Como Post Office, Panola County Miss. Nov 27th 1848

Mr John M. Swisher
Dr Sir

Your esteemed favour of the 6th Inst came to hand by last mail and its contents examined. The gun got by Capt Jewel is charged in the day book on the 24 Octr 1836 — it might have been got 22nd Septr and as an order was given not charged until 24 October and that done upon Second Thought. But one gun is charged on the day book as got by Capt Jewel and that one no doubt is the one paid for. My Son left San Augustin in the Spring of 1837 on a colleding expedition in the interior of Texas and returned to Tennessee by Sea & New Orleans. The books were left in Texas with Mr Whyte — he never was afterwards at San Augustin to give the credit on the books and as Mr White then had no interest in the account I presume he did not think it material to instruct him to give the credit.

I had told my Son he might keep the capital in 1837 and hence I enquired but little into the business. The original petition drawn by me was drawn up the Spring of 1841 in the presence of Mr White and the facts stated are from his statement and what I had heard my Son say before his death. I am satisfied but one gun was got by Capt Jewel — the day book shews but one, and that is no doubt the one paid for. I have drawn off a new account & petition & left out the gun got by Capt Jewel

Please present my esteem and friendship to your Father & Mother —. I have no doubt but she saved my life in Nov 1836, by preparing the corn meal gruel diet for me at a time of physical prostration with diseased bowels, when every other thing laid like lead on my stomack — I hope the climate of Texas may greatly prolong her earthly pilgrimage. Yours Truly

Benjamin M. Bedford