

(COPY)

# 61 Broadway, N.Y.

S. M. SWENSON & SONS

New York October 7, 1926.

Captain Robert G. Carter,  
United States Army Retired,  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Captain Carter:

I recently read and was very much interested in the "OLD SERGEANT'S STORY". I was a resident of the west in the Indian days and have latterly been associated with the management of the Spur Rancho in northwest Texas. The history of that immediate section, such as events at Palo Duro and Blanco and Tule Canons, in which you took part, have been a matter of interest at all times. The old Mackenzie trail passed through the Spur Rancho and it may be of a little interest to you to know that the trail passed over land on which the Spur Inn at Spur has since been built. I enclose a picture of it. It is our thought to put up a tablet or marker of some kind at the hotel in commemoration of the trail with possibly some recitation of what Mackenzie's operations meant in freeing that country of the Indians. On the Spur Rancho and about ten miles from this hotel is Soldier Mound. The local story is that Mackenzie made a winter camp at that mound which is just east of Duck Creek, one of the tributaries of the Salt Fork of the Brazos as shown on the accompanying map on Section 316. If you can by any chance assist me with information as to this encampment, it would be very helpful. There are one or two soldiers buried on top of this mound. If there is anything published intimately descriptive of the old Mackenzie trail, I would be ever so glad to have you say where it can be procured. I judge, in reading the book above described, that you are probably one of the few living men who were intimately familiar with the old trail and the happenings in that particular part of the country. Possibly there is somewhere available a reliable map showing the Mackenzie trail in that region. If there is, and it is purchasable I will like to have it. If you ever come to New York, I would very much appreciate a call from you as during the years when I was in the west, I became very appreciative of what the outlying posts had to contend with and in fact had some personal connections with Indian events from a civilian standpoint.

Not knowing your address, I am requesting a personal friend, Hon. John H. Small of Washington to locate you and present this letter.

Yours very truly,

(Sgd) C. A. Jones

enc.

It occurs to me that you may possibly be interested in the Spur Rancho booklet from which you will see how completely that section of the country, wholly wild at the time you knew it, has become civilized and the home of many prosperous farmers and ranchmen.

14 October, 1926.

Mr. C. A. Jones,  
C/o S. M. Swenson & Sons,  
61 Broadway,  
New York City.

My dear Mr. Jones:

Your most interesting and much appreciated letter was received through the courtesy of your friend, Hon. J.A. Small of this city, who delivered it in person; also the illustrated booklet on the Spur Rancho and the picture of Spur Inn which you state is located on the "Old Mackenzie Trail".

All this unfolds to me matters of the most vital interest, almost approaching the marvelous. When I think of the events of that period and those places I was a part of over 50 years ago - then teeming with savages, buffalo, antelope, wolves, jack rabbits, prairie dogs, rattlesnakes and sage brush - I can hardly credit the wonderful transformation which has taken place throughout that entire region.

I most cordially commend your thought in placing a tablet at Spur Inn commemorative of the trail and setting forth in a brief manner what Mackenzie and his gallant men of the old Fourth U. S. Cavalry did in freeing the Panhandle, in fact the entire Western section of Texas, from the numerous incursions and murderous raids of the Comanche, Kiowa, Arapohoe and Southern Indians.

What you state is undoubtedly a fact, viz., that I am today, perhaps, the only surviving officer of the Fourth Cavalry who is entirely familiar with that trail and the operations of Mackenzie throughout that section, the Canons Blanco, Tule and Palo Duro, across the Staked Plains to Forts Sumner and Bascom, N. M., the headwaters of the Colorado, Red and Brazos rivers - resulting in the surrender of all the predatory bands referred to, their ultimate concentration in or about the Fort Sill reservation.

and permitting the immigration then flowing into Texas and the railroads to advance civilization to the extreme Western borders of that state.

I was Mackenzie's Adjutant on his first Indian Expedition, shortly after the massacre of Salt Creek prairie near Jacksboro in May 1871 <sup>in Dallas</sup> in the arrest of Satanta, Setank and Big Tree and the pursuit of Kicking Bird to the Sweetwater and forcing him into Fort Sill. Later that same year we drove Quannah Parker from Canon Blanco out on the Staked Plains but lost him in a sleeting Norther at night. In September 1872 we destroyed Mow-wis <sup>Coyote</sup> village on the North Fork of Red River, captured all of his squaws and children and held them as prisoners at Fort Concho (San Angelo) until April 1873, when they were returned to their tribe at Fort Sill. In May 1873 I was his adjutant and helped him plan and organize his great raid into Mexico (Remolina) - a ride of 160 miles in 32 hours with a pack train, captured squaws and children, stolen stock recovered, and wounded men on travois - completely destroying the Lipan, Kickapoo and Mescalero Apache villages, with but slight loss. I ran the first Mackenzie Trail with a prismatic compass. *For this we received the "Gratific Thanks" of the State through its Legislature convened in Special Session.*

Some years ago (1919 to 1922) I wrote and published at my own expense a connected narrative sketch of all these operations, in five monographs. They were entitled - "The Massacre of Salt Creek Prairie - The Cowboy's Verdict", "The Pursuit of Kicking Bird - A Campaign in the Texas Bad Lands", "On the Trail of Deserters", "The Tragedies of Canon Blanco", and "The Mackenzie Raid into Mexico" - a small edition of 100 copies. I sent them to San Antonio, Austin, <sup>Dallas</sup> and Amarillo <sup>to</sup> the libraries (if there were any) and to the postmasters. I never received any acknowledgments and they are now out of print. I wanted to place these events on record, particularly <sup>those</sup> events which had occurred in the Pah-handle country.

When I started to write "The Old Sergeant's Story" I also began on Mackenzie's operations in 1874-5. Prof. Robt. T. Hill of the Geological Survey, who made one of the best maps of Texas and was a principal witness in the case of the settlement of the Red River dispute between Oklahoma and Texas, (now of Los Angeles, Calif.), and a Mr. Wrather of Dallas, Texas, urged me to include a map showing the "Mackenzie

*both of the Cosmos Club here in W.*

Trail". I secured a good map from the Map Division of the Army War College here made up of topographical and geological surveys combined. Two years ago I had a cataract removed from my right eye. I never regained any vision. Another cataract is growing on the left eye. These maps were in duplicate and made up of four sections in each. I traced it roughly on one map and was going to make an accurate copy of it on the other sections for reproduction. My eyes gave out, I had a nervous breakdown and the work on both books compelled me to abandon it, or rather to temporarily suspend it, until I could publish "The Old Sergeant's Story".

Now, if you wish to complete this map by securing a good draughtsman or competent map maker he can, with two good eyes, easily copy the rough tracing from one to the other, and then reduce it for your use, giving me a copy for my book which I shall probably publish this coming winter. This book I have entitled "On the Border with Mackenzie" and it would give you all the detailed information which you state you so much desire, and includes all operations in and about Canon Blanco and Tule and Palo Duro Canons. I am now 81, and with failing eyesight, it looms up as almost an impossible task. With the exception of this map, however, the MS. is in pretty fair shape now for publication, needing only a little cutting down and revision and I believe, with help, I will be able to finish it.

In 1871 we had a supply camp for a short time on both Duck Creek and at the mouth of Canon Blanco near the Freshwater Fork of the Brazos. Here I had my fight with Quanah and lost one of my men, Gregg of G Company, who was buried on the southeast slope of the butte (now, I believe, called "Mt. Blanco") at the mouth of that Canon. It is not known whether his body was ever removed. I also had two men wounded. In 1872 our supply camp was located in nearly the same place. In 1874 the camp was moved from point to point, but finally the big winter supply camp was located nearly where you place "Soldier Mound". It was called "Anderson's Camp". Major Anderson of the 10th Infantry, a guard for that camp, commanding. Later the "Southern Expedition" - so-called - broke up and went into Fort Richardson (Jacksboro), and from thence the entire command (Fourth Cavalry) changed station to Fort Sill, Indian Territory, now Oklahoma.\* Several men died at "Anderson's Camp" \*

\*Note. These points are shown on the map I refer to.

- 4 -

and were undoubtedly buried at the point you have marked on map "Soldiers Mound".

I have been trying for some time to obtain Mackenzie's full report of the 1874-5 campaign but, as you will preceive by the letter I enclose, they have never been unboxed at the War Department since they were sent here from San Antonio in 1916. I hope to secure this soon. I had a copy once but loaned it to General Augur and it was lost.

Thanking you most cordially for your kind letter which was warmly appreciated and trusting that I may soon be of practical assistance to you in carrying out your wishes for a suitable marker at Spur Inn, I am

Most sincerely yours,



R. G. Carter,  
Captain, U.S.A., Retired.

## S. M. Swenson & Sons,

*New York.* October 18th, 1926.  
Dictated Oct. 16, 1926.

Captain R. G. Carter,  
Army & Navy Club,  
Washington, D. C.

My dear Capt. Carter:

I am in receipt of yours of October 14th and it will be hard for you to realize how deep is my appreciation of your comprehensive answer. It is rare good fortune to find that I am on the way to a complete answer to the information that we wish to preserve as to the Mackenzie trail, particularly as it relates to its course through the Spur Rancho.

It is very gratifying to know that you can identify Soldiers Mound as the location of Anderson's Camp. Soldiers Mound is one of the outstanding landmarks in the Rancho, visible for long distances in every direction. The ability to post lookouts on this elevation and ample good water in Duck Creek probably influenced its selection as a camp.

I have read with a feeling of resentment your reference to the publication of a connected narrative sketch of the various operations against the Indians which were sent to different Texas communities as an addition to the libraries. It is inconceivable and outrageous that these valuable documents were apparently ignored, although I feel that they must have found lodgment somewhere in those communities, and having acquaintances in all of the cities named, if you would be willing to give me the addresses to which they were sent, I will endeavor to trace them, as the matter is only a few years old.

