

DAR Museum 1776 D Street, N. W. Washington, D.C. 20006-5392 (202) — 628-1776

ROBERT

15 February 1983

Rev. Dr. Robert E. H. Peeples 8 Moonshell Road Hilton Head Island, S.C. 29928

Dear Cousin Robert:

I hope that you and Miss Cora have had a nice year. Work here at the DAR Museum has been busy but interesting. Mrs. Burns wrote that the current <u>Transactions</u> are in the mail. I will be looking forward to seeing it.

As you may know, I have been asked to speak at the forthcoming Lawton reunion. Do you have any suggestions for a topic? I have been thinking about doing something with Cousin Isabella Robert, her attendance at the Emma Willard Female Academy and her tragic end on board the steamboat Home. I have collected a fair amount of data about the last voyage of the Home, a vessel noted for its luxurious appointments. Do you think that would be too far afield? It had also occurred to me to talk about Captain William Lawton's estate inventory from a social history point of view, but I do not know how much of a universal appeal that would have. What do you think?

I will look forward to having your suggestions in this matter. Please give my regards to Miss Cora.

Yours sincerely,

Michael W. Berry

Curator of Collections

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