

4628 Butterworth Place, N. W.
Washington, D. C. 20016
23 May 1975

Dear Dr. Peeples,

Thank you for letting me know about the new edition of "Our Family Circle", and for inviting me to attend the Lawton family reunion in June.

Regarding the new edition, I am fortunate in already having a copy of the first edition, and since I have no grandchildren, this is ample for my needs. Please thank Tom Lawton for including me in his reception plans, and also Eleanor Strain, with whom I enjoyed corresponding a few years back. I have stopped off several times to see Tom on my way south, and thoroughly enjoyed meeting him and his lovely family. Unfortunately, I will be unable to attend the reunion, although I know I would very much enjoy meeting the other members of the Lawton, Maner, and other families who will be there.

In 1966 I wrote a history of my Maner family ancestors, beginning with John Maner of North Carolina, b. about 1675-80, through four generations to Civility Maner, b. at Blackswamp about 1762, who married Lt. Col. Daniel Howell, of Screven County, Ga. She was my great great great grandmother, and it was through my collateral descent from her brother-in-law Col. Caleb Howell that I am a member of the Society of the Cincinnati for the State of Georgia. Civility was the sister of Capt. Samuel Maner, who died at his Lebanon Forrest plantation, now known as the Wade Plantation, in Screven County. Her other two brothers were Capt. William Maner, b. 1754, buried in the Bostick family cemetery near Garnett, S. C., and John Maner, b. 1759, who died in 1820 at his plantation near the mouth of Brier Creek, in Screven County. For each generation, their families and grandchildren are delineated.

This is in typed manuscript form, and includes many Xerox copies of original wills, land grants, and tombstone and other photos, with inscriptions, together with references of all the material on which the history is based, most in verbatim form. Altogether, this comprises some 91 pages, including an index of 7 double column pages of names of persons mentioned in the text.

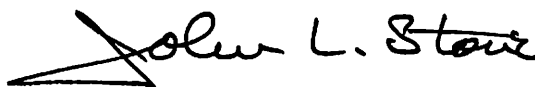
My purpose in going into all this in such detail, Dr. Peeples, is that it has occurred to me that the family association might have some interest in publishing the manuscript, so that other members of the Maner and related families might have access to the data contained on their ancestors. I have no interest in making any profit for myself in such a venture, and would be glad to turn over the publication rights without fee, asking only that three copies be provided to me. My only reward would be in knowing that the results of my study and investigations had been made available to others whom it might interest, and to whom otherwise it might be lost.

The narrative portion of the manuscript, without any reference material, was published serially about 1966-67 by Dixon Hollingsworth, publisher of the Sylvania Telephone, Sylvania, Ga., but I feel that the entire manuscript, complete with substantiating references, might be of much more interest in book form to Maner and related family descendants - therefore this letter.

Since I would be providing the manuscript as my contribution toward the project, I would not want to pay any portion of the publication and distribution costs myself.

If you feel that the family association would be interested in publishing the manuscript, I would be happy to have you take it up with them at the June meeting, and advise me. We could then make further arrangements for having a committee of the association review the manuscript and decide whether or not to proceed.

Cordially, your cousin -

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "John L. Stone". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

John L. Stone