To James C Wilson Commissioner of Claims

Sir

Whereas in the Civilian and Gazette a paper published at Galveston there appears an advertisement ~~over~~ the signature of Wm Fields stating that the headright land certificate No 262 of Wm H. Shadburn for one third of a League of land issued [redacted] Fort Bend County April 5th 1838 is lost and that if not found he will in due time (about the 12th of Feb. next) apply for a duplicate &c — Now this is to notify you that said Certificate is not and never has been lost but, was sold and and is now in the right and possession of the Subscriber who will [redacted] it shall be demanded of him) [redacted] virtue of a duly authenticated conveyance from said Wm H. Shadburn successfully contest the claim of said Wm M. Fields and all the rest of mankind —

City of Austin Jan. 21 1857

Lyman Cronkrite