



The Road to the Texas Revolution

1824-1835



Road to the Texas Revolution

Lesson Overview

The Texas Revolution began well before 1836. It was not just one event that started the revolution, it was a series of small events. This lesson includes the following events:

- The Mexican Constitution of 1824
- 1826 Fredonian Rebellion
- 1828 Mier y Teran Report
- The Law of April 6, 1830
- Turtle Bayou Resolution - June 13, 1832
- Battle of Velasco - June 25-26, 1832
- Conventions of 1832 and 1833
- December 1833 – Austin's Arrest
- 1835 Battle of Gonzales
- 1835 Siege of San Antonio de Bexar





Essential Questions:

1. How does conflict cause political, economic, and social change?

I can tell that conflict causes political, economic, and social change by seeing in the text that...

2. Explain the lasting impact of the people and events leading to the Texas Revolution.

The lasting impact of the people and events leading to the revolution...

3. In what ways did the Mier y Teran Report and the Law of April 6, 1830 lead to the Texas Revolution?

The Mier y Teran Report and the Law of April 6, 1830 led to the Texas Revolution by...



Mexican Constitution of 1824

The **Federal Constitution of the United Mexican States of 1824** was enacted on October 4, 1824, after the overthrow of the Mexican Empire of Agustin de Iturbide by General Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna. The new constitution established Mexico as a representative federal republic, took the name of United Mexican States, established Catholicism as the official and unique religion.





Mexican Constitution of 1824, continued

Summary: The new constitution established Mexico as a representative federal republic (a Federal Republic has a separation of power between the federal government and each state), took the name of United Mexican States , established Catholicism as the official and unique religion.





1826 - Fredonian Rebellion pt.1

Haden Edwards and his brother were empresarios in east Texas near Nacogdoches. Hayden discovered that much of his grant areas were occupied, Hayden felt entitled to the land and tried to force those people off their property, so Hayden could then sell to new Anglo Americans.



1826 - Fredonian Rebellion pt.2

In 1826 Edwards and his brother declared Nacogdoches independent from Mexico, they called it the Fredonian Republic. Hayden's actions upset both Tejanos in San Antonio and Stephen F. Austin who sent a militia to stop this rebellion. **As a result, Mexico started to pay more attention to Texas.**



Think like a Historian:

Primary source letter from Stephen F. Austin to One of the Fredonian Rebels

Source:

Eugene Barker, ed., Annual Report of the American Historical Association for the Year 1919: The Austin Papers, (Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1924), 3 vols., Vol 1, Part 2, pp. 423-429

Think - Pair - Share

Using the guided questions, analyze the primary source letter written by Stephen F. Austin to one of the Fredonia Rebels, B.J.

Thompson

Support your claims using text evidence.

Document Analysis Questions

1. What was the purpose of this letter?
2. What was Stephen F. Austin's overall tone in this letter?
3. What is Austin warning about in this statement?

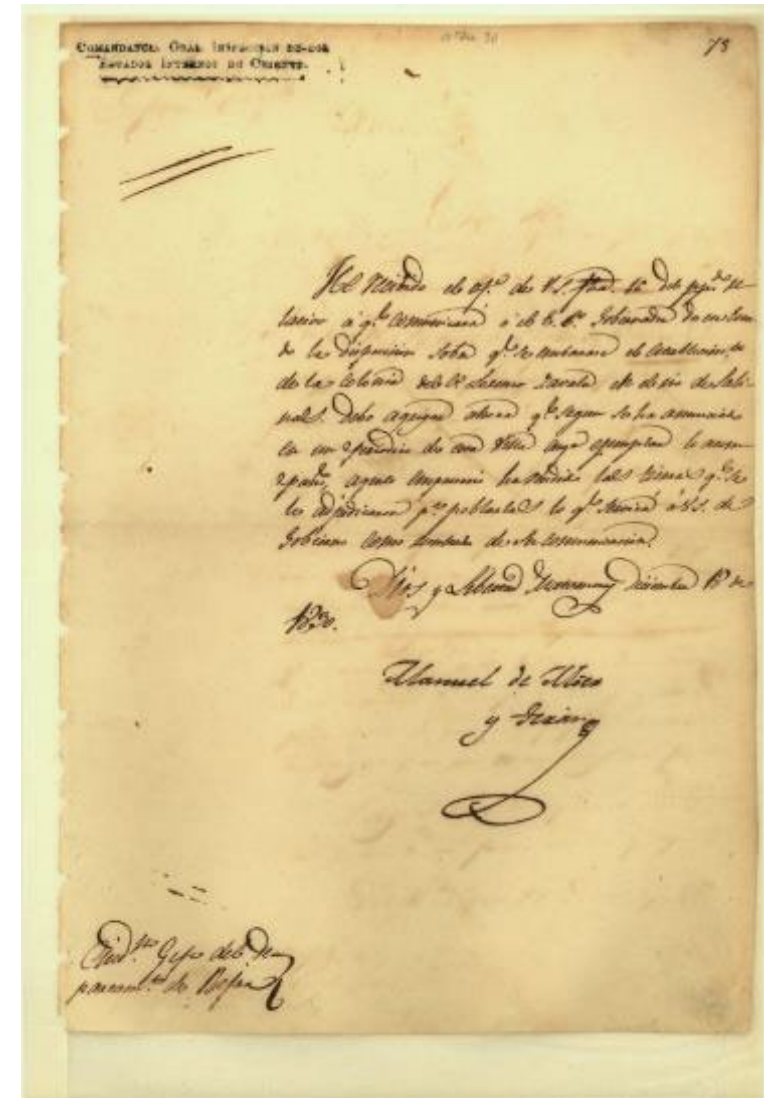
"...and I assure you that were it necessary they could march five thousand troops to that district in two months and you would find that every man in this colony able to bear arms would freely and cheerfully join them."