With reference to the map of the Mackenzie trail which you have in an incomplete state, we will be very glad indeed to undertake the completion of the map, if you are willing to entrust us with the basic

Captain R. G. Carter, Page #2

maps and information which will enable a good draftsman to use in this connection. It so happens that we have in our employ an old-time surveyor who has spent his long life in surveying all over the country through which the Mackenzie trail passes. It would be a labor of love for him to be permitted to do this work, as I have often heard him refer enthusiastically to the splendid work that General Mackenzie and his troops did in the early days. However, his map work is not of the artistic order that would be desirable and I would send the material to our Freeport, Texas office where we have a man on map work who is wonderful in the faithfulness ~~of the work~~ and the beauty of his work. I feel sure that you will be more than satisfied with the result. Naturally you would feel hesitant to release this valuable material to a stranger and if you have hesitancy on this point, I would be glad to refer you to Senator Morris Sheppard, Senior the/Senator from Texas who knows me and my connections well. From an Army standpoint, it may be worth while to refer to the fact that I am a cousin of General Eli Hoyle. He was my ideal as a military man and a thorough gentleman, and up to the time of his comparatively recent death, I never lost an opportunity of being with him. I find that the older officers of the Army all know him and hold him in the highest esteem, and I feel sure you must have known him.

I note from the correspondence which you send that the reports of Mackenzie's campaign in '74 and '75 have never been unboxed, as reported by Adjutant General Howard in letter to you of April 27, 1926. I judge that these reports would give the exact information which I would like to have with respect to the operations from Anderson's Camp, or Soldiers Mound, as we know it. Your letter indicates that you still hope

Captain R. G. Carter, Page #3

to secure them soon. If you feel it would be of any benefit in facilitating the search, I am sure that I could, on request, enlist the interest of Senator Sheppard and other officials, as Senator Sheppard particularly is always willing to go to any length to lend his help to anything of practical or historic interest to his state.

You refer interestingly to your fight with Quanah at the mouth of Canon Blanco, losing one of your men, Gregg of G. Company, who was buried on the southeastern slope of the butte, which you believe is now called Mt. Blanco. What is now known as Mt. Blanco is in fact thirty or forty miles up stream from the point where the Blanco empties into the salt fork of the Brazos. You will recall that the Canon is exceedingly wide at some points, in fact several miles wide as it approaches the breaks and Mt. Blanco lies between the escarpments of the Canon in Crosby County.

With your letter as a basis, I am hoping that we can locate Gregg's grave. There are some graves in that section that have never been identified and possibly can be traced with the help that your letter affords.

I am sincerely hoping that you will be able to complete your book "On the Border with Mackenzie", which will be a valuable addition to the history of that section. Noting that you expect to publish it this coming winter, I will delay the preparation of the wording for the tablet, either until the book is published or I can possibly get extracts in advance from you which will relate particularly to the purpose served by the Soldiers Mound camp with anything of interest centering around it. When this tablet is prepared, I intend that it shall refer to you as the last surviving officer who retrieved that country from the Indians, feeling sure that you are fully entitled to such recognition. This may be in some slight degree a small compensation for the neglect of some portions of our country to treat

Captain R. G. Carter, Page #4

your efforts with even ordinary civility.

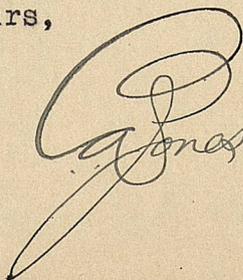
It is a matter of peculiar interest to me that among the correspondence is a letter from my good friend, W. E. Wrather who has always shared my interest in the matters concerning which we are corresponding. All of your file is returned herewith as requested and I will await with interest your decision as to whether or not you would like to have us finish the map for you.

I will expect to submit to you the wording which we purpose to use upon the tablet in order to be sure that the statements are truthfully made and that all references therein are proper. I will also hope when the tablet is in place, or at any time so far as that is concerned, you will have an opportunity to see it. We would like to have you as our guest and believe that it will be a great pleasure to you to see the development which has followed the civilization of that area. I regard myself as particularly fortunate in endeavoring to find out something about the Mackenzie trail to find myself in contact with the man who originally laid it out.

My interest in all things relating to the early Indian troubles is no doubt whetted by the fact that I was a resident of Colorado during the times of the Meeker and Thornburgh massacres, a description of which is contained in "The Old Sergeant's Story". In the two or three years succeeding these events, I was in a region where we had a great deal of trouble with the Indian Utes and Piutes in West Colorado and East Utah.

Sincerely yours,

Enc.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "R. G. Carter". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping initial "R" and a long, sweeping underline.

25 October, 1926.

My dear Mr. Jones:

Yours of the 16th received. I assure you that I am very glad to do anything within my power to promote the object which you have in view, viz; to accurately mark the "Mackenzie Trail" for the future historian of Texas - as had been previously urged by Mr. Hill and Mr. Wrather - and to commemorate that trail by a tablet or marker with suitable inscription setting forth the localities of actions and events of that period - 1870-1875. I am, however, so seriously handicapped by loss of eyesight that I am afraid I may be rather slow in responding to all you may wish or expect in that direction.

It has always been my most ardent wish and my keenest ambition to begin and finish that work. But when my eyes gave out and my health to break after the loss of my second daughter (born at Fort Richardson near Jacksboro), my wife, my only son, and my favorite granddaughter, all following closely, one after the other, I despaired of ever pulling myself together for another effort, and resolved to close with my "Old Sergeant's Story". The last work I did on that book in the heat of a Washington summer came near being my finish.

Your most generous offer now to take care of the map is however an inspiration and spurs me to a renewed effort. I have no hesitation whatever to entrusting it to your care for I feel perfectly sure from your letters that you desire and pride in this matter is to have this work done as an accurate and lasting memorial to the gallant soldiers who made it possible for that vast territory covered now by your immense ranch to be settled and peace and plenty to reign over what had once been a desolate and unproductive land. My only fear was that nobody could take this map as it is now and complete it without serious errors, unless I could myself personally supervise the work or he himself had gone over the hundreds of miles of those trails.

I knew your cousin, General Eli Hoyle; also, his brother, George, very well, and saw the former almost daily just preceding his death. He was a fine officer and, of course, always a most courteous gentleman as all graduates of West Point are supposed to be. He graduated in 1875 and George in 1873. My class was 1869.

I have again gone over the rough work of the preliminary map (marked No. 1) as well as my eyesight will permit, and have prepared a memorandum for your map maker to follow in transferring my work to map (marked No. 2) with conventional signs and colors to be followed, limits for reducing, etc., - all of which I will forward in a few days.

I have also prepared a tentative inscription for the marker or tablet which you stated you desired should be placed on Spur Inn. It covers about all of the points included in the operations of the 4th Cavalry during that period - 1870-5. Of course all of the incidents or events of those years of hard campaigning could not very well be summarized for such a memorial. I thought with this as an outline or a suggestion you could go ahead with the design without waiting for the publication of my book, which may take several months for completion, for I have to work very slowly now; I was a chain lightening artist once when I was Mackenzie's Adjutant in the wilds of Texas, but while the spirit is still there the flesh is weak and getting weaker, although mentally I am still active.

Please accept my sincere thanks for your kind invitation to be your guest at the Spur Inn when the tablet shall have been completed for dedication. I assure you nothing in this world would afford me greater pleasure than to go over that country and see the marvelous development which your beautifully illustrated booklet, which you sent me, so finely portrays. Especially Canon Blanco, where I nearly lost my life, being nearly surrounded with 5 men only by Quanah's entire band at dawn on October 10, 1871, being almost fatally injured, and on account of which I was forced to retire on low rank. I rode for 5 days on Quanah's trail out on the Staked Plains with my leg in splints, in the belief that my leg was broken, and there being no means (ambulance or stretcher) for moving me to our supply camp (Lawton's) on

Duck Creek. I was very close to General Mackenzie when he was wounded at a distance of 30 feet by a Comanche arrow through the fleshy part of the thigh a few days later in Canon Blanco. This was some 18 miles up the Canon a few miles above where Quanah had his village. He never mentioned it in his report but merely states that he had to return to Fort Richardson on account of sickness. These three events - the killing of Gregg, the wounding of 2 men, my terrible injury and the wounding of Mackenzie I set forth in my booklet "The Tragedies of Canon Blanco".

Two towns - Nacena and Quanah - are given as names of two towns in northwest Texas. Why not name some town on Spur Rancho "Mackenzie"? Why name them for Indian cut-throats, murderers and horse thieves? My monograph, "The Tragedies of Canon Blanco", deals with this, and now at the last session of Congress \$1500 was appropriated to place a memorial over Quanah at Cache or Lawton. Why all this bunk and mush? Am glad you set me right as to location of Mt. Blanco.

My monographs were sent to the Public Libraries of San Antonio, Fort Worth and Dallas, Texas, in the belief that those cities had Public Libraries. It was sent to the postmaster at Amarillo, Texas, with a request that if there was a public library it be turned over to the same. I never sent any more booklets to those points.

Anderson's Fort, so-called, was a supply camp where all of the wagon trains were parked and where supplies were sent - one train going to and one train coming from Fort Griffin, our base - coming across the bend of the Clear Fork near Fort Griffin, thence across California Creek, Paint Creek, the Double Mountain Fork of the Brazas - camping at Cottonwood Springs, thence to Duck Creek, either near its mouth or further up near its head, the big camp of 1874-5 being where "Soldiers Mound" is indicated on yours and my map which I shall send you.

I don't know whether the names we gave on our military survey maps are locally known there now, i.e.; such as "Three Wells", "Monument Spur", "McLeans Wells",

"Wards Wells", "Seminole Wells", "Shafter Lake", "Baldwin Spring", "Mount Jake", "Mount Irwin", "Mount Mackenzie", "Thompson Canon", "Mount Gunther", "Wints Peak", "Hatch's Hill", "Shoemaker Mountain", "Boehm's Mountain", "Miller's Creek", "Henry's Creek", "Beaumont Creek", etc.; all of these points are noted on the military map (# sections) which I shall send you soon.

