

[Cross]

No. 137:

The governor of the province of Los Texas, having received with Your Lordship's ofisio of the past September 16 two commissions for first alfér[e]s[e]s of the company of this presidio, one for d[o]n An[toni]o Trebiño, and the other for d[o]n Marzelo Valdés, returns to Your Lordship that of the above-cited Trebiño, who died in this afore-mentioned presidio on the 24th day of the past month of September; and he at this time sends Your Lordship's superior order to the governor of Cohahuila, to effect the transfer of d[o]n Marzelo Valdés so that he may as-

My dear sir,

With your [letter] of the past September 16 I received the two commissions for first alfér[e]s of this presidio, ~~-fer-den-~~one for d[o]n An[toni]o Trebiño and the other for d[o]n Marzelo Valdés, so that, if I should by chance consider the former for appointment to this post, I might place him ~~-in-command-~~thenceforth in command. And if this were not done, I should return his corresponding [commission] to Your Lordship and make use of the order which you sent me, whereby the governor of the province of Cohahuila would allow^{lv} d[o]n Marzelo Valdés to transfer to this presidio

sume his respective post,
which proposal [the gov-
ernor] sends to Your
Lordship in triplicate.

to assume the afore-mentioned
post of first alf[e]r[e]s
of this company. I then
should propose to Your Lord-
ship what other position I

would assign to the above-

cited d[o]n Ant[oni]o Trebiño in the military profes-
sion, presenting [a record of] his merits and other
information surrounding the discharge of his duties,
so that he might be rewarded with an appropriate salary
for his good services.

With regard to all the preceding I inform Your
Lordship that on the 24th day of the past month of
September, in this presidio, d[o]n An[toni]o Trebiño
died, being in such indigence that it was necessary
for me to contribute my own alms towards the expense
of his illness and the cost//² of his burial due to
his poverty. With this incident there have fortu-
nately coöccurred Your Lordship's great precaution and
far-sighted wisdom in sending me the commission for
d[o]n Marzelo Valdés, and for this reason I am sending
to the governor of Cohahuila Your Lordship's order to
effect his transfer to this presidio, where upon his
arrival I shall allow him to assume his post, and I
am therefore sending to Your Lordship in triplicate

the proposal [for] his [appointment] on the terms which you set forth.

I am sending [back] to Your Lordship the commission of d[o]n Ant[oni]o Trebiño, whom I would never have placed in the position of first alf[e]r[e]s of this company [anyway], not because//^{2v} of a lack of merit, but because he did not know how to read or write, which Your Lordship knows to be such a great deficiency in an officer. And so, availing myself of the confidence and favor which you have seen fit to allow me, I would have consulted with him so that I might award him the rank of alf[e]r[e]s and designate for him a salary of 300 p[eso]s annually on which he could live decently and so that he might be assigned to this company to serve in those matters which he was qualified to carry out. But all of this is of nought due to his demise.

I am informed that//³ Your Lordship will name as chaplain of this company a cleric whose qualifications insure the competent fulfillment of his duties.

May Our Lord protect Your Lordship's life many years. Béxar, October 9, 1779.

Your Lordship's most devoted
and faithful servant
kisses your hand.

Lord Commandant General }
Cav[aller]o de Croix }

Dom[ing]o Cabello

[A.L.S., 1-3 pp., 10/9/1779]