214 North Linden,

Sapulpa, Okla.,
June the 13, 1932.

Dear Mrs. Tallant.

About an hour ago I received your letter of June 7th, and I greatly appreciate it— it enlightens me on some points and awakens my memory on others. You must not think that you worry me by the length or contents of your letters— never. We are on a very interesting subjet. True, we are "hunting for needles in hay-stacks," but we know that both the hay-stacks and needles are there— the hunting is a delightful game, besides the knowledge is useful. I thank you for this good letter.

I am expecting a letter from Barrollton, Mo. in a few days that may give us further data. The old lady (82 years old) I have written to for da-ta is an old childhood play and school mate. She was Miss. Bettie Bary now Mrs. Benson. She is blind now

and must depend upon others to write for her, but she has a splendid memory. The young woman who is to do her writing is poorly just now, as a letter from her yesterday states.

Reuben Bosley. The two dates you give— Nov. 8, 1836, of Thos. Hardwick and Ruben Bosley evidently of Carroll Co. Mo, and the record from Howard County, show plainly that there were at that time (two dates in the same year) two Reuben Booleys, but I am not able to point out their relationship.

Thomas Hardwick. My information is that he came to Mo. from Ky. I remember well the old hewed log house your notice refers to. It is among the first of my childhood memories— past by the location last Sept. and paused to look at it. And the "Hardwick Mill" on "Wakenda Creek." My father, Benj. E. Kiergan, was a millright and he built that mill for Uncle Tom. Hardwick in 1853. The original name of the

Creek — the Indian name — was Wa-Kon-da. When I was a child we called it Wakondaw. How it came in later years to be Wakenda I do not know. Of the Hardwick boys — Uncle Tom's boys — there were Jeff. Eliza, Jim. + Bill. There was a daughter — Polly Ann. She first married Thomas Atkin. son, after his death she married Mr. Jacops — he re-built the Hardwick Mill. I knew all these people.

Missionary Baptist Church. I do not think these people — members were Missionary Baptist but separate Baptists. The meeting house they worshipped in was about 2/2 miles from where I lived. It was a "union" house used by anybody. I have been there many times. Of the Charter members you mention, I knew John, Joseph Riffe, knew of, possibly had seen the other Riffes. I knew the Burls, cannot place John Booley unless he was my "Uncle John ~~Jol~~ ney". The name Mahala Booley &

cannot at this minute place altho her name is perfectly familiar to me. I'll dig that out later if you don't.

Carl Hardwick. Let me correct myself a little. Uncle Tom. Hardwick had another son — Carl. He was an intimate of my father. He went to Calif. in 1855 and never returned. Next to the last night he spent in Mo. he spent at our house.

Benj. Cooley. I am now sure we have dug him out all right except I do not know who his father was. Ben. was evidently a brother to my mother's first husband. But I do not know the given name of my mother's first husband — it might have been Thomas ("Tink") One of my mother's brothers was Tom. Cooley and probably a cousin of the other Tom.

Alfred Robbins. Yes, I knew him well. He was older than Wm H. Robbins. I knew his wife too. Will. and Alf were brothers. But I did not remember that

Alf's wife, Nancy Jane, was a Booley.

Nancy Jane Booley-Robbins Anderson. You say her 2nd marriage was to Wm. Anderson. Yes. He was stepfather to Mrs. Bettie Benson I have mentioned in this letter. This Bettie Benson was Betty Bary. The widow Bary and Wm Anderson had one son — Willie. We always called him Mefie Bary. Anderson and Mrs. Bary parted and Willie was left with his mother. You see I am "telling tales out of school" but you need not repeat them. I don't think that Anderson and Widow Alf. Robbins had any children.

Aaron Booley. I do not remember him and did not know who the father of Nancy Jane Booley's father was until now you tell me. Aunt Jane must have been an old woman at he death — about 80 — if as you say she died in 1915.

My mother's uncles. I do not know who my mothers uncles were as I do not know who my grandfather's brothers were. But somehow I have

the impression that one of them was James. If this impression is correct then James Booley was the father of my uncle Ben. Booley and of my mother's first husband. This, of course is somewhat guessing. But this impression grown upon me as I study this ancestor riddle.

Eli Booley, etc. No. I have never heard of Eli, or Christopher B. Booley. But my mother, you know, had a brother Jackson. This given name may have (most likely was) taken from an uncle Jackson, and Eli and Christopher may have been my mother's uncles too — likely.

Woods + Brecks of Carroll Co. Mo. No. These Woodses were no kin that I know of to the Woods my cousin Adelia Booley married in Macon Co. Mo.

Milton Booley of Mexican war was evidently Bro. to Uncle Johnie Booley of Carrollton — The times of there living and place of living would indicate it. The chronology agrees.

"Tink" Booley — evidently was my uncle Tom. Booley. I never knew he lived in Carrollton, Mo. but likely so. This may hitch on: After my mother's first husband died my mother drifted into Ray County the next county seat west of Carrollton — they both may drifted together from Macon Co. But here is another link. After my Mother's Booley husband died she married a Mr. Joel Smith of Richmond Ray Co., Mo. Then my father found her the widow Smith. The Smith husband lived but a few months. His brother Payton Smith became my special friend in after years — my mother had been his sister-in-law. My father married my mother & Payton Smith's house.

