To the Hon Legislature
of the State of Texas.

The petition of the undersigned, Widow of the late Capt A.C. Hinton late a Commander in the Texas Navy, respectfully represents to your Hon body that during the fall of the year 1839 her husband in Command of the Steam Ship Zavala, was ordered to proceed to the City of New Orleans with his ~~vessel~~ ship for the purpose of having ~~the~~ it overhauled & repaired. That while in discharge of his duty to wit on the 22d of Feby 1840. ~~he~~ he received from Lewis P. Cooke Secy of the Navy an order peremtorily dismissing him from the service.

The dismissal of an officer in a Foreign Port without a trial or even the specification of a charge against him was certainly unjust and ~~illegal~~ Tyrannical to say the least of it.

Capt Hinton immediately returned to Texas and demanded an inquiry into his Conduct. The Court of inquiry was refused and Capt Hinton was constrained to lie under the disgrace heaped upon him by the Secy until the assembling of the Congress - nearly a year after his dismissal. When he appealed to that Body for redress. Notwithstanding the influence brought to bear against him by his powerful enemy the Secy of the Navy. Congress with great unanimity passed the following act for his relief: