

Wilkins

file

February 25, 1969

Mrs. Eunice Darden Wilkins
909 Mt. Vernon Avenue
Portsmouth, Virginia 23707

Dear Mrs. Wilkins:

It was very nice to meet you by telephone and I suspect I may have known you many years ago. As a teenager and for a short time I sang in the St. James Choir in Berkeley when Professor Hiram Simmons was the director and my father was pastor. I have remained a great admirer of Mr. Simmons and have long felt that his great work should be commemorated and perpetuated in a manner such as you and your choral group are doing. Several years ago after trying for some time I was able to locate a copy of his oratorio, "The Last Supper". As I mentioned to you, I would very much like to have a copy of his book of anthems. I would be glad to pay the purchase price if you found a copy that someone would sell, or the cost of reproducing yours, if this is feasible. Also, if you would send me a copy of your sketch of his life I am quite sure I could get it published in the Journal of Negro History as I hold membership in the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History and the editor is a personal friend of mine. It would be published, of course, under your authorship. Please let me hear from you at your earliest convenience, and I hope our little projects can be consummated.

With sincerest regards and best wishes, I am,

Very truly yours,

Leonidas H. Berry, M.D.

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