

September 10, 1946

American Historical Company, Inc.,
80-90 Eighth Avenue,
New York, New York.

Attention: Mr. W. S. Downs

Dear Mr. Downs:

A couple of letters have passed between us concerning my desire to have you compile and edit data for a genealogical record of my family. As I have previously informed you, I have a family scroll, perhaps six feet long and containing hundreds of names compiled by the late Mrs. Shields of Chicago. I have a lot of supplementary data in addition to that on the chart.

I find that in the records at Enfield, ~~Minnesota~~ ^{Conn.} there is an account of four generations of Simons earlier than my great grandfather, Adolphus Simons. I have not been able to ascertain definitely the first Simons in our line in America, but from circumstantial evidence, it would appear that we are descended from William Simons of Woburn, Massachusetts, who evidently arrived in America in about 1635. There is an adequate account of this family in the history of Woburn. In the list of the children of this William Simons, the birth of a son, named William is mentioned and while in the case of all of the other children, births, marriages and deaths have been reported, no further reference is given of William. It appears, however, that at least four of the brothers of William took part in King Phillip's war. It seems plausible to me that William Simons either accompanied his brothers, or was interested in their stories of the better opportunities in Connecticut, left Woburn and never returned. The date of his birth does not exactly match that given for the first William Simons in Connecticut, but as he would have been absented from his family for many