

Houston, Texas
March 20, 1988

Dear Mrs. Ball:

The enclosed is a copy of the history and genealogy of our Ball family. This is the manuscript that Tom left with the Reunion when he resigned way back when plus what he had sent to me for my reading pleasure in 1970. The Family Historian has combined those two parts to-gether to make what we have now as a Family History and Genealogy. This is not the original manuscript that Tom loaned out and ~~apparently~~ never got back but hopefully it is close enough to it to make up for jthe loss of the original.

The family Historian re-typed a whole bunch of the pages because they were faded or torn or just plain wore out. You will be able to determine which ones they are from the ones that he did not re-type, such as the third page labeled OUR FAMILY TREE. We were able to put to-gether 136 pages of Tom's research and the additional information that has been turned in to George Watson and he has typed up and put into the book puts the number of pages at 252.

On page 94, maybe I had better explain the funny page numbering first. When George got ready to re-number the pages, he divided the whole book between himself, his wife and his sister-in-law. They each had the right segiment to number but the wrong batch of numbers for the pages, thus the front of the book is really the last of the book.

On page 94B is my part in this book. I have been told by three different people of the family, and Annette was one of them, that Edward Marshall Ball, Sr. was my great great grandfather and that he married, or brought home from New Orleans, a Creole woman named Margaret Ferdinand and that he had a son by her and he was named Ferdinand James Ball. One of the three ladies even furnished a bible record with all of this in it to help convince me that it was all true. This was in 1984 and I am just now able to dis-prove all of that by continueing the research that Tom had started and that I started on my own to prove or disprove what these ladies had told me and whom I believed - for awhile.

I am under the impression that you do not have a copy of Tom's manuscript at all and I am very pleased to give this to you.

I hope you will be able to read and study this book and understand it and this is the book that Tom wrote. I hope your sons will read this book and appreciate it as a labor of love by their father. There are some errors and mistakes in the history of this book. Tom told me that it was and that they needed to be corrected. He challenged me to start a research of my own and to find and correct those errors. I think I have done that while at the same time searching

for my own true family and while I have not proved yet which branch of the family I belong to, I have proved and I do know that Edward Marshall Ball is not my great great grand father and that my great great grandmother was not a Creole from New Orleans and her maiden name was not Ferdinand. The errors and mistakes that I have found are not in this book but I have it in the form of a report that I am putting to-gether and I will send you a copy of it.

This is for your reading pleasure, Mrs. Ball. I hope you enjoy it.

Sincerely,

RCB Ball