

our Soldiers families were all encamped there believing that to be the safest place of retreat, had Almonte obtained the boats his band of Savages would have been turned loose amongst the wives and daughters of our Brave Soldiers, and they would have been outraged. Our Army would have become demoralized, the Soldiers would have rushed to the Protection of their families, and the battle of San Jacinto would not have been fought, and Texas could not now rejoice over her jubilee day of Independence every candid and impartial mind must admit this fact, we destroyed the boats in the face of the enemy. Almonte finding himself defeated started with his Soldiers for the bridge which we knew had been burnt the day previous and that morning our advance guard came across them, when a fight ensued, which was the leading introduction to the Battle of San Jacinto, for all know the result, I was in hearing of the battle but could render no assistance, it was impossible to cross the river with Horse and arms, the 22<sup>nd</sup> or 23<sup>rd</sup> a courier arrived with the express from