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I have the honor to be, gentlemen, respectfully, your obd't serv't,  
 Sackfield Maclin,  
 Late Paymaster, U. S. A.  
 To T. J. Devine, S. A. Maverick, P. N. Lockett, Commissioners.

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REPORT NO. 2.

*General Rogers's Mission.*

Committee Room, March 7th, 1861.

To the Hon. O. M. Roberts,  
 President of the Convention.

The committee on Public Safety beg leave to report through you to the Convention that on the 14th day of February they were in session at the city of Galveston, and at that time they felt the great necessity of having more arms than were to be found in the State, and the Hon. Geo. Williamson, commissioner from Louisiana to Texas, being then in that city, they caused the chairman of the committee to address him a communication, which with the answer thereto is herewith submitted:

Galveston, Texas, Feby 14. 1861.

To Geo. Williamson,  
 Commissioner from Louisiana to the State of Texas:

Dear Sir:

The committee on Public Safety regret to have to make known to your State through yourself the unfortunate condition of Texas as to arms for her people. Should coercion be the policy of the incoming administration at Washington, we hope to bring into the field as many strong arms and brave hearts as our Southern sisters, but in this crisis we must ask them to lend us whatever spare arms they may have. The committee beg to know of you what assurances you can give to Texas in behalf of your gallant State on this subject. Especially, sir, would we ask of you your individual efforts in our behalf to secure for us the two pieces of ordnance, well known in the history of Texas as the "Twin Sisters." We are informed that they are now in the hands of the State of Louisiana, having been lately taken from the Federal government.

In conclusion, sir, allow me in behalf of the committee to extend to you the highest regards of each member, for yourself personally.

and their best wishes for your welfare and happiness and that of your people.

I have the honor to be very respectfully, your obd't serv't,

Jno. C. Robertson,  
Chrm'n Com. of Public Safety.

Galveston, Feby 17th, 1861.

Hon. J. C. Robertson,

Chrm'n of the Com. of Public Safety.

Dear Sir:

In reply to your note of this date, I beg leave to state that owing to the timely and patriotic action of the governor in seizing the U. S. forts and arsenals in Louisiana the State is abundantly provided with arms. It is needless for me to assure you that the State I have the honor to represent as commissioner feels the liveliest interest in everything that pertains to the safety and protection of Texas. Relying upon this feeling and knowing personally the governor, I can assure you he will do all in his power to supply the want of arms you say now exists in Texas. Her gallant sons who are so eager to again recover her independence should have the means to accomplish their desire. I shall use every effort in my power to accomplish your wishes, both in regard to the arms and to the historic "Twin Sisters."

Permit me to suggest to your committee the propriety of sending a commissioner to the State of Louisiana to negotiate for a loan of arms and munitions of war, vested with full authority to receipt for the same in the name of the State of Texas. I shall heartily co-operate with him.

I beg leave to tender my thanks to yourself and the committee for the courtesies extended to me during my agreeable visit to your State.

With assurances of my kindest regard and respect, I have the honor to be, your obd't serv't,

Geo. Williamson,  
Com'r of the State of Louisiana.

They further report that from the tenor of said letters in answer to the communication from the committee, they were encouraged to make the effort to obtain some of the arms with which the State of Louisiana was so abundantly supplied. They accordingly issued to James H. Rogers, one of this committee, a commission to proceed to accomplish that object, which commission, together with his instructions as to the disposition of said arms, are herewith submitted:

*Commission.*

Committee Room, Galveston,  
Texas, Feby 20th, 1861.

To Gen. James H. Rogers.

Sir:

You are hereby commissioned as a special officer to proceed at once to the city of Baton Rouge, in the State of Louisiana, and there confer with the governor of said State, or other legally constituted authority, for the purpose of procuring therefrom as many arms as you can obtain for the use and benefit of the people of Texas, and in the event of your failing to obtain the same, or a sufficient number thereof from said State to answer the present urgent demand therefor in Texas, you shall, if in your judgment it be right and proper to do so, proceed at once to the State of Alabama on a like mission.

Jno. C. Robertson,

Attest,

Chrm'n of Com. on Pub. Safety.

R. T. Brownrigg,

Sec'y to the Committee.

*Instructions.*

Resolved, That the commissioner appointed to visit the State of Louisiana for the purpose of procuring arms for the use of the State be instructed to dispose of the same in the following manner, viz:

One-half of the arms to be obtained by him shall be shipped to J. M. and J. C. Murphy, Jefferson, Marion County, Texas, subject to the order of the Convention, and the other half to E. B. Nichols & Co., Galveston, Texas, subject to same order.

A few days after the departure of the said commissioner, he returned to this committee the following encouraging communication:

New Orleans, Feby 23, 1861.

Hon. Jno. C. Robertson,  
Galveston, Texas.

My Dear Sir:

I arrived here safe yesterday morning, met that prince of gentlemen, Col. Williamson, and have conferred with him fully on the object of my mission. He had just returned from a visit to the governor at Baton Rouge, whither he went as our friend on the subject of arms.

