

# CHAPTER 8

# Growing Tensions

## Why It Matters

Tensions increased between Texans and the Mexican government in the 1820s and 1830s. Some Texans believed that separation from Mexico—even if it meant war—was the only solution to their grievances. Other Texans believed it was possible to remain a part of Mexico. Stephen F. Austin’s imprisonment in Mexico City pushed many Texans into believing that war was necessary.

## The Impact Today

Almost all conflicts have two results that last longer than the wars themselves. First, hatred and suspicion often remain on both sides. Second, acts of courage are remembered long after the war. The Texas Revolution had both results.



1823

★ Santa Anna rebels against Mexico’s Emperor Agustín de Iturbide

1826

★ The Fredonian Revolt

1823

1825

1826

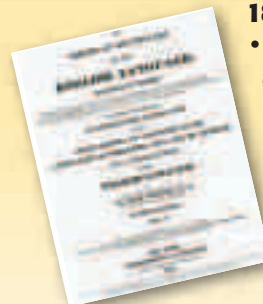
1828

1825

• World’s first public railroad opened in Great Britain

1828

• Noah Webster published an American dictionary





The many buildings in this view of Mexico City in the 1830s indicate the city's wealth and importance.

### Cause-Effect Study Foldable

Make this foldable to organize information and describe the events that led to growing tensions in Texas during the 1820s and the 1830s.

**Step 1** Fold one sheet of paper in half from side to side.

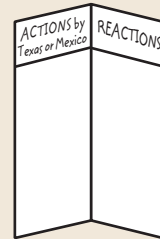


Fold the sheet vertically.

**Step 2** Fold again, 1 inch from the top. (Tip: The middle knuckle of your index finger is about 1 inch long.)



**Step 3** Open and label as shown.



Draw lines along the fold lines.

**Reading and Writing** As you read this chapter, record information that you learn about the actions and reactions of Texans and the Mexican government. Underline the actions and events you have listed that led to war.

**1830**

★ The Law of April 6 stopped immigration from U.S.

**1833**

★ Convention of 1833 prepared constitution

**1830**

**1830**

- Baltimore & Ohio Railroad opened first stretch of track

**1831**

**1831**

- Cholera epidemic spread to central Europe
- London Bridge opened

**1833**

**1833**

- American Anti-Slavery Society formed

**TEXAS HISTORY Online**

### Chapter Overview

Visit the [texans.glencoe.com](http://texans.glencoe.com) Web site and click on **Chapter 8—Chapter Overviews** to preview chapter information.

**CLICK HERE**



# The Difficulties Begin

## Guide to Reading

### Main Idea

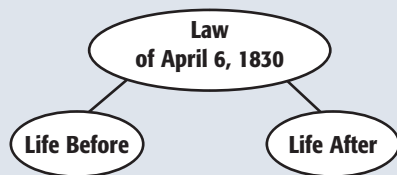
While the Anglo American colonists were concerned about Mexican rule, the Mexican government was concerned about the growing American influence in Texas.

### Key Terms

decree, exempt, customs duty

### Reading Strategy

**Analyzing Results** As you read this section, make a web like the one below, identifying ways the Law of April 6, 1830, changed colonists' lives.



### Read to Learn

- about the Republic of Fredonia.
- what Mier y Terán reported.
- why the Law of April 6 was alarming to the settlers.

### Section Theme

**Groups and Institutions** The Mexican government issued the Law of April 6 to offset the growing influence of Anglo American settlers.

### Preview of Events



General Manuel de Mier y Terán

## A Texas Story



The Mexican government, concerned about the growing American influence in East Texas, sent General Manuel de Mier y Terán (myehr ee teh•RAHN) on an inspection trip. "It is incredible," he wrote in 1828, "that the export of deerskins in less than a year has risen to 40 thousand in number. The export of bearskins amounts to 1,500. Otter and beaver have almost been [wiped out] because of the relentless pursuit of American trappers."

### Differences Create Tension

The opening of Texas to settlement in the early 1820s resulted in major changes. Trade expanded and the population grew. Farms and plantations produced corn, cotton, and sugarcane. At the same time,



differences arose between Mexican officials and the Anglo American settlers.

During most of the 1820s, when the **Federalists** held power in Mexico, the colonists were left alone. Anglo American settlers received land titles, cleared fields, and built their homes. They began to establish their own schools and newspapers. The colonists even brought in slaves, an action the Mexican government opposed.

When the **Centralist Party** came to power in 1829, it put an end to these independent acts. It issued regulations to bring the states and provinces of Mexico more under the authority of the national government. Most of the Anglo American colonists considered these regulations to be unnecessary and unfair. A series of clashes eventually resulted in a revolution.

**Reading Check Analyzing** When the Centralist Party came to power, what changed for the colonists?

## Trouble Begins in East Texas

The first clash between colonists and Mexican authorities came in 1826. The year before, the Mexican government had awarded a vast tract of land in East Texas to an empresario named **Haden Edwards**. Edwards was permitted to settle 800 families in the **Nacogdoches** area.

