

## *Translator's Note*

**F**RIEDRICH ARMAND STRUBBERG figured prominently in my first book, *Nassau Plantation: The Evolution of a Texas German Slave Plantation*.

In October 1847 Strubberg (or Dr. Schubbert, as he was known at the time) was involved in a gun battle for control of the plantation in which two men were killed. My research into this dramatic episode led me to a wider interest in Strubberg, both as man and author. I felt it necessary to acquaint myself with his literary works, most of which are based on his experiences on the Texas frontier in the 1840s. It became clear that the Friedrichsburg novel, especially, has great historical value, for Strubberg/Schubbert served as the first colonial director of Fredericksburg, Texas, during its foundation years (1846–1847). Additionally, the novel offers an entertaining read in its own right—an old-fashioned melodrama, very much within the sensibilities and conventions of the period. I thought it worthy of translation and resolved to do so. The translation, along with introduction and annotations, also served as my dissertation, which I successfully defended in December 2010.

*James C. Kearney*

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