

OFFICE OF
CLERK OF COURT
ORANGEBURG COUNTY.

L. H. WANNAMAKER, Clerk.

Orangeburg, S. C., Sept 26 1886

Sir William Dawson
Birmingham Engl.^d
My Dear Sir

I accidentally
having observed, in the "News & Courier" of
Charleston, your name, as the enclosed
will show, & finding it spelt in the same
manner as that of my family, & William
being a favorite one, I take the liberty of
addressing these few lines to you, to endeavour
to ascertain if I can trace any family
connection in our families; My Grandfather
Hon. J^{rs} Dawson, held the highest public
offices; My Nephew & Cousin, are now in
Washington also holding high Offices, under
appointment of the President; My Brother
in law was Sec^y of the Treasury, during the last
war; All of us before now have been
living with ample means, but the war
almost deprived us of it & the Earthquake

has left us nothing & I am now 70 years
old; with a family. I am desirous to leave
to my family a record of their situations,
here and abroad if any & think they have
from all I can gather. If I do not ask too
much & trespass on your time; you will do
me a great favour by letting me hear from
you it will be appreciated.

We are Charleston people but refugees
here; we still have slight shocks here but
nothing to compare with Charleston.

As I am not known to you if
desired any reference from men holding
the highest positions in the state can
be furnished.

With the greatest Respt.
Truly Yrs Obedt Servt
J. T. Dawson

Direct Care
Judge B. P. Izlar
Orangeburg
S. C.

Dawson
Dec/86