also the object of my mission to the United States, and more particularly as I had written to him from the United States, officially, making a report of my acts and doings, immediately after the news of his having been appointed President ad interim reached New York, which letter he had in an early part of our interview acknowledged to have received.

I had some private business with Mr Burnet, for which purpose I called on him the next day 2d July, and after that had been arranged, he informed me that Capt Turner then commanding at Galveston in the absence of Col Morgan had made a requisition on the Government for lumber, plank &c to build the fortifications barracks &c on Galveston Island; he also informed me that he had held a conversation with Mr Somerville acting Secretary of War who had confirmed substantially what I have above detailed with regard to my appointment in the artillery, and that he had been aware that my regiment comprised two battalions and that there had been two Lieut Colonels and two Majors appointed by the Provisional Government; that he had come to the conclusion to offer me a duty to perform which was not strictly military; but that I might refuse to comply with the order if I considered it inconsistent with my rank as Lieut Colonel, viz;