

Benton, Arkansas
March 28, 1962

Dear Ruby, and Buren,

We have been so busy studying the information you sent that we have not had time to write. There is so little that we can offer from here and time is hard to find, with a family and a store to take care of; yet we are still very interested and if at any time we find information that we think will help you we will send it to you.

Your are certainly doing it the right way-searching records and finding proof. So many people hear stories of family events-these stories are handed down and soon taken as the truth. For example an old Negro Slave, Aunt Mary Ann Poe, lived in Benton until her death about 20 years ago. Aunt Mary Ann lived with my Grandfather until they moved to Little Rock and then she moved to Benton. She stayed with Mother when each child was born. In fact she carried me around the house, going counter clockwise on a real cold Feb. 24, the day I was born. This was supposed to bring me luck the rest of my life.

Several weeks ago Mary Livingston was visiting us one Sunday afternoon and Aunt Mary Ann was mentioned. Mary said, yes I remember her well-she was my grandfathers slave. Mother was about ready to argue with her because she says Aunt Mary Ann was her Grandfathers slave. Anyway she belonged to one of the Poes.

A Mrs. Jack D. Walker, 201 Stone Blvd., Tullahoma, Tenn. wrote last year asking for information on John Poes children. She stated that there was a John Poe in the early census of Franklin Co., Tenn. Her great grandfather James Poe was born in 1803 and his wife Polly was born in 1801. The 1850 census of Tuscaloosa Co., Ala. shows a James and Polly Poe of this age group. I wrote and gave her this information asking for information on the John Poe in Franklin Co. She sent me the information on her James Poe taken from 1850 Census but did not send information on John Poe. I plan to write again.

We have not been able to locate John Poe, married Sarah Threet or William Threet Poe who married Sarah Reynolds listed in the 1850 census of Alabama or Arkansas. John Poe died in 1859 so he is not listed in any census that will give his age. It is possible that they moved to Ala. for a year or two and then to Arkansas.

I AM REALLY INTERESTED in information regarding John Poe who was listed in Anson Co., N.C. Census and your note that John Poe was selling land in N.C. about 1820. Census records show Elizabeth, mother of Penina Williams, was born in N.C. about 1816. The next child, John W., was born in Ala. about 1823. This will indicate that he moved to Ala. about 1820.

The copy of the deed to the Church Property was really interesting. They were really hard shell Baptist-werent they. This must be our John Poe. He was a Sr. and his wife Sarah (Sally on the Deed) signed by X on Papers here.

Another item I was so glad to get was the Map. All of the families must have been close. To live near each other in N.C., Ala. and Arkansas.

We have copied the Obituary of Peninah E. Williams and the notes from her will and am returning them. Also another paper I found in one of your previous letters.

I am making a list of questions taken from Notes of your letters. When you have time will appreciate any information you can send.

As we said earlier there is not much we can do here, since all the information is back in Alabama and N.C.. Do appreciate the work you have done.

We are sending some Acetate Covers, which fit regular 11X8 1/2 three ring binder and some reinforced paper to keep permanent records.

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We have found both items very helpful and want you to have a supply.

Sincerely,

P.S.--Glad you have a helper in Tuscaloosa.
How is Lucille Burton.