

Route 3, Box 198
Smoaks, S. C. 29481
March 8, 1981

Dear Rev. Peeples,

In reply to your letter of Feb. 16, I will give you what info I can concerning the Platts and Copeland families. I hope it will help you in compiling your records.

I am enclosing copies of 5 sheets with 2 pages to each sheet concerning these families. These were made from a notebook that belonged to my Aunt Florrie Murdaugh. Note on Sheet #1 page 2 that 8th child of John and Susannah Hole Platts is listed as Abeline Mohala Platts. Sheet #2 Page 1 lists as M. E. (Mahala Elizabeth) Platts but birth dates are the same. This is in Aunt Florrie's handwriting but I do not know when it was copied. There is a notation in this same book about another family that the info was given her in Feb. 5, 1940. The info given on Sheet #1 page 1 which is inside front cover of notebook was recorded much later than the rest as this is in her handwriting of her later years in life.

See sheet #1 page 2 John Platts, fourth child of John (Born 1743) and wife Sophia: and brother to the 7 girls and 1 boy that you mention: I feel this is the John Platts that I give the following info: From Brant Cemetary located in the Jenny/Rivers Bridge State Park area of Allendale County John Platts born May 27, 1790, died Feb. 2, 1861 inscription on tomb; "His Pilgrimage was 71 years, 2 months & 23 days. He was the father of 10 children & grandfather of 24, a member of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, worshipped at St. Nicholas Church, Barnwell District, S. C."

m (1) Susannah Platts departed this life April 25, 1844, age 52 years, 7 mo. 29 days "She lived a married life of 33 years & 18 days, was the mother of 3 sons & 6 daughters & grandmother of 16 children."

m (2) Christina Elizabeth Platts, born Aug. 3, 1808, died Mar. 21, 1887. "Mother of 2 children & grandmother of 15. A member of the Evangelical Lutheran Church and worshipped at St. Nicholas Church, Barnwell county, S. C."

This John is buried between ## Susannah and Christina and was undoubtedly husband to both women. Also note sheet #1 page 1 Aunt Florrie notes that Bill Platts a half brother and Susanna Platts a half sister to her Great-grandmother Eve Platts Copeland.

Also in this cemetery, George Harter, born Aug. 9, 1786, died April ## 27, 1818. Margaret, wife of George Harter born April 19, 1786, died Sept. 22, 1860. H. J. Harter (possibly son of the above Harter couple) born Jan. 28, 1814, died Feb. 6, 1900. Elizabeth, wife of H. J. Harter, born Dec. 25, 1809 died Jan. 30, 1886, married Nov. 1, 1834. Several other graves here but dates on tombs indicate they are much younger than the above.

* According to my info, Jacob Folk (Fulk or Foulque) along with several brothers came to America in 1740-41 from Holland or Germany & settled in Dutch Fork of Newberry County, SC. Jacob (1st generation) later went to Pomaria where he died in 1774. He married ^{Catherine} Miss Epting & was father of several children.

John Jacob Folk (2nd generation) was born Dec. 24, 1772 & died Nov. 10, 1845 married Mary Elizabeth Howard in 1797 and father of 12 children. Jacob Folk, Jr. (3rd generation & 3rd child of Jacob & Mary Elizabeth Howard Folk was born Mar. 7, 1802 and died Mar. 16, 1881. Married Olive Brabham Kearse. This Jacob Folk, Jr. was father of 11 children of which John Francis Folk (4th generation) was first child, born Oct. 19, 1822 and died Mar. 11, 1861 married Mahala Elizabeth Platts on July 24, 1844. (See sheet #2 page 1 several children) The above 2nd generation Jacob Folk was father ## also of George Michael Folk (3rd generation) born Sept. 4, 1808 & died July 5, 1852

George Michael Folk married Mary Elizabeth Platts, Sister to Mahala Elizabeth Platts (see Sheet #1 page 2) married Dec. 16, 1830 and were parents of 2 children. This Mary Elizabeth Platts Folk died Mar. 3, 1836 and George Michael Folk they married Margaret Rentz. I am a great-great grandson of this couple.

Mary Platts (1824) married George W. Bishop & was mother of 10 children. She died & he married again & was father of 4 children by second wife. After second wife's death, George married again & father of three children by last wife. I do not know who this Mary Platts was # but have a list of her children.

John Jacob Platts, born Jan 23, 1823 (see Sheet #1 page 2) probably John J. Platts that you mention. I don't know anything about this family except that I was referred to a family cemetery across Saitketcher in Hampton Co. several years ago near an old Miley settlement. One tomb, D. H. Platts Nov. 1845 - Jan 27, 1890. As well as I remember, this was the only grave in this cemetery.

Also, for your info, I found in Aunt Florrie's notes, "Katie Platts, mother of Old Dr. Weekly & Annie Weekly" This Annie Weekly born Dec. 15, 1816 and married Hezekiah Bishop, brother of George W. Bishop that married Mary Platts.

