

KARVAL, COLORADO
FEBRUARY 15, 1972

MISS LAURA GILPIN
SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO

DEAR MISS GILPIN:

THE PAST FEW WEEKS HAVE DELUGED ME WITH LETTERS TO ANSWER, AS A RESULT OF SOME ARTICLES ABOUT HISTORIC THINGS THAT HAVE BEEN PRINTED IN THE EASTERN COLORADO RAINSMAN, NEWSPAPER OF HUGO. SINCE I AM THE PERSON WHO DID MOST OF THE RESEARCH ON LINCOLN COUNTY, I AM THE ONE TO WHOM THE LETTERS ARE ADDRESSED. SO I HAVE NOT BEEN ABLE TO GET TO YOUR LETTER OF JANUARY 25TH.

IN ADDITION WE HAVE RECENTLY ORGANIZED THE LINCOLN COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY, AND HELD OUR FIRST ANNUAL MEETING JANUARY 30TH, AND I WAS A PRIME FORCE IN THIS BECAUSE OF MY RESEARCH, SO I HAVE HAD THAT TO GET OFF THE GROUND. IN ADDITION, I AM LEGISLATIVE CHARIMAN FOR COLORADO COWBELLES, AUXILLIARY OF THE CATTLEMEN'S ASSOCIATION, AND YESTERDAY WE PUT ON A COFFEE FOR THE LEGISLATORS AT THE STATE HOUSE, SO I HAD MANY ARRANGEMENTS TO MAKE BEFOREHAND, FOR THAT.

NOW, AFTER GETTING A SON MARRIED NEXT WEEK END, I AM GOING BACK TO MY FIRST LOVE, REASEARCH ON LINCOLN COUNTY HISTORY.

FROM WHAT YOU WRITE ABOUT YOUR FATHER AND THE RANCH IN LINCOLN COUNTY, I THINK I PROBABLY KNOW MORE ABOUT IT THAN YOU DO. I ENCLOSE ACOOPY OF ONE OF MY FINDINGS ABOUT THE BERNARD GILPIN RANCH NORTHEAST OF COLORADO SPRINGS. YOU ARE RIGHT ABOUT THE LOCATION OF THAT PLACE, IT IS DIRECTLY EAST OF THE NORTH ENTRANCE TO THE AIR FORCE ACADEMY, ON KETTLE CREEK. THE DAY WE WENT TO SEE IT WAS STORMY, SO WE DIN'T GO IN TO THE HOUSE, BUT I AM SURE IT IS THE ORIGINAL HOUSE, AND THE RANCH WHERE BERNARD GILPIN, JR. USED THE "1/2" BRAND LATER USED ON THE RANCH IN LINCOLN COUNTY.

*very regret
for back
the
relationship*

THE MARYLAND CATTLE COMPANY WAS COMPOSED OF: BERNARD GILPIN, JR., PRESIDENT, FRANK GILPIN, AND BENJAMIN FRANKLIN NEWCOMER, PRES. OF SAFE DEPOSIT AND TRUST COMPANY OF BALTIMORE, MARYLAND. HE MARRIED LAURA GILPIN, DAUGHTER OF ~~BENNY~~ BROOKE GILPIN, OLDEST OF THE BERNARD GILPIN, SR. FAMILY. YOU WILL THINK I WAS SNOOPING INTO THE GILPIN FAMILY, BUT I WAS TRYING TO ESTABLISH A CONNECTION WITH WM. GILPIN, FIRST GOVERNOR OF THE TERRITORY, AND FOUND MENTION OF THE BALTIMORE GILPIN FAMILY IN A GENEALOGICAL RECORD BOOK. I THINK THE COMPANY WAS ESTABLISHED IN 1885 OR EARLIER, BUT THERE WAS A BLIZZARD IN DECEMBER 1885 AND JANUARY 1886 THAT PRACTICALLY RUINED THE CATTLE BUSSNESS. THOUSANDS OF HEAD FROZE TO DEATH. I DID NOT COME ACROSS ANY NUMBER WHICH THE MARYLAND COMPANY LOST, BUT I AM SURE IT DEALT THEM A BAD BLOW FINANCIALLY, AND THEY HAD TO REFINANCE. THE NEW COMPANY WAS SANBORN LIVESTOCK CO., BERNARD GILPIN, JR., 998 SHARES, FRANK GILPIN, 1 SHARE AND PETER TENIS, 1 SHARE. HE WAS SECRETARY OF THE COMPANY.

THIS FINANCIAL TROUBLE IS PROBABLY WHY YOUR FATHER DIDN'T WANT TO GO BACK TO THE RANCH, TO BE REMINDED OF THE BAD TIMES. THEY SOLD THE SANBORN CATTLE CO. TO SAMUEL I. ALTMAN IN 1898 AND HIS

GRANDSON, SAMUEL JONES STILL OPERATES IT, ALTHOUGH HE DOESN'T LIVE THERE, BUT IN COLORADO SPRINGS.

I WILL HUNT UP THE WILLIAM H. JACKSON SERIES. MR. HOMER JONES SAYS THE HOUSE HAS FOOT THICK WALLS, WHICH WERE FILLED WITH SAND, EITHER AS INSULATION, OR FOR PROTECTION FROM THE INDIANS. THEY FOUND THE POST OFFICE BOXES USED WHEN THE POSTOFFICE WAS ESTABLISHED IN 1878. I MYSELF HAVE NOT BEEN OVER TO THE RANCH FOR MANY YEARS, ALTHOUGH I LIVE ONLY ABOUT 20 MILES TO THE EAST.

I TRIED TO BUY A COPY OF THE MAP SHOWING MARYLAND CATTLE COMPANY, BUT THEY WERE OUT OF IT AT THE BOOKSTORE. I CAN GET ONE IN DENVER AND WILL SEND IT TO YOU. I THANK YOU FOR YOUR REPLY TO MY LETTER, AND WILL BE GLAD TO KEEP IN TOUCH WITH YOU. IF YOU EVER DO GET BACK TO COLORADO, I WOULD BE DELIGHTED TO TAKE YOU TO THE RANCH.

SINCERELY,

Mary E. Owen

MRS. JACK R. OWEN