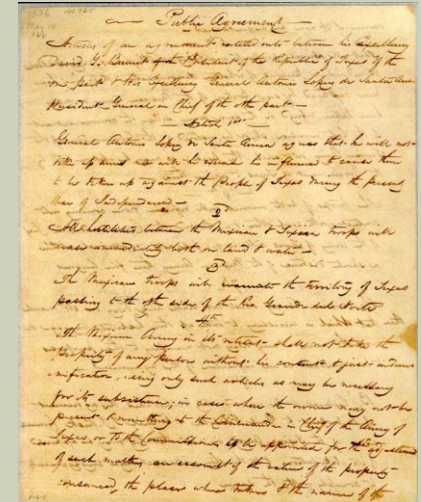


# The Republic of Texas



# TREATY OF VELASCO

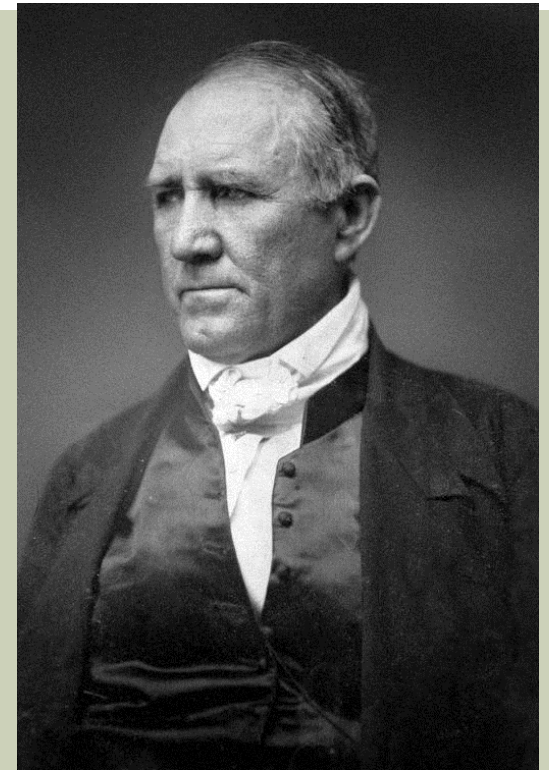
- **Public part:** Santa Anna agree to never fight against Texas again and to withdraw all Mexican troops out of Texas.
- **Private part:** Santa Anna would leave Texas alone, allow them to trade with Mexico and help establish the border between the two nations as the Rio Grande River.



# Problems in the New Republic

## Election of 1836

- Sam Houston - President
- Mirabeau Lamar - Vice President.
  
- The new Republic of Texas has problems:
  - i. Mexico won't recognize independence (surprise, surprise!)
  - ii. Natives want their land back
  - iii. Debt - war is expensive!



# Problems in the New Republic

Houston believed the solution to these problems was to annex, or join, the United States.

Houston appointed a cabinet of experienced leaders to help him and give advice on how to stabilize the young new country.

- Stephen F. Austin - Secretary of State
- Henry Smith - Secretary of Treasury
- Thomas J. Rusk - Secretary of War



# Death of Stephen F. Austin



- Stephen F. Austin died of pneumonia only three months after being named to Houston's cabinet.
- President Houston proclaimed a 30-day period of mourning in memory of him saying, "**The Father of Texas** is no more; the first pioneer of the wilderness has departed."

# A New Capital

- When David G. Burnett had been ad interim President, Columbia was the capital of Texas.
  - However, many people felt the town was too small and isolated.
- Two brothers, **John and Augustus Allen**, wanted to build a new town and name it in honor of Sam Houston.
- Sam Houston accepted, making Houston the second capital of Texas.

# Capital City of Houston

- After the town was built, many people disapproved:

oheat

ohumidity

odiseases

olarge mosquitoes

omuddy



- Although many people wanted the capital moved, **Houston kept the capital as the City of Houston** during his entire first term as President.