Edwards arrived in Nacogdoches in September 1825. He discovered that there were already many people living on his lands. His contract required him to recognize the rights of those

settlers who already held legal titles. Many of the early settlers, however, did not have clear titles to their property.

Edwards announced that all settlers must show their titles to him. All others would have to move or acquire a title from him. This angered many of the settlers, who included families from Louisiana. Also living in the area were Cherokees and Mexicans whose ancestors had lived there for decades. Political Chief **José Antonio Saucedo** (sow•SAY•doh) sympathized with the settlers and told Edwards that he could not charge them for new land titles.

## The Republic of Fredonia

**Benjamin Edwards**, Haden's brother, believed that his only hope for solving the problem was to declare the colony independent from Mexico. He made an alliance with **Richard Fields**, a Cherokee chief, and prepared for action.



### Picturing History

Haden Edwards and his wife show determination in their faces. Paintings from this period often showed people with their hands in their coats because it was easier for the painter not to paint the hands. **Why would Haden Edwards need to be a determined person?**

## Causes and Effects of Mexican/Anglo Conflict

### Causes

- The State Colonization Law of 1825 encourages immigration.
- New Anglo American settlers far outnumber Mexican residents.
- Mier y Terán's report warns of possible loss of Texas.

### Effects

- In the Law of April 6, 1830, Mexico forbids immigration from the U.S.
- New limits on trade with U.S. spark Anglo protests.
- Additional Mexican troops arrive in San Antonio.

### Graphic Organizer Skills

The Law of April 6, 1830, was the turning point in relations between the Mexican government and colonists.

**Analyzing Information** Why did this law ultimately have a negative effect?



On December 16, 1826, Edwards led a small group of 15 to 30 armed settlers in taking the Old Stone Fort in Nacogdoches. They raised a red and white flag bearing the words "Independence, Liberty, and Justice" and proclaimed the creation of the **Republic of Fredonia**.

The Edwards brothers appealed for help from Austin's colony and from the United States, but they received no assistance. Austin even offered to help the Mexican government put down the revolt. When Mexican troops from San Antonio approached Nacogdoches in January 1827, the **Fredonian Revolt** collapsed. Some of the Fredonians were captured, but most of them fled across the Sabine River into the United States.



## Mier y Terán Investigates

Although the Fredonian Revolt was a minor event and most colonists had refused to support Edwards, Mexican officials became worried. They thought the Fredonian Revolt was part of an American scheme to acquire Texas. Two hundred Mexican soldiers, commanded by **Colonel José de las Piedras** (PYAY•drahs), were sent to Nacogdoches to prevent new uprisings.

Mexican fears about Texas continued to grow. The U.S. ambassador to Mexico, **Anthony Butler**, proposed that Mexico sell Texas to the United States. This only reinforced Mexican suspicions that the United States wanted Texas. The Mexican government sent an inspection party to investigate, led by the soldier and scientist **General Manuel de Mier y Terán**.

Mier y Terán observed that the Anglo American influence was strong in East Texas since Anglo American settlers outnumbered the Mexican settlers by at least five to one.

In his report to the Mexican president, Mier y Terán expressed concern about the growing American influence in Texas. He made recommendations to the government concerning the future of the area. Mier y Terán made it clear that if the Mexican government did not act at once, Texas would be "lost forever."

Meanwhile, those colonists who held slaves were worried about government efforts to abolish slavery. In 1829 the president of Mexico issued a **decree**, or order, abolishing slavery. Texans tried to persuade Mexican officials to **exempt**, or excuse, Texas from the decree. Although never put into effect in Texas, the decree caused fear among many of the Anglo American slaveholders. They believed that it was only a matter of time before the decree would apply to them, too.



**Student Web Activity** Visit the [texans.glencoe.com](http://texans.glencoe.com) Web site and click on **Chapter 8—Student Web Activity** to learn more about the Fredonian Revolt in Texas.

**CLICK HERE**

**Reading Check Analyzing** Why was Anglo American influence so strong in East Texas at this time?

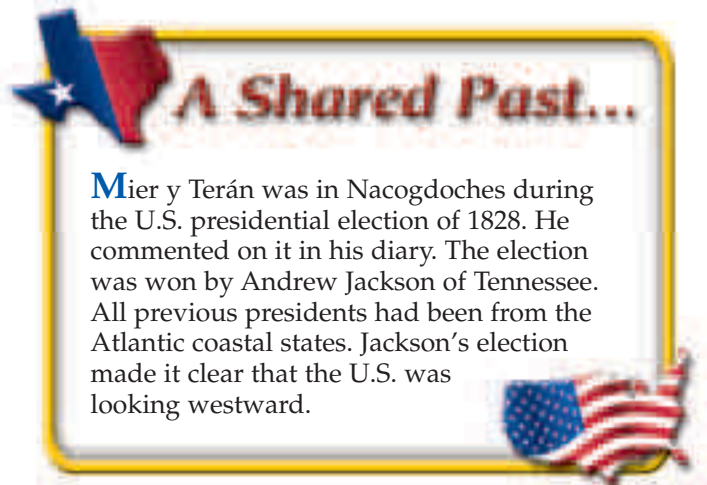
## The Law of April 6, 1830

On April 6, 1830, the Centralist government in Mexico issued a law based on many of Mier y Terán's recommendations. It stopped immigration from the United States. It also suspended most empresario contracts that had not been completed. Instead, the government encouraged the immigration of Mexican and European families to Texas with generous land grants and financial assistance. The law read in part:

