LAW OFFICES

LAWTON & MYRICK

MEMORIAL AVENUE

TELEPHONE 803/584 3838

ALLENDALE, SOUTH CAROLINA 29810

THOMAS O. LAWTON, JR. WILLIAM E. MYRICK, JR. G. MORRISON MYRICK

POST OFFICE BOX 646

May 30, 1973

Mr. Coy K. Johnston 4785 Cherrywood Lane, N.E. Atlanta, Georgia 30342

Dear Coy:

I am remiss in being so tardy in replying to your letter of March 17, but my mother fell and broke her hip, and there have been a number of other problems that have kept me busy.

I am certainly happy that you are writing the history of the Lawtonville Church. With you as the author, I am sure that the result will be noteworthy, interesting and well done.

Attached is a sketch on Joseph Lawton which contains information that Inez Watson needed in doing sketches on the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives. Some of it may not be proper for your purposes, but you can disgard whatever you feel is not of interest. By 1976 I hope to do a fuller account of his life; and when I have, I will certainly send copies of it to you and Bob.

Mr. Johnston Page 2 May 30, 1973

Also enclosed is a sketch on Colonel Alexander James Lawton which comes from the South Carolina Senate biographies. He was a very interesting and fine old gentleman according to many records that have survived.

You also asked some questions about Dr. James Stoney Lawton, and I am sending you a sketch of him with sources noted.

I also have some data on the Reverend Jospeh Alexander Lawton that I will send to you shortly, and I also have further data about John Grimball which may be of interest.

Please excuse my hurried letter, but I wanted to get this data to you as soon as possible.

With all good wishes, I am

Sincerely,

Thomas O. Lawton, Jr.

TOLjr/sby

CC: The Reverend Robert E. H. Peeples

Joseph Lawton, Esq.

Joseph Lawton was born on Oct. 18, 1753, at his father's plantation on Edisto Island. He died on March 5, 1815, at his residence, Mulberry Grove Plantation, St. Peter's Parish, Beaufort District, and is buried in the Lawton Plot at what is now the Robertville Baptist Church, formerly the Black Swamp Baptist Church. Service in three wars are represented in this plot through Joseph Lawton in the Revolution, his son, Col. Alexander J. Lawton in the War of 1812, and his grandson, Capt. Edward P. Lawton in the Confederate War.

He was the son of Captain William Lawton (St. John's Colleton Regiment of Foot, Edisto Island Company) and his third wife, Mary Sams, widow of Paul Grimball, and after Captain Lawton's death wife of Samuel Fickling.

Joseph Lawton married Sarah Robert, daughter of Jacques Robert and Sarah Jaudon Robert on March 18, 1773, at Indian Land. Sarah was the great granddaughter of The Rev. Pierre Robert, first Huguenot minister at St. James Santee in 1686. The Robertville village was named for her family. She was born at St. James Santee on February 6, 1755, and died at the family's summer residence, Transpine, on Oct. 5 1839. She is also buried at Robertville.

During the Revolution Joseph Lawton was Lieutenant of the Black Swamp Company of Foot, in the Regiment of Col. Stephen Bull. In the 1895 minutes of the Savannah River Baptist Association The Rev. Fred Jones states "During the Revolutionary War Joseph Lawton owed his life to a British officer, who was once befriended by him. The officer lost his horse near Mr. Lawton's, and to his surprise the Whig Lawton furnished him one, with the remark ' I am not fighting men, but for principles.' When the Tories betrayed Mr. Lawton, and he was about to be executed by the British, the officer went to the execution through curiosity, and on discovering his benefactor saved his life, with the expression, 'Such a man must not be executed.'"

Records show that Joseph Lawton was a Justice of the Peace for Beaufort District in 1791 and also in 1797; that he was Commissioner of Roads in 1792. He was a member of the South Carolina House of Representatives from St. Peter's Parish Beaufort District in .

Descendants of Lt. Lawton who have served in the South Carolina Legislature include his son, Col. Alexander J. Lawton, his grandson, Joseph Maner Lawton, his great-grandson, Joseph Maner Lawton, Jr., Dr. Benjamin William Lawton, signer of the Ordinance of Secession; Winston A. Lawton and others including his nephew, Winborn Lawton of Charleston.

Joseph's father was mentioned in the Episcopal and Presbyterian church records of Edisto, and a family record states that he was an Episcopalian before he joined the Black Swamp Baptist Church, where he was a deacon and many times a messenger to the association.

