

[Redacted]  
Gainesville, Fla. 32603  
May 8, 1974

Rev. and Mrs. Robert E. H. Peeples  
Rt. 2, Box 420  
Hilton Head Island, S.C. 29928

Dear Robert and Cora,

My husband and I were delighted to have your interesting and informative letter about the Harris family.

Since Bill is very busy just now with his teaching and research duties, at the University of Florida, and since I seem to have fallen heir to the job of amateur geneologist, I'll try to respond to your letter.

It would appear to me that Bill and Haddon's maternal grandmother, Sarah Louise Harris (also called "Sally"!), who married Abraham Lawrence c. 1890, must have been a granddaughter of William G. Harris and Martha L. Milam, as you have suggested. The missing link here is the name of the father of Sarah Louise Harris, and perhaps some of the Lawrence kin can supply that for us. Your geneology chart has opened up an exciting line to explore, and I do hope I can uncover some information for you that you don't already have.

Having recently acquired some old records from my family, I have discovered the fun of geneological research, and feel that the preserving of family records for future generations is a valuable pastime. Our university library has provided me with many opportunities for such studies.

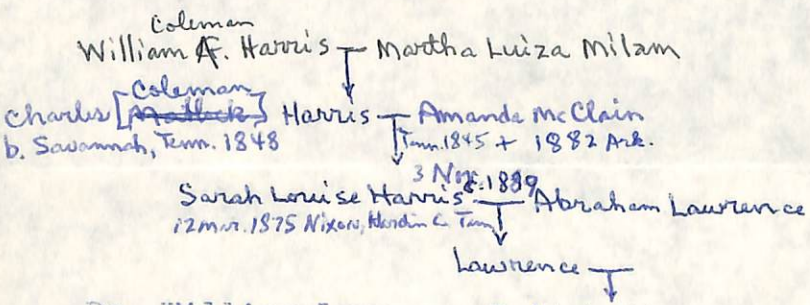
Yesterday I learned from Bean's Peopling of Virginia that the name Gardner was found among the early settlers of Norfolk, Accomac, and Fairfax Counties. I'll try to pursue this further, and will also look into a connection with the Pickens family.

We are so appreciative of your help, and look forward to meeting you both someday.

Sincerely,

*Peg Pritchett*

Margaret Gammon Pritchett



Dr. William Lawrence Pritchett  
2150 NW 2nd Ave.  
Gainesville, Fla. 32603

~~215-111-1111~~  
~~22649~~  
Dec. 7, 1974

Rev. and Mrs. Robert E.H. Peeples  
Rt. 2, Box 420  
Hilton Head Island, S.C. 29928

Dear RObert and Cora,

After some interesting distractions, we are back to hunting Harris ancestors again, and we acknowlege that you are a very valuable resourse!

My husband's grandmother, Sarah Louise "Sally" Harris, was born 12 Mar 1875 in Nixon, Hardin County, Tennessee. She was married 3 Nov 1889 to Abraham Lawrence, and died in 1936. She is buried with her husband on the old Pritchett farm in Ursula, Arkansas.

Her father was Charles <sup>Coleman</sup> [Matlock] Harris, and her mother was Amanda [c.] McClain. (no dates on either one)

We assume from some information in your letter that Charles was the son of William G. Harris and Martha Luiza Milam, one of the four children noted in the Hardin county census of 1850, and an older brother of Ellen Harris, born in 1855, and the grandmother of Cora McKenzie Peeples. It would be very nice to locate some proof of this relationship! Can you help here?

You said in your letter that Vera Milam Ryker stated that Myrtle Matlock's great grandmother was Martha L. Milam Harris. This confirms our assumption, since Myrtle's mother was Mollie Harris Gage, sister of Sarah Louise Harris.

Your chart showing the Milam family line is invaluable, but since we are not very good at reading these charts, would you please confirm whether the enclosed information is correct? Someday I hope we can add something to these records, but this research is more difficult than I anticipated! We really appreciate your help.

My husband and I wish you all the joys of this holiday season, and hope that we can meet in person in the New Year!

with best wishes,

Mrs. William L. Pritchett

~~Bill and Peg Pritchett~~  
~~William Pritchett, P.O. Box 100~~  
April 9, 1975

Dear Cora and Robert,

We suppose you are wondering what has happened to us -- it was unforgivable not to respond earlier to your wonderful letter with so much valuable information about the Harris family. We received your letter just as I was about to mail off several booklets about Pritchett-Lawrence family history to Bill's brothers and sisters. So I quickly complied with your request to "pass this along" by making some corrections on the sheets I had completed, and adding some new pages from the records you uncovered, and still got them in the mail in time for the Christmas family gatherings. By then we were caught up in the holiday activities here. On January 3 our 20 year old son, Jonathan, was in a dreadful automobile accident, and our concern for his recovery absorbed us completely for some time. Fortunately he is now restored to good health, and is able to return to his classes at the University of Florida, and I am again finding the time and interest to pick up our investigations of family history where we left them off.

We were amazed at the amount of data you located in Washington, and really appreciate your sharing it with us. I do hope we can add something to this, and anticipate an opportunity to do this next month. Bill is planning to attend a meeting in North Carolina, and I will accompany him in order to spend some time in the North Carolina State Library in Raleigh. I have some leads on our John Harris and hope to check them out, as well as some other N.C. ancestors.

Just now, however, the only bits I can add to your record of Charles Coleman Harris came from Bill's aunt, Faye Lawrence Hattendorf, who tells us that the 4th child, William Arthur Harris, b. 1878 in Tenn, drowned in the Arkansas River in 1895 at age 17. Also that Lillie Harris, sister of Mollie Harris (Gage) and Sally Harris (Lawrence), was married to a man named Plaster. She says that Amanda McClain died in 1882 in Arkansas, and Charles Coleman Harris then married a widow (perhaps his brother's??) and they had 4 more children, b. in Franklin County, Ark.--Pearl and Price, who were twins, Amy, and Ruby. These last HARRISES all lived in Oklahoma.

Bill's sister writes that she has a portrait of Great Grandfather Harris, and has offered to send it to us!

Again we thank you for your help, and we'll keep looking for the other pieces of the puzzle..

Cordially,

*Bill and Peg Pritchett*

p.s. I don't know where that Matlock came in -- I think Hadden told us that, but can't be sure. Thanks for catching the error.