arrived at Velasco about the 11th. — I found the Cabinet convened at Harrisburgh, who confirmed my appointment and ordered me to the army, then encamped near Grove's on the Brazos. From that time till the disbanding of the army by President Lamar I was constantly in the public employ, without a single day's furlough excepting once in the winter of '38-'39 I had leave of absence from Gen. Johnston, then Secretary of War, for visiting New Orleans; and, on my return or shortly after, the army was disbanded.

Thus three years was one continued series of toil, anxiety and privation — devoting the whole of my time and attention to the patients under my charge vainly supposing that a government, too young as I imagined for corruption, would have remembered those officers who had served with fidelity and conscientiously discharged all the duties that devolved upon them: and I do know that the duties of no man in the service more arduous than mine, demanding the incessant exercise of my mental and physical capabilities, night and day, there being no moment I could call my own; but in the conscientious discharge of my duties I had the gratification of receiving the general approbation and confidence of both the officers and men, and this, as yet, has constituted my chief reward.