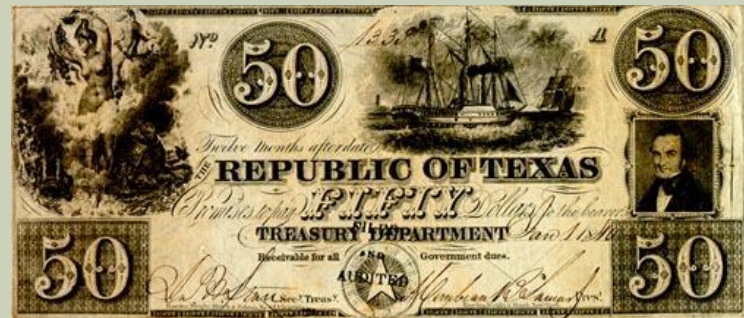
# The First Attempt at Annexation

- When Texans elected Houston, a majority of them also voted to **annex** (join) to the United States
- **John Quincy Adams** and others in the US voted to **NOT** allow Texas to join the US since Texas allowed slavery.
- After many attempts to join, Houston finally withdrew the request. He did not want to be embarrassed or have to beg.



# Financial Woes

- Debt was one of the biggest problems facing the new republic.
  - \$1 million in debt after the war
- **Houston's Solution:**
  - kept spending to a minimum
  - custom duties and property taxes
  - \$600,000 in promissory notes called *Star Money*



# Trouble in the Army

- **Mexico wouldn't recognize independence.**
- Volunteers from the US were still arriving.
- New commander, Felix Huston, wanted war.
  
- Houston's Solution:
  - Tried to replace Huston, but his replacement was wounded in a duel
  - **Sent all soldiers home**, except for 600, and never called them back to duty



**Texas**  
Republic of Texas  
Boundary Dispute  
with Mexico

# Houston's Native Texan Policy

- As Anglos continued to move into Texas, tensions with Natives continued.
- Texas Congress did not agree with Houston's plan, and refused Cherokee's land.
- Natives and settlers continued to fight, so Houston enlisted the help of the **Texas Rangers** to patrol the frontier.

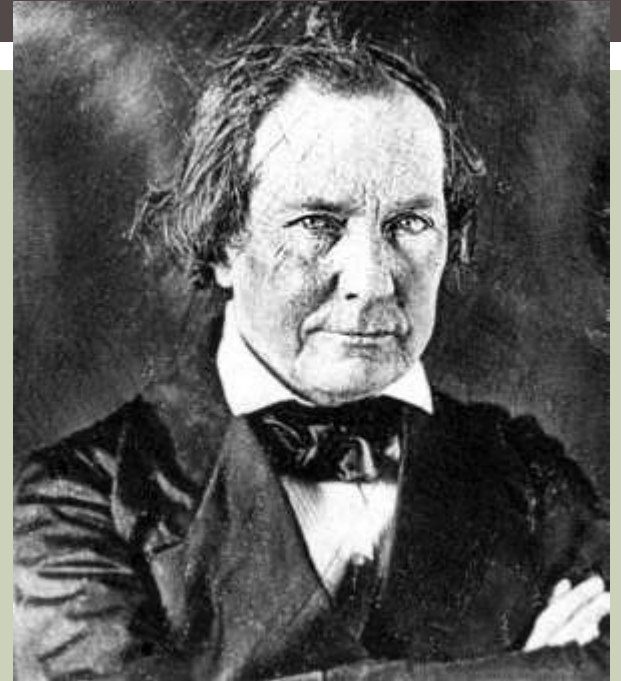


# The Election of 1838

- The Texas Constitution limited a president's term to 2 years. Also, a president could not serve 2 times in a row.

- So, in **1838**, Texans elected former Vice President **Mirabeau B. Lamar** as the 2nd President.

Lamar and Houston had very different views on how to lead Texas.



