

March 5, 1945

Mrs. Chas. B. Stough Jr.
3530 St. John's
Jacksonville, Florida

Dear Mary Jule:

Was glad to get your letter and was interested in hearing about the success of the Kuersteiners. I always felt that Kuersteiner was an outstanding man in his profession and a mighty nice gentleman to know.

I doubt if the Simons in the old cemetery at St. Augustine was any direct relative of mine--quite likely was a collateral relative and if we would go back several hundred or a thousand years, we might find common ancestors. The name Simons is quite a common one and in the Scandinavian countries it is equivalent to Sigmund or Sigismund.

We had a telephone call last night from Blanche which is very encouraging. It seems that round-about information has reached them bringing to them a copy of a letter from another one of the squadron who used the expression that "it may be a blessing in disguise". To me it indicates that he may have landed in Switzerland where he would be interned for the duration and would therefore be out of the war. I feel certain that that would not be to his liking because I think that all of these young men in the service want to give everything in their power for the winning of the war. The writer of the letter mentioned that he could say very little because the letter would be censored. No direct word has been received from Owen, and I have no idea how soon word might be expected from one who had been interned. Anyhow it gives us further hope that he is safe.

I hope that Charles will be able to find residential quarters for you in Miami. I don't know that he could do you any good, but John Montgomery, publisher of the Daily Sun Tropics, is a very good friend of Dolph's, and I am sure he would be glad to aid you in getting an apartment if it were possible for him to do so.

We are still having nasty weather. Yesterday, I think, was the best Sunday we have had perhaps in three months, but not entirely bright and clear. Last night it rained, and today we are confronted with the promise of snow with perhaps zero weather.