4. In Austin's final statement he makes the remark "*but I am unwilling to believe that you have all run mad.*" If you were the recipient of this letter, how would you react to that claim?



1828 – Mier y Teran Report

Because of the Fredonian Rebellion Mexico City sends General Mier y Teran in 1828 to check on Texas. In his report it says that Anglo-Americans outnumber the Mexicans 10 to 1, people didn't speak Spanish. Many Anglo-Americans didn't respect the Mexican laws and there was more influence on Texas by the United States than Mexican. He recommended that Mexico City need to act quickly to the Anglo invasion of Texas.



Think like a Historian:

At the suggestion of General Mier y Teran the Mexican Government outlined a new law simply called the Law of April 6, 1830 - Take a look at some of the Articles summarized below.

Think - Pair - Share

Using the guided questions on the handout, analyze the Articles of the Law of April 6, 1830 through the perspective of a Mexican Citizen and new American Colonist living in Tejas (Texas). Remember to support your claim with text evidence.

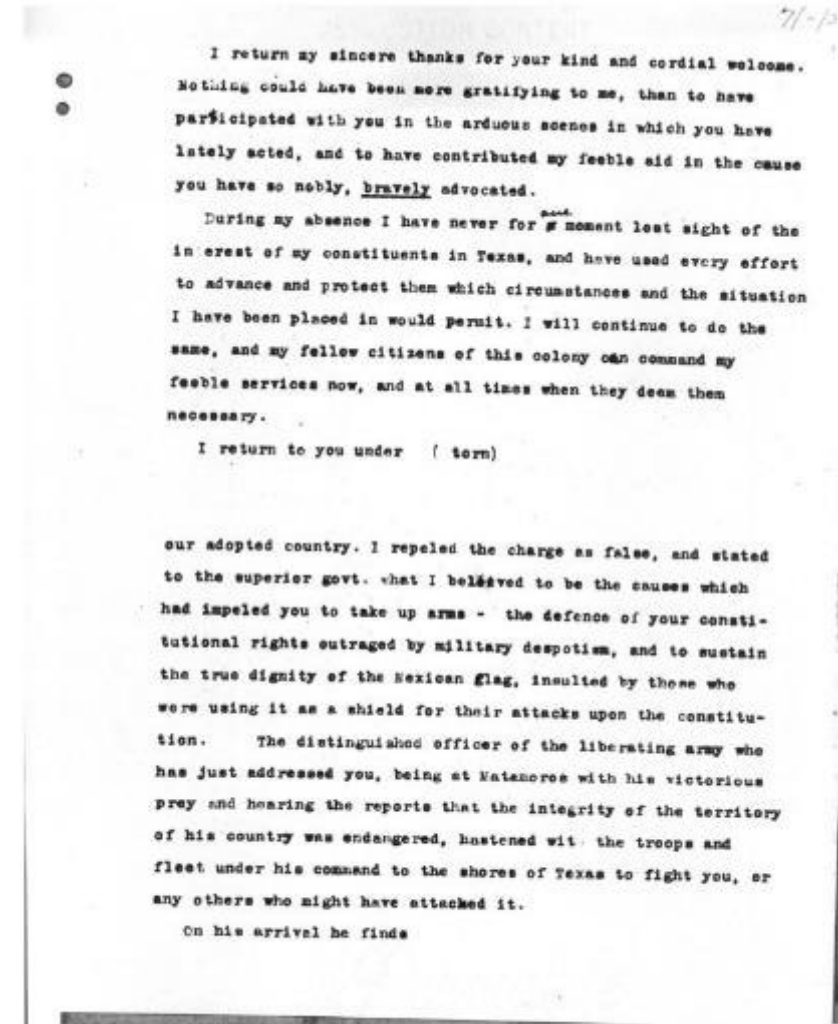
Summary of the six focus articles Law of April 6, 1830:

- Article 3: The government may choose the new empresarios for Texas
- Article 7: Natural Mexican citizens who want to move to Texas will be provided transportation and the best land.
- Article 9: Americans could no longer migrate into Texas (unless they received special permission from Mexican officials).
- Article 10: No more slaves will be allowed in Texas.
- Article 11: Americans cannot live next to the United States. If they already are, they must move.
- Article 14: 500,000 pesos will be used to build the new forts.

<https://education.texashistory.unt.edu>

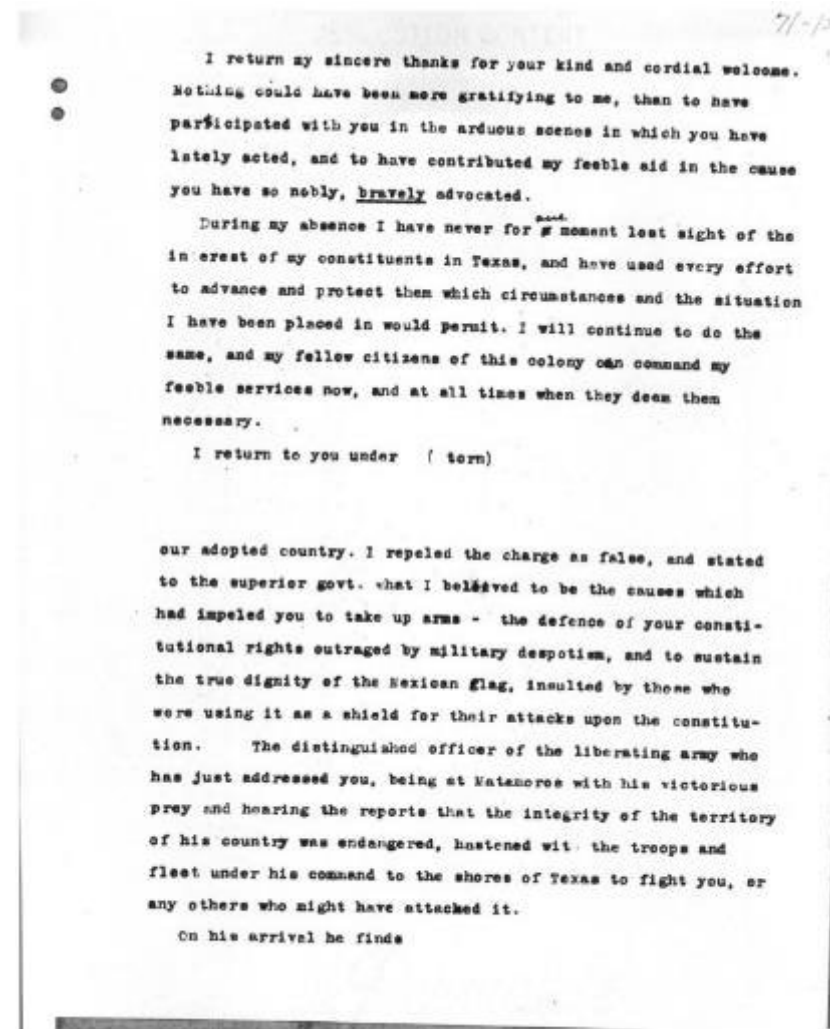
June 1832 - Disturbance at Anahuac pt.1

Col. Juan Davis Bradburn and Customs Inspector George Fisher were at the center of conflict with Texan colonists after the Mexican Gov't established a military garrison to enforce the Law of April 6, 1830. Bradburn was enforcing the immigration ban on Anglo-Americans, attempted to put an end to smuggling, and began to collect tariffs on all American goods, causing the prices to increase significantly.



