



SOCASTEE HIGH SCHOOL

HIGHWAY 707, BOX 90
MYRTLE BEACH, SOUTH CAROLINA 29577

THOMAS D. WARD
PRINCIPAL

W. RICHARD GARRETT, ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL
LARRY C. CECILE, ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL
JAMES E. NOLAN, ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

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Dear Robert and Miss Cora,

First of all, I hope that you have by now received my money order for \$31.50 for the Peebles Genealogy and several booklets which you were kind enough to "credik" me with, as the Darkies say. I can't wait to examine all of these materials in detail, but will have to wait until the Christmas holidays to do so. You can well imagine how busy I have been, and will continue to be--for the next six weeks or so, at any rate.

Second of all (with reference to a comment in your 10 October letter), let me assure you that I thoroughly enjoyed our Blackswamp "funera-genea-businealogical" get-together at the trunk of your car, and could not care less about what "some might say," concerning the "appropriateness" of "delivering family history at a funeral." Posh! I won't name them, but I overheard three men discussing hogs at the cemetery, so after that, anything else would have seemed to be Emily Post-perfect, as far as I am concerned. Seriously, I urge you to rearrange your "worry list," and as far as this item goes, simply "include it out"! If I had had anything new and interesting to share with you and Miss Cora, I would have given it to you in a heartbeat, so thank you for feeling likewise about "these things."

Third, I am enclosing a copy of an article from **The Sun News**--a write-up I thought you and Miss Cora might find as interesting as I found it to be. Though I had never even heard of this young fellow and kinsman, I called him immediately after reading the article, told him who I was, congratulated him--all that "stuff"--and was most impressed with his "telephone personality." You can imagine how surprised I was to learn that he already knew of me--through, of all people, you! It seems the two of you met somewhere recently at Hilton Head, and you told Clay about me, where I teach, etc. Anyway, I told him that I will soon be leaving Myrtle Beach, and wanted to be sure to meet him in person before "heading out." If all goes according to plan, we'll be going out this weekend for an oyster roast down at Murrells Inlet. (And yes--I did get him tentatively "hooked" on genealogy. Clay doesn't know much about his ancestry, but I intend to "work on that" this weekend.) I will let you know how everything turns out. In the meantime, what do you think about having Clay "perform" (either with his "snipping" or his singing) at the

next Family Reunion? I don't know what's planned by way of speeches, presentations, etc., but surely there will be a "slot" somewhere for a "struggling young artist" to slip in and "show his stuff" to all his cousins. Needless to say, I intend to be one of his very best patrons and customers. Let me know what you think of this idea. The boy is multi-talented, and seems to have **SUCCESS** scrawled all over his future.

Before these two items slip my mind--**again**, I might add, for they have been doing just that for several months now--let me ask you two quick questions: (1) Is there a picture of Capt. William Lawton's obelisk--the monument down at Charleston? If so, how might I be able to get a copy of it? (2) Do you still have copies of **Our Family Circle**--the updated version, that is, with your handwritten marginal notations? If so, please reserve one for me. Let me know what the cost is, and I will mail you a money order the next time I write.

On to other matters, I cannot believe you don't know where Lawtonwood is. Of course, though, I always just assume that folks like you and King know everything, since the two of you are always "there" to fill me in on all the infinities of family history that I don't know. Owell and anyway, for future reference (and visits, too, I hope), let me tell you where the "homestead" is, and how to get to it. You really won't need a map, for it is "just down the road a piece" from Shirley. Come see me "comme ci":

1. Head toward Garnett from Shirley.
2. Cross the bridge at Boggy Creek. Just before the bridge, everything on the right is Lawtonwood. Everything on the left is King's.
3. The third dirt road on the right after Boggy (a mile or so down the road) is the avenue to my house. Drive around to the right rear side of the house (watch out for my chickens), and there I'll be.

I'm going to be late for school if I don't wind this up right now, so please excuse the haste.

I'll be in touch again later. Until then, be well, both of you.

Doubly cousinly yours,

Paul