

140. 9th Avenue
San Francisco 18, California
January 25, 1949

Dear Mr. Wiser: -

Your letter dated January 12, 1949 concerning a proposed memorial to Joseph A. Jaff has been forwarded to me after some delay.

My mother, Mrs. Mary T. Jaff, to whom your letter was addressed, died in August, 1944, just five months after my father's death. No member of the family now lives in Palo Alto.

It is with considerable pleasure and pride for me to hear that a memorial to my father is in progress and my two sisters and brother concur. Although as children we heard many stories of his experiences and were aware of his accomplishments, it was not in my father's nature to reveal the far-reaching value of his work, if ever he thought of it in that way. I do know that he felt a quiet pride to have been a "pioneer in the field." Many times I heard him

say how fortunate he was to have worked as a young man with "Professor" Dumble, Dr. Brunner, Dr. Billy Willis, Mr. Gould, Mr. Ulrich and many of the others you have named.

Your draft of the memorial has been read with keen interest. I have no doubt that the facts concerning my father's work are entirely correct. And it is quite remarkable how accurately his character has been revealed in the last paragraph of the draft. He possessed an unusual singleness of purpose and devotion to his work which must have been evident from his earliest days in the field. He said he not only worked his way through school, but helped to support his mother at the same time.

Now I want to answer your three questions:

1. Joseph A. Duff came from Tennessee to Arkansas in the Spring of 1880. I was told that they came all the way in an ox-drawn wagon with all their possessions and settled on a farm near by Fayetteville. My great father wanted his sons to go to college, a privilege he had been denied due to service in the Confederate Army.

2. J. L. Jaff ~~was~~^{is} my father's brother James. He is living today in San Antonio Obispo, Calif., nearly ninety years of age. Mary Jaff is my father's sister, always known as Mollie. She is living today in Corvallis, Oregon. A. G. Jaff was my father's beloved brother younger brother known as Dick. He died of pneumonia a year or so after his graduation from college.
3. My mother's father was the first professor of Latin at the University of Arkansas. She told me they came from South Carolina to Arkansas when she was five years of age. That would be in 1871. She and my father met when they were both students at the University.

I want to thank you for your cordial letter. It would have meant a great deal to my mother, could she have known of this memorial.

I would appreciate it if you could send me, at my expense, several copies of the completed memorial to be distributed among members of the family.

Sincerely yours,

Rose Jaff