Columbus Texas, July 8th 1871

David Shields Esqr
Austin Texas

Dear Sir

I herewith enclose you my petition and application for a pension, together with the certificates &c &c, which you will please lay before the proper authority immediately and put it through, as I ~~am~~ in very needy circumstances, having a large family all females, upon my hands in my old age. I understand that there is a probability of the Pension act being repealed at the present ~~session~~ of the Legislature, And if it should be repealed I want you to prepare a petition to the Legislature for me asking that body to grant me a pension for life, for I really think that I am entitled to it