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Ms. Stacey Smith,
Some Magazine,

123 Pubisher's Lane,
Toronto, ON
90210

Dear Ms. Smith,

Did I already look at this website? Is this Uncle Charles from Virginia, or Uncle Charles from New York? The internet has been great for family history enthusiasts, but sometimes information overload makes research more difficult than it needs to be. Until recently, printing off dozens of WebPages or keeping hundreds of obscure bookmarks were the best ways of keeping track of your family's presence on the web. Now, there's Zotero.

I propose an article for your "Toolkit" section that introduces your readers to Zotero, a free, safe program developed by academic historians to extract desired information from WebPages, in many cases, automatically. The user can store, alter or add to this information and access it all from within his or her web-browser at any time. This can help your readers organize their internet research and keep track of what they've already looked at. The article will be written in the same style as the "How to use Google Book Search" article which appears on your Website; anyone computer-literate enough to use Google or check their email can learn from it.

A sidebar topic could include ways Zotero will save the reader money. Tip boxes could help readers learn ways to keep entries organized so they're easy to decipher at a later date using "tagging" or "folders." This article fits with your 6+ month lead time as it is not overly time-sensitive.

I have included a relevant how-to writing sample below. I hold an M.A. in Public History, and a Diploma in Writing. I have worked professionally as a family history researcher and my work has appeared in newsprint and on the internet. I have also worked with the developers of Zotero – though I have no personal stake in Zotero or its success.

Sincerely,

Adam Crymble