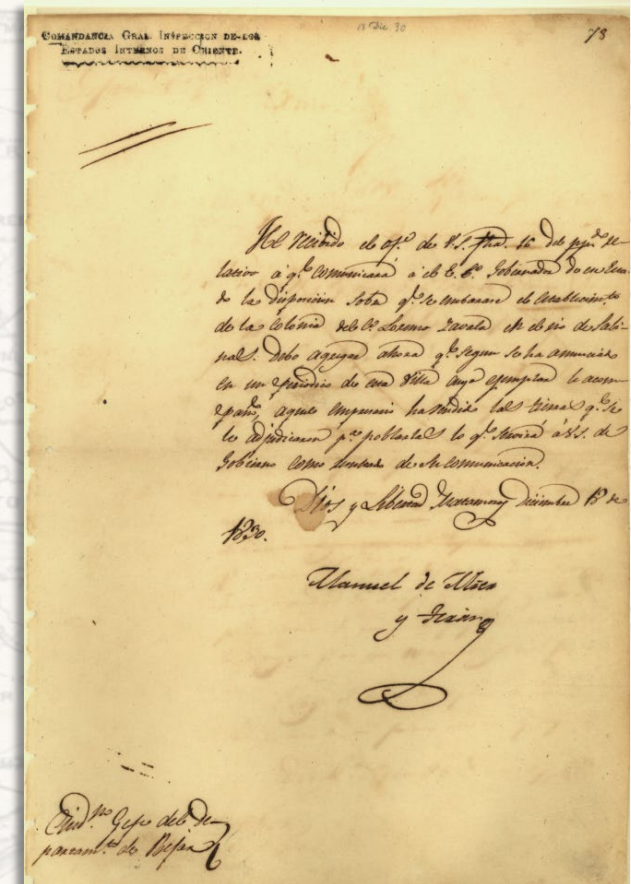


# The Mier y Terán Report, 1828

The Fredonian Rebellion troubled the Mexican government so much that Mexican leaders decided to send a Mexican General named **Manuel de Mier y Terán** to investigate the situation in Texas. What Mier y Terán discovered in his investigation troubled Mexico even more.

Mier y Terán noted that there were certainly many honest, law-abiding Anglos in Texas. **However**, there were a lot of problems as well. He wrote that **Anglos outnumbered Tejanos by ten to one**. He stated that **local governments were weak with very few Tejano government leaders to enforce laws**. Anglos who wanted to break the laws could do so easily, and some did. **One example of this was the fact that many Anglos continued to bring enslaved people into the state even though it was now illegal to do so.**

Terán's discoveries troubled him greatly. He told Mexico that **something needed to be done regarding the Anglo settlers**, or "Texas could throw the whole nation into revolution"!



*A letter written by Manuel de Mier y Terán*  
*The Portal to Texas History*

# The Mier y Terán Report Notes



- **What:** A report showing that Anglos outnumbered Tejanos in Texas 10 to 1, and there were few Mexican officials, so it was easy for people to break the laws.
- **Who:** General Manuel Mier y Terán
- **Why is it Significant:** Terán's report showed that there were many problems related to Anglo immigration in Texas. He suggested Mexico fix the issues immediately.



# The Law of April 6, 1830

In response to the **Mier y Terán report**, Mexico decided to pass the **Law of April 6, 1830**, to attempt to gain more control over Anglo settlers in Texas. This law had many parts.

First, **all immigration from the U.S. into Texas was now prohibited**. Additionally, any currently unfulfilled empresario contracts would be cancelled. **Next, Mexico enacted the taxes** that had been postponed for six to ten years when the Empresario System began. This meant that there would now be tariffs, or taxes on goods from the U.S. The law also reinforced the fact that it was illegal to bring enslaved people into the state. Finally, it **established military forts** in Texas to ensure that this law and all other laws were followed.

**The Law of April 6, 1830, angered many Anglos and Tejanos in Texas.** Many feared that all these restrictions would harm the economic development of Texas. Stephen F. Austin himself wrote a letter to the Mexican president expressing his opposition to the Law of April 6, 1830. Like many others, he believed this law was harmful to Texas and its people.

# The Law of April 6, 1830

## Notes



- **What:** Laws that Mexico passed to try to fix the problems with the Empresario System in Texas:
  - Stopped all immigration from the U.S. into Texas
  - Cancelled unfulfilled empresario contracts
  - Enforced tariffs (taxes) on items from the U.S.
  - Established military forts in Texas to enforce the laws
- **Why is it Significant:** Many Anglos and Tejanos were very upset with the laws, believing they would stop the growth and development of Texas and its economy.



# The Turtle Bayou Resolutions, 1832

A group of Anglo settlers met near present-day Houston at a place called **Turtle Bayou** in **1832**. They wanted to discuss what to do about some growing tensions in the area. They focused specifically on a Mexican military fort that had been established nearby at a place called **Anahuac** two years earlier. **Fort Anahuac** was founded as part of the requirements of the **Law of April 6, 1830**. The military at Fort Anahuac was intended to enforce state and federal laws in Texas. From 1830 to 1832 there were a series of disagreements between some of the local Anglos and the soldiers at the fort, **which resulted in a violent conflict in 1832**.

