I came to Texas in 1837 and to San Antonio in 1838. I have resided here since excepting during the period of my imprisonment in Mexico. I cannot say that I have rendered very important military services either to the Republic or State of Texas during my residence.

I considered myself a citizen of Texas from the beginning of 1838 and would not accept my release from the Castle of Perote in 1843 "under the British Flag", when offered twice by General Packenham, being born in Ireland. Many of my companions thought that I should have accepted. In the spring of 1842 I first took up arms to defend Texas against the Mexican Army, having on previous occasions, in 1838, 1839 & 1840 taken up arms to defend the Country against Mexican Raiders, and in March of the same year I destroyed my house in San Antonio, when containing several thousands dollars worth of goods; blowing up the whole establishment with several kegs of powder, so as to keep the goods from falling into the hands of the enemy, who were then marching on San Antonio under command of General Vasquez, who took the City. I took up arms to defend this place against Vasquez's army and afterward joined the volunteer army at Seguin under Jack Hays and followed General Vasquez's Command to near the Nueces River.

In September 1842 I took up arms with the small San Antonio band to defend Texas against the Mexican Army Commanded by Genl. Wall and then made a prisoner with nearly every man of that unfortunate crowd, and during the early part of that month (September 1842) was marched to the Castle of Perote in Mexico, where I remained a prisoner in chains until the night of the 3d. July 1843 when I made my escape from the Castle. Under all existing circumstances at the time, I did not consider it improper for a prisoner to accept his release when tendered through the influence of any Government, especially when he had never applied to any Government (outside of that of the United States), but my desire and intention was to return to Western Texas, and be free to take up arms against any invading army of