At Mulberry Grove, Joseph Lawton planted rice, indigo and apparently attempted to produce silk. At his death beside the Mulberry Grove Plantation his will, a copy of which is in the Caroliniana Library, mentions planting lands in Mississippi. When the property was sold after the Civil War to the Goethe family, it contained over 5400 acres. It is now two plantations, one called Mimora, owned by R. B. Kirby of Charleston, and the other called Pineland, owned by the John Morel family of Savannah.

Perhaps Joseph Lawton's most distinguished descendants were his grandson, General Alexander Robert Lawton, Quartermaster General of The Confederal States, and subsequently minister to Austria, and his great grandson, General Henry Martyn Robert, author of Rules of Order.

Sketch by Thomas O. Lawton, Jr.

From records and authorities in possession of compiler.

Allendale, S. C.

May 29, 1973

Darlington County Board of Directors, two terms, County attorney. In agricultural enterprises. Married Betty Hemphill June 26, 1928. Chairman, S. C. Farm Security Administration; member of state committee of Agricultural Adjustment Administration. South Carolina representative on Tobacco Advisory Committee. First president of S. C. Farm Council, 1937. President of Darlington County Agricultural Society. President of Farmers Mutual Fire Insurance Association, of Darlington County, and of South Carolina. Director of Hartsville Production Credit Association, 1934-43. Director of S. C. Tobacco Growers Marketing Association. Delivered keynote address for farmers meeting in Washington, D. C., May 14, 1935. State Board of Pardons, 1924-28. Trustee of Lander College for several years. Trustee of Columbia College. Trustee of Darlington Public Library. American, S. C., and Darlington Bar Associations. President and director of Darlington Kiwanis Club. Shriner. Woodmen of the World. Knights of Pythias. Mason. Member of Methodist Church. Died May 5, 1943, at Darlington; buried in Grove Hill Cemetery, Darlington.

LAWTON, Alexander James (First cousin of Winborn Lawton; uncle of Joseph Maner Lawton and Dr. Benjamin William Lawton; great-great-granduncle of Winston Alven Lawton), Senator from Parish of St. Peter .-Born November 21, 1790, in St. Peter's Parish, the son of Joseph Lawton, a licutenant in the Revolutionary War, and Sarah Robert. Married Martha Mosse November 15, 1809. During War of 1812, colonel. Planter at "Mulberry Grove" plantation; summer home "Transpine," now the village of Pineland. Tax collector, St. Peter's. Member of Nullification Convention of 1832-33. S. C. Senate, St. Peter's, 1864-65. Trustee of Black Swamp Academy, 1818. Member of Baptist Church; trustee of Furman Academy, at Winnsboro, 1835; original incorporator of Furman University, at Greenville, 1850: treasurer of State Baptist Convention. Died April 8, 1876; buried at Robertville Cemetery, in what is now? Jasper County.

LAWTON, Benjamin William (Nephew of Alexander James Lawton; cousin of Winborn Lawton, Joseph Maner Lawton, and Winston Alven Lawton), Senator from Barnwell District.-Born September 22, 1822, in Black Swamp, Beaufort District, the son of Joseph James Lawton of Old Allendale and Phoebe Jane Mosse, Graduated from Medical College of South Carolina, 1843. Physician, of near Allendale, Barnwell District, Married Josephine Barksdale Polhill November 21, 1845. S. C. House of Representatives, Barnwell, 1850-52, Member of Secession Convention of 1860-62 and signer of Ordinance of Secession. S. C. Senate, Barnwell, 1862-66: resigned to remove to Augusta, Ga., because home was burned. In Confederate War, organized and was captain of Company D. Third Regiment of Cavalry, S. C. Volunteers, President of Miller-Lawton Insurance Company of Augusta, Ga., 1866. In 1870, returned to Allendale and resumed practice of medicine and farming. Mason, member of Allendale Lodge No. 109. Member of Baptist Church. Died at country home in Barnwell County August 5, 1879; buried in old Smyrna Baptist Churchvard, in what is now Allendale County.

LAWTON, Joseph Maner (First cousin of Dr. Benjamin William Lawton; nephew of Alexander James Lawton; relative of Winborn Lawton; great-grandfather of Winston Alven Lawton; nephew of John

son, after 1830. S. C. House of Representatives, St. Peter's, 1824-28, 1832-34. S. C. Senate, St. Peter's, 1850-52, 1855-56. Commissioner of roads. Justice of peace. Commissioner to approve securities. Soldiers' Board of Relief, 1861. Member of Methodist Episcopal Church for 39 years. Died December 5, 1862. at his home, "Cypress Vale"; buried at Black Swamp Methodist Churchyard, near what is now Garnett.