*The introduction of foreigners across the northern frontier is prohibited under any pretext whatsoever, unless the said foreigners are provided with a passport issued by the agents of this Republic . . . [I]t is prohibited that emigrants from nations bordering on this Republic shall settle in the states or territories adjacent to their own nation. Consequently, all contracts not already completed and not in harmony with this law are suspended.*

—Texas Gazette, July 3, 1830

The law also set up new forts. Soldiers in the forts would prevent smuggling, the introduction of slaves, and illegal land speculation. Mexico discouraged trade between foreign nations and Texas by placing taxes called **customs duties** on goods made in foreign nations. Most Anglo American colonists considered these actions unfair.



Settlers in Texas were alarmed by the **Law of April 6, 1830**. The prosperity of many citizens depended upon continued growth and trade with the United States. Many colonists had friends and relatives who wanted to come to Texas. The Law of April 6, 1830, was an early turning point in relations between the colonists and the Mexican government. Each side began to distrust the other. Stephen F. Austin was concerned and tried to negotiate with Mexican leaders. He soon realized, however, that serious damage had already occurred in relations between Texas and the Mexican government.

**Reading Check** **Examining** Why did the Mexican government issue the Law of April 6, 1830?

## SECTION 1 ASSESSMENT

### Checking for Understanding

- Using Key Terms** Write a sentence using the words **exempt** and **customs duty(ies)**.
- Reviewing Facts** What was a difference between the Centralist Party and the Federalist Party?

### Reviewing Themes

- Groups and Institutions** Why was it so difficult for Anglo colonists to adjust to the Mexican government's restrictions?

### Organizing to Learn

- Sequencing** Create a chart like the one below and number these statements about the Fredonian Revolt in chronological order.

	Red and white flag was raised at the Old Stone Fort
	Haden Edwards arrived at Nacogdoches
	Fredonians fled across the Sabine River

### Critical Thinking

- Analyzing** What was the major significance, or impact, of the Fredonian Revolt? Consider the relationship between Texas and Mexico in your answer.

**Making Judgments** The Law of April 6, 1830, introduced many changes. What parts of the Law of April 6 might an Anglo American farmer object to?

# SECTION 2

# Rebellions, 1831–1832

## Guide to Reading

### Main Idea

Although conflicts continued in Texas, the colonists maintained their loyalty to the Mexican government.

### Key Terms

commerce  
import  
skirmish  
resolution

### Reading Strategy

#### Understanding Cause and Effect

Create a chart like the one below and list the effect of each event.

Event	Effect
Attempts to collect customs duties	
Turtle Bayou Resolutions adopted	
Conventions of 1832 and 1833	

### Read to Learn

- about the Anahuac protest.
- about the Turtle Bayou Resolutions.
- about the Conventions of 1832 and 1833.

### Section Theme

**Government and Democracy** The colonists and Mexico tried to resolve their differences.

### Preview of Events

◆ 1832

**June 13**

Turtle Bayou Resolutions are adopted

**June 26**

The Battle of Velasco

**October 1**

Austin is elected president of Convention of 1832

◆ 1833

**April 1**

Convention of 1833 proposes Mexican state of Texas

## A Texas Story



In 1828, General Mier y Terán reported to his government his views on some of the Texas colonists. “Foreigners . . . have this frontier of our federation open to them to enter without fulfilling the requirements of the law. This country is the asylum for fugitives from the neighboring republic [the United States] . . . [Farmers] settle where it suits them, and they take over whatever land they desire without the *alcalde’s* approval and in defiance of the laws.”

### Settlers Protest at Anahuac

The first serious conflict over Mexico’s actions occurred at the port town of **Anahuac**. Anahuac was the site of a small Mexican garrison established to control **commerce**, or the movement of goods, into Mexico.



A covered wagon, c. 1820

It was commanded by **John (Juan) Davis Bradburn**. A native of Virginia, Bradburn had fought against Spain for Mexican independence and was rewarded with the rank of colonel in the Mexican army.

Bradburn quarreled with the colonists living at Anahuac about several matters. The colonists accused him of taking supplies and refusing to give up runaway slaves. As commander of the garrison, Bradburn believed in the strict enforcement of all Mexican laws.

The tax collector at Anahuac attempted to collect customs duties on goods **imported** into Mexico from the United States. This angered the merchants because they would have to travel long distances to process the paperwork giving permission for such goods to cross the border into Mexico.

The final blow occurred in May 1832. Bradburn arrested and imprisoned two lawyers, **William B. Travis** and **Patrick C. Jack**, for interfering in his efforts to enforce the laws. About 160 settlers in two groups marched to Anahuac, demanding Travis's and Jack's release. **Frank W. Johnson** and **William H. Jack**, the brother of one of the prisoners, led one group from San Felipe. **John Austin** led the other party from Brazoria.

