Austin, February 6th 1857.

Hon. S. C. Wilson, Com. Claims, &
S. B. Shaw, Comptroller,

Gentlemen:

With due respect, I beg leave to present the claim of Judge E. T. Branch of Liberty County, for balance of pay due him for services as Judge of Judicial District, from to being the difference between the paper promises with which he was partially paid and the amount actually due him. You will recollect that, when other officers were compelled by law to take paper money, such as it was, for their salaries, there was a special provision exempting Judges from this punishment. They were to be paid in good money—gold or silver. I suppose the Congress very properly concluded that unless they gave the Judges something that would pay their travelling expenses, the wheels of justice would stop.

The circumstances of Judge Branch's case, I believe, are these: The law provided that the Judges should have good money in payment of salaries, but when the Judge called for his, (or some portion of it,) the Treasurer had no good money on hand, and could not therefore comply