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20 November, 1991

Dear Dr. Peeples,

I received your letter of the 9th and read with much interest. I thank you for the information on the Huguenot Society and also the First Families. I am very interested in membership in FFSC and would be grateful for any help you can give. I don't think I will have any trouble in making the connections with the Barksdale or Lagare line but it will take some time and work. I appreciate your interest and help.

You mentioned some names out of my past. Jack Leland and I are 2nd cousins. Jack went to the Citadel and was considered quite a blade in his youth! Like a lot of the Lelands he kind of takes after our gr-great uncle John Adams Leland, who was a frequent visitor to the yankee jails (for his reputed Ku Klux association after the Civil War) and who also wrote of his jail experiences in his book, A VOICE FROM SOUTH CAROLINA. Jack was unable to attend our family reunion in 1987 and I have heard nothing of his health since. My sisters are more on his generation than I and they do keep up more. As a child, I would play on his fathers plantation with my other cousins.

Agnes Leland Baldwin is my 3rd cousin and I've only met her a couple of times as an adult. My sisters know her and they make contact more than I do.

Edwin Cater Leland Sr. of Saluda, N.C. (you mentioned Tryon, I assume we have the same person in mind) and I are 2C1R and also his son Edwin Cater Jr. (3rd C) who own the Mountain Telephone Co. at Saluda are named after the husband of my Great-grandfathers (Horace Wells Leland) sister, Sarah Margaret Leland who married the Rev. Edwin Cater, son of Thomas Miles Cater and Sarah Mcpherson Postell. Edwin was born 1 Nov 1813 at Beaufort, S. C. and died 13 June 1882. Edwin is buried in Somerville (Fayette Co.) Tennessee.

Edwin and Sarah had 5 children: Elizabeth Wells Cater 1839-1911, Edwin Postell Cater 1841-1899, Sarah Hannah Cater 1843-1862, Aaron Whitney Leland Cater 1846-????, and Mary Claudia Cater 1848-1925 - they were all my 1st cousins/2 times removed. Its a small world! A bit of info..our Edwin Cater Jr. is a very good genealogist and has most any record that I would need on the family. Cater some years ago (1978?) remarried and is now a Mormon. I don't know how anyone could ever join that ___ (I started to put church but thought better of it). He has moved to Hendersonville lately. Probably to be near their place of worship which is the other side of Hendersonville.

I also attended the C of C but nine years after you finished. I never finished on account of the Korean War and never went back after I came home. I imagine we had some of the same profs. I remember one in particular, Dr. Chamberlain. He was late to class and we thought he was going to cut. He had a habit of coming in the class and not speaking until he had jumped up in a window and opened it (regardless if it was Winter or Summer). Well, I had to play the clown and mock his entrance just as he entered the door! I don't think we were very good friends after that! (I did pass his English class tho).

Although my background from birth is Presbyterian and I have been an Elder in both the PCUS and the Associated Reformed Pres. Church, I am a member of the Christian Church. The Presbyterian Church left me years ago.

Your mention of the Axtells is my first knowledge of that side of the family. Which king did Landgrave try to kill? You have now made me want to find out more about this side. I'm going to look for Agnes' book. Our libraries probably have it.

I didn't mean to ramble so and hope I haven't bored you. I do appreciate you taking time to answer my letter and also your offer of help.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Bill". The letters are cursive and fluid, with a large initial "B".

William A. Frederickson