This is to certify that on the 15th day of April 1836. I went on board of the Schooner William owned by John W. Moore Esq with my family and effects and proceeded down Buffalo Bayou on the way to Galveston and from contrary Winds did not reach Spillmans Island before the Day of the Eighteenth Evening which time the Mexicans passed us on their way to New Washington after which time about the Twentieth the Steam Boat Cayuga Captain Harris Master came along side and took us in tow, proceeding on our way to Galveston we grounded on Clappers Bar and notwithstanding the very great exertions made by those on board to proceed on our way our efforts were ineffectual from the Low State of the Water, in this situation exposed as we were to the enemy the then Secretary of the Navy Colo. Potter requested Twenty men to remain on board but his orders were not complied with as only Seventeen could be found who freely Volunteer among whom was John W. Moore - with this the Steam Boat left us taking on board all the Women and Children and proceeded in the direction of Galveston or Anahuac as we supposed and returned to the William about the dusk of the evening, in coming however within hail of the Schooner, I should observe that the Secretary of the Navy who was still on board of the Steam Boat called out to those who had charge of the Schooner to fire her or burn her at which order was obeyed first taking on board of the Steam Boat the Rigging, Sails &c. which were afterwards appropriated to Government purposes, converting the Sails to tents &c on Galveston Island, and I do further certify that the aforementioned John W. Moore was the owner of the said William that he used every exertion to get her off the Clapper's Bar and was as willing and anxious as any on board to follow the orders of the Secy. of the Navy and use his utmost exertions in behalf

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