June 1832 - Disturbance at Anahuac pt.2

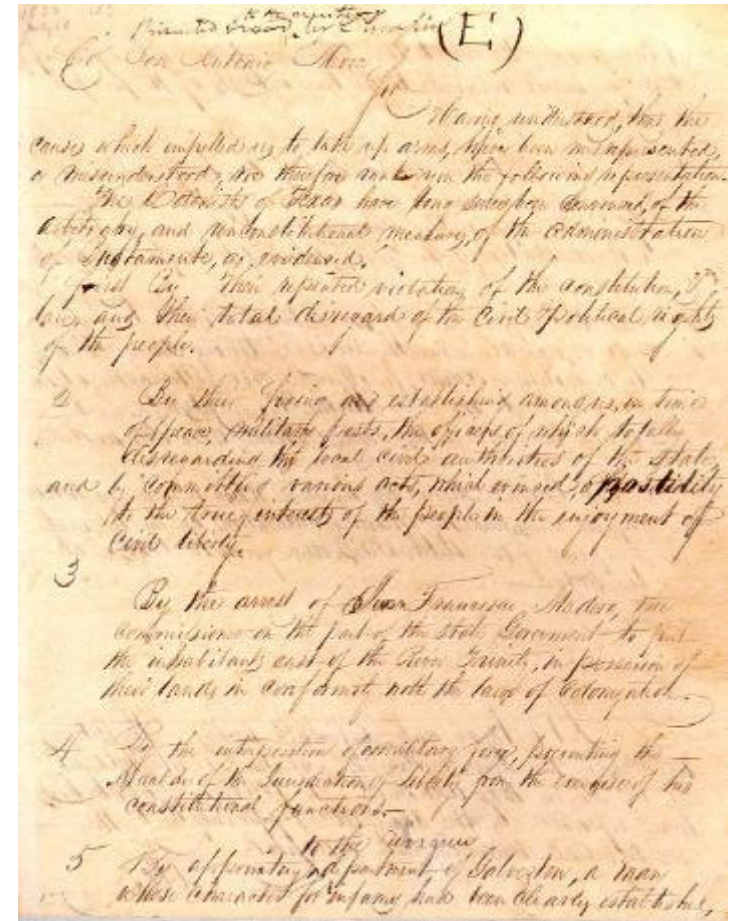
Bradburn who was a true believer in the Centrist views, began to quarreled with the Federalist colonists, and tension peaked in June 1832 when Bradburn jailed William Barret Travis and his law partner Patrick Jack who tried to trick Bradburn to release a runaway slave into their custody. This increased tensions and nearly 200 men from the are attacked the Mexican soldiers at Anahuac.



