



A Map of Mexico and the Republic of Texas

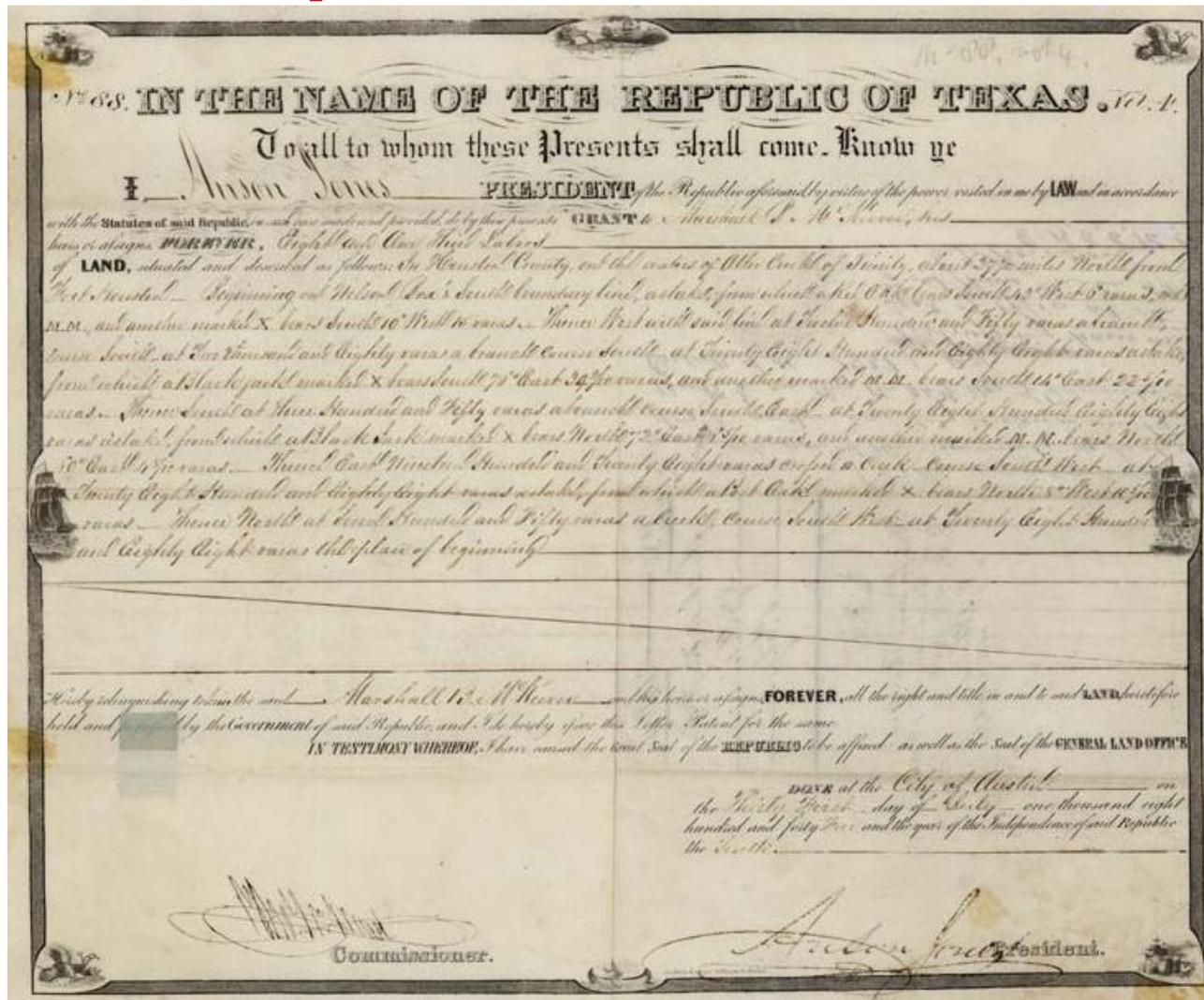


A Map of Mexico and the Republic of Texas. drawn & engraved to accompany *The history of Mexico and Texas.* By J.M. Niles & L.T. Pease; T. Twitichel, sc. Hartford, 1838.

