

7 April 1988

Dear Mrs. Boulware,

I was so pleased to hear from you this morning. I'm sorry you were unable to find anything on the Coopers in Camden, but so far I have been extremely lucky and I fully understand that hours of research may not produce anything. However, paying for the research at least gives me peace of mind. As one of your articles suggested, I have all the main symptoms of genealogy disease and will probably spend the rest of my life trying to uncover new material.

I am enclosing the declaration we discussed on the phone. What are our chances of finding out if the Mr. Welborington (sp?) had a daughter named Martha? Why do you think Bentley would leave Captain McGee's Company if it were not to visit someone besides the old Whig? 😊 If you do find something, I will always be a believer in dreams. My husband says "Why Not?" -- I have told him several things that came to pass.

On the subject of John Cooper -- as soon as I receive the book on the Cooper Family, I will send you pertinent information. The information I copied while in Charleston last month, shows a John Cooper from Lunenburg, VA married to Lucretia *****. John died in 1768. He and Lucretia had seven children: Francis, James, William, John (killed at Brandywine Sep 11, 1777), Reuben, Martha, and Charles Astley. Charles was born 1755; d. 1819. He was the youngest son and in his father's will he is named to receive, after his mother's death, the Cooper home place ("The land and plantation whereon I live"). He was a minor at the time of his father's death (1768), as is noted in a Bond on his brother Francis. Charles settled in Ninety-Six after the war. He married Fanny Beal Griffin, widow of James Griffin. Charles was a private in Rev War, served in Captain Edward Garland's Co., 14th VA Regiment, also designated the 10th VA Regiment, commanded at different times by Col Charles Lewis and Col William Davies. Enlisted for 3 years on various dates, Dec 6, 25, 26, 1776. Transferred in Dec 1777 to John Winston's Co., 14th VA Regiment, and his name last appears on Company Muster Roll for Nov 1779 with remark "Light Infantry" -- separation date not shown.

Charles and Fanny Beal Cooper were parents of six children: Reuben Cooper III, b. Dec 24, 1787; Charles Howard; John B. who married a Miss Eddins of the Mountain Creek Community in old Edgefield County; Lucretia Cooper; Frances; and Tobitha. Tobitha and Frances shown as having died.

As my John Cooper (married to Nancy Johnson) was born in 1812, do you think the above John could be his father? Thank goodness the book showed his wife's maiden name at least.

Please excuse this paper -- I didn't know I was down to the last sheet of typing paper.

I have a little information on Dr. Thomas Cooper. He was born Oct 22, 1759 in Westminster, son of Thomas Cooper who was entitled to Arms. He married Alice Greenwood on Aug 12, 1779, who before her death in PA in 1800 was to bear him five children. Dr. Thomas Cooper came to America in Aug 1793 with two of Joseph Priestley's sons and a portion of his own family. He went back to England in Feb 1794 for the rest of his family. His five children were: Charles, Eliza, John (later a judge who married Mary Spering and left many descendants), and two other sons of whom there is no record. Dr. Cooper spent twenty years in South Carolina. He married twice. His second wife and three children joined him in Columbia.

Could their son John possibly be the father of my John married to Nancy? I have my doubts but thought I would throw in this information anyway.

In your letter you said you weren't sure where Kingstree is located. It is in Williamsburg County, I believe. Not too far from Manning. That is where the Widow Cooper came to live with her three sons and two daughters in the 1730s. When I receive the Witherspoon Chronicles, I'll pass on any other pertinent information.

I feel good that the Cooper families we've uncovered are probably the same three your friend from the Archives told you about.

Now---to the Humphries. I looked through some old papers today and found some information on the Humphries that a researcher sent to me over two years ago. The Martha (five years old) is Mattie Outlaw Cooper's mother. Martha was married to John Ellis Outlaw. Martha's parents were Nathan and Sarah Humphries and Nathan's parents were Ben and Penelope Humphries. Ben was born in 1787 and Penelope in 1785. This is probably the same Benjamin you told me about this morning. Is there anything in the research you did this past week different from this?

The researcher who sent this information told me to contact Brent Holcombe for additional research on the Humphries. I did and the only information I received from him was a bill for \$25 and a statement that the Humphries came to SC from PA via NC. No documentation! Just like him, isn't it?

Should you see a roster of Revolutionary Patriots, would you please look for Coopers and Humphries?

I'm almost finished. Just want to say a belated "thank you" for your articles. I enjoyed reading them. I don't know where you find time for all your activities and the concentration required to handle so many projects at one time. I have trouble just keeping up on the Coopers, Outlaws, and Humphries. We haven't even started on the Kellys and Branhams, yet.

Thank you, again.

A Virginia Daughter,

Jodi Wilkins

HUMPHRIES

This photocopy is from the Kershaw District 1850 Federal Census. Martha's age is given as five. LDS records say Martha was born in 1846 which would make her four. (Ages are not always accurate. It often depends on who gives the information and whether that person really knows or is guessing, "Oh, about five".)

From the way they are listed, it would appear that Martha's parents are Nathan Humphries and Sarah. They are living in the household of Ben Humphries and his wife Penelope whose ages indicate that they might be Nathan's parents.

My Cousin said that the Humphries book I told you about is in the Library of Congress. He is to look it up.

This is only one of the problems involved when trying to do genealogy long distance.

489		Ch ^s Fletcher 11 1/2 W			
490	490	Ben Humphreys 63 W		Fanner & Gill	
		Penelope Humphreys 65 F			
		W Humphreys 34 W		Dej ✓	
		Ben Humphreys 24 W		do ✓	
		Penelope Humphreys 19 F			
		Ben J Moore 11 W			
		Mathew Humphreys 28 W	Page 1822		
		Snah Humphreys 28 F	Page 1827		
		Martha Humphreys 5 F	Page 1845		
		Eltha Humphreys 3 F			
		Ben ⁿ Moore 12 F			
491	491	Ben Prescott 30 W		Revised	
		A Prescott 24 F			
		Ch ⁿ Prescott 7 F			
		Snah Prescott 5 F			
		Ch ⁿ Humphreys 12 W			
492	492	P B McCaa 24 W		Fanner & Gill	

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