A small **skirmish**, or fight, occurred between the colonists and Bradburn. Bradburn agreed to release the prisoners if the colonists retreated from Anahuac. Not all the settlers withdrew, however. Bradburn refused to release the prisoners and called in extra forces to strengthen his position.

After another skirmish, the colonists realized that they needed more firepower. While the colonists made camp at Turtle Bayou, between Anahuac and Liberty, John Austin went to **Brazoria** to bring back a cannon.

## Colonists Adopt the Turtle Bayou Resolutions

While the colonists waited for John Austin's return, they adopted a number of statements known as the **Turtle Bayou Resolutions** on June 13, 1832. In the formal statements, called **resolutions**, the colonists declared their loyalty to Mexico. They denied that they were rebelling against Mexican authority. Instead, the colonists insisted that they were supporting **Antonio López de Santa Anna**. Santa Anna was leading a revolt in Mexico against Centralist President **Anastasio Bustamante** (boos•tah•MAHN•tay). Bustamante was unpopular with the colonists because he was ignoring the federal Mexican



### Picturing History

This cannon, an "eight pounder," was used in various military skirmishes by Texas colonists against Mexican troops. This same cannon was very likely used at the Battle of the Alamo. Today, it is on public view in San Antonio. **Why did the Texas colonists need to get the cannon from Brazoria?**





**TAKS PRACTICE**

The garrison at Anahuac was completed in 1831 as one of six garrisons built to enforce the Law of April 6, 1830. It overlooked the entrance to the Trinity River. *Anahuac* was the name of the ancient home of the Aztecs.

**Analyzing Location** Why would Mexican authorities build the garrison at that location?

## Clash at Velasco

Although peace and order were restored at Anahuac, a clash did occur at Velasco on June 26, 1832, near the mouth of the Brazos River. John Austin’s group had picked up a cannon at Brazoria and loaded it onto a ship. Judging them rebels, the Mexican commander, **Colonel Domingo de Ugartechea** (oo•gahr•teh•CHAY•ah), would not let them pass when they reached Velasco. Fighting erupted between the Texans and the Mexican troops.

The fighting at the **Battle of Velasco** was bitter, with loss of life on both sides. When the Mexican garrison exhausted its ammunition, Ugartechea surrendered. Austin’s group then sailed on to Anahuac with the cannon, only to discover that Travis and Jack had already been freed.

Meanwhile, those supporting Santa Anna were winning battles elsewhere, including one at Nacogdoches. In late summer 1832, Bustamante resigned as president of Mexico, and Santa Anna began serving as president in 1833. Most Texas colonists were pleased. They thought Santa Anna would support Texas because he had declared himself to be a Federalist.

**Reading Check Analyzing** Why did the colonists support Santa Anna in Mexico?

## Conventions of 1832 and 1833

Texans called a convention to discuss changes needed in Texas. Fifty-eight delegates to the convention assembled in **San Felipe** on October 1, 1832. Stephen F. Austin was elected president of the convention. The convention resolved that Texas be made a separate Mexican state and that immigration from the United States be permitted again. Also, the delegates asked for an exemption from certain import taxes, improved educational facilities, better protection from Native Americans, and land titles for settlers in East Texas. The convention selected **William H. Wharton** and **Rafael Manchola** to present their resolutions to officials in Mexico City. For various reasons, these resolutions were never presented to officials in Mexico.

Constitution of 1824. Santa Anna, on the other hand, had promised to support this Texan-favored constitution.

Before John Austin and his group returned with the cannon, Colonel José de las Piedras, commander of the Mexican garrison at Nacogdoches, arrived at Anahuac. Colonel Piedras promised the Texans that Bradburn would be removed from command. Piedras then released Travis and Jack. Bradburn resigned and left Texas. Soldiers at Anahuac declared support for Santa Anna and joined his growing forces in Mexico.





# People of Texas

Sam Houston 1793-1863



Though he was born in Virginia and elected to several offices in the state of Tennessee, Sam Houston played a significant role in Texas history. After several years as Tennessee's governor, he moved to Texas where he became commander in chief of the

Texas armies in 1836. His army defeated Santa Anna on April 21, 1836, securing Texas's independence. The newly formed Republic of Texas elected Houston its first president in 1836 and reelected him in 1841.

When Texas became a state in 1845, Houston was

elected senator and later became governor in 1859. He strongly opposed the secession of Texas from the Union and, when Texas voted to separate, Houston was removed from office. He retired to Huntsville, Texas, where he lived until his death in 1863.

A few months later, another group of Anglo American colonists concerned with the situation in Texas called a convention at **San Felipe** on April 1, 1833. Most of the delegates had not attended the previous convention. Among the new delegates was Sam Houston, representing Nacogdoches.

The **Convention of 1833** adopted resolutions like those adopted in 1832. However, the con-

vention also prepared a constitution for the proposed Mexican state of Texas. Stephen F. Austin, **Dr. James B. Miller**, and **Erasmus Seguín** were chosen to carry the resolutions to Mexico City. Miller and Seguín were unable to make the trip at the time, so Austin made the journey alone.

