

Governor's Papers: Pendleton Murrah
Folder 99
Dec. 22-30, 1864

Atto Cherokee Co Texas Dec^r 24/64

My Dear Sir

Enclosed you will find a clipping, taken from "Army Messenger" 10th Mo published at "Shreveport Louisiana"; and from what I learned whilst there last summer the State of Louisiana was actually manufacturing many articles of service to the Citizens & Soldiers of that State. And I would ask if the already small State of Louisiana with her ports all closed to the world, her navigable streams and one third of the better portion of her territory in possession of the enemy, another disputed and of little or no value to either party, her Citizens driven from their homes, and but the poorest portion of the State (if we except "Red River Valley" a portion of which is nearly laid waste) left to her? Can do so much in so short a time; What might the large & wealthy State of Texas with her seven hundred miles of seacoast, the blockade of which has so often been successfully run since the war began, an outlet into the friendly State or Empire of Mexico with which we can trade, An immense territory, a soil and climate adapted to every article of culture, a large and intelligent population, with large towns and Cities all over the State uninterrupted by invasions of the enemy, and with an army of nearly one hundred thousand brave men to defend her; I ask what she might not do? Why sir with a little energy on the part of her Governor, she could be teeming with manufactories of every kind and in every part of the State.

If Government to buy up large factories, import a supply of Carding and Spinning machines; put them up wherever there is steam or water power to run them

TX

in convenient places & well diversified through the state, where
any one could send their cotton or wool to be spun; thereby
lessen the labor of the women, and facilitate the work
of manufacturing clothing for our people, and supply our
Army with plenty good clothing. Commence also shoe &
hat factories in different parts of the state. Put up
Foundries convenient as possible to every portion of our State
to supply our families with cooking vessels: Let all other
manufactories be commenced that are necessary for our
use, comfort and convenience: And let the articles be sold to
our citizens at moderate and remunerative prices -

Then sir our great state will begin to develope her
many resources; then will we appear as we really are
a great people, a great nation in ourselves; we have every
advantage, every thing that is necessary already in the
State and if it is not developed it is the fault of our Govern-
nor. Our Confederate States Authorities are too
much engaged in other matters to look after the well-
fare of the Citizens. It is therefore the duty of our Governor
Should his duties be already too great, let him appoint
some energetic and enterprising person or persons to
attend solely to this important matter at once -

Please excuse the length of my letter I have been as brief
as the case would allow. Think it deserves attention -

I have the honor to be dear Sir

Your Very Obedt Servt

A. Soldiers -

of Hardeman's Brigade
And Citizen of Texas