

***Marion and Sarah Lamb
6700 Sheepfold Lane
Tallahassee, Florida 32309-6336***

August 1, 2004

Reverend Dr. and Mrs. Robert E. H. Peebles
8 Moon Shell Road
Hilton Head Island, South Carolina 29928

Dearest Ones,

How gracious you are, to spend your Friday at the Heritage Library with us, and then to send us home with informed advice, beautiful figs, inspirational stories, and cousin-grown tomatoes! We learned so much and grew, as we always do, just being with you. Please offer our apologies to all there for monopolizing your valuable time and for speaking in normal, one might even say raised and excited, tones in a library. It is always that way when we see you, so much to share and too little time, but as we drove away from The Courtyard Building, we realized our manners were lost in our overwhelming pleasure. We do want folks there to be pleased to see us return and we will behave next time.

Our trip to Macon in the glow of our visit with you went extremely well. My family insists we lifted their spirits as you two had lifted ours. Your spiritual impact goes out much further than you know. We wish we were there to celebrate first Sunday communion with you this morning. We will plan to be there a full weekend next summer so that we can experience that profound blessing.

Thank you for sending, at your convenience, copies of James Jehu ROBERT's correspondence from Ohio. When I was designated "official stenographer" for the Lawton Reunion, a serious responsibility for a newcomer in-law, I wanted to make you proud. I fear I was distracted by the job and missed important connections in the presentation about James Jehu and this intriguing time of his life. By the way, thank you for the delightful story of Esther MOSSE McKENZIE HUGHES and (almost) John ROBERT. Mercy! Interesting letters indeed. We very much look forward to reading them.

For purposes of form-filling, I regret that Jehu Stoney ROBERT became Stoney Jehu ROBERT, switching first and middle names; however there can be no doubt "Dr. Stoney" is James Jehu's son. The Albany connections are endless, with your Benjamin T. D. LAWTON, his daughter and T. D. MATHEWS (one "t"), and many other Lawtons and Roberts, including our Dr. Stoney and his brothers, locating there together. In the 1860 census, James Jehu and Phoebe McKENZIE ROBERT's two youngest sons reside together in Albany, Benjamin as head of household, Dr. Stoney, his wife Catherine "Kate" PATOT and 4 year old son as residents. Benjamin was County Surveyor, Stoney was a physician. The census records Stoney's 4 year old son was born in Marietta in 1856, shortly after mother Phoebe M. ROBERT died there. Dr. Stoney moved to Albany between 1856 and 1860. Benjamin Franklin ROBERT soon married sister-in-law Mary Isabelle PATOT, so ROBERT brothers married PATOT sisters.

It should have been no surprise to read on her 1943 death certificate that Marion's great-grandmother "Granny Mullryne" (Dr. Stoney's daughter Floride Marion ROBERT who married Thomas A. MULLRYNE) was born in Albany. Marion knew her well but the Albany connection had faded. Her children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren and great-great-grandchildren have lived and continue to live next door to each other in the same two houses built in 1945 on Dellwood Drive in Tallahassee by Marion

James Jehu Robert (1781-1852) OFC p. 259

Dr. Jehu Stoney Robert (1833-) p. 265

m. 1856

Mary Isabelle Pottol

daughters:

Floride Marion Robert p. 268

m.

Thomas M. Mulryne

daughter:

Floride Marion Mulryne

m.

W. Carl Lamb

son:

Marion DuPont Lamb

son

Marion DuPont Lamb Jr

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Dr. and Mrs. Peebles
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Dupont LAMB, Sr. and Thomas A. MULLRYNE, Jr. Is this a boring family, or just a very easy one to document? I must be the only one who missed the obvious Albany link, because Granny Floride's grandchildren often drive from Tallahassee to Albany to visit Tift cousins and other kin. There were many clues in Our Family Circle I simply missed. I asked the wrong questions of living relatives. All these years I have belonged to the Southwest Georgia Genealogical Society, visiting the library and courthouse and studying SW Georgia maps for my own family. I should have noticed a whole flock of Huguenot kin settling Albany with Nelson Tift! In one paragraph my ancestors even appear in the same sentence with Marion's, residing as neighbors in the same area of the county! Please let me know, by the way, if you would have any use for copies of pages from these several Dougherty County history books or Albany newspaper abstracts for others with misplaced ROBERT or LAWTON ancestors. Of course your excellent library probably has all these materials.

I recall reading that "many of these Albany settlers escaped from Atlanta" as the War for Southern Independence threatened, and while that conceivably includes our Dr. Stoney and brother Benjamin F. ROBERT, your Benjamin T. D. LAWTON was in Albany 15 years earlier. You mentioned Friday that Cousin Annie lost track of these youngest sons of James Jehu and Phoebe McKENZIE ROBERT, which makes me grieve for what these last two sons must have suffered as things changed, but in the end this magnificent family was their refuge. These boys moved right into the middle of the comfort and security of dozens of cousins and kin on the Flint River right down the road from here.

What an outstanding family you and Marion share. It is a pleasure to study each and every member. And yes, we promise to mail our completed form to First Families of South Carolina tomorrow, thanks to your encouragement. Slow, aren't I? But my, oh my, what fun we are having discovering His gracious plan for this family. No busy-ness here will be allowed to delay us further, for it would be such a pleasure to see you in Charleston next year at the Yacht Club.

We will let you know if the Dupont researchers contact us and we can find a connection. You both made this a wonderful trip for us, from noon Friday right through today. Imagine driving up to a dark, empty house as hungry as bears last night. Voila! The best tomato sandwiches on earth and a fig dessert to die for! We gave grace both for the food and for the dear, precious cousins He used to provide it. Thank you for the delicious bounty and for your hard work harvesting, both literally and figuratively!

You cannot possibly know how much we love you both. We already miss you.

Love and kindest regards,



P.S. Marion says "ditto"!