# The Republic of Texas Part 2

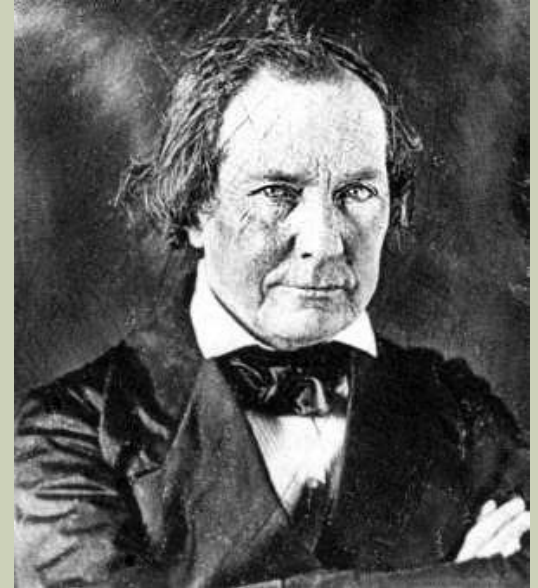


**New  
President,  
New  
Policies**

# Lamar's Plan for the Republic

## Election of 1838

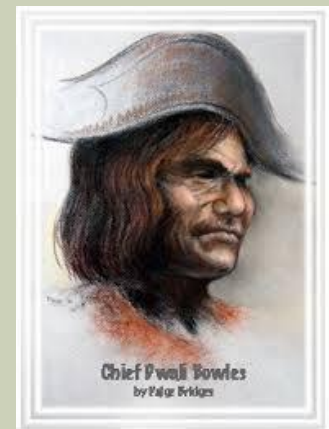
- President: Mirabeau B. Lamar
- Vice Pres: David G. Burnett
- Lamar's Presidency:
  - a.increase conflict w/ Mexico
  - b.eliminate Natives
  - c.spend more money
  - d.against annexation



*“If peace can be obtained only by the sword, let the sword do it's work.”*

# Clashes with Native Texans

- Lamar wanted to **kill or force out** all Natives
- Lamar instructed **Chief Bowles** (*leader of Cherokee who had signed the treaty with Houston*) **to lead Cherokee out of TX.**
- **Bowles refused**, so Lamar ordered the Texas militia to attack.
- Chief Bowles was killed and the **Cherokee were forced into Oklahoma.**





# Clashes with Native Texans

## **Council House Fight, *March 1840***

- leaders meet to discuss peace and release captives
- One captive delivered: Matilda Lockhart
- Texans become angry, which leads to a fight
- Unarmed Comanche leaders were killed, and 7 Texans

# Clashes with Native Texans

## **The Great Raid of 1840**

- The Comanche Chief, Buffalo Hump, feels betrayed and angry by the Council House Fight.
- Buffalo Hump leads the largest recorded raiding party of Comanche from the High Plains to the Texas coast. (reports say 400+ warriors and 400-500 woman and children to help)
- Numerous Texan settlements and towns are destroyed.

## **Battle of Plum Creek, *August 1840***

- Comanche return to Comancheria but are slowed down by all the horses and valuables that they got from the Great Raid of 1840.
- Texan army (led by Felix Huston) responds
- 100+ Comanche were killed by Texans

# Relations with Mexico

- Lamar sent the Texas Navy, led by Edwin Moore, to assist Yucatan rebels in Mexico
- Lamar wanted all the land agreed upon in the Treaty of Velasco.
- Therefore, Lamar felt 1/2 of New Mexico belonged to Texas.



# Relations with Mexico

## **Santa Fe Expedition, 1841**

- Lamar sent 270 troops to Santa Fe to convince New Mexicans that they were part of Texas
- New Mexico refused, wanting to remain a part of Mexico.
- Mexican authorities captured Texan soldiers and imprisoned them in Perote, Mexico until 1842.

# A New Capital

- Texans want a more central capital
- Lamar moved the capital 100 miles North of San Antonio, along the Colorado River (near Waterloo).
- Lamar named the new capital Austin in honor of Stephen F. Austin



# Education

- Lamar believed that a strong education system could make Texas a great nation.
- Congress set aside thousands of acres of land for public schools.
- 220,000 acres for two universities
- Lamar is known as the “Father of Texas Education”.



