

4137-4th Street, S.E.
Washington 20, D. C.
26 January 1957

Mrs John C. Blackburn
Box 283
West Columbia, S. C.

Dear Mrs Blackburn:

During the period of 1930 - 1932 I corresponded with Mr. G. L. Sumner for the purpose of obtaining genealogical data from him on the Folk family. In this connection, on the basis of the data which I then had in hand, I compiled the sketch on the Folk family and sent it to Mr. Sumner with the hope that he would correct errors ~~therein~~ therein and add new data thereto. This was shortly after I had begun genealogical research and at a time when I enthusiastically accepted and believed everything that other persons told me about the Folk family. I then had no knowledge of the will of our Jacob Folck, and have since found that some of the statements contained in the sketch are incorrect and others doubtful.

The statement regarding French Huguenot descent was based on the following.

1. The name in France was variously spelled as Falk, Foulque(s), Faulques, Fouque(s), and Fouques. - (Magny's "Nobiliaire de Normandie", Vols. 1 & 2; "Familles Du Poitou", Vol. 3; Freeman's "The Norman Conquest", Vols. 1 to 5; "Nouveau Larousse Illustre"; "Petit Larousse Illustre"; Fooks' "Fowke - Fooks Family"; Sheppard's "Lineage of the Counts of Anjou".)
2. The name in Germany and Holland was variously spelled as Folk, Foulque, Fouque, and Volk (the "v" is equivalent to "f" in English). - ("Deutsches Geschlechterbuch, Band 58"; Kneschke's "Deutsches - Adel - Lexicon", Vol. 3; Fooks' "Fowke - Fooks Family".)
3. The name in South Carolina was variously spelled as Falk(s), Folk(s), Folke, Folch, Felck, Foulk, Foulke, Fokes, Fouke, Faulk(s), Volch(s), and Velck (the "v" is equivalent to "f" in English). - (Census Records of South Carolina; Land Grants in South Carolina; Council Journals of South Carolina; "Memorials" at the South Carolina Historical Commission; Will of Jacob Folck of Craven County, 96 District, S.C.; Revolutionary War Records of South Carolina.)
4. Members of this family were Huguenots (in France) and refugees to other countries (Germany, Holland, etc.), as evidenced by Caen (Normandy) Protestant Church Registers; Records of the Société De L'Histoire Du Protestantisme Français; Kneschke's "Deutsches - Adel - Lexicon"; Records of the Walleon Church (French Protestant Refugees) in Holland. It is my understanding that the records of the Hugenotten Verein of Berlin also contain mention of some members of this family who were Huguenot refugees in Germany; but the occurrence of the Second World War and conditions existing subsequent thereto have thus far prevented contact with this source of information.
5. In the year 1932 I corresponded with Mrs Rebecca Eleanora Bedenbaugh, Route 6, Prosperity, S.C., regarding history of the Folk family. She, a daughter of John Wesley Folk (grandson of Jacob Folck whose will is mentioned in item 3 above) was born in 1852 and her father was born in 1816. In response to my query regarding Huguenot descent of the family she replied (letter dated 27 April 1932) as follows: - "I have heard my father speak of the Folk family as being of French descent just as you mentioned".

There is ample proof that many early members of the Folk (Falk, Foulque) family were French Huguenots, and that some of them became refugees in Holland and Germany. If our line of Folk descended from one of these refugees, as is believed to be the case, the immigrant ancestor came to South Carolina after the family had lived in Holland and / or Germany for one or more generations, and after the family name had been subjected to changes conforming with the Dutch and / or German style of spelling. On coming to America in a later generation, and in company with other persons from the same country, it was natural that our immigrant ancestor was not recorded and identified as being of French Huguenot descent. Therefore, it is likely that membership in the Huguenot Society would require stronger evidence of descent than what is stated in this letter. If the needed proof still exists in Germany it probably would be useless to attempt its procurement under the conditions which now prevail in that country.

Jacob Folk, Jr., my ancestor (the fourth son) who was born in 1772, had a son named "Henry" who was supposed to be so named in honor of his uncle; therefore, the sketch shows this supposed uncle (Henry) as the son of Jacob Folk, Sr. On 24 February 1779 the supposed uncle enlisted as a private in the Revolutionary War; and, since no "Henry" is named in the will (dated 6 July 1775) of the older Jacob Folk, it now appears that the supposed uncle perhaps was a great-uncle (that is, - a brother of Jacob Folk, Sr.). I have found records which show that there were other immigrant Folks in South Carolina at the same time as our first Jacob.

The will of Jacob Folck, Sr., was dated 6 July 1775 and the inventory of his estate was dated 4 December 1777, it being thus indicated that he died in 1777 and not in 1774 as stated in the "Annals of Newberry". In addition to bequests made to specifically named children, he gave property to his wife Catherine and her heirs, which indicates that she was a second wife. The specifically named children, apparently by a first wife, were -

1. John Benedict (eldest son) - On 1 December 1779 he, as "Benedict Falk", was listed on the Roll of Captain John Murphy's South Carolina Loyalists (Tories) present at Savannah, Ga. It doubtless was he who "died in the Revolutionary War", as stated in the "Annals of Newberry".

2. - (The second son being killed by a falling tree, as stated in the "Annals of Newberry", doubtless happened to this accident prior to 6 July 1775 and therefore was not named in his father's will.)

3. - (According to the "Annals of Newberry", Jacob Folk had a daughter who married Levi Kibler and was the mother of J.D.A. Kibler. Since she is not named in her father's will it appears that she died prior to 6 July 1775.)

4. Eve Catherine - According to Mrs Edith Willingham Blackburn, she was the youngest child of her father and married Henry Keene. However, on the basis of her order of being named in her father's will and the absence of a record of guardianship for her, it is the belief of this writer (Joseph E. Steadman) that she was one of the older children of her father by his first marriage.

5. Elisabeth - According to the "Annals of Newberry", together with Mr. Sumner's book, she was the first wife of Jacob Cromer. In 1784 she was a minor under the guardianship of Peter Stockman.

6. John (third son) - Born in 1770 and died in 1844, as per tombstone record. His full name probably was "John Adam Folk", and he had a son who bore that name. In 1784 he was a minor under the guardianship of Peter Stockman.

7. Jacob (fourth son) - Born in 1772 and died in 1845, as per tombstone record. In 1784 he was a minor under the guardianship of Peter Stockman.

The foregoing accounts for the 7 children (4 sons and 3 daughters) of Jacob Folk as mentioned in the "Annals of Newberry". However, it appears that another daughter was Christina Folk (perhaps born posthumously in 1777, being a child by Catherine the second wife) who married (1) George Sabar and (2) Jacob Cromer as his second wife. She is mentioned on pages 214 and 280 of Mr. Sumner's book.

Was John Benedict Koon (an executor of Jacob Folck's will) the husband of Eve Catherine Folk your great-great-grandmother? If not, he in some manner might have been a brother-in-law of Jacob Folck and the person in whose honor John Benedict Folk (eldest son of Jacob) was named. What was the name of Eve Catherine's husband if it was not John Benedict Koon; and what is the basis for the statement that she was the youngest child of Jacob Folk the pioneer father? What were the dates of her birth, death, and marriage? As you perhaps know, I am compiling a genealogical and historical record of the Folk family. It is hoped that the record will be ready for publication either late in this year (1957) or at some time in the next year (1958). I would be much pleased to have data on the descendants of Eve Catherine to be included in the record, and request that you be so kind as to furnish such data to me.

Since you live so near to Columbia, S.C., doubtless you spend considerable time in that city examining the records in the State Library, Historical Commission, etc. I myself have spent considerable time there in research work, my last visit being in the summer of 1956. Had I known of you at that time I would have been delighted to meet you and discuss our Folk family history and compare data with you.

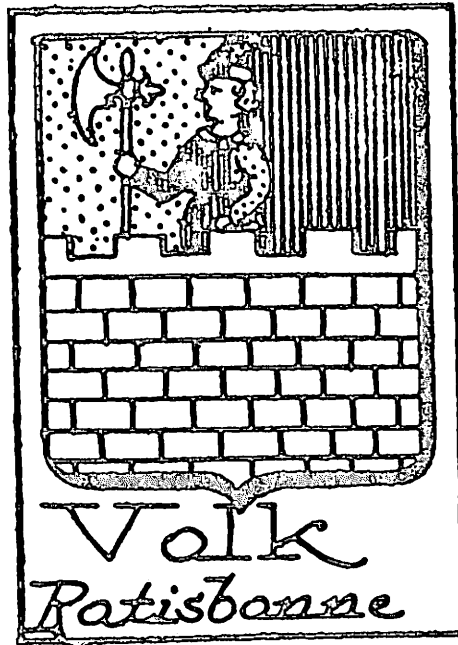
It is my belief that John Benedict Koon and Ulrich Meyer, the executors of Jacob Folck's will, and Peter Stockman, the guardian of three of Jacob Folck's minor children, perhaps were close relatives of Jacob. Ulrich Meyer's wife Barbara might have been the widow of the pioneer John Adam Epting and the mother of Jacob Folck's first wife. The "Annals of Newberry" erroneously state that Jacob married the daughter (evidently meant to be sister) of Adam F. Epting. - (Jacob Folk was born before 1740-1 while Adam F. Epting was born about 1752 and could not have had a daughter old enough to have married Jacob Folk prior to his death in 1777.) If John Benedict Koon, Ulrich Meyer, Barbara Meyer, and Peter Stockman left wills in Newberry County they perhaps can be found in records at the Historical Commission; but, of course, the names Koon, Meyer, and Stockman might have a different spelling in such wills - (For example: - "Kuhn", "Coon", "Maier", "Meier", "Mayer", "Stackman", "Stackman", etc.). These wills might furnish some Folk or Epting data which now is missing in our records, and I would like to have a copy of each will which might be found. I also would like to have a copy (or abstract) of the record of a grant for 100 acres of land made to Jacob Folick on 13 August 1756, as shown on page 122 of Grant Book No. 7, since it appears that this Jacob Folick was the same person as our Jacob Folck. The record of this grant might also be found at the Historical Commission, but if not there it can be found in the Office of the Secretary of State in the State House. I would be very grateful if you will procure the desired copies (of wills and land grant) for me on an exchange of data basis.

I do not have a copy of the Folk coat-of-arms. However, such arms might be described or illustrated in records contained in the Congressional Library here in Washington, and I will make a search for the same.

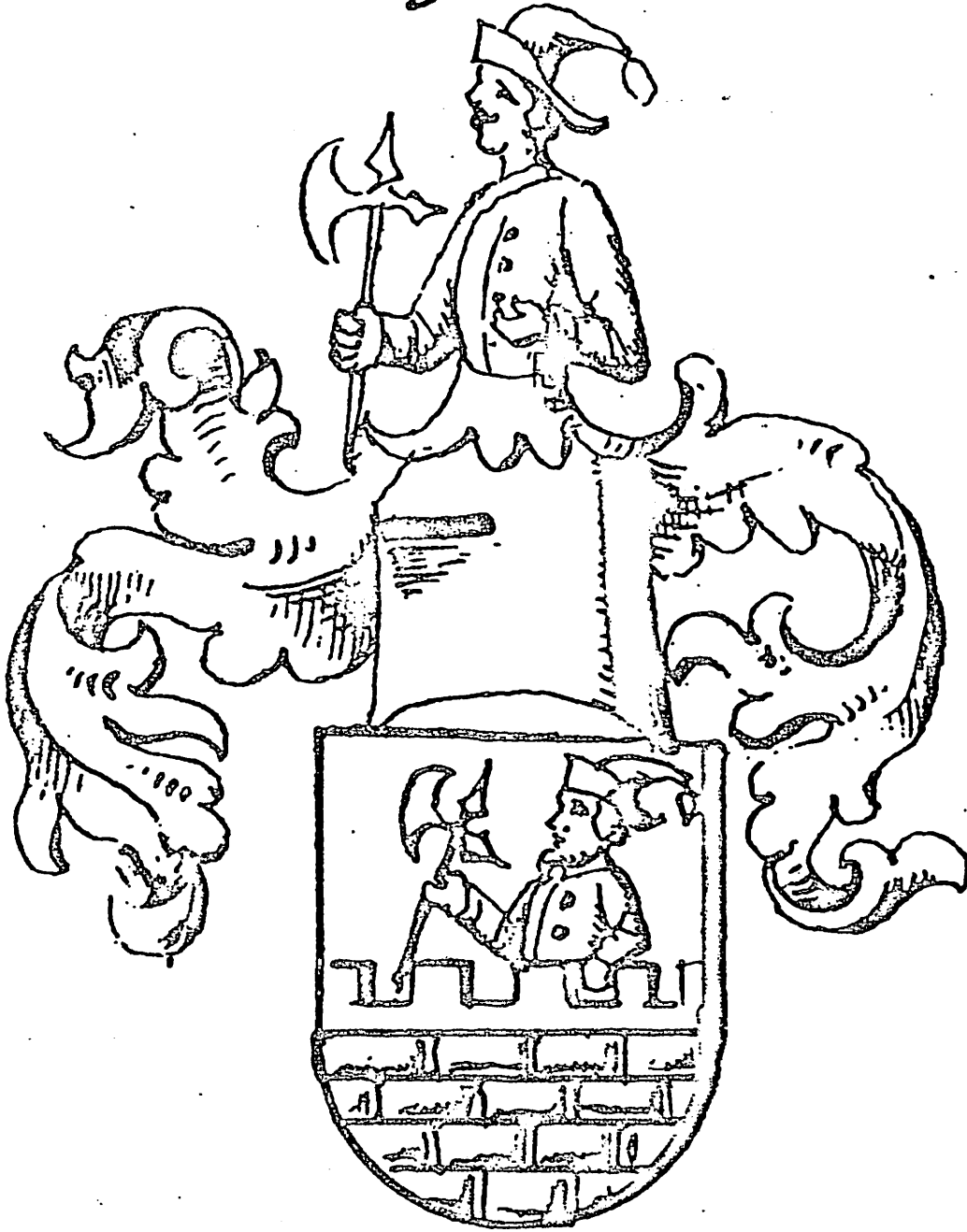
With best wishes, and hoping to hear from you again soon, I am

Sincerely yours,

Joseph E. Steadman, Sr.
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Voyle.



VIC. DE
MARSEILLE.
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ib. p. 873

La domination de ces Vicomtes, qui dans le commencement de leur établissement, se bornoit à la seule ville de Marseille & à quelques terres des plus voisines, s'augmenta dans la suite considérablement, & s'étendit depuis sur toutes les places depuis la ville d'Hierès jusqu'à Martigues & Foz; non seulement le long de la mer, mais encore un peu avant dans les terres, de sorte que les Vicomtes de Marseille possédoient les villes de Toulon, d'Hierès, la Ciutat, avec les lieux de Sixfours, Olliers, Soliers, Brégançon, Tretz, Aubagne, Puilobier, S. Julien, S. Marcel, Roquevaire, Oriol, Martiguez, Foz, Roquefueil, la Tour d'Embouch, & plusieurs autres raportez par Bouche.

M. Ruffi dans son histoire de Marseille donne pour souche aux Vicomtes de cette ville Pons, frere de Bozon Comte de Provence; mais il n'appuye son sentiment que sur une charte qui est rejetée des curieux. Bouche & Gaudredi reconnoissent aussi pour premier Comte héréditaire de Marseille un Pons qu'il font troisième fils de Bozon Comte d'Arles, & qui eut pour son partage, à ce qu'ils conjecturent, le Vicomté de Marseille sous l'hommage de Guillaume Comte d'Arles son frere aîné. Ils établissent leur opinion sur une charte de l'an 961, souscrite par le Comte Bozon, par ses fils Guillaume & Rotbold, & par *Pons-le-jeune*, & ils ont cru que ce dernier, à qui on ne donne pas de qualité, étoit frere de Guillaume & de Rotbold.

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December 10, 1975

Dr. G. Edgar Folk
The University of Iowa
Iowa City, Iowa 52242

Dear Dr. Folk:

With much interest I noted an article on your wolf pack studies in the November 16, 1975 issue of GRIT.

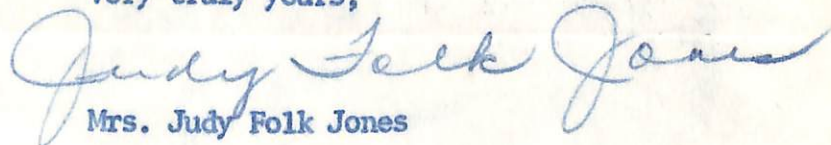
I am wondering if you are descended from the Folks of South Carolina and if perhaps we have common ancestors?

I descend from Jacob Folk (1772-1845) and his wife Mary Elizabeth Howard (1780-1839); they had 12 children. I descend from their 4th child, Henry Folk (born 9 Sept. 1804). While alive, my father Walton Folk did extensive research on the Folk family & traced us back to the Counts of Anjou in France.

I am enclosing a copy of a Folk family coat-of-arms for your record. I have another -- a different one which I can send you a copy of if you would like.

I would be interested in hearing from you.

Very truly yours,


Mrs. Judy Folk Jones

cc: Rev. Peoples