

Rev. Robert E. H. Peeples,  
St. Marys, Ga.

Troy, Ala.  
March 21, 1963.

Dear Sir,

Thank you for your prompt return of the Cater material and for your kind invitation to attend the Allendale meeting in June. It certainly would be a pleasure to make the personal acquaintance of the members of the family group generally and more particularly you and yours, but my ability to make such a trip is dependent upon so many contingencies it is not practicable for me to commit myself at this time.

In reading your letter dated March 13, 1963, I find that you are not quite clear as to some of the items of my connections. For instance, you refer to a "sister" of William Provost, who married a Peeples. It was not a "sister", but was a "daughter" Elizabeth Provost, born in 1820, was a daughter of William Provost and sister of Mrs. Peeples. My mother's father was John S. Coombs of Okechawee Co., Ga. The pedigree runs as follows:

William Provost, born in South Carolina in 1782/1783, m. Ann Cater, born in South Carolina in 1797. The marriage was most probably in Barnwell Co. Her obituary says she was a native of Barnwell Co. She died in 1871. Her children were Mary Elizabeth, Eliza, Catherine, Emma, Alice Gertrude, and her wife, Ann Cater, were Mary Elizabeth, William Franklin, Charles James, George F. P., other daughters.

My grandmother, Mary Elizabeth Provost, married John S. Coombs. She was born in 1820 in Barnwell Co. and was the first child. The second child was William Franklin, born in Barnwell Co. in 1821. Alice Gertrude was the youngest child. The marriage of William Provost and Ann Cater probably occurred in or about 1818 judging by the date of birth of my grandmother (1820) and of her brother, William Franklin Provost (1821).

I have much detail about each of these children and their families, but it is not immediately available, and is not pertinent to the purpose of this communication, so I do not include it here.

I renew several of these people well in my younger days, and from their conversations with each other learned much of their way of life in South Carolina and Georgia. Some of these things lingered in my memory for many years, until I became interested in the family history and genealogy and undertook to verify and develop them.

Among the things I learned was the fact that my grandmother and her brothers, <sup>and sisters</sup> had, in Barnwell, <sup>two aunts</sup> called by them "Aunt Furse" and "Aunt Coker" and, <sup>that</sup> they were Mary (Cater) Furse, and Elizabeth (Cater) Coker, sisters of their mother Ann (Cater) Provost. They also had an "Uncle Cater," brother of their mother, who was a wealthy banker and lived in Montgomery, Ala.

These children also had in Barnwell <sup>four cousins,</sup> viz: Mary Peyton, Allie Peyton, Mary Ball and Lewis Hay. Lewis Hay was said to have been a school teacher and conducted a school at the Boiling Springs. Their nearest neighbors were families named Montgomery and Crockett. George F. P. Provost, <sup>one of</sup> <sup>my</sup> grandmothers' brother, was nicknamed "Crockett," and, they said, he acquired that name because he spent more time at Crockett than he did at home, when a youngster.

I could go on at great length on this matter of identification, but it seems unnecessary. There is no doubt as to the connections and relationships. Records at Barnwell show legal proceedings in which they participated as witnesses, appraisers or parties, and about 1820 there is a case of James Furse vs Hezekiah Cater and James H. Miller in which Cater and Miller are given notice by publication as non-residency. I believe a study of this Barnwell case would clear up some of these matters. I have never had opportunity to examine the Allendale records, but have several times to get copies of certain records at Barnwell, without success. I know that the Provost-Cater family was connected with a Jane Miller, whose will is on record in Barnwell.

I shall in the next few days mail you copies of extracts from "Our Family Circle" and a document compiled by me some 40 years ago, which bears directly on the Furse family connection, and should like to have your reaction thereon.

Sincerely,  
 J. J. Hubbard

William Cater b. c. 1754 + c. 1829<sup>30</sup> of "Cater Hall Place"

290 days Militia duty 1781-82 (S.C. Stub Entries)

1790 Census Orangeburg Dist., South Part (Winton, Barnwell) <sup>NO</sup> slaves

80 A. Lower Three Runs 28 Feb. 1785

100 A Tilley's Branch, Lower Three Runs 1 Sept. 1784

Bought 100 A from Lewis Johnston 3 Aug. 1786

Total persons list in 1788, Winton Co., Orangeburg Dist.

1800 Census 26/45 6 slaves

1810 Census Barnwell 45 up.

1820 Census Barnwell 45 up.

1000 A. Boggy Gully, South Edisto, 17 May 1810

James Cater + 1807 m. Ann (Nancy) 1808/9 m. ② John Clary

Bought 150 A on Savannah R., Barnwell Dist. 29 Jan. 1804

originally recorded "William" but erased + "James" inserted.

Edward Cater

1810 Census (26-45) probably brother of James

Ann Cater (1797 + 1871) <sup>10 Apr. 16 Aug.</sup> Barnwell m. c. 1818 William Provost <sup>SC</sup> 1782/3 +  
moved 1848/9 b. Columbus, Ga.

Mary Elizabeth Provost (1820-1892) m. John S. Coombs  
m. 1869 Hubbard

G. J. Hubbard

Wm. Franklin (1821 +

Eliza m. Wm McElvey

Charles James

George F. P.

Catherine

Emma

Alice Gertrude

b. c. 1780  
Eliz. will 11 Sept. 1849

m. Benjamin Coker

will proved 29 Sept. 1818

Julia

Joseph B.  
John B.  
William P.

sons of →

b. 1808  
Daniel B. m. Mary  
James  
Mary  
Lucy

Mary Cater (1786 + 16 July 1855) m. 10 June 1806 James Furse

b. Bristol, Eng. 1774

+ 11 May 1850

James

Eliza

Rhoda marion m. Dr. Thomas T. Hay 26 Apr. 1845

George

Mary E. Furse m. 23 Jan. 1828 Edward W. Peyton, Esq.

William

Rw. Joseph J.

Edward

Hezekiah W. m.

+ Montgomery, Ala. c. 1860/70

Benjamin Cater

340 A 17 May 1810 McTear's Creek, South Edisto