P. Malpeal Esqr

Dr Sir.

I herewith send you a power of attorney to collect what is due me ~~for services in 1842.~~ I was out with Col Gill in the Spring, and with Somerville in the Fall & Winter for four months. I once had a discharge from George T. Howard who was a Lieut. Colonel in the Fall of /42 when Somerville went to the Rio Grande. I have lost the discharge, as I never thought of getting anything. I suppose the Com'dg officer returned his muster rolls, and if they are Evidence enough, get the money for me — if not, not. Excuse me for troubling you & believe me your's respectfully

James H. Bell