

December 23, 1949

Mr. and Mrs. Don Larremore
Sand Brook
Hunterdon County
New Jersey

Dear Friends:

I am very happy to have the copy of "Bonnie Eloise". I am a peculiar body, devoid of the ability to sing or to play a musical instrument, and yet a real lover of music.

Two years ago or more, Gertrude would have sat down to the piano and played the music as written and would also have sung the song. I am going to spend Christmas with Janet in Minneapolis, Kansas, and while Janet is not much of a musician, I am sure she will be able to play the air.

It is of special interest to me that my grandfather, Collins Gowdy, born on the Gowdy farm north of Bernhards Bay, learned to swim in the Mohawk river. His birth place was given as Rome, New York, but as a matter of fact, he was probably born at the Gowdy home on Gowdy brook between Bernhard's Bay and old Constantia.

I am glad to be remembered by you and wish you much happiness and good cheer for the holidays and for the coming year.

Sincerely your friend,

W. C. Simons

P.S. Since writing the above, I have handed the copy to Reverend C. W. Thomas who is in charge of music at the First Baptist Church, and asked him to try it out. I told him I thought that if they found it was something desirable they could secure extra copies from you.