

Events at Anahuac



William B. Travis

As Austin predicted, the Law of 1830 proved to be disastrous for Texas. The Mexican government sent troops into Texas and built garrisons (forts) across the state. One of these **garrisons** was located in Anahuac and under the leadership of Colonel John Bradburn. John Bradburn was an American who had supported the Mexican government during the Mexican revolution and was rewarded by being placed in command of the garrison at Anahuac. As commander of the garrison, Bradburn was expected to enforce the Law of April 6, 1830. The Americans living in Anahuac deeply resented Bradburn, and actions by both the American living in Anahuac and John Bradburn caused a conflict.

John Bradburn was accused of helping enslaved Africans escape. He was also resented for trying to collect taxes on American goods coming into Texas. In May of 1832, Bradburn arrests two lawyers he claimed were interfering in his duties. William B. Travis and Patrick Jack were thrown into prison. Over 200 settlers from neighboring towns rushed to their defense. As the situation escalated into fighting, Bradburn requested additional Mexican forces be sent to Anahuac.