

[Cross]

Lord Governor and Commandant of the Province:

Petition presented [I], Don Luis de Menar, a
 by Luis Menar resident of this villa, do
 against Mig[ue]l appear before Your Lordship
 Leal as is prescribed by law and
 state [the following], inas-
 much as it is necessary that I ask what I have [already]
 asked in the superior court of Your Lordship in a petition
 showing the date of your superior decree of the 24th of the
 month of November, 1779. I supplied to the deceased
 Mig[ue]l Leal sixty pesos' worth of goods during a period
 of five years, as evidenced on the invoice which I formed
 for that information. This said Leal obligated himself
 to pay me within the normal period of time. But during
 that interval the hostile Indians killed him, and until
 the present date I have been unable to collect even a
 half real from the heirs. The deceased left a house,
 its lot, and some farm land, as is evidenced, and even
 today the house is maintained there, though it is on the
 verge of loss due to [the heirs'] poor maintenance of it.
 And since it is of such little use to them, it seems to
 me, and in order that they will pay me my justly due money,
 I beseech Your Lordship in your great charity to deign to

command, if you find it just, that Mig[ue]l Leal, son of the deceased, who considers as his what he inherited from his father, be required by Your Lordship to pay me the remaining 60 pesos due me from the time of his employment, or else that he surrender that which his father left him. For the goods allowed them were for the benefit of them all, since the deceased was a man of integrity; therefore

I humbly beseech Your Lordship to deign to command that what I ask be done, if you find it to be just, and to accept this my petition on plain paper, as there is none stamped. I swear that I bear no malice and [I swear to] whatever is necessary, etc.

Luis Mesnares

[D.S., 1 p., in E. 2/9/1782-2/11/1782]

Decree [I consider the foregoing] duly presented. In attention to the serious business // ^{lv} in which I am engaged, which is important to the royal service, and which precludes my effecting what is appropriate to [Menar's] demand, let it be sent to the first[-ranking] alcalde ordinario of this villa, Don José de la Santa, who shall do such justice as is the plaintiff's due without delay or loss of time. Thus it is provided, ordered and signed by me, Don Dom[ing]o Cabello, Colonel in the Royal

Armies, Governor and Commandant of Arms of the Province of Los Texas, its Missions, Conquests, and Frontiers, Captain of the Cavalry Company of the Royal Presidio of San Ant[oni]o de Béxar, and Inspector General of the Militia Corps and Presidial Troops of the Said Province by Commission Conferred by the Lord Commandant General of the Interior Provinces of this Kingdom of New Spain; at this Royal Presidio of San Ant[oni]o de Béxar, on the ninth of February, in the year seventeen hundred eighty-two, before the attendant witnesses with whom I act in the absence of a notary, doing so on this plain paper, as there is none stamped. This I certify.

Cabello
[Rubric]

[Cross]
José Plázido de Monzón
[Rubric]
attendant witness

Pedro Días del Castillo
[Rubric]
attendant witness

[D.S., 1-lv pp., in E. 2/9/1782-2/11/1782]

In the // ² villa of S[a]n Fernando, on the eleventh day of the month of February, in the year seventeen hundred eighty-two, I, Don José de la Santa, first-ranking alcalde ordinario of the said villa, received the decree of the lord governor and commandant of this province with the petition which he forwards. In prompt and due obedience

thereto I state that I must command and do command that Miguel Leal be called and the said petition be made known to him, that what is appropriate in justice may be accorded in view of his reply. Thus I have ordered, and have affixed my signature, acting in my own presence with attendant witnesses in the absence of a notary, as there is none. [To this] I attest,

José de la Santa
[Rubric]

José Guadalupe de Agreda
[Rubric]
attendant

[D.S., lv-2 pp., in E. 2/9/1782-2/11/1782]

Immediately thereupon, I, the said judge, in order to effect that which was ordered in the auto foregoing and the petition presented by Don Luis de Menar, did cause Miguel Leal, whom I know, to appear in person. I made known to him both [the petition and the decree]. Apprised ~~en~~ of their tenor and form, he stated that as for the absence of the afore-mentioned Menar, because of the respondent's having to make a similar charge against [Menar] for the year [Leal] and his deceased father worked for him [Original: incomplete sentence] This he gave as his reply and did not sign, saying that he did not know how. I did so [for him] with the attendant witnesses with whom I act as above stated. To this I attest.

Santa
[Rubric]

José Guadalupe de Agreda
[Rubric]
attendant

[D.S., 2 p., in E. 2/9/1782-2/11/1782]

^{2v}
// [inverted:]

No. 16 _____

~~The last review conducted in Guatitlán~~