

[Cross]

Number 483

The governor of the province of Los Texas, in compliance with Your Lordship's superior order of June 13th of this current year--concerning his providing his opinion on the advantages that might obtain from consolidating the meager forces of this province at a single place--informs Your Lordship that, despite the scanty talents he has for comprehending a matter of such great import, he has applied his feeble resources to obeying the afore-mentioned order. He therefore encloses a memorial, composed of 166 paragraphs, in which

My dear Sir:

Im compliance with Your Lordship's superior order of June 13th of this current year--concerning my providing my opinion on the advantages that might obtain from consolidating the meager forces of this province of Los Texas at a single place in order to attain by such means the object which Your Lordship has pondered, and for which [object] you have been pleased to send me the documents bearing numbers 1, 2, 3, and 4--I inform Your Lordship that, despite the scanty talents I have for comprehending

he sets down what has appeared to him to be expedient for the attainment of the desired object.

a matter of such great import, I have applied my ^{lv}// feeble resources to obeying your respected orders.

To that end I enclose for Your Lordship a memorial, composed of 166 paragraphs, in which I have poured forth everything my meager capacity can produce. I find myself quite doubtful whether I have managed to fill the compass of Your Lordship's well-deliberated intentions, for I know that in spite of my efforts my ideas might not be in harmony with those of Your Lordship. But by virtue of Your Lordship's having let me know that I am free to word my reports in the way I judge them to be most conducive to the desired end, in explicating this matter [of consolidating our forces that are in Texas] I have expatiated on it so much that I fear I can be accused of prolixity. In this letter I omit my response to several points contained in Your Lordship's official communication, because I have expounded everything ²// in the enclosed opinion. I beseech Your Lordship to look closely at what I state in paragraphs 162 to 166, in view of vital facts set forth therein and in view of my foreseeing incidents that will necessarily befall me in the execution of the afore-mentioned project.

Our Lord protect Your Lordship's life many years.

Béxar, December 20, 1781.

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

Lord Commandant General }
Cavallero de Croix }

Dom[ing]o Cabello [Note: Signature is not
autograph]

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[L.S., 1-2 pp., 12/20/1781]