He gave me the kindest assurances of the friendly feelings of the governor and of the people of Louisiana to our cause, and introduced me to Gen. Bragg, who assures me of the loan of 5,000 stands of arms and gives me letters to the governor, stating the ability of Louisiana

to spare so many—2,000 percussion and 3,000 flint and steel. I have seen the arms; they are good and in prime order, and I shall receive them, believing it to be for the interest of Texas.

Col. Williamson says he has procured the legislature of this state to dress up and remount the "Twin Sisters," and has their assurance that they will then be presented to Texas by Louisiana.

Gen. Bragg says he has assurances from U. S. officers in Texas that, if they are properly treated, they will come into the Texas service, and strongly recommends mildness and courtesy towards them, that such a course will bring them to us and make them a breast work for our defence.

Allow me to recommend respectfully the views of Gen. Bragg on this subject as being those of wisdom and prudence, and to beg that they may be adopted.

I shall leave this evening for Baton Rouge, and will get back to Austin as soon as I can.

Once more—mildness and peace are the true policy for Texas. Give the officers and soldiers a chance, and all will be well. For God's sake and the interest of Texas avoid harshness and blood—the latter is ruin, the former prosperity and safety.

In much haste, very respectfully,

James H. Rogers.

The committee have the pleasure to announce to the Convention that said commissioner has returned from his mission, and submitted to the committee the following report and accompanying documents, all of which they respectfully submit to the Convention as a part of this report.

The committee further state that at the very earliest possible moment they will furnish further reports of their proceedings.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully,

Jno. C. Robertson,  
Chrm'n of the Com. on Public Safety.

*Report of Jas. H. Rogers and accompanying documents.*

Austin, Texas, March 5th, 1861.

To Hon. J. C. Robertson,  
Chrm'n of Com. on Public Safety.

Sir:

In obedience to instructions given me, and acting by authority of the Convention of the State of Texas, as commissioner to the State of Louisiana, charged with the duty of procuring arms of that State for the defence of Texas in case of invasion, I have the honor to report:

That on the 20th day of Feby, 1861, I left the city of Galveston, and on the 22nd reached the city of New Orleans, and entered immediately upon the discharge of said duty.

It affords me great pleasure to state to you, and through you to the Convention, that owing to the kindly aid of the late commissioner from the State of Louisiana to the State of Texas, Col. George Williamson, and also that of Maj. Gen. Bragg, and the warm feeling of friendship entertained by the governor of the State towards Texas, I had but little difficulty in the discharge of my mission.

On the 23rd day of Feby, I had the honor to address his excellency the governor of the State of Louisiana the communication here to appended, marked No. 1, and received from him promptly an order for 5000 stands of arms, 4250 flint and steel and 750 percussion muskets.

Whilst this order was being filled, the news of the capture of the arms and munitions of war at San Antonio, and the subsequent agreement between our commissioners at that point and Brv't Maj. Gen. Twiggs for the withdrawal of the Federal troops from Texas, and the surrender of the arms at the various posts in Texas, was received by Gov. Moore, who immediately addressed me the appended note, marked No. 2, limiting the original order to 1000 stands of muskets, with assurance that should necessity require it this loan should be increased.

I would further report that on the 26th day of Feby I received, by order of the governor, the said arms. In obedience to your instructions, I immediately had shipped 500 stands to Mesrs. J. M. and J. C. Murphy, Jefferson, Marion Co., Texas, and 500 stands to Mesrs. E. B. Nichols & Co., Galveston, where they now are, subject to the order of the Convention. It was impossible to procure either cartridge boxes or ammunition, as the State of Louisiana was not sufficiently provided to extend the loan. Failing in this and deeming it necessary to ascertain where the State of Texas could most speedily supply herself, I instituted inquiry in the city of New Orleans, and am able to furnish the committee with satisfactory information upon that point, by appending statement marked A.

The muskets I receipted for in the name of the State of Texas, and have pledged the faith of the State for their return or payment at their appraised value. I have the pleasure to inform you that through the agency of Col. Williamson the legislature of the State of Louisiana has ordered the "Twin Sisters," the San Jacinto thunderers, to be remounted in fine style and presented by the State of Louisiana to the State of Texas, which I am assured will shortly be done. I feel confident that this delicate demonstration of regard for our State

will be duly appreciated by yourself and the gallant people of Texas whose interests you represent.

Having been instructed to make application to the State of Alabama for a similar loan of arms, etc., whilst in New Orleans I telegraphed our delegates at Montgomery, enquiring as to the chance of success in that quarter, and received from the Hon. W. B. Ochiltree the following reply :

Montgomery, Feby 22, 1861.

Gen. J. H. Rogers,

Alabama having to support Florida can spare no arms to Texas for the present.

