

Letters:

NH 9-24-80

September 19, 1980

200 Fairview Avenue,
Alta Vista
Greenville, S.C. 29601

THE NEWS AND HERALD
Winnsboro, S.C. 29180

Dear Sirs;

Just a foot-note to your splendid story on the unveiling of a marker at the Cathcart-Ketchin house and Mr. George W. Ladd and his talented wife, Mrs. Catharine (Stratton) Ladd in the 17 September NEWS AND HERALD.

In "Artists in the Life of Charleston" by Miss Ann Wells Rutledge (Transactions of the American Philosophical Society-Philadelphia. 1949) page 158, Miss Rutledge

quotes the COURIER, December 15, 1828, as follows:

In 1828 Mrs. Ladd was teaching "the art of Colouring and Painting Flowers, Fruit, & c. in a new method, called Poonak Painting...also... Painting on Velvet and paper in the usual way, likewise Embroidery, Bead, Wax, Shell, Chrystal, Ebony Work & c." while her husband painted portraits and minatures, adding "OLD PAINTINGS cleaned and repaired equal to new."

The reference above from the COURIER, also lists Obear, Katherine Theus. 1940 THROUGH THE YEARS IN OLD WINNSBORO. Columbia, S.C. Bryan; and McMaster, Fitz Hugh. 1946. HISTORY OF FAIRFIELD

COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA from "Before the White Man Came" to 1942. Columbia, S.C. STATE.

This would indicate that the Ladds were in Charleston, S.C. in 1828, the year that they were married, according to your story also states that Mr. Ladd studied in Boston under Samuel F. B. Morse. Miss Rutledge also mentions numerous visits that "Samuel F.B. Morse, the New Englander made to Charleston; first in 1818, and each year through 1821.

The story of this old house and the talented Ladds is fascinating Fairfield history.

Sincerely,

Charles E. Thomas

[A further note in regard to the Ladds. It appears that Mr. and Mrs. Ladd traveled a great deal during the first years of their marriage, which was probably due to their work as artists in Anne King Gregorie's biographical sketch of Mrs. Ladd the American Dictionary of Biography states that the Ladds were married in September of 1828 and, accompanied by her mother went to Charleston, S.C., where they arrived in time to witness the jubilee for the election of Andrew Jackson. This would have placed them in Charleston at the time of the COURIER adver-

tisement of December 1828. Ms. Gregorie goes on to say that the Ladds soon after traveled on to Augusta, Ga., where they were burned out by the Great fire of 1829. In checking federal census records for 1830, no George Ladd's could be located in either the Georgia or South Carolina censuses, however, there were two George Ladds in the North Carolina census. George W. Ladd in Cumberland County and George W. L. Ladd in Nash county. Interestingly, Ms. Gregorie refers to Mr. Ladd as George W. L. Ladd-EDITOR].