

June 7, 1927

Mr. A. E. Ewing  
532 Michigan Trust Co. Building  
Grand Rapids, Mich.

My dear Mr. Ewing:

How much in debt I am to you, and your letter of May 18 still adds to the account. If you and Mrs. Rudolph keep on, I shall throw up my work and join forces.

It is better, however, for you to figure this out on the careful lines you are following. When that is done I will see that you get the credit you deserve for a piece of real work. The trouble in the Hanks genealogy has been that there has been too much jumping to conclusions. I am one of the guilty ones, though I never did undertake to work out the genealogy. I am afraid Mrs. Hitchcock's documents are not as complete as she led me to believe, and as she certainly believes. And certainly Dr. Barton has made two or three claims which he has not proved, though he may have material which we have not seen as yet. But you and Mrs. Rudolph are working in the proper fashion, assembling all the facts and letting the conclusion follow.

I declined the honor of being on the advisory board of the Nancy Hanks Memorial Committee, writing Mr. Marshall that I hoped Dr. Barton did have the documents to prove that he found the birth place of Nancy Hanks, but that I was still weighing evidence and that as I had not yet had the advantage of examining Dr. Barton's documents, I did not think it would be quite honest for me to ally myself with his committee.

With many thanks for your interesting letter, believe me, dear Mr. Ewing,

Very sincerely yours