

[cross]

No. 29

Copy

My dear sir: Under date of the 8th of [the month] just ending, I received a detailed official letter from Your Lordship, the spirit of which is intended to inform me that you are aware that, on a decision by the Most Excellent Señor Conde de Galbes, captain general of the provinces of Louisiana and Florida, a new settlement is being formed at the mouth of the Colorado River, on the Northern Sea [Gulf of Mexico]; that a number of families and troops from the city and port of New Orleans have moved to that location; that it is essential that Your Lordship take all possible steps to investigate the truth of this matter, so as to be able to inform the lord commandant general thereof, since the territory on which the aforementioned settlement is founded is on [land] pertaining to the jurisdiction of the governorship under Your Lordship's command, and you have not been informed by the cav[alle]ro governor of the province of Louisiana of such an occurrence; [and therefore] you have advised me to arrange for Don Ant[on]ilo de Mecieres, second alferes in the company under my command, to go out with a competent party of troops from the same [company] and some residents from this presidio to carry a packet which Your Lordship deigned to remit to me [which is] addressed to the commander of the afore-cited new settlement.

When the afore-mentioned official letter came to me on the 13th day of the present month, I immediately ^{lv} // made provisions for it to have the most prompt compliance, and in fact on the following day, the

14th, the departure of the afore-mentioned officer took place, with one sergeant and twenty men from the troops, six residents, and one Jaraname Indian from the mission of El [E]sp[í]ritu S[an]to as a guide. I delivered to the assigned officer (after informing myself of its content and sealing it) the letter Your Lordship wrote to the assumed commander of the new settlement and also instructions which I formed in accordance with the notices and advice of Your Lordship concerning the form and method with which he was to conduct himself, in order to complete this assignment methodically and instruct himself on all [that he could learn], to the end that Your Lordship might be fully apprised. Finally, I charged him concerning what he should do in order to punish the Carancahuazes, should he encounter them.

On the 26th day of the stated month the aforesaid officer returned, bringing word to me that he had not found on either side of the mouth of the Colorado River the slightest trace of a new settlement being set up, nor did he find a single person to take note of. He assured me he had put forth the most diligent efforts in the said inspection, but all were fruitless. What he did see was some abandoned rancherias of the Carancahuazes. And though he did not see [the Indians themselves], he inferred that they were nearby, for they sent up many [columns of] smoke. But though, for our part, we replied to them with the same signal and called them, they did not appear // ² or allow themselves to be seen. And since [de Mecieres] has returned the packet from Your Lordship which he took for the commander, I am enclosing it for you, together with the daily record, which the same officer formed on his journey and delivered to me. And since what is

expressed [herein] is all that occurred in the afore-cited particular matter, it seems to me that due and literal obedience has thereby been given to the orders of Your Lordship, whose life I pray God may protect many years. Bahía, 30th of July, 1785===Your Lordship's most affectionate and attentive subordinate===Luis Cazorla===Señor Don Domíngolo Cabello

[C.C., 1-2 pp., in E. 7/30/1785-8/4/1785]

[The afore-going] is a copy of the original thereof, to which I refer, as evidence whereof I have certified it at this Royal Presidio of San Antonio de Béxar, on the 4th day of the month of August, in the year seventeen hundred eighty-five.

Domíngolo Cabello
[Rubric]

2v
// [Blank]

[D.S., 2 p., in E. 7/30/1785-8/4/1785]