460
115
500
500
1600
3171

Dear Sir } Marshal Texas May 17th 1845

after my best respects permit me to address you, and ask your attention to some of my business in the P. Office Bureau at Washington, My health is and has been bad, ever since I saw you at Washington in the Winter of 42- at the time of my leaving I had the pleasure of an introduction to you, & my bad health has prevented my returns, so as to attend to my business, I design coming down to the called Session, in June, if my health will permit, when at Washington last I succeeded in getting an appropriation made to pay mail contractors, for the service of 1844. to be issued in the character of Henderson Drafts, Judge Colquitt thought he could not certify for want (in the Bureau) of the Books & Bonds retained at Austin, I have learned recently that the claims of Contractors, when certified that the service was rendered, by the Post Masters that they are Audited for, I was contractor in 42 with Col. Berry under the name of Berry & Mason on Route No. 10- from Sanaugustin to this place, at $775:00- & on Route No- 3 from Lacygdoches to Cincinnatti for the first quarter. which was $174:37/100- on them 2 routs all the service was rendered by myself - which is $949.37/100- Dollars, also for service as Subcontractor, under Q. A Caldwell, in 1844., for which I have orders deposited in Austin (P.O. Bureau) for $433. also a protested Draft, on E. L. Martin P.O. Master at Shelbyville for $150 (in favor of J. N. Caldwell) if you will please enquire at the Dept. on the subject of my claims, & write me immediately, & if it is necessary I will be down at the meeting of Congress by so doing you will confer a lasting favor on your

Very obt. & humble Servant Joseph Mason

P.S. My respects to Judge Colquitt