

Austin December 11th 1879.

To His Excellency

Gov O. M. Roberts.

Sir.

I have the honor to submit to your Excellency the following report of the result of my investigation in the land office of the Jack County Land District.

I reached Jacksboro' on the evening of the 5th inst, and began my examination of the records of the office the next morning.

I find that nearly all the late records of the office and particularly those pertaining to the Panhandle section, have been made by clerks, and but few of them are the work of the surveyor Mr W. Callaway.

The office work of the locations made for Gunter & Munson has been done not by the surveyor, but by persons employed by Gunter & Munson, and has been done principally at Sherman, and then brought and deposited in the office here, at Jacksboro': -

I found but two file books which contain any files made in the Capital or Public Ditch Reservations. The first of these books is marked "Jack County File Book. Jacksboro' Sept 5 1874." It is a book of 218 pages, a large number of those pages being blank.

The following files appear on the last pages of this book. To wit: -

Geo F Daugherty, Land Scrip No 1066
issued Jan'y 9 1875 to Adams Beatty
& Moulton, 1280 acrs, in Knox county.
File dated Sept 8 1879. page 199 of
the book.

E. Boon, unlocated balance 3^d Class
cert No ²³/₂₄ of Peter's Colony Cert No 66
for 229 acrs issued Feby 28 1878
to the Heirs of Wm Allen, in Knox
County. File dated Sept 8 1879. page
198 of book.

J. M. Brown per J. R. Coryelle agent
& atty, Galveston, Brazos, & Colorado
Narrow Gage R. R. Co. Nos 209 to 243
inclusive, in Motley County. File
dated August 6th 1879. page 197 of
book.

Powell & Gage, East Line & Red River
R. R. Co. Nos 1230 to 1235 inclusive,
in Hale county. File dated May 13
1879. page 195 of book.

J. B. Ammerman. E. L. & R. R. R. R.
Co. Nos 1180 to 1183 inclusive, and
Tyler Tap Railway Nos 697 to 700
inclusive, in Hale county. File
dated May 30 1879. page 194 of
book.

Powell & Gage. E. L. & R. R. R. R. Co.
Nos 952 to 956 inclusive, in Hale
county. File dated May 15 1879 page
193 of book.

Powell & Gage. E. L. & R. R. R. R. Co

Nos 945 to 957 inclusive in Hale County. File dated May 15 1879. page 191 of book.

Powell & Gage Longview & Sabine Valley R.R. Co Nos 11 to 20 inclusive in Lamb County. File dated June 29 1878. page 189 of book.

Powell & Gage Gulf, Colorado & Santa Fe R.R. Co. Certificates not designated either by number or quantity. Hale County. File dated June 29 1878. page 187 of book.

Powell & Gage Longview & Sabine Valley R.R. Co Nos 1 to 10 inclusive, also No 31 and 33 to 57 inclusive in Swisher County. File dated June 29 1878. page 185 of book.

Powell & Gage Long & Sab Val R.R. Co. No 32 in Donley County. File dated June 29 1878. page 183 of book.

Daugherty, Conneller & Ammerman. Gulf, Colorado & Santa Fe R.R. Co. & E L R.R. Co. in Hale County. File dated April 3^d 1878. page 182 of book.

Gunter & Munson. Adams, Beatty & Moulton, Certificates Nos 308 to 311 inclusive. 640 acres each. in Armstrong County. File dated Jan 31 1878. This application is pasted into the book on page 181. -

Gunter & Munson. Adams Beatty

+ Moulton Certificates Nos 813 in
Armstrong County. 640 acs. File dated
Jan'y 31 1878. This file is pasted into
book on page 179.-

Gunter & Munson. Adams Deaty
+ Moulton Certificates Nos 391 to 398
inclusive, also Nos 1284 - 1286 -
1287 - 1289 - 1291. - Also Weiss,
Weiss & Sanders Certificates Nos 1821
to 1826 inclusive in Briscoe County.
File dated January 31 1878. - This
file is pasted in book on page 177.

I found a number of files made
in this book by pasting them in the
book of date Jan'y 31 1878 by Gunter
& Munson, and also a few other files
made in the same manner by other
parties.

The last file made on the leaves
proper of this book was made on page
128 by W. S. Jones on the 14th day of
October 1879, long subsequent to the
date of the files pasted into the book.

From page 96 to page 99 is
missing. - That is pages 97 + 98 are
entirely gone, having been torn out. -
Pages 93. 94. 95 + 96 are loose in
the book having been torn out.

