

December 20, 1949

Mr. and Mrs. L. A. Gowdy
Hazardville, Connecticut

Dear cousins:

I am glad that you think of us sometimes because Mrs. Simons frequently recalled your kindness to us when we came as strangers to the old stamping ground of the Gowdy, Simons, and Collins families; while at Westerly, the Louises, and at Stonington, the Cooks, all members of our ancestors.

We especially appreciated the kindness of your wife who, although of no blood relation, so far as we are aware, could not have been more cordial to us if she had been closely related.

I wish I could see you and know you better. Speaking of life, I came to Lawrence 58 years ago with little experience and very little capital, and entered the newspaper business in a field where one paper was owned by a millionaire and another paper by a wealthy man. Just trying to do our best to give the people a creditable paper, a friendly paper, and one interested in promoting the lives and welfare, we were fortunate in finally becoming one of the strongest and best known papers in Kansas.

Juliaetta was a family name in the Simons' family. Papa's sister, born in Rochester, New York, was Juliaetta Simons and died rather young. My eldest sister, now also gone, was named for her and my niece and grandniece have been named Julia.

I don't know whether you are aware that Mrs. Simons passed away October 30, 1948. We had been married nearly 54 years. She had been afflicted for a couple of years with a malignant growth which surgery, perhaps, delayed but did not cure.

It is odd that grandfather and grandmother Gowdy had 12 children of whom only six grew to maturity. Of their children, Harrison, the eldest, had no children; Louis, who came next, lost