

Letter, Martinez to Austin, Aug 14, 1821

Inasmuch as the Supreme Government of this Kingdom granted to your deceased father Mr Moses Austin permission to introduce three hundred Louisianan families who through him petitioned to establish a new settlement in this province under my command, and as you have in consequence of the death of your father come to this Capital charged by him with that trust for the benefit of said families, I have therefore to say to you, that you can proceed to the river Colorado and examine the land on its banks, which may be most suitable for the location of the beforementioned families, advising me of the place which you may select, in order that upon the arrival of the New Settlers, a competent Commissioner may be sent to apportion and distribute the lands; and as regards the transportation of their property, they have permission to effect it by sea or by land, as may suit their convenience, with the understanding that if it is done by sea, it must be landed in the Bay of San Bernard, where a new port of entry has been established by the Supreme Government, for which purpose and in consequence of the favourable information which this Government has received of you, and in order to facilitate the transportation of property, I grant you to sound the River Colorado, from the point where the new Town may be established to its mouth, without extending the sounding any further, and of which you will form as correct a map as circumstances may permit, which you will transmit to me. I have also to apprise you for the information of the said new settlers, that all provisions for their use, as well as farming utensils and tools, can be introduced free of duty and charge, but all Merchandise for Commerce or trade must pay the established duties. As the tranquility of this province under my command and even the individual interest of the said families require that the immigrants for who permission has been granted should be honest, virtuous, peaceable and industrious, as your deceased father offered to this Government, I expect you will devote the greatest care and attention to this important object, and reject all those who do not possess the qualifications above indicated, or who appear to be idle, unsteady, or turbulent, for you as their head will be responsible to the Government for the conduct of all of them, as you will be required to present certificates of recommendation for each of them, all of which I communicate to you for your information. God preserve you for many years. Bexar, August 14, 1821---Antonio Martinez, Governor of Texas---
--- To mr Stephen F. Austin

21 Aug 1821

Respecto aq. el gov. sup. de este Reyno ⁶⁹
concedido al difunto Padre del D. Martin Austin
el permiso p. la Emigracion de Dos familias Lui-
sianeras q. por su mediacion sollicitaron el establecim.
de una Nueva Poblacion en esta Prov. de mi
Cargo, y que por el fallecim. de dho. su Padre ha
venido vacante Cap. encargado p. aquel de la
misma Comision, a venficio de otras familias
debo decirle al que dize luego p. poderle pasar
al Rio Colorado y examinar en sus tierras
el terreno que le adapte y sea mas propo-
cionado p. la radicacion de las emigradas
familias, abriendo de qualquiera el elegido o p.
de que pueda pasar al arribo de los Nuevos
Pobladores. la Comision competente que esta ha-
cia y de Marcha el Repartim. de Tierras, y res-
peto a que las es permitida trasportar sus
Cienes. por Tierra o por Mar como mas les
acomode debo advertirle q. si lo eligieren en
por Mar debe decir desembarcarse en la
Bahia del Hermoso cuyo nuevo Puerto
esta concedida su apertura p. el sup. gov.
y p. el efec. y respecto a lo demas infor-
mes que tiene este gov. de la Comision del

Antonio Martinez to Stephen F. Austin, 14 August 1821, Box 126, Folder 6, p. 69, Records of the Spanish Collection, Archives and Records Program, Texas General Land Office, Austin, TX.

Se permite que p.^{ta} la Mayor Comodidad q.
pueda proporcionar ala Emigracion de
sus Enchepes pueda sondicar el Rio Colorado desde
el punto donde haya establecido la Nueva
Obtencion para la desembocadura, sin atener
nada a mas sus sondicamientos de lugo Operas.
podria firmadas su plans con la claridad y
dimension que le permitian su Conviene.
Cuyo plans dirigira V. a mi Mando.

Tambien debo advertirle al. q.^{ta} que
lo ponga en Conciencia de los Nuevos Pobladores
y los bienes de su sus, delabrando, y intru.
momo de artefactos pueden conducirlos a los
Nuevos desinos libre de todo derecho y carga,
pero los efectos comerciales y Mercenias
y Quinquilerias han de pagar el derecho de
Aranceles establecidos.

Como que ala tranquilidad y quietud
de esta Prov. a mi Mando y aun al intere
res propios de las familias pobladoras Comover
que la Emigracion consentida se componga
de gentes honrradas, de Virudes, tranquilos
y Laboriosas, como su tor difunto Padre
ofrecio al Gov. espero q. V. ponga el.

mayor Cuidad y Conato ^{en} Me incremente
sin procurand Persecha y no Admini Atodoy
aquelloy de que no le conuirtan Circunstantias
Indicadas, o se adicenta en elly Ogerancia o.
Conduera de poca seguridad que de todo ello
debe O. responder ael gov. como prinipal ca-
bera de todo ello, y queda de premer los docum-
tos de seguridad y conduera de cada uno de ellas
todo lo q. pongo en Memoria y Conuincio del
Doy que al. m. de V. de 14 de Agosto
a 1821. = J. D. Juan Austin