More than one half the pages in
the book are blank, and these blank
pages are scattered through the book
between different files. - The files are

not placed in the book consecutively, according to their dates. - There is no way to detect an ante dated file if such there be in this book, from the book itself. - It would be a matter of no difficulty to place an ante-dated file in this book in such manner as to defy detection. - These files made by Gunter & Munson in this book are all written on legal cap paper and dated at Jacksboro, and are pasted onto blank leaves in the book. - The files of Gunter & Munson in this book are all in the same handwriting, and apparently in the handwriting of a lawyer. - I could not ascertain whose handwriting they were in. -

The second file book, is marked "File Book No A" - It is a small, new book containing 113 pages - The last file is entered on page 64 leaving 49 pages blank. - It contains no other files except those made by Gunter & Munson. - All these files are dated September 30 1879, except the four last one of which is dated Oct 2 1879 and three of which are dated Oct 6 1879. They are all certified to be recorded on Oct 1st except the first one, which is certified to have been recorded Oct 4th and also except the four last. -

The files in this book & the certificate of record are all in the same handwriting, and I learn, were written by Nat Gunter a young man who is the nephew of the Mr Gunter of the firm of Gunter & Munson.

When I reached Jacksboro, I found the name of this Nat Gunter on the Hotel Register of the Wilhite Hotel of date December 3rd 1879. Two days before I reached that place, I learned upon inquiry that he had come and gone suddenly and that while here he was in the Surveyor's office. - My firm belief is, from what I observed and heard, that this File Book No A which I have described was brought ~~here~~ and deposited in the Law office at Jacksboro' by Nat Gunter on the 3^d of December 1879. and that it was never known in that office until that day. -

I append hereto a list of the files made in this book. which may be useful for future reference. Upon my arrival at Jacksboro I found there Mr J. Sumner Field the Deputy Surveyor who has done the field work for Gunter & Munson in the Pan Handle. - He had arrived

in Jackbors' on the same day that I arrived and a few hours before, and came direct from Sherman, and I found him in the Surveyor's office the next morning when I went there to begin my investigations. - I learned from him that he had done all the field work for Gunter & Munsen and also most of the office work, and that a portion of the office work was still unfinished and that he was finishing the work at Sherman. This unfinished work consists in recording the field notes of the ~~files~~ files contained in the last named file book, and also in recording other field notes of surveys made without files. - I learned from him that the locations made in the Capitol Reservation were all made without any files being made - that he would first make the surveys, and then apply the certificates to the surveys, and record the field notes & then return the field notes and the certificates to the General Land Office, and deposit the records of field notes in the Surveyor's office at Jackbors. - This work of recording these field notes has been done at Sherman by Sumnerfield and others, and none of it has been done by the Surveyor himself. - The

records of these field notes now in the office at Jackson are contained in ^{seven} ~~nine~~ large books, marked or numbered thus "M 5" "M 6" "M 7" "M 8" "M 9" "M 10" "L N 1" "~~G 1~~" "~~G 2~~" These books are printed blanks and contain over 400 pages each - The names of J. Summifield Surveyor and of W. Callaway Surveyor and of two sets of chain carriers are printed at the foot of each blank - Mr Summifield informed me that he thought these books were obtained from Cardwell & Morris of Austin Texas. -

In book "M 9" I found on pages 303 to 314 inclusive field notes recorded in blank, without date and without naming certificate, in Castro County, and then these records had been erased by drawing a pen across them. The erasures above named were made with purple ink and presented the appearance of having been very recently made. -

In book "M 10" from page 315 to 350 inclusive contains field notes of surveys made in Floyd County, but the dates are left blank. - but other work in Floyd County in this book bears date Febry 12 1879. - Work in Moore County in this book dates April 12 1879 and April 14th and 15th 1879

Two locations in Armstrong County
in this book on pages 385 + 386
bear date March 31 1879. - Pages
387 + 388 are left blank. - Work
in Bisbee County commences on page
389 and bears date March 29 1879

On page 443 is a location in
Custer County dated July 30 1879 and
from page 391 to 426 inclusive
of this book "M 10" are filed
notes in the name of Weiss, Weiss
& Sanders of date August 13 1879
but this date has been altered to August
13 1878 by marking out the figure
9 with a pen, and inserting over
the figure the figure 8. - This has been
done with purple ink and has
the appearance of ~~being~~ having been
very recently done. - These locations
of which the dates have been altered
as above stated are in Hutchinson
County. - The locations immediately
following these on pages 427, 428
& 429 are dated August 30 1879. - On
page 430 survey in name of Patrick
P. Collier in Carson County dated July
10 1879. The last filed notes recorded
in this book ~~are~~ is for East Line
& Red River R R Co. certificate No
997, and of date November 18 1879
and is in Armstrong County. - The
filed notes in all of these books are

are entered without reference to ~~their dates~~, and consecutive order as to their dates. - In book "M 9" the names of the chain carriers are F. L. Cross and S. A. Jackson. - In book "M 10" the names of the chain carriers are A. R. Alexander and A. Young. - I inquired of Mr Sumner ~~of~~ the Surveyor when these men were, and he told me they had left the State and he did not know where they could be found.

