at the Steam Saw mill on San Jacinto. I also received a furlough for 20 days in order that I might place my family in some convenient situation in the vicinity of the mill, which order I never availed myself of, but passed over to Galveston and reported immediately to this place, when according to the order of Col Morgan written on the back of that of the Secretary of War, I was to find the 20 Mexicans, i.e. quartered among the inhabitants of Buffalo Bayou, and the waters of San Jacinto. On application to them for so many Mexicans, each according to the number they held, I was offered none but those that were, or had been sick and thus unable to work, and after scouring the country for three weeks, I was compelled to give it up as a bad job, and reported the fact to the Government at Velasco, through Captain Martin. I immediately wrote to Col: Morgan, at Galveston, informing him of the impossibility of procuring efficient hands to work the mill agreably to his order.

In about 3 weeks Major Lawrence, the Quarter Master at Galveston, arrived here with an order from the General commanding the army in the field, confirmed by the Secretary of War, ordering him to cause to be built for the use of the army, 50 Pirogues or Boats he came upon a person to procure one cool, efficient, able bodied