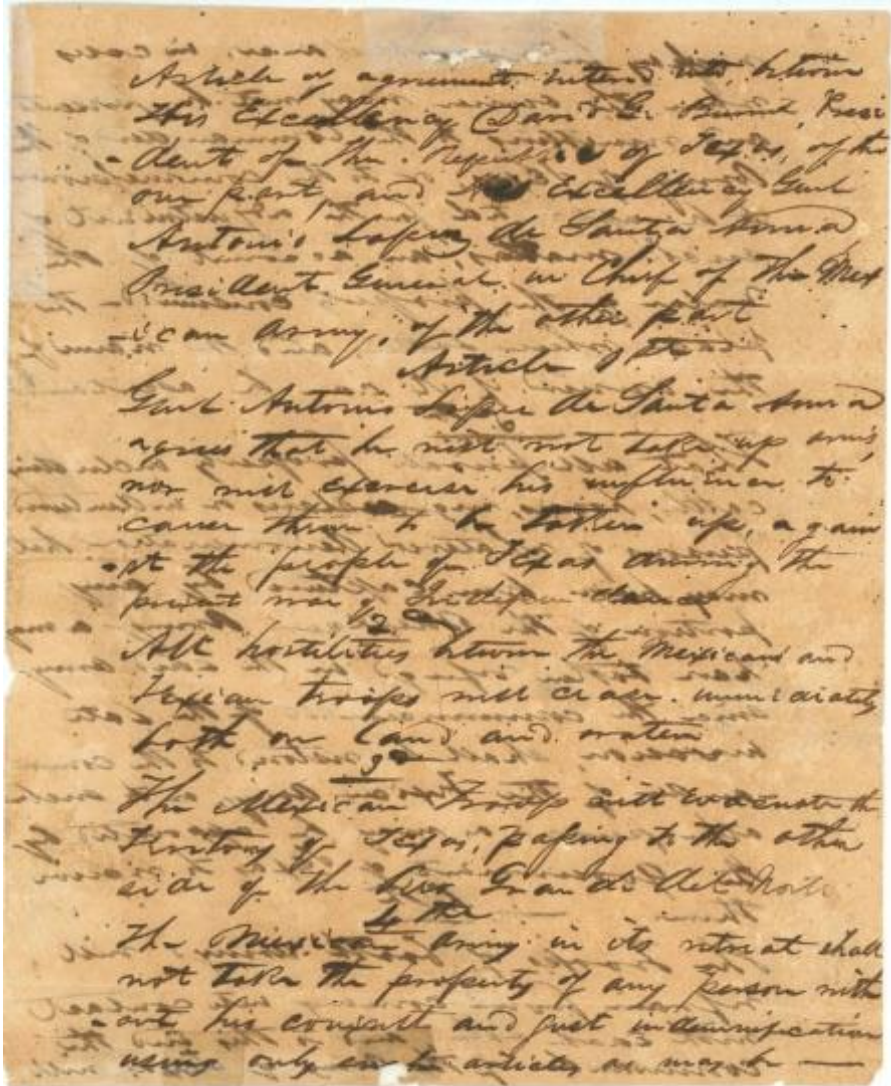
June 13, 1832 – Turtle Bayou Resolution

Mexican Col. Juan Davis Bradburn was at the center of the conflict between Texan colonists after the Mexican Government established a military garrison in the port city Anahuac to enforce the Law of April 6th, 1832. The Anglo-American and Tejano settlers opposed Bradburn's heavy-handed tactics and attacked his men forcing Bradburn and his men to flee Anahuac.

The Angelo-Americans wrote the Turtle Bayou Resolutions, explaining their reasons for attacking Bradburn's men, stating they opposed the Centralist administration. They were against the civil war Mexico was currently in and wanted to return to the Constitution of 1824.



June 25-26, 1832 - Battle of Velasco



The Battle of Velasco was fought on June 25–26, 1832, when a group of Texans led by John Austin sailed down the Brazos River to bring reinforcements to Anahuac. Onboard was a cannon That alarmed the Mexican commander who attempted to stop the Texans. The Texian militia onboard fired back; eventually, the Texans prevailed, and the Mexican soldiers surrendered after a two-day battle.





The Convention of 1832

The first Convention was held in 1832, at San Felipe de Austin because of the recent disturbances in Anahuac and the Battle of Velasco. Fifty-five delegates, all Anglo-Americans who represented sixteen districts met on October 1, 1832. The Tejano population did not send a [delegation](#). Stephen F. Austin was elected president of the convention, and the convention adopted a series of resolutions-

1. Tariff exemption to Texas for three years;
2. Modification of the Law of April 6, 1830, to permit immigration from the United States;
3. Lands for primary schools to be conducted in Spanish and English.
4. Organize a militia
5. Adopted a motion to request separate statehood from Coahuila.

For several reasons, the resolutions were never presented to the Mexican government. Austin thought that the petition for statehood was premature, and Santa Anna had not yet taken over the national government from Anastasio Bustamante.

The Convention of 1833

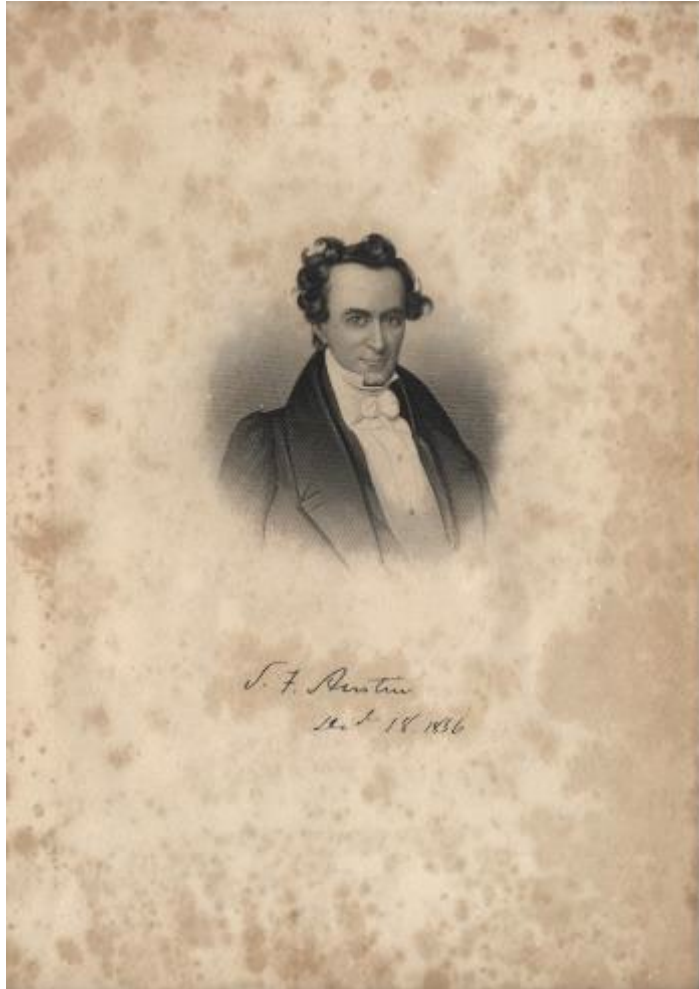
The Convention of 1833 met at San Felipe on April 1, 1833. Stephen F. Austin was visiting other Mexican settlements to secure their cooperation. The convention petitioned again the repeal of the anti-immigration section of the Law of April 6, 1830. Asking for -

1. Better defense against American Indian attacks
2. Judicial reform
3. Improved mail service
4. Tariff exemption
5. Passed resolutions prohibiting African slave traffic in Texas.

