

517 Benj. Franklin Sta.  
Washington 4, D.C.  
July 10, 1960

Dear Bob:

"In the course of human events" I am now about to write from charts and data the chapter dealing with John Peeples of Beaufort, and his descendants. I do not remember whether I ever properly thanked you for the typed material regarding Jesse and his descendants. I do now.

*in 1796*

However, I thought it only fair to tell you that Jesse Peeples is going in as having been born about 1776 - not 1786. For one thing, he had a grant of 161 acres on the Old House Fork, "surveyed for John Peeples". While my experience in checking land grants in S.C. is not as great as in Virginia (where I have worked for dozens of clients, not just on Peebles, etc.) I do not believe a grant would have been issued to Jesse unless he had been at least 16 years old, and more likely 18 - or more. I have <sup>seen</sup> once or twice (I only remember once) a grant being issued to young children in Virginia, immediately or soon after father's death, and with guardians, etc., named. Jesse's father, John, did not die until somewhere about 1810. Various administration items appear in 1813.

Mrs. Morrow of Texas, descendant of Darling Peeples of Barnwell (son of Henry, bro. of John Sr., Barnwell to Beaufort) who had <sup>had</sup> done, and had done <sup>her self</sup> much search, told me positively that older members of her family had told her Henry and John were brothers. Mr. Still, here in the District, historian of Barnwell, mainly, I think, from the parochial angle, thinks she is right. So both, with the brother William whose administration John surrendered to Capt. Stanard (estate in Darlington Dist.) ~~So all three~~ are being placed as the sons of William "of Pitt" N.C., b. Pr. Geo. Co., Va., lived Brunswick Co., Va., then Pitt, and closely associated with - at one time lived with - the David Peebles of Pr. Geo., Sussex (Surry then), Brunswick, Pitt. David signed the Committee of Safety in Pitt.

One of the S.C. Historical Society's records gives 1752, another 1762, as the date when that David patented 600 a. on the "Running Gutt", about 15 miles down river from the present Columbia in Richland. A few years later adjoining grants or taxes referred to this tract as belonging to William. Nevertheless around 1764 (no records exist for Pitt except deeds and some few other things, in the very early 1760s) David and William lived in the same house in Pitt. David evidently died there. Mr. Still says that William came to S.C. to be with his sons, before he died.

The Isham who lived Barnwell, quite distinct from Isham, Sr., of Beaufort, is being assigned "tentatively" as another brother of Henry, John of Beaufort, and "William a soldier", as nothing has been found to link him more closely with Isham Sr. of Beaufort and the Darling name in Henry's family is used in his.

You did a beautiful job on the Lawton connection, etc.  
(over)

However, until the entire balance of the book is in type, and some estimate of number of pages, etc., can be made, I am of necessity holding back on the space allowed to families of wives - and descendants of daughters. I am sure the printing will run around \$15 a page - perhaps more. Nevertheless, I shall keep your material clipped with the control/index copy of text of the book, and if possible put in as much as I can, for the Lawtons are an interesting family. Meanwhile, if you can give me reference to any printed or available mss. sources that I could put in the necessarily abbreviated reference, of this typing, I will use that hoping to do more later.

I have had to adopt this policy. One gentleman in Ga. sent me almost an entire single-space page listing his accomplishments, local honors, etc. But he is not in anything outside of Ga., and I shall have to use only a few references. My two older brothers are in "Who's Who in America", and my sister in the American "Who's Who in Poetry" also in the International one. Same with her, and them. I shall just give the volume number on those records.

Unless I abbreviate drastically, particularly on the later generations, the book will run much over what can go in one volume that is not too thick to market. And a two-volume book of this sort does not sell. Of course the major sale will be to libraries throughout the country. Why don't you put your extremely interesting Lawton material, etc., in whatever is the best genealogical library in S.C. Most of them accept typed data, I think. And let me know where.

You see, I have so much, out all the way through Tennessee, Texas, and some in Illinois, Missouri, etc. And the more wide-spread, geographically, the material in such a book is, the better it sells.

My best wishes to you and Cora. I enjoyed seeing Mrs Sandiford when he was here in the late winter.

Sincerely

Anne B. Peble

23 Augusta Court  
Greenville, S.C. 29605  
Mar. 31, 1976

Rev. Robert Epting Howard Peeples  
8 Moon Shell Road  
Hilton Head, S.C. 29928

Dear Robert,

Thank you for your wonderful letter of March 25th. I, too, find genealogy one of the happiest of hobbies.

