



# The Anderson Record

Anderson Co. Chapter SC Genealogy Society  
P. O. Box 74 Anderson, SC 29622-0074

Volume No. 25 Issue No. 4  
Carol Penry, Compiler

Date: Oct., Nov., and Dec. 2012  
[www.andersoncounty.scgen.org](http://www.andersoncounty.scgen.org)

The Anderson Chapter of the SCGS welcomes gifts relating to genealogy, local, and state history. Gifts can be designated charitable and are eligible for income tax deduction. Books, family and church histories, photographs, marriage and death records as well as monetary contributions may be given in honor of or in memory of loved ones. Also, the Research Center is always in need of equipment and supplies. Please help the Anderson Chapter to grow. Mail gifts to Anderson County Chapter SCGS, P. O. Box 74, Anderson, SC 29622. If you would like more information contact any officer, contact information is given below.

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## 2012 Programs

Monday December 3, 2012

The Anderson County Chapter will hold their annual catered Christmas Dinner Party.

## 2013 Programs: Scheduling is in progress.

January TBA

February TBA

March

The staff of the South Carolina Library will present the Chronicling America project and the latest on how their staff has digitized South Carolina newspapers that can be accessed for genealogical purposes.

April

Don Kay, Retired Air Force Colonel and Genealogist, will present a program on Dating Old Photographs.

NOTE: If you would like to recommend a speaker, please contact Kay at [kaywillisburns@yahoo.com](mailto:kaywillisburns@yahoo.com).

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## Minutes for June 4 Meeting:

corrected Moses Holland decedents before reading at the October meeting. Dot

Minutes for June 4, 2012

The Anderson County Chapter of the South Carolina Genealogical Society met Monday, June 4, 2012, at Big Creek Baptist Church in Williamston, SC. There were 32 members and visitors present.

President Feltman called the meeting to order and Carl Ellison gave the invocation. After everyone enjoyed a delicious meal, President Feltman called Carolyn Duncan-Cummings to the front. He presented her with a plaque in appreciation for faithful service. The plaque included her past and present duties: Chapter Director, President, State Officer, National & State Conference Delegate, Chapter Research Room Director and Archivist.

Carolyn thanked everyone and announced another best kept secret in the Research Room.

Carl Ellison has forty years of Sullivan King's Mortuary records on three CDs. They are the pages actually filled out at the funeral home from 1942 thru 1982.

President Feltman introduced Rev. Mitchell Gambrell, as a great man who has pastured at the church for twenty four years. Rev. Gambrell gave a fascinating history of the church.

Big Creek is the oldest Baptist Church in Anderson County that has continued as an active organization since its beginning.

The church was organized 224 years ago in 1788 as a brush arbor church by Moses Holland, a pioneer preacher from Virginia. After worshipping ten years at the brush arbor church, they moved three quarters of a mile up the road and built a wooden one room church. The original brush arbor site is now underwater and the only thing existing today for the wooden church are the four corners that were built from river rock. The mounting stone was brought and put in front of the church next door that was built in 1875. The current church was built in 1982.

They have minutes of the church dating from 1801.

Charles Davenport, a member, while searching for the original site of the church, located a field stone under brush and briars with a crude carved inscription, "BIG CREEK CHURCH - 1788". This stone is a prized possession of the church and is secured in the church library.

Moses Holland was the founder of the Saluda Baptist Association and twenty two other churches in the area, including Neal's Creek, Hopewell, Friendship, Barker's Creek, Washington, and Standing Springs Baptist Churches. Out of the twenty two churches, fifty six more were established.

When Moses was out of town, Caesar, a slave, would preach, until it was discovered that he had two wives.

The unique cemetery has names that start from A to Z and someone from all wars before Desert Storm are buried there.

There were three direct descendants of Moses Holland at the meeting, Margaret Cole, Greer Ballenger and Dr. Carl Ellison.

President Feltman reminded everyone the next meeting would be in October at Senior Solutions.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Dot Turpin, Recording Secretary

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## NEW VISITORS TO THE RESEARCH ROOM

Annette Tollison of Anderson is researching her **Harris** and **Yeargin** families.

Bob Martin of Williamston, SC is researching his **Campbell** and **Martin** families.

Nancy Bardin of Anderson is researching her **Shaw**, **Alewine**, and **Campbell** families.

Billy Southerlin of Anderson is researching his **Southerlin** family.

Joanna White Bark of Sandwich, Illinois is researching her **White**, **Felton**, **Mayfield**, and **Cox** families.

Brenda Dixon of Center Ridge Arkansas is researching her **White**, **Felton**, **Mayfield**, **Cox**, **Liddell**, **Magee**, and **Gambrell** families. "Joanna White and Brenda Dixon are cousins who get together each year to do their research."

Barbara Harris of Starr, SC is researching her **Masesei**, **Pinson**, **Dunklin**, **Cox**, **Hicks**, **Telford**, and **Terry** families.

Iris Bartlett of Oxford, Georgia is researching her **Bowie, Drake , Parker, Penne, Arnold, and Pruitt** Families. " Iris brought her friend, Peg Kontz, of Social Circle, Georgia to assist in her research."

Kay Page of Hapeville, Georgia is researching her **Brown, Saylor, and Terry** families.

