

Department of War
Jan^y. 26th 1821

Sir,

In answer to your letter of the 19th ins^t., I have the honor to state that the Government desires from the State of Virginia cession of Jurisdiction over the sites of the fortifications now under construction at the Old Port Comfort and the Shoal called the Rip Raps, agreeably to the Maps herewith accompanying, on which the boundaries of each are indicated by blue lines. The former, commencing at the intersection of Selden's line with Mill Creek, extends along that line, across the Neck of the Peninsula, to the beach fronting the bay, thence at low water mark around the beach of Mill Creek, and up the centre thereof to the point of departure. The latter delineates the extremity of the base of the foundation of the fortification.

In desiring the site to be extended as far as Selden's line, the Government has in view to approach as near as possible the neck of the Peninsula, and thereby to secure to themselves the right of establishing there, if necessary, the means of keeping open the communication between the fortifications at Old Point Comfort and the Country, without conflicting with State or individual rights. For the ordinary military purposes, the space included within the red lines is deemed sufficient, and the cession may be made to

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conform thereto, should it not be thought advisable to cede the space included within the blue lines.

The Government also desires a conveyance from the State of Virginia to the United States, of the right of property, which in the previous application was not asked for, because, as it belonged to the State of Virginia, it was supposed it would accompany the cession of jurisdiction.

I have the honor to be, Sir,
with the highest respect,
your most obed^t. servant,
J.C. Calhoun

His Excellency
T.M. Randolph,
Governor of the State
of Virginia, Richmond