

THE WEARNE LETTERS

Letters I brought over in November 1996

*That had been in the Cassone and that Father
had used for his book*

Many are transcribed in his book

March 1998

LIST OF MOTT FAMILY LETTERS

- A1 18th June 1793, William Mott writes a very detailed letter to his half-brother Robert about his plans to go to America. Prices in New York. Cost of being transported. News of Colonel Boon in Kentucky. [America] " will be undoubtedly the greatest nation upon earth in time..."
- A2 William B. Mott, the son, writes from Philadelphia March 12th, 1798, to his uncle Isaac. He asks that letters be sent to 208 Market Street. He is trying to find a clerk's job. Interesting that he writes of Jonathan Dayton and "the American Government are Getting very strong in a d--d aristocratic way." Mentions the stamp act for all paper promissary notes. Troubles with Mr. Doughty.
[I think it is more likely that this was written to Uncle Isaac Mott than to Robert Mott, but cannot be sure.]
- A3 Father's transcript of Isaac Mott's Memorandum.
A4.
- A4 Isaac Mott's Memorandum. Wm. his brother, and his wife died in New York "near three years since." William the younger is in New York (but see above). Julius and Patty with "my brother Robert Mott" at Denton near New Haven in Sussex. Jemima and Samuel are with Mr. Sherwood of Birmingham. Mary (4) is with Isaac. "One Mr. Doughty was the Administrator to my brother William's effects..."
No. 14 Navigation Street, Birmingham, 26th March 1798. The note on the back ("Isaac Mott (my Uncle) his acknowledgement of my father's effects, etc.") is perhaps by Julius.
- A5 Isaac writes to his brother Robert a very full and interesting letter, dated 21 May 1798 from Birmingham. News of Doughty, and a lawyer in New York, Maddox. The clothes, etc., sent back need to be given attention. Isaac's son, William, taken by the press gang "in going over Tower hill." Taken by tender to the old Sandwich "lying at the Nore." [Time of the mutinies at the Nore]. His son John left Dublin a year ago, seeing the troubles to come. His daughter Betsy has married. Samuel, Jemmima, and Mary are well, though Mary has a skin complaint. No news of Julius. [The turmoil and dangers of the time are clear here.]

A6 William B. Mott writes to Uncle Robert New York, January 28, 1799:
and sounds off. But there are a few interesting passages. "England is my Native land but where Liberty dwells, there is my home." Curious this letter was kept in the family.

A7 William B. Mott writes to Uncle Robert from 16 Garden Street, New York on October 2, 1799. Writes on Alien and Sedition Laws and outbreak of Yellow Fever in New York and Philadelphia.

A8 Uncle Robert writes a note to Julius on May 8, 1805. Aunt Mary is ill and Jemima —"Mima", is helping. Mary also there.

A9 William B. Mott writes from (outside) New York, 14th November, 1805 to Robert his uncle re, business interests. He has been driven into the country by Yellow fever outbreaks. Has two sons: William and Robert, daughter Mary. Business projects. (Obviously Robert has helped him.) *

*Father says, p. 57PoF: "At the age of 22 (1803) he married Mary Smith, and they had three children; a daughter Mary, a son Robert Chatfield, and a daughter Matilda."

William says on 14th November, 1805 that he has two sons, Mary, and that a second daughter, Mathilda has died "lost a baby 15 months old, Matilda..." Mathilda's name comes up again, so there must have been a second child of that name, born after November 14th, 1805. We hear of Mary: and Robert later, not of William.

A10 William B. Mott writes to Uncle Robert from "fancy chair maker, 51 Broad Street, New York, January 9th, 1806, takes five months to arrive. Is all about trying to chase notes from sale of bonds, Bank of New York.

- All William B. Mott writes to his brother, whose name he spells Julious. The letter was carried by the Constable Brothers, who had already taken letters to Uncle Robert, Samuel, and Jemima (no mention of Mathilda or Mary) Jemima Mott marries William Constable, the pioneer of photography, etc. Perhaps this is how they met. Mention of embargos that are ruining WBM's business.
- A12 Samuel Thompson writes to his children: Mary, Ann, Eliza, Johanna, and Julietta, fatherly advice. May 1, 1809
- A13 William B. Mott writes to his brother Julious (Sic) Little news, but the advice never to marry. July 12, 1812.
- A14 A long letter from Samuel Thompson to the unfortunate Julius "My dear and respected young friend," September 18, 1816 from Plaistow (Near Hazelmere).
A sermon from the father-in-law before marriage.
But, for all that, after four packed pages, a lovely ending.
- A15 Fragments of a joint letter from Asa Holden and Charles Reade or Read about the children of William B. Mott. From the letters that follow (some ~~seven~~ years later!) Robert, to whom the letter was sent, must have made some response, but he does not seem to know of the death of Robert Chatfield Mott, nor to have kept in close touch with anyone, except, perhaps Asa Holden. New York September 30, 1816. Liverpool, 19th November, 1816
- A16 Robert writes to Julius in January 1822 to tell him that Robert's wife, Julius's aunt (actually the mother who had adopted him), Aunt Anne (nee Chatfield) is dying. She was 74.
- A17 Letter transcribed by Father and Kate from Mary and Matilda (William B.'s daughters) to Julius, April 28, 1822. "Father intended placing us in the Almhouse before he left the City to which he never returned."
- A18 Letter from Asa Holden to Julius, May 2 1822, recopy of this, July 18th because lost. Asa Holden provides details of his attempt to place his adoptive son, Robert Holden Mott in employment, "I hope Robert will in a few years be able to be the protector and friend of his sisters."
- A19 Letter from Mary Mott in New York carried by her uncle James D. Stout to Julius who had already left for Loughborough, May 14th 1826.

- A20 Cover letter forwarding letter A19
I think this letter is from Martha (in Highgate? See letter A21), rather than from Julius's other living sister, Jemima. "Dear Brother." London 26 June 1826. Explains letter from Mary Mott in New York, but also speaks of her own need to find a job.
- A21 A long letter on many subjects from Robert to his friend and half-nephew Julius, actually asking the advice of Julius about Samuel Mott, who is in serious debt. etc. (Robert had also, by this time, handed over the connections with the children of William B. Mott in New York to Julius.) Whether either Robert or Julius sent financial support is uncertain. Julius kept the letters. (And Father made use of them in PORTRAIT OF A FAMILY, although I would have thought, sadly, that they are of marginal interest.) We know that Martha, now Robert's wife, died at Taunton but at what date?
The letter winds down in repetitions.
To Julius at Loughborough from Taunton March 20, 1827.
- A22 Robert Mott to Julius, long letter on many subjects, chiefly financial. Two years after A21, Martha (Patty) is dead and it sounds as if Mentor in with the Julius Motts. Brighton, December 21st, 1829 to Julius at Loughborough. Interesting that Robert has bought land near Ditchling and plans to build a house near Brighton (* Hobden's Mill).
- A23 Matilda Mott writes to Julius. Father's transcript. New York, May 22nd, 1832. Mary has disappeared into South America. Robert Holden Mott has died (February 4th, 1830). (William has "been dead many years," that is William III, Matilda's brother.)

Notes (from whom) in "Auntie's iron chest".
Useful, gives date and entry of baptism of five of the six children of William Mott and Martha, nee Barrowcliffe April 15th 1792.

Questions: Where did the pencilled "Nora" substitute for Martha Barrowcliffe, and where do we learn there was a separation between the parents, as there was between William Barrowcliffe and his wife later on?