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August 15, 1991

Dear Dr. Peeples,

It was good to talk with you several weeks ago about the Cater family of South Carolina. I meant to send you this package of information at that time, but suddenly the week of my son's wedding in Beaufort was upon me and I got very little else done.

As I mentioned on the telephone, my intent is to write a letter to my grandchildren (as yet unborn) and to share with them the family stories of my childhood. I have the Cater family tree, but my hope is to "put flesh on the bones of names and dates".

My resources have included the *Garret-Sharpe-Brown-Poindexter and Allied Lines* which was sent to me by the late Bates Block of Atlanta. He was president of the Georgia Genealogical Society and the adoptive father of two Cater children.

Also I have your research-- *The Miles Genealogy* as well as the *Notes on the Postell Family* by William Dosite Postell taken from the *SC Historical and Genealogical Magazine*, Vol. 53 and 54. In addition, I have the *Prince William's Parish and Plantations* by Todd and Hutson.

My only other resource has been the Will Clayton Library here in Houston and I have spent hours huddled between the shelves looking for family names. The thrill and excitement experienced when new information was found was reward enough for the time spent!

If you can share with me any background information on the Caters I will be forever grateful. Cater Hall and its location, the Cater and Bull relationship, personalities, habits, professions, causes of death, migration patterns, Anything at all.

You will notice that my family line is from Dr. Andrew Postell Cater who married Martha Benson, daughter of Enoch Berry Benson and Esther Blassingame. Their son William Harrison Cater married Emily Horsey and that opened an entirely new family--the Horseys and then the Fishers.

Emily Horsey (my great-great grandmother) was the daughter of Thomas M. Horsey and Emily S. Fisher. Thomas M. Horsey was a wholesaler of "hats, shoes, and straw goods" at 25 Hayne St. in Charleston in 1850. His one time business partner was the brother of his wife's sister (Sarah Elizabeth Fisher married Charles Innes--brother of George Innes, Hudson River Valley School of painters).

Emily and Sarah Elizabeth Fisher were the daughters of Samuel Fisher and his wife Sarah Towning. Samuel Fisher was an English ship master, and he called New York, Charleston, and London "home"; however he settled in Charleston later in his life and he and his wife are buried at the Unitarian Church on Archdale Street.

Sarah Towning Fisher was the sister of Richard Towning and at his death in the early 1840's she inherited one-third of his estate in New York. (Towning Farm became Greenwich Village).

In 1931 my grandmother Emmie Horsey Brown Oglesby received a letter from a law firm in New York that needed a clear title to the Towning property. It was that letter and the names mentioned as heirs of Sarah Towning Fisher that was the answer to a prayer as I searched for dates and relationships of the Fishers and the Horseys.

Old Sam Fisher died in 1859 and when the War broke out his family as well as the Horseys became refuges in the Upcountry. Emily Horsey met and married William Harrison Cater in Pendleton. William Harrison Cater served in the Confederate Army, represented the Charleston drug firm of Dowie and Moise, and died of TB in 1876.

A widow with five young children--Maud Postell, Nell Towning, Thomas, William and Eugene DuPont Cater--who died within months of his father (can you tell me the Cater-DuPont connection?), Emily Horsey Cater taught school in Anderson and later in Hartwell.

Sons Thomas and William Cater moved to New York and by 1907 William owned Vulcan Iron and Rail Co. Daughters Maud and Nell married in Hartwell and Maud Postell Cater was the mother of my grandmother Emmie Horsey Brown Oglesby.

I hope at least some of this makes a little sense to you--perhaps the assorted information I have included will enable you to piece the jigsaw puzzle together. If you would like any more of the tidbits of information that I have please let me know.

Again, I appreciate your time and interest. It is so rewarding to talk with someone who loves history, loves South Carolina, and who understands the effort required to learn more about family roots.

Sincerely,

*Emilyn Sanders*