Now, it may be this "Tink" — Tom — Booley was in some way close akin to your Aaron and that for a time my uncle Tom B. and his son Aaron resided in Carrollton. The "Tink" (Tom) Booley family whose

names Mr. Peters gave you are my uncle Tom's children — Dave, Jeff., Press., Geo, and Aaron. You refresh me on this. The family lived in south of Ballas, Mo. I was never closely associated with this family altho I knew uncle Tom and was at his house once just before the civil war. He was living with his 2nd wife then about five miles east of Brunswick. No. None of his children were living with him then. Your Aaron and my cousin Aaron ~~are certainly~~ are certainly closely allied. Since you awaken my memory on Tom. ("Tink") Booley's family much is looming up in my understanding. I knew of all these Tom Booley children — my cousins and have seen some of them, may be all of them when I was a child. This return of memory of the Tom. Booley family will account for the discrepancy between some of my statements about Aaron and "Tink" Booley.

Peters Graveyard. Yes, my grandmoth-

er and grandfather Booley were bur-
red in the Peters cemetery. I knew some
of the Peters— children about my age—
little fellows, while I lived with
my grandmother, until her death, but
lost knowledge of them later. I do
not know that the Booley's married
into the Peter family— I expect they
did.

Miller Wisdom Booley and Elizabeth Hill.

I can easily and may be correctly
suppose that Elizabeth Hill was the dau-
ghter of Bapt. Hill who kept Hill's
Landing on Mo. River before the civil
war and about five miles Sou. E. of
Barrollton. He maintained a river
trafic landing and store. The mer-
chants of Barrollton and commu-
nity center in most of the county got
their supplies through Hill's Landing
I have been there when I was a
small boy. This Mr. Hill (I do not
recall his given name—we called
him Bap.) had a son named John
— as fine a specimin of humanity
as you ever see— tall, slender blond

as delicate as a girl and very intellectual. Just before the civil war began he married the beautiful Beana (Sabena) Robbins, sister to Will H. Robins. John Hill joined the Union army in the begining. He came home to see his young wife on a few days furlough. He was supposed he returned to the military post. But he was never heard of again. It was believed after the war he had been murdered on barroll Bo. and hence had not returned to the post. My cluu, Philip Adkins, married this young widow Hill after the war — she lived only about a year. I stood by her bed when she was dying. a most pathetic sight; beautiful and tender of heart to the last. I knew her from a child — she was my playmate in childhood. John Hill was the delight of all the country. I take that he was your kindred.

Possibly I have covere all the points you raised. May be I have not

given you any light at all. You see I write from memory as I have but few records. But the data you have given me has been enlightening and comforting. I feel we have just begun to dig into the Family tree. I will be glad to hear from you soon, at your opportunity, and I will be pleased to give you any help I can — and I will be more than repaid.

You speak of my writing. I do it rapidly. It is not to write a smooth hand. Though I have training and long years experience and practice I am not a good orthographer — when I am pulling ahead I pay but little attention to spelling. When I was a young fellow — just out of school — I was too particular. If I received a letter with an "i" ~~now~~ undotted or a "t" uncrossed I was disgusted, but long since I quit that foolishness. I enjoy a good horse sense letter even if the spelling

is bad and the grammar outlandish. I ought to do better than I do — I had eighteen years at school and four years in special course afterwards; and I made practically all of my way with my own hands. I never drank whiskey nor used tobacco, nor dissipated otherwise. I attribute the nearly 84 years of fairly active life to the manner in which I have lived; and yet I am very defective.

While I am at this let me say a little more about my father's family. As I said, I think, in a former letter, my great great grandfather Kiergan was born, lived and died in Dundee Scotland; my great grandfather Joseph K. married Geal Francis Marion's aunt; his son William K. was my grandfather. Elizabeth Edwards was my grandmother. She was a cousin to Abe Lincoln's mother, a daughter of Benjamin Edwards and a niece of Ninian Edwards who was three times governor of Ill. Chancellor of the supreme court of Ky. when he was twenty-six years

old, was minister to Mexico, a graduate of Harvard. My great-great grandfather Benjamin Edwards was a very rich planter in Va. In later years he wrote the constitution of Ky. His brother John was U. S. senator. One of the ancestors was Jonathan Edwards born Oct. 5, 1703, m. Sarah Pierpont, "a woman of strong character." Of him John Fiske said: "Jonathan Edwards was one of the wonders of the world, probably the greatest intelligence that the Western Hemisphere has yet seen." — Hist. New England and Canada. Allen's Life of Edwards says: "He was the greatest preacher of his age." But alas, alas! the tricks played on humanity. Edwards daughter Esther married Rev. Aaron Burr a gifted and learned Pres. of the College of New Jersey. Of this family came Aaron Burr, Colo of Revolutionary army, Vice-President of U. S. 1801—1805 and who killed Hamilton in duel. This foolish and wicked deed ruined him and all his prospects regardless of his ancestry and gifts.

Pardon me for this note personal, but you would have never known some of these "kin" of mine if I did not tell you.

To return to the booleys. I think I told you that my uncle Benj. Booley had but two children that I know of Dorothey being one of them. But just at the moment of writing that I did not call to mind Mike Booley. He was a Southern soldier of the civil war, died in prison (a mere boy) at Jefferson Barracks, St. Louis, Mo. I was at his grave two years ago.

This letter is shamefully long but I could go on and on — the subject is near inexhaustible as you know.

I might as well fill this remaining space. I have an adopted son whose boy (Nova B. K.) is in the U. S. naval school and doing fine. I have one son ruined by the "flu" and in a hospital — educated; one son in Okla. University four years; two daughters graduates of Edmond State Teachers' College of Okla. and also graduates of Okla. U., A. B. degree. They are teachers. — Please write me soon and freely if you live through this long letter.

Your "Kin" A. M. Kiergan.