Petition to Sam Houston
Citizens of Hill County and Bosque County
08 Dec 1860

Although the wording is a bit cryptic, this petition to the Governor of Texas relates to the secession of Texas from the United States of America. In the abstract, one cannot tell whether the petitioners are actually for or against secession. South Carolina, on December 20, 1860, became the first State to secede. This was followed by the States of Mississippi, Florida, Alabama, Georgia, and Louisiana. The State of Texas declared its secession on February 1, 1861, and joined the Confederate States on March 2, 1861, after it replaced its governor, Sam Houston, when he refused to take an oath of allegiance to the Confederacy. Abraham Lincoln was inaugurated on March 4. Hostilities began on April 12, 1861, when Confederate forces fired upon Fort Sumter. Virginia, North Carolina, Tennessee, and Arkansas seceded after the fall of Fort Sumter.

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Hill County Texas 8th Dec'r 1860
Fort Graham

Gen'l Sam'l Houston,

We the undersigned were specially called on by a Majority of the Signers of the accompanying petition to ask it as a special favour that you take such action as will have fore shadow the course of Our Execution & by so doing you will greatly allay the excitement that is likely to mislead the minds of many of your friends that have been associated with you for Twenty odd years. We Shall await with anxiety to hear what your excellency may advise

Yours Truly
John T. Eubank
James H Dyer
Jackson Puckett
To his Excellency Genl Sam Houston
Governor State of Texas

We the undersigned citizens of Hill & Bosque County, most respectfully represent to your Excellency, that We believe that a crisis has arrived, and indeed is now upon us when it requiring the wisdom of our Empire State to come forward and unite in feeling and sentiment to avert the great calamities that erupt of consequence even to our Southern institution, and as well as to our social equality, Therefore We most earnestly request you - believing to your great intelligence and Southern patriotism - to Convene the Legislature of Our State for the purpose of taking into Calm and deliberate Consideration the best mode of action for the safety of our property, lives and honor.

A. D. Martin
W. K King
James Offield
J. A. Prater
W. T. Hunt
T. P. Sparks
R. B. Heath

Thomas J. Womack
Jackson Puckett
A. J. Byrd
J. T. Eubank
G. B. Camplin
Fayette Randal
S. M. Horton
Thomas Thompson  
E. T. Goodwin  
Spence Heath  
Joseph Alexander  
C. M. Carver  
Chas. Hulsey  
Hiram Brown  
J. C. Walling  
M. T. Thompson  
Cirrus Thomas  
J. N. Wilson  
A. Milton  
Isaac L. Basye  
J. H. Basye  
Jas. M. Wilson  
Danl McCullough  
J. M. Johnson  
George Heath  
S. L. Caldwell  
A. S. Thomas  
Jasper Holeway  
T. J. Randal  
Wm. Stringer  
J. M. Keener  
Henry Reid  
W. S. Walling  
O. C. Pollard  
D. P. Goodwin  
John H. Walling  
T. J. Walling  
Jesse Walling  
T. P. McCown  
C. P. Bowen  
D. B. Cabell  

W. J. Hopkins  
J. W. Swank  
B. Bounds  
James Walling  
John S. Walling  
Vance Walling  
Joel H. Myers  
J. M. Grisham  
E. W. Dyer  
J. N. Mayo  
E. D. Cooper  
Thomas Armstrong  
N. L. Ham  
Jas. H. Dyer  
Wm. McCullough  
W. H. Basye  
A. H. Lamb  
J. T. Webb  
Hiram Driggs  
P. Graham  
A. J. Pucket  
G. L. Torrence  
Jo Legard  
John Hurst  
Robt Higgins  
W. A. Graham  
Thomas McBride
[The following (in alphabetical order) are believed to be the 75 persons identified by the preceding signatures. If they were found in the 1860 census, the county is shown. An asterisk indicates that they are contained within a genealogical database that identifies parents, spouses, and/or children]

