

B7 OYSTER SHELL ROAD
SAVANNAH, GA. 31410
JULY 24, 1991

DEAR COUSIN ROBERT AND CORA,

HOW ARE THINGS ON HILTON HEAD? I HOPE THIS LETTER FINDS YOU WELL.

I HAVE A BIT OF INFORMATION AND A FEW QUESTIONS. I AM STILL TRYING TO FILL IN THE GAPS IN THE FAMILY HISTORY. I WAS SURPRISED AND HAPPY TO FIND MY GREAT GREAT GRANDMOTHER SUSAN JULIA RHODES IN THE 1850 CENSUS. APPARENTLY MY GRANDFATHER'S ESTIMATE OF HER DEATH IN 1848-49 WAS WRONG. I AM ENCLOSING A COPY OF THE PAGE FROM THE CENSUS. ON THE OTHER SIDE IS THE CENSUS RECORD OF MARTHA CLAYTON BEARD RHODES. THERE IS NO MENTION OF AN EMMA OR A JULIA (JULIUS, JULIAN) AND THE UNNAMED TWIN OF HARRIET IS FEMALE. IT MAY BE THAT THE OTHER TWIN WAS EMMA OR PERHAPS HARRIET'S MIDDLE NAME WAS EMMA. HARRIET WAS MOST LIKELY NAMED FOR HER MOTHER'S MOTHER, HARRIET P. YONGE HAGOOD. IT SEEMS THAT NO MATTER WHAT YOU FIND THERE ALWAYS REMAINS A MYSTERY. I ALSO FOUND THOMAS AND MARTHA RHODES IN THE 1860 CENSUS OF COLLETON COUNTY LIVING WITH HIS UNCLE THOMAS G. HAGOOD. THE CENSUS INDEX HAD HIM LISTED AS THOMAS G. HAGWOOD BUT I CORRECTLY GUESSED THAT THIS WAS THE PERSON I WAS LOOKING FOR.

I WROTE TO EVERY LIEBENROOD AND AXON (OR AXSON) THAT I FOUND IN THE CHARLESTON TELEPHONE DIRECTORY. I TOLD WHAT I WANTED TO KNOW AND INCLUDED A SELF ADDRESSED STAMPED ENVELOPE. I CANNOT BELIEVE THAT I HAVE NOT HEARD A THING. I MAY HIRE A GENEALOGIST IN CHARLESTON. I CANNOT FIND ANY SOUTH CAROLINA CENSUS INDEXES FOR THE LATE 1800'S OR THE EARLY 1900'S. I AM TRYING TO FIND ALBERT WALKER, HUSBAND OF EMMA (HARRIET???), IN THE CENSUS OF JEFFERSON COUNTY, FLORIDA.

NOW FOR THE QUESTIONS. WAS THE INVENTORY OF THOMAS CATER'S PLANTATION YOU GAVE ME AN INVENTORY OF CATER HALL PLANTATION? IT SAYS THOMAS CATER PLANTER OF ST. GEORGE'S PARISH. IT SAYS HIS SON WAS PLANTER OF CATER HALL, ST. PETER'S PARISH. WHO DO YOU THINK THE JOHN RHODES WAS THAT MY GREAT GRANDFATHER THOMAS H. RHODES CLERKED FOR? I WAS LOOKING FOR JOHN RHODES IN THE 1850 CENSUS WHEN I HAPPENED UPON JULIA RHODES IN THE INDEX.

THERE WAS AN ARTICLE ON THE LAWTON FAMILY IN THE SYLVANIA NEWSPAPER. THROUGH IT I CONTACTED GERALD CHURCH OF BIG RAPIDS, MICHIGAN, AND OBTAINED A COPY OF THE LAWTONS OF SUMMER OAKS.

THEY ARE INTERESTED IN THE CATER FAMILY. I AM TELLING THEM WHAT I KNOW AND REFERRING THEM TO YOU FOR ANY FURTHER INFORMATION.

