

Houston June 23. 1886

Comr of the
Genl Land Office
Austin

Dear Sir

I represent
Mrs Wilhelmina Schiel in the contro-
versy hereinafter stated - She holds her
rights under Henry Raag to whom a
pre-emption grant was made in Harris
County and consequently has a right
to interpose her objections as stated
below

I desire to call your attention to
the error of our County Surveyor
in making two pre-emption surveys
July 23rd 1884 - one of 80 acres for
Julius Bay (field notes sheet no 5) and
one 160 acres (sheet no 6) for Charles
Froehlich, and solicit your attention
and investigation to the end that

no patents may issue on those two surveys above named. for the reason the land is not vacant but was patented to Henry Ratz or Katz many years ago.

Permit me to call your attention to the field notes of Henry Ratz Survey (sheet No 1)

Then please examine field note of Michael Bey (sheet no 2) also field notes of August Froelich (sheet no 3)

These different field notes demonstrate that the East lines of Bey & Froelich and the West line of Ratz is one and the same line and patents have been issued for lands on both sides of this common line years ago; East of the line to Ratz and West of the line to Bey & Froelich

Also sheet no 1 shows further that the grant to Henry Ratz included all the land east of that common line to the West line of the

Duckworth survey This as appears on all of the County maps and continued up to the time when Mr Will Powers was County Surveyor, when he changed ^{the} West line of the Duckworth 587 varas east of where it was under

stood to be up to that date, and moved the Ratz survey the same distance eastwardly, resulting in a pretended vacancy between the East line of Froelich & Bey and the West line of the Ratz of 587 varas, disregarding the fact ~~was~~ that they were a common line - I am compelled to believe that Mr Powers had a personal interest in this, because he once located this piece of land & sold the location and not being able to get your office to recognize the location he raised the certificate

Under my view of the case it matters not where the Duckworth line may be, all the land ^{East of} ~~East of~~

Ray & Froelich to the Duckworth
line is patented to Katz - and
furthermore even if that showed
not we are certainly one
Katz survey must join the
Ray and Froelich grants

I beg to refer you to the plot
(sheet no 7) illustrative of what I try
to explain

Notwithstanding what appears
above Mr Gillespie the present sur-
veyor who was a deputy under Power
has seen fit to follow up Power error
and has I understand permitted the
parties to pre-empt in this space

Charles Froelich & Julius Ray -
and has returned the field notes to
your office (See sheets 5 & 6)
for patents in due time, covering the
land in the dotted black lines shown
in the plot (sheet No 7) east of

and adjoining M. J. Ray and August
Froelich's grants, which land
beyond all doubt as I have
before shown, belongs to his
part of the Ray or Katz grant
The part in red on the plot
shows how they have located
the Katz in their error

I beg of you to accept this as a
protest and withhold the patents
to those two late surveys above
mentioned and return the

survey to Mr Gillespie for sur-
veillance, if you agree with
me

Respecting your attention and
a reply

I remain

Your humble servant
W. P. Hamblen

N. W. of
Houston

Texas Co.

S. K. T. G. L. E. S.

27.

Harris Co
W P Hamblen's letter in re, to
Surveys NW of Houston.
Dated June 23, 1886.

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