

A copy of Cousin Quincy Oats to my sister Luise Patterson.

My dear Cousin Luise:

Yours of May 22nd to hand and deserved an earlier reply. I can only plead I am a very busy man and the cares I have had have so engrossed time and thought that I've neglected to reply.

I am glad you have written to me, and will do my best to give you the desired information.

Your great grandfather Stuart, and mine, was born in Londonderry, Ireland. He was Scotch, as were his parents. The name Stuart is derived from the line of Scotch kings. Alderman Frenchman was steward to King David, of Scotland and got his name. He married the King's daughter and their descendants were called Stuart. The branch of the family we descended from, fled to Ireland when King William, of Orange conquered Scotland. Our great grandfather was Samuel Stuart. He married Jane Dickey. They came to this country with the Puritans, from there to Virginia, from there to the Scotch settlement in Cheatham County, North Carolina, finally settled in Moore County. Great Grandfather, Samuel, his brother George Edward, John my mother's father, then came Uncle Noah, the youngest. There was one daughter, Nancy, my mother was named for her. Uncle George raised a large family and died in feeble old age, in Moore County. He was an architect by profession. Uncle George was a Methodist minister. He has one daughter, Elizabeth. Uncle Edward had two children, William and Mary. After his death his widow moved to DeSoto County, Mississippi where she died. Mary married a man by the name of Andrews. She and William are living in Arkansas. Uncle Edward was a scholar and teacher, taught school all his life. Uncle William did not die in boyhood, as your father thinks, but lived to be almost sixty years of age. I have known nothing of him or his family for years. They were the black sheep of the Stuarts—all the others prospered, but he was always in trouble financially.

Uncle Stuart was my grandfather. My mother was the eldest child. She still lives with my youngest sister, Mrs. Margaret Oats, having married

Carthage, N. C. Uncle Elias is now a feeble old man. I had six aunts, two of them married Sinclaires, their husbands were not related. One married a Smith, one a Maness. Mrs. Maness is dead, the others are living. Two are old maids and live in the old family home near Carthage, N. C. Uncle Enoch and Samuel, you probably know as much about as I do, as the one was your grandfather and the other died near you. You might write to Uncle Elias Stuart, John Sinclair is a merchant there, the oldest son of my Mother's sister. You might write to him. I would like much to see your father and mother. Our great-grandfather Samuel Stuart drank which proved his ruin. He wandered away from home and died somewhere in South Carolina, leaving all of his children quite youthful. Our great-aunt Nancy went to South Carolina. She probably went there to nurse her father in his last illness. She never returned to North Carolina but married there a man by the name of Cunningham. She seems to have married well and went with her husband at an early date in life to Stone Mountain, Georgia, there she raised a large family. They all turned out well, being lawyers, doctors and Statesmen. I know several of her descendants; among them are preachers, Senators, representatives and governors. They are scattered throughout the southeast.

There are numerous branches of the family in North Carolina. I mean descendants of great grandfather. Of those I knew, most of them are fine people.

Your Cousin,

Q. A. Oats.

I thought perhaps you
would like to know something
of the family history on your mother's
side the Stuart's so I am enclosing
this information.

Your Uncle
Joel Stuart

Q Oats was a founding
Elder he has been
dead for several years
He was indeed a fine
fine man and we
thought of great deal of him