COPELAND

* A Book in Bamberg Co. Library "Many Years After, a Bit of History & Some Recollection of Bamberg" by D. Graham Copeland, copy 5 of 6 copies Feb. 23, 1940. This book traces the Copeland name back to before they came to America as well as I remember. I do not know anything of Isaac Copeland that married Christina that you mention. There was an Isaac D. Copeland born Mar. 1, 1805 which married Eve Platts, daughter of John & Susannah Platts (See sheet #1 page 2)

According to the book, Nicholas Copeland 1700-1775 moved from Essex Co. Va. to Chatham Co. NC prior to 1760, married Dorothy six children

- * 1. Jacob born about 1757, Pvt. in Wm. Blake's Co. 2nd SC Line 1/1/1778
- 2. Nicholas Copeland 1753-1820 moved from Chatham Co. NC to Chesterfield SC married a Nancy
- 3. Ruth Copeland married a Dark
- 4. John R. Copeland, died July 26, 1785, served in Revolution.
- 5. Aaron Copeland, born 1762 in Chatham Co. NC served in various Militia Companies in 1777-81 moved to N. Orangeburg Dist. 1787 died May 9, 1832 married Polly Melton in 1784.
- 6. Ripley Copeland, 1760-June 6, 1843, born in Chatham Co. NC Served in Revolution with NC troops 1777-80 moved to Sumter Co. SC married Rachael in 1781 in NC. She died after 1845.

It seems to me that there could be a discrepancy in this as the above Nicholas was born in 1700 and dates of childrens' births are 1750s-60s though possible. My record of Copeland start with the Jacob (# II on your list) born about 1757 and served in Revolution. Next is John Jacob Copeland (# III on your list) born in 1776 married Mary Rizer in 1797. But I have not established this John Jacob (1776) as being the son of Jacob (1757) though this is very possible. My records then give:

John Jacob Copeland & Mary Rizer Copeland as being parents of 7 children:

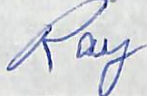
- * 1. John Jacob Copeland, born Dec. 10, 1797, married Margaret (Peggy) Bishop daughter of George & Molly Bishop. 9 children.
- 2. Elizabeth Copeland, born April 6, 1800 married Jacob Bishop Jan. 7, 1817 son of George & Molly Bishop. 11 children of which George W. & Hezekiah Bishop (mentioned above) are two.

3. Isaac D. Copeland born Mar. 1, 1805 married Eve Platts Nov. 27, 1832 She was born Jan. 1, 1816 (see sheet #1 page 2) They had 14 children
 - * 4. Sarah Copeland, born Mar. 10, 1813 died Oct. 6, 1844 married Levi Folk Nov. ## 6, 1834. He was born Mar. 4, 1815 and died Feb. 27, 1848. 3 children (I have their first child as Jacob Lazarus Folk, you list him Jacob Levi Folk, though birth dates are the same. Also I don't have any record of his having a family, would like to get it.)
 5. Eve Copeland (no record of her ever getting married but had 3 children)
 6. George Copeland married Rebecca McMillan 3 children
 7. Polly Copeland married Tom Pulaski 10 children
- I have a pretty good record of the families of these 7 children if you need it I can supply it.

You mention the SC Historical Society in Charleston of which you are a member. I have two family items that have been passed to me that I would like some information concerning them. One is a family Bible that belonged to my great-great grandfather Thomas, who was born Dec. 25, 1776. This Bible has copywrite date of 1790 and is in fairly good condition for its age. I would like to have some type preservation treatment done to it. The other item is a pewter plate, which according to family tradition is a historical item. During the Revolution, Rev. John George Bamberg, officer on staff of Fredrick the Great of Prussia came to America to inspect German troops. ## Upon arriving and finding the situation as it was, he deserted from that side and joined the American cause. Through friends in an adjoining country near his homeland, his children were smuggled out of their homeland and sent to America. His oldest child, said to be 11 years old, was Anna Katherine Bamberg, and was in charge of her younger brothers and sisters on the ship coming to America and this plate was one of the utensils said to have been used by that family on the voyage. I would like to try to find out exactly when and where the ship landed and names of the Bamberg children. Also I would like to know if there is some treatment or test that could be performed to determine age of this plate. Of course I would not be willing to give up these items to the Historical Society or dispose of them anywhere.

I hope the info on the Platts & Copelands will be of some value to you and if I can be of furthur help, please let me know.

Sincerely yours,



Ray Thomas

P.S. Note Sheet # 4 page 1 listing births of Hannah Platts & probably three brothers. I have been unable to identify them except that she (Hannah) was Abraham Hiers' second wife.

RT

Rt 3 Box 198
Smoaks, S. C. 29481
July 21, 1981

Dear Rev. Peeples,

I am ashamed of myself for waiting this long to answer your letter of March 14. My Mother has been quite sick this spring and as I am a farmer, spring is a little busier than other times during the year. Mother is doing much better now, but at age 85, her condition is still not what she would like it to be.

I appreciate the information on the Copeland family that you sent. Also your suggestion about who to contact concerning the old Bible and pewter plate that I have. I have not checked into this yet but hope to in the near future.

It has been so long that you might have forgotten what you asked me. I don't have any more information on the Mole family other than what was in Aunt Florrie's record that I sent you. Neither can I help you with the Byrd, Fairey or Syphret families. Only one addition to the Durr and possibly you already have it. Another sister to Margaret R.L. and Elizabeth Durr, Lena Durr married George F. McMillan. They lived next to Mother's family near Ehrhardt before Mother married. None of Aunt Florrie's records contain any help on the above family names. She never did research any census or legal records, etc. for her records, just what someone told her or what she gleaned from cemeteries. She had the most remarkable memory of anyone I ever knew. And I didn't know until after her death that she did have as much information written down as she had. Her children didn't seem too interested in her records so Mother asked for them. I am glad that we were able to get them, not that I plan to continue her work but maybe some of what she had might be the missing link in helping someone that is trying to continue.

Again, I apologize for not writing sooner and if there is anything you think I might be able to help you with, please let me know. I will promise to be more prompt next time.

Sincerely



Ray Thomas