

Martha Elder Sparks Correspondence

Dear Bob -
Am sorry I've waited so long
to get this back to you. Appreciate
you sending me the updated copies.
I expect to go to Nashville for the
Easter Week end and may be able to
get a little information from two
of my cousins there. They are younger
than I but have been there all their
lives. Will let you know if I
come up with any thing new.

Its real nice hearing from you
Hope we can keep in touch
Love

Aunt Martha

P.S. This is all sort of messy but
hope you can make out what
I'm trying to say.

P.S. Were you able to come up with
any dates as to W.C. Turberville
and Mary Christenberry?

(1-2-3) I feel very sure W.C. Turberville
and Mary Christenderry were
my great grandparents (father) and
mother of my grandmother Logan.
We lived not far from the Old Mill
Creek Baptist Church. The area where
we lived was known as Flat Rock
at one time. I remember going to
that cemetery with my aunt when I
was a child and her telling me her
grandparents were buried there. My
grandmother's two oldest children were
named Mary and Willie. She had two
brothers I know of, Lafayette and
Jim, also a sister Cynthia Boyd. My
great uncle Jim had a son Willie
who was killed in World War I. Did
you find anything concerning that?
He also had a daughter Pally who
died last year. Don't know if she
married.
The only bit of information I have
concerning my grandmother Elder
~~Ann Brown~~ (Ann Brown) is that I always heard
my father say she was English.
over

Dear Bob

~~Dec~~ 14, 1978
you.

I was certainly saddened by your father's death. We hadn't seen each other for ten years, which I regret so much. We also had more sad news Dec. 30. My sister Charlott's husband passed away suddenly in Minneapolis. She had been gone since 1932. They had two children who live in Minn. Ed was from there and had gone back there many years ago. I saw him about five years ago but we had kept in touch thru the years.

Am sorry I have been so slow getting the papers back to you. Hope I've been of some help. I never really knew many of the family on the Elder side as most of our Dad's sisters also my grandmother died before I was born. I always heard them say my father was 15 yrs old when his mother died. I don't know of any one else in the family I could refer you to. My uncle Henry had two daughters who were older than I. I never knew them very well and have no idea if they are alive. I have been away from Tenn. for 60 yrs. If they are gone I

am the oldest one left. If there was a family bible I have no idea where it could be.

I do know more about the Logan side but don't know if anyone has more information than I am able to come up with. Am sending the names and add. of two first cousins I have ~~them~~ in Tenn. who probably could add more. I know Martha Richardson has her mother's bible. Martha

Whitelaw may have the Logan family bible. As you can see the name Martha was quite popular in the family.

I would be happy to receive revised copies. In fact there are several cousins of yours who have been interested in this. If I got a copy we could run more off.

Hope you will excuse the mess

Writing paper also the writing.
I wish you much success in
this project. Seems to me it
is an enormous job.

Love

Aunt Martha

My Aunt Alice Corley's daughter:

Mrs. B. W. Whitelaw

899 Robertson Academy Rd.

Nashville, Tenn.

My Cousin Clara Mae Akin's
daughter:

Mrs. Bob Richardson

166 Nashville Pike

Franklin, Tenn.

18 February, 1978

1. Do you know the names of any of the brothers or sisters of your grandparents?
2. Are the names W.C. Turbeville (Willie) or Mary Christenberry familiar?
3. Have you heard of the Old Mill Creek Baptist Church? It was in or near Flat Rock, and W.C. and Mary Turbeville were buried there.

4. When did your family move from Nashville to Detroit, and how did you travel? Were Henry Elder or John or Martha Logan still living when you left Tennessee? *Our family left Nashville for Detroit July 7, 1917. We came on the train. My father and oldest brother Wm. Leon had been here for a few weeks. Henry Elder and John and Martha Logan were alive when we left Tenn. I believe they all passed away in 1918 or 1919.*

5. Do you recall any stories about the family's experiences in the Civil War?

My grandfather Logan fought in the Civil War and was held prisoner by the Northern Army.

6. Were you and your brother named after your Aunt Martha and Uncle William? Was it a tradition in your Mother's family to give all girls names that start with "M"? If so, how did your sister Kathryn get her name?

I was named after my two grandmothers, Martha Logan and Ann Elder. My brother William Leon was named after our uncle William Leon. I had never realized all but one of the girls' first names start with M. I believe it just happened that way. Cynthia is Kathryn's first name after my mother's Aunt Cynthia ~~Boyd~~ Boyd.

June 21, 1977

Dear Bob -

I have put off answering your letter as I don't think I can be ^{of} much help. I don't know what connection there is with the King Cemetery. I am sure Nathaniel Brown was my great grandfather. Father of my grandmother Anne Elder. She was married to Henry Elder, my dead father. He lived with us for quite a few years. Was, at the time we moved to Mich. He went to live with Marguerite Smith (my cousin) and died there in 1918 or 19. She either lived in Mt. Pleasant or Charlotte, Tenn. I don't know if he was buried there or taken to

Nashville

Nathaniel Brown jr. must have been my grand-mother's brother. I just don't know about the relationships on the sheet you wrote out.

Do you want that sheet returned

I hope you and your family are having a nice summer. We haven't ^{had} too much real hot weather yet.

Kathryn & Clyde visited us for a few days at the end of May.

Neither Nathalie or Bud are very well. She has been having quite a time with stomach ulcers and arthritis in her spine.

Cynthia & Senny got their little boy, Clark Senny Mar 2nd.

He was born Nov 14, last
year. He is so beautiful and
so good. We all just adore him.
I'll send a snapshot when I
write again.

I'm sure I haven't been
much help this time but will
be glad to help any time I
can.

Love to all

Aunt Martha

The Lord is my shepherd;
I shall not want.

He maketh me to lie down in
green pastures: He leadeth me
beside the still waters.

He restoreth my soul: He leadeth
me in the paths of righteousness
for his name's sake.

Yea, though I walk through the
valley of the shadow of death,
I will fear no evil: for thou
art with me; thy rod and thy
staff they comfort me.

Thou preparest a table before me
in the presence of mine enemies:
thou anointest my head with oil:
my cup runneth over.

Surely goodness and mercy shall
follow me all the days of my life:
and I will dwell in the house of
the Lord for ever.

In Memory Of

MRS. MARTHA A. SPARKS

Born

August 28, 1900

At Rest

September 19, 1991

Services Held At

Schrader Funeral Home

Sat., Sept. 21, 1991, At 11:30 AM

Officiating

William H. Bunting, Minister
Livonia Church of Christ

Interment

Roseland Park Cemetery

SPARKS 9-20-91
MARTHA A. Age 91 of Plymouth.
Beloved mother of Dorothy (Rob-
ert) Clark and Daniel (Eleanor).
Loving grandmother of Cynthia
(Dennis) Saulsberry and Robert
(Brenda) Clark, and great grand-
mother of Clark Saulsberry and
Rachel Clark. Dear sister of Na-
thalia (Bud) Aubuchon, Kathryn
(Clyde) Lyman and Margaret
(Eric) Kinder. Funeral services
Saturday 11:30 a.m. at the Schrader
Funeral Home 280 S. Main,
Plymouth. Visitation Friday 12-4
p.m. Memorial contributions may
be made to the Church of Christ
Care Center, 22575 15 Mile Rd.,
Mt. Clemens, MI 48043.