

Fort Graham Texas.

March 7<sup>th</sup> 1854

My Br Sir.

Every person here, and many at Waco are making daily enquiries of me concerning the laying out of a town at this point, and when you would take measures to effect the same. All eyes are turned in this direction and such is the interest taken in the matter especially by those who have the money that I am satisfied you could sell the lots at a large price. It is an object to throw the great current of emigration, which last year passed the Brazos at Waco, through here, and this can easily be effected by adhering to your design of laying out and selling lots this Spring. Your interest here is extremely valuable and will be troubled by acting at once. The country is filling up and there will and must be a town on the Brazos at or near this point. Why not come up at once and examine for yourself. You could make some private sales that I think would be advantageous. Bring up such of my land papers as have been patented. I write this in much haste. Colonel Jesse Stern, late Indian Agent, and another gentleman who accompanied him from Ohio were murdered the other day by the Wacoos within

three miles of Belknap. The commandant of that  
post is in pursuit with 25 men, all of the  
disposable force at his command. The Indians  
have driven away large quantities of cattle from  
the Clear Fork even in open day and certainly  
with impunity. This is the effect of removing  
the troops from this line and concentrating  
them upon the Rio Grande. These incursions were  
prevented as long as the line was occupied, but  
the withdrawal of the troops left the whole country  
open and defenceless and the miserable affair who  
have thus sported with human life cannot be made  
to see their error. Cannot you wake up the Austin  
Press upon this subject? If this part of the frontier  
is again overrun by the Indians our lands will  
be set back and our interest for years retarded.

Yours Truly,

J. M. Stewart

A. C. Robertson  
Austin  
Texas

J. M. Stewart  
arrived 1/3/54  
J. M. Stewart