Marie Anniowetle Hill of South Carolina is researching her **Riley, Slayton, and Dorsey** families.

Cathy N. Moore of Anderson is researching her **White, Durham, and McCarley** families.

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**Did you know:** There are only 52 days till Christmas, as I write this on November 3, 2012. That can't be right but I have added it about 3 times. I am already hearing Christmas Music in stores, and we still have to do Thanksgiving !!!

I think the story directly following was written by a gentleman, and I can understand him not signing it. It sounds like he knew he was in serious trouble and tried to make amends...I wonder if he knew he would still be quoted in 142 years.

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**DID YOU KNOW?** It is suggested that the reason why women's teeth decay sooner than men's is the perpetual friction of their tongues upon the pearl.

This is a gross libel, and the true cause lies in the sweetness of their lips.  
The Anderson Intelligencer, May 19, 1870

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## **MATERIALS AT THE RESEARCH CENTER**

We are pleased to announce the materials placed in the Research Center in October included the South Carolina Sandlapper Magazine. The donation included the years 1974 through 1981. If you have material that you would like to donate to the center please contact us at [acgsresearch@gmail.com](mailto:acgsresearch@gmail.com).

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## **TRADITIONS AND HISTORY OF ANDERSON COUNTY BY LOUISE AYER VANDIVER**

PRINTED AND SOLD BY ANDERSON COUNTY CHAPTER, SOUTH CAROLINA  
GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

### **ONE OF OUR PIONEER PEOPLE**

**Stephen McCully** first settled at Whitehall, where he manufactured shoes for the surrounding territory. Later he became one of Anderson's leading merchants, a public spirited man, and a wealthy one for his time. He donated the ground on which Johnson Female University was built.

One of the handsomest homes of Anderson's early days was that of Mr. **Stephen McCully**. Mr. McCully was an Irishman, who built his home directly on the street just off the square. His former home was known as "McCully's Corner", the place where Fant's drug store was located for years. Mr. McCully owned a large section of the town on South Main street, and donated to the city all of West Franklin

Street. A parallel street to Franklin Street is named McCully for Stephen who also donated that land.

During the years between 1845 and 1856, many of Anderson's citizens served on the town council. Among them was Stephen McCully, repeatedly elected.

Anderson had railroads, one of which was built in 1853 and a year or two later a branch was run from Belton to Anderson to connect with the Blue Ridge which had been running from Anderson to Pendleton, and later to Walhalla.

In the days prior to the great war between the North and the South, there was projected another railroad. Savannah Valley was the name selected for it and Mr. **Daniel Brown** was greatly interested in the scheme but its chief sponsor, however, was Stephen McCully. The war demolished the chances of the road

Sixteen or seventeen years after the war ended, the railroad project was revived. Most of the early promoters were dead, but **Colonel Latimer**, of Lowndesville, became its chief advocate but he did not live to see it completed. Stephen McCully, now a very old man, was given the pleasure of throwing the first shovel of earth when the road bed was started. On its completion in 1885, two of his granddaughters, little girls then, threw the last with a silver shovel bought for the occasion. They were **Carrie McCully (Mrs. Carrie Patrick)** and **Anna Humphreys (Mrs. Anna Weston)**. Stephen McCully was dead but he was honored in the attention paid for his granddaughters.

#### **STEPHEN McCULLY'S FAMILY**

On April 19, 1820, **Stephen McCully** age 17 and **James McCully**, age 18, arrived at the Port of Charleston, SC. Both were born in Belfast, Ireland.

Prior to 1831, Stephen married Elmina Keys who was born in South Carolina. In 1850, they were living in Anderson and both died there.

**Their children were born in South Carolina:**

**Amanda J. McCully** born about 1838 married **Bannister Allen**;

**Newton A. McCully** born 9 June 1839-5 Sep 1893 (C.S.A.) buried at Old Silver Brook, married **Caroline M. Fretwell**;

**Anna J McCully** born about 1841;

**Martha Euphemia McCully** born about 1844

**Peter K. McCully** born about 1846;

**Palmyra McCully** born about 1847;

And **James Stacy McCully** born 1849

**Stephen McCully** (10 Mar 1800 – 4 Apr 1881) and his wife, **Elmina Keys McCully** (1 Feb 1818 – 2 Oct 1889) are buried at Anderson First Presbyterian Church on Whitner Street Row 1 Section C.

(Excerpts by Carolyn Duncan)

## Membership Application

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Are you on Facebook? ☐ YES ☐ NO

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Middle Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Maiden Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

### ***Surnames being researched:***

Please list below the Family Surnames of those you are researching. Please include full names, known dates, and areas in Anderson and surrounding counties. *Use the back of this form if you need more space to add a surname.*

Surname, Given	Locations (City or County)	Dates

☐ New Member

☐ Renewal

☐ **ASSOCIATE** - \$15.00 - I am a primary member of another SCGS Chapter.  
SCGS Chapter \_\_\_\_\_ SCGS Member # \_\_\_\_\_

☐ **INDIVIDUAL** - \$20.00 - Membership for one person.