Delegates also proposed to split Coahuila and Texas. Juan Erasmo Seguín, Dr. James B. Miller, and Austin were chosen to present the petitions to the government, but since Seguín and Miller were unable to go, *Austin went to Mexico alone.*



December 1833 – Austin's Arrest pt.1

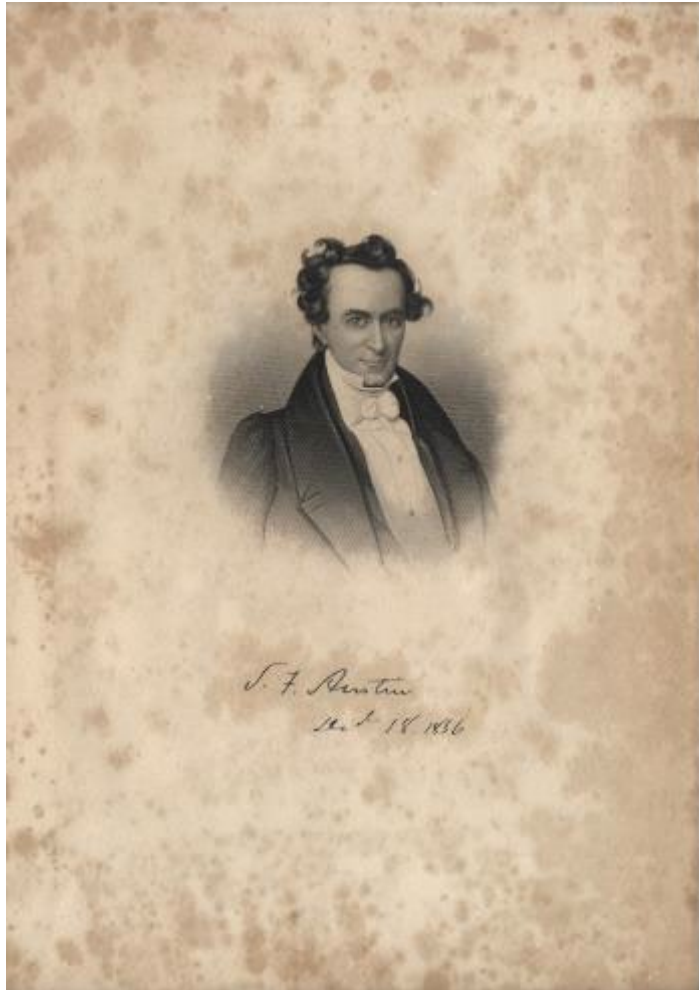


Stephen F. Austin left San Felipe to present the petitions of the Convention of 1833. When he arrived in Mexico City, Santa Anna was in the middle of a civil war that would later place him in charge as a dictator. In addition to the civil war, a cholera epidemic caused Austin's delay in meeting with the Mexican dictator. Austin grew frustrated, and in October 1833, he wrote a letter to the leaders in the town of Bexar suggesting that Texas should organize as a separate state, under the provisions of the Acta Constitutive of May 7, 1824.





