

1028 So. Highland Ave.,
Los Angeles, Calif.

May 9th, 1937.

Mr. James H. Moyle,
The Sharehan,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Moyle:

We are trying to obtain more information regarding father's people. My brother, James, said that you had some genealogical data regarding father's mother and her people. Would like to know if there is any way we could obtain the information you have. What would it cost or is there anyway we could obtain the records long enough to make copy.

Aoso, did you know father as a boy-- we are writing up his history, that is as much as we can remember and if you remember anything of his boyhood, would appreciate it if you would write it down for us.

Will appreciate hearing from you

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely Yours,

I trust I left fairly
all well with you &
yours. Mother keeps
up remarkably well in
spite of her disability.

Very truly,
Your mother

We are trying to obtain more in-
formation regarding Father's people.
Mr. [unclear] said that you had
some genealogical data regarding Father's
people and her people. Would like to
know if there is any way we could ob-
tain the information you have. What
would it cost or is there anyway we
could obtain the records long enough to

know. Did you know Father as a boy--
we are writing up his history, that is
as much as we can remember and if you
remember anything of his boyhood, would
appreciate it if you would write it
down for us.

With affectionate regards from you

Very truly,
Your mother

Sincerely yours,



OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

ADDRESS REPLY TO
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IN REPLY REFER TO

TREASURY DEPARTMENT

BUREAU OF CUSTOMS

WASHINGTON

May 15, 1937.

Dear Miss Yancey:

I conclude from your letter that you are a daughter of my cousin, Adam Yancy, and that you and your mother are in Los Angeles.

Your father and I were born about the same time. I was more intimate with him than any other cousin. He frequently visited us and I frequently visited with them at Grandmother Wood's. Our relations were always of the very finest. He was a splendid character.

I am more than pleased to know that you are writing your father's history. If his real character were portrayed fully it would be a splendid example to follow and an inspiration to his posterity at least.

Until he married he lived at the home of Grandmother Wood with his mother. She was a fine looking woman and, like her son, a splendid character. I very distinctly remember that she would often seem mentally abstracted with a melancholy expression for reasons which my mother attributed to the fact that her husband insisted on leaving the Church and going to live in Oregon. He stole from her an only child, a son a year or two old. He went with an immigrant train that was passing through Utah to

Oregon and kept the child beside him in his wagon which he was driving, with a gun also by his side, apparently anticipating that an effort would be made to take the child from him. Grandfather Wood had men follow the train for that purpose but they never were able to find him off his guard. The chief purpose, as I understood, of his taking the child was to force your grandmother to go with her husband. That she would not have done for religious reasons, if no other, as she was a very devout Latter Day Saint.

Your mother doubtless knows that that son, after he was grown, and not so long before his mother's death, visited her. What has become of him I do not know. Your father knew much more about that.

Your grandmother was an attractive woman. Notwithstanding the fact that it was not uncommon for her to sit alone for hours and knit with a very serious expression on her face and seldom very jovial she had repeated opportunities of marriage. She married Captain James Brown, of Ogden, when I was a small boy, I don't think ten years old. He was accidentally shot and killed not so long after, and left quite a large family by another wife. He purchased a Mexican land grant which included the site of Ogden City and became the first settler in Ogden. The histories speak quite freely of him.

James

She thereafter denied all opportunities of marriage until after I think your father was probably married, when she married a widower of Bountiful who insisted on the marriage notwithstanding the fact that she made clear to him she was not in love with him but, as they were both alone and highly respected, married him with possibly the hope that their lives would be made happier through their more intimate association. If you do not have his name you can get it from Mrs. Inez C. Wood Evans, at Woods Cross, the daughter of Joseph C. Wood, of the same place, who is still living and in good health though about 80 years of age. He will remember all about the marriage and families because his sister married a son of Aunt Harriet's husband. Mrs. Evans is the active secretary of the Daniel Wood Genealogical Society and takes a great interest in the family history.