☐ **FAMILY** - \$25.00 - Membership for 2 people, within the same household.  
Name of 2<sup>nd</sup> person: \_\_\_\_\_

**Make checks payable to: ACC, SCGS**

**Mail to: ACC, SCGS, P.O. Box 74, Anderson, South Carolina 29622-0074**

☐ Cash

☐ Check

Check # \_\_\_\_\_ Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_



# Order Form

Product	Description	Qty	Unit Price	Extended Price
Membership Individual	For one person		\$15.00	\$
Membership Associate	For a member of another SC		\$10.00	\$
Membership Family	For two persons in same household - 1 set of mailings		\$20.00	\$
Abbeville Co. Cemeteries, V. 1 - 52 Cemeteries	\$18 + \$4 s/h **see note		\$22.00	\$
Abbeville Co. Cemeteries, V. 2 - 35 Cemeteries	\$18 + \$4 s/h ** see note		\$22.00	\$
Anderson Co. Cemeteries, V. 1 - 30 Cemeteries	\$18 + \$4 s/h **see note		\$22.00	\$
Anderson Co. Cemeteries, V. 2 - 17 Cemeteries	\$15 + \$4 s/h **see note		\$19.00	\$
Anderson Co. Cemeteries, V. 3 - 46 Cemeteries	\$20 + \$4 s/h **see note		\$24.00	\$
Anderson Co. Cemeteries, V. 4 - 34 Cemeteries	\$14 + \$4 s/h **see note		\$18.00	\$
Anderson Co. Cemeteries, V. 5 - 59 Cemeteries	\$15 + \$4 s/h **see note		\$19.00	\$
Anderson Co. Cemeteries, V. 6 - Old Silverbrook	\$20 + \$4 s/h **see note		\$24.00	\$
Anderson Co. Cemeteries, V. 7 - 13 Cemeteries	\$10 + \$4 s/h **see note		\$14.00	\$
Anderson Co. Cemeteries, V. 8 - 23 Cemeteries	\$15 + \$4 s/h **see note		\$19.00	\$
Anderson Co. Cemeteries, V. 9 Forest Lawn Memorial Park & Mausoleum	\$18 + \$4 s/h **see note		\$22.00	\$
African-American Cemeteries V. 1 - 11 Cemeteries	\$15 + \$4 s/h **see note		\$19.00	\$
African-American Cemeteries V. 2 - 16 Cemeteries	\$15 + \$4 s/h **see note		\$19.00	\$
Miscellaneous Cemeteries - Greenwood, McCormick, Laurens (1990)	\$8 + \$4 s/h **see note		\$12.00	\$
Pedigree Charts & Surname List - #2 (2003)	\$10 + \$4 s/h **see note		\$14.00	\$
Traditions & History of Anderson County (1928 - Original Printing)	\$20 + \$4 s/h **see note		\$24.00	\$
Will Abstracts of Anderson County, SC (1789-1839)	\$8 + \$4 s/h **see note		\$12.00	\$
Marriage Records of Anderson County, SC (1911-1912) - Book 1	\$8 + \$4 s/h **see note		\$12.00	\$
1877 Anderson County Map (Library of Congress)	\$3 + \$4 s/h *see note		\$7.00	\$
1897 Anderson County Map	\$5 + \$4 s/h *see note		\$9.00	\$
McDougald-Bleckley (Sullivan-King) Funeral Home Record Books (1923-1931), V. 1	\$15 + \$4 s/h **see note		\$19.00	\$
McDougald-Bleckley (Sullivan-King) Funeral Home Record Books (1931-1941), V. 2	\$15 + \$4 s/h **see note		\$19.00	\$
McDougald-Bleckley (Sullivan-King) Funeral Home Record Sheets (1923-1982) - CD (FTM 10.0)	\$20 + \$4 s/h**see note		\$24.00	\$
McDougald-Johnston (McDougald) Funeral Home Record Books (Nov 1, 1934-Mar 31, 1952), Sec. 1	\$10 + \$4 s/h ***see note		\$14.00	\$
McDougald-Johnston (McDougald) Funeral Home Record Books (Apr 1, 1952- Apr 25, 1963), Sec. 2	\$10 + \$4 s/h ***see note		\$14.00	\$
McDougald Funeral Home Record Books (1963-1971) Sec. 3	\$10 + \$4 s/h ***see note		\$14.00	\$
Welborn (Gray) of West Pelzer, SC - Funeral Home Record Books (Oct 19, 1927-May 2, 1946) CD - Data Base	\$20 + \$4 s/h **see note		\$24.00	\$
Mountain Creek Baptist Church Minutes (Oct 1798-Sep 1907)	\$15 + \$4 s/h **see note		\$19.00	\$
Anderson, SC Police Department (A History)	\$25 + \$4 s/h **see note		\$29.00	\$
The Legacy of the Hotel Chiquola	\$5 + \$4 s/h ** see note		\$9.00	\$
The Anderson Intelligencer Vol. 1	\$29.00 + \$4 s/h **/****see notes		\$33.00	\$
The Anderson Intelligencer Vol. 2	\$29.00 + \$4 s/h **/****see notes		\$33.00	\$
The Anderson Intelligencer Vol. 3	\$29.00 + \$4 s/h **/****see notes		\$33.00	\$
Anderson County Heritage Book - 452 pages, over 1000 family and history articles, fully indexed, hard bound	\$65 + \$8 s/h **see note		\$73.00	\$

TOTAL \$\_\_\_\_\_

\*\* SEE NOTE BELOW\*\*

Make check payable to **Anderson Co. Chapter, SCGS**. Mail this form and check to **Anderson County Chapter, SCGS, PO Box 74, Anderson, SC 29622-0074**.

