Harris County Texas
Baytown, May 3rd 1860

Dear Sir

Yesterday I sent you an application of Wiley Smith for a headright &c which was sworn to in the county Court, certified by the Judge and recorded by the clerk. I am not satisfied whether I did right or wrong in sending interrogatories. Judge Shearn thought the witnesses should have been brought before him and questioned and that their testimony should be written by the Clerk and sent to you and so I thought from reading the law, but on page 16 of your book under the head of Regulations I find "3rd No exparte affidavit will be received &c" and after reading that I thought it best to send the interrogatories. If I did right & and send them back, if the law requires the testimony to be taken by the Judge without filing interrogatories, throw them in the fire and let me know your decision. In either case the testimony will be taken at the May term of our court and will be sent up with the necessary fee.

Very Respectfully Yours &c

Geo E Hopkins