LAWTON, Winborn (First cousin of Alexander James Lawton, cousin of Joseph Maner Lawton and Dr. Benjamin William Lawton), Senator from Parish of St. Andrew.—Born in 1782, probably on James Island, the son of Winborn Lawton and Mrs. Mary (Frampton) Mathews. Planter, of James Island. Married, first. Margaret McLeod Frampton, sister of John Frampton, March 6, 1805; second, Martha Waring Hughes. Justice of quorum. Magistrate. Commissioner of free schools. S. C. House of Representatives, St. Andrew's, 1828-32. S. C. Senate, St. Andrew's, 1832-40. Member of Episcopal Church; vestryman, St. James' Church, James Island. Died between January 11, 1861 (will signed), and April 1, 1861 (will proved); buried at St. James' Churchyard, James Island.

LAWTON, Winston Alven (Great-great-grandson of Benjamin Thomson; great-grandson of Joseph Maner Lawton; great-great-grandnephew of Alexander James Lawton; cousin of Benjamin William Lawton), Senator from Hampton County.-Born May 19, 1915, in Freeburn, Ky., the son of Dr. Francis Asbury Lawton of Hampton County and Tressa Chicora Stokes. Attended Matewan High School. W. Va.; graduated from Clemson College, B.S., 1937. Coach and teacher, Walterboro High School, 1937-39; Olympia High School. Columbia, 1940; superintendent of Olympia High School, 1945. Married Sarah Morrison of Estill December 6, 1941. Commissioned in U. S. Army reserve as second lieutenant of infantry, May, 1937; during World War II, entered service as first lieutenant September, 1940; discharged April, 1946, as licutenant colonel: 30 months overseas. Removed from Columbia to Estill in 1946. Wholesale oil distributor, at Estill. Estill town council, 1950. Hampton County Democratic Executive committeeman, 1956 to date. S. C. Senate, Hampton, 1954-58. Estill Lions Club; president, 1949. The American Legion; district commander, 1954; 40 & 8. Sunset Masonic Lodge No. 331; master, 1951. Member of Lawtonville Baptist Church of Estill; deacon and teacher of men's Bible Class. Lives at Estill.

LEE, Clarence David, Senator from Darlington County.—Born May 14, 1878, at Lydia, the son of Oran David Lee of Hartsville and Ann Della Harrell, Graduated from Lydia High School; Wofford College, A.B., 1900. Planter, of Hartsville. Married Jessie Wright Mc-Kelvey May 4, 1904. S. C. House of Representatives, Darlington, 1910-14. S. C. Senate, Darlington, 1914-18. Mason. Rotary. Member of Wesley Methodist Church of Hartsville; teacher of men's Sunday School class for years. Died February 24, 1940, at Hartsville; buried in Wesley Chapel Churchyard, Lydia.

LEE, Daniel Dixon, Senator from Dillon County.— Born September 14, 1911, at Hamer, the son of Daniel Jasper Lee, a native of Robeson County, N. C., and Bessie Price. Attended Dillon High School; graduated from Clemson College. B.S. in Agricultural Engineering. 1938. Married Mattie McLemore of Davidson, N. operator of Lee Dairy Farm. County commissioner, 1942-44. Sheriff of Dillon County, 1944-50. S. C. Senate, Dillon, 1950-54; 1958-62. In Army reserves, second lieutenant, 1933-38. Dillon Rotary Club, president. County chairman, Democratic party, 1944-48. Mackey Masonic Lodge No. 77, master; past district deputy grand master. Past potentate of Omar Shrine Temple of Charleston. Past president of Little Pee Dee Shrine Club. Chairman of Palmetto Shrine football game. Member of Presbyterian Church. State Democratic executive committeeman, 1962-64. Lives at Dillon.

LEE, John, Senator from Chester County.—Born in Columbia, of the Negro race. Self-educated. Lived in Chester County. Republican. Postmaster of Chester. Deputy marshal to take census of 1870. Magistrate, 1870. Trial justice, 1870. County auditor, 1871. (resigned). Colonel of 14th Regiment, National Guard, 1873-75. S. C. Senate, Chester, 1872-74. S. C. House of Representatives, Chester, 1876 (Mackey House); unseated.

