

Sept. 30, 1949

Route # 4

Sevierville, Tenn.

Dear Mrs. Hitch:

I regret that I delayed answering your very interesting letter. During the Summer I spent considerable time looking into my Sharp family history, but now my duties as History teacher at Ruler High school, Knoxville, are taking most of my time. I think my wife and I know two of your daughters, Mrs. Gale Gardner and Ruby who married the late "Bob" Thrower. I finished Maryville College in 1929 and my wife, who was Dorothy Weatherly, finished in 1932.

I think you have nearly all the Sharp data that I have. Like you I descended from Letitia and Robert through their son Alexander. I think I shall give you a brief outline and then you can see exactly who I am.

- I. John Sharp (1727-1816) m. Ann Boyd (1734-1810); their children were: James, Thomas, Joseph, Robert, John Jr., Margaret, Ann, Frances, Jane and Letitia.
- II. Letitia Sharp (1759-1834) m. Robert Sharp (____ 1792); their children were: John, Edward, Alexander, James Boyd, Addison, Nancy.
- III. Alexander Sharp (1783-1839) m. Susannah Maxwell (1797-1864); their children were: Sarah, Thomas, Robert, Letitia, Mary Thompson, James Clark, Francina, Ann White, Boyd Alexander, Addison, Nancy Jane, John Fletcher.
- IV. Thomas Sharp (1818-1901) m. (1) Mary Ann Vineyard (1822-1857); their children were: Nicholas Alexander, Susannah Elizabeth, James Robert, George Freeman.
m. (2) Amanda Henderson (1837-1907); their children were: John Fletcher, Mary C (Kate), William Thomas, Amanda Alice, Elizabeth Ida, Elijah Henderson.
- V. Nicholas Alexander Sharp (1846-1880) m. Mary (Mollie) Nichols (1843-1918) their children were: John Freeman, Charles Newton, Walter Alexander, Joseph Nichols.
- VI. Walter Alexander (1875-____) m. Alice Montgomery (1872-1918); their children: Joseph Alexander, Mary Catherine, Grady Montgomery.

My wife and I have two children: David Alexander and Mary ^{Jeanette} ~~Jeanette~~. We have carried the name "Alexander" through several generations. Several things have interested me about the family. For instance I would like to know whether Robert who married Letitia was related to her or a member of some other Sharp family. So far I have not been able to determine. Mr. Parham heard of the tradition that he was killed by the Indians on Pistol Creek in Maryville. I was able to prove the truth of this tradition except as to the location of his death. The Knoxville Gazette of Oct. 6, 1792 carried an account of an Indian raid on "Black's Block House, on the head of Crooked Creek (a branch of Little River) at which there was a serjeant's command of Captain Crawford's company." This account continues with the statement that "James Paul was killed in the house, and George Morse and Robert Sharp- at a fire on the outside, and John Shankland wounded, three horses were killed and seven taken off." There is no doubt that this was our Robert, but the family in passing the story down through several generations had changed the location. The remarkable thing about it is that they had the date "1792" correct. This was the last major Cherokee outbreak on this frontier. The next year, 1793, Letitia, the widow, made a report to the Knox County court on the settlement of the estate, sales of which amounted to the handsome sum of \$264.00. Blount County was then a part of Knox.