Dear friend Egypt August 5th 1859

yours of July the 12th has been received and attentively read E G Mercer has been dead over two years I took your letter and went to see his wife ~~son~~ she knows nothing about the matter and says there is no land warrant of yours among the his papers I do not know how to prove further my family is well and we are doing about as usual the neighborhood is very much the same as when you lived here except the cane breaks which is a good deal cleared up and settled with people who you do not know E G Mercer is the only man of your acquaintance that I can recollect old Mrs Mercer is dead and my wife is dead Mrs James Osborn I believe is all I recollect of your acquaintances we have pretty fair times crops tolerable and prices good cotton from ten to twelve cents it has been so long since you was here I can not say much that would interest you we have three or four rail roads building in our country one from Houston leads up the country is fifty miles finished

I remain your friend
William I E Heard

This is to certify that John Bragg joined the volunteer army of Texas in thirty six and served as a private in my company he fought in the Battle of the 21rst of April at Sanjacinto and was honorably discharged

William I E Heard, Capt