

796
 THE STATE OF
 TEXAS,



J. J. WALKER, COUNTY JUDGE
 DON BILBERRY, COUNTY AND DISTRICT CLERK
 W. L. FULLER, TAX ASSESSOR
 D. S. WOODS, SURVEYOR
 H. M. PERKINS, COUNTY ATTORNEY
 J. C. AVARY, SHERIFF AND TAX COLLECTOR
 L. A. BUTLER, TREASURER
 J. O. KING, INSPECTOR

County Commissioners:

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 PRECINCT 2, D. J. ROGERS, BARSTOW
 PRECINCT 3, JOHN T. SWEATT, GRAND FALLS
 PRECINCT 4, J. H. ANDREWS, MORAHAN'S

WARD
 COUNTY.

BARSTOW, TEXAS,

11/10

1900

Hon Chas Rogan
 Austin Tex

Dear Sir

Your letter of the 7th inst. to hand yesterday, also your telegram promptly rec'd, & contents of both fully noted. In the first place I will explain my presence in Eastland Co. Col Woods informed the whole party that we would be permitted to go in by the 6th Nov for the privilege of voting, this he told the crew about the first Oct. No one questioned the authority permitting the favor. On 31st Oct Col Woods - R. E. Estes & myself arrived in Midland at about 9 o'clock P.M. Five of the hands came in the following morning, two of whom not intending to remain longer on the work. At Midland the morning of Nov 1st Col Woods proceeded to getting supplies for the ensuing 30 days, this he did and sent the supplies out on one of his wagons the same day, by 12.M. the camp being near Buster's Rancho near Shafter Lake where it still is. In the evening of (1st Oct) I took train for Eastland

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R. (2)

arriving there morning of 2nd. It was Col Woods orders to meet again at Midland on 7th inst to return again to the work. In the evening of 6th I received telegrams from Mr Estes at Midland announcing the death of Col Woods at Barstow! upon receipt of same I immediately wired you at Austin. I also rec'd letter from Mr Chas Nichols at Barstow with same information. I left home at 2-30 am. on morning of 7th inst for Barstow, in order to protect the States interests in its possessions in Col Woods Care. On arrival here I found your telegram instructing the same &c I have secured the field books, notes & papers & other data in Col Woods Office here, pertaining to the work except probably some blue prints that may be in Camp. I have also his duplicate Contract with the State. As regards the field notes of the surveys already made to date, I do not think there has been a line written except in the field books, if Col Woods has ever transcribed any of them, I am not in possession of the

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R. F.

fact. He often spoke of the impracticability of writing up the same in Camp & hence was not done in Camp or field on the other hand said he would be compelled to write up the same after the work in the field was completed.

Now as to his death - Col Woods left Midland on 2nd Nov arriving at Barstow in evening of same day, was under influence of drink on arrival, by night as I understand was extremely intoxicated, after going to his room, from which time he quickly began to grow very feeble & weak & soon became perfectly helpless. His Stomach retained no food, in fact could not be induced to take nourishment, gradually grew worse, becoming unconscious the day before his demise - rallied somewhat the night of 4th inst for but a short time - then fast becoming worse, he expired unconscious at 12-10 pm. of Nov 5th. I have consulted with Dr Blake of this place who attended him & his opinion is that there was some brain lesion that caused death immediately

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but that strong drink as the prime cause —
 Col Woods was to my knowledge a physical wreck
 & I often thought him not exactly right in mind.
 His remains were embalmed here & sent to his
 old home Marion Ala. I have conveyed by letter
 your Condolence as requested, to Miss Barbara Woods
 Marion Ala (his Sister) Col Woods (I suppose) sent in
 his monthly report from Midland, I assisted him in
 Camp in making out the same before leaving Camp.
 Some inquiry has been made by some of the employ-
 ees regarding their wages — I have assured them of
 the certainty of their warrants as heretofore.

Will you kindly inform me if the report for the month
 Oct was sent in by Col Woods as above indicated?