\* When ordering **two maps**, send only one s/h fee.

\*\* When ordering **several** books, less postage may be needed. Email [acgsresearch@gmail.com](mailto:acgsresearch@gmail.com) or write the Chapter at the above address to receive bundle rates.

\*\*\* You may want to purchase a **3-ring notebook**. We will be adding sections to this collection.

\*\*\*\* Newspaper Extracts 1882 to 1890, 1891 to 1895, 1896 to 1900

## The Elgin-Howell Letters

The following is the second installment of the Elgin-Howell Letters. The first installment ran Number 1 through 13, and this is Number 14 through 32. Carol Penry, Compiler

### ELGIN-HOWELL LETTERS

*Transcribed and edited by Mary Anne Johnson Price, completed July 31, 2002. The correspondence occurred because Lettie Arminda Elgin Howell and her husband Andrew Jackson (Jack) Howell moved from Anderson/Abbeville area when he worked for the railroad. The family moved to Tugalo Station, Georgia; to Greenville, South Carolina; to Selma, Alabama; and finally to Avondale (Birmingham), Alabama. Lettie Elgin Howell kept the letters. The letters came into the possession of Mary Anne Price from Angeline Howell Florence, daughter of Joseph Clarence Howell, known as Clarence, son of Lettie Elgin Howell. Clarence Howell and his wife, Lucretia Garfield Corvin Howell, known as Garfield, kept the letters and family photos intact, then gave them to their daughter Angeline. Mary Anne Johnson Price is a great granddaughter of Lettie Arminda Elgin Howell, through Lettie's daughter Eunice Matilda Howell Johnson, and grandson John Gordon Johnson, Jr.*

*Almost every item was dated and with a return address in the heading of the letter by the original author. Exact dates of events were carefully included in almost every piece of correspondence.*

*Editing of the letters has been very limited. I have not changed spelling, but have added capitalization of proper names and pronouns (for example, I), and have added punctuation, periods and commas where it seemed appropriate. Many of the letters were written without any punctuation and with the pronoun I in lower case in every occurrence. I have made paragraphs in several places to make the letters more readable.*

*The contents are copyrighted. July 31, 2002.*

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**14. Jan. 1, 1890.** Letter in ink. No envelope. To Lettie Elgin Howell from her sister Loutitia Elgin.

Text: "Seneca S C Jan 1th 1890

"Dear Sister

I will write you this evening in answer to yours received 2 months ago. We are all well but Preston. He has been past doing anything for five weeks. The Dr. says he has general debility. He is very weak. He has a cough, too. The Dr, said his lungs was weak, said that he had been too close confined in the bank and it brought on debility. Dr. told Press he would have to quit the bank. It didnt agree with him. Preston says he feels better, all but he don't gain any strength. He has no appetite to eat mutch. I think if he could get an appetite he would soon be better. We went to Anderson Saturday before Christmas and went to Abbeville. Jim carried us to Abbeville. We staid 2 nights at Addison's. They was all well down there. We came home the first Sunday in January, was gone two weeks. Preston was not able to do anything and Sarah Ann wanted him to give up the house we was living in and move the things over there and Preston go about until he got able to work again, so we have moved to John's [the Stones]. The Dr. said Preston needed exercise. We want him to go about. Nely wants him to go down there and stay awhile with her. Riding about helps him more than anything else. He ought to quite work sooner than he did and he would but got so weak we are at William's now. Came yesterday. Will go back to John's tomorrow if it isn't raining. Press can't go out in bad weather or rain.

"Lettie, I recon you will be surprised to here that I am going to live with Jim. I recon I will go in about ten days. I didnt aim to go til next summer if Press had kept well but he is not able to do anything and Jim wants me to go on rite off. His sister Annie is going to Florada [sic] to live with Mary so I recon Jim will come for me the 4 Sunday. Preston will stay with us all til he gets able to work again. Sarah Ann wants him to stay there til he gets stout. I am afraid he wont be stout soon. Lettie, my health is a little better than it used to be but I can't do mutch yet but Jim knows how my health is. If he is willing to risk my health I wont say anything. I know it will be a big under taking but I am willing to do what I can. The have been keeping house by them selfs. I recon I will be a little help to them. Jim said he would rather have me if I wasent stout than any boddie else. I recon we will go to some preachers house or get Dr. Manly to tie the knot. He preaches at Seneca every 4 Sunday.

"Lettie I want you to come to see us soon. I know you are all making enough money to come soon. We will be so glad to see you all. Preston would be glad if you would come stay awhile with him wherever he is staying at. Lettie, I think Preston would have married this year if he had kept his health. I hope he will soon get well. Lettie, Cinda said tell you to write to her. I want you to come soon and write soon as you get this so I can get the letter next week. I will quit for this time. "Love to all

"Lutitia Elgin"

"Mattie, Alice said tell you to write to her. She is going to school some now. I want you to write so I can get it next week. Lutitia"

**15. April 1, 1890.** Letter. Very clearly written. Not signed but address in text, handwriting and content indicate it was written to Lettie Elgin Howell by Sarah Ann Elgin Stone. No envelope.

