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Dear Martha,

Please accept my congratulations and felicitations on your outstanding work in having produced Vol. 80 of the Transactions of the Huguenot Society of S.C.! It is good to have the Roster of Members By Locality and I trust this will become a regular feature at least every five years. A hasty count showed 88 members gave Rev. Pierre Robert as ancestor and I noted 7 or 8 others who could also have claimed him. However my guess is that more actual members' descent is from Jacques de Bourdeaux than any other Huguenot since he is ancestor of De Saussure, Gignilliat and Robert as well as Juin lines! We should dub him "the Prolific Blacksmith", eh?

It was a pleasure, too, to see The Remarkable Application of N.H.R. Dawson, a cousin of my grandmother Eliza Jane ("Lila") Rhodes (Mrs. John W. Peoples of Lawtonville), both on the Rhodes side and through Rebecca Bradford (Mrs. Archibald Hamilton), a descendant of Thomas Cater. I have a nice photograph of Col. N.H.R. Dawson and a copy of the miniature of his grandfather, Dr. Nathaniel Rhodes, painted in Edinburgh where he took his M.D. in 1804; Dr. Rhodes was a member of the Legislature representing St. Helena's Parish when he died of yellow fever at the age of 35 in 1817 (not 1807 as the Transaction says, probably only a typographical error.) leaving his 1217-acre whole Branch Plantation (now called Clarendon) to his daughter Mary Dawson. Perhaps the most remarkable fact I can give you is that Col. N.H.R. Dawson was a brother-in-law of President Abraham Lincoln since his wife was Elodie Todd, sister of Mrs. Lincoln! I can give you an account of the family of Col. Dawson if you want it. Also interesting is the fact that Col. Dawson's aunt, Anne Henrietta Rhodes married Christmas Day 1830 her 1st cousin, Dr. Morton A. Waring, Jr. (you've been working on the Morton & Wilkinson families); they lived in Florence, S.C. after the War and their line died out a decade or so ago with one of their beautiful mahogany linen presses going to the S.C. Governor's Mansion. I gave Josephine McNair an account of the Dr. Nathaniel H. Rhodes family when she was the First Lady of S.C. (She descends from grandmother's brother, Pringle Rhodes) so that it could remain in the press to identify its origin. Another aunt of Col. Dawson was Rebecca Bradford Rhodes ~~who~~ married in 1831 Hon. Frederick A. Porcher. <sup>unhappily,</sup> ~~but~~ she died in childbirth 1834 leaving no descendants.

Thank you, too, for the Letters From Lawtonville. Note #9 p.55 is unfortunately <sup>quite</sup> ~~all~~ garbled ~~among~~! Uncle Alex Lawton was really Col. Alexander James Lawton of Robertville, father of General Alexander Robert Lawton of Savannah. It was Uncle Alec's brother, the Rev. Winborn Asa Lawton who was born in 1793 and married (1) Mrs. Mary Elizabeth Cater, widow of Thomas Rhodes (my great<sub>2</sub>-grandparents), married (2) Mrs. Isadora Perry, widow of Dr. Samuel Perry and married (3) Lucinda Landrum. Sorry about that! Sorry to see the old error about the family "moving from Santa c. 1785"; they left Santa before the Revolution as I have proved many times. John Robert was "of Satchers" in 1768, Col. Nayce said he was "of Indian lands" in 1770 when he married the granddaughter of

II Landgrave Thomas Smith. Lt. Joseph Lawton began buying Mulberry grove at Robertville in 1772, etc. All these and many more facts are documented in the 3rd edition of Our Family Circle which was reprinted last July. Even old Jacques (de Bourdeaux) Robert was buried 1774 in Stoney Creek Churchyard. John Robert, founder of Robertville, <sup>in his own parish</sup> left Santee c. 1765, 20 yrs. before 1785. No matter what the source of the 1785 date, it is obviously ~~false~~ mistaken. I have several unpublished letters: one from the Rev. James Jehu Robert who had moved to Cincinnati, Ohio dated 2 July 1850; one from his widow, Phoebe McKenzie Robert from Marietta, Ga. 15 July 1852; one from a Centerville, Miss. Robert to Milton George Robert in Washington, Ga. dated 10 June 1891 which quotes the Rev. Joseph Robert's letter to Stoney Lawton about Sarah Robert Lawton's Birthday Dinner - Family Reunion in 1831: "in March 1785 her (i.e. Sarah Robert Lawton's) elder brother John Robert and her husband <sup>(Joseph Lawton)</sup> with their families removed from Stoney Creek near Beaufort and settled plantations near where is now Robertville; both families previously Episcopal had embraced Baptist sentiments and together were the founders of the Baptist church at Robertville and the chief supporters of it during their lives." Someday I'll try to edit these and make copies with notes identifying the persons mentioned therein for publication by the Society.

Enclosed is a check for the Society's Memorial Fund in memory of Edmund Allan

Burns by Miss Cora & me. We know you miss him still. We both send you our love and best wishes.

Faithfully,  
Robert +

P.S. Surely hope you'll get to attend the Lawton & allied Families Reunion in Atlanta in June.

Rev. Dr. Robert E. H. Peeples +