From "Anderson's Fort" or wagon supply camp, we packed our mules and trailed out all over that country, as my maps show; sometimes Lawton, who was Chief Quartermaster of the Expedition, followed us up over the almost insurmountable bluffs, and out upon the Staked Plains with light loaded wagons, meeting us at designated points. It was hard pulling and many of our animals died.

Most of the Indian ponies captured in the Paññ Duro Canon action - some 2200 - were killed (shot) and the bones are somewhere piled up near Tule Canon. It took Lawton all one day, with one Company, to finish them up.

I made several sketches of the mouth of Canon Blanco, while it was still fresh in my memory. On it I located approximately the position of Gregg's grave (S.E. foot of butte). We had to load it down twice with large stones on account of the wolves.

Sincerely yours,

R. G. Carter,  
Captain, U.S. Army, Retired.

Mr. C. A. Jones,  
C/o Swenson & Sons,  
61 Broadway,  
New York City.

Memorandum

This tablet is erected to mark the "Mackenzie Trail" and to commemorate the events which took place near "Anderson's Fort" and "Soldiers Mound" on Duck Creek, the actions at Blanco, Tule and Palo Duro Canons, Quit-a-Que, Much-a-Que, La Quatra Rica, North Fork of Red River, Pease River, Wichita River, Salt Fork of Red River, Sweetwater, and other points on or near Spur Rancho and as far West as Forts Sumner and Bascom, New Mexico - all of which were included in the operations of the Fourth United States Cavalry, Tenth and Eleventh United States Infantry, during the years of 1871-2-4 and 5, which, under the command of General Ronald Slidell Mackenzie, U. S. Army, and his gallant and devoted officers and men, had during those eventful years succeeded in freeing western and northwestern Texas of its hordes of predatory and murderous savages - Comanches, Kiowas, Cheyennes and Arapahoes - who had been blocking advancement of immigration and progress of civilization along this entire border.

Captain Robert G. Carter, U. S. Army, retired, formerly of the 4th U. S. Cavalry, now (date) of Washington, D.C., is probably the only surviving officer of that regiment who participated in General Mackenzie's campaign in this section now partly covered by the Spur Rancho.

## S. M. Swenson & Sons,

*New York.* October 29, 1926.

Captain Robert G. Carter,  
The Army and Navy Club,  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Captain Carter:

This will acknowledge your letter of October 25th giving additional interesting references to the Mackenzie Trail. I feel that I can quite thoroughly sympathize with the difficulties attaching to your shaping up the map and other details. You refer to the doubt that the names and identifications of places shown on your military survey maps have been perpetuated. I intend to submit the map before it is finished to our old surveyor, George M. Williams, who <sup>knows</sup> the geography, present and past, of that section more completely than any man I know and his help will be invaluable in this particular. We will hence eventually have the present day names of all the points which can be identified.

I appreciate and applaud your sentiments in respect to the perpetuation of the names of old murderous Indian Chiefs and renegades. I think it is impossible for anyone who has not been personally familiar with Indian outrages to have a true conception of how completely they deserve oblivion. I have been painfully interested in seeing how you have suffered personally in these campaigns, in consequence of which you were compelled to retire on low rank, when men who have not done a fraction as much for the country are awarded higher rank. Should we have occasion to develop another town in the Ranch we will give careful consideration to your recommendation of Mackenzie, or perhaps Cartersville. Is it possible that you still have one of the booklets "The Tragedies of Canon

Captain Robert G. Carter, Page #2

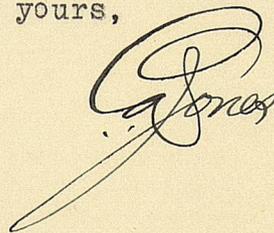
Blanco"? If not, would you be good enough to lend me the reserved copy which I presume you have in your collection? I will take proper care of it and insure its return. I feel it must contain a great deal of intimate information of interest to our particular section. Meanwhile, I will try through my son Clifford who is now manager of the Ranch, to get one from the public library of Fort Worth or Dallas.

I am very glad to know that you did know my cousin General Eli Hoyle and also my Uncle George. As the latter was in the Cavalry branch of the service I should have realized that you would probably know him. Of course you know that he was killed at College Station near Atlanta many years ago, having been run down by a train, living only a few hours.

I will look forward eagerly to the reception of the maps when you have finished with the rough work and I want to assure you that the work of transferring and preparation of a complete map will be given the most careful attention, and a preliminary map submitted to you for approval before it is completed.

Thank you very much for the suggestion for the wording of the tablet which gives a very splendid basis, much of which will be used and as previously advised, the final draft will be submitted to you for the sake of further suggestion and certainty that it is accurate in all respects.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "R. G. Carter", with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the left and then curves back under the name.

THE MACKENZIE TRAIL

This famous, historic trail crossed this spot and was made and used by the Fourth U. S. Cavalry, Tenth and Eleventh U. S. Infantry under command of General Ranald Slidell Mackenzie in their Indian campaigns of 1871 to 1875. Soldier Mound, <sup>(Anderson's Fort)</sup> four miles north of this spot, was one of the important bases of operations. To him and his gallant officers and soldiers who freed West Texas of the predatory and murderous bands of Comanches, Kiowas, Lipans, Cheyennes and Arapahoes, this tablet is dedicated. Captain Robert G. Carter, <sup>formerly</sup> Fourth U. S. Cavalry, is especially worthy of honor because of serious and permanent injuries received in action against the Indians on what is now the Spur Ranch, compelling his early retirement from active service.

THE MACKENZIE TRAIL

This famous, historic trail crossed this spot and was made and used by the Fourth U. S. Cavalry, Tenth and Eleventh U. S. Infantry under command of General Ranald Slidell Mackenzie in their Indian campaigns of 1871 to 1875. <sup>(Anderson's Fort)</sup> Soldier Mound, four miles north of this spot, was one of the important bases of operations. To him and his gallant officers and soldiers who freed West Texas of the predatory and murderous bands of Comanches, Kiowas, Lipans, Cheyennes and Arapahoes, this tablet is dedicated. Captain Robert G. Carter, <sup>formerly</sup> Fourth U. S. Cavalry, is especially worthy of honor because of serious and permanent injuries received in action against the Indians on what is now the Spur Ranch, compelling his early retirement from active service.

E. P. SWENSON.  
S. A. SWENSON.  
A. C. SWENSON.  
S. M. SWENSON.

61 BROADWAY.

## S. M. Swenson & Sons,

*New York.* November 4, 1926.

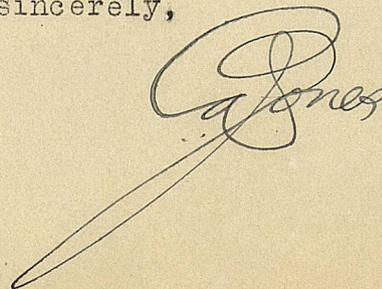
Captain R. G. Carter,  
Army & Navy Club,  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Captain Carter:

This will acknowledge with much appreciation your letter of November 2d. I have this morning received the items dealing with the subjects to which you refer and I want to promptly testify my appreciation of your confidence in letting me have them and I wish to assure you that they will be carefully cared for and returned to you with the exception of those I am privileged to retain. I know I have a treat in store for me in reading them and can thoroughly sympathize with the views you express as to the great inconsistency of perpetuating the memory of these murderous Indians when their victims remain without proper credit and honor for the heroic part they played in paving the way for settlement of that country. It is a queer twist that brings this about.

When the map material is received, I will do my utmost to have it assembled into a complete map which will please you and will continue to hope that you will be able to get Mackenzie's 1874-5 reports to give you opportunity to check up the map before it is finished.

Yours very sincerely,



E. P. SWENSON.  
S. A. SWENSON.  
A. C. SWENSON.  
S. M. SWENSON.

61 BROADWAY.

## S. M. Swenson & Sons,

*New York.* November 11, 1926.

Captain Robert G. Carter,  
% Army & Navy Club,  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Captain Carter:

I have read with the most intense interest the galley proof of your "Tragedies of Canon Blanco" and am exceedingly thankful for your letting me have it in this form, as much of the matter which your friends persuaded you to omit is among the high spots of interest. The references to locations in the area now covered by the Spur Rancho and in that general neighborhood enable me to visualize fairly well what the country must have been like in the strenuous days of which you write. The treatment of the subject is wonderfully fine and it is painful to learn that Canon Blanco was the scene of a personal misfortune which has so seriously affected your life. No one who reads your description could fail to sympathize with your feeling that there are limits to how far the memory of the dead should be protected against acts which have so injured the living.

This letter is written particularly to advise you that I am under the necessity of leaving New York for a time as my wife is to undergo surgical care by the Mayos at Rochester, Minn. for a major operation to be done in the next few days. We leave with that object in view on Saturday.

Whenever the map information is complete, please let it come on to my present address and I will leave instructions with my secretary to have it forwarded to me and I will give it attention from Rochester if it should come while I am still there. Of course the matter may drift along until my return.

Captain Robert G. Carter, Page #2

One of my sons is now the Manager of the Spur Rancho and he will meet me in Rochester to be with his Mother through this ordeal. Knowing that he would so greatly appreciate the opportunity to read "Tragedies of Canon Blanco", I am taking the liberty of taking it out there with me. I will return it to you a little later.

Last night I read "The Mackenzie Raid". Having once started it, I read it through, although it made a late bedtime for me. It is thrilling but of course does not hold the same personal interest as the other work.

