

Robert-

This correspondent is a lady from England. Tommy has corresponded with her for some time on our possible Lawton connections. He sent me this letter from her several weeks ago.

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Jane

Dear Tom,

It was nice to get your letter this morning.

As promised, here is my family tree along with a couple of other items.

Amongst my papers I have only been able to find one Josiah (enclosed), which you probably have already. Newcastle-Under-Lyme is very close to the borders of Cheshire. I suppose, like me, you have guessed that your Josiah would probably have taken his grandfather's name. Josiah Wedgwood, the pottery tycoon, was born about the same time as your Josiah. Perhaps it became a popular name at that time. Just a silly guess!

I seem to have exhausted my search in Staffordshire so I have now written to Cheshire Record Office as I think my ancestors 'crept' over the border in the late 1600's. I'm awaiting the results of their search so if anything crops up which I think could be of interest to you I will let you know.

I haven't heard of a Lawton Hall in Hereford, only a Lawton Hall in Cheshire, the county being next to N. Wales. The hall is now in a dilapidated state. I don't know of any Lawtons originating from Wales, (I was born in North Staffordshire), although I do have Welsh ancestors on both sides of my family. Recently I found out that the Lawton name is a well-known English name used in Co. Cork, Ireland, as an anglicised form of O'Lachtrain.

I had to smile when I read you had practised law. I'm always saying I can't get away from the law. I served as a police-woman with the Staffordshire County Constabulary for five years from 1959-64, and my new daughter-in-law is an ex-Cheshire police-woman, and whilst researching ancestors on my mother's side I found my G.G.G. grandfather was a barrister and justice of the peace.

There doesn't seem to be any direct connection between our two families at the moment but no doubt we'll keep searching and I'll let you know if I find anything of interest.

Take care,

Regards to you and your family,

Jane

Alice Jean Don.

FROM FAMILY SEARCH -(The Church of Jesus Christ of
Letter-Day Saints.)

Josiah LAWTON.
Christened 27 Mar. 1687 - Newcastle-Under-Lyme,
Staffordshire, England.

Parents: Father - William LAWTON.
Mother - Mary DACE.

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*See my accompanying letter to Anne Dodenhoff
for comments on this Josiah Lawton.*

November 29, 1999

Dear Ms. Dodenhoff:

I thoroughly enjoyed our little visit on the telephone last night, and I appreciate so much your willingness to continue your research on Captain William Lawton, my "runaway ancestor" who has eluded my every research and research and research and research and research effort for the past thirty years or so. Maybe this time, I keep telling myself....

As I mentioned in the course of our telephone conversation, I wouldn't even dream of asking you to take on this project until after the holidays are over, so please don't worry about it until after the first of the new year. Between now and that time, I will send you the most recent information and ideas that I have on CWL, but just lay these aside until later.

Since our last conversations and correspondence this past summer, I've acquired a FAX machine, which I think I know how to use, and which my niece assures me is "idiot proof." Being a teenager, she does not even vaguely comprehend my extraordinarily advanced level of "technological idiocy," so we shall see just how "idiot proof" this contraption is. Anyway, my niece says that my FAX number is the same as my telephone number--843/293-6193--so if you are "contraption competent" and need to FAX anything to me, I'll set my machine to receive your messages here.

I'm enclosing a copy of a recent letter from my cousin, Tommy Lawton, from Garnett, SC, with whom I have researched for many years in an attempt to "capture" CWL. In my file on CWL, you already have an abundance of the other material from Tommy that I sent to you this past summer.

Accompanying Tommy's letter is a letter from a lady in England, with whom Tommy has been corresponding, in an attempt to establish a connection between her Lawton line and our own. As you can see, this lady included with her correspondence a bit of biodata on a certain Josiah Lawton, who was christened 27 March 1687 at Newcastle-Under-Lyme, in Staffordshire, Eng.

As I have mentioned to you on a number of occasions, I always have believed that CWL's father was a Josiah, although I have no proof whatsoever to support this belief--just as I have no proof whatsoever to back up my presumed year of birth for CWL, which I always have "guesstimated" to be about 1710, but which could be as early as 1700, although certainly no later than 1715. For these and other reasons, Tommy's Josiah Lawton who was christened 27 March 1687 looks quite promising as a candidate for CWL's father. For reasons purely personal and speculative, I always have had CWL's father "pegged" as a 1670's year-of-birth baby, but 1687 is not at all impossible or implausible if CWL was born in about 1710, at which time Tommy's Josiah would have been about 23 years old. What a jumble of speculation, etc., this paragraph contains, but you know what I mean...or at least I hope you do. Anyway, we don't have to worry about it until we regroup in January, so until then, Happy Holidays!

Sincerely yours,

Paul

Paul S. Lawton

Robert-

I have time for just a brief note, as I'm in class giving a test.

I received your (as always) interesting Christmas newsletter, and enjoyed it (as always) very much.

In response to your question as to whether I still am attempting to find the parents of CWL, the enclosures will let you know exactly where we are at this point.

After the holidays, Anne Tadenhoff will resume her research, which I naturally will share with you as it comes in.

In the meantime, best wishes to you and Miss Cera for a Merry Christmas and Merry Millennium as well.

As ever - Love