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7-3-1840

Letter from Origen Sibley to George Sibley, July 3, 1840

Origen Sibley

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Blakeley Ala 3rd July 1840

My dear cousin

I am almost ashamed to have let your very ___ letter remain so long unanswered; but it secured almost inevitable after the determination I had formed of procuring for & furnishing you with a few genealogical statistics before I wrote again.

It seems almost like living my life over again, to find at this late day, & at this distances from our common mother, N. England, to find relations with whim I have hitherto had no ___, & those of such respectability & acquirements-, as may well render me proud of the relationship. Remote from all who were bound to us by the ties of consanguinity, my brother Cyrus & myself have passed about 20 years of our lives here together. He came here some 10 years earlier than I did & about 9 years ago our sister, Mrs. __, whose husband had recently deceased in Georgia came to reside near us. Our Brother Benjamin Franklin resides in Mississippi, but I have not seen him for 25 years; nor has he answered my last letter which was written nearly two years since.

But I must to business, as I presume Rufus has told you as much of our first concerns & business as is of ______ interest. We are not rich bit like yourself independent & contented. Cyrus has about 40 slaves. I about 30. My other property is worth, at present subtreasury prices not less than 40.000 dollars. Cyrus not so much, so that our accumulations are about equal. We have never sought office, although I did once accept the seat in our state legislature from the county, but having obtained my own forgiveness can now think of doing it again, tho' annually ____. I should like to say something on the subject of politics, but have not room without omitting what I have delayed writing so long to be able to communicate, I will merely say that we will vote with you for your friend Harrison, in preference to your friend Van Buren, thoroughly satisfied that the Beautonian party will, if preserved in longer _____ the energies of the country.

On the receipt of your letter I addressed letters to my sisters in N England. Replies to which I suppose I might be in the receipt of in 3 or 4 weeks thereafter, but from a desire to render them more satisfactorily, & general they have but just arrived & after all contain the information sought for in relation to their own families, & that from __, incomplete. I shall preserve & claim from you a copy of your fable as my recompense. I presume you have a record of Grandfathers family, & I will commence with that of my oldest sister, or rather with my father's

Timothy Sibley (my Father) born June 2, 1754- died Mary Barstow, his wife ' June 1, 1756 – died Children- Timothy Millard " sept. 11, 1779 – died Mch 11 1820 Mary " Cec 5, 1780 – died Oct 1 1829 Anne " Jany 15. 1782 Cyrus Jany 6. 1784 Artemus April 4. 1786 – died Salome Sept 13. 1788 Benjamin Franklin 1790- died Aug. 1793 Susan July 16. 1793 Benjamin Franklin born Jany 17. 1795

Origen June 25. 1798

My mother was the daughter of the Rev. Jeremiah Barstow of Great Barrington (Mass)- & a most exemplary & excellent woman & from my earliest recollection a member of the Baptist church. I have not yet to procure the particulars as to Brother Millard's family. He was married to a Miss Cunnings in Maine where he resided & died leaving a son & three daughters. I will write for particulars.

My sister Mary was married to Nehemiah ____ Brooklin __ & Providence R. I. by whom she had a daughter, Mary Elizabeth born Oct. 12. 1825.

Mr. Scarborough's birth is given April 10th 1776. The date of their marriage I will obtain. Mr. S is a man of high standing & respectability & some wea[page missing]

My sister Anne, was married Jany 17th 1810 to Stephen Willwarth Esq of Glouster R. I. and belonging to one of the most respectable families in that part of the state. He died several years ago. Date not given me ____. Nancy Sibley Willworth born Oct 1. 1811, died Apl 29 1832.

John Sibley " " July 28. 1812, died Feby 19. 1828. She is now living in Providence in easy circumstances, and attending to the education of her grandson. Son of her daughter who was married to a Mr. Angell. Acept my thanks for the trouble you took in relation to the ____. Tell Rufus, I had a little son born soon after he left, very much like him. We are well. Our best love to your wife & Rufus, & believe me-. Yr Afft. Cousin Origen Sibley