**Reading Check Analyzing** Why was Stephen F. Austin elected president of the 1832 convention?

## SECTION 2 ASSESSMENT

### Checking for Understanding

- Using Key Terms** Write in your own words the definitions for the terms **resolution**, **commerce**, **import**, and **skirmish**.
- Reviewing Facts** Why were the merchants upset by the customs duties collected at Anahuac?

### Reviewing Themes

- Government and Democracy** What did the colonists hope to explain to the Mexican authorities by adopting the Turtle Bayou Resolutions?

### Organizing to Learn

- Comparing and Contrasting** Create a chart like the one below to compare the Conventions of 1832 and 1833. *Three* issues are discussed at *both*, *one* is exclusive to the Convention of 1833. Place a star next to this one.

Texas as a separate Mexican state
A constitution for the proposed Mexican state of Texas
Import taxes
Removal of the restrictions on immigration

### Critical Thinking

- Predicting Consequences** The text explains that the delegates to the 1833 convention wrote a constitution for the proposed new state of Texas. Do you think this would help or hurt the case for an independent Mexican state? Give reasons for your answer.



**Map Study** What river formed the southern boundary of the Department of Béxar?



# Increased Tensions, 1833–1835

## Guide to Reading

### Main Idea

Conflicts increased as Santa Anna switched to the Centralist Party.

### Key Terms

cholera  
repeal  
malaria  
dictator

### Reading Strategy

**Analyzing** As you read this section, draw a chart like the one below and insert important events in either the “peace” or “war” category.

Events Leading to Peace	Events Leading to War

### Read to Learn

- why Stephen F. Austin was imprisoned.
- what action William B. Travis took.
- about the Consultation.

### Section Theme

**Groups and Institutions** As tensions increased, Texans aligned with either the War Party or the Peace Party.

### Preview of Events

♦ 1833

Cholera epidemic strikes coastal towns

♦ 1834

**January**  
Austin is arrested in Mexico

♦ 1835

**December**  
Austin is released from prison

**June**  
Conflict at Anahuac

**November**  
Consultation meets



Mexican creole landowner, c. 1820

## A Texas Story



General Mier y Terán warned his government to take immediate action if Mexico wanted to keep Texas. “From the state of affairs a [hatred] has emerged between Mexicans and foreigners . . . [!] tell you that, if timely measures are not taken, Tejas will pull down the entire [Mexican] federation.”

### Austin’s Mission Is Stalled

In April 1833, Stephen F. Austin left San Felipe and began the long trip to Mexico City. He arrived in the Mexican capital three months later, but Santa Anna was out of town. When Austin arrived, Santa Anna’s government was not yet well organized. No plans had been made for dealing with the question of Texas. A cholera epidemic raged in the capital, and

thousands of people were dying from the deadly bacteria. Austin waited impatiently through October. After becoming discouraged by his lack of accomplishments, Austin wrote a letter to authorities in San Antonio describing the difficulties he faced and encouraging Texans to form their own government.

## Austin Is Imprisoned and Released

By November 1833, the situation in Mexico City seemed more hopeful. Santa Anna finally had returned to the capital and agreed to some of the reforms Austin requested. The president did not grant Texas separate statehood. He was willing, however, to **repeal**, or do away with, the law restricting immigration from the United States. Santa Anna also agreed to improve the court and postal systems. Pleased with the work that he had done in Mexico City, Austin left the capital on December 10 to return home.

In January 1834, Austin reached the city of **Saltillo** in northern Mexico. Because of a letter he had written to authorities in San Antonio, he was arrested. Austin was taken to Mexico City under guard. He remained in prison for

one year. While in prison, Austin wrote several letters to his family and friends in Texas:

“I have no idea when I shall be at liberty . . . It is much in my favor that all remains quiet in Texas. I was confident that no friend of mine would try to get up an excitement but I feared that my enemies would. Such a thing would have increased my difficulty, for I would have been blamed for it all. My confinement has been very rigid but I am in good health, and have borne it with tolerable patience. I had no books the first month, and it was solitary enough—after that I prevailed on the sergeant to go to D. Victor Blanco who sent them—he and Padre Muldoon have been firm and unwavering in their friendship to me in all this business.”

Local officials at various Texas towns began to press for Austin’s freedom. **Ramón Músquiz** (MOOS•kees), a political leader in San Antonio and a trusted friend, wrote to Mexican officials requesting that Austin be released. Lawyers Peter W. Grayson and Spencer H. Jack went to Mexico City to help.

### Picturing History

Mexico City’s imposing cathedrals and monuments were just a few of the sights Stephen F. Austin might have seen on his journey to and from the city. **How might what he saw in Mexico City influence his thoughts of Texas?**



*Stephen F. Austin’s diary*

On Christmas Day 1834, Mexican authorities agreed to release the prisoner on bail. Austin was required to stay in Mexico City and wait for the final decision on his case.

On July 11, 1835, Austin was given his complete freedom. He traveled to Vera Cruz, where he took passage on a ship returning to Texas. Austin landed in Texas on September 1, 1835. He had been away from his colony for two years and four months.

**Reading Check Questioning** Was Austin successful at convincing Santa Anna to approve the reforms?

## Reforms Begin in Texas

While Austin was in Mexico, changes occurred in Texas. The cholera epidemic of 1833 struck New Orleans, San Antonio, Matamoros, Monclova, and Mexico City, as well as the Brazoria area. There, over 80 people died, including eight members of the Austin family. Heavy rains in the autumn of 1833 and many cases of **malaria**, a disease carried by mosquitoes, added to the suffering.

Unfortunately, the practice of medicine was not very sophisticated at this time. Training was poor, and most Texas doctors had to work as farmers or merchants in addition to treating patients. They set bones, extracted bullets, amputated limbs to prevent gangrene, and prescribed drugs to reduce fever or relieve pain. The most common diseases of the time were malaria, yellow fever, and cholera. Many of the medicines used to treat these diseases, however, proved to be highly dangerous. For example, mercury, a common “cure,” destroyed the patient’s gums and intestines.

The year 1834 was better in Texas. The cholera epidemic ended, and the weather improved. The reforms Santa Anna had promised began. These included recognizing English as an official language for transactions, allowing immigration from the United States, improving the court system, and increasing the number of Texas representatives in the state legislature of Coahuila from one to three. In addition, religious tolerance was granted.

Although Texans had continued to be concerned about Austin’s imprisonment during 1834, they were hopeful about their own situation. They believed that relations with the national government were improving. Mexico had sent **Colonel Juan Almonte** (ahl•MOHN•tay) on an inspection tour of Texas

in 1834. Almonte had reported that all was quiet in Texas and urged that reforms be continued. He had also recommended that Austin be released from prison. The plea was ignored at that time.



**TAKS PRACTICE**

By 1834 Texas was divided into the departments of Béxar, Brazos, and Nacogdoches. As part of Santa Anna’s reforms of 1834, a representative from each department of Texas would sit in the legislature.

**Identifying** Through what departments does the Trinity River flow?



## Trouble Erupts Again

In early 1835, the troubles between Mexico and the Texas colonists broke out once again around Anahuac. Captain **Antonio Tenorio** was the commander of the garrison there.

Local residents at Anahuac, led by a merchant named **Andrew Briscoe**, quarreled with Tenorio about customs duties. They argued that these taxes were not being collected in other ports in Texas, and they refused to pay the duties until the law was enforced equally. This angered Tenorio, who arrested Briscoe.

Briscoe's arrest caused resentment among the colonists. In late June, a group in San Felipe, led by William B. Travis, decided to take action. They went to Anahuac and forced Tenorio to surrender. In addition, Tenorio and his soldiers agreed to leave Texas.

Some Texans did not approve of the actions taken by Travis. Several towns adopted resolutions assuring the Mexican government of their loyalty. Local leaders at San Felipe wrote a letter of apology to **General Martín Perfecto de Cós**, Santa Anna's brother-in-law and commander of the Mexican forces in Coahuila.

 **Reading Check** **Describing** What reforms did Santa Anna make in 1834?

## General Cós Rejects the Apology

General Cós was in no mood for an apology. He was upset by the fiery words of the Texans. He demanded that Texas officials arrest those involved in the disturbances, including William B. Travis, Frank W. Johnson, and Samuel M. Williams. General Cós wanted them turned over to the military for trial. In doing so, he was acting on Santa Anna's orders. Santa Anna was no longer a Federalist; he had become a Centralist.

Cós also ordered the arrest of **Lorenzo de Zavala**, a distinguished Mexican politician. Zavala had helped to frame the Mexican Constitution of 1824. He had been critical of recent actions of Santa Anna in Mexico and had moved to Texas for safety. Cós announced that he was taking many soldiers to Texas to arrest those he considered disloyal.



### Picturing History

Samuel M. Williams (*left*) and Frank W. Johnson (*right*) followed the leadership of William B. Travis in driving Captain Tenorio from Anahuac. [What was General Cós's reaction to this disturbance?](#)

## Texans Call for a Consultation

Cós's actions caused great concern in Texas. Texans were not willing to turn their friends over to a Mexican military court. On August 15, 1835, leaders in the town of Columbia issued a call for a convention so the people could discuss the situation. This convention was to be known as the **Consultation** and was to meet at Washington-on-the-Brazos on October 15.



The colonists had mixed reactions. One group of colonists, known as the **Peace Party**, feared that the Consultation might cause trouble.

Another group, known as the **War Party**, favored the Consultation. This party was led by settlers who had been disappointed when the Mexican government stopped issuing contracts for lands in Texas. Leaders like William H. Wharton and William B. Travis favored an immediate declaration of independence from Mexico, even if this meant war.

When Stephen F. Austin arrived from Mexico, the call for the Consultation had already gone out. The invitation noted that the delegates should work for a peaceful solution if it could be secured on agreeable terms. The invitation also



# People of Texas

Santa Anna 1794–1876



Antonio López de Santa Anna was born in Vera Cruz. At age 16 he began his long military career. During his life, he served as a president of Mexico 11 times.

