

August 9, 1996

Rev. Dr. Robert E. H. Peeples 8 Moon Shell Road Hilton Head Island, SC 29928-5444

Dear Cousin:

I have just written Arthur Beverly Elliott about some missing documents on his application but have a problem which I did not feel comfortable taking up with him so hope you can help.

It has to do with Rev. William Habersham Elliott. I have compiled the details from his papers and his proofs.

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He was born 8 November 1812. He graduated from the College of Charleston in 1831. He married Jan. 8, 1835 Mary O'Brien Habersham (or the 31st.) He was made a deacon (with my ancestor Rev. Charles Cotesworth Pinckney) on Feb. 15, 1835. He was ordained a priest in 1836, assistant to Christian Hanckel at St. Paul's, Radcliffeborough, Charleston. Then still in 1836 he resigned his position at St. Paul's. And "shortly thereafter" he went to Europe-and later Australia where he died after Civil War, or whatever. His son Robert was born in 1838, on Feb. 12th.

This seems almost impossible. He marries in January 1835 and about 5 and a half weeks later he is made a deacon.

About a year later he becomes a priest.

About six months later he resigns from the church.

Within six months (I can see no longer than this being considered as SHORTLY afterwards) he goes off to Europe. He goes without his wife apparently and without any explanation. February 1837.

Here is the problem. The boy Robert was born in February Barnwall 7.50 of 1838- a year later. Sure, most of these dates that give no day or month could be wrong year too. But I would like to know if he acknowledged the boy as his son? Did he know he had a son if it was his? Did he leave a will and mention a son? Etc.

> Do you have any records of any of the families involved that might give more information? Do you think I should just OK without questioning the child's status?

He had the wrong wife for Thomas Elliott and mainly I wrote him about this.

My nephew Elliott DeMerell is coming into First Families on the same Thomas Elliott as soon as he signs his papers. Sincerely, Wary just completed his papers.

Hope all well with you both.