Sincerely yours,



P.S. The Dallas NEWS, as you probably know, is far and away the leading newspaper of Texas and has a very large circulation in Texas, Oklahoma and the Southwest generally. I feel sure that they would be very glad to reprint the "Tragedies of Canon Blanco" as their Sunday Special Edition carries many features of this kind and they are avid for historical data of the early days. If you are willing that they should do so, my son who is close to the Editorial management of that paper will be exceedingly glad to take the matter up with them. If you have no objection I would like very much to publish the entire story in the galley proof, without the omissions which you have made in deference to the suggestions of friends. So far as ~~your~~ further publication is concerned, I suppose some objection would apply to the newspaper article, inasmuch as to be of any value, it would necessarily show you as the author. Possibly you would not care to have this advance publication in view of the fact that you intend to incorporate the same in your new book. If you should feel that way about it, please do not hesitate to say so, although it might be profitable to you, in a reference by the NEWS that it was printed with your consent and that it was one of the features of the book you are now preparing, awakening an interest therein in advance.

E. P. SWENSON.  
S. A. SWENSON.  
A. C. SWENSON.  
S. M. SWENSON.

61 BROADWAY.

**S. M. Swenson & Sons,**

*New York.* November 15, 1926.

Captain Robert G. Carter,  
% Army & Navy Club,  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Captain Carter;

This will acknowledge your letter of November 12th in Mr. Jones' absence, which will be held for his attention on his return, he having advised you in his letter of November 11th of the necessity of leaving New York for a time.

Yours very truly,

*H. Seymour* -  
Secretary

FORT WORTH STAR-TELEGRAM

FORT WORTH, TEXAS.

January 7, 1927.

Mr. Clifford B. Jones,  
Spur,  
Texas.

My dear Mr. Jones:-

Capt. Carter's story is now being copied and as soon as that job is finished I shall forward back to you the galley proofs; so, thus, they can go back to him without any mutilation or marking necessary for type composition. I think this chapter from his book will be very interesting and that its publication will be helpful rather than detrimental in the sale of the book. Needless, to say, I appreciate very much your letting us have the story.

With very best wishes,

Sincerely yours,

(signed) J. M. North, Jr.

CLIFFORD B. JONES, MANAGER  
FOR S. M. SWENSON & SONS

UNION BANK NOTE CO. N. C. MO.



# SPUR FARM LANDS

430,000 ACRES IN DICKENS, KENT, CROSBY AND GARZA COUNTIES, TEXAS. BEING SOLD IN QUARTER SECTIONS AND UPWARD DIRECT FROM THE OWNERS TO THE HOMESEEEKERS, NO SELLING COMMISSIONS. ALL RELIABLE COTTON PRODUCING TERRITORY. ABSOLUTELY FREE FROM BOLL WEEVIL

The Greatest Agricultural Opportunity in America

*Spur, Dickens Co., Texas,*

January 10, 1927.

Dearest Father:-

I enclose copy of letter of the 7th inst. from Mr. North, Managing Editor of the Star-Telegram, with regard to Capt. Carter's story.

Affectionately yours,

CBJ:MH

*S. M. Swenson & Sons,*

*New York.* Jan. 13, 1927.

Captain R. G. Carter,  
% The Army and Navy Club,  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Captain Carter:

My return to New York coincides almost exactly with receipt of your letter of January 12th, as I have only returned from a long absence due to personal reasons with which you are familiar.

Thank you very much for your interest as to my wife's condition. Please be advised that it proved to be a very serious operation and I was constantly with her for about six weeks, and almost absolutely out of touch with office or other personal affairs. The same situation brought my Texas son to Rochester, Minn. so that he was not able to communicate further with the newspapers respecting the publication of *THE TRAGEDIES OF CANON BLANCO*. You naturally expected it would have attention earlier, but this will explain and, I hope, excuse. His Mother went back to Texas with him and is recuperating slowly at the Spur Rancho. He met me at Ft Worth and I wired him to bring your manuscripts to Ft. Worth with him. After a conference with him, we decided that it was distinctly important that the publication be made in the Ft Worth STAR-TELEGRAM which not only has a larger circulation in Texas than the Dallas NEWS but very greatly over-tops it in the western portion of Texas which is more interested than other parts of the state in the matters covered by your splendid article. We therefore went together to the Editor of the Ft Worth STAR-TELEGRAM and cautioned him extremely as to the necessity of preserving your manuscript intact. When the article appears, you surely will be provided with an ample number of

Captain R. G. Carter,

Page #2

Jan. 13, 1927.

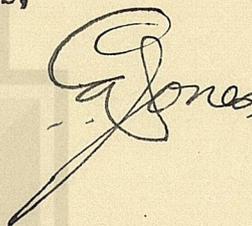
copies as we will see to that. Will you kindly indicate how many you would like to have and they will be arranged for.

I am today in receipt of a letter from my son which I enclose, which you will note advises that your story is being copied from the original manuscript, not daring to trust it to the mechanical department for fear of mutilation or markings, so that you will see that the matter is progressing.

I had a conference while in Texas with the skilled draftsman who will have charge of the preparation of the map which you have in mind and I have every reason to hope that it will be a satisfactory product when it leaves his office.

I sincerely hope that you will be able to carry out your plans for the publication of the book, noting that you are in communication with some Texas parties looking to this end.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "E. Jones". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned to the right of the typed name "E. Jones".

Enc.  
CAJ/S

FORT WORTH STAR-TELEGRAM

FORT WORTH, TEXAS.

January 13, 1927.

Mr. Clifford B. Jones,  
Spur,  
Texas.

My dear Mr. Jones:-

I am sending under separate package, registered and insured, the manuscript which you left with me some time ago. It has been copied and we shall start it at an early date in our magazine section. I think the story will be of considerable interest, to the people in our territory particularly.

With very best wishes,

Sincerely yours,

(signed) J. M. North, Jr.

January 17, 1927.

Dearest Father:-

Saturday's mail brought the return of the galley proofs of Capt. Carter's "Tragedies of Canon Blanco" from Mr. J. M. North, Managing Editor of the Star-Telegram. No letter accompanied the copy, and I therefore am unadvised as to when he intends its use, but I shall watch the papers and see that you promptly receive copy of the issue in which it appears and will also send extra copies thereof.

I enclose the galley proof referred to, hopeful that it reaches you in good condition.

Affectionately yours,

(Signed) Cliff.

E. P. SWENSON.  
S. A. SWENSON.  
A. C. SWENSON.  
S. M. SWENSON.

61 BROADWAY.

## S. M. Swenson & Sons,

*New York.* Jan. 19, 1927.

Capt. R. G. Carter,  
The Army and Navy Club,  
Washington, D. C.

My dear Captain Carter:

I have yours of January 16th and beg to acknowledge the receipt of the Journal and Itinerary enclosed therewith and also the receipt of two rolls of maps which I will not open as they seem so nicely prepared for mailing but will forward them to the mapmaker, Mr. E. D. Dorchester, with whom I discussed the matter when last in Texas. I am also sending him the Journal and Itinerary complete as some portions of same will be necessary, or helpful to him in his preparation of the map.

I anticipate that a very considerable amount of work will be involved requiring time for its execution, as he is a man who gives unusual care to anything that is committed to him. I hope the result will be all that you and I would wish.

I am requesting Mr. Dorchester to take exceedingly good care of all the data and the maps with which you have supplied us so if by any chance the results of our efforts are not entirely to your liking, we will at least have preserved the information intact for future use. We will expect to return the maps to you if you desire this, but I am in doubt as to whether or not the memorandum you sent is also to be returned to you. If you do not desire it, we will keep it for historical reference in our office at Spur where my son, now Manager of the Spur

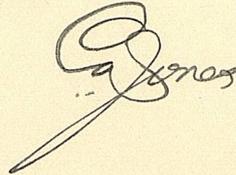
Capt. R. G. Carter

Page #2

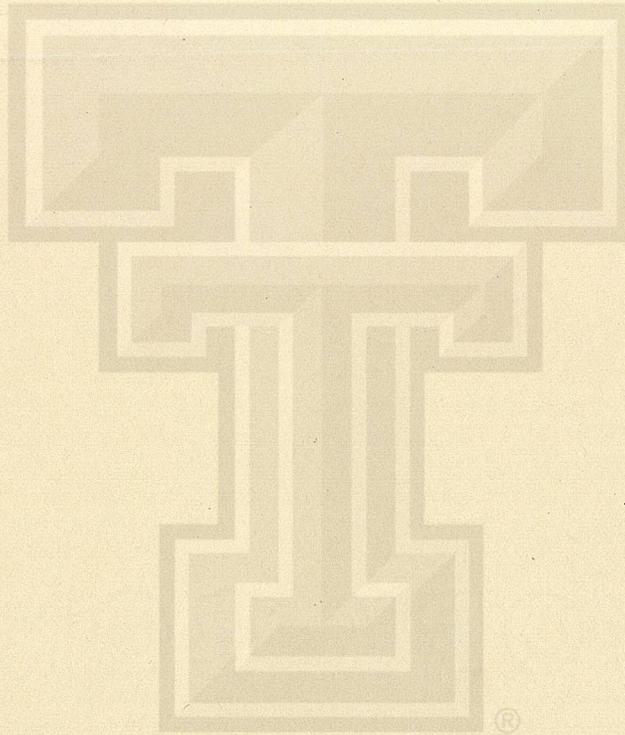
Jan. 19, 1927.

Rancho will find it exceedingly interesting personally and the old-timers of that country will also be interested.

Sincerely yours,



CAJ/S



**S. M. Swenson & Sons,**

*New York*, Jan. 22, 1927.

Capt. R. G. Carter,  
% The Army & Navy Club,  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Captain Carter:

This morning I have yours of yesterday's date advising that it is all right for us to keep all the material, including the maps, which is a relief in respect to feeling that there is no responsibility for their return so that it will not be serious if they are mis-carried. This does not indicate that we will not take very good care of this material for our own benefit.

