

1505
County Surveyor's Office, El Paso, Texas, July 3rd, 00.

To the Hon. Chas. Rogan,
Commissioner General Land Office,
Austin, Texas.

Sir:-

In the matter of the survey of the Public Lands in El Paso County for the Public School Fund, and for which I have the contract to survey into blocks, I have the honor to report progress of work done by my two parties as follows, to-wit:

That on Monday June 4th, 1900, I had my two parties organized, but did not leave El Paso until Tuesday June 5th, 1900 waiting the arrival of Mr. Foster. On the 5th we made the start without him, and went to monument No. 5 on the line between Texas and New Mexico, established by the U. S. Boundary Commissioners in 1859; This monument is well known, it is a large line stone on the South side of which is the word "Tex~~s~~"; on the North side "~~New Mexico~~" chiseled into the rock. This monument is the initial point of the Texas and Pacific Railway surveys reaching from the Franklin Mountains East to Sierra Blanca. The N. E. corner of Sec. 2, Block 81, ^{T. & P. 1.} ~~T. & P. 1~~, being 910 varas East of said monument.

From said monument No. 5, I ran East at 12419 varas cross E. P. & N. E. Railway, course of which is N. 29-1/4° East and S. 29-1/4° West at 23020 cross wire fence, course North and South, at 35600 West slope of rocky hills and at 37010 varas from said monument No. 5, to N. E. corner of Block 78, ^{T. & P. 1.} ~~T. & P. 1~~, of Texas & Pacific Railway surveys, where I built a large rock mound in a flat West of a rocky ridge and took bearings on Mountain peaks. This line is over level sandy land with good grama grass. ^{N. E.} * Mr. Newman has the whole of Blocks 78 and 79 T. & P. 1, and Block 80, T. & P. 1 as far West as the E. P. & N. E. Railway under fence, and ^{S. H.} Mr. Nations has the whole of Block 80 and part of 81 ^{T. & P. 2.} ~~T. & P. 2~~, fenced in.

On Sunday June 10th, 1900, I went to El Paso and met Mr. Howren and on the 11th, we started for the State line North of the Hueco Tanks, arriving there the next day. We compared instruments and took observations of ^{Polaris} ~~Places~~. From the N. E. corner of Block 78, ^{Sub. 1} ~~E. & P. 1~~, as established by me, Mr. Howren continued the line East and connected with the N. E. corner of Block A, and N. W. corner of Block B. University Lands. From the N. E. corner of Block A, he ran West six miles and established the N. W. corner of Block A which corner had never been established on the ground. From the N. W. corner of Block A. University Land, he ran South with the West line of said Block A and Block F. and at every four miles established and built corners. This part of the country is mountainous, very rough and broken. It was necessary to get the true course and distance from monument No. 5. to the State University Blocks, or I would not have spent the time and labor in running the line from the N. E. corner of Block 78 East to Block B.

I herewith enclose Mr. Howren's report addressed to myself. My other assistant, Mr. J. P. Randolph, now began at the N. E. corner of Block 78 on line between Texas and New Mexico as established by me, and ran South four miles, East six miles, South four miles, West six miles, South four miles, again South four miles, East six miles, and three hundred varas to point due South of West line of Blocks A & F. University; thence North 2720 varas to ^{ground} ~~end~~ of rock and earth on South side of Old Salt Lake road. Here we ^{left} ~~leave~~ a note for Mr. Howren and returned ^{to} N. E. corner Block 76, ^{Sub. 4} ~~E. & P. 4~~; thence South four miles; Here we had to quit, the nearest water being at Fabens, a station on the G. H. & S. A. Railway, which is 18 miles away by the Salt Lake road, ten or twelve miles of which is heavy red sand with many gullies and bad ravines to cross. The animals have now been 18 hours without water. We started ^{for} Fabens and reach there Sunday morning June 24th, and camp ^{ed} ~~ed~~ on the bank of the Rio Grande. ^{Unless} ~~Without~~ it rains,

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no more work can be done in this section. There are but few roads and they invariably run the wrong way, and are very bad. The ground is parched and dry, and mostly sand, and the sand storms which have occurred ^{at} most every day are terrible on both man and beast.

To make the Blocks conform to the T. & P. Railway Blocks I have made them six by four miles, each Block containing twenty-four sections. Large stone monuments have been built at each and every corner. I found it impracticable to keep my two parties together - ~~I have~~ ^{on the 27th} sent Mr. Howren to Sierra Blanca to work South towards the River, where water can be obtained from wells which have lately been sunk in that section; and the Randolph party, I sent to Fort Hancock with instructions to begin at a known corner established by McCombs; said corner being North and tied on to camp Rice. Randolph will work East and South east from this point, ^{and} will tie on to Old Fort Quitman and to the Hot Springs on sec. 7, Block 4, T. & P. Railway River survey.

My outfit consists of two large wagons and on light wagon six ^{mules} ~~mules~~ and two large draft horses, two cooking outfits and tents. The saddle horses for the flag-men I had to turn loose, for the reason that I could not furnish water for them, and being in a mountainous country; the flag-men could not take their horses with them. I have in my party two assistants, four chain men, two flag-men, two teamsters and one extra man called in the contract a Supernumerary. This extra man I sent with Mr. Howren to help him carry his instrument.

My ^{provision} ~~sub~~ bill for the month amounts to \$ 113.79.

I herewith send you a duplicate bill, which will give you an idea of how we live, and of prices of things in that market.

Oats cost me \$1.15 and corn \$1.10 per hundred pounds; my bill for horse feed up to date is \$46.50. The cooking utensils, tents, etc, canteens, one for each man, have cost me about \$80.00.

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Now that we have got nearly through in this rough and dry sandy country, and got down to near Sierra Blanca, my parties can get along much faster and that too, with much less labor and greater comfort to both man and beast.

Respectfully,

A. H. Parker.

Surveyor of El Paso County, Tex.

*Received
June 10 1880
Paper 1000
3. 1880*

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Counter 26887

~~E. B.~~ E B
Humboldt Co.
Report A.S.P.

June, 1900

Dated July 3, 1900,

Division of Fish and Game, Wash. D.C.

F. H. [unclear]

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