

MILAM

Route 2 Box 164-B3
Bay Minette, Alabama 36507
March 31, 1985

Dear Robert,

Had you given up on hearing from me? During the past months I seem to have fallen apart along with becoming the world's worst correspondent. Somehow Leslie's retirement in September appears to have left me with so little time. It has been wonderful having him home but this has required some adjustments too.

Last fall we spent several days in Maggie Valley, N. C., from there to Roanoke, Va., where I was able to see a very dear friend for the first time in over twenty years (we do keep in touch with letters occasionally and the telephone), and from there we went to Williamsburg. It was a most interesting place though I almost froze. After leaving there we spent several days with Leslie's daughter in Georgetown, and then on to Washington for a visit with my family during the Thanksgiving holidays. All in all, our travels were fun but living out of suitcases isn't my forte.

The months prior to my sixty-second birthday in February and since have me wondering if I'm not suffering the infirmities of old age a little too prematurely to suit me! In August a cyst formed behind the retina of my right eye leaving a hole in the retina and loss of central vision in it. Already having macular dystrophy of both eyes (not degeneration), I am keeping my fingers crossed that nothing more will happen. Along with this, a molar threatened to abscess and eventually I had to have a root canal and crown. Was sick after the trip, and then Leslie and I came down with the flu in February!! The one good thing about my birthday is that I will begin receiving S.S. checks this week. Will be nice even though we have to pay income tax on S.S.

Speaking of income tax, Leslie took lump sum retirement so it is hitting us rather hard for 1984. Also, all our high paying C.D.'s matured in December and February. The C.P.A. has left our quarterly payments blank as there is no need to pay on the basis we did last year. This week I'm having to find out how much we earned this quarter and start "robbing Peter to pay Paul!" So much for griping!!

Mary Wright and Cissie (Clifford) have a ride as far as here with a lady from Lincolnton who has a daughter in Mobile. They will arrive Thursday and we are so thrilled they can come. We are still in shock that Cissie is coming as she isn't much for traveling. (M.W.'s middle name is "GO".)

My daughter and a friend in B'ham spent this weekend in Washington. Tracy wanted to see something of the old South so Mary suggested they go over for the tour of homes. In talking with M.W. yesterday she said Tracy was quite impressed. However, she was able to see much more than others there for the tour due to all Mary's relatives and their friends having them in for cocktails, etc. I dearly love Washington and wish we were living there. The house next to my sisters is for sale and it would be grand having it. Was built by Robert Toombs for his granddaughter who married Grandmother's first cousin.

P.S. The typing is terrible. Sorry! By the way, Eliza Williams had me do her 7.50 papers, but I sent them to her to complete on Cabot Edna and how. Referred to my mbe slip as Cabot's. see duplications that a gen and hope that wear all right. Hope she will send in logs. - Mrs. W. in W. Thank you and it seems she hates filling out papers. Will do as she's really quite smart!

I talked with James Milam who lives here and he says he has come across a Coleman Milam in trying to trace his father's ancestry. He also said that someone in Atlanta (didn't remember just who) published a book on the Herberts, Milams, etc. He also said that sometimes he found the name spelled Mulam. Other information he gave me is that he once lived in Grove Hill, Alabama and there is a very active historical society there. A Miss Pugh belongs (couldn't remember her first name) ~~and belongs~~ and knows a lot of the history of the people there. The Newspaper is The Clarke County Democrat. Do you suppose they could put you in touch with someone who would be of help? James says there are a lot of DeWitts and Ropers there. Though Clarke and Wilcox Counties are in this section of Alabama, they really aren't near us or on the route to B'ham or Georgia. Delorean Johnson told me at a recent duplicate game that her husband might be able to help you. He is president of the Mobile Historical Society, P. O. Box 6224, Mobile, Alabama 36660. His address is: Ret. Col. Glen R. Johnson, 6070 Highland Circle South, Mobile, Alabama. (I think that zip code is 36609.) Another possibility is Genealogy Division, Mobile Public Library, 704 Government Street, Mobile, Alabama 36602. I apologise for being so late in finding out this information and for not writing you sooner for I know how frustrating all this can be. I surely do hope that you can find what Cora needs.

The information you sent is quite interesting and very much appreciated. You are wonderful in having so much information and sharing with others. When the Jasudon line appears in the Transactions I would love having a copy and will be happy to reimburse you for it and postage. How do you manage to do all this? You make me thoroughly ashamed of myself.

I have typed copies of letters to and from Grandmother during her school days (1868-1870) in Mobile and recently copied four more from those days which only concerned Washington when Grandpa Robert bought a house in 1869. These old letters are not easy on the eyes! Someday I hope to copy all the letters from that time to the end of her life in 1924. I also have her husband's to her.

M.W. gave the Grandpa Robert's diploma from Brown University (1847) and Grandmother's from Miss Quigley's (1870) and I have had them framed and hanging in our den. Nice conversation pieces!! I also have her sister's (Aunt Bessie) from Aggusta Female Seminary (later Mary Baldwin) in Staunton, Va. She won all the gold medals there, and was very brilliant. She had no children, and it is really of no use to any of us though I hang on to it. It is lovely, signed by Mary Baldwin, and I've often wondered if the school would like to have it.

I hope we can come to the reunion in June, but just don't know at this time. If at all possible, we will.

Please forgive this delay, and also accept my deepest appreciation for the information.

Leslie joins me in sending our best to you and Cora, and in hoping we'll be able to make the trip to Robertville in June.

Love,