I note from your letter that you are unable to complete the chapters of your prospective book until you receive the galley proof of "TRAGEDIES OF CANON BLANCO", hence I am very glad to advise you that same goes forward to you today by registered mail, same having been received only yesterday as referred to in copy of letter from my son Clifford herewith. The galley proof seems to me to be in as good condition as when received and would thank you for verification of this statement. You will see from my son's letter that he is without advice as to when the material will be used, but I am assuming it will be fairly promptly and we have arranged so that twenty-five copies go direct to you from the publishing office.

Your good wishes are thoroughly reciprocated and I am sending on

Capt. R. G. Carter,

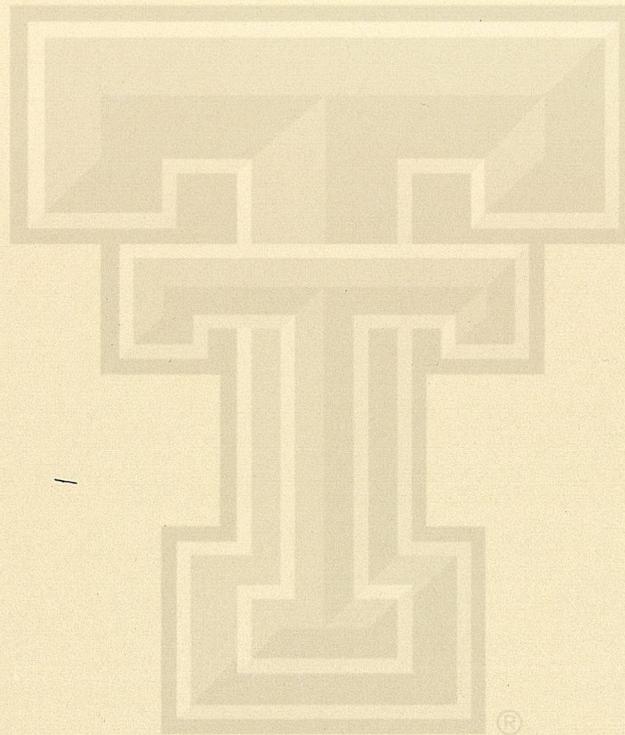
Page #2

Jan. 22, 1927.

to my wife at Spur your kindly reference to her.

Yours very truly,

*A Jones*



January 24, 1927.

Mr. C. A. Jones,  
61 Broadway,  
New York, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Jones:

Your letter of the 19th inst., and two rolls of maps arrived today. I have taken time only to open them and give them a casual glance. I will go into this matter in a few days and will report progress from time to time.

You have given me a reputation that I much appreciate and trust I shall merit it by turning out some thing worth while.

I shall see to it that everything is returned in as good order as received.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) E. D. Dorchester

E. P. SWENSON  
S. A. SWENSON  
A. C. SWENSON  
S. M. SWENSON.

61 BROADWAY.

**S. M. Swenson & Sons,**

*New York.* Jan. 24, 1927.

Captain R. G. Carter,  
% The Army & Navy Club,  
Washington, D. C.

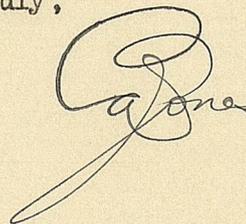
Dear Captain Carter:

I am this morning in receipt of a letter from my son at Spur enclosing attached carbon copy of letter from the Fort Worth STAR-TELEGRAM showing the intention to at an early date commence the publication of your sketch of the TRAGEDIES OF CAÑON BLANCO in the magazine section.

My son advises that he will arrange to procure for you twenty five copies of each of the issues in which it appears.

Yours very truly,

Enc. 1  
CAJ/S



E. P. SWENSON.  
S. A. SWENSON.  
A. C. SWENSON.  
S. M. SWENSON.

61 BROADWAY.

**S. M. Swenson & Sons,**

*New York.* Jan. 28, 1927.

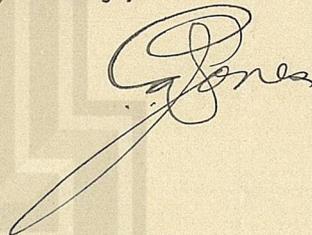
Captain R. G. Carter,  
% The Army & Navy Club,  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Captain Carter:

Herewith please find copy of letter received today  
from Mr. Dorchester showing that he is on his toes on this  
job.

Yours very truly,

Enc .

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "S. M. Swenson", written in dark ink. The signature is positioned to the right of the typed closing "Yours very truly," and above a faint, large watermark of the letters "S.M." in the background.

**S. M. Swenson & Sons,**

*New York.* Feb. 3, 1927.

Captain R. G. Carter,  
% Army & Navy Club,  
Washington, D. C.

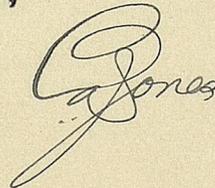
Dear Captain Carter:

Acknowledging yours of the 2d, please be assured that I will advise you as Mr. Dorchester makes comments upon the map material which you furnished. I forwarded to him all the memoranda, journal and itinerary which you sent me.

Thank you very much for sending me letters from Messrs. Wrather and Grant, both of which have been read with great interest and I return same herewith. You are correct in believing that Mr. Wrather and I are friends of many years standing and have a common interest in the early history of that country. He has been over the Spur Rancho more or less with me.

Sincerely yours,

Enc. 2



COMPLETE  
ASSOCIATED PRESS  
SERVICE  
AFTERNOON MORNING SUNDAY

# FORT WORTH STAR-TELEGRAM

(EVENING)

## Fort Worth Record-Telegram

(MORNING)

### FORT WORTH STAR-TELEGRAM and Sunday Record

CHARTER MEMBER  
AUDIT BUREAU OF  
CIRCULATIONS

OFFICE OF  
THE EDITOR

FORT WORTH, TEXAS

Feb. 18, 1927.

*CBJ*

*W. C. J.*

Mr. Clifford B. Jones,  
Spur, Tex.

My dear Mr. Jones:

It is my understanding that we shall start running the "Tragedies of Canon Blanco" on Feb. 28. We have been holding it up until we got some other things out of the way.

I thank you very much indeed for your kindness in this matter and hope that the next time you are in Ft. Worth I shall have an opportunity of seeing you.

Yours very truly,

*J. M. North Jr.*  
J. M. North Jr.

E. P. SWENSON.  
S. A. SWENSON.  
A. C. SWENSON.  
S. M. SWENSON.

61 BROADWAY.

## S. M. Swenson & Sons,

*New York.* Feb. 24, 1927.

Captain R. G. Carter,  
Army & Navy Club,  
Washington, D. C.

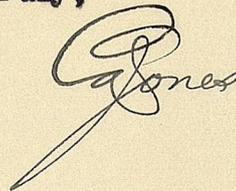
Dear Captain Carter:

No doubt you have been wondering at the delay as to the initial publication of the TRAGEDIES OF CANON BLANCO. I am today in receipt of a letter from my son Clifford enclosing a letter from the Editor of the STAR-TELEGRAM<sup>x</sup> showing that the initial installment will very shortly appear, probably February 28th. Clifford arranged with the STAR-TELEGRAM to send you twenty-five copies of each issue containing the article and should you not receive them promptly, please advise and we will see that they are supplied.

Yours very truly,

Enc.

<sup>x</sup> Enclosed to you.



# FREEPORT SULPHUR COMPANY

FREEPORT, TEXAS

February 26, 1927 -

Mr. C. A. Jones,  
New York Office.

Dear Mr. Jones:

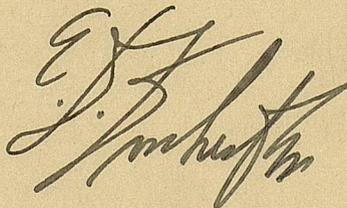
My time has been so fully taken up with my regular work and the prospect work which is being sent you frequently, that I have had to stay off the "Mackenzie Trail". I have, however, given it quite a study and have begun to formulate the work, so when the time comes that I can take it up and give my full attention to it, I can report progress.

I am greatly interested in the subject and shall be proud of the work if it is satisfactory.

*the Colonel*

Please advise your friend <sup>A</sup> of the situation, for I infer this is one of the uppermost things in his mind, and say to him that I am going to do my level best to please him.

Sincerely,



E. P. SWENSON.  
S. A. SWENSON.  
A. C. SWENSON.  
S. M. SWENSON.

61 BROADWAY.

**S. M. Swenson & Sons,**

*New York.* Feb. 26, 1927.

Captain R. G. Carter,  
Army & Navy Club,  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Captain Carter:

This morning I have your postcard of yesterday inquiring concerning Mr. Wrather. I did receive your letter enclosing letter from Mr. Wrather, which is herewith returned. Mr. Wrather came to New York and made a brief call upon me and you were naturally a subject of conversation. He referred very pleasantly to his contacts with you and expressed the hope that he would find time to go by Washington and see you but was uncertain whether or not this could be worked out, as he had a very busy week in connection with some convention or meeting of which he was an important factor. Since you advise that you did not see him, your best opportunity of getting in touch with him will be at his Dallas address which appears on his letterhead.

I had laid your letter aside and did not answer it at the time and overlooked the same in writing you the other day.

Yours very truly,

Enc.1



E. J. COWAN  
ATTORNEY-AT-LAW  
COWAN BUILDING  
SPUR, TEXAS

February 28, 1927.

