

MANER

13 March 85

Dear Robert,

Like practically all my other correspondence lately, this will be brief, as I am (as usual) up to my eyebrows in every imaginable arrear--from finding time to drive to town for chicken feed, to finishing a paper for a graduate course I'm taking at USC in Conway. It never seems to let up.

Immediately after receiving your letter, though, I had to lay everything aside to tell you how absolutely tickled to death I am that you and Miss Cora have finally been able to score your success with the DAR. I have already forwarded a copy of your letter to Mrs. Brownlee, and am certain she will jump up and down with delight as she reads it. As you know, she was as put out with the DAR over your Milam problem as you and Miss Cora were. I can't wait to hear what she has to say in response to my note. Please tell Miss Cora that I am tickled pink for her.

Though I have not yet had an opportunity to read it, I appreciate so much your thoughtfulness in sending me a copy of the George Washington Birthday Banquet Programme. First things being first, I wanted to peck out notes to you and Mrs. Brownlee before doing anything else.

I am so embarrassed to have carelessly informed Al Maner of your "Maner ancestry," and cannot believe I could have blundered so. (I also cannot believe you have no "Maner in you"--though I should have surmised so, from your correspondence, which is always so prompt. Maners, you know, are known to be rather slow-moving folk. Dad often kids King about this trait, saying, "Maner means tomorrow, and King Maner means next week.") Please accept my apologies.

I am so happy that you were able to help Al with his book, insofar as various errors in particulars were concerned, and I know that he was most grateful for all you offered him, by way of corrections and suggestions. As he no doubt told you, he has encountered all manner of difficulty in compiling this chronicle, and is already a year behind his anticipated date of publication. When he does finally get everything worked out, however, I am sure his book will be marvelous. I cannot wait to receive a copy of it.

Though I have naturally been aware of it for some years, your mention of Joseph Lawton's Royal Grant of March 1772 prompted me for the first time to wonder whether there is an actual copy of it--and, if so, how one might possibly procure one. Can you help me in this regard? I must shamefully admit that I have never so much as seen a copy of such a device.

Now you will truly think I am a moron, for I must confess that until your letter, I had not heard the first thing about the "newly-discovered Robert material." Please tell me more about it! I am almost beside myself with excitement, wondering what the material might contain. Will any of it be useful to Tommy, in the research he has

been conducting in Switzerland? Your news has me literally on the edge of my typing stool! In Goethe's words, please, "Mehr Licht!"

There is nothing I would rather do more than visit with you and Miss Cora at the SAR State Convention 22-23 March, but my schedule until school is out makes all trips impossible. In addition to teaching and taking graduate courses, I also tutor for a professional Educational Rx here at Socastee--five days a week. What makes everything especially difficult for me is the fact that each of my five students is borderline to moderately learning-disabled--dyslexia in each case. Naturally, they are all extremely dependent upon me for assistance with their reading assignments, and if I miss a single session with them, their entire academic week falls completely apart. You can imagine what it's like to tutor five dyslexic students the following: **Great Expectations, Julius Cæsar, Hamlet, Ethan Frome, and Heart of Darkness.** As my luck would have it, not one student is studying the same literary work as any other, so my "homework" is horrendous. Anyway, I do appreciate your kind invitation, and do wish I could get away, but can't. As soon as school is out, though, I'm taking off for a spell, and plan to visit you and Miss Cora as my first stop.

Again, I'm so pleased for Miss Cora on her DAR Membership, and will forward a copy of Mrs. Brownlee's response to the news just as soon as I receive it. Thank you for sharing the wonderful news with me--and for all the other exciting news as well.

I'll be in touch again as soon as possible. In the meantime, know that I am thinking of you.

*As ever -
Paul*