being unable to save any of the Cargo. and the Appearers further severally declare that the said Brig at the time of her departure from New York upon the said Intended Voyage. was tight. staun & strong & was well & Sufficiently Manned & provided & furnished with all things necessary for the said Intended Voyage. The said Brigs Company and the Appearers used their utmost Endeavours to preserve the said Brig and the goods of her lading from Damage. and therefore the said Henry Peterson did declare and Protest. against any & all Persons whom it shall in any wise concern. and does declare that all damage or losses ought to be borne by the Merchants. Shippers or Underwriters Interested or whomever it shall or may Concern. by way of Average. the same having Occurred as before mentioned and not by or through the Insufficiency of the said Brig or any neglect of the said appearers his Officers or any of his Mariners — all of which the said Master Mate &c do most Solemly Swear and make Oath to this day & date above written —

as far as the facts stated are within my own knowledge they are just & true

Henry Peterson
sign'd James Davis
sign'd James Earle
do James Jones.

Republic of Texas
County of Brazoria

Before me George B McKinstry. Chief Justice Ex. Officio Notary Public in and for the County aforesaid. personaly came & appeared Henry Peterson & James Davis (Officers) James Earle & James Jones (Mariners) of the Brig Belvidere of New York. which severally being Sworn. made Oath that the annexed Instrument by them subscribed. has been clearly & distinctly Read in their Presence and hearing & that the Matters & things in it contained are just & True as alleged in said Protest

Given Under my hand & Seal of Office this 17th day of August A D 1837

(signed) Geo. B. McKinstry
Ex Officio Notary Public

Deponent further says that at all times. in which by the above Protest he was on Shore. the duties of Master & Consignee of the said Brig necessarily called him there. Deponent further says that he was obliged to have Lawsuits with three of his passengers to recover Monies due the Brig. which Engendered hostile & Bad feelings towards this Deponent & which caused him much Vexation and trouble. they having commenced Cross Suits against Deponent — the Deponent further says that when he