

Sacred Heart Academy
Ogden, Utah
July 10, 1960

Mrs. Doris C. Outlaw
P.O. Box 474
Kinston, North Carolina

Dear Mrs. Outlaw:

As you will see by the above address I have returned from my sojourn in Idaho and am back home in Ogden again at least for the time being. My plans were changed at the last moment and as yet I have not had word when I am to go on to California. I presume that it will be later on in the summer. Anyway I am in hopes that such will be the case. As the California plans had been changed and I was most anxious to see the book, "The Croome Family", I asked my sister to send it here to me which she did. I can not tell you with what pleasure I have read it.

You asked me to tell you what my reaction to the book was after I had read it and so I will try to give you my honest opinion. Remember, I am a member of the family and I may be a bit prejudice because I am proud of the great pioneer work done by those great men and women who did so much to help build our beloved country. In my opinion you have done a very fine piece of work and one of which which we as members of the family can be most grateful and proud. I realize only too well the long and weary hours of research and work which you have put into this book. Truly it is as great a memorial as the one erected at Sandy Bottom and one which will go on living and growing as long as there are Crooms and Croom descendants in this country. Your were really brave to undertake such a job. I have had the book for a week now and each night as I read through it I find something new and interesting concerning various members of the Family. It is my hope that you will continue to do research along these lines and from time to time add to the book. The items in the supplement were very interesting and I wish that an annual paper or supplement sheets could be gotten out each year in which members of the Family would contribute interesting bits of news. Some of these could be read at the "Big Reunions" and for us who are not in a position to attend, the above could be mailed to us. I would so love to be present at your August reunion, but as that is really impossible I shall ask God to grant to each and everyone of you His choicest graces and blessings for a happy day.

In your letter you refered to the Rodman Family and my connection with them. Yes Camillia Holliday Croome was the sister of my Grandmother Henrietta Holliday Croome and from looking over the mailing list in your book I find that Judge W.B. Rodman, John C. Rodman, Owen Rodman and Edward N. Rodman and I are cousins not too far removed as our Grandmothers were sisters. Is there any way that you could find out for me if they might by chance have any family pictures of their Grandmother and mine?

My Great-grandparents Wiley Jones Croom and Elizabeth Holliday moved to the town of Greensboro in Alabama and that is where my Father was born and where many of our kin are today. I visited there with my Father as a child. My Mother was my Father's second wife. I am enclosing some papers which I think will be of help to you in some of your future work. There are also some notes here which will explain where I got some of my information about Daniel Croom and others. I have also made a few charts which will be of interest in tracing the Croom Branch from Alabama.

Perhaps I have not told you that I am a teacher and I have a History Major and am most interested in anything connected with the early history of our own beloved country. I would so very much like to become a member of the Colonial Dames, but do not know how to go about becoming one. I understand that because of my descent from Major Croom this can be done. Would you be so kind as to let me know what is required the next time you write to me. I am also a descendant of John Haywood and could enter the Colonial Dames through him or through General Thomas Holliday. Ann Hare was the Granddaughter of John and Elizabeth Haywood and the mother of Wiley J. Croom.

I am truly sorry that I have kept you waiting so long for this letter, but as I have said I did not get the book as soon as I thought I would. Also I had thought that I might by this time have returns from the research letters sent to Ireland.

By the way I have written a little article which I thought you might like to read at your next meeting at Sandy Bottom and if so just let me know and I will send you a copy. Again may I assure you that I am delighted with the book on our Crooms and may God bless your work.

I remain devotedly ,

Sister Mary Editha

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P.S. When you have finished with the material on these pages I would liked to have it back.

Thank you!
S. M. E.