Primary
Source
Adventures:
Texas
Annexation:
United We
Stand?



Republic of Texas Land Grant, 1845



Primary Source Adventures: Texas Annexation: United We Stand?



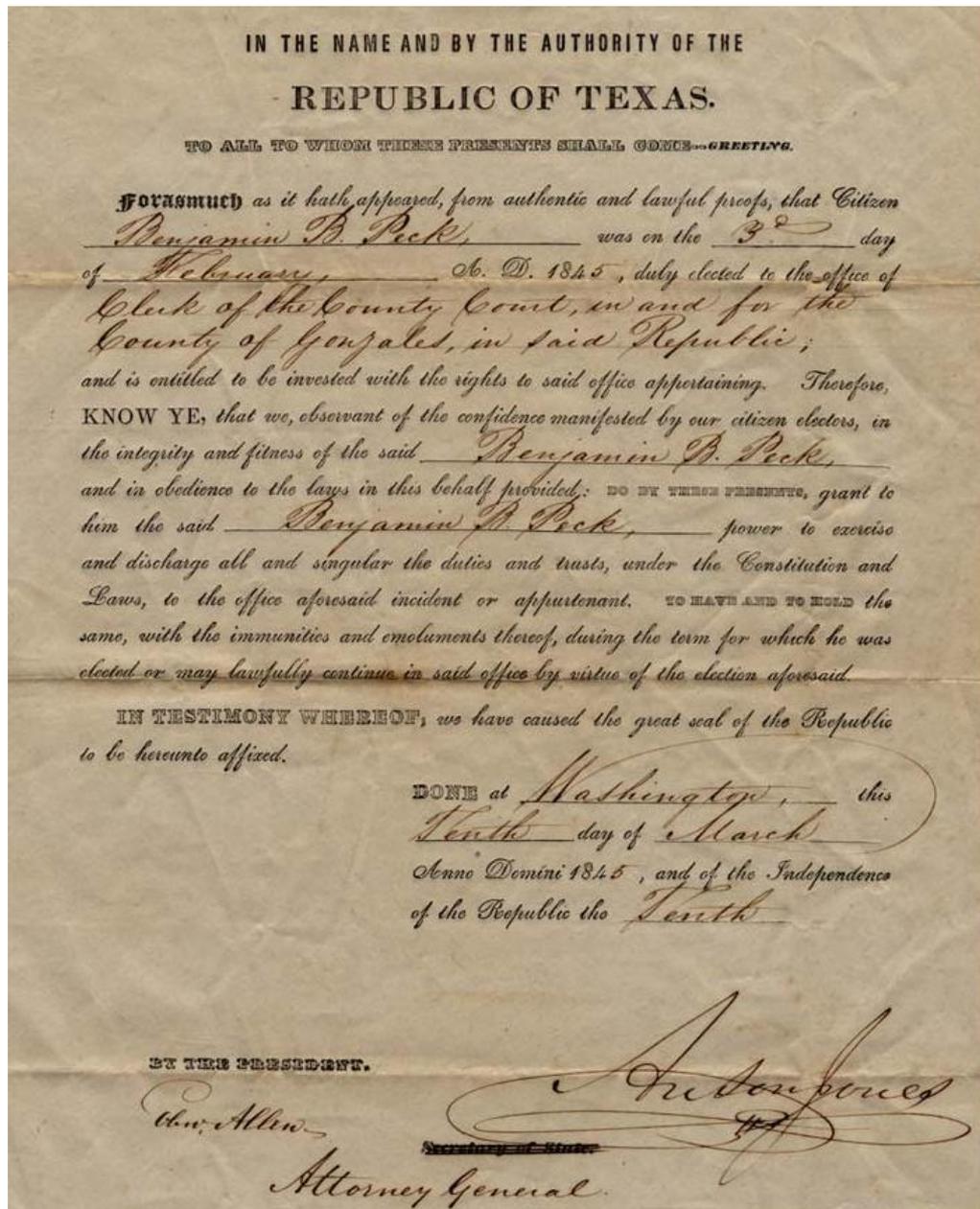
The PORTAL to
TEXAS HISTORY



Primary
Source
Adventures:
Texas
Annexation:
United We
Stand?

