State of New York
City and County of New York, SS. }

Samuel Swartwout of the City of New York, being duly sworn according to law, deposes and says, that in the month of May A. D. 1836, he loaned and advanced five hundred dollars in cash, to Stephen F. Austin, Branch T. Archer, and William H. Wharton, Commissioners, fully authorised and empowered by the then Texian Government to negociate a loan for the benefit of said Government; and, that he received, at the time a receipt and a verbal declaration from Col Austin, one of said Commissioners, that the said Government of Texas or he himself, would refund the same immediately after the arrival of the said Commissioners in Texas — That sometime after their arrival there Col. Austin wrote a letter to this deponent, stating that owing to the embarrassed condition of the Country and its finances, and his own want of means, he could not then refund the money, as he had pledged himself should be done, but that the same was regarded by ~~the~~ him & his Government, as a sacred loan to be refunded out of the first available means within the power of either — And, this deponent further says, that the said letter and receipt from Col Austin, were both destroyed and lost, with most of his other letters & papers, both P & C. during