He refused to accept the Mexican Constitution of 1824 and, when Anglos and

Mexicans in Texas revolted against the Mexican government in 1835, Santa Anna led the attack on the Texans defending the Alamo the next year. Later, he fought against Sam Houston at the Battle of San Jacinto where Santa Anna's capture was a great

victory for the Texans. Houston spared the life of Santa Anna, who later returned to Mexico, where he continued in politics and eventually came to power as president again. Overthrown in 1855, Santa Anna died in poverty in Mexico City on June 21, 1876.

urged the delegates to “prepare for war—if war is inevitable.”

Leaders of the Peace Party were hopeful that Austin would oppose the Consultation and that the meeting would not be held. Austin, however, gave his approval to the Consultation. Austin had become convinced that Santa Anna was becoming a **dictator** (a ruler with absolute power). He worried about the decision to send large numbers of troops to Texas. After long

consideration, Austin believed the time had come to act. He urged the people to unite:

“War is our only recourse. There is no other remedy. We must defend our rights, ourselves, and our country by force of arms.”

**Reading Check Analyzing** What brought about the Consultation meeting?

## SECTION 3 ASSESSMENT

### Checking for Understanding

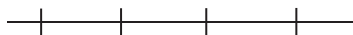
- Using Key Terms** Write one sentence each for the following three terms: **repeal**, **malaria**, **dictator**.
- Reviewing Facts** Why was Stephen F. Austin stopped at Saltillo and returned to Mexico City?

### Reviewing Themes

- Groups and Institutions** Who were the colonists who favored holding the Consultation? Were they members of the Peace Party or the War Party?

### Organizing to Learn

- Sequencing** Place the letters representing the following events in the proper chronological order on the time line to show what Stephen F. Austin encountered between 1833 and 1835.



- Began trip to Mexico City
- Returned to Texas
- Arrested and imprisoned
- Wrote a letter to local authorities
- Traveled to Vera Cruz

### Critical Thinking

- Identifying Cause and Effect** While he was in Mexico City, what did Stephen F. Austin write in his letter to the authorities in San Antonio that caused him to be arrested and imprisoned?



**Analyzing** Compare the statements by Stephen F. Austin on page 195 (“Austin Is Imprisoned and Released”) with the remarks he made in the quoted passage above. Why did Stephen F. Austin’s attitude change between those times?

# Critical Thinking TAKS Skillbuilder



## Recognizing Bias

### Why Learn This Skill?

Most people have a point of view, or *bias*, which influences the way they understand and write about events. Recognizing bias helps you judge the accuracy of what you hear or read.

### Learning the Skill

To recognize bias, follow these steps:

- Examine the author's identity and how his or her views and particular interests could show a bias.
- Identify statements of fact.
- Identify expressions of opinion or emotion.
- Determine the author's point of view and how it is reflected in the work.

### Practicing the Skill

Mary Helm was an Anglo New York schoolteacher. Read her account of life among Native Americans after she moved to Texas. Use the steps given above to answer the questions that follow.

"It was amusing to see [Native Americans] parade the streets of Matagorda with their . . . garments, which I had made for them, the tails tipped with ornamental feathers. One of the young women learned to speak very good English . . . and one day [I] thought to have some fun with her, [so I] invited her to take tea with me. But the joke turned to my own expense, for she not only used her knife and fork properly but her cup, saucer and plate . . ."

—*Scraps of Early Texas History*, 1884

- 1 To what ethnic group did Mary Helm belong?
- 2 Why did she invite a Native American woman to have tea, and how did the woman act?
- 3 Analyze Mary Helm's attitude about Native Americans based on this account.



Texas schoolteacher with students



## TAKS PRACTICE

**Recognizing Bias** In "A Texas Story" in Section 2 (page 190), General Manuel de Mier y Terán wrote a letter on July 7, 1828, about foreign settlers in Texas. Review the passage and answer the following questions.

1. What country does Mier y Terán represent?
2. How might his background reflect his views?
3. Does any information appear to be inaccurate? If so, which information?

Glencoe's **Skillbuilder Interactive Workbook**, Level 1, provides instruction and practice in key social studies skills.





# Chapter Summary

## Growing Tensions

1826



★ Haden Edwards and his family declare independence from Mexico in the unsuccessful Fredonian Revolt.

1829

• The Centralist Party comes to power in Mexico.

1830

• Mexico issues the Law of April 6 to stop immigration from the U.S.

1832

• American colonists adopt the Turtle Bayou Resolutions in support of Santa Anna.



★ The Battle at Velasco between Texans and Mexican troops is caused by Ugartechea's refusal to let the Texans' ship pass by Velasco.

• The Convention of 1832 calls for reforms in Texas.

1833

★ Santa Anna becomes president of Mexico.

• The Convention of 1833 calls for a new state of Texas separate from Coahuila.



1834

★ Stephen F. Austin is imprisoned in Mexico City when his letter urging Texans to form their own government is discovered.

1835

• Troubles erupt in Anahuac between Texans and Mexicans over taxes.

• Texans form the Consultation to discuss Mexican actions.

• Stephen F. Austin returns to Texas and calls for war.



## Reviewing Key Terms

With a partner, make 16 flash cards. Write one term from the list below on each of the first eight cards. On the eight cards that remain, write the definitions, one per card. Quiz one another by matching the words with the correct definitions.

