(Duplicate)

Columbia
Dec. 10th 1836

Department of State

Hon. W. H. Wharton

It is certainly desirable that Texas should enter the American Union at once and undivided; but should you discover that this condition, if positively insisted upon is likely materially to affect the main object which is annexation; I am directed by the President to say that you are at liberty to waive it and agree to a territorial Government with the necessary guarantees as to a State Govt. so soon as petitioned for. This Govt. has too much confidence in the just and liberal principles by which the United States are governed to doubt that full and ample justice will not be done as in every respect.

Should you discover that Mexico is willing to give a quit claim for Texas to the U. S. I am also directed by the President to say that this Govt. will not object to entering the American Union by that means, provided that the leading principles and rights embraced in your instructions of 18th ult. are fully and

amply secured to Texas. You will therefore consider yourself invested with discretionary powers as to this particular.

The army and navy of Texas should be provided for in the treaty of annexation or such terms as may be considered just and expedient for both parties: you will therefore keep this point in view in the negotiation.

Respectfully
Your most Obt.
S. F. Austin
Secy State

P. S. You will by no means omit to exhibit your general instructions of 18th ult. to the President and Secretary of State of the United States.

S. F. Austin
Secy State