I also learned some other facts in connection with this business which I deem it unnecessary to mention in this report. -

From all the information which I have been able to obtain I am satisfied that the locations ~~are~~ claimed by Grant & Munson in the Capitol & Public Debt Resurrection have not been fairly and legally made, and my opinion is that patents upon these locations should be withheld until the suspicious circumstances surrounding these locations are satisfactorily explained.

Very Respectfully
Sam A. Wilcox

List of Files in File Book No "A"
of Jackson's Land District. -

No of Cert	To Whom Issued.	Date of File	County
85 to 95 inclusive	Den + Pac R.R.	Sept 30 179	Floyd
306 to 340	" " " "	" " "	Hall
341 to 353	" " " "	" " "	"
383 to 389	" " " "	" " "	"
354 to 371	" " " "	" " "	"
390 to 400	" " " "	" " "	"
372 to 382	" " " "	" " "	"
59 to 66	" " " "	" " "	Floyd
81 + 82	" " " "	" " "	"
74 to 78	" " " "	" " "	"
67 to 73	" " " "	" " "	Hale
79 + 80	" " " "	" " "	"
96 to 99	" " " "	" " "	Swisher
101 to 115	" " " "	" " "	"
153	" " " "	" " "	"
6 to 21	" " " "	" " "	Donley
119 to 130	" " " "	" " "	"
132	" " " "	" " "	"
116 to 117	" " " "	" " "	"
133 to 142	" " " "	" " "	"
22	" " " "	" " "	"
29 to 36	" " " "	" " "	"
143 to 152	" " " "	" " "	"
118	" " " "	" " "	"
300	" " " "	" " "	"
37 to 38	" " " "	" " "	"
243 to 262	" " " "	" " "	"
154 to 155	" " " "	" " "	Armstrong

156 to 162	"	"	"	"	"	"	"
28	"	"	"	"	"	"	"
23	"	"	"	"	"	"	Prisese
24 to 27	"	"	"	"	"	"	"
163 to 166	"	"	"	"	"	"	"
182 to 189	"	"	"	"	"	"	Armstrong
179	"	"	"	"	"	"	"
167 to 178	"	"	"	"	"	"	"
180 to 181	"	"	"	"	"	"	"
196 to 201	"	"	"	"	"	"	Hutchinson
190 to 191	"	"	"	"	"	"	Armstrong
193 to 195	"	"	"	"	"	"	Hutchinson
192	"	"	"	"	"	"	Donley
4 + 5	"	"	"	"	"	"	"
3	"	"	"	"	"	"	"
1	"	"	"	"	"	"	"
263 to 269	"	"	"	"	"	"	Moore
290	"	Memphis & El Paso	"	"	"	"	"
2	"	Den & Pac	"	"	"	"	Donley
299	"	"	"	"	"	"	"
202 to 223	"	"	"	"	"	"	Moore
227 to 242	"	"	"	"	"	"	"
290 to 298	"	"	"	"	"	"	Gray
131	"	"	"	"	"	"	"
270 to 278	"	"	"	"	"	"	Hall
286	"	"	"	"	"	"	"
279 to 285	"	"	"	"	"	"	"
287 to 289	"	"	"	"	"	"	Moore
401 to 411	"	"	"	"	"	"	"
196	"	Tyler Pap R.	Oct 2 1879	"	"	"	Donley
198	"	"	"	"	6	"	"
412 to 414	"	Den & Pac	"	6	"	"	Hutchinson

1/66 - 1/71 - 1/72 - 1/77 - 1/78 - 1/80
1/81 - 1/84 - 1/85 - 1/82 - 1/88 - 1/89 issued
to Beatz, Seal & Formood, in Hall
county, Oct 6 1879.

The certificates named in the
following list are for 640 acres
each, and they appear in this
list in the order in which they
are found in the file book. - The
field notes of these locations are
being recorded at Sherman by
Mr J Sumner Jiles.

Saw A Wilson

File No. 27
Old Miscellaneous County
Report of Investigation
Filed Dec 20 19 84
GARRY MAURO, Com'r
By Lk

Report of James A
Wilson in relation
to locations made
in Penn Handle

Transmitted to Hon
Com. G. L. O. Jr his
information -

Geo. W. McCormick
Atty Genl

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