

taken, of severing our political connection with the Mexican people, and assuming an independent attitude among the nations of the earth.

H. P. N. Gammel, ed., *The Laws of Texas, 1822–1897* (Austin, TX: Gammel Book Company, 1898), 4, quoted in Jeffrey D. Schultz, ed., *Encyclopedia of Minorities in American Politics*, vol. 2, *Hispanic Americans and Native Americans* (Santa Barbara, CA: Greenwood, 2000), 539.

### PRACTICING Historical Thinking

**Identify:** Summarize the main points of the declaration.

**Analyze:** What is the tone of the document? Compare the tone in this document to the tone in the US Declaration of Independence (Doc. 5.6).

**Evaluate:** This declaration cites the “right of self-preservation” but is silent on the subject of slavery. What role did slavery have in prompting the Anglo rebellion? What other motivations propelled the Texans to sue for independence?

## DOCUMENT 9.7 “On the Webster-Ashburton Treaty,” *Brooklyn Daily Eagle* 1842

With the Webster-Ashburton Treaty (1842), the United States settled its northwestern border dispute with Canada, but the question of the Oregon Territory remained unsettled. The Caroline affair, mentioned below, refers to an American vessel that was captured by British troops assisting Canadian rebels. The British sent the captured ship with one American still aboard over Niagara Falls in 1837. In the following passage, a Brooklyn newspaper reports on US Senate deliberations over the treaty and the Caroline affair.

In the Senate, on Thursday, a resolution of Mr. Rives’ [William Cabell Rives, Democrat, Virginia] was adopted, calling for official correspondence between the British Government and Mr. Everett [Edward Everett, Whig, Massachusetts] on the subject of the Caroline outrage. A collision between Messrs. Benton [Thomas Hart Benton, Democrat, Missouri] and Rives, which commenced some days ago, in reference to the late treaty, was renewed and continued with much feeling on both sides until its progress was arrested by the chair. The bill to occupy and settle the Oregon Territory was taken up on its final passage, but was laid aside at the suggestion of Mr. Calhoun [John C. Calhoun, Democrat, South Carolina], who wished time to examine it. Mr. Archer [William S. Archer, Whig, Virginia], from the Committee on Foreign Relations, reported a bill to indemnify American citizens for spoliations committed on their commerce prior to 1800. The Senate then went into Executive Session.

“On the Webster-Ashburton Treaty,” *Brooklyn Daily Eagle*, January 7, 1843, 2, Brooklyn Public Library, Brooklyn Collection, <http://bklyn.newspapers.com/image/50330414/>.