Grandmother

I have spent many years in researching in a desultory way the history of my grandfather's family, without making very much progress for the reason that, in the printed records of the Wood genealogy a page had been overlooked which recorded the birth of grandfather's father. I finally employed Mr. George O. Zabriskie, formerly of Salt Lake, now of Washington. Two years ago he made a thorough and complete search, not only of the records, but visited the localities where the family was known to have lived,

particularly Dutchess and Ulster Counties, New York, and Ontario, Canada. He finally found, at Kingston, in Ulster County, New York, a very complete record of the Woods back to 1681. (I will send you a copy of the family tree which I have recently had prepared from Mr. Zabriskie's notes. He called on all of the people of whom he could learn who might know something concerning the family, and searched family Bibles, tombstones, etc., with the result that there are several hundred pages of his notes, a copy of most of which I have given to Mrs. Evans for the family genealogical society, and another copy to the Utah Genealogical Society, and of course have a copy here. X

Mr. Zabriskie spent about four months doing nothing else. I let him have my automobile, in which he went up and down the Hudson Valley and around Lake Ontario twice. He also went to Ottawa, and has provided me with a very illuminating volume of facts. Mr. Zabriskie has since continued to do more or less work for me and is still doing some in the hope of extending my knowledge of my ancestry.

Mr. Louis P. deBoer, now of 357 South Hope Street, Los Angeles, is also assisting me, as well as some others. Mr. deBoer has been assisting Cecil B. DeMille, the movie producer, in the preparation of the history of his family. He believes, and I feel very sure, that we both come from

the same ancestor, Anthony Demilt, now generally written "DeMille". He came to New York from Holland in 1658 with a wife and two sons, Isaac and Peter. Peter is the ancestor of Mr. DeMille, and Isaac, I am very sure, is our ancestor. Mr. deBoer is providing me with all the information that he has concerning the descendants of Isaac. It is expected that Mr. DeMille will shortly print his history, which will present the other branch of the family.

I have been to no end of trouble to ascertain the parentage of Garret DeMill or Demill. He was the father of Grandmother Wood's mother. That fact is established solely by a letter written by her brother, Isaac Demill, in 1865 to Colonel Gridley, of Michigan, who has been dead many years. His widow, Mrs. Eleanor Gridley, of 1549 East 61st Street, Chicago, Illinois, sold me the letter for \$25. She is the author of one of the Lincoln histories and a well-known character in Chicago over 90 years of age. Both she and her daughter are also endeavoring to find the ancestry of Garret because both she and her husband were also his descendants. The husband and wife were fourth cousins.

Both your Grandfather Wood's grandfathers, Garret and Daniel, were Revolutionary soldiers, which will entitle Grandfather's descendants to membership in the

Societies of the Sons and Daughters of the American Revolution.

You will be welcome to anything that I have got or can obtain on the subject of our family's history. I have been interested in genealogical research for over 40 years and have spent a good deal of money, so much that I commenced to feel that someone else should share the responsibility. I have had no one in the family whatever to help me. Inez Evans has been more than willing and anxious to do her part but unable to contribute money, which is now practically the only think to bring results as I have covered the ground quite thoroughly, but I am confident that if we persist we will make many more important discoveries. The one I am working on now is that of connecting Garret with what all of the genealogists believe is his ancestor, namely, Anthony Demill.

Should your family feel like aiding me I will be very glad to have them give the money to the Utah Genealogical Society, as I am turning over everything I have to them expecting, when I return to Utah which will probably not be so far in the future, that I will take the matter up actively with the Society. In the meantime they can greatly aid us. I am now concentrating my efforts on opportunities that present themselves here in the East.

I will be glad to have you preserve this letter and send copies of it, if you will, to other members of the family whose interest in the subject might be aroused.

It was only recently that I learned, that there was a Freeborn Demill who was baptized by Joseph Smith and followed the Church from Ohio to Utah, locating in Manti. He was the brother of Grandfather's mother. He has a large family in southern Utah and Arizona. They also are trying to aid me, although not with money. Grandfather evidently did not know, when he lived in Kirtland, Missouri, and Illinois, that Freeborn Demill was his uncle. This well illustrates the opportunity for unlimited research.

Hoping that your mother is enjoying good health and that I may have the pleasure of meeting you and particularly your sister and brother whom I have met, I am,

Very sincerely and cordially yours,

James H. Moyle

Miss Alice Yancey,
1028 South Highland Avenue,
Los Angeles, Calif.

P. S. I find I haven't a copy of the family tree, which I will have to have made and send to you later.

deBoer, arnold

5250 wood St gals

Loan 6 7659

Louis P deBoer