

Rt. 1, Box 427 A  
Ruffin, NC 27326  
24 June 1984

Rev. Dr. Robert E.H. Peeples  
8 Moon Shell Road  
Hilton Head Island, SC 29928

Dear Dr. Peeples,

I received your card yesterday and have been able to make out a family group sheet for James F. DeWitt and Agnes Roper to put in my book. It will be easier to refer to it than to several pieces of correspondence.

I have come across another census record that may have contained a hint as to Agnes' father. In the 1818 PT (I don't know what PT stands for unless it is Poll Tax) census for Clarke Co. AL Elijah J. Roper, J.P. is listed. He is not on the 1820<sup>\*\*</sup> regular census nor could I find him on the 1850 census. <sup>\*\*\*</sup> though it is possible that the list that I have is incomplete. This is a compilation made by a commercial company and sold through genealogical magazines but it gives clues to follow.

A county history for Clarke Co. AL has been published but I don't know at what time. It would be interesting to check it, or to have it checked, to see if Elijah J. Roper is mentioned. These histories usually have lists of public officials. Clarke Co. AL was taken from Washington Co. AL in 1812 but the first Washington Co. census was the same as the first Clarke Co. census, so checking an earlier census is out of the question. Possibly, if you could find someone to read the 1830 Clarke Co. AL census you might find a listing for Elijah J. Roper that was overlooked by the indexer. It's possible that there were also other Roper families in the area. You should be able to find James F. DeWitt's listing and confirm the number of children they had at that time. It would be worth the time for me if I were researching this family.

Have you checked to see if the Clarke Co. (and Washington Co.) land records are extant? If Elijah was a J.P. it's probable that he owned land and a first deed might mention his former residential area. Another place to search would be the Court Minutes. This is tedious as they aren't usually indexed, but the courts were used for lots of reasons back then and by most everyone. Elijah's appointment as a J.P. should be listed somewhere.

Have you been in contact with descendants of other children of James and Agnes? Sometimes a thorough search has been made by other members of the family.

I hope that you won't feel like I'm overstepping my bounds by these suggestions but I like to give all of the help that I can and you didn't indicate the extent of your experience in doing research. Please let me hear from you again, especially if any of these suggestions pay off.

\* no 1820 census for AL  
\*\* 1850 index

Sincerely,

*June Walton*  
June Roper Walton

Rt. 1, Box 427 A  
Ruffin, NC 27326  
7 June 1984

Rev. Dr. Robert E.H. Peeples  
8 Moon Shell Road  
Hilton Head Island, SC 29928

Dear Dr. Peeples,

I have checked the family group sheets sent me by other Roper researchers and I haven't come up with any with a daughter named Agnes. In fact, I haven't seen that name in any of the correspondence that I've had that I remember.

I don't have any suggestions as to where to look now for Agnes' ancestry. If you wish to place the parents of James F. DeWitt, you might check the SC 1800 census index for men of that name and then go to the public records in the counties showing them for wills, etc.

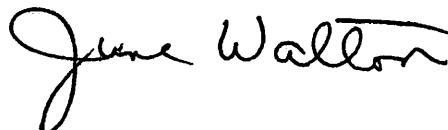
There were Ropers all over SC in 1800, when Agnes was born. My own line starts in Pickens Co. SC and I haven't been able to find where they were before coming to that area. Edgefield Co. SC also had lots of Ropers and I see from my records that some of them went to Alabama. Mr. Russell B. Patch, 1439 18th Ave., Columbus, GA 31901 had a Martha Ann Roper, b. 1805 in SC who married a John Eli Stringer of Edgefield SC. Both are buried in Russell Co. AL. In his research Mr. Patch may have come across your family.

Do you have a family group sheet on Agnes and James showing the names of their children? Usually the first son was named for the man's father and the second son was named for the woman's father. If you will send me the children's names I will check to see if any of my sheets have similar names.

It is customary for a seeker to send a SASE (stamped, self-addressed Envelope) with a query and many genealogists, both amateur and professional, will not answer a letter that doesn't contain one. If you send out other letters seeking information I strongly suggest that you enclose a SASE.

I'm sorry that I haven't been able to help you, and hope that further correspondence will give you a lead.

Sincerely,



June Roper Walton