T. W. AND I HAVE SENT SOME COPIES OF THE FAMILY HISTORY TO BE HARD COVERED. THESE WE WILL DONATE TO THE SCREVEN, JENKINS AND CHATHAM COUNTY LIBRARIES AND THE GEORGIA HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

I HAVE NOT PURSUED MEMBERSHIP IN THE SONS OF THE REVOLUTION YET. DO NOT THINK THOUGH THAT I AM NOT INTERESTED. THE SUMMER HAS BEEN VERY BUSY. I PLAN TO DO IT SOON.

I PLAYED GOLF AT DATAW ISLAND NEAR BEAUFORT LAST SATURDAY. IT WAS AN EXCELLENT COURSE. I KNEW I WAS IN THE LAND OF MY FATHER'S.

I WILL KEEP YOU UPDATED IF I FIND ANYTHING OF SIGNIFICANCE IN MY CONTINUING SEARCH FOR ROOTS.

FAITHFULLY,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Clayton". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping tail on the final letter.

B7 Oyster Shell Road
Savannah, Ga. 31410
July 31, 1991

Dear Cousin Robert and Cora,

I received your letter. It is always a treat hear from you. I have saved all of your letters.

Since I wrote to you I received a letter from a Mr. G. H. Liebenrood of Florence, S. C. His sister in law, Mary Jo Liebenrood, of Mt. Pleasant sent my inquiry to him. I am enclosing what he has sent to me. The newspaper notices are from "The News and Courier" issues of 9-8-1891 and 4-24-1903. The letter is a bit confusing since it seems to say that Samuel's father married twice, the second time to Julia.

So, my inquiries have not been in vain. I hope to find out more, especially about Samuel and Julia's three children. Perhaps I will hear something on the Axons (or Axsons) Thanks for your suggestions. I will probably follow up on them.

Julia Rhodes appeared in the Barnwell census. October 14 was the date at the top of the census page. According to our records and their gravestones, Thomas and Nathaniel should have been 18 and 16 years old on Oct. 14, 1850. I have no idea who Julia Ferguson was. Perhaps she was a boarder. I wonder what happened to the slave woman Clara that Susan Julia bought at the estate sale in 1843. I believe this is probably the Clara left to her by her grandmother, Susannah Yonge, in her 1817 will. Of course slaves were not listed in the census. What are the Slave Schedules mentioned in the census index? I have seen them mentioned in the census index directory at Georgia Historical Society. My great great grandmother probably had a tough time of it after losing the estate in 1843 and the 1737 acres of land in 1845. There were good relatives on both sides of the family so I am confident that they lacked for none of the essentials.

Speaking of the family history I do want to mention one thing. I said that Thomas H. and Nathaniel H. were the founders of the Georgia branch of the family. Forgive me for not acknowledging that some of George and Thomas Wright Rhodes' children or grandchildren moved to Georgia. Of course I did not know it at the time since the history had not been published. I think of the George Rhodes descendants as the Carolina branch and Nathaniel's descendants as the Georgia branch.

FROM ROSTER OF CONFEDERATE SOLDIERS FROM GEORGIA

NATHANIEL H. RHODES, PRIVATE, 4-30-62. DID EXTRA DUTY AS MECHANIC IN QUARTERMASTER DEPT., AUGUST 29-OCT. 1862. TRANSFERRED TO PRITCHARD'S BATTERY, GA. LIGHT ARTILLERY, IN 1863, TO CO. D., 1st REGT., ENGINEER'S TROOPS, OCT. 1864. DISCHARGED AT NEWBERRY, S. C. APRIL 26, 1865. BORN IN S. C. ON APRIL 12, 1834. WAS IN COMPANY D, 5th REGT. GA. VOLUNTEER INFANTRY, ARMY OF TENNESSEE, CSA.