W. B. Ochiltree.

I therefore did not prosecute that branch of my mission further, deeming it unnecessary to do so. An invoice of ordnance and ordnance stores, receipted for by me, I herewith transmit to you, marked B, together with the other documents referred to for your inspection. I cannot close this report without expressing my heartfelt gratitude, as a citizen of Texas, to his excellency Gov. Thos. O. Moore, to Gen. Bragg and to Col. Geo. Williamson for their generous kindness to me whilst acting as your agent.

Trusting that I have satisfactorily discharged the duty imposed on me, I have the honor to remain, yours most respectfully

James H. Rogers,  
Commissioner.

(Communication No. 1)

New Orleans, Feby 23, 1861.

To his Excellency the Governor

Of the Sovereign State of Louisiana.

Sir:

I have been honored by the State of Texas with the performance of a duty alike responsible and delicate. Your excellency has been notified that on the 1st day of Feby, A. D. 1861, the ordinance ratifying and acceding to the articles of annexation, passed on the 4th of July, 1845, were formally annulled by a Convention of the people of Texas, assembled at our capital city, Austin. The ordinance of secession was submitted for ratification or rejection to the people of the State to be determined at the ballot box on this the 23rd day of this month.

Such has been the confidence of the delegates in the action of the people that, although the Convention has taken a recess until the 2nd day of March next, active measures have been in the mean time taken to provide against the threatened attempt at coercion. Enter-

taining a lingering hope that a returning sense of justice would induce the dominant party of the old Union to pursue such course as would justify a continuance of that Union, our people have permitted the day of results to dawn upon them unprepared to a great extent for the collision that now seems inevitable. The determination of the people of Texas is fixed! Whatever may be the consequences, Texas has thrown her influence, and will throw her sword into the scales with her Southern sisters. The relations both social and commercial which have grown up and so closely entwine each make the interests and future destiny of Texas and Louisiana the same. The idea of a separate republic has never been seriously entertained by the people of Texas.

The enemies of secession have attempted to embarrass immediate action by intimating such a course. I beg to assure you, as the recent action of our Convention in sending delegates to the Montgomery convention indicates, that Texas will link her destinies with the fortunes of her sister cotton and sugar growing States, and the banner which waves over their patriotic sons, in peace or war, will float over the undaunted sons of the "Lone Star State." The mansion and cottage hearth-stone shall be made desolate, and the west bank of Red River become a frontier, before a hostile Federal troop will from her direction ever place foot upon the soil of Louisiana.

Circumstances require that Texas should appeal to Louisiana for arms in this emergency, and I have the honor to be commissioned for this purpose. I am prepared to guarantee to your excellency their proper use, and unless lost in glorious battle for freedom and equal rights their safe return.

I have the honor to be, sir, very respectfully, your obd't serv't,

James H. Rogers.

(Communication No. 2)

Executive Office, Baton Rouge.

La., Feby 25th, 1861.

To Gen. Jas. H. Rogers,

Agent for the State of Texas.

Sir:

In consequence of the news this day received of the withdrawal of Gen. Twiggs and his command from Texas, and of the State thus getting a large quantity of military munitions, I presume there no longer exists the want of arms which you were sent here to procure. But as the arms, etc., surrendered by the retiring corps of the United States troops are in western Texas, leaving eastern Texas comparatively destitute, I have ordered 1000 stands of muskets to be issued



for the purpose of being sent to Jefferson for distribution in that portion of the State.

Should my inference from the reported retiring of Gen. Twiggs and command prove erroneous, I shall respond to a renewal of your call for a loan of arms by promptly shipping such as we may then be able to spare.

Fully approving the active preparation made by the authorities of Texas for her defense, and desirous of aiding them in every proper way, I remain, very respectfully, your obed't serv't,

Thos. O. Moore,  
Gov. of the State of Louisiana.

(Document A)

Statement from P. Rotchford, Agent for the DuPont's powder..

United States cannon powder,	\$6.00
100 Keg rifle,	6.00
500 Keg musket,	6.00

at the powder magazine.

Common cannon powder is only \$5 per keg, for blasting and for saluting purposes.

It will be necessary to give some timely notice in order to have any quantity of powder. We have only some rifle powder at \$5, which is considered good, but only one or two hundred kegs, it would no doubt do for cannon as it is strong.

P. Rotchford, 49 Union St.

(Document B)

Invoice of ordnance, and ordnance stores, turned over by H. Oladowski, commanding Baton Rouge Arsenal, to James H. Rogers, agent of the State of Texas, in obedience to order of governor and commander-in-chief of the State of Louisiana army.

1000 Muskets, altered to percussion model, 1822.

1000 Screwdrivers for percussion arms.

1000 Cones, " "

1000 Wipers for muskets " "

100 Ball screws, " "

100 Screw vices, " "

50 Arm chests.

I certify that the above is a correct invoice of ordnance and ordnance stores, turned over by me, this 26th day of Feby, 1861, to James H. Rogers.

H. Oladowski,  
Commanding Arsenal.