LEGARÉ, Isaac (Ancestor of Thomas Allen Legaré and William Storen Legaré), Senator from Parish of Christ Church.—Born July 12, 1735, the son of Daniel Legaré of Christ Church Parish and Mary Hall. Planter, of Christ Church Parish. Married Ann White. Justice of peace. First and Second Provincial Congresses, Christ Church, 1775-76. First General Assembly, Christ Church, 1776. S. C. House of Representatives, Christ Church, 1778-80 (declined election in 1782). S. C. Senate, Christ Church, 1786-88; died. Member of Wappetaw Congregational Church; trustee, 1787. Died March 18, 1788, in office as Senator; buried in Independent Churchyard, Charleston.

LEGARÉ, Thomas Allen (First cousin of William S. Legaré; descendant of Isaac Legaré), Senator from Charleston County.—Born July 22, 1915, at Charleston, the son of Thomas Allen Legaré and Lilly Mikell. Graduated from Charleston High School; University of South Carolina, A. B., 1939; LL.B., 1941; admitted to S. C. Bar June 2, 1941. During World War II, entered service as private in June, 1941; discharged as first lieutenant of paratroopers in February, 1946; served in European and China-India Theatres of Operations, Married Virginia Irene Green of Conway April 10, 1943. Lawyer, at Charleston. S. C. House of Representatives, Charleston, 1946-48, 1950-53; resigned on election to Senate. S. C. Senate, Charleston, 1953 to date. Past master, Strict Observers Lodge No. 73, AFM. Lions Club; board of directors. State Democratic executive committeeman, 1960-64. Former member of Junior Chamber of Commerce. Community Chest and United Fund. Member of Second Presbyterian Church; former Sunday School superintendent and deacon. Lives in Charleston.

LEGARÉ, William Storen (First cousin of Thomas Allen Legaré; descendant of Isaac Legaré), Senator from Charleston County.—Born January 6, 1901, in Charleston, the son of George Swinton Legare and Frances Izlar. Graduated from Bailey Military Academy, Greenwood; attended Porter Military Academy, Charleston; attended Davidson College, N. C., 1920-21; graduated from University of South Carolina, LL.B., 1924; admitted to S. C. Bar June 11, 1924. Married Lila Ewart Rhett June 26, 1924. During World War I, appointed second lieutenant of infantry September 12, 1918; trained at Plattsburg; Harvard Unit of SATC until discharge December 16, 1918, Lawyer, at Charleston. S.

LEHRÉ, Thomas (Grandson c St. Andrew's Parish), Senator f thew.-Born in 1794; baptized . lar Church, Charleston, the son Mrs. Susannah (Scott) Stanya William Scott of St. Andrew's James Stanyarne of Stono. Marri ton, granddaughter of William S tlement April 24, 1838). Plan Parish; also had home in Charl treasurer, 1823. S. C. House Matthew's, 1818-22, 1824-26, S. thew's, 1826-29; resigned on ele Lower Division of State of South 1829, serving until 1833. Ordinar 37; resigned because of ill healt 1848. Director of Bank of State of 50; vice president, 1850-52; pres Commissioner of public buildings ton Savings Institute, 1850; president free schools of Charleston. Con Member of Southern Rights Conv nel of 14th Regiment of militia, cular Church. Died in Summerville buried in Circular Churchvard, C

... o County, Duned in.

LEITH, Sampson W., Senator William.—Physician, of Prince Wried Mary Elizabeth
Practiced medicine about 30 years fort and Colleton. S. C. House of William's, 1812-14. S. C. Senate, P. 18. Died after 1839 in Colleton I Salkehatchie Presbyterian Churchy (date missing on broken tombston)

LEITNER, Michael, Senator fro tween Broad and Saluda Rivers. probably in Pennsylvania, the son ner. Removed to Newberry about 1 berry, Married Maria Beard, prob During Revolutionary War, capt cavalry; 294 days as captain of hor Regiment, 1779-1781; commissary 1782-83. Justice of peace, Orange Justice of quorum. Second Provin Orangeburgh District, 1775-76. Fir Orangeburgh, 1776. S. C. House Lower District, 1778-80, 1781-84. District, 1784-86. Lived at Crims in what was later Newberry Distr elections. Tax collector. Justice of 1786. Died before May 15. 1790.

LEITNER, William Zachariah, S County.—Born September 23, 18; the son of George Leitner and El pared at Shirley's Institute; graduat lina College, A.B., 1849; read law admitted to S. C. Bar in 1853. Mailap. Practiced law at Winnsboro: laing Confederate War, served at Morpart in chief battles in Virginia; lost assigned to the enrolling departing Representatives, Kershaw, 1864-65; as district judge, December 20, 1864-65; as district judge, Decemb