fitting her out as originally contemplated,

If, but a short time before the first of December Congress again assemble, and you may rest assured, that I shall take the earliest opportunity to place the subject before them requesting a speedy action upon it

I remain very Respectfully
Your Obt. Servant
Wm M. Shepherd
Secrt. of the Navy.

Captain Hitchcock

I do hereby certify that the within written document being a Copy of a Letter addressed by William M. Shepherd then and at ~~the~~ date Secretary of the Navy of the Republic of Texas together with the annexed Documents are Correct copies of the Originals produced to me by Lieut. M. Hitchcock Serv. and are entitled to credit as such Witness my hand and Private Seal there being no Seal of Office at this Port of Galveston, Republic of Texas.

Stewart. Stowell, Consul