Text: "Oconee S C April 1, 1890"

"My dear sister, it is with a sad heart that I try to write to you the sad news of the death of our dear brother Preston. I don't know whether you have heard anything about it or not. Tishia written to you a long the first of January about his failing health and has never got any answer from you. He began to fail the last of November and he give up his work in the bank on the Monday after the 2 Sunday in December. Died March the 5 with consumption. He was never confined to his bed atall, would get up every morning before he eat breakfast and would set up and walk about some every day, but he was so weak and looked so poor and bad, I think he ought to been in bed. Lettie, Preston never did complain of anything at all. Said nothing hurt him. He coughed and spit up a heap every night, did not cough much in day time. Dr. Doyle examined Press when he quit the bank and said it was general debility brought on by close confinement. He took medicine from Doyle all the time but didnt seem to do any good. He grew weaker every day.

"Lettie, Tishia and Preston moved out here the first of January, and Tishia and Jim Reynolds married the 4 Sunday in January. She was not aiming to marry till this summer if Preston had kept well. He had rented the house they was in for another year. Tishia and Jim came up here the 4 Sunday in February to see Preston and he went home with them on Monday. Said he wouldnt stay much over a week, the last word he ever said to me while I was helping him to put on his over coat. He did not tell us good by. Oh how hard it is to give him up and on Wednesday week after he went down there he died. I did not think he would ever get well but I did not think he would go so soon or I would never have give up for him to go down there. He went with Jim to Anderson on Thursday after he went down there and on Monday before he died he went to Uncle Isaac's and took dinner. Tishia said she saw he was getting weaker ever day and would get him to lay down a while ever evening and tried to get him [to] stay in the bed ever morning till he eat breakfast but he would get up ever morning until Wednesday the day he died. He told her he would eat his breakfast before he got up and she carried his breakfast to him and fed him and he never got up any more. They proped [propped] him up in the bed and about 9 o clock Tishia said she saw he was getting worse, began to rattle in his breast. The phlegm had gathered there and he



was not able to get it up. Tishia said she asked him if any thing hurt him, he said no. He died between 11 and 12 o'clock that day. They said he died easy like going to sleep. He is not dead but sleeping sweetly. Sleeping in the arms of Jesus. Lettie, you don't know how I do miss him. I have been seeing him ever week or two for six years. He was always so good and quiet and pleasant. It was a pleasure to see him. Lettie, we brought him back to Seneca to bury him. He loved to live there and had a heap of friends there."

**16. April 2, 1890.** Letter from Sarah Ann Stone and John Stone to Mattie and Unie [Eunice] Howell (children of Lettie A. Elgin Howell) and to Jackson Howell. The date on the letter is "April 2 190," but contents clearly indicate that the correct year is 1890, just after the death of Preston Elgin.

Text: "Dear Mattie and Unie, We received your letter last Sunday. I was so glad to heare from you all. It has been so long since we heard. I didnt know what to think had become of you all. Mattie, I would love to come and take a birth day dinner with you and see you all and your pretty trimming and stars and all your work. I would be a pleasure to me, but you are too far a way. Dear little Unie, you said to tell Uncle Preston you wanted to see him so bad. It fills my heart with sorrow to know you can never see him no more in this life, but if you will be a good girl and love Jesus you can one day meet him in a better world where there will be no more partings and troubles. To Mattie and Unie. S. A. Stone"

"April 2d 190"

"Jackson, as Sarrah Ann has written to Lettie and the children I will write you a few lines, though I haven't time to. I am still farming a little. We have had so much rain that the farmers are behind with their work. I have charge of three churches this year and acting as colporter [colporteur] of Beverdam Association. Jack, we have had a sad providential visitation in the death of our much loved Preston but our loss is his gain, we trust. We cannot mourn as those who have no hope yet it is sad, but god does all things well; his goods has to be sold to pay his indebtedness, he had not saved any money. Is there anything of his you all wish to have. It will take about all he left to pay the expenses of his burial and other debts he owes; the appraisement of his household and kitchen furniture amounts to about fifty five dollars. It was made by his father, and myself we do not want his things sold at public sale, but wish the family to take them and pay his debts. So if you wish any thing write to me. Burial expences and the debts he left unpaid & tombs for his grave will be something near fifty dollars more or less. Write soon and let us hear from you.

"Yours truly

"J. H. Stone"

**17. January 9, 1891.** Postcard. Postmark very clear: "Seneca 9 Jan 1891 SC." Written in pencil. Writing very clear. From J. H. Stone to Mr. A. J. Howell.

Address: "Mr. A. J. Howell  
Fitzpatrik P.O.  
Ala."

Text: "Seneca S.C. Jan 9 1891

"Mr. A. J. Howell

"Dear Brother

"J. T. Elgin was buried yesterday. He died off typhoid fever. He was sick about four week but not thought dangerous until last week when he was taken worse but did not seem to suffer but very little. He died just like going to sleep. Yours truly,

"J. H. Stone"

**18. April 6 1891.** Letter. No envelope. "Oconee April 6 1891." Written in pencil. From Sarah Ann Elgin Stone to Unie [Eunice], Mattie, and Wade Howell, children of Lettie Elgin Howell, and to Lettie Elgin Howell.