THIS NATHANIEL H. RHODES WAS THE BROTHER OF OUR G-GRANDFATHER, THOMAS HAGOOD RHODES. NATHANIEL CAME TO SCREVEN COUNTY, GA., ABOUT 1860. THOMAS SERVED WITH THE CONFEDERATE ARMY ALSO. THOMAS LEFT S. C. FOR SCREVEN COUNTY, GA., IN 1876.

FROM THE COLUMBIA MUSEUM AND SAVANNAH ADVERTISER. 10-17-1804.

STRAYED INTO THE PASTURE OF VERNZEBO PLANTATION, SOME IN SUMMER OF 1803, SUPPOSED TO HAVE THROUGH THE RIVER SWAMP, TWO OXES, ONE MARKED WITH SPLIT IN ONE EAR AND A DON AND WHITE PIDE, THE OTHER A DUR COLOR MARKED WITH A SPLIT IN ONE EAR AND PIGGEN 3 AND A DIAMOND. THE PERSON THEY BELONG TO MAY HAVE THEM BY PROVING THEIR PROPERTY AND PAYING FOR THIS ADVERTISEMENT ON APPLICATION TO MR. JACOB GOTMAN, ON SAID PLANTATION OR TO THOMAS RHODES, COOSAWHATCHIE, S. C., OCT. 17.

THIS WAS A NEWSPAPER ADVERTISEMENT. WE DO NOT KNOW IF THIS WAS OUR THOMAS RHODES. A LITTLE MORE RESEARCH MAY SHED SOME LIGHT ON THIS.

FROM 1900 CENSUS OF SCREVEN COUNTY, GA.

NATHANIEL HENRY RHODES, COLOR WHITE, BORN OCT. 1834, AGE 65. BORN SOUTH CAROLINA

ISABELLA, WIFE, BORN MARCH, 1832. AGE 62, BORN IN SOUTH CAROLINA
BESSIE G., DAUGHTER, BORN SEPT., 1875, AGE 24, BORN IN GEORGIA
IVESON W., SON, BORN JUNE, 1879. AGE 20. BORN IN GEORGIA
CLEMENT, EMMA S., DAUGHTER, BORN JULY, 1865. AGE 34. BORN IN SOUTH CAROLINA

CLEMENT, MAYBELLE, GRANDDAUGHTER, BORN JUNE 1889. AGE 11. BORN IN GEORGIA.

CLEMENT, RALPH, GRANDSON, BORN SEPT. 1893, AGE 6. BORN IN GEORGIA
CLEMENT, JOHNNIE, GRANDDAUGHTER, BORN SEPT. 1898. AGE 1, BORN IN GEORGIA.

HE COULD READ AND WRITE, RENTED A FARM AND WAS A CARPENTER. THIS IS NATHANIEL HENRY RHODES, BROTHER OF THOMAS HAGOOD RHODES. HE HAD OTHER CHILDREN THAT WERE MARRIED AND HAD LEFT HOME. HIS DAUGHTER, EMMA AND HER CHILDREN WERE LIVING WITH HIM AFTER THE DEATH OF HER HUSBAND.

CATER HALL, PLANTATION, OWNED BY OUR ANCESTOR, THOMAS CATER, WAS ON THE WEST SIDE OF LOWER THREE RUNS CREEK IN AN ANGLE FORMED BY THE CREEK AND THE SAVANNAH RIVER. IT WAS LOCATED NEAR THE VILLAGES (OR WHAT IS NOW RAILROAD STATIONS) MARTIN AND MILLETVILLE IN WHAT IS NOW ALLENDALE COUNTY, S. C. THE OLD HOUSE BURNED. THERE IS A LARGE LAKE NEAR THE MOUTH OF THE CREEK KNOW AS CATER HALL LAKE. MARY CATER, DAUGHTER OF THOMAS CATER, WAS THE SECOND WIFE OF THOMAS RHODES. THE ABOVE INFORMATION CAME FROM THE GENEALOGICAL COLLECTION OF LEONARDO ANDREA. THERE IS A LOT MORE INFORMATION ON THE CATER IN MR. ANDREA'S WORK.