The group of Anglos who met at **Turtle Bayou** in 1832 wrote a document to the Mexican government explaining their point of view about the conflict at Anahuac and outlining their goals and hopes moving forward. This document was called the **Turtle Bayou Resolutions**.

In the document, they stated that they were **dissatisfied with the recent rise in Centralist power in the government**. They claimed that was a major reason why they fought at Anahuac – because the leader of the fort was a Centralist. They stated their support for the **Federalist Constitution of 1824** and for the popular Federalist leader, **Antonio López de Santa Anna**, who was fighting against the Centralist take-over of the Mexican government. **These men were clear, they supported federalism in Texas and Mexico!**

# The Turtle Bayou Resolutions Notes



- **What:** A document explaining the Anglo point of view of the conflict at Fort Anahuac and showing support for the Federalists in the Mexican government.
- **Where:** Near present-day Houston
- **Why is it Significant:** Some Anglos in Texas were openly declaring support for Federalists in the ongoing debates between Centralists and Federalists across the country.



# The Conventions of 1832 & 1833

In **1832** and **1833**, more than **50 Anglo delegates** from across Texas met at **San Felipe de Austin** to discuss important issues related to the recent tensions that had been increasing across Texas and Mexico.

**Stephen F. Austin** was elected **president** of the conventions. At the conventions, the delegates made a list of requests that they wanted to present to the Mexican government. First, they requested that the government **repeal the anti-immigration portion of the Law of April 6, 1830**. This would allow U.S. citizens to resume immigrating to Texas. They also requested that the **tariff, or tax on materials from the U.S., be removed**. They also requested support in defense against Texas Indian attacks and land for public schools.

One of the biggest requests they made was **for Texas to become its own state, separate from Coahuila**. They were very confident about receiving approval. They even created a committee led by an Anglo man named **Sam Houston** to write a state **constitution**. They planned to submit the constitution to the federal Congress in Mexico City when they received approval for statehood.

With their list of requests in hand, **Stephen F. Austin** set off for **Mexico City** in **1833** to present the Anglo requests to the Mexican government.

# The Conventions of 182 & 1833

## Notes



- **What:** Two meetings of Anglo delegates to write a list of requests for the Mexican government.
  - Repeal the anti-immigration laws from the Law of April 6, 1830
  - Remove the tariff on U.S. goods
  - Grant separate statehood for Texas
- **Who:** President of Convention: Stephen F. Austin
- **Where:** San Felipe de Austin (near Houston)
- **Why is it Significant:** Anglos in Texas were organizing in support of development and statehood for Texas.



# The Arrest of Stephen F. Austin, 1833

When the **Convention of 1833** ended, **Stephen F. Austin** traveled the nearly one thousand miles to **Mexico City** to present the list of Anglo requests to the newly elected Mexican president – **Antonio López de Santa Anna**. Austin and many other Anglos were incredibly optimistic about this meeting. After all, Santa Anna supported **Federalism** and had made his name as a man of the people!

**Things did not go as planned, however.** At the time, the **Centralists** in the government and within the military were gaining more and more power. **Santa Anna** surprised many of his supporters when he decided to join the side of the **Centralists** in 1833. Now in power, the Centralists got rid of the **Federalist Constitution of 1824**, which had guaranteed powers and rights to the people and states. Many Federalists across Mexico were furious and felt betrayed.

When **Santa Anna** met with **Austin**, Santa Anna refused to address the requests that the Anglos in Texas had made. Angry and frustrated with the situation, Austin wrote to the Anglo leadership in Texas and told them to go ahead and begin setting up their own state government anyway. His letter was intercepted by Mexican officials, who viewed his actions as **treason**, or a crime against your own country. They **arrested** him and held him in **prison without a trial** for about a **year and a half**. During that time, turmoil across Mexico increased as a civil war broke out between the Federalists and Centralists in some states.

# The Arrest of Stephen F. Austin

## Notes



- **What:** Austin was arrested and imprisoned for encouraging Anglos in Texas to start making their own state after President Santa Anna had denied the request.
- **Who:** Stephen F. Austin, President Santa Anna
- **Where:** Arrested in Saltillo, Coahuila.  
Imprisoned in Mexico City for 1 ½ years.
- **Why is it Significant:** Austin's time in prison caused him to be less supportive of the Mexican government.



# Exit Ticket

Follow the directions below to complete your Exit Ticket



- Read the four events we MIGHT see in class today.

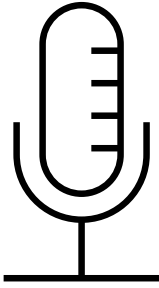


- Choose two that you think actually happened, and two that you think didn't happen.



- Share your responses with a partner

# Share with the class:



The event I chose in step 1 was

\_\_\_\_\_

The **cause** of this event was

\_\_\_\_\_

The **effect** of this event was

\_\_\_\_\_

