Having been requested to state what I know in regard to the claim of Robert Wilson filed in the Auditors office against the State of Texas for ~~property lost and destroyed at Harrisburg in the~~ year A.D. 1836.

I certify that I became acquainted with Robert Wilson in the year A.D 1826. I also certify that I emigrated to Austins Colony in Texas in the year A.D 1830; that I was at Harrisburg in that year, and that I saw there a very extensive Steam Saw Mill, Grist Mill Workshops, &c, erected by Robt. Wilson, and which in my opinion, could only have been done at a heavy outlay of money. I was much surprised to find at that early day, improvements on so large and magnificent a scale, as was the establishment of Col Robt. Wilson alluded to. I cannot estimate with precision the value of the property; but it was certainly very large. The mills were of the first order, and the establishment of them undoubtedly gave character to the Country abroad as well as at home. The difficulties necessarily to be encountered in the country at that early day were numerous and great. I believe the claim of Robert Wilson alluded to to be a meritorious one, just and equitable, and one which addresses itself with great and peculiar force to the favorable consideration of the legislature of the state of Texas.

Nath. Townsend

The above Instrument this 16th day Nov 1857 was duly subscribed and sworn to before me Witness my hand and Seal of Official Austin

Francis M. Duffau Not Pub Travis Co