State of Texas }
County of Dewitt }

This is to certify that I have been well acquainted with Fernando De Leon since 1826. When the revolution broke out in 1836 he and all his family were strenuously opposed to Santa Anna, and all exertion themselves in favor of the constitution of 1824. When the declaration of Independence took place De Leon with many other of the old citizens, despaired of success, but at that time, his feelings and sympathies were with the Texians. There was no suspicion of his fidelity to the cause of Texas nor was he ever guilty of a single act to my knowledge, which could induce the opinion that he had changed his political sentiments. He was taken prisoner by the Mexicans, and succeeded in getting away. At that time there was not even a suspicion or rumor afloat derogatory to his character as a friend of civil and religious freedom. He had a large stock to my certain knowledge. All of it was at the disposal of the Texas Army. Companies were sent to his ranch - whenever beef was wanted and they took his stock wherever they chose. The horses were taken for the use of the army, and the cows and calves taken off by those who acted for the army, and appropriated to their own use. De Leon was ordered to Nacogdoches once lost in consequence of it, everything he had - horses, oxen, carts & cattle, and even the furniture of his house, and the clothing of his family. There was but little stock in the west at that time, except what belonged to the De Leon family. I am sure, when I say that I