JEAN LAFFITE’S MEXICAN PRIVATEER SEAL

This engraved privateer seal is attached to page 212 in Laffite’s journal. It was probably crafted in New Orleans in 1818, then shipped by Pierre Laffite to Jean Laffite in Galveston aboard the vessel *New Enterprise* on February 20, 1818. A box marked “J.L.” contained this privateer seal, a hand stamp, blank printed privateer commissions, and other ship papers for Laffite’s establishment.

Passengers aboard included Pierre’s son, Eugene; General Humbert; and two Irish and five French officers.

This embossed seal is made of heavy paper with the details in silver and gold/bronze foil. The filigree, eagle, and snake are raised. Note the “NÔ” in the lower left and the “Y DS” in the lower right.

This privateer seal is believed to be the only one that is now in existence.