Certificate of
election
from the Republic
of Texas

Certificate of Election
By: Republic of Texas
President Anson Jones





Portrait of Anson Jones,
last president of the
Republic of Texas.



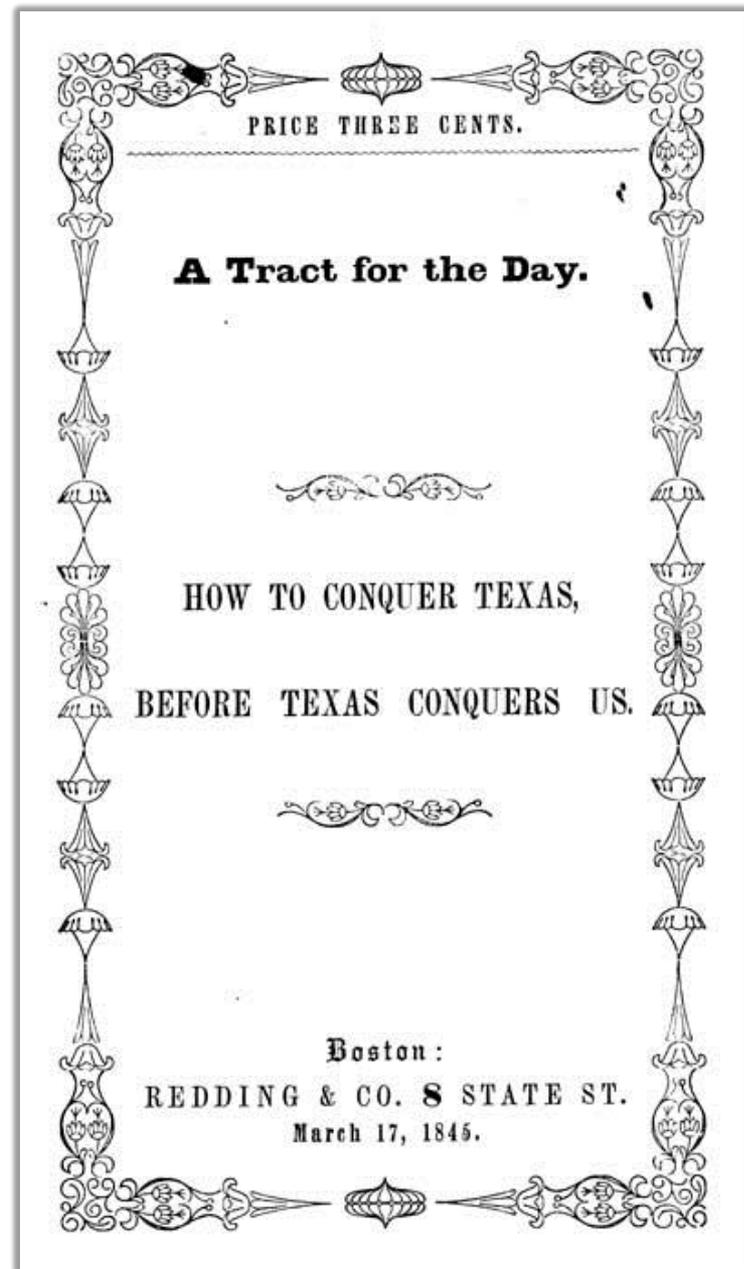
Anson Jones. *Memoranda and Official Correspondence Relating to the Republic of Texas.* (NY: D. Appleton and Co., 1859)

Primary
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Adventures:
Texas
Annexation:
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Primary
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Adventures:
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Annexation:
United We
Stand?

A typical example of
anti-annexation
propaganda





Primary
Source
Adventures:
Texas
Annexation:
United We
Stand?

Read some of the
objections to Texas
annexation,
note points III and IV.

Edward Everett Hale. *How to
Conquer Texas Before Texas
Conquers Us.*
(Boston: Redding & Co. 8 State
St. 17 March 1846)

Good men and true have now to labor in and on Texas, to avert the dangers of annexation. Those dangers were manifold. They included

I. The injury inflicted by the measure on the Federal Constitution.

II. The weakness of the Federal Government, more dangerous as the extent of territory of the Union increases.

III. The continuation, through an undefined time, of slavery, in a region adapted to it as Texas is by its position.

IV. The destruction of the balance of power between free and slave States, and Atlantic and western States.*

V. The introduction into the Union of an unprincipled population of adventurers, with all the privileges of a State of naturalized citizens.

