Comptroller's Office,
Austin, January 26th 1854.

Hon M. D. K. Taylor,
Senate.

Sir:

In compliance with your request, that I would state the grounds on which Genl Samuel Swartout claims interest, I beg leave to state, that the principal portion of the amount advanced to Texas by General Swartout, was at the instance and request of our Commissioners — Messrs Austin, Archer and Wharton, who visited the United States to negotiate and borrow money on behalf of the late Republic. Had General Swartout required of the Commissioners, bonds for the advances made by him, and which they were authorised to issue, I have no doubt he could have procured them, and would, in that event, be entitled to ten per cent, interest, on the bonds thus obtained, which could be allowed without the intervention of special legislation, as other parties have been allowed interest, who obtained bonds when the advances were made.

Very Respectfully, Yours.

Lauren B Shaw

Comptr.