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Dear Dr. Peeples,

I am descended from the Jenkins, Stanyarne, Waight and Fitch families of South Carolina. They will be included in a book that I have been working on for many years and hope to publish this year. I have just acquired Abigail's Story: Tides at the Doorstep, and was most interested to find information on these families I had not previously encountered, with you cited as the authority. If you'd be willing to answer some questions I have, I should be immensely grateful.

I was particularly interested to learn that the Stanyarne, Waight and Fitch families came to Carolina from Barbados; I had not known that. Last week I went to the Library of Congress and checked Sanders' compilations of Barbados wills, baptisms and marriages, as well as barnadow's book on Barbados families. I found several references to the Fitches, but could find nothing on Stanyarne or Waight. I would like very much to know what evidence shows that these families came from Barbados, and what records exist of them there.

I gather you have concluded that the Wights who came to Carolina were children of Abraham Waight and his wife Phoebe Baynes, and that they died in Barbados. I'd much appreciate knowing the evidence. I had supposed that the Carolina Wights were children of Isaac Waight and Katherine Floyd, who were married at All Hallows, London Wall, London, August 7, 1659; their son Abraham was baptised at St. James, Clerkenwell, June 14, 1661.

I was also interested to learn of the will of James Stanyarne of Brigstock, Co. Northants, and that he named a son Thomas, and Thomas' son James, in his will of 1669. I'd be grateful if I could have a citation to this will so that I can seek a copy. Is there any evidence, besides the names, for the conclusion that this Thomas was the settler in Barbados (?) and Carolina?

Since you live on Hilton Head, I will mention that my great-great-grandfather Gen. John Floyd was born there in 1763; he moved to Georgia as a young man. His mother was Mary Fendin, granddaughter of John Fendin and his wife Martha, who I believe to have been Martha Waight, daughter of Abraham.

I should appreciate your help with this very much indeed.

Yours sincerely,



Brice M. Clagett

P.S. My Stanyarne-Fitch descent comes through Col. John Woodward and his wife Elizabeth, daughter of Col. James Stanyarne.