

Feb. 25, 1953
3652 Monterey
Corpus Christi, Tex

Dear Laura Gilpin

It is my great pleasure to write you at this time to tell you how very much we enjoyed reading your wonderful book, "Rio Grande. River of Destiny". I plan to read it again soon - and hope to have a copy of it as my very own in the near future.

Since we moved to Corpus Christi, Tex. I have read much of the material available on the early history of Nueces County, Tex.

One of the earliest arrivals to what is now Corpus Christi was an Honorable H. A. Gilpin, who landed here in 1829, occupant of a small schooner from New Orleans. This I read in "Saga of a Frontier Report" by Coleman McCampbell.

I have read of Wm. Gilpin 1813-1894 editor, soldier, politician and first

territorial governor of Colorado. I have never made a proper research of the family tree, but I always read with pride any record of accomplishment by a Gilpin.

My father R.S. Gilpin

married Alpha Vineyard whose family was early settlers in W. Va

I was born in Clay County W. Va 1903 but spent most of my life in Ohio. Graduated from Rio Grande College 1929. Taught in High School 6 yrs. Married 1929 have one daughter Lucy 18, one son Dana 14.

My Grandfather Walker Gilpin - fought in Civil War. His father Samuel Gilpin fought in Black Hawk War. His other sons were George, Malin, Sanford.

My father's sisters - Josephine & Stella

" brothers - Charles, Fred, James, Samuel.

I have met only Stella - who now lives in St. Petersburg Fla. and Fred. All the brothers are dead.

My husband, born in Cincinnati, Ohio

Graduated from Marshall College in

Huntington W. Va. taught High school 15 years is a building Contractor.

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I would be very happy if you
would send me any information
that add to records I am compiling
for my own personal benefit.

Yours truly,

Mrs. Thelma Gilpin Sanford

P.S. I also read your book about the ruins
of Yucatan. I sometimes envy one
who travels as you have. If any time you
are in this fast growing city which
is making a bid as a resort - especially
Padre Island. (You may want some
pictures of it) please look us up.

We would be more than happy to
meet you.

Thelma