

Mrs. Lotus Alderman Steele
1 El Vedado Ln., #40
Santa Barbara,
Ca. 93105.
March 5, 1977.

Dear Mrs. Frank E. Cooley, Jr.:

I was very pleased to receive your letter of Feb. 21st. Every little bit helps! Your "Gleanings" are always of great interest. I get excited when I think I have a new clue. It was Oct. of 1975 (Vol. #73) that real news came to me about Frances (Miller) Cooley b. 1795, living with her son, James Madison Cooley, ^{b. 1828 Ray Co.} and wife, Eliza Jane (Bailey) Cooley in Atchison Co. ^{Mo.} in 1850. I assume Miller Wisdom Cooley was in the west making plans for a wagon-train in 1853, and was never listed in a Census of 1850. At least I know now that his family, and his mother were in Atchison Co. prior to the Oregon trip. Miller's oldest brother, ^{Aaron} died in 1844 in Carroll Co., Mo. Daniel Boone Cooley went to Oregon with Miller, he never married. Mrs. Geo. A. Brown must be a descendent of the James Madison Cooley, the youngest son of our James, b. 1795. I will certainly write to her. Maybe she will know where an old family Bible can be found. Miller Cooley had many things to take 2,000 miles to Oregon in 1853, besides his wife, Elizabeth Hill, three children and a boy born on the way (see page 893) - "Cooley Genealogy" book.

Now I am reviewing your suggestion that the Daniel of Va. who married Millie Ball in Lincoln Co., Ky. in Jan. 10, 1781 might be our ancestor. I wonder if you can give me the source of this marriage record? With a Daniel Boone Cooley in our family and in other families, I don't believe Mother Tallant did serious research on that name. You will find her work, from 1932 to 1955 on page 892 in the "Cooley Genealogy" book.

Mildred Cooley Tallant recorded in her note-book that she thought the name William Aaron, b. cr. 1760, who came from Va. in 1870 to Adair Co., Ky. to raise his family might be our ancestor. He had about four sons and a daughter: all in Adair:

Nancy, b. cr. 1782, m. King Fisher

John, b. cr. 1790

James, b. 1795, m. Frances Miller in 1814 (?)

William, moved to Carroll Co., Mo.
Aaron, b. Mar. 1802 m. Susan (Lizzie) Horvics, staying in Adair + died there Sept. 1845.

Mar. 25th

Miss
Frances
#1/17

In Carroll Co. Census of 1850 is a John Cooley of ^{Ky., b. 1790} 60 years ^{old} and his wife of 57 years, Mahala Hardwick, daughter of Thomas Hardwick. I believe he is a brother to our James of 1795. They both lived in Carroll Co., and James died there in 1835, having left Madison Co. Ky. about 1825.

In 1968, when I was working with Mrs. Force, I thought I had data that might prove that our James of 1795 might be the son of James b. 1760. In the D.A.R. records of a James b. 1760, (or 1759) a private of the So. Carolina Militia who was granted a pension April 1, 1833, of \$49.20 at age 74. Source: Filson Club, Ky. Society of Sons of the Amer. Revolution for 1896 year Book. Mrs. Force did not urge me to go on.

My time spent has been days in review!

I must close now, with great appreciation for your help!

I'll keep on working next week!

Sincerely yours,

Lotus Alderman Steele
(Mrs. A. Bruce Steele)

P. S.

I have some information about Corydon Eliphalet Cooley.

You had an item about his grandson,

Richard C. Cooley in Show Low, Arizona.

"Gleanings", July, 1976