Text: "Dear Wade and Unie, I will try this cold morning to answer your letters which we received in due time. Was glad to hear from you. I would be glad to hear from you ever week or 2. Wade I didn't understand your letter. You made a mistake in writing or backing it. One side had Tishia's name inside but it was bucked to John. I don't know whether you aimed it for me or Tishia. If for her you backed it to the wrong place. Caro is her office. I reckon you leave forgot which is which. I want you to write often now. You said you was staying at the post office. Looks like you would have a good chance to write. Wade, I hope you are a good boy and will grow up to be a good useful man and a comfort to your parents. Shun all bad company and keep the good. Unie we haven't got any pictures now to send you. I want to have some taken before long and we will send you them. Unie was that Wades picture you sent? I think it favors him but surely it wasent him. It looks like I think he will when he gets grown. Unie send me yours. I want see how you look, or come yourself. I had rather you would do that.

"Lettie, I will write you a few lines though I wrote to you last. You don't answer when I write. I don't know whether you get them or not when you don't answer. Lettie there is 4 quilts here for you, 2 of Mothers, 2 of Preston's. How are you going to get them? I want you to try and come some time and stay a month or I had rather you all would move back here. Lettie we got a card from Tishia a week or 2 ago. She says she caint help with complaining of her side, and a letter from Adison and Nely last week. They was all well then they all had the grip [grippe]. Nely said it went hard with her, she lay in bed 2 weeks, didn't go so hard with the rest. Lettie we haven't heard from Wash since last fall. Some time he don't never write to us nor none of the rest hardly ever. Tishia written to him after Pa died and has got no answer and Nancy wrote to him and sent Pas picture to him and has got no answer yet. Cinda and her folks was all well 2 weeks ago, the last we heard from them. Lettie I haven't done much in the garden. It stays so cold and wet that it has been to wet to plow nearly all this year. The farmers are all behind. Lettie I have got 25 little chickens and 2 hens a setting. So I will close. With love to all, S.A.S."

"Mattie what is the matter. You haven't quite writing. I wrote to you last. John wrote to your Pa. Your grandma's office is Caro of he didn't get the letter.

"You all write soon as you get this. Unie I want to know if that was Wades picture you sent."

**19. January 28, 1894.** Letter. No envelope. In pencil. From Sarah Ann Stone to Lettie and Andrew Jackson Howell and their children.

Text: "Seneca, January 28<sup>th</sup>, 1894

"Dear brother and Sister and Niece, I will try to write you a few lines. I would have written you a few lines before now, but I have been looking for a letter from Tishia but I have not heard from them since I written to you. When we was there, she said she had written to Wash. I thought if she had heard from him I could let you know, or does he write to you. He has not wrote to us but one time since he went to Texas. He has not written to Tishia nor none of the rest since year before last unless she has got a letter since we was down there. He sent us Nely's picture but didn't write a word and Tishia said he wrote he had one for you. Have you ever got it?

"Lettie I was sorry to hear of the sad death of your little Willie. It seems like if he had taken sick and died it wouldn't have been so bad but the Lord knows best and I hope you all are resigned to his will. It is very hard to give up those we have lost but those who have gone before will only bind us more closely to heaven. Life would soon become intolerable but for the healing power of time, but time comes gradually to our relief and grief fades away and in its place comes

the sweet consolation of having been permitted for a time to live in sweet communion with the departed. Sorrow for the loss of one dearly loved will never cease. The wounds of the soul heal as do the wounds of the body. There may be much pain at first which gradually disappears but the scar remains.

"Lettie, Mrs. Leroy has lost another boy. I written to you about Sam and Tom being dead and John being down with fever. He died. He had just been back from Texas six weeks when he died. They lost three in 15 weeks. All 3 of them was buried on Tuesday. Dan is still in Texas; he married. Since John come back there has been a heap of sickness all fall and winter—fever and gripe [grippe]. Elmer Simpson has been down 4 weeks with fever. He has been very low, don't improve very fast. We got a card from Dora Martin last week. Said they was all well but her. Said she hadn't felt well for 2 or 3 weeks.

"Cinda and Bill was down here one night week before last. They had all been down with grip [grippe]. Mattie, I want you and Wade to be sure and come. I would be so glad to see you all. I want you all to have your pictures taken in a group and bring them or send them. Tell Wade to be careful and always thinking about the danger he is in. Mattie I would be glad if you was with me today for I am alone. John is gone to Westminster. He goes there every 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday and Sunday. We have got a family living here right close to our yard. I get some of them to stay with me at night.

"So I will close for this time. Be sure and write. S. A. Stone

"With love to all. Lettie I will send you some verse that I cut out with a paper you can adopt and keep in memory of you little Willie."

**20. Undated handwritten note found with letters:**

"Little Willie Preston died Thursday night January the 18<sup>th</sup> at 9:20 o'clock. He was our darling baby. Verse on his tomb  
budded on earth to bloom in heaven.  
Our darling."

"Little Willie Preston Howell was borned Selma Alabama November the 30<sup>th</sup> 1889 died January the 18 1894. Budded on Earth to Bloom in heaven. Age 4 years 1 month 18 days."

"Little Willie Preston Howell was borned November the 30 1889 in Selma Alabama died January 18 1894. Age 4 years 1 month 18 days.  
Budded on earth  
To bloom in heaven."

