

March 31, 1988

Dear Dr. Peeples,

How lovely of you to write such a beautiful letter welcoming me to First Families, and I deeply appreciate it. I'm pleased and honored to be a member and have felt all along that this is a very special Society.

Thank you, too, for your preceding letter. It's of great interest. I've not delved deeply into the Chaplin heritage, but enough to know Martinangeles were in it. Also knew about "Tory Dick," though hadn't realized his loyalist sentiments were as widespread in the family. Am grateful for your discussion of it, and, no, it didn't upset me in the least. In their minds they were loyal to the prevailing government in England. I do confess to wondering from what sort of background the Martinangeles derived, and to doubts I'd like it! There are always so many other questions to be resolved, haven't gotten to it. During the years when time and opportunity for research were available, I expended an enormous amount of both on our Elizabeth Knyvett Bohun; more later.

The delay you're experiencing in waiting for delivery of First Families is certainly frustrating, especially having prepaid all costs and still having nothing in hand. Those odds don't appeal to me, either. But don't give it a thought as far as I'm concerned. There's plenty to keep me busy meanwhile, and when it comes, shall feel so confident knowing it's had your expertise.

If you're sure you do not mind parting with a copy of Perigrinations, I'd love a copy, and am grateful for your willingness to share such a treasure. (Check enclosed.)

The corrections on Thomas' death date have been noted, and thanks for getting me straight on this. When filling out the papers for FFSC, saw in Abstracts of the Wills of the State of S. C., Will Bk. 1692-1693, p. 33, this: "D: 15 July 1693. P: 17 Nov. 1694. R: 22 Nov. 1694...." I'd filled out the papers under some duress (which seems funny -- as long as it took me to do them!), but a lot was going on here. I failed to check the above by other sources. Should I write First Families and mention the mistake on the papers?

How nice to have the ancestry on our Thomas. I hadn't looked for it because a statement by Mr. Salley in the OFC edition I'd seen years ago stopped me cold. You're no doubt familiar with it, to the effect that "no positive proof..." [sorry; believe it was "nobody has ever produced a particle of evidence..."] of his ancestry back of his father. Guess additional evidence must have been discovered in the intervening years since Mr. Salley wrote it. Am delighted to have it. Have often wondered.

I'm truly sorry the pictures/negatives have been so long getting to you. Creighton has always been so dear in doing anything I've asked and has never ever forgotten the slightest request. But he didn't mention it for so long that I began to wonder if he'd understood. Finally mentioned it to Kathlyn who said ask him again; I did, and he hadn't understood! Held my breath until I picked up the prints a little while ago as C. had had trouble with his camera. But they were fine. Did have to ask the shop to re-do them. The people there were apologetic; said they were having trouble with their machine; nothing bad; seems they'd just run through a set of black/whites and needed to readjust. Thomas' were fine, but the color of the cameo isn't true and by that time it was too late in the day to get them reprocessed. The actual color is a beige with just the slightest suggestion of gold in the beige. Also, its size is more nearly 1 1/2 x 1 3/4; C. blew it up to show the detail better.

You mentioned Be had said Edmund Bellinger is one of my ancestors (know he is yours, too). Enclosing a copy of Miss Webber's research, the one she did for my cousin Irene Calais of Savannah. This shows my descent from Edmund Bellinger as well as from the ten others. I've wondered about later submitting some of these as supplementals to the Society. I know we may, but what do you think of it?

Speaking of Thomas brings to mind a similar situation with my William Claiborne of Virginia (came in 1621), Daddy's line. Magna Charta Sureties, 1215, states William's ancestry "cannot at present be traced back of his grandfather, Thomas Cleyborne, of the well known family of that name in Westmoreland." His ring carries the same seal as the Westmoreland Cleybornes, i. e., his official seal, and is now in the London Museum. His wife, Elizabeth Boteler, is supposed to go back to Edw. III, but have read that line is now in question. Don't know if it's been resolved. Always something! Like you, I have a long wish list.

But the one who looms largest on my wish list is our Elizabeth Knyvett Bohun. On last writing I'd said I'd get the information to you and began by quoting excerpts from voluminous correspondence with a number of people. Duties here interrupted and I had to put it aside temporarily. In reviewing what I'd excerpted, decided I could just as well capsulize the highlights; the original research spanned more than three years. So I'll get back to that as soon as I can. I really want you to see it and hear your opinion of the status quo. The bottom line is that Francis Bohun's statement to the herald, 1561 Visitations of Suffolk, that his wife is Elizabeth Knyvett, daughter of Sir Edmund Knyvett and his wife, Jane Bouchier Knyvett, is questioned. Seems incredible, but so it's been presented to me. In any event, shall get back to it when I can to send along. *(But our Wingfields are well established, so we get back to the same Bohuns, anyway.)*

Surely you must wonder what I do with my time! Am deeply involved with the grandchildren. This is by choice, and Kathie is generous in sharing them with me. The Lord does give, He does take away, and then opens up other avenues. So I do the "sitting," a misnoma (!), etc. Also

about two years ago, the then-office manager had things in a less than desirable state and Kathie decided to take over the job. She's made a big difference and Creighton likes having her there. She does have latitude with the hours, so it's not a 9-5 thing. Nonetheless, she's faithful and there a lot. On top of this, she decided to take a couple of courses at the University geared toward helping her in the office. Still she manages to have a lot of time with the children and does a lot with them. One of us picks up the children each day from school, and between us we get the three boys to ball practices, baseball, soccer, and T-ball, five, six days a week. Different fields, of course! Dawn rides and Kathie took it up, not so much by choice, but to be able to help Dawn. They go to horse shows, etc., a time-taking pursuit. . . . I had my last difference of opinion with a horse many years ago, decided I'm mortal -- and now keep my distance.

The pictures will be in the mail no later than Tuesday. Decided to get an additional set of negatives and am not sure the shop is open Saturday. If it is, shall get them off this weekend.

Again, thank you for your lovely letter of welcome to First Families. Please remember me to Mrs. Peeples, and many wishes to you both for a blessed Easter.

*Elizabeth*