

September 8, 1977

~~Blindly~~

The Rev. Dr. Robert E.H. Peeples
8 Moon Shell Road
Hilton Head Island, S.C. 29928

Dear Rev. Peeples;

It seemed providential that my visit to the Huguenot Society recently coincided with the arrival of new information for the DuPont file. We are indebted to you for identifying our great, great grandfather's parents and giving him a spot in the lineage stemming from Abraham DuPont, the Huguenot immigrant of 1695. What we know is based on family stories, since the DuPont family bible was destroyed in a fire around 1920.

I do not know the reason for your interest in DuPont geneology and hesitate to overwhelm you with a wealth of particulars we have uncovered about Charles Henry DuPont and his descendants. Several cousins and my older brother as well as I have been trying to put together an account of our part of the DuPont family. None of us bear the family name, - the line is extinct as far as the males are concerned. My younger brother has DuPont as his middle name. If anything we have would be helpful to you I would be glad to furnish you with copies.

I have seen several lineage charts stemming from Abraham, the Huguenot, but not until yours have I seen a mention of the Abraham who married Frances Rumney. We have no dates on him. We have assumed that he died after 1805 (probably after 1810) and before 1820. This is based on family notes that Frances Rumney married her overseer, Mr. Towers, and had two children by him, Isaac and Robert. Of Robert we know he was born in Cincinnati, Ohio, Feb. 26, 1820 - died in Quincy, Fla. May 30, 1845. This from gravestone in Quincy. Also from gravestone in Quincy we learned that Frances Towers died at the residence of her son C.H. DuPont January 17, 1855 - 73 years of age. This would make her birth date 1782. In your research have you found any dates for Abraham Duront of St. Luke's Parish and Frances Rumney? Have you found anything to indicate that this Abraham had the middle name of Strong as it appears in family notes, or that he was a widower when he married Frances and had two sons by first marriage named Cornelius and Josiah? In same notes we learn that Mrs. Abraham S. DuPont's sister Sophia Rumney married Albert McBride, both buried in Quincy, Fla.

I have had some correspondence with John C. Hall of Tupelo, Miss. with regard to his study of his ancestry stemming from the marriage of Ann DuPont and her cousin Josiah DuPont. Until now I felt we did not share a common ancestor although I felt there must be some connection. This study is in the Huguenot Society DuPont file so I feel you must have seen it. He mentions a claim ~~against~~ filed by heirs of Josiah DuPont through a John B. Strong for 1850 acres near St. Augustine, Fla. Claim made in 1823.

It might interest you that remnants of a frame maker's label on frames of our family portraits indicate they may have been framed in Beaufort. Hence I addressed inquiries to persons in Beaufort in an effort to find other works of the artist Comparet. So far I have had no success in finding these. The label reads as follows;

Picture Frame Maker
296 Washington St. (Handwritten above crossed out
?12 Maiden Lane printed address)

(Entry by Green St.)

---eauFort

This is the best I can decipher. Checking a map of Beaufort I find Green and Washington streets a block apart, but no Maiden Lane.

I did see the copy of the Will of Joseph Rumney while in Charleston. Was disappointed that the children were not mentioned by name which would help establish Joseph as the father of Frances Rumney DuPont. I wondered about the note appended stating that Letters of Administration were granted to Charles C. GuPont, May 13th, 1845. I questioned that the initial C was an error, that it should have been H. For Charles Henry. To further complicate this, Gadsden County, Fla. Tax Records Years 1834-1839 show this entry- Estate of C.C. DuPont by C.H. DuPont 80 acres 4 slaves.

You show a sister of Abraham DuPont, Mary Magdalene marrying a Longworth. This new fact adds one more bit to the nebulous Longworth stories. Was this the same family as that of Nicholas Longworth, Speaker of the House, and husband of Alice Roosevelt? My mother always thought that was the family of the first husband of her Aunt Eliza Frances- sister of Charles Henry.

Now that our eldest daughter plans to remain in Ladson for some time, I hope to be a frequent visitor and continue DuPont research.

One more question. My 89 year old third cousin, Maymie Minto says that records in Beaufort are housed in a vault in the bank and are available only once a year for research. Cousin Maymie lives in Houston and recalls a visit she made to Beaufort about 15 years ago when she was told this. Is there any truth in this? I spent about two hours in Beaufort several years ago after a stay at Sea Fines but had not time enough to do serious research.