VI. The creation of an enormous State, in time to become the real Empire State of the country. Texas, with three hundred and ten thousand square miles of territory, is admitted as one State, into the Union. If she remain such, she will prove the Austria of the confederacy, to overrule all opposition.†

Of these evils, the two first are now past remedy. They were inflicted, and inflicted for ever, when Mr. Tyler set his name to the Joint Resolutions.

The other evils, however, all suppose a condition which it is still in the power of northern men to overthrow.



Read about the fear that annexation would extend the power of the slave states

5

We ask to the questions the attention of all considerate men, who view the admission to the Union, of Texas, as Texas now is, as an evil. We may not, we ought not to leave Texas as it is. We ought, by acting in Texas, by our emigrants in Texas, by our moral influence in Texas, by our votes in Texas, to continue there the contest of freedom, in the first skirmish of which we have been defeated. We ought thus to prevent the four last evils which have been named. We ought to hasten the end of slavery in South Eastern Texas, and make Northern and Western Texas free. We ought to restore the balance of power between the free and slave States.

Edward Everett Hale. *How to Conquer Texas Before Texas Conquers Us*.
(Boston: Redding & Co. 8 State St. 17 March 1846)



Anson Jones' explanation for pursuing annexation

18

Had I have said at any time that I was decidedly in favor of annexation, whatever the terms and conditions offered might be, I should at once have lost the good offices of England and France in favor of the other mode. Or had I expressed to the American Charge a strong preference for annexation as finally offered, over the alternative of independence, I should have lost some of the advantages for my country which were gained, and more which I hoped to gain from the United States Government, by keeping their agents and emissaries in doubt on the subject. The "contingencies" of annexation would have been materially softened if I could have been let alone by emissaries, factionists and disorganizers; and if these, and the demagogues in Texas who were anxious to slide into office on the hobby, or break down the government, had been frowned down by the people.

Anson Jones. *Letters Relating to the History of Annexation*. (Philadelphia: 1852)



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Adventures:
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Annexation:
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Read about the
relationship
between Britain,
France,
and the Republic of
Texas.

Anson Jones. *Letters
Relating to the History of
Annexation.* (Philadelphia:
1852)

19

In March (1845) these ministers waited upon me, and shewed me their instructions. The good offices tendered had been frequently invoked by Texas, and long before I was connected with the Executive government, and whether good policy or not, I did not feel at liberty to refuse them now. It was probable indeed that the annexation resolutions had passed, in some form or other, but the instructions to these Ministers had been sent out from London and Paris at a period when there was very little hope entertained that those resolutions would succeed in any form at all, or that Texas would accept. They had been sent in good faith and in a spirit of kindness evidently, and I think I should have been wholly unjustifiable before the people of Texas, and the world, if I had refused them. To those disposed to cavil on this subject, and to the most devoted friend of annexation that ever lived in this great Union, I say, it could by no possibility do harm. If jealousy of European pow-

20

ers had been the efficient cause of the immense change of sentiment in the United States which had taken place in less than two years in its favor, it might be well to keep this jealousy alive a little longer. The old proverb, "There is



Anson Jones's devotion to annexation

29

I have never sought to be popular by making a stalking horse of Annexation and riding on it into popular favor. I was contented to be denounced by my enemies and even suspected by my friends, as opposed to it when the interests of the country and the position Texas occupied towards the United States, England, France and Mexico required a discreet silence on my part; but if ever Annexation should go out of favor in Texas (which I hope may never be the case) my enemies, I fear, will be then able to prove that but for me it would never have taken place, and that I was always its devoted friend.