FROM THE COLUMBIAN MUSEUM AND SAVANNAH DAILY GAZETTE

B. 1778/9

DIED AT MT. ARARAT, IN BARNWELL DISTRICT, S. C. ON THE 27th + 27 Oct 1820
ULT. IN THE 43rd YEAR OF HER AGE, MRS. HARRIET A. HAGOOD,
CONSORT OF GIDEON HAGOOD OF BARNWELL DISTRICT. NOV. 25, 1820.
(THIS WAS THE MOTHER OF SUSAN JULIA HAGOOD RHODES, WIFE OF
NATHANIEL HENRY RHODES, THE ELDER).

FROM THE SOUTHERN RECORDER

MARRIED IN HANCOCK COUNTY, GA., TUESDAY EVENING, THE 1st,
BY REVEREND JONATHON ??????, JOHN WOOD RABUN, ESQ. TO MISS
HARRIET AMANDA HAGOOD, DAUGHTER OF THE LATE REV. GIDEON
HAGOOD. ISSUE OF JANUARY 7, 1828.
(IN A LETTER IN MARCH, 1939, STEPHEN PETER RHODES, WROTE THAT
HIS AUNT EMMA RHODES, AFTER BEING ORPHANED IN ABOUT 1848,
HAD BEEN ADOPTED BY A COUSIN, JULIA RABUN WOOD, OF SCARBORO,
GA. COULD THIS HAVE BEEN A CHILD OF JOHN AND HARRIET(HAGOOD)
RABUN? COULD THE NAME HAVE BEEN JULIA WOOD RABUN? WE DO NOT
KNOW AT THIS TIME. THIS WILL BE HARD TO DETERMINE. JOHN W.
RABUN WAS MENTIONED IN THE SETTLEMENT OF N. H. RHODES' ESTATE
IN 1843-44.

FROM 1990 FEDERAL CENSUS OF GEORGIA, SCREVEN COUNTY:

STEPHEN P. RHODES, BORN FEB. 1866, SOUTH CAROLINA, AGE 34
RHODES, LAURA E. WIFE, BORN MARCH 1883, AGE 17
BECTON, BERTIE V., NIECE, BORN MARCH 1891, AGE 7
ROBERTS, LAWNEY A. SERVANT, BORN JUNE 1879, AGE 20

ALSO FROM 1900 CENSUS OF SCREVEN COUNTY, GA.

THOMAS H. RHODES, BORN FEB, ¹⁸³²1834, SOUTH CAROLINA
RHODES, SARAH V. WIFE, BORN DEC. 1834, AGE 65, BORN IN GA.
BECTON, BARNEY, GRANDSON, BORN DEC, 1889, AGE 10, BORN IN GA.
NOTE; THIS GIVE THOMAS' BIRTHYEAR AS 1834. BIBLE RECORDS AND
HIS TOMBSTONE GIVES THE BIRTHYEAR AS 1832.

FROM THE 1910 CENSUS OF JENKINS COUNTY, GA.

STEPHEN P. RHODES, BORN S. C., AGE 44
LAURA E., WIFE, AGE 27
WINSTON A., SON, AGE 9
THOMAS W., SON, AGE 5
MATTIE L., DAUGHTER, AGE 4
STEPHEN E., SON, AGE 3
VADA, DAUGHTER, AGE 1

FROM THE 1910 CENSUS OF SCREVEN COUNTY, GA.

THOMAS H. RHODES, AGE 77, BORN IN SOUTH CAROLINA
ELIZABETH W., WIFE, AGE 52
ALEX SPEARS, STEPSON, AGE 18
LONNIE SPEARS, STEPSON, AGE 15

I corrected Mr. Church on a few items in the Lawtons of Summer Oaks. It says Thomas Rhodes three children