

Ajetta Cummings
402 South Woolfolk Avenue
Donalsonville, Georgia

Oct 29, 1965

Dear Cousin Robert:

I have received your letter and am answering right back to let you know that I have written the S.C. Historical Society that I would give the 3 books if they would like to have it. So I shall await their answer before ordering same. I read that the library only contains books in S.C. and I want to know first if this will be acceptable.

I do not care for the library at the John Historical Library so will see how she takes before I do any ordering here. I am still counting on the trip to S.C. in Nov. I will call you before going to Hilton Head Island.

Ellendak

If the books should be placed in the Hampton, York + Beaufort libraries, many might not order the book so a delay here would be well.

About the 1st meeting I saw the Abstract Will Book 1670-1740 by Moore & Squires where W^m is shared in Thomas Owen Granville Co. planter & was also one of the executors. In the 2nd Will Book 1752-1756 by Paulino, Moore W^m appears, Charleston merchant is mentioned, children Sarah, Susan, Thomas + George, executors Benjamin D'Arnette + Gabriel Manigault. Also in same book Marmaduke Ash, Charleston saddle maker.

MSA 1769

in his will George Thomas his adopted son
son of W^m & Mary Thomas of Annapolis (Maryland) and
also Eleanor Thomas with George his land
in Washington Island. I have to witness
John Harnsey & Hester Biele execs. Witness W^m
Parsons & Sept 18 1841. This could be
some of our family. I do not recollect
anyone I has ever checked the papers
land grants in Columbia and this might
give some information. I have a
nephew living there now but I am
afraid he could not do this.
In regard to Nancy Anne Peoples
descendants I have been to Blandford
twice & tried to see the D. of her
Cousin who ^{calls} makes you send me to
forward to her Sandford. She is Ruby
Wells. She has a son about twelve
years old & a daughter looks about four.
Her husband evidently works for his
brother (John) who operates a saw mill
nearby & they apparently live in a
rented house. When talking to her
over the telephone I found that she
works & she said her she didn't get
have rented after farm. (The son
says she works at the shirt factory)
Her grandchild so she told me
is living and has the family Bible.
I will try see name but I am
of the opinion she will not see me
now. When I see you I will discuss
the investments. Europe
Wm Thomas

Ajetta Cummings
402 South Woolfolk Avenue
Donalsonville, Georgia

Apr 4, 1965

Dear Cousin Robert,

Enclosed you will find letters
from Mrs. Haulster of the S. C. Historical Society
stating that they would be delighted to have
the Johnston book. You see to-day seeing
Cay J. a ~~book~~ ^{book} from ~~some~~ ^{some}. I do
think the book is beautifully written
and our family are greatly
impressed by Cousin Cay J.

Maybe the write up of the book
you would know better about the
procedure than I. I am sure the
magazine will acknowledge receipt of
same and will be reviewed by some
one of the library staff. I know that
their way is already established.

You may if you like forward
the S. C. H. S. letter to Cousin Cay J.

Sincerely,

Ajetta Cummings

I am glad you gave me your
telephone number for I can call from
Soh next week when I finish with
the dentist.

Ajetta Cummings

402 South Woolfolk Avenue
Donalsonville, Georgia

06107

October 9, 1965

Dear Cousin Ajetta:

Thank you very kindly for your compliments. I hope you enjoyed your trip to New York and the so-called World's Fair. /I did not visit the fair, and begged off when my brother Jordan (Nathan J. J.) and his wife were here last summer. I just can't stand in line. But I visited the grounds twice last winter when the fair was closed -- on business. / If you decide to travel in Hampton County -- and there isn't much to see there -- I am sure you would enjoy it, and that Jordan (some call him "Nathan") would welcome a visit. He lives in Estill, practically across the street from the mother of the Rev. Robt. E. H. Peeples. I would suggest that you call on Henry Johnston, Bertie's widow, who lives on the same street, but I do not have the temerity to speak for her. Pearl Coleman was still living in Estill in 1963, but I do not know her. Your cousin, the Rev. R. E. H. P. probably can give you suggestions on Peeples and perhaps Youmans. On the latter you probably would want to call on Holbrook ("Brookie") Youmans, a son of old Judge Albert Youmans. If there are extant Youmans gravestones out in old Black Creek he doubtless would know where they are.

I am not sure whether you speak of old Lily or the younger Lily Preacher (now Mrs. Bryan at Allendale). I knew both of them in 1922-23 when I spent my last year in high school at Fairfax. The younger Lily and I were class mates. She used to wear her very fine hair in curls, and they fell in a cascade around her neck and down her back. I think she had prettiest red hair I ever saw. Her father had been a locomotive engineer on the Seaboard, and my dim memory suggests he lost his life at Dixiana (just south of Columbia) when his train (one of the old fast ones) left the tracks. That would have been prior to 1922.

I don't know how you can work out your early Youmans. I suspect the Rev. R. E. H. P. is your best bet, and you might ask him what he knows. I feel sure he would be glad to help you.

From what the Rev. Bobby said in a recent letter to me, I am inclined to question tradition in the Youmans family to the effect that Levi (or Levy) Youmans (allegedly born about 1750) was the original Youmans of this family in South Carolina.

The Rev. Robt. reported:

One of the earliest references to lands in our area is in Will of Thomas Owen, Granville County planter, dated 29 May 1735, of Owen's Lodge Plantation with other lands on "Cussa Hatchey creek," mentions dau. Elizabeth Owen, also mentions William Youmans, merchant; Will proved 8 March 1737.

I suspect the simple fact of the matter is that the "William Youmans, merchant" is an earlier ancestor of Levi Youmans, and that this tradition (from the Eva Trask Youmans Charts) is not correct in all respects:

Birth

Marriage

Death

About 1750 --- Levi Youmans (also Levy)

Born in England. Came to U. S. A. 1775. Had a commission from the Crown and was loyal to the Crown. He was a Tory and fought in the Amer. Rev. War. After the War was over in (Oct. 19, 1781) [sic] Levi went to Mermuda or Barbados, but later came back to South Carolina. We suppose the land he had [was] near Hampton, S. C. near the Black Creek Community was a (free-hold) [sic] or land grant. As was the custom in England, this land grant went to the oldest son. Levi had two sons. John was a minister, but William (I) must have been the oldest son and lived in the Black Creek Community. (Born 1777) He and wife, Mary Peeples are buried at Old Black Creek Baptist Church Cemetery. (Levi is said to be kinsman of Governor Yeamons, (Sir John) of S. C.) [sic]
[sic - Yeamons]

[Note: I have seen references to a Rev. Youmans in marriage notices from Beaufort District in the early Savannah newspapers.]

[Note: Some corroboration for the claim of kinship with Sir John Yeamans may be found in a reference thereto (but not detailed) in the biographical account of the life of LeRoy F. Youmans in J. C. Hemphill, Men of Mark in South Carolina (Washington, 1909), Vol. IV, pp. 424-427, where it also appears that William Youmans (Sr.) was a Lieutenant in the War of 1812.]

[Birth] 1777 --- William Youmans Sr. April 16, 1850
Son of Levi (or Levy) Youmans (Born in England) and wife _____

[Birth] 1779 --- Married, - Mary (Peeples) Youmans Feb. 5, 1837
1881 Daughter of John Peeples (Lieutenant in Amer. Rev. War.) 1839
and wife, - Catherine (McBride) Peeples
Work, - Probably farming.
Home, - In Black Creek Community, near Hampton, S. C. (Hampton Co.)
Children, - (6 sons, 2 daughters)

[And they are listed. James Peeples Youmans, born in 1819, was the youngest, and according to the chart lived at Gifford, S.C., where in 1884 he died.]

The foregoing is all I know on Youmans. I believe the land grants (technically patents) can be checked out.

Sincerely yours,