Chappell Hill Texas
Dec 22nd 1857

Hon J. O. Illingsworth
Com'Court Claims,

Dear Sir,

This mail will bring to your Honor, the petition of Mr J. L. Ammans & his wife Fannie Ammans, Claimants for compensation from the Gov'nt for Services of Midshipman Slaughter, deced together with Interrogatories to be propounded to Capt J. G. Tod & Com' E. W. Moore. The Affdvt attached to petition is blank, because since it was drawn Mr Ammans has been unable from delicate health to fill up & subscribe the same; & by delaying till the next mail, I fear the petition could not reach you before the 1st of Jan' when the claim will be barred. Please file said claim, & inform me of the same. Col' A. M. M. Upshaw Representative from this county, now in the city of Austin, will identify Mrs Ammans as the former wife of W. S. Slaughter decsd &c. Please take his testimony, immediately or before he leaves your city. Any information you can consistently give me, as to the prosecution of said claim will be most thankfully recvd. Very Ffly

P. H. Swearingen.
Atty for Clmts