Capt. R. G. Carter,  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

I have just read your interesting article entitled "Ridding West Texas of the Comanches", published in the Fort Worth Star-Telegram on yesterday. As stated in your first paragraph, your hope is that the articles will be of lasting and historical value to posterity; in this, I feel sure your hopes will be realized, and I am certain that the people of this section will appreciate, and take a deep interest in them. The labors of men like you have indeed borne fruit in clearing the way for our present day civilization; and tho we do not feel as grateful, as we should perhaps-at least not all of us, yet I have often heard of the exploits of MacKenzie's men related here by some of the oldest settlers. It is my information that Spur is on the old Mackenzie Trail; it is a town of 2000 people now, and is situated just south of a mile long ridge which is on the south side of Dockum Creek, at its confluence with Duck Creek, and about twelve miles from the Center of Dickens County, and we are 16 miles to the nearest point of the Cap Rock just north of Blanco Canyon, and four miles S.E. from Soldier's Mound. Do you remember the small mountain by that name; I rather suspect it took its name by reason of your soldiers camping on the creek at its base; it is related that soldiers and Indians fought an engagement there, and two soldiers are buried on the mountain; these were MacKenzie's troops according to reports of older citizens. In the Star-Telegram Article the editor makes a statement in which he says that you were wounded in a battle on what is now the Spur Ranch; as "Soldier's Mound" is in the old Spur ranch I am thinking it may be that you were in the engagement at this Mound. If so, and if you care to do so, I would very much appreciate a letter regarding same which I would have published in our local papers. We would like for more of the people here to know who helped in clearing the way for civilization, and to honor their names.

I can realize from reading your article that you are keeping pace with our advancement wonderfully well for one of your age, noting that you mention the new inland town of McAdoo situate in the northwest portion of our county, along with some other towns in describing the location of Mount Blanco in Crosby county.

The Editor of the Star-Telegram states that you are soon to publish a book entitled "On the Border with MacKenzie". I would like to purchase a copy when it is off the press.

If you feel disposed to write me of any special events in this immediate section, I shall be glad to have same, and give it to the local papers, provided a letter of this kind in no way conflicts with your contract with the Star-Telegram.

Yours very truly,

*E. J. Cowan*

## S. M. Swenson & Sons,

*New York*, March 2, 1927.

Captain R. G. Carter,  
Army & Navy Club,  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Captain Carter:

Herewith please find copy of letter from Mr. E. D. Dorchester received yesterday, explaining that he has not been able to give concentrated time to this matter, but that he has now begun to formulate the work.

I am this morning in receipt of a considerable number of copies of the Fort Worth STAR-TELEGRAM of last Sunday, February 27th, containing the first installment of your contribution which they have captioned "Ridding West Texas of the Comanche" instead of "Tragedies of Canon Blanco", with an introductory note which I hope you will find pleasing. In handing your material to the Fort Worth STAR-TELEGRAM, my son, Clifford B. Jones, present Manager of the Spur Rancho, furnished the Editor with this introductory sketch.

I am assuming that the STAR-TELEGRAM has carried out the intention of sending twenty-five copies to you. However, I enclose a page with the article in, on the off-chance that they have not. <sup>x</sup>

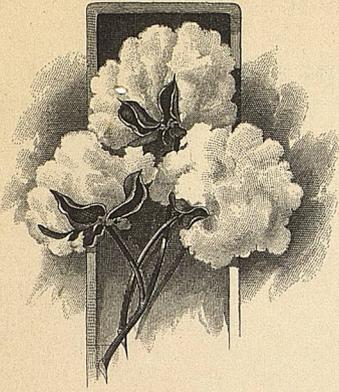
Yours very truly,

Enc .

*x I can send you a dozen copies from my supply if you want them.*

*C. Jones*

CLIFFORD B. JONES, MANAGER  
FOR S. M. SWENSON & SONS



# SPUR FARM LANDS

430,000 ACRES IN DICKENS, KENT, CROSBY AND GARZA COUNTIES, TEXAS. BEING SOLD IN QUARTER SECTIONS AND UPWARD DIRECT FROM THE OWNERS TO THE HOMESEEKERS, NO SELLING COMMISSIONS. ALL RELIABLE COTTON PRODUCING TERRITORY. ABSOLUTELY FREE FROM BOLL WEEVIL

The Greatest Agricultural Opportunity in America

*Spur, Dickens Co., Texas,*

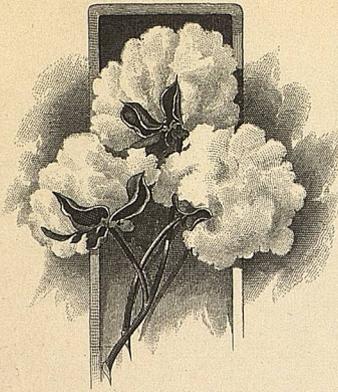
March 4, 1927.

Dearest Father:-

I do not know how I came to bungle the instructions regarding the 25 copies of each issue for Capt. Carter. I asked the Star-Telegram to send these to you, but that will be burdensome for you in the matter of forwarding, and I am amending these instructions in accordance with copy of telegram and letter directed to the Star-Telegram in the attached copy of letter. You have not as yet made reference to the receipt of the 25 issues of last Sunday's paper, the major portion of which I assume you will forward to Capt. Carter. The succeeding issues will, however, under these amended advices go direct to him, and I shall send you some extra copies from here.

Affectionately yours,

CBJ:MH



# SPUR FARM LANDS

430,000 ACRES IN DICKENS, KENT, CROSBY AND GARZA COUNTIES, TEXAS. BEING SOLD IN QUARTER SECTIONS AND UPWARD DIRECT FROM THE OWNERS TO THE HOMESEEKERS, NO SELLING COMMISSIONS. ALL RELIABLE COTTON PRODUCING TERRITORY. ABSOLUTELY FREE FROM BOLL WEEVIL

The Greatest Agricultural Opportunity in America

*Spur, Dickens Co., Texas,*

March 4, 1927.

Dearest Father:-

I enclose the front page from today's issue of the Fort Worth Star-Telegram which carries a boxed notice of the Carter series of stories running in the Sundays issues of the Star-Telegram. I thought you, and perhaps, Capt. Carter, might like to see the prominence accorded his interesting manuscript.

In the initial installment of Capt. Carter's story there appears reference to the trees in this section of the country in the early days, and for the benefit of the investigation which the State Experiment Station at Spur is making of the local history of the mesquite, I am wondering if he would be kind enough to enlarge somewhat upon his recollections. It would be interesting to learn from him how far west and north mesquite were observed in those days. Perhaps he could identify it with reference to the cap rock. The mesquite, as you will recall, have spread very rapidly within the last number of years. Evidently they were distributed along the early trails through this country. Capt. Carter I believe omits the mesquite from his reference to the trees of this section.

Affectionately yours,

CBJ:MH

March 4, 1927.

Circulation Department,  
Fort Worth Star-Telegram,  
Fort Worth, Texas.

Gentlemen:-

This will confirm the following night letter of  
this date:

"Supplementing my letter twenty-first ultimo please  
send twenty-five copies next Sunday's edition and  
each succeeding issue in which appears Captain Car-  
ter's story Ridding West Texas of Comanches, to  
Captain R. G. Carter care Army and Navy Club, Wash-  
ington, D. C. instead of to Mr. Jones at New York,  
sending bill to me."

which amends my request of February 21st and asks that you  
please send the twenty-five copies of each issue in which ap-  
pears Capt. Carter's story, direct to Capt. R. G. Carter,  
care Army and Navy Club, Washington, instead of to Mr. C. A.  
Jones at New York.

As previously mentioned, I do not know the amount  
of postage, hence am unable to send remittance with the or-  
der, and I shall be glad to protect the item promptly upon  
your advices.

Thanking you,

Yours truly,

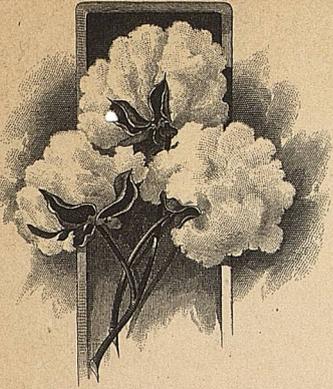


CBJ:MH



CLIFFORD B. JONES, MANAGER  
FOR S. M. SWENSON & SONS

UNION BANK NOTE CO. & E. CO.



# SPUR FARM LANDS

430,000 ACRES IN DICKENS, KENT, CROSBY AND GARZA  
COUNTIES, TEXAS. BEING SOLD IN QUARTER SECTIONS AND  
UPWARD DIRECT FROM THE OWNERS TO THE HOMESEEEKERS, NO  
SELLING COMMISSIONS. ALL RELIABLE COTTON PRODUCING  
TERRITORY. ABSOLUTELY FREE FROM BOLL WEEVIL

The Greatest Agricultural Opportunity in America

*Spur, Dickens Co., Texas,*

March 9, 1927.

Dearest Father:-

I enclose sheet from the Star-Telegram of recent  
date containing an article by E. O. McNew, of Mineral Wells,  
entitled "The Last Murder by Indians in Palo Pinto". I am  
wondering whether perhaps this was not inspired by the ar-  
ticles of Capt. Carter, to whom I thought perhaps you might  
care to send this enclosure.

Affectionately yours,

CBJ:MH

Capt. Carter:

In compliance with the above suggestion of my  
son, I am enclosing the article.

**S. M. Swenson & Sons,**

*New York.* March 9, 1927.

Captain R. G. Carter,  
Army & Navy Club,  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Captain Carter:

I duly received yours of March 5th and I have taken the liberty of having copies made of it to send to my son and Mr. Dorchester so that they may see the appreciative comments which you make.

Noting that you had not received any copies of the Fort Worth STAR-TELEGRAM direct, I mailed you a dozen copies, which I trust will be sufficient. I am sending you three more today. I had asked my son with reference to the forwarding of the papers to you and I enclose a copy of his letter to the STAR-TELEGRAM of March 4th, from which you will see that hereafter the twenty-five copies will go direct to you.

This will also acknowledge receipt this morning of your letter of March 8th confirming that no copies have been received.

I have just received today from Clifford a page from the Fort Worth STAR-TELEGRAM of March 4th showing some publicity they are giving the articles. I enclose the letter from Clifford transmitting the page and asking if you can add anything to the information as to how far west and north mesquite was observed in that country. If you can <sup>supply</sup> ~~add~~ any information, please do so.

Sincerely yours,

Enc.

*Father*

**S. M. Swenson & Sons,**

*New York.* March 22, 1927.