My brothers and I are members of the Episcopal Church. Receiving data on our family from a member of the clergy makes us feel sure it is as accurate as possible. Am I correct in assuming St. Luke's Parish is that mentioned in Mary Kendall Hilton's book about old homes and Churches of Beaufort County?

Hope to hear from you whether you have any answers or not. Thank you for furnishing me with more leads in this fascinating puzzle.

Sincerely,

Susan Kemp Lewis
(Mrs. R. L.)

P. S. Since the names Abraham, Cornelius, Charles and Gideon tend to be repeated in every generation you can understand my confusion.

My line

- John Edwin DuPont (Seventh child and fourth son of Charles Henry DuPont
b. 11/25/1848 Quincy, Fla. and Mary Ann deGraffenreid Hobson)
d. 11/29/1920 Gulfport, Miss.
m. Susan Dismukes Gee 6/5/1878 Quincy Fla.
b. 3/28/ 1861 Quincy Fla.
d. 11/23/1952 Gulfport, Miss.
- I. George Dismukes b. 1/27/ 1880 Quincy
d. ~~xix~~ 9/14/1880 "
- II. Ruby DeGraffenreid DuPont m. 2/5/ 1908 Robert Timberlake Kemp
b. Quincy Fla. 10/10/1883 Gulfport, Miss. B. Canton, Miss 1/19/1881
d. 4/15/ 1972 Gulfport Miss. d. Casper, Wyo. 4/21/1922
- a. ^{de} Robert Timberlake Kemp, Jr. (PHD-chemistry)
b. Trinidad, Colo. 10/21/1909
m. (1) Norell Baldwin 1942 Memphis Tenn.
d. ~~1950~~ 1948
m. (2) Jean Clinch 1950 Montclair, N.J.
No Issue (O61. USAF Ret)
- b. Susan Elizabeth Kemp m. Lawrence Lee Lewis 2/11/33 Port Allen, La.
b. 10/14/1913 Gulfport Miss.
1. Mary Elizabeth b. 7/7/34 New Orleans, La.
m. (Lt. Col) James Richard Echols 6/4/60 Mobile, Ala.
(a) James Richrd, Jr. b. 10/3/61 Greenville, S.C.
(b) Diana Elizabeth b. 5/21/63 Honolulu, Hawaii
2. Joanne Lee b. 6/20/41 San Antonio, Tex.
m. Dr. Geo. H. Yama 12/23/61 New Orleans, La.
(a) Denise Anne b. 8/10/62 " " "
(b) David H. b. 1/20/ 64 Johnson AFBase, Japan
(c) Leah Sherill b. 9/25/66 Houston, Texas
3. Patricia Lee b. 5/30/43 Okla. City, Okla.
m. David Weldon Cook 5/17/ 65 Houston, Texas
(a) Fairleigh Gayle b. 5/3/77 New Orleans, La.
4. Lawrence Lee b. 7/22/ 45 New Orleans, La.
m. Sharon Ann Olliges 8/1/70 New Orleans, La.
(a) Jeffrey Lee b. 2/27/ 73 Lafayette, La.
- c. Ridgely DuPont Kemp (Col Ret USAF) b. 12/10/16 Gulfport Miss.
m. Elsa Cole 7/7/45 St. Paul Minn.
(1) Nancy Jo b. 7/8/46 St. Paul, Minn.
(2) Cynthia Sue b. 8/27/50 Wichita, Kans.
m. John Shenklin Tymoff Sept/ 29/1969
(a) Christopher John b. 1/-/ 70
(b) Michael Ryan 4/30/73
- III. John Edwin Dupont m. Alta Benton Howie March 1909 Gulf port Miss.
b. 7/ 13/1887, Jacksonville Fla.
d. June 1936 Picayune, Miss.
No Issue- one ^{male} child who bears DuPont name not legally adopted
lives in Picayune Miss, has a family.
- IV. Walton Dismukes b. 10/13/1893 Jacksonville Fla.
d. 6/27/95
- V. Columbus Drew b. 6/25/1900 Jacksonville, Fla.
d. 1/12/1907 Gulfport Miss.

We have almost complete inf. on all
children of Charles Henry DuPont
if you are interested.