December 1833 – Austin's Arrest pt.2

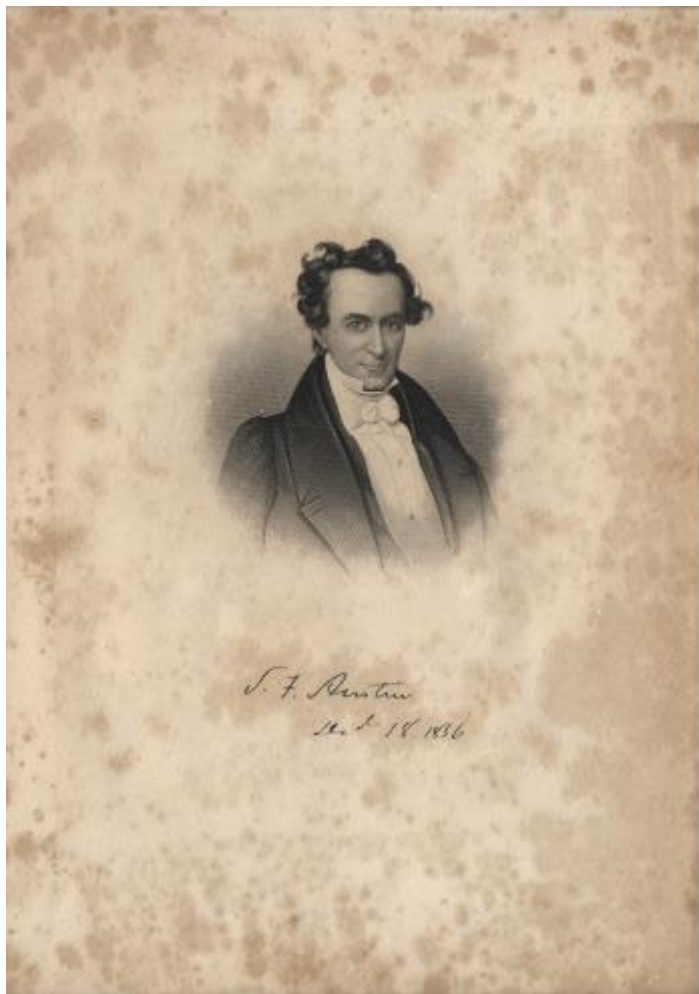


Austin also suggested that Texas was being ruined forever if they did not take matters into their own hands. Austin sent the letter back to Texas and shortly ended up meeting with Santa Anna. Austin received a repeal of the Law of April 6, 1830, Anglo-Americans were now permitted to immigrate into Texas. He also got the Mexican government to promise significant reforms in Texas local government.





1833 – Austin's Arrest pt.3

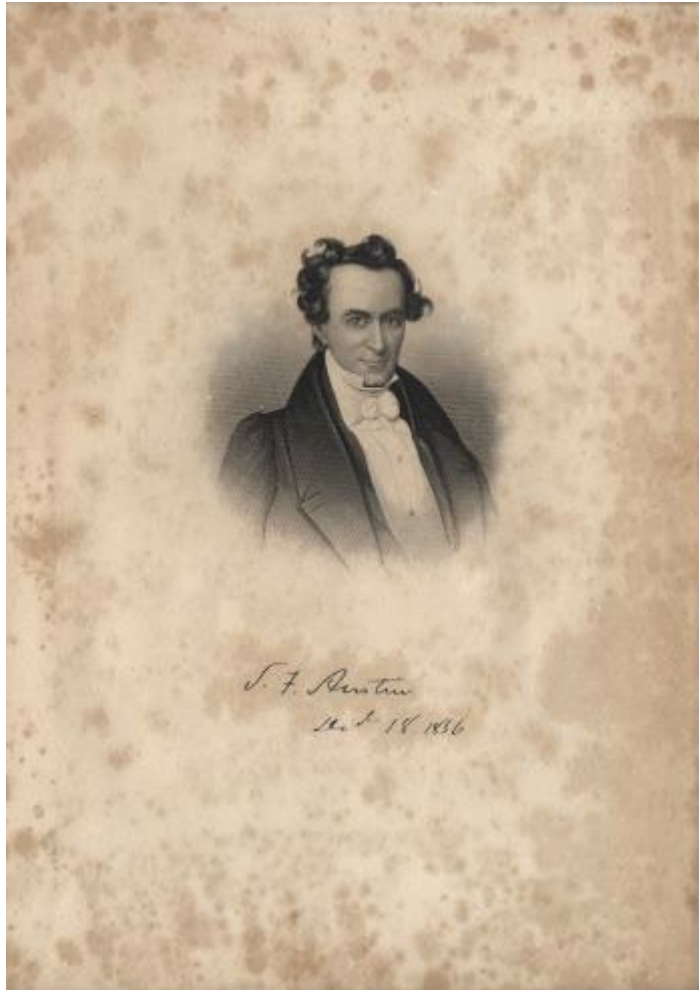


Austin's letter was intercepted by the alcalde of Bexar, who sent Austin's letter to Mexican Vice-President Farias. The vice-president believed the letter was treasonable. So he had Austin arrested and taken back to Mexico City, where he was imprisoned. Austin was put in prison on February 13, 1834, in solitary confinement for three months; he was not permitted to use books or writing materials.





1833 – Austin's Arrest pt.4



No charges were ever brought against Austin, and no court would accept his case, sadly Austin remained a prisoner. In December 1834, Austin was placed under house arrest and was forced to stay in Mexico City. In July 1835, Austin was granted his freedom and soon returned to Texas. Austin was absent from Texas for over two years.





