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Dear Dr. Peeples,

Now, I have a nice, quiet Saturday morning to reply to your last letter, and to ask some questions about that fellow Thomas Smith.

For proposing my membership in the Magna Charta Barons, my full name is Richard Terrence Tiernan; my mother's name is Josephine Elizabeth Murphy; and my father's name is John (nmn) Tiernan.

As to Ann Rutledge (Smith) Mew, I've been told that she was born "the night the British bombed Savannah". Since I can't find any evidence that the British "bombed" Savannah, that doesn't make much sense to me. Maybe whoever initiated that reference said, or meant to say, "the night the British bombed Fort Moultrie on Sullivan's Island." At any rate, Ann was supposed to have been born at Beaufort, and the cannon fire or exploding shells could be heard that night. She must have been a feisty old gal... she sued the Federal government for damages suffered during the Civil War, and won! The evidence for Ann Rutledge (Smith) Mew being the daughter of Samuel Smith and his wife Sarah is from *Reports of Cases in Equity Court of Appeals of South Carolina, Volume III November 1850 to May 1851*; by J. S. G. Richardson, State Reporter; printed by A. S. Johnston, 1852; pages 244 to 256. The relevant portion is quoted here. This was an appeal in Charleston in 1851, the original complaint was "F. Crossby & others vs. Abram Smith & others" at Beaufort in February 1850.

"Samuel Smith, the common ancestor of the litigating parties, died in the latter part of 1815, leaving a will, executed by him the 15th of September of that year, to which I shall hereafter advert, and leaving a widow, Sarah, and eight children, to wit: five sons, Abram, James, Charles, William and Benjamin; and three daughters, Nancy Mew, (a widow) Elizabeth, who intermarried with one Buler, and Mary, now wife of Dr. Dupont."

Ann (Nancy) was widowed in 1832. Ann's nickname was Nancy, and she is listed in the 1870 Census as Nancy Mew. I haven't yet been able to determine any ancestry of Samuel and Sarah Smith. Samuel may be related to James Smith (died 1792), but I just don't know at this point.

As to George Smith receiving a medical degree... I intend to write to the University of Edinburgh for a definitive answer to that question. I have read (I believe the book was *Charleston! Charleston!*) that it wasn't unusual for physicians to abandon the medical profession in favor of the more lucrative occupation of merchant. That would account for his being referred to as "merchant".

The address of the Medway Environmental Trust is: 300 Medway Road, Goose Creek, SC 29445. Richard N. Côté's address: 79 Vincent Drive, Mt. Pleasant, SC 29464 (803) 881-0232. Agnes Leland Baldwin's address is: P. O. Box 639, McClellanville, SC 29458 (803) 887-3197. Just in case you don't have those two.

About the *Hereditary Order of Descendants of the Colonial Governors*, I'll put together a "bragging" letter, and get it to you. It sounds as though the organization is a little more discriminating about whom they admit for membership than some other organizations. I went to a meeting of the *Sons of Confederate Veterans* with the intention of joining, but they only seemed to want dues-payers, and had little concern about lineage. They didn't seem to be the sort of folks with whom I'd want to associate, either. All of which reminds me of what Groucho Marx had to say about being admitted to membership of an organization... something to the effect of "I wouldn't want to belong to a group that would admit the likes of me."

I received my copy of *Our Family Circle* on Thursday. There is an incredible amount of information in the book, and I can't wait to start getting into it. I'm certain that it will enable me to correct some of my own errors that have crept into my research.

As you can see in the "book" which I sent to you, I, too, have thoroughly snarled up the Atkins and Smith relationship. I can understand how Dr. Salley would have been misled by the three Atkins wills made in 1684. Those three wills are all that I had on which to base an opinion, and you can see the mess I made of it! Now, tell me if I have this straight: Barbara Atkins was the daughter of Aaron Atkins. John Atkins, the maternal grandfather of Thomas Smith, was the father of Joan Atkins, who married John Smith. Aaron Atkins and John Atkins weren't necessarily related to one another. Joan (Atkins) Smith married Aaron Atkins after the death of John Smith and became the stepmother of Barbara Atkins. Am I right, so far? Now, who was Aaron Atkins who made his will in Charleston in 1684?

As you can see by the "book" which I sent to you, I've done quite a lot of work on the descendants of our Thomas Smith. I'm going to be very interested in comparing the results of my independent efforts with *Our Family Circle*. I'm sure I'll have many questions, and I hope you'll be patient with me. I hadn't spent much time attempting to sort out Thomas Smith's ancestry because I knew it was a proverbial Gordian Knot. Now, with your guidance, I'll be on the right track with it. I've been able to follow down the pedigree sheet which you sent to me, but I can't get all the way with the materials which are available to me. Here's what I've found so far:

Robert de Toden/Toeni/Toeny, a Norman Baron, was first feudal Lord, or Baron by tenure, of Belvoir Castle, died 1088. He married Adela and had five children, including:
William d'Albini/Aubigny/Albiniaco, called "Brito" (the Briton), succeeded as feudal Lord of Belvoir Castle, and died circa 1155. He married Maud and had two children, including:
William Meschines d'Albini, second Baron of Belvoir, died 1186. He married an unknown woman. His son who succeeded him in 1167 was:
William d'Albini, third Baron of Belvoir, and a Magna Carta Surety, died at Offingham on 1 May 1236. He married first Margery, daughter of Odonel, Baron d'Umfraville, and had four children including:
William d'Albini, fourth Baron of Belvoir, died 1285. He married first Albreda Bisset, and married second Isabel. His issue by his second wife includes:
Isabel d'Albini who died 15 Jun 1301. She married between 5 June 1243 and 17 May 1244 Robert de Ros/Roos and had issue, including:
William de Ros, born circa 1255, died (presumed between 12 May and 16 August) 1316, was first Lord Ros of Helmsley, M. P. 1295 - 1316. He married before 1287 Maude de Vaux, daughter of John de Vaux. Issue includes:
Agnes de Ros died before 25 November 1328, married circa 25 April 1298 Pain de Tybetot/Tibetot/Tiptoft, first Lord Tybetot. Issue includes:
Margaret Tiptoft died May 1349, married Sir Thomas de Monthermer, Lord Monthermer. Issue includes:
Margaret de Monthermer, Lady Monthermer, born Stokenham 14 October 1329, died 24 March 1394/5. She married before 1344 Sir John de Montagu, he was created Lord Montagu 1357, Steward of the Household to King Richard II 1381 - 1386/7. Issue includes:

Robert Montacute of Sutton.

That's where the trail ends for me. For references, I've used *Magna Carta Barons and Their Descendants* by Charles H. Browning, *The Magna Carta Sureties - 1215* by F. L. Weis and A. Adams, and *Burke's Dormant and Extinct Peerages* by J. B. Burke. Do you have any suggestions as to references to consult in order to finish the line?

I'll end this here. I don't want to become tiresome to you.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Tony', written in black ink.