

Executive Department,
Austin, Texas, 1865, March 21.

Capt. Geo. Williams,

Sir,

I have in the
Office your letter of Feb'y 12th from
Matamoros, and I need not say to you
that its contents surprised me. Why is it
that you have so acted that you have
brought blame upon yourself, which
you own. You have inflicted an
injury, not only upon the credit of
the State, but upon me as her Executive,
upon yourself, and upon Genl. Nichols,
by withholding the funds belonging to
the State from the Treasury. How
came the funds of the State in Havana?
You report the cotton sold at Eagle
Pass, and at Eagle Pass prices.
Your Report shows that this cotton
was sold before the 1st Sept'y 1864.
Why is it that the funds of the State
have been withheld until the 22^d of
March, 1865? I do hope that you
will be able to explain satisfactorily

this whole transaction. Genl. Nichols places the blame upon you, and you own the justice of the charge. I have no heart to play with the interests of my State or of my Country, when they are bleeding at every pore, and when the liberty of the people is in the balance, and the noble and brave-hearted, struggling upon the field of battle, to save the land from degradation and ruin.

Now, my dear Sir, I placed implicit confidence in your integrity; and in your skill as a man of business. When I asked you to assist Genl. ^{Nichols} in this Cotton business for the State, and I still hope and believe that my confidence was not misplaced. It is in your power to make this matter all right, and speedily. Will you do so, as an act of justice to yourself; to me, and to the State? Bring to the Treasury every cent of money due from you, and account satisfactorily for not having placed it in the Treasury long since. The State needs the money - it is her due.

Will you bring it forward without
further delay? Delay no longer
your Reports, and with the money
arising from this cotton transaction.

Let me hear from you,
and let me see you, at the
earliest practicable moment.

Very Respectfully
Yours Obt. Servt.

P. Hurst