Auditor's Office.

Houston, 10th March 1839.

I certify that the annexed instrument was sworn to by Saml Hatch in due form of law. The claim was filed among many others, but because the Quartermaster General did not approve it, the Comptroller would not allow it, hence it was withdrawn in order to lay the claim before the Board; there is no law nor never was a law in evidence prohibiting claims of this character from being audited, but after the law passed requiring all discharges to be countersigned by a field officer a commandant of a Post, the Comptroller and President overruled the Auditor and says if they cannot receive their land for want of validity in their certificate they should not receive their pay let the certificate be counter=signed, notwithstanding the law declares the Auditor shall respect all legal officers certificates, and the law alluded to, ~~is~~, in the opinion of the Auditor, is retrospective so far at least as regards pay. He is therefore of opinion that the annexed certificate is in accordance to law.

[illegible] Auditor

TX

Odi -10