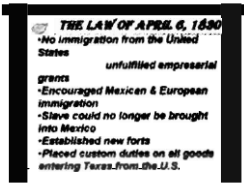


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THE LAW OF APRIL 6, 1830



In further efforts to control Texas colonists, especially Anglo Americans, Mexican officials passed the Law of April 6, 1830. It outlawed immigration from the United States to Texas and canceled all empresarioial grants that had not been fulfilled. As a result, settlers from the United States would no longer be allowed to colonize any Mexican border state - including Texas. However, the government encouraged Mexican and European settlers to relocate to Texas. The Law of April 6, 1830, even provided land and money for these settlers.

The law also included other provisions (a specific requirement set by a law) designed to slow, if not stop, Anglo American immigration into Mexico. Slaves could no longer be brought into Mexico to work the fields for Anglo American colonists. New forts and presidios, guarded by convict-soldiers, were established to stop illegal immigration. The law also placed a tax on all goods entering Texas from the United States. This meant that colonists would have to pay more for supplies from the United States.

The law alarmed Anglo Texans. Its ban on bringing slaves into Mexico would hurt their ability to develop the cotton industry. Texans felt that the new taxes would hurt Texas's economy. They were also upset that their friends and relatives in the United States would not be able to join them. They felt that they had been wronged by the Mexican government.

The Law of April 6, 1830, marked a turning point in the relationship between the Texas colonists and the Mexican government. The most obvious sign of this strained relationship was the sending of Mexican soldiers into Texas. The soldiers were assigned the task of collecting the taxes. The Texans resented the presence of the Mexican troops. They not only disliked the show of military power but also were upset about having to pay new taxes. These feelings of unrest, as well as other changes that were taking place within the Mexican government, set the stage for the next conflicts between the Mexican government and Texas.

1. After the passing of the Law of April 6, 1830, settlers from what country could settle in Texas?
2. Name the 3 provisions the Law of April 6, 1830 included:
3. How did the Anglo Texans feel about the new law? Why?
4. What did the Texans resent?