First, I want to introduce you to your cousin and my beloved husband. He is, indeed, the son of Rev. Watson Emmett and Catherine (Moore) Davis, both now deceased. He was b. 15 April 1921 at Clemson, S.C. (his father at the time being minister at the Presby. Church there). After living also in Staunton, Va., Atlanta, Ga., Princeton, West Va., and Concord, N.C., he attended for four years the Univ. of S.C., where he received an A.B. degree in 1941. He served in S.C. National Guard in 1940; enlisted in U.S. Army in 1941 and served in both the European and South Pacific theaters of operation as a navigator in the U.S. Air Force. Separated from service in May 1946, he has remained active in the U.S. Air Force Reserve and now holds the rank of Lt.-Col. After we were married in 1948, we lived in New York for two years, where he got an M.B.A. degree from Columbia Univ. there, in 1950. We came home to S.C. (Greenville) where he has been practicing public accounting with S.D. Leidesdorf & Co., becoming a Certified Public Accountant in 1953. We have two grown children and are expecting our first grandchild in May.

I want to thank you for your offer of information on the Peeples family. About a year ago I xeroxed a copy of the Peebles-Peeples book, compiled by Anne Bradbury Peebles, pub. 1962. Is this the information you have? I'm sending a check to Miss Florence Davant Lawton for us to be put on the Lawton and Allied Families mailing list, but it seems impossible to get Bill to a re-union. His hobbies are coin and stamp collecting.

I deeply appreciate your sending me information on the Mew family. Could you give me the documentary source of it? I'm trying to find the progenitors of one of my g-grandmothers, Isabella Mew. I believe she was a granddaughter of either the McKamie or John Mew who together received the 1000 A. land grant ~~together~~ in 1809, but have been unable to find her parents. She was b. 1836; m. ca 1858 William Priester of Barnwell Dist. (present-day Allendale Co); had twin sons in 1859 dying in child birth; d. 30 Apr. 1859 and is buried beside her husband in an old Moye Family Cemetery located in what used to be Buford's Bridge, S.C. (on S.C. Hwy 301 near where it crosses the Big Saltkecher River); graves well marked. Barnwell County records have so far yielded no clue as to her parents; nor the Archives in Columbia. I have written to Geraldine Mew and appreciate your referring me to her.

I was delighted to learn that you are a descendant of John Adam Epting. Now I have a thousand questions. In the group led by John " was a Johannes Nicholas Priester. They both appeared before Council in Charleston on Oct. 19, 1749 seeking land (Council Journal, Archives). Their survey-ordered dates are the same, 20 Oct. 1749; and their survey dates are the same, made 24 Nov. 1749. John Adam Epting got 250 A. "on both sides of Crims Creek, betw. Broad & Saluda, opposite upper part of Saxe Gotha Twp., bounded on south-east by land laid out to Nicholas Preslar, on all other sides vacant land." Nicholas Preslar got 150 A. on a branch of Crims Creek (called "Priester Creek" on Mills's map of 1818; still called Priester Creek today - Hwy. marker there); his plat showing "vacant land" on all sides. Was there any relationship that you know betw. John Adam Epting and Nicholas Priester? I've been searching for the name of Nicholas's wife.

I found a reference to a radiotalk made by W.G. Houseal in 1935, of which a reprint was made, telling the route overland which Epting and his group made. Do you have a copy of this and do you know the point of origin of this group? I want to know if this Johannes Nicholas Priester was the immigrant or maybe the offspring of the immigrant to America. I looked at Luth. Seminary in Columbia.

I believe the Nicholas Priester and John Adam Priester whose records are in Barnwell Co. were sons of this Johannes Nich. Priester at Crims Creek. I can document my descent from Nicholas (d.1828 Barnwell Co.) on down and have found a deed from Nicholas Priester to son Nicholas <sup>data</sup> d. 1782 in the Summer Land Papers, South Caroliniana Library at the Univ. I dont know when Nich.(2) moved to Barnwell but a deed for St Nicholas Church there in 1779 shows Nicholas Priester as an adjoining land owner. Mills's 1818 map of Barnwell shows two plantations of a Nicholas Priester. I can't find the name of the wife of Nich. (2) either, the mother of the children; his 2nd wife was Mar grat. Nich. (2) fought in the Revo. under Col. Philemon Waters (a Teague direct ancestor) who had previously been with George Washington at Great Meadows and also gets the credit for burying Gen. Braddock and writing of his death to his sister in England.( Va. Records), prior to coming to S.C. ca 1765.

I've been in correspondence with a Mr. H.W. Priester, Jr., of Fairfax, S.C., who tells me that there are two separate Priester families, apparently unrelated, and that he is descended from both.

Any light you can throw on these early settlers of Crims Creek in Newberry Co. and the founders of old St. John's Reformed Church (near Pomaria) would be deeply appreciated.

Happy hunting,

*Elizabeth Teague Davis*  
Elizabeth Teague Davis

*As you see, I'm not very good at chart-making,*