New Orleans Nov 5th 1856

To
Thos F. McKinney
Present.

Dear Sir,

I beg leave to hand you enclosed Copies of the Documents in regard to my claim on the late Republic of Texas — The Originals from McDonald are in the hands of Johnson & Snell, which I have requested to converse with you and Judge Franklin, about this important matter.

If, as I imagine, McDonald can not bring the proves as are required by the Government, because, the abode of the officers to whom the goods were delivered, can not be ascertained and they may be dead, — would it not be just in the Government to pay me the amount upon the Oath of McDonald, Colonel Hockley, late Secretary of war & marine, and witnesses of the transaction, that it is a right and just claim, and that the Original papers have been lost?

But you know best what is to be done in this case, and if you with the assistance of Judge Franklin, — to whom I beg you to speack about it, — will use your influence in my favor, I would be very thankfull to you, and be very happy to reciprocate your favors at all times.

Hoping that a good result may be attained

I remain,
Dear Sir
Respectfully
Your Obedt. Servant
M. H. Illies.