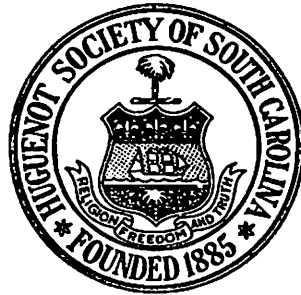


THOMAS OREGON LAWTON, JR.  
President



MRS. JAMES ALVA BURKETTE  
Secretary, Treasurer and Genealogist

MRS. EDMUND ALLEN BURNS  
Secretary and Treasurer  
Emeritus

CHARLESTON, S. C. 29401  
25 Chalmers Street

September 18, 1989

The Reverend Robert E.H. Peeples  
8 Moon Shell Road  
Hilton Head, South Carolina 29928

Dear Bob:

I have received your two letters about the parentage of Jean and Elias Robert and while you make several interesting points, I regret that I cannot agree with your conclusions.

There is certainly a possibility that Jean and Elias Robert (not the ones who were children of Pierre Robert, Jr., sometimes called Pierre, II) were related to Pasteur Pierre Robert, but several factors indicate they were not his sons. Possibly they were nephews or cousins of the minister.

When Pierre Robert, Jr., married Anne Marie Louise LeGrand in 1701, Pierre, the minister, in an Agreement with his son, Pierre, Jr., gave him one-half (1/2) of all his real and personal property, present and future. Thus at his death, Pasteur Pierre Robert should have had only one-half (1/2) of his real and personal property.

The Will of Pierre Robert, Jr., or Pierre, II, leaves Pierre Robert, III a nominal bequest in shillings because he has inherited "all of my father's property." Thus Pierre, Jr., received the one-half (1/2) of the minister's property and the minister's grandson, Pierre, III, had received the other one-half (1/2).

It is unfortunate that we do not have the minister's Will. You will recall, I engaged Brent Holcombe to search for it and in an old index, he found the Will had been probated in Charleston in November, 1715 but Brent could not find the Will. I understand that the similar situation exists as to the Will of the Reverend Claude Richbourg.

The Reverend Robert E.H. Peeples  
September 18, 1989  
Page 2

If you read Three Rapides Famalies, on page three (3) it is stated that the minister, his wife and their only son, Pierre Robert, II, came to Santee. When Pierre died in 1715 and his wife in 1717, they left three (3) sons, Pierre, II, Elias and John. However, on the photocopy of the Robert family material from Louisiana, after stating something similar, it says that John Robert witnessed his brother's Will in 1731.

Martha Burns was a wonderful person whose many good works for the Huguenot Society can never be enumerated but the article by N.E. Roberts in Transactions No. 77 and 78 should have been closely edited because most of the author's positive statements should have been qualified with something to the effect, "Tradition is, etc." and considerable rearrangement of the data which he presented should have been done to make the article less confusing.

Ed Roberts says that Jean Robert changed his name to John Roberts after witnessing the Will of his brother, page 77, Transactions No. 78 and moved to Colleton County. He also says that John Robert was the John Robert who made his Will in 1761 (Moore Wills, 1751-1760, page 256). However, this John Roberts was obviously the son of the John Roberts of St. Bartholomew's Parish, whose Will was probated in February, 1730-31 who had sons John and Thomas (Moore Wills 1670-1740, page 150). Then Our Family Circle on page 195, 198 says that the descendants of Jean Robert changed their name to Robarts. These pages were mostly material from Lilla Livingston Brumly of Ocala, Florida.

I am certainly delighted that many of us can prove descent from the Rev. Pierre Robert with existing documentary evidence. If Eddie Roberts had given each statement documentation, his article would have been more helpful and perhaps if he had plainly stated that Jean and Elias Robert needed further research, then someday someone should be able to prove that they are sons of the minister.

Please give Cora my best regards and with all good wishes to you, I am,

Sincerely,



Thomas O. Lawton, Jr.

TOLjr/jka