Cousin Judith,

Cambridge, Feb. 10, 1848.

I have not forgotten my kind reception at your house last summer, nor the goodly lot of liveares you put into my basket of Genealogy. In transferring them to my book, I find I want a few more, to complete the list of your father's and grandfather's families. Your account of the latter, so far as it goes, agrees with the records of Southboro', which show that the Rev. Nathan Stowell there had 11 children, by his two wives Judith, Mary, (don't know the family names) as follows, viz.

1. Nathan, b. Sept. 3, 1735, d. 1754, about 24 years old.

by wife, Mary, Thomas, b. May 1, 1752, and Peter, b. Nov. 28, 1757. Thomas married Lydia Twitchell; it removed to the East.

Now, Judith, I want to know some things about this family which I cannot learn from the records, if I come to you for the information, not doubting but you will give me all you can.

In the first place, where did your grandfather go for his 2nd wife? Bearing her Christian name, I presume you were called after her. What was her family name? And what also was that of the 2nd wife? I suspect all stores went out of town for both, for had they belonged to Southboro', I should find a record of the marriage there, as I did in the book of the marriage of your Father, to Mary Stowell, daughter of Rev. John C. Your Mother, by the way, was sister of my mother's early minister, Rev. Jacob Stowell of Waltham.
Your Uncle Nathan died, it seems, at the age of 24, I suppose it must have been at 24.
Your Aunts Reliance, Hubbard, Mary, & Hannah, the records say nothing of her.
Your Aunt, whose name I have forgotten, Judith, died at the age of 51—yes did she die in Suffolk?
Your Uncle John, do you know what became of him? Or Uncle Peter?
To answer all these questions, of which I shall propose before I have done, you may have to apply to your brother Nathan, in which case I wish he would give me the names & births of his own children & their deaths also, for I think you told me they were all dead. Of your Father's family, I of your brother Nathan's, I find my minutes, taken at your house, are pretty fudgy & particular. I would ask only whether either of them had a second wife? And also whether your Nephew has married a third since I left Dennis?

It appears by the records of Southborough, that Jonathan Stone there mar. Judith Newton, Sept 24 1737. to James, Judith, Migda, Jonathan (crazy), Rachel, Joseph & other children. Who was this son Stone, and soon after your Grandfather, to a wife of the same name? Could he be a brother of the Rev. Nathan, or a cousin? I think not; the name Jonathan cont. occur in the original family at Disaster. It is a singular & curious fact, however, that these two men, of the same surname, with wives of the same Christian names, marry here, live, die, all so nearly at the same time & in the same place.

Can you or your brother give me any light on this matter? Did you ever hear your father say anything about it? The relation between the families, if the above, Curie I suspect there is, must be remote. Some 30 or 40 years ago, a poor old woman Judith Stone used to bring eggs & huckleberries to my mother. They said she came from Suffolk.
(With leave of Providence,) I intend next Spring to visit the Cape again. You may expect to see me at Dennis about the last of May, the 1st Election time, when the orchards are in full blossom & the Bobolites sing merrily in the meadows. I hope to find you there & happy. I wish to meet as many friends for another grand concert about the genealogy of the Stone & the "Eyes of Held Lang Lynd." How much it would add to the pleasure of the meeting, if your brother Nat, old & laureate like myself, could join us & take part in the services. Pray write to him & tell him to come & see me Lynd. Bearing the name of the first of your race on the Cape, the Rev. Nathaniel Stone of Brewster, and being the oldest of his surviving descendant, (I might have said almost the only one in that line,) it must needs be that he could give information respecting his Patriarch's family that I can learn from nobody else. They all dead & gone at Brewster, there is not a man in the town bearing the name of Stone. I found but few persons there who could tell me anything about the family of their first Minister—not half so much as I could tell them. I knew before I went to Dr. that the man & Reliance Hinckley, a daughter of Geo. H. had a large lot of children, Nathaniel, Nathaniel, & perhaps a 3. Rev. Hinckley, and 6 or 8 children. Mary Reliance, Hinckley, &c. &c. It is about this Rev. Hinckley Stone that I wish particularly to inquire of your Brother. Was he a son of Rev. Nathaniel & brother of Rev. Nathaniel of Southboro or not? that is the question.

With kind regards & best wishes,

Your friend & cousin,

[Signature]
Miss Judith Stone
Dennis
Mass.
Cambridge, Feb.y 10. 1848.