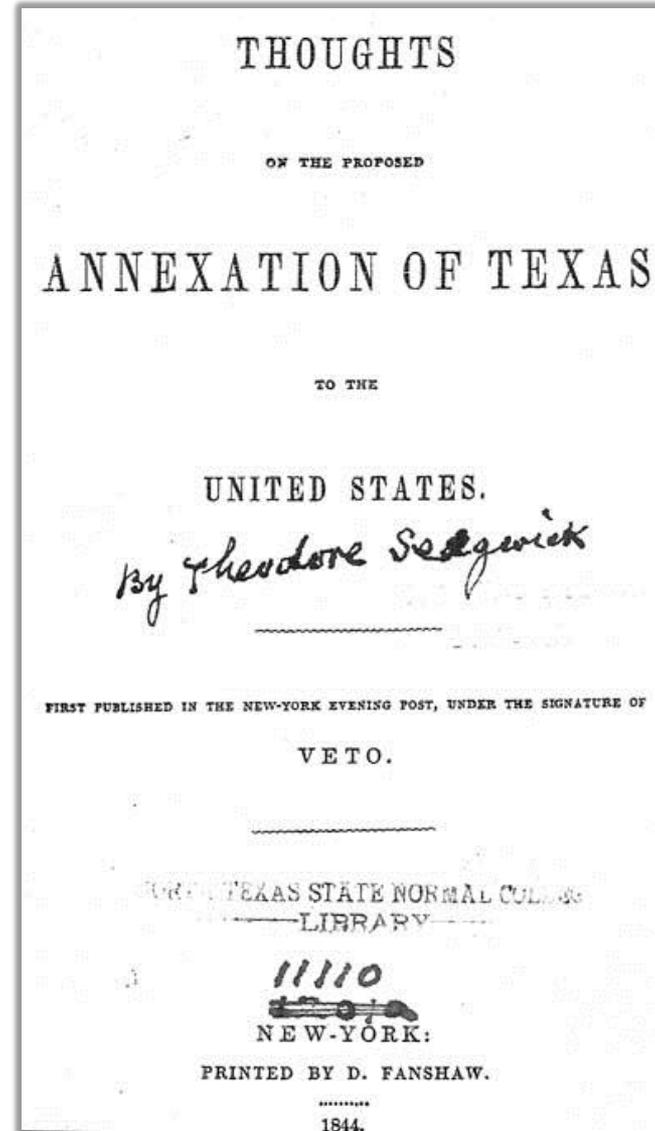
Anson Jones. *Letters Relating to the History of Annexation*. (Philadelphia: 1852)



Primary
Source
Adventures:
Texas
Annexation:
United We
Stand?

An example of anti-Texas
propaganda published as a news
article and pamphlet.

Theodore Sedgwick. *Thoughts
on the Proposed Annexation of
Texas to the United States.*
(NY: D. Fanshaw, 1844)





Read about resistance to annexation based on slavery

6

ON THE PROPOSED

forget the origin of the settlement of Texas. It began in land speculation; it was marked in its course by abominable frauds, and one of the great causes of dissatisfaction was the absolute prohibition of Mexico of slavery within its limits.

The first settlers of Texas, for the mere love of gain, abandoned a free republic for a colonial destiny. Protestants, they transferred themselves to catholic rule, and renounced the birth-right of their ancestors, the dear tie of country, and all the valuable privileges of civilized American freedom, for the doubtful and desperate chances of a settlement on the Texan prairies under Spanish dominion.

Theodore Sedgwick. *Thoughts on the Proposed Annexation of Texas to the United States*.
(NY: D. Fanshaw, 1844)



Read about objection to annexation based on Mexico's claims

ANNEXATION OF TEXAS.

21

The proposal to annex Texas is, in other words, to acquire for ourselves a large territory claimed by a foreign State with whom we are at profound peace. Texas, in 1835, formed a constituent part of Mexico: her settlers had voluntarily sought her jurisdiction. Mexico had never acknowledged her independence; neither our recognition nor the recognition of the European powers settles or pretends to settle the question of right as between Mexico and Texas. Mexico has at this moment a perfect right, by the laws of war, to invade Texas, and, if possible, to subjugate her. She has, moreover, announced her intentions to do so. In November last the instructions from M. Bocanegra to General Almonte contained the following paragraph in reference to the interference of our government.

