

July 18, 1988

Dear Dr. Peeples,

Your letter was a real treat! Thoroughly enjoyed reading your Martinangle and Green notes, and of course, there were several items I had not seen before which whetted my interest.

I do appreciate your answers to my several questions and your observations on the Greens, etc., and mostly, your taking the time to lay it all out for me. I was greatly interested in seeing that you had birth years for Josiah, Benjamin, & Samuel - which I have never seen before. Did those come from the "Green Chart with all sorts of errors" These are a little earlier than I had "guestimated" but still lend credence to my suspicion that James Green married twice and had two sets of children. The item that really intrigues me is your listing of William Green with the precise dates of birth & death (24 June 1754-13 Sept. 1812) That's too exact to be other than a tombstone or bible record. Would you please tell me where it came from as William is such a key player in my little game.

I was glad to have your opinion that Mary Rutledge was not of the Dr. John group, as I certainly had not been able to find her there. And the interesting item that William Green had married a Mary Robert. That's a new one on me, and I don't recall even running into the Robert name in any of my research.

I guess the hardest thing we have to do is weed out the fact from the lore. The often repeated stories of Simeon, Abraham, & Phillip, Jr, and the confusion surrounding them, such as Abraham's being killed in 1881 with child in arms, Simeon's two marriages, etc. are perfect examples. It results from families trying valiently to put together the story based on information passed down for several generations - and getting it somewhat confused. Bless their dear hearts for trying, and for giving us the basic outline from which to work, but Lord, it sometimes makes it more difficult to disprove than to prove.

In my Hopkins line there were two distant cousins of mine & each other - both spinsters named Elizabeth Hopkins. They worked so hard back in the '20's & 30's gathering all the Martinangel/Hopkins data they could find from various family sources. Their combined work became the basis of each Hopkins line's story on the family. Although basically correct, they often attributed an incident to the wrong person or got the generations confused. However, that was not exclusive to their generation. Some of my cousins who attended the ceremony on Daufuskie thought it was Phillip Jr. who was their ancestor.

I'm sure that's what happened when someone listed Phillip Jr.'s children as Simeon, Abraham, Isaac, Mary, and Margaret, as these are clearly the children of Phillip, Sr.

The enclosed typed page from one Elizabeth Hopkins to the other is another example of what I mean in that it has several errors, but it does contain the one item I'm pursuing now in trying to find a Green female who married an Ellis, and could have been the aunt (or great aunt ) of the Sayre girls.

Also enclosed is the 1767 agreement between Elizabeth Fripp Green and James Gray to build her house. I particularly enjoy the provision that she must provide the workers "meet, drink and lodging" plus a pint of rum. Not a bad deal if they can stay sober enough to work! The agreement is dated Dec. 7th, and the citation to Elizabeth and Samuel Green to administer the estate of Benjamin was issued on 11 Dec. 1767, so Elizabeth wasted no time in building herself a house. She also didn't waste any time in remarrying as she was Elizabeth Parmenter before April 1768. If she had a dau. by Parmenter, who married an Ellis, then I have my "aunt"(half-aunt) who raised the Sayre girls.

Interestingly, the agreement was witnessed by Elizabeth Green, Jr. who was 12 years old at the time. Certainly substantiates that a witness did not have to be of age but only to be of an age of understanding. Now for my most important question of you. Where can I find the source of your statement that in 1783, Benj. Green, Jr. had Skull Creek estate next to Wm. Waight? You have blown my mind with this one as I have no record of a Benjamin Jr., and did not know there ever was one. Please, please let me know where that came from.

We have a little group here of interested descendants of the Hopkins/Martinangel/Mongin clans who get together occasionally. (You asked about Mary Berry - she is a member.) I did a little synopsis on Simeon last year to clear up any confusion they might have as to where he comes in, but there are several items in it you might not be familiar with, so am enclosing a copy.

Also enclosed is something I wrote up recently for the group after finding the Phillip Martinangel estate papers. With it are the only halfway readable copies from the rather poor microfilm. I thought you might be interested in having these as you are certainly more knowledgable of the subject than anyone else.

You asked about the William Greens', father and son of James. I'd like very much to get together what I have and send to you. My Green papers are now just stacks of copies and notes as I haven't written down anything on them as yet. This will be the impetus I need to get it organized. Can you bear to sit through reading it? I'm a slow typist, but will start on it and hopefully get it to you next week.

