

Cater - Bradwell

Cross, S. C. 29436
18 Oct. 1969

Rev. Robert E. H. Peeples
Rt. 2, Box 28
Hilton Head Island, S.C. 29928

Dear Robert,

I am assuming that we are about the same age; so I am therefore addressing you as above. Please excuse the delay in replying. It is not due to a lack of appreciation that you replied. Yours was the only reply I received. I work on this in spurts and have not done much lately as I have been trying to work on the Tri-Centennial and also spent some of my "spare" time on material for a recent re-union of the descendants of the Rev. West Williams (Methodist) & his wife Billy West.

I am enclosing some of the first sheets of some material I duplicated for our family gathering on the 4th. of July. This shows what I have been able to gather on the early Bradwell generations. I have found a reference to Bradwells in the group of settlers who went to Eluthera with Gov. Sayle. I hope to be able to ascertain the connection, but I am told that their records have not been preserved and are in a terrible condition.

Someone at the library of the Univ. of Georgia speculated to a Mrs. Rowland (a daughter of a Judge Bradwell of Athens) that not all of the children of Nathaniel (1st.) were children of Susannah Cater. I wrote her asking the reasons for the statement and who made the statement. She and her family had moved to some part of Florida and I never got any reply. I presumed that it was a surmise based on the early death of Jacob and the fact that Jacob had a land grant in St. Paul's, Colleton, 1 May 1733. I believe Jacob must have been born before 1718, but he could easily have been a son of Nathaniel & Susannah and had the grant in 1733 (if he was one of the early children).

I have not yet determined the parentage of Hannah, wife of Thomas Bradwell of Round O. At first, I thought she was a daughter of James Sharp, Charleston merchant, but from the Midway Records it appears that Hannah Sharp married a West and went to Georgia. She may easily have been a sister to James Sharp, Sr. which might be indicated by the fact that the Sharps released debts, left slaves to the three sons of Thomas & Hannah and referred to the boys as "Kinsman."

Most of the Georgia & Florida Bradwell descendants come from a later Thomas who is buried at Target Methodist Church between Holly Hill and Four Holes Swamp in the lower part of Orangeburg County. These are a little closer kin to me than the ones who are descended from Thomas & Hannah. I have met some at a Bradwell Reunion we had for several years at Valdosta, Ga. They have all been very hospitable and have give me some facts and some fables that had been handed down.

This is about all the help I can give you. I am quite interested in knowing if the relative gets something published. Please excuse the errors in typing. I began this on Saturday and am completing it on Monday.

Sincerely yours,

Russell Cross