Theodore Sedgwick. *Thoughts on the Proposed Annexation of Texas to the United States.*
(NY: D. Fanshaw, 1844)



Primary
Source
Adventures:
Texas
Annexation:
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A typical example of anti-Annexation propaganda

Benjamin Lundy. *The Anti-Texas
[sic] Legion*. (Albany: Patriot Office,
1845)

THE ANTI-TEXASS LEGION.
PROTEST
OF SOME FREE MEN, STATES AND PRESSES
AGAINST THE
TEXASS REBELLION,
AGAINST THE
LAWS OF NATURE AND OF NATIONS.



Ruthless Rapine, Righteous Hope defies.

"Ye serpents! ye generation of vipers!!
How can ye escape the damnation of hell!!!"

1845.

Sold at the Patriot Office, No., 9 Exchange st. Albany.
Six cts. single; 50 per dozen; \$3 per hundred; \$25 per thousand.



Once again, read about objection to annexation based on slavery

It is susceptible of the clearest demonstration, that the immediate cause, and the leading object of this contest, originated in a settled design, among the slaveholders of this country, (with land speculators and slave-traders,) to wrest the large and valuable territory of Texas from the Mexican Republic, in order to re-establish the SYSTEM OF SLAVERY ; to open a vast and profitable SLAVE MARKET therein ; and ultimately to annex it to the United States. And further, it is evident—nay, it is very generally acknowledged—that the insurrectionists are principally citizens of the United States, who have proceeded thither for the purpose of revolutionizing the country ; and that they are dependant upon this nation, for both the physical and pecuniary means, to carry the design into effect. Whether the national legislature will lend its aid to this most unwarrantable, aggressive attempt, will depend on the VOICE OF THE PEOPLE, expressed in their primary assemblies, by their petitions and through the ballot boxes.

Benjamin Lundy. *The Anti-Texas [sic] Legion*. (Albany: Patriot Office, 1845), 1.



Read about calls to action against Texas annexation

fate of this republic. The senators and representatives of the people will then be called on to sanction the independence of Texas, and also, to provide for its admission, as a SLAVEHOLDING STATE, into this Union. These measures will positively be proposed, in case the Mexican government fails to suppress the insurrection very soon, and to recover the actual possession of the territory. A few of our most eminent statesmen will resist the proposition with energy and zeal; but unless the PUBLIC VOICE be raised against the unhallowed proceeding, and the sentiments of the people be most unequivocally expressed in the loudest tones of disapprobation, they will be unable to withstand the influence and power of their antagonists. Arouse, then! and let your voice be heard through your primary assemblies, your legislative halls, and the columns of the periodical press, in every section of your country!

Citizens of the United States!—Sons of the Pilgrims, and disciples of Wesley and Penn!—Coadjutors and pupils of Washington, Jefferson, and Franklin!—Advocates of freedom and the sacred “*rights of man!*”—Will you longer shut your eyes, and slumber in apathy, while the demon of oppression is thus stalking over the plains consecrated to the genius of liberty, and fertilized by the blood of her numerous martyrs?—Will you permit the authors of this gigantic project of national aggression, interminable slavery, and Heaven-daring injustice, to perfect their diabolical schemes through your supineness, or with the sanction of your acquiescence? If they succeed in the accomplishment of their object, where will be your guarantee for the liberty which you, yourselves enjoy? When the advocates of slavery shall obtain the balance of power in this confederation;

Benjamin Lundy. *The Anti-Texas [sic] Legion*. (Albany: Patriot Office, 1845), 1.



Read what Boston abolitionists suggested
should be done if Texas was annexed

55

that, in the event of the annexation of Texas, our political and moral welfare and safety will require that we should at once resolve, and deliberately prepare ourselves to act upon the resolution, to make every possible effort, and to exert all our influence in our various relations, — public and private,

56

political and religious, — to effect as speedily as may be the abolition of slavery in the country, or our deliverance from it.

Stephen C. Phillips. *Address on the annexation of Texas, and the aspect of slavery in the United States, In connection therewith: delivered in Boston November 14 and 18, 1845.*
(Boston: W. Crosby and H.P. Nichols, 1845)



A drawing of Anson Jones



ANSON JONES.

Homer S. Thrall. *A Pictorial History of Texas*. (St. Louis: N.D. Thompson, 1879), 343