Personally came and appeared before me A. Brigham Auditor Robt. Lewis and says the Cargo on board of the Schooner Watchman was considered a prize and belonging to Government. at the time she arrived on the 25th of June 1836. the Bar was rough and that no other Boat in port at that time could have gone out with safety. – the Pilot Thomas Marshall borrowed the Whale Boat of Capt. Hastings in order to board the Schooner and bring her over the Bar; in attempting to do so. the Vessell grounded, and remained on the Bar for four or five hours, while in that situation she lost Both Bow Anchors, Kedger & Hawser. – and with difficulty was gotten of, during which time the Whale Boat was considerably injured; – it was then thought by all on Board the only way of safety was to run the Schr. into Galveston Bay and while under way the 2d Boat was filled by a heavy swell, and was broken in such a manner as to part from her tow line, and was lost; the deponent went on board with the Pilot in the Whale Boat, and prepared to come on shore while the Vessell was on the Bar, but the Prize master objected said he would rather pay for the Boat than to have her leave the Vessell in that situation, the Pilot also objected to the W. Boat leaving at that time. –

Robert Lewis

Velasco July 13th 1836

Sworn to and signed before me

A. Brigham Auditor

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026-13