October 2, 1835, the Battle of Gonzales

First battle of the Texas Revolution – October 2, 1835

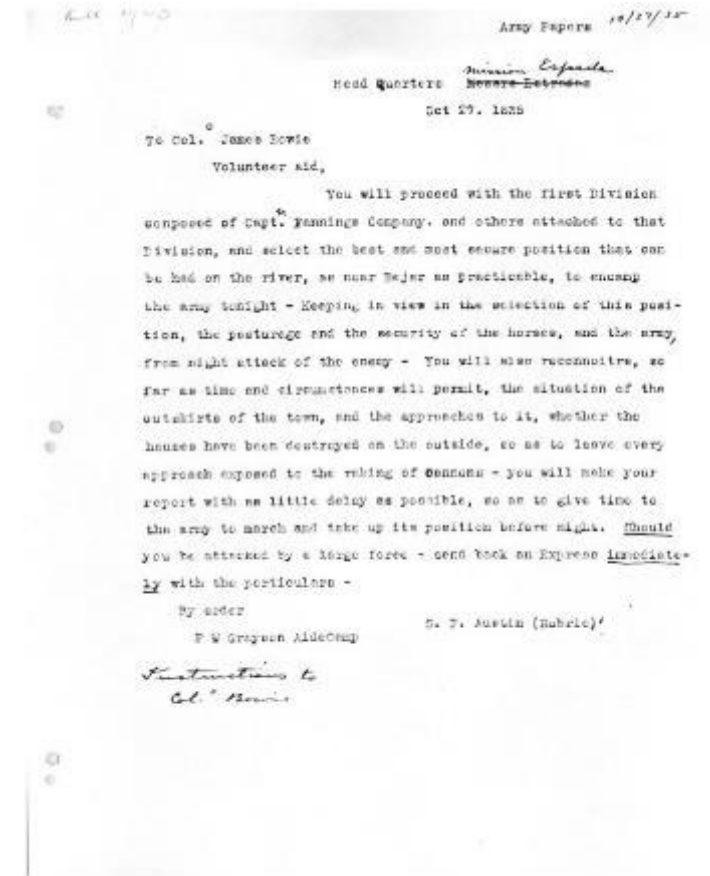
Gonzales citizens would not give up a cannon that was given to them by the Mexican government to protect them from the American Indians. A small militia army led by JH Moore flew a flag over it that said “Come and Get It” faced off against Mexican Lieutenant Castaneda, who led 100 men to Gonzales to take the cannon. The Texian militia fired the cannon on October 2 at the Mexican soldiers, a short battle began, the Texans won. the Mexican retreated and so did the Texas Revolution.





Siege of San Antonio

The Siege of San Antonio de Bexar was the first military campaign of the Texas Revolution. The fighting began in October and ended in early December 1835. San Antonio de Bexar under siege by the Texans militia. Jim Bowie and James W. Fannin, Jr., attacked the missions to the South of below San Antonio. An approaching Mexican cavalry was attacked by the Texans on November 26, near Alazán Creek to the west of San Antonio de Bexar; this battle is known as the Grass Fight.



pt1

97A-1

The Siege of Bexar.

Line of attack by the Texans against the Mexican forces occupying Bexar and supported by the Mexican garrison then in the Alamo, from December 31st. to 18th, 1835.

A Mexican Retreat

B Military Plaza

C San Fernando Cathedral

D Main Plaza

E Zerkow's Row

F House of Antonio Navarro

G de la Garca

H * * * * *

I * * * * *

J the Priest

K The Cottage (Quinta)

L House where Gen. Cos signed terms of capitulation

San Pedro Springs

San Antonio River

Alamo Ditch

Old Mill

Molino Blanco

Alamo

Gonzales 76 Miles

Powder House (Gorilla)

San Antonio de Bexar

San Pedro Creek

Alamo Creek

Presidio de Rio Grande 175 Miles

Laredo 150 Miles

Mission Concepcion 2 Miles

Goliad Springs

San Antonio River

Alamo Ditch

Old Mill

Molino Blanco

Alamo

Gonzales 76 Miles

Powder House (Gorilla)

San Antonio de Bexar

San Pedro Creek

Alamo Creek

Presidio de Rio Grande 175 Miles

Laredo 150 Miles

Mission Concepcion 2 Miles

Goliad Springs

Essential Questions

Apply your knowledge:

Use notes and activities from this lesson to support your thinking process.

Think - Pair - Share

Using the lesson essential questions discussed at the beginning of the lesson and your newly gained perspective about the events of the Road to the Revolution, answer the following questions using text evidence.

Essential Questions - Exit Ticket

1. How does conflict cause political, economic, and social change?
2. Explain the lasting impact of the people and events leading to the Texas Revolution.
3. In what ways did the Mier y Teran Report and the Law of April 6, 1830 lead to the Texas Revolution?