As regards the work done in the field, without the
 data before me — is as follows Our beginning was at
 the N.W. Cor Fisher Co in bed of Double Mt for Brazos river
 We ran the County line west for the N. Boundary of
 Severy-Bordin-Tawson & Gaine establishing the
 corners on this line of these Counties — We next ran
 counter 70770

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South with 103 meridian to the S.E. Cor New Mexico
 monument as established by Clarke W.S. Survey which
 Cor was established some years since by Col Woods,
 & in 1892 by Twitchell & again by Col Woods in 1900.
 We then carried a row of blocks, (28 sections each) north.
 The East line of New Mexico forming our base &
 of course the west boundary of these blocks. We made
 connection with the N.W. Cor Survey 495 BLK G, C.S.S.D.R. & N.G.
 R.R Co Gaines Co & brought the line South establishing
 the S.W. Cor. of said Block G at S.W. Cor Sec No 475.
 We then brought up the connection from S.E. Cor Sec No 40.
 BLK 46, T. 1. N. on Centre line I.S.P. Surveys, this line
 was continued west & north with boundary of said BLK 46,
 establishing its sec corners, also the corresponding cor-
 ners of public domain, noting 32nd parallel & making
 connection with the S.E. Cor New Mex. This makes some
 work done in Winkler Co. The work then proceeded N &
 along the E line of our first tier of block work locating the
 work with the same angle of I.S.P. Surveys i.e. S 77° W.
 & N 13° W. This places the triangular surveys along side
 counter 70471

1900
11400
238
12138

12138

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RT

The East line of the 1st tier Blocks we made on New-Mex line, the work has since been carried N. & East (Y & P angle) establishing S. W. & N. W. Corners of Public School Block 73, & also university RIK 12, then in succession the Corners of Block 13 & 14 (university) the work is completed except a few corrections from N. W. Cor Gains County East to a point about 2 miles East of B. Anderson for eruption improperly shown to be at S. E. Cor Sur 224 Waxahatche Gap R.R. & South of said point to N. line Y. & P. Survey & West to New Mexico E. line including the connection on Centre line Y & P as above stated. I have a plat in field of this work. The distance from S. E. Cor New Mex, North, is ^{to N. W. Cor Gains Co} 66 miles 738 rods, this gives Winkler Co the distance of 6, mi 738 rods N. from S. E. Cor New Mex for its N. W. Cor which is also the S. W. Cor of Andrew Co & is established as well as N. W. Cor Andrews & S. W. Cor Gains. We also made connection with Y & P N. B. line on Sulphur Draw with our County Boundary line. I had supposed that Col Woods had kept the department informed by reports heretofore though I did not know of his so doing

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the same in the field, it was his intention to next
 run a preliminary from pt near B. Anderson pre section
 to our G.P. Connection on Sulphur Draw with Co boundary
 & at the NW Cor Sur 117. (E. Let R.R. I believe)

This summarizes the work done in general. I have in
 my possession the field note books except one in possess-
 ion of Mr R.E. Estes 2nd assist at Midland & shall
 turn them over as requested together with the other
 data I have secured since Col Woods' demise.
 Midland will be the point to start from to the Camp
 near Shafter Lake. I have the option to use Col Woods
 teams & wagons & outfit, being responsible for them
 & remunerating the estate for their services.
 I had supposed that I might be placed at the
 head of the work to completion, & requested Mr C.W.
 Couneller of Eastland to make formal request, thinking
 that only necessary, & not dreaming of any one
 being in the way of the natural & I hope deserved
 line of promotion. I have to the best of my ability
 done & performed my duty from beginning to the-
 over

present time & without reserve

The data shall all be preserved & I think will show the above meagre report

I am not, do not desire to be placed in the "Kicker" list but I must convey to you that I do feel aggrieved at the proposed interception

I await further orders

Yours Very Respectly

D. Boone 1st assist
State Surg

File 5
Winkler County
D. Boone's explanation & report
of Col. Woods death.
Dated Nov. 10, 1900.

BASSLOW TEXAS