To The Hon. James E. Wilson
Commissioner of Claims:
Your petitioner Stephen Duncan a resident citizen of the County of Victoria in the State of Texas would respectfully represent unto your Honor: That he was a private in the Spy Company Commanded by Capt. John T. Price in the service of the late Republic of Texas in the year 1841 or 42 That he was mustered into the service for the term of three months that he continued in actual service during the whole of said time Spying between the Guadalouple and the Rio Grande rivers. That towards the end of said time your petitioner was left with two others (Thomas Lane and — Blackwell) encamped on the Nueces river while Capt Price with the rest of the company went into the Settlements for provisions, that during the Captains absence the term of service expired and that he received word from Capt. Price to come in and be discharged That he started in in company with some twelve other persons with whom he had joined company after the Captains departure that on his way in he with the whole of his party were taken prisoners by the Mexicans about 400 in number, at the Palo Blanco oaks. That he was carried prisoner into Mexico and at San Luis Potosi fell in with a ~~portion~~ number of the Santa Fe prisoners and was marched with them hence to the City of Mexico. That after he had been kept a prisoner in the city of Mexico for about four months he ~~[illegible]~~ having been a prisoner twelve months wanting three days was released