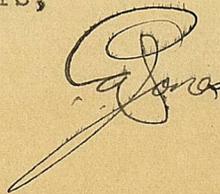
Captain R. G. Carter,  
Army & Navy Club,  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Captain Carter:

This will acknowledge your letter of the 20th and post-card of the 21st with respect to erratic deliveries of the STAR-TELEGRAM, but your post-card shows that you are now short only ten copies of the issue of February 27th, being the first issue giving your story. The explanation of this I think is that the twenty-five copies which should have gone to you were sent to me instead and I kept ten copies, sending you fifteen. I at first supposed that you were also receiving a supply, and will promptly attempt to arrange to have additional numbers of the first issue sent you and believe that I will be successful.

I regret that there has been any disappointment in this regard, realizing the matter would be of intense interest to your old army friends in the Club.

Sincerely yours,



FREEPORT SULPHUR COMPANY

Freeport, Texas.

April 4, 1927.

Mr. C. A. Jones,  
61 Broadway,  
New York City.

Dear Mr. Jones:

At last I have started on the map for Capt. Carter, having routed the several expeditions on the duplicate copy of the four section map, combined these four sections on one tracing with the boundaries as directed, - Abilene Kansas on the north - Shreveport and Galveston on the east - Remolino Mexico on the south, and Fort Sumner New Mexico on the west. I have also traced in all the rivers and their tributaries, have printed the names of each in Texas and located the railroads in Texas. Shall continue to do this on the balance of the map before putting on the routes.

In reference to these routes - I am undecided just how to show them - whether in different character lines, or in solid colored lines. I infer when this map is reduced by photography, the routes will be printed in different colored lines, using the colors on the tracing, because the legend will refer to them.

Please advise just what title will be used. I trust it will not be too full, because I did not leave much room for it. I can use some of the space in Old Mexico and the lower right hand corner where the Gulf of Mexico shows. There might be an extra page in the book going into detail if thought best, in the way of explanation of the map. How about the topography, and is it desired? I can put it on just as well as not, but it will take considerably more time, but will improve the appearance of the map greatly. That is all I have in mind now. I have felt rather faint hearted at times, fearing my work would be a failure because I had no idea of its magnitude and importance when you spoke to me about it. The map measures about forty inches square outside the border, which I have finished. The printing required is so small and my eyes not so young, as they were, worries me a little for fear it won't show up as well as on the original maps. However, since I have gotten so far I am not going to quit the job, trusting it will meet with a measure of favor.

With many kind regards, I am,  
Yours very truly,

(Signed) E. D. Dorchester,

P.S. The clippings you sent were very interesting.

# FREEMPORT SULPHUR COMPANY

61 BROADWAY

NEW YORK, April 8, 1927.

Captain R. G. Carter,  
% Army & Navy Club,  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Captain Carter:

Please find herewith copy of letter received from Mr. Dorchester today showing progress upon the map and making certain inquiries. I will appreciate it if you will suggest what answer should be made in these various respects.

While Mr. Dorchester speaks in a sense disparagingly of his work in some respects, I feel entirely confident you will be very much pleased with the map when received, as I have never yet seen him turn out a piece of work that was not excellently done.

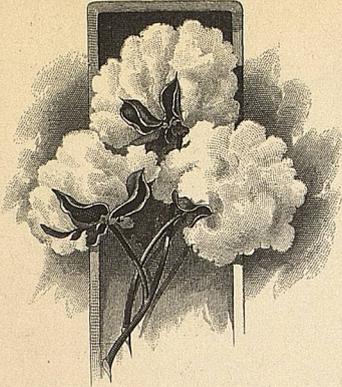
The clippings that Mr. Dorchester refers to where the chapters of your story which had been published at the time of my last letter to him.

Yours very truly,



CLIFFORD B. JONES, MANAGER  
FOR S. M. SWENSON & SONS

UNION BANK NOTE CO. N. C. 200



# SPUR FARM LANDS

430,000 ACRES IN DICKENS, KENT, CROSBY AND GARZA  
COUNTIES, TEXAS. BEING SOLD IN QUARTER SECTIONS AND  
UPWARD DIRECT FROM THE OWNERS TO THE HOMESEEEKERS, NO  
SELLING COMMISSIONS. ALL RELIABLE COTTON PRODUCING  
TERRITORY. ABSOLUTELY FREE FROM BOLL WEEVIL

The Greatest Agricultural Opportunity in America

*Spur, Dickens Co., Texas.*

April 8, 1927.

Capt. R. G. Carter,  
c/o Army & Navy Club,  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Capt. Carter:-

Your interesting letter of the 4th inst. is received, and I note with gratification that the publication of your very splendid article which appeared in the Star-Telegram under the title "Ridding West Texas of the Comanches", has brought you a profitable correspondence from many sources. We have heard many nice things said with respect to your experiences as interestingly recounted in the Star-Telegram, for whose publication we arranged through our friends, the editors.

With respect to the Yellow House Canyon please be advised that this is west of Blanco Canyon.

I appreciate your courteous and thoughtful inquiries with respect to my mother's health, which is quite poor.

With best wishes for your own good health,

Yours truly

CBJ:MH

## S. M. Swenson & Sons,

*New York.*

April 12, 1927.  
Dicated April 11,

Capt. R. G. Carter,  
% Army & Navy Club,  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Captain Carter:

I have yours of April 10th.

I am ever so glad that you seem pleased with the progress Mr. Dorchester is making. I am taking pleasure in transmitting copy of your letter to him, together with <sup>your</sup> very careful instructions to supplement those which have gone before, as I sent him all of your original memoranda, appreciating that he would need it in the work.

I observe with the greatest pleasure the interest which has been elicited through the publication of your articles, and particularly to know that it is in your mind to revisit those places in the near future. Please under no circumstances go without taking me into your confidence and that my son will also be advised, as it will be a red letter day for us when you go, and you will of course be our guest at the Spur Inn for the period of your stay and my son will take the greatest interest and pleasure in assisting you to find the locations which were so familiar to you nearly fifty years ago.

Yours sincerely,

CC-Mr. C. B. Jones,



E. J. COWAN  
ATTORNEY-AT-LAW  
COWAN BUILDING  
SPUR, TEXAS

May 1, 1927.

Capt. Robert G. Carter,  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

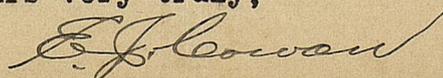
Your letter was received some weeks ago, and the information contained therein is very much appreciated. A few minutes after getting it from the post-office, Mr. Clifford Jones came into my office, and when I told him of receiving it he was delighted, and read it with a great deal of interest; he told me that they wanted to get you to make them a visit here if possible. I hope you will be able to come. I read the letter to my eighty year old son, and told him I would will it to him. On the following Sunday we drove out near Soldier's Mound on the graveled highway and he fretted very much because I didnt take him up on the Mound to see where the soldiers had been. I believe I told you that Spur is a little S.E. of the Mound; it is really due south, four miles, and on the south side of a long ridge extending to the mouth of Dockum Creek, and bordering the south bank of Dockum Creek for about a mile.

I read all your Articles in the Fort Worth Star-Telegram and have filed them away. The story was especially interesting to me, for the scenes of the events described are all in territory where I have spent my life; I was born within about 25 miles of Parker's Fort in Limestone County, and resided in McLennan County, the home of the late Gov. Ross, until I came to this county when Spur opened as a town. I knew the Ross family and nearly all his relatives in McLennan County; and of course have often heard and read of the capture of Cynthia Ann Parker. Your letter telling about the killing of the ponies confirms a statement I have often heard an old timer here make concerning it - except that he added that Mackenzie killed the "little Indians" also at the time, which I did not believe.

I thank you for very much for the letter, and when your book is published, please request your publisher to send me c.o.d. a copy.

With best wishes, I am

Yours very truly,



# FREEPORT SULPHUR COMPANY

61 BROADWAY

NEW YORK, May 4, 1927.

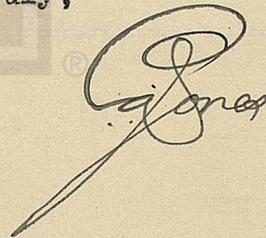
Captain R. G. Carter,  
% Army & Navy Club,  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Captain Carter:

Last Sunday's Dallas NEWS has as one of its features an illustrated article "Glories of Old Frontier Posts of Texas", including of course Fort Richardson and other forts with which you were familiar in the early days. Believing that the history of these forts will be interesting to you, I am sending it herewith.

Yours very truly,

Enc.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "C. Jones", with a long, sweeping underline.

## S. M. Swenson & Sons,

*New York.* May 20, 1927.

Captain R. G. Carter,  
% Army & Navy Club,  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Captain Carter:

I have yours of May 19th and you are over-generous in your expressions of appreciation in regard to the clipping I sent on the subject of the old Forts. I am indeed glad if it gave you and your associate any pleasure.

Your defence of the habits of the officers of the old frontier posts meets an answering response in me. In my early life I was a more or less frequent visitor of such posts, particularly Fort Lewis and Uncompahgre cantonment and the different agencies of the Utes and Navajos. In fact, I <sup>may have</sup> ~~never~~ told you that I had some moderate Indian experiences in the LaSal Mountains in Utah in June '81. <sup>We buried 10 of our men</sup> Of course the time I speak of was considerably subsequent to your own experiences, but I had enough contact with the Indian depredations to have an appreciation of what you must have gone through in the earlier days.

I note with great interest you are planning a trip over your old stations to include the Spur Rancho, if your old Sergeant can accompany you and I sincerely hope that this will be done.

