

Pittsburg, Texas Sept. 25th 1865

His Excellency Gov. A. J. Hamilton
Dear Sir

Accompanying this I send you statement of salt made by me, as agent of the Lone Star Board, for the present year with the disposition of same. I have paid off all outstanding claims except a few sacks of salt as a balance due a few persons, tho' they are satisfied to lose under the circumstances.

You will see an item of six thousand \$ of salt paid Mr. Stuelken of Smith Co, for horse stolen. I was hauling up some corn to the works last winter when one of my mules was taken sick and Mr. Stuelken was kind enough to loan me a horse, which horse was stolen from my horse lot the night the team reached the Saline. I felt bound to pay for his hire as I could never hear from him after diligent search. I sent Mr. Stuelken 2000 \$ salt, and before leaving the Saline last week Mr. Yorkmuth placed three thousand \$ more in the hands of Mr. D. C. Bogen to be delivered to Mr. F. whenever he chooses to send for it, and I am to pay for the hauling. I explained this matter to Mr. Dutcher who thought the horse ought to be paid for.

Besides the amount of \$1590.34, fifteen hundred and ninety dollars and thirty four cts used of my private funds there are two hundred paid Miss Harris for labor &c, and near two hundred in specie arrangements paid out for Bacon - I have sent eighteen months and used only 2000 \$ salt. Mr. Yorkmuth has been paid only three monthly wages, he is entitled to wages from May 1st 1864 - I allowed him one hundred dollars per month in Q.S. notes, but the Board would never tell me what they would pay me on in what kind of funds. The 50,000 per cent. notes, given me (put up in boxes of a little more than half they purport to contain) I have mostly on hand - about one third I sold at 75 per thousand - They are an inferior cop - made in Australia - and will not compete with those of Northern or foreign manufacture. If you are willing that I should retain them for my services and funds advanced by me I will gladly accept them, if you otherwise direct I am content to abide your decision and shall hold the copo subject to your order.

All the provisions on hand were consumed by the hands at work for the State. The beaver purchased from Mr. Hart for eighteen bottles were mostly consumed in 1864 - the hides were used for various purposes about the works and some delivered to Mr. Lusk at the rate of 40 \$ dry hides for one each set on the debt I owe. Some furongress

A. H. Aubrey
Sept 25/65

9-25-65

Hort pumps are paying five each salt per month for hands, I think must of mine for two and a half but then I was obligated to get certain amount of children not employed and this will account for the immense amount of provisions consumed. I had 33 hands employed, and during all the Spring seven teams three of which were on the road most of the time after Corn & C, as the roads were almost impassable and the distance great I had a set of black-smith tools which I took to the Soline and built a shop where I had all my work done this year, having two smiths in the lot of negroes in my employe. The iron used was three iron boilers taken from the furnaces. I sent up smelters for twenty-four kettles salt Hart & Farthing - I gave three damages 90^s for four sound 60^s. Hence I turned ^{over} to Mr. Swisher four 60^s more than he had one charged with. The balance of the 90^s were burnt out and cost off. The saddle given me by the "Board" was a very common one, and could not be used without hurting a horse. I gave it, a short time ago, to one of the night teamsters in the State service, for repairing a wagon in his own time. It was really of small consideration, as Mr. Swisher can testify.

I have been thus particular from the fact that I desire to account honestly for everything that I have seen to be in my possession belonging to the State. Many of the items were stolen from me. The negroes would report their ones stolen when I had good reason to believe that they had sold them.

As I remarked in a former communication to you I reported to the U.S. Treasury Agent, and I now incline you his name means to show you that I have all the time endeavored to act in harmony with the proper authorities. At that time I had not heard of Your Excellency's arrival at Austin. When Col. Rogers brought word of the fact he also informed me that an agent would soon be here to look after the State property, so I awaited his arrival before reporting to you. In fact I had no means of sending a letter to the State Capital.

With great regards
 Your obt. servt.
 A. H. Aubrey (TX)
 Late agent &c.