



# SOCASTEE HIGH SCHOOL

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30 July 89

Dear Robert,

Enclosed is my check for the updated edition of Our Family Circle, which you sent to me last week. I have always treasured my original copy of this book, and now, with all your new data and annotations, it is all the more priceless. Thank you so much for this new edition--and for all your wonderful addenda.

I enjoyed chatting with you yesterday--as always--and look forward to future visits over the phone. Your information on my Smith line was most helpful, and I spent most of the evening after supper familiarizing myself with each generation.

I could kick myself for not telling you about Thomas Lawton years ago. I've known about him since about 1981, I suppose, and simply assumed you also knew about him. As I mentioned, Tommy had run across this 1724 Thomas Lawton years previously, so again, I just knew that y'all (you and Tommy) had researched this possibility for Capt. William Lawton's father thoroughly, and had eliminated him. Owell, at least now we will soon know who he was--or at least I hope we will.

As for the Rippon connection, do keep in mind what I told you about Isaac--my hunch that there might have been another, older Isaac Rippon, possibly a brother of Edward. It just makes no sense at all to me that a man in his 40's or 50's would refer to someone in his early 20's as "my loving brother," unless in fact, there had actually been a blood relationship. At this point, the only thing that seems logical to me is that William and Isaac were half-brothers, William's mother having married as her second or third husband a Rippon, by whom she had children. Another possibility is that Edward's second wife was William's sister. Mrs. Moore was able to determine that Edward married three times, but she was never able to determine the names of the first two wives--just that the first wife was Ann. According to Mrs. Moore, this Ann was Isaac's mother, so perhaps I need to have Richard Price research her a bit. Let me know your thoughts on all this.

Again, Robert, thanks for all your wonderful information and assistance. Oh--and as soon as I have time, I will retype the Edings genealogy and return your copy, as well as a retyped copy.

Give my love to Miss Cora, and stay in touch.

*As ever - Paul*