



21 July 1983

Dear Sarah,

Your letter is really the answer to a prayer. I would love to have the Sidwell information returned "home". This is the problem: I am working from a cousin's research and although I have the family sheets I do not have the proof for most of it. I am in the process of trying to do that now. If you would like the material "as is" I'll be happy to send copies.

I also have copies of some papers written by W. O. Sidwell, "A History of the Sidwell Family" and "Presley Sidwell and the Anti-Carter Faction in the Northern Neck", and the articles of the Sidwell family that was published in the Virginia Genealogist many years ago. Let me know if you want copies. I have received quite a few family sheets from a "cousin" in Salt

Lake City that you can have. Most of them are Tennessee families, but as you may know all of the early Bidwells in S. Carolina, Ga and In are descendants of Richard of Virginia.

I have my family sheets but they are not complete. I have a lot of "guess work" on them but I can clean them up and note what has been proved and what is a wild guess. Perhaps some of the Bidwells left there would become interested enough to correct my mistakes!

Now to your question - I have a Nancy Hollis (dau of Moses) who married? Gladden and I have a Kate Gladden who married Richard Bidwell. Don't know whether they could be the same or not. I think Richard was born ca 1885. I have one case where the wife used one name on one census and another on the next but thank goodness both of them on the third!

My own line is from Presley (various spellings) who married Jean or Jane Tallis and had two sons - Garland who married Mary Land and Sterling who married Lydia Gladden (my grandparents). They had four children before Lydia died ca 1821 - a daughter who died young, Nancy, Newman (Grueman) and William ('Garland?'). William is my great grand father but so far I haven't found him. There are a dozen Williams b 1802-1804 and which is mine? He and his wife were divorced in 1846+ and I think he is in Montgomery Alabama in 1850 but its going to take some work. Don't think my grand father ever saw him. His mother remarried and he and his brothers were raised by their grand father. I do want to add that Newman died in Columbia, S.C. leaving a will that named his wife, Mary M, and his son, Blount Noflet, along with his brother and sister. He died before 4 Feb 1828. I am trying to get an estate settlement for Blount since he never married

and I hope my great grand father would be named in the settlement.

I didn't mean to write so much - send me your Tidwell Connection and I'll see what I can find in all the papers I've collected. The Tidwells are not an easy family to work. The sons of Richard in Va all moved South about the same time but some went to Ky or In and never made it to S. C. - or at least it appears that way. They all had large families and I'm amazed at how many had seven sons! They all had a talent for keeping their names off the census lists. They were Tories - or at least some were. Two died as loyalists. They moved twice a year - or it seems that way and apparently thought nothing of going from In to Ga or Al or whatever and after a year or two returning home again. There is one family that moved from In to Id and then back again in a few years.

Your letter came today, but I wanted to get an answer off since I'll be gone for a week, and then it will take time to catch up. I'll appreciate any help you can give me and I'm delighted to share what I have. Just let me know what you want -

Yours truly,  
Sylvia

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P.S. I was so "carried away" I was about to forget to thank you for the information you sent. I am going to the library in Fort Worth Saturday and I'll see what I can find there.  
S.