- |            |                 |
|------------|-----------------|
| 1. decree  | 5. resolution   |
| 2. exempt  | 6. skirmish     |
| 3. repeal  | 7. customs duty |
| 4. malaria | 8. dictator     |

## Reviewing Key Facts

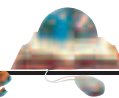
9. What was the source of conflict between the Edwards brothers and the Mexican government?
10. Name two groups that declined to help the Edwards brothers in the Fredonian Revolt.
11. What recommendation was made by Mier y Terán concerning the control of Texas?
12. In the Law of April 6, 1830, what specific actions did the Mexican government take?
13. What was the purpose of the Turtle Bayou Resolutions?
14. When Stephen F. Austin arrived in Mexico City, what problems were present?

## Critical Thinking

15. **Predicting Consequences** What was the attitude of the Mexican authorities toward Texas during the early colonial years? What effect did this have on the colonists?
16. **Identifying Cause and Effect** The Law of April 6, 1830, was described as "an early turning point in relations between the colonists and the Mexican government." Why do you think this law had such an effect?
17. **Comparing** Compare the views of the Mexican government and the Anglo American colonists after the Fredonian Revolt. Use a chart like the one below to organize your responses.

Views After the Fredonian Revolt	
Mexican government	Anglo American colonists

18. **Generalizing** Why was it so difficult for Anglo American colonists to adjust to the restrictions placed on them by the Mexican government?
19. **Making Predictions** How did William B. Travis's actions at Anahuac in 1835 cause problems?



**Self-Check Quiz**

Visit the [texans.glencoe.com](http://texans.glencoe.com) Web site and click on **Chapter 8—Self-Check Quizzes** to prepare for the chapter test.

CLICK HERE



**Geography and History Activity**

20. Draw a chart that gives examples of Anglo influence in Texas. Then use information from the chapter to create a map that shows where Anglo influences would be strongest in Texas. Include a key or legend.



**Portfolio/TAKS Writing Activity**

21. **Writing a Newspaper Article** Imagine you are a reporter covering events in Texas in 1834 and 1835. Write an article about the trouble between Texas and Mexico in which you present the point of view of each side. You may want to directly quote from your “personal interviews” with colonists and Mexican officials. Use standard grammar, spelling, sentence structure, and punctuation.



**Building Technology Skills**

22. **Using a Word Processor** Use a word processing program (such as Microsoft Word) to type your “Portfolio Writing Activity.” Be sure to check your spelling with the spellchecker, and you may want to use the thesaurus (either online or on your toolbar) to help locate alternative words for your article.

**Practicing Skills**

23. **Recognizing Bias** To determine the accuracy of what you hear or read, it is important to recognize the bias, or point of view, of the author. Read the statement below by John Holland Jenkins, an Anglo American settler who was 13 years old in 1835. Then answer the questions that follow.

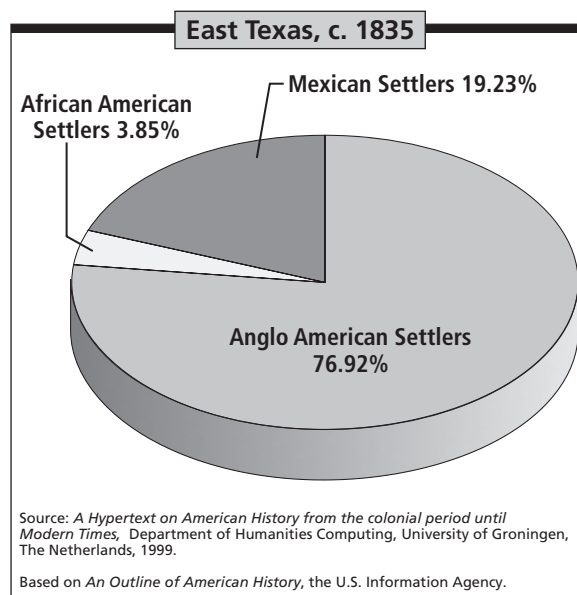
“We come now to the fall of 1835, when without reservation or mercy Mexico threw aside all obligation involved in the treaty of 1824 and became so [unjust] in her dealings with Texas, as to venture to seal her authority even by force of arms . . . This unwarrantable piece of tyranny and oppression of course aroused every loyal Texan, and there was a general rallying to arms and preparation for war.”

—From *Recollections of Early Texas*, 1885

- How does the writer describe Mexico’s treatment of Texas at that time?
- Why does the writer hold these opinions about Mexico?
- What information in this statement is likely to be accurate?
- What information in this statement constitutes an expression of emotion?



Use the graph to answer the following question.



In East Texas, most early settlers

- strongly supported their Mexican heritage.
- fled hardships or persecution in Europe.
- supported Anglo American schools and newspapers.
- supported the Mexican government’s decision to abolish slavery.

**Test-Taking Tip:**

In this question you are being asked to make an inference based on the type of data presented. According to the graph, most of the settlers were Anglo American. What logical inference can you make about how they would act or feel? Can you infer anything about their personal beliefs or histories?