

Wm R. Shelton
1131 Westwood Ave
Columbus, Ohio 43212

7/14/1981

Dear Mr. Fenwick:

Thank you for your nice letter of Sept 9, 1981.
I apologize to you for appearing to be overly impatient,
guess that must be characteristic of 70 year old people. I am
sorry, and I was not trying to rush you.

This has been an extremely busy summer for me, and I may
have planned and programmed too many projects for completion.
I had hoped to get down your way, to visit both your
facility and Brattonville. I am most interested and anxious
to see both operations and the set-up, and the data you both
have.

For the meantime I have experienced an extremely busy
summer, with far more travel than initially planned for
and with data available to me, far in excess of anything
I had expected. It has taken much time to record this
data so that it will be usable. That actually is very
good, I'd much rather have it that way, than none at all.

Somehow, sometime along the way we must be able
to get together to see how we are to handle the Bratton
data, so that I don't duplicate the material you already
have.

We are not talking about a couple of file folders
but many, many pieces of paper of varying sizes.

I sent you the Bratton family sheets, so that someone
could help fill in the blank spaces, especially the sheets
covering the daughters families.

Late Mr. Hall did send me some data on the Theodore
DuBois Bratton line. I wrote to her and asked if she
could help me on the others, but have not as yet heard
from her.

Of course, I get nothing from Brattonville in the way
of help. They claim they are not a genealogical library, etc.
But sooner or later will send me some data.

For the meantime I continue to amass Bratton data
pertaining to Robert, James and Samuel Bratton lines.

I never realized that there were so many of them. Of course when you think in terms of 8-9 generations of people, and many with large families, they add up faster than you'd think.

No. I did not realize that you were a part time volunteer. I appreciate now that maybe I am imposing upon you.

I have not received the Shelton history & family listing. If there are costs involved please let me know so that I can reimburse you. Do not try to copy it typing or by hand, have the copies reproduced, and I will reimburse you.

If I can help with any Shelton research, let me know or refer them to me, and I'll gladly try to help. I have my Shelton back to 742. I am in touch with Sheltons throughout the nation.

Thank you kindly.

Sincerely,

Bill Shelton

From John R. Shelton Jr.
151 Westwood Ave.
Columbus OH. 43212 7/10/1981

Dear Mr. Furman:

Thank you kindly for your nice letter, it is such a pleasure to be able to share my data with those who appreciate it.

I know that you must understand that I do not know what data you now possess in your archives, hopefully I am not duplicating any of it, causing either of us unnecessary work.

It must have been a real disappointment to you having all the county records from the court house being sent to the State Archives in Columbia. Usually it takes them a long time to sort, record, catalog what they receive. In many cases the records are out of circulation for a long period of time. Then by losing the records it sorta reduces your ability to help and advise people. On the other hand small county museums are so often closed out by lack of help to help, most funds, lack of interest, etc.

I am not familiar with the Sheltons you refer to, but most likely we are related if we could trace them back far enough. Way back one of my old ancestors Richard Shelton, son of John Shelton, was granted about 12,000 acres in 1734 in South Carolina, which became known as "Shelton Plantation". There was a famous old Shelton Church, which was destroyed and rebuilt several times. I believe that around Easter of each year they conduct special services on or near the site. Richard was married to Frances Kabe.

I descend from the Ralph Shelton line. Sir Ralph Shelton, born 11-1-1560; 26th Lord of Shelton; knighted at Theobald's 1607; killed at the Battle of Sole de Rhe 7-22-1628; M.P. 1611; Minister to Spain; Secretary to Prince Wales. 1st married to Jane West b. 1558, daughter of Lord Delaware; large stock holder in Virginia Company; owned ships. His son James Shelton was my first ancestor in this country, he arrived in the Jamestown Colony in 1610

with course in Lord Delaware. From that point on our
Shiltons have multiplied and prospered in this great land.

I do appreciate you mentioning the Shiltons in your
area, I would be pleased to receive the data you
speak of, and I may be able to add to your store
of Shilton data.

Now to the Bratton data I have enclosed for your
archives.

This Bratton data I have assembled and recorded
from various sources. It is my hope that you and
some of your people will be able to fill in many
of the blank spaces, and/or make corrections and
additions as may be required. Thus that you or
whoever else may be involved will provide me with
the corrected and/or additional data so that I can
update and correct my records. To me genealogy
is a two-way street, we help each other.

As a matter of information to you, I have requested
the State Archives in Columbia to provide me with all the
data they have on General John Bratton, except that
which appears in his testament, and his land records.
I have requested the Episcopal Church, and the State
Archives of the State of Mississippi to provide me with
data on Theodore Barber Bratton son of Gen. John.
Hopefully they'll have names of children, wills, etc.

So far as I can learn this may be the first
charts prepared on Brattons of S.C.

I am also retired, I am 70, my wife 72.

This is only a very small contribution of data,
I have boxes of it, with more coming in all the
time. The total when recorded and put into good
order, may require one complete file drawer, and this
is no exaggeration, as I currently use one file drawer &
several smaller containers.

Sincerely,

Bill Shilton