

Lincoln, Illinois. January 30, 1932

Mrs. Mildred Tallant,
911 Chapala Street,
Santa Barbara, California;

Dear Mrs Tallant:

This exchange of letters is getting to be quite an exciting affair and this time the postscript of your letter, with its information about Mrs. Frances Cooley Herren and her line assured me of one more cousin at least. and you know I feel strongly that you too are of the Samuel Cooley line, and that James was a brother of the Thomas of whom I wrote you in my last letter, and of the Nancy Cooley in Mrs Frances Cooley Herren's line.

Not true however

These Pennsylvania Cooleys were much more numerous than I had ~~had~~ any idea they would prove to be. On my last visit to Springfield—Wednesday of last week—I spent hours going over the Pennsylvania Archives and found that some of my New York families had come over immediately after the Revolution and taken up land in Pennsylvania. My own line did and the children of David Cooley but I found a Henry (who was Hendrick in New York who brought others with him to Cumberland County Pennsylvania. Henry came in 1779, the very first of the name to appear. In 1782 my John William, wife Rebecca (*gr. gr. grand parents*) came to York County, really to Northern Liberties first. In 1792 Henry, Samuel and Joshua took up 400 acres apiece in Cumberland County. In 1788, Dec. 17, James Cooley took up 350 acres and Samuel, Andrew, Peter, and George took up slightly smaller tracts in Cumberland County. George, by the way was a "private in the Navy of Pennsylvania. Muster Roll of the schooner Lydia under Phillip Vert Master." I have records of the War of 1812 (Vol I VII, and XI of the Sixth Series) of the service of Alexander Cooley, Stephen, Daniel, Jonathan James and George. *The underlined names are my great grand fathers brothers*

You can see why I am planning to go back and to wade however laboriously through the Egel Notes etc all without indexes and which promises a lot of extremely hard work, but the cousins here are so anxious for me to have the book printed and I want it as complete as I can make it.

~~sent me and the repetition of the name Susan Means makes me think the line is that of our John Senior for he married Susannah Patterson daughter of Susannah Howard Patterson wife of the James Patterson. Indian trader and pioneer who went into Pennsylvania before 1720. Our line has always seemed very proud of the name. This excerpt gives Susan Means, born Jan 17, 1818 daughter of Alexander Means of Rockingham County, N.C. later of Shelby County Indiana. Susan Means, born 1837, daughter of Joseph Means, died in youth. Her father Joseph Means was born 1805 in Rockingham County, N.C. and lived in~~

(excuse this, please can you read it? Will repeat; Joseph Means was born 1805 in Rockingham Co., N.C., and lived in Indiana and Minnesota.

or his Alexander.

Now perhaps a son of John Senior's son William came back into West Virginia and your line comes in there. Rest assured that if I ever see the name I will take down everything it says and send to you.

I have been interrupted and the night is almost here, so will stop and add a line tomorrow or Monday. I was so glad to hear from you and to get Mrs. Herren's address. I have a letter written to her. I feel like I must hurry and get this information while the cousins are so interested. It is quite likely we will have it printed in some form for our connection is large and the younger ones want it. I do believe you are of that Uniontown Youghiogheny river line - You know it was Alleghany County Pennsylvania and I know that Samuel came before 1817 to the western end of Pennsylvania. John Andrew Senior, his brother, may have come earlier than he did for he bought a farm there immediately after he married in 1788. Your great-grandfather apparently never owned land there but the boys probably farmed part of the father's land as our line did till they went to Indiana. The eldest son of John A was born in 1789 and their cousin's widow Mrs Eliza Ceeley, Thomas Ceeley's wife, was born in 1801 so you the dates are about right.

They were Presbyterians and later Cumberland Presbyterians. that sometimes helps. But that country is or was at one pretty thick with Ceeleys.