

forming my duty if, in spite of appearing troublesome by repeating many times that Your Excellency deign to carefully consider these provinces, which it seems are, at present, enflamed by the desires of many ambitious men; keeping in mind whatever I have set forth for its conservation and progress, as well as the other privileges which I claim devolve on the authority of the Government, and fulfilling the duties of this advice to the Commander-General of the interior provinces, so that, so far as he is concerned, he take the measures which he considers fitting to check the clandestine trade of Phelipe Noland.<sup>94</sup> May God preserve Your Excellency many years.

NUEVA ORLEANS, October 19th, 1800.

*His Excellency Don Mariano Luis de Urquijo.*

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<sup>94</sup> Philip Nolan was a Kentuckian who for some years had been trading in Spanish territory, chiefly in horses. He seems to have in some way been connected with Wilkinson, and acting for him. In the autumn of 1800 he left Natchez with a party of about twenty Americans, to catch wild horses in Texas. On the Brazos River he was attacked and killed by Spanish soldiery. His companions lingered for many years in Spanish prisons, where Pike met some of them; see Mississippi Historical Society *Publications*, iv, pp. 281-287. Whether this was really a filibustering or a commercial expedition, has never been certainly proved.—Ed.