Cousin Judith,

I have not forgotten my kind reception at your house last summer, nor the goodly lot of Stones you put into my basket of Genealogy. In transferring them to my Books I find I want a few more, to complete the list of your Father’s and Grandfather’s families. Your account of the latter, so far as it goes, agrees with the records of Southboro which show that the Rev. Nathan Stone there had 11 children, by his two wives, Judith & Mary, (don’t know their family names) as follows, viz.

by wife Judith,
1. Nathaniel, b. Sept 3, 1735, d. 1759, about 24 years old –
2. Reliance, b. Oct 22, 1736 –
4. Huldah, b. Dec 19, 1738 –
5. Judith, b. July 12. 1740, d. 1771 –
7. Hannah, b. April 21.1744
8. John, b. June 22. 1745 –

and by wife Mary,
Thomas, b. May 1. 1752, and Peter, b. Nov. 28. 1757. Thomas married Lydia Twitchell, & removed to the East
Now Judith, I want to know some things about this family, which I cannot learn from the records, & I come to you for the information, not doubting but you will give me all you can.

In the first place, where did your Grandfather go for his 1st wife? Bearing her Christian name, I presume you were called after her. What was her family name? And what also was that of the 2nd wife? I suspect that Mr Stone went out of town for both, for had they belonged to Southboro I should find a record of the marriages there, as I did in Shrewsbury of the marriage of your Father, to Mary Cushing, daught of Rev. Job C. Your Mother, by the way, was sister of my Mother’s early Minister, Rev. Jacob Cushing of Waltham. [over page]

Your Uncle Nathaniel died, it seems, at the age of 24, & I suppose unmar’d Your Aunts Reliance, Huldah, Mary, & Hannah, the records say nothing of them (??) when b. Your Aunt & namesake, Judith, died at age of 31 – say, did she die a blessed virgin?

To answer all these questions, & others which I shall propose before I have done, you may have to apply to your brother Nathan in which case I wish he would give me the names & births of his own children, & their deaths also, for I think you told me they were all dead. Of your Father’s family, & of your brother Nathan’s, I find my minutes taken at your house, are pretty full & particular. I would ask only whether either of them had a second
wife? And also whether your Nephew has married a third since I left Dennis?

It appears by the records of Southborough, that Jonathan Stone there mar’d Judith Newton, Sept. 21. 1737, & had James, Judith, Abigail, Jonathan (crazy), Rachel, Joseph, & other childr. Who was this Jonn Stone, mar’d soon after your Grandfather, to a wife of the same name? could he be a brother of the Rev. Nathan, or a cousin? I think not; the name Jonathan don’t occur in the original family at Brewster. It is a singular & curious fact, however, that these two men, of the same surname, with wives of the same Christn name, should marry, live, & die, all so nearly at the same time & in the same place. Can you or your brother give me any light on this matter? Did you ever hear your father say any thing about it? The relation between the families, if there be any, and I suspect there is, must be remote. Some 30 or 40 years ago, a poor old maiden Judith Stone used to bring eggs & huckleberries to my mother – Twas said she came from Southbor[.] [next page]

With leave of Providence, I intend next Spring to visit the Cape again. You may expect to see me at Dennis about the last of May, the old Election time, when the orchards are in full blossom & the Bobolinks sing merrily in the meadows. I hope to find you will & happy, brisk & smart as ever, & ready for another grand confab about the genealogy of the Stones, & the “days of Auld Lang Syne.” How much it would add to the pleasure of the meeting, if your brother Nat, old & lame like myself, could join us & take part in the services. Pray write to him, & tell him to come & see the Lyon Bearing the name of the first of your race on the Cape, the Rev. Nathaniel Stone of Brewster, and being the oldest of his surviving descendants, (I might have said almost the only one in the male line) it must needs be, that he could give information respecting the old Patriarch’s family that I can learn from nobody else. They [are] all dead & gone at Brewster; there is not a man in the town bearing the name of Stone. I found but few persons there who could tell me any thing about the famiy of their first Minister – not half so much as I could tell them. I knew before I went to B. that he mar’d Reliance Hinckley, a daught’r of Gov. H. & had a large lot of childr. 2 sons, Nathaniel & Nathan, & perhaps a 3d “Dean Heman”, and 6 or 8 daught’rs Mary, Reliance, Huldah, &c. &c. It is about this Deacon Heman Stone that I wish particularly to inquire of your Brother. Was he a son of Rev. Nathaniel & brother of Rev. Nathan of Southbor[.] or not? – that is the question.

With kindest regards & best wishes,

Your friend & cousin, Wm F. Stone