**21. March 25, 1904.** Letter, written in pencil. From A. W. (Wash) Elgin to Lettie Arminda Elgin Howell. Postmark "Ravanna Mar 28 1904 Ark".

Address: "Mrs. L. A. Howell  
4330 N. 1<sup>st</sup> Ave.  
Avondale Ala.

Text: "Ravana Ark March the 25<sup>th</sup>, 1904

"Mrs. L. A. Howell, Avondale

"Dear sister and family, I will write you a few lines in answer to your kind letter just received. I was truly glad to hear from you once more and to know that you was enjoying the greatest of earthly blessings, good health. We are all enjoying very good health at present. I am troubled with rheumatism occasionally. Sister, it is true that our son in law is dead. He died the 12<sup>th</sup> of

December last. He was taken sick on Sunday night and died the next Saturday morning. He was a good man and we feel assured that he is at rest. Our dear son Less departed this life the 6<sup>th</sup> of last November. He had that dread disease tubercular consumption. I knew for several months before he died that he could not live long. But, oh, sister, it was so hard to give him up for Less was a good, kind, and dutiful son and he had always staid at home with us and we became more attached to him as the years went by but god in his infinite wisdom and mercy and who doeth all things well saw fit to take him to himself. But I feel assured that our loss is his gain and that we will meet again in the sweet by and by. Tilda and the children are living with us. She has 4 children, 2 boys and 2 girls. The 2 oldest is boys. Her baby was born the 19<sup>th</sup> of last November. It was only a little over 3 weeks old when its father died. It has truly been a sad and lonely time with us but we try to look on the bright side and hope, trust and pray that we will all meet again in a brighter and happier home beyond the grave.

"Sister, I answered that letter you wrote and it went to your address and was advertised 9 days and then sent to the dead letter office and then sent back to me. I hope you will receive this one sister. Where is Clarence. You wrote of Mattie and Wade and Johnny and 2 at home. If you ever lost any of your children we never heard of it. We are having a great deal of rain for the last week. The ground has been too wet to plow all week. I have planted 7 acres in corn and it is coming up. I intended to plant 2 more acres but I may put it in cotton if it is seasonable. The 7 acres will make a plenty to do us. I will hold 14 for cotton. We have a good garden, mustard and onion tops large enough to eat. I planted 2-1/2 acres of irish potatoes. They are coming up and looking fine. I stuck the English peas this morning. I like to have a good garden and potato patches and good milch cow or 2 and then we have a good living at home. Sister I want you to write and tell me how it looks in old S. C. You see I have been gone from there a long time and I guess things have changed a great deal since I left there. Norah's brother Lawrence lives about 2 miles from us. He is very wel [sic] satisfied and says his health is better than it has been in several years though he never will be well. He has the slow consumption and may live to be a tolerable old man but he will never be able to work much. I want you to be sure and write soon and tell me all the news. I am always glad to get a letter from you. I am a poor hand to write letters but I love to get them. So I will close, hoping god will watch over us and bless all with his richest blessing. Your brother

"A. W. Elgin  
Ravana  
Miller Co.  
Ark."

**22. May 5, 1907.** Letters. Envelope postmarked "Rockwall Tex. May 6 1907" One letter written by Lanora Martin Elgin to Lettie Elgin Howell. The other written by Tilda Elgin Lovett to Lettie Elgin Howell.

Address on envelope: "Mrs. A. J. Howell  
#4330 1<sup>st</sup> Ave. N.  
Avondale, Ala."

Text:

First letter:

"May 5

"Lettice Dear Sister and family I will wright you a few lines this dark rainy evening. I cant hardly get my mind settled long enough to write a letter. I don't feel very well to day. I have a ketch in my left side that bothers me a rite smart. I think it is cold in my side. Wash is resting tolerably well. He's not able to sit up any. He is so weak, his cough bothers him a heap. He has to take



some kind of cough medicin all the time. Letty I would be glad you all would come to se us.  
Lanora Elgin”

Second letter:

“Rockwall Tex.

May the 5 1907

Mrs. Lettie Howell Dear Aunt, I will try to answer your letter rec a few days ago. Was glad to hear from you all. Pa is some better than he was last week. He was worse last week than he has ever been. I wrote for Uncle Will Martin and Aunt Ida to come. Uncle Will came up this week. He went home yesterday morning. Aunt Ida was not able to come. Aunt Lettie we got the one dollar all right. Ever so much obliged to you for it. Aunt Lettie we had this Dr. with pa. He said he had a disease that no Dr. could cure. His lungs are in a bad shape. Well I will close for this time. You all write us soon as you can. I remain as ever your niece

“Tilda Lovett”

**23. June 30, 1907.** Letter. Written in pencil. Envelope postmarked “Rockwall, Tex. July 12 1907.” To Lettie Elgin Howell from her niece, Tilda Elgin Lovett.

Address: “Mrs. A. J. Howell  
#4330, 1<sup>st</sup> Ave. N.  
Avondale, Ala.”