Mrs. Jones remains at Spur so ill and in such a low state that I find it necessary to go to Texas to be with her for an indefinite time, and am leaving in a very few days. My address will hence be Spur until further notice and I wish it might be my good fortune to have you come while

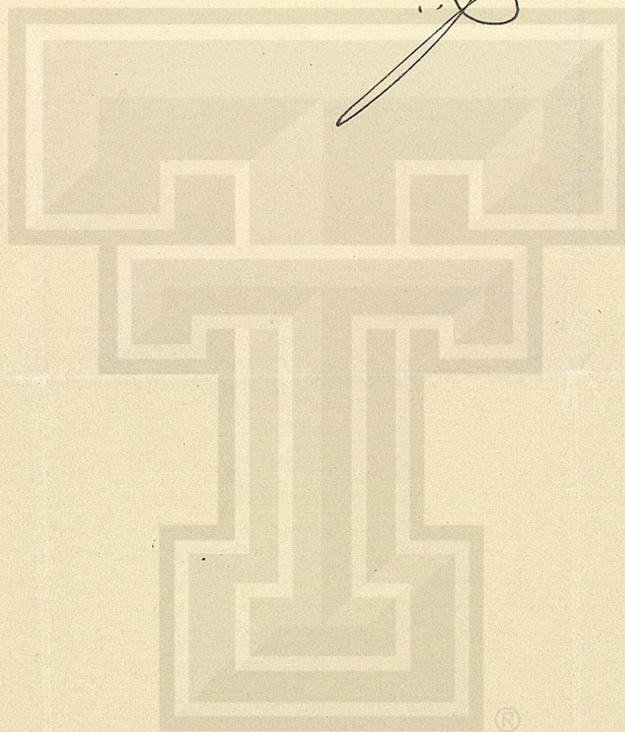
Captain R. G. Carter

Page #2

I am there. I will, however, hope to get her into a state where she can be moved to a different environment and I do not plan to be there very long. I will ask Mr. Dorchester to send the map direct to you when it is finished. I have been anticipating that he must be nearing the end.

Sincerely yours,

*R. G. Carter*



# **FREEPORT SULPHUR COMPANY**

**FREEPORT, TEXAS**

June 22, 1927

R.G. Carter,  
Captain, U.S. Army,  
Army and Navy Club,  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

At last I have finished your "four section" map and am forwarding today to the above address by insured parcel post the maps you sent me, the tracing in a separate cover and the journal notes by mail in another separate cover - three items in all. I trust you will receive them in due time and in good order.

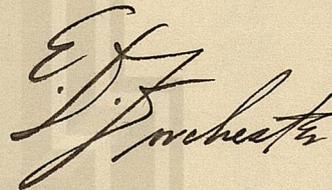
Mr. Jones is here for a few days having come from Spur and will return there. He has seen the tracing and seems well pleased. However, it is not satisfactory to me because the flesh is weak to begin with and my eyes not very good. Several features in connection with the combination of a map of this character, contributed to the result you have - and had I known its magnitude I would have hesitated at the performance. However, I have kept in mind what this map means to you and have endeavored to give you something which in a way may serve its purpose.

You will note the topography is missing. I hesitated about putting it on for fear of making a botch of it because of the small scale of the map and particularly the Spur Section was so indistinct and dim I could not be sure of it so left it off almost entirely.

The routes you will find fairly correct, the old roads I could not show satisfactorily except as single lines; the position of the title I trust will meet your approval, since I had already drawn in the border after noting the southern limit of the map, as per your first note. Several of the sons of the "old timers" whose early days were spent either in the Pan Handle Section or Oklahoma, have been greatly interested in this map and are eager to get a copy of it in white. I am quite sure it would meet with ready sale in the large cities located within its confines.

I would appreciate having several of the reduced maps when you get them.

Yours very truly,



E. J. Probst

EDD:L

**Texas Folk-Lore Society**

University Station

Austin, Texas

, October 18, 1927

Dear Mr. Dorchester:

I cannot tell you how much I value the map. I am going to have it mounted on canvas and hang it where I can have access to it. I have had more trouble getting accurate geographic data concerning the Southwest of fifty years ago and more than I have had about anything else. I have often wished for a map that would incorporate the old trails and forts. This is just what I want. Thank you very, very much.

~~If~~ you have one of these blue prints for sale, I am sure that the Library of the University of Texas would be eager to buy it. Let me know if a print is procurable and at what price, and I'll see that you get an order muy pronto.

I have heard of Captain Carter and his book on MacKenzie. The last I heard of the book it was with a publishing firm in Dallas. I hope that it gets printed. The Spur people should have a history written of their ranch and bring in all these most interesting associations connected with their soil.

Bertha is pretty well and she is very happy teaching. I am trying to hammer something out this year in the form of a book. With best regards to you and Mrs. Dorchester, I am

Sincerely yours,

*J. Frank Thie*

# FREEPORT SULPHUR COMPANY

## FREEPORT, TEXAS

October 27, 1927 - 2.

Captain R. G. Carter,  
Army & Navy Club,  
Washington, D. C.

My dear Captain Carter:

I took the liberty of sending one of the blue prints of the map I made you to one of my friends, Frank Dobie, Prof. of English in the University of Texas. His people are well known old cattle men from the San Antonio, Texas, section. Prof. Dobie is President of Texas Folk Lore Society, and has written several books on this subject which are highly commented on, and is now preparing another book, as you will note from his letter which I enclose herewith. You will also note that he desires another map for the Library of the University of Texas, but I hesitate about sending it without advising you, as I should like to have it sent with your compliments, or, better, wait until the reduced map in black and white is ready.

X  
It occurs to me that this map should meet with ready sale, particularly in Texas for the scenes it enacts are being lived in retrospect by these old timers. The bookstores in the larger towns and cities could handle them, advertising in the local papers. This would not interfere with your idea of using the map as an insert in your book.  
X

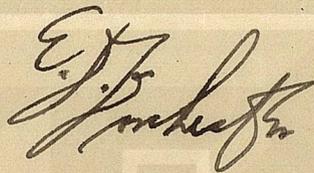
2- R.G.C.

I infer that you are now back in Washington. I trust you had a pleasant summer in Portland and have taken on a new lease of life.

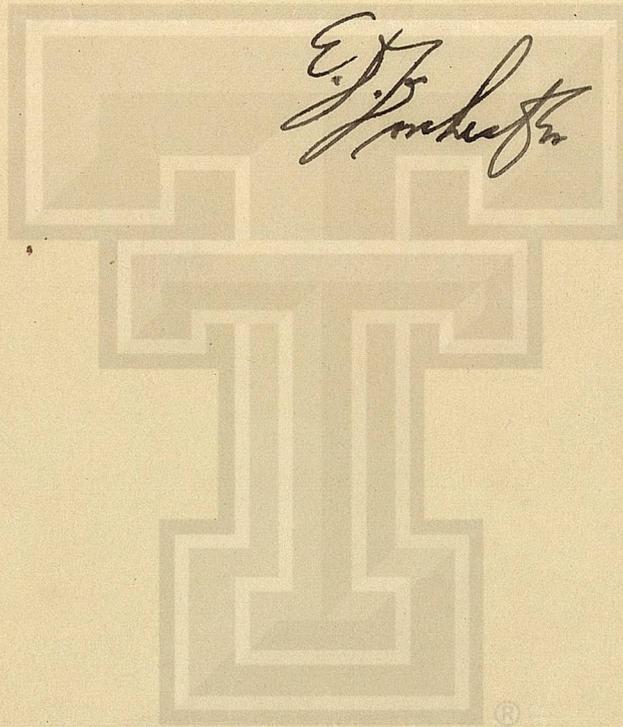
Kindly return Mr. Dobie's letter, advising me as to your wishes.

With many kind regards,

Yours sincerely,



E. J. Parkhurst Jr.



**S. M. Swenson & Sons,**

*New York.* Nov. 3, 1927.

Captain R. G. Carter,  
% Army & Navy Club,  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Captain Carter:

We have been a long time out of communication much to my regret. I am just in receipt of a letter from Mr. Dorchester, with which he has kindly favored me with copies of his letters to you and your letters of July 9th and 19th written from Portland.

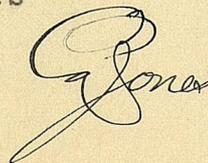
I had hoped that you would make the trip to the Ranch and should you do so my son Clifford will make you most welcome.

As to the memorial to commemorate the Mackenzie Trail, I have about decided on the attached and would like to have your comments upon it. Please, however, do not write me here, as I am planning to leave promptly to be gone for a long time, having decided it was necessary for me to give my wife constant attention in the hope of bringing her back to health. I will be in Los Angeles about November 20th, expecting to be there for a time and my address will be care of Citizens National Bank.

With best regards, I am,

Sincerely yours

Enc.



10 November, 1927.

Mr. C. A. Jones, Jr.,  
Spur,  
Texas.

My dear Mr. Jones:

I am enclosing a letter recently received from your father in which he sends me a tentative inscription to be placed on the memorial to commemorate the "Mackenzie Trail" to be placed on the Spur Inn at some future date, and invites my comments thereon.

I have made certain suggested changes which I am also enclosing herewith, and which I shall send to him as soon as he reaches Los Angeles. They are not very material but are merely in the interest of historical accuracy so long as this tablet when dedicated, will stand for many years to come. As he states, I had hoped to make the trip to Spur the latter part of the past summer or early fall, but my left eye was fast dimming to one-half vision and as I could only see light in my right eye I concluded it was not wise to make so long a trip thus handicapped, so I had two operations performed in Philadelphia by the specialist who removed the cataract three years ago - one in September and the other in October. The full results or benefits of these operations to recover vision in my right eye will not be known for several weeks yet. If successful I shall hope to continue my plans for the Texas trip, timing it, if possible, to be present at Spur whenever you conclude to place the tablet and will notify me in ample time of the probable date of its dedication, and when would be the most favorable time for me to make the journey on account of Northers, floods, etc. In the meantime I will keep you informed of my condition.

I am still getting frequent letters from that locality, referring to my story in the Fort Worth Star-Telegram, "Winning West Texas from the Comanches".

With my best wishes,

Most sincerely yours,

R. G. Carter  
Captain, U.S. Army, Retired.

encls.