Alexander, Joseph - not identified
Armstrong, Thomas J. Jr (b.ca1831 MO) - Hill
Basye, Isaac L. (1816-1869) - Hill *
Basye, James Henry (ca1837-1892) - Hill *
Basye, William Harrison (1844-1888) - Hill *
Bounds, Berry (1828-1908) - Bosque *
Bowen, C. P. - not identified
Brown, Hiram (b.ca1825 MO) - Hill
Byrd, A. J. - not identified
Cabell, D. B - not identified
Caldwell, S. L. - not identified
Camplin, Green Berry (1791-1869) - Hill *
Carver, Coleman M. (b.ca1836 MS) - Wood
Cooper, E. D. - not identified
Driggs, Hiram Gray (1838-1919) - Hill *
Dyer, Edwin William (1839-1918) - Hill *
Dyer, James Harrison (1821-1901) - Hill *
Eubank, John T. (ca1810-?) - Hill *
Goodwin, Ducalion Perry (1829-ca1910) - Hill *
Goodwin, Elijah Turner (1802-1885) - Hill *
Graham, P. - not identified
Graham, William Alexander (ca1815-?) or - Hill *
  or Graham, William Andrew (1808-1881) - Hill *
Grisham, James Mason (ca1824-1883) - Hill *
Ham, Needham Lemon (1817-1898) - Hill *
Heath, George (ca1840-?) - Hill *
Heath, Richard Blue Heath (1803-1873) - Hill *
Heath, William Spencer (1836-1884) - Hill *
Higgins, Robert - Hill
Holloway, Jasper Earl (ca1842-?) - Bosque *
Hopkins, W. J. (b.ca1834 TN) - McLennan
Horton, S. M. - not identified
Hulsey, Charles - not identified
Hunt, Waddy Thomas (1836-1917) - Bosque *
Hurst, John B. (ca1796-1880) - Hill *
Johnson, J. M. - not identified
Keener, Joseph McKinley (1838-1925) - Rusk *
King, William Kinsey (1822-1898) - Bosque *
Lamb, A. H. - not identified
Legard, Jo - not identified
Martin, Anamas D. (b.ca1822 TN) - Hill
Mayo J. N. - not identified
McBride, Thomas (1827-1899) - Hill *
McCown, Thomas Payne S. (1834-1914) - Hill *
McCullough, Daniel (1807-1874) - Hill *
McCullough, William Franklin (1845-1881) - Hill *
Milton, A. - Hill
Myers, Joel Henry (1837-1910) - Hill *
Offield, James (ca1820-?) - Hill *
Pollard, Oliver Cleveland (1824-1898) - not found *
Prater, J. A. - not identified
Puckett, Andrew Jackson (1822-1889) - Hill *
Pucket, Andrew Jackson Jr (1845-1876) - Hill *
Randal, Marcus Delafayette (1838-1862) - Bosque *
Randal, Thomas Jefferson (1840-1895) - Bosque *
Reid, Henry (b.ca1825 NC) - Hill
Sparks, T. P. (b.ca1838 AL) - Hill
Stringer, William Williamson (1827-1891) - Bosque *
Swank, J. W. (b.ca1837 MO) - Hill
Thomas, Asbury Seth (1833-1904) - Bosque *
Thomas, Cyrus (b.ca1835 TN) - Hill
Thompson, M. T. - not identified
Thompson, Thomas Odell (1926-1891) - Hill *
Torrence, G. L. - not identified
Walling, James - not identified
Walling, Jesse (1794-1867) - Rusk *
Walling, John Chisum (1819-1863) - Bosque *
Walling, John Howard (ca1835-1916) - Hill *
Walling, John S. - not identified
Walling, Paulimey Vance (ca1846-1875) - Hill *
Walling, Thomas Jefferson (1811-1902) - Hill *
Walling, William Samuel (ca1840-1907) - not found *
Webb, Joseph T. (ca1833-?) - Hill
Wilson, James McCullough C. (1833-1894) - Hill *
Wilson, Joseph N. (1820-1878) - Hill *
Womack, Thomas Jefferson (1832-1893) - Hill *