Text: “Rockwall, Tex

June the 30 1907

Mrs. A. J. Howell

“Dear Aunt, I will try to answer your letter rec some time ago. Was glad to hear from you all. Pa is not doing well. He cant eat much and his feet is swelling and he is so poor there will have to be a great change if he lasts long. You all write as often as you can. I have wrote all I know to write. I thank you very much for that money you sent & write soon as you can. I will close for this time. With love to all

Tilda Lovett”

**24. June 28, 1908.** Picture postcard from Wade H. Howell [son of Lettie Elgin and Jackson Howell] to his brother J. C. (Clarence) Howell. Picture on postcard is of Eads Bridge, St. Louis, Missouri. Postmark is June 28, 1908, 8 PM, St. Louis, Mo.

Addressed to: “Mr. J. c. Howell  
4324 N. 1<sup>st</sup> Ave.  
Avondale, Ala.”

Text: “How are you old boy? I am well & doing well. I cant tell when I may be home. W.”

**25. June 29, 1908.** Postcard written in pencil (very light), postmarked Birmingham. Postcard is a 4<sup>th</sup> of July greeting.

Addressed to:

“Mrs. L. A. Howell  
#4324, 1<sup>st</sup> Ave. N.  
Avondale, Ala.”

Text: "6/29/08

"Hello, how is all? John isn't well this P.M. and I'm real tired. Was in town all A. M. Come out if you can one day. E. M. J."

(EMJ is Eunice Matilda Johnson, wife of John Johnson, daughter of Lettie Arminda Howell. On this date, she would have been pregnant with son John G. "Johnny" Johnson, who was born September 16, 1908.)

**26. February 7, 1909.** Postcard, with a picture of a garland of pink roses and "best Wishes," not dated but postmarked "Feb. 7, 1909, 6 P.M., Westminster, S.C." Written to Mrs. L. A. Howell by "your loving niece, Emmy [?] M."

Addressed to: "Mrs. L. A. Howell  
4324 N. 1<sup>st</sup> Ave.  
Avondale, Ala."

Text: "Dearest Aunt, how are you? I would like so much to see you. Are you coming this summer? Do come. How is C & J and all of the rest. Give them all my love and regards. Have you all had any cold weather yet? Sure were freezing weather here last Saturday and Sun. Aunt, write me a long letter and tell me every thing you know. Your loving niece, Emmy [?] M."

**27. Undated.** Picture postcard of "The Park, Seneca, S. C." From Sarah Ann Stone to Lettie Howell. The card was not postmarked or stamped and appears to have been included in a letter or hand delivered.

Text: "Lettie, I haven't seen any of William Moores since last second Saturday. They was all well then. Luna[?] baby grows right fast. Be sure and write soon to your sister, S. A. Stone"

**28. April 26, 1909.** Birthday postcard from Eunice Howell Johnson to Mr. A. J. Howell.

Addressed to: "Mr. A. J. Howell  
4324 1<sup>st</sup> Ave. N.  
Avondale, Ala."

Text: "Birthday Greetings [printed], Wishing you many happy returns of the day. From Eunice, April 26/09"

**29. September 1909.** Picture postcard "Unloading cotton at levee, Memphis, Tenn." Postmark partially off the card, but shows clearly that the card was mailed in Memphis in September. With the card following, it is fairly sure that the card was sent September 4, 1909. From J. D. H. (John Dutton Howell) to his mother, Mrs. L. A. Howell (Lettie Elgin Howell).

Addressed: "Mrs. L. A. Howell  
4324 1 Ave N.  
Avondale, Ala."

Text: "arrived safe in Memphis. Will leave for Little Rock in two hours. J. D. H."

**30. September 4, 1909.** Picture postcard of a little black child, titled "Mammy's Pet," and postmarked "Memphis, Tenn., Sep 4, 1909, 10:30 AM." From J. D.H. (John Dutton Howell) to Mrs. L. A. Howell.

Addressed: "Mrs. L. A. Howell  
4324 1 Ave. N.  
Avondale, Ala."

Text: "this is the way I felt in Memphis. J. D. H."

**31. September 6, 1909.** Picture postcard of "Grand Entrance, U. S. Reservation, Hot Springs, Ark." Postmarked "Hot Springs, Ark., Sept. 6, 1909, 10 AM." From J. D. H. to Mrs. L. A. Howell.

Addressed: "Mrs. L. A. Howell  
4324 1 Ave. N.  
Avondale, Ala."

Text: "Arrived in Hot Springs yesterday afternoon at 4:30 P.M. Went down and drank some of the water, it is mighty fine business. I guess we will go down and begin our baths this A.M. J. D. H."

**32. April 25, 1910.** Picture postcard of "Empire Building, Birmingham, Alabama, 16 stories high." Postmarked "Apr. 27, 1:30 PM, Avondale Station, Ala." Written from Lettie Elgin Howell to Lucretia Garfield Corvin [future wife of Lettie's son Joseph Clarence Howell]. [While Lucretia Garfield Corvin was her full name, she went by the name of Garfield as a first name. I always knew of her as "Aunt Garfield."]

Addressed to: "Miss Garfield Corvin  
Crockett, Virginia  
Rural rout No 2 Box 32"

Text: "4/25/10 Dear Miss Garfield received your card. So glad to hear from you. This leaves all well. Eunie spent yesterday with us. Little Johny is as cute as ever. This is a cold day. It snowed here this morning. Afraid the fruit will all get killed. Had frost twice last week. Mr. Howell, Clarence & John are all at work as usual. You all come again sometime and visit. Close with love, your friend, Mrs. L. A. Howell

15 NOV 2012 PM 4 L

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