

Year of 1781

Bando of proper administration published in order that no one may fire muskets or fowling pieces around this presidio, that no woman may walk through the streets shouting or making other disorderly noises during a threat of the enemy, also that youths may not walk through the streets emitting their customary cries, and that dogs be killed in view of how dangerous they are under the present circumstances; and proceedings conducted for the collecting and use of the fines which have been imposed.

[cross]

Don Domingo Cabello, Colonel of the Royal Armies, Governor and Commander of Arms of the Province of Los Texas, its Missions, Conquests and Frontiers, Captain of the Cavalry Company of the Royal Presidio of San Ant[oni]o de Béxar, [and] Inspector General of the Militia Corps and Presidial Troops of the said Province by Commission Conferred by the Lord Commandant General of the Interior Provinces of this Kingdom of New Spain.

In view of the lack of consideration and reflection of a few citizens who, ignoring the state of alarm in which we find ourselves, fired shots at six o'clock and later on Sunday afternoon, the first day of the present month, their lack of caution giving cause to believe that [the shots] were fired by the enemy, so that it was necessary to have a party of troops go out immediately to take notice of what incidents might have occurred; therefore the following precautions are announced.

1st ... That no one is to fire a shot at the present time around this presidio, under penalty of one month's labor in public works in fetters. Persons of rank shall pay a fine of six pesos to be applied in lieu thereof.

//^{lv} 2nd ... That no woman, of any status or class whatever, shall walk through the streets shouting or making

vehement gestures when there is any threat of danger, under penalty whereby she shall be taken captive to the guard-house and shall afterwards be exposed to ridicule tied to one of the horse-taming posts of the troops of this company, which are in the plaza de armas.

3rd ... That in view of the boisterousness of youths who,

by the poor upbringing given them by their parents, are allowed to be in gangs in the streets, shouting and playing games, and disrupting tranquility and the provisions necessarily taken and expedited according to present circumstances, parents are advised to keep them at home and not to consent to their present disorderly mode of behavior.

For if they behave as they have until now, they shall be taken and carried to the guardhouse, where they shall be given one hundred blows on the backside at the hand of one of the fiscales of these missions.

4th ... In view of the apparent increase in the number of

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// dogs and their entirely unnecessary existence in this presidio, and because their much barking and growling cause it to be impossible to make the rounds or to notice if the enemy enters this presidio, I order that all residents, dwellers, and inhabitants attempt by any means [necessary] to kill them, even if they are not their own, unless they are kept within the doors of their houses. And on whoever does not do so a fine of six pesos shall be imposed. For

it is easy to follow [this order], and not doing so demonstrates what little heed is paid to the bandos and orders given for the better government of this society. And so that no person may plead ignorance of the items announced, I order and command that they be published by bando, to the sound of drums, in the usual plazas and streets. Done at this Royal Presidio of San Ant[oni]o de Béxar, on the second day of the month of April, in the year seventeen hundred eighty-one, before the attendant witnesses with whom I act in the absence of a notary, doing so on this plain paper, as there is none stamped.

Dom[ing]o Cabello
[Rubric]

[cross]
Josef Plázido de Monzón
[Rubric]

Pedro Días del Castillo
[Rubric]

[D.S., 1-2 pp., in E. 4/2/1781-4/23/1781]

Royal Presidio of San Ant[oni]o }
de Béxar, April 3, 1781 }

On this date the foregoing bando was published, as evidence whereof I place [this] in the proceedings and certify it.

Domingo Cabello
[Rubric]

[D.S., 2 p., in E. 4/2/1781-4/23/1781]

Auto At the Royal Presidio of S[a]n Ant[oni]o de Béxar
 and villa of S[a]n Fern[an]do, on the twenty-third
day of the month of April, in the year seventeen hundred
eighty-one, I, Don Domingo Cabello, Colonel of the Royal
Armies, Governor and Commander of Arms of the Province of
Los Texas, its Missions, Conquests, and Frontiers, Captain
of the Cavalry Company of the Royal Presidio of S[a]n
Ant[oni]o de Béxar, [and] Inspector General of the Militia
Corps and Presidial Troops of the said Province by Commission
Conferred by the Lord Commandant General of the Interior
Provinces of this Kingdom // ³ of New Spain, do state [the
following]: These past few days have shown what little
respect and fear and what disobedience some persons from
this vicinity have had. In spite of publication of the
bando preceding, they have not ceased to commit the firing
of shots prohibited in article 1 of the content thereof.
They have given cause for some alarm, since they might have
been fired by some of the multitude of the enemy from the
Comanche nation, who commit hostilities against the bounds
of this presidio, in such grave detriment to the citizenry
thereof. In spite of proceedings conducted, it has not been
possible to learn who the offenders were. Thus they have
continued in their crime without the appropriate punishment.
Miguel Gortaris, a citizen of this [presidio and villa],
committed the same offense, firing a shot at about three

o'clock in the afternoon on the said day, causing such a commotion and disturbance in the vicinity, forgetting the fear, obedience, and respect which he ought to have had for the well-planned and effective orders issued for the better discipline and direction of the populace. Since it is not ^{3v}// feasible to forego making the provisions of the said bando prevail, and so that his punishment may serve as an example to curtail the chaos of disobedience, I have ordered him apprehended and placed in the guardhouse of this presidio. Being a person of rank by virtue of his being the son of the alguazil of this cavildo, he was notified to tender the fine, which he tendered, and which I, the aforementioned governor, consider delivered. In consequence thereof I have designated it for its purpose: a latch with a key was made for the large door leading from this Royal House to the plaza, since it was without security and the said Royal House was totally exposed to any invasion or raid whatever for lack of a latch with which to secure it. The six libras of iron purchased to make the said latch with its plate, key, spikes, and eyes cost eighteen reales, and the making of the said parts and installing it on the door [cost] three pesos, bringing the total to five pesos and two reales. Adding thereto six reales paid for the wooden frame for a lantern for the expressed Royal House, six pesos was spent on these works, ⁴// equalling the fine

assessed the afore-mentioned Miguel Gortariz. In consequence thereof I do command--as it behooves me to command--that the said six pesos of the afore-cited fine be considered spent and applied to a purpose indispensable to the safety and propriety of the Royal House afore-mentioned, since it redounds to the benefit of the conservation thereof. For it is one of the public works which merits most commendation. Thus I have provided, ordered, and affixed my signature before the attendant witnesses with whom I act in the absence of a notary, doing so on this plain paper, as there is none stamped. This I certify.

Dom[ing]o Cabello
[Rubric]

[cross]
Josef Plázido de Monzón
[Rubric]
attendant witness

Pedro Días del Castillo
[Rubric]
attendant witness

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