# Financial Woes

- Lamar expanded the use of “red backs”, which decreased their value (1 TX dollar = 12 US cents)
- Spent money on battles with Natives and the Santa Fe Expedition
- Public debt increased to \$7,000,000.



# Land Policy

- TX used land to attract new settlers and pay off our debt
- General Land Office:
  - created in 1837
  - in charge of recording land titles
- Texas returned to empresario system and gave away 37 million acres of land
- Population in 1836: 34,500
- Population in 1845: 100,000



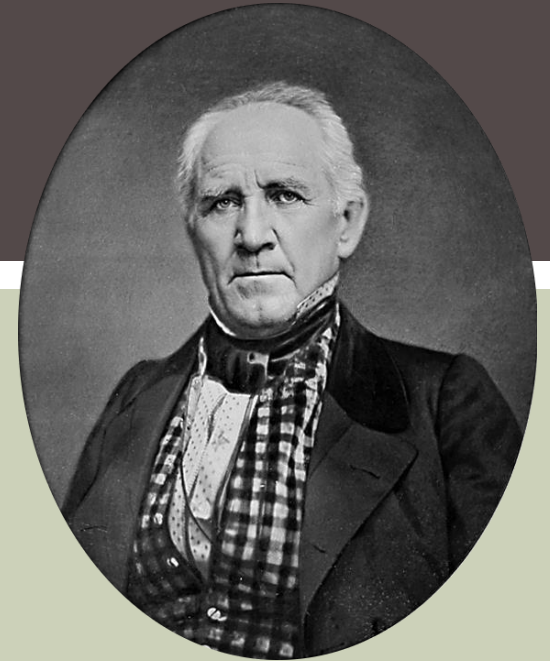


# Republic of Texas Part 3



**Houston's  
Return  
Leads to  
Annexation**

# Election of 1841



- **President: Sam Houston**  
(defeated David G. Burnet)
- Vice President: Edward Burleson
- A clear division existed between **Lamar supporters** and **Houston supporters.**
- Houston continued his previous plan:
  - 1) Prevent conflict with Mexico
  - 2) Spend less money
  - 3) Reduce military
  - 4) Annex to the USA

# Mier Expedition, November 1842

- Mexican General Vasquez took over San Antonio and declared Mexican control in September of 1842.



- Two months later, Mexican General Woll led 1,400 Mexican soldiers into Texas and retreated with 67 hostages.
- Texan General Somervell pursued them until stopping at the Rio Grande River border.

# Mier Expedition, 1842



- Texans were angry that we stopped, so a group **crossed the Rio Grande to pursue Mexican forces.**
- In the Mexican town of **Mier**, Texan soldiers demanded that the citizens provide supplies.
- **Texans were captured** and marched to Mexico City.
- Santa Anna ordered **1 of every 10 soldiers executed** and the others imprisoned for life (**black and white beans**).

# Archives War

- Houston moved the capital to **Washington-on-the-Brazos**.
- **Archives** (*public records and documents*) remained in Austin.
- Houston tried to have the archives moved, but the **citizens of Austin chased after the wagons carrying the archives** and returned them to Austin.

# Regulator-Moderator War, 1844

- **Feud between two groups in East Texas** that started during the days of the Neutral Ground Agreement.
- **Regulators** - use excessive force to control the lawlessness of the area
- **Moderators** - want to stop the excessive use of force
- Houston sent in 600 troops, which eventually ended the feuding.

# Election of 1844

- Texans elected **Dr. Anson Jones** as President (*defeated Houston's VP, Edward Burleson*)

- Jones was **pro-annexation**



- The new US President, **James K Polk**, also **supported the annexation of Texas** and the **westward expansion** of the USA.

(MANIFEST DESTINY)

# Annexation of Texas

- U.S. Congress approved a **joint resolution** in February 1845.
- Mexico agreed to recognize TX independence **if we rejected annexation.**
- Texas and US citizens voted for annexation and ratified a state constitution.
- **Annexation was announced in Feb. 1846,** making Texas the **28th state** in the USA!