

April 18th, 1916.

Mr. Edwin W. Brown,
Lorette, Essex County, Virginia.
My dear Mr. Brown:

Since my letters to you of last January and March I have about established the fact that your mother's father James Reynolds Dishman was a brother of Slaughter Dishman the party that I am trying to locate the heirs of. This would make your mother niece to Slaughter Dishman. As I have figured it out your grand father's family (his brothers and sisters) consisted of the following members:

- James Reynolds Dishman who was the father of Mrs. Brown.
- John Thornton Dishman who left Va. and never returned.
- Slaughter Dishman who also left Va. and never returned.
- David A. Dishman who never married.
- Selina Dishman who married Hiram Gouldman.
- Isabella Dishman who married Edmund Pilkington.
- Emily Dishman who married Ayes Gouldman.
- Sidney Dishman who married Absalom Gouldman.
- Betsey (or Elizabeth H.) Dishman who never married and died about 1906 at Lorette, Virginia.
- Mary Dishman who married her first cousin W.W. Dishman (the son of Samuel Dishman) and who was the father of the late William Lewis Dishman of Pedro, Essex County, Virginia.

The information that I have gathered together leads me to believe that I have given to you the family history about correctly! however, I am not altogether sure and I want you to assist me in getting it straightened out correctly.

Mrs. Dishman the widow of Wm. Lewis Dishman (who died about Feb. 28th, 1904) now lives at or near Pedro, Va. and has been carrying on some correspondence with me through a friend of the family by the name of J.B. Farmer, who writes me from Ullasnee, Essex Co., Va. and tells me considerable about the family. Among other things he says there are two old negroes living near by, -- one about 95 and the other about 100 years of age that remembers distinctly when Slaughter Dishman left the shores of Va. with a cargo of slaves for California. He no doubt left Va. with the negroes but they were never landed in California as slavery was never engaged in in California.

As I have in the late William Lewis Dishman's mother was a sister to your mother's father, therefore they are first cousins. I understand that Wm. Lewis Dishman left several children and that some two or three of them were boys. I hope you will take the time to go over to Mrs. Wm. Lewis Dishman's and see if you cannot get some enlightenment upon the matter. I would like for you to get the affidavits from both of the old negroes that he.

