

February 8, 1928

Mrs. Charles F. White
230 Warren St.
Brookline, Mass.

My dear Mrs. White:

Thank you for your note of February 4. I am always excited when a new recruit to the line of students of the Hanks genealogy comes into view; and I am particularly pleased that someone is seriously attacking the Shipley end of the problem.

I do not think things will be as straight as they ought to be until the Shipley tradition which breaks out at various points is satisfactorily explained. I have always claimed that.

I am not a genealogist, dear Mrs. White. I have never done anything more than to take the records that genealogists have gathered and try to find out what they mean. I have made my mistakes, but I have always tried to correct them. Nobody has completely solved the problem.

Mrs. Hitchcock's findings, particularly the Joseph Hank's will, and Mr. Barton's records, Mr. Warren's records, all of these are important, and we ought to be thankful that we have them, fitting them together but not claiming until we have the complete documents that we have solved the problem. So far as I can see, Mr. Barton claims too much; that is, I don't think he has, from a genealogical point of view, absolutely established his theory. I think we ought not to be content until we have the full documents.

I would like very much to talk with you. It is possible that I shall be in Boston the first of next week. If I do, I shall hope to have the time to call you up, though my movements are a little uncertain. If not then, why later.

With repeated thanks for your letter, believe me

very sincerely yours