

LAW OFFICES
LAWTON & CUNNINGHAM
SAVANNAH, GA.

ALEXANDER R. LAWTON
T. M. CUNNINGHAM, JR.
ALEXANDER R. LAWTON, JR.

Savannah Ga. March 18, 1929.

I-116.

Mrs. Jeannette Murphy,

Crusoe, Haywood County, N.C.

My dear Mrs. Murphy,

Mrs. Annie E. Miller has sent me your letter of the 16th addressed to me but sent to her. I have read it with a great deal of interest, and it gives me a great deal of information about the Lawton and Robert families that I did not know. For example, the year of the birth in Wales of the first Joseph Lawton, the date of his emigration and the date of his death. As you have evidently taken a great deal of pains to get facts, I take it for granted that you have verified this and they interest me a great deal. I shall transfer this information to such a record as I have, which I am sorry to say is not complete.

I am not much of a research man and, while I naturally am much interested in the genealogy of the family, I do not seem to be enough of an enthusiast to devote much time to it in connection with the other things which I have to do, whether I care to do them or not. I have quite a number of letters and memoranda that have not been properly transcribed, including some to which I attach very little importance, because they evidently record only impressions and rank hearsay, instead of ascertained facts.

Going carefully over your letter, I take pleasure in answering your questions as far as I can, and giving you such memoranda as seem to be material.

Mrs. Jeannette Murphy #2.

Corinne Lawton Mackall's husband is not Carl Melchers, but Gari Melchers. He is one of the most distinguished of our American painters, having, with Sargent and Whistler, taken in Europe all of the honors to which an American artist is eligible. His name was originally Julius Garibaldi Melchers, and he had the good sense to contract it to Gari Melchers. He is still alive, active in his profession and receiving many honors. They have no children.

My youngest Grandson is not "Spender Lawton", but Spencer Lawton.

I regret to say that I know nothing of the name Bettison. I am hearing it in your letter for the first time.

I have never heard of any one named Rennock or Romock.

All your information about my immediate branch of the Lawton family is correct, except insofar as I have indicated changes. I wish I had some further information I could give you. I presume you have the recently published book ^(by Dr Hirsch, I think) on the Huguenots of South Carolina, which shows a great deal of research and gives a great deal of information; among other things, that Pierre Robert was the first Huguenot Minister to preach in South Carolina.

You refer to his will. His will, and I think also the will of his son, Pierre, 2nd., were printed in the transactions of the Huguenot Society of South Carolina several years ago. I should guess it was approximately ten years ago. My recollection is that the print shows the original French and an English translation.

I think this is all the information I can give you, and I much regret that it is not more.

Yours very truly,

ARL/MeD



Normandie Cabin, Cruso P.O.,
Haywood County, North Carolina,
March 22, 1929.

Dear Miss Lawton:-

I wonder if you would tell me once more where you saw that citation about Mary being a Winborne widow of Paul Grimball- amarrying capt. William Lawton. We know my ancestor did this but we think she is sister of Robert Sammes as Paul Grimball says in his will of 1746, that he makes his "brother-in-law Robert Samms his executor" and speaks of his wife Mary. In the codicil of 1749, he then says that his wife was given him two more children John and Annie. I come from Annie. Old John Grimball has it in his ancient record made soon after that she was Mary Sammes. We think she was the step daughter of Thomas Winborne. I found his will and he of his son-in-law Capt. William Lawton and grandchildren Winborne and Mary Lawton. He surely does treat them as own grandchildren and we know his wife was Susannah and that Mary's own mother was Susannah, so please tell me where you saw this citation. I enclose a stamped envelope to save you this much trouble. I am ill and have been over a year with hard chills got them in La and since Nov. 15 suffering from a dislocated hip. I need big money to get to New York, to get cured but alas, the wretches to whom

\$4,000 and \$5,000 have done me on the interest and one on the principal and t

others seem to think me easy pickings and so it goes. But enough of me.

As you have been so kind maybe you will send me all of your Lawton ancestry I told Mrs. Annie E Miller of 608 Drayton Street, about you several years ago. I am in hopes you will send me a carbon of what you send her.

Also Please go to see anybody named Sammes or Samms. some lady who might give me the Samms ancestry and then I can see who was Robert and if his mother was Susannah. Had I had longer time in Charles gon I could have found a lot of Sammes will

Did you see this about Mary in the St. Helena's register copied by S.C. Hist. Society and if so, in what volume.

Yours sincerely, H.R.M.

P.S. Some one sent me in March 1927, a page-I copied for you, signed A.R.T. and so I thought it came from Alex. Rudolf Lawton of Savannah. Did you send it or did "rs. Willingham? I am lots of trouble to you but I am so sick, is the reason that I lost every scrap you have so kindly sent me. How I wish I could well and get to the Charleston and Beaufort. Can you get me any old Bettis records at that Beaufort Court House. I was told in 1915 and two years ago that all old records burned and her you have found many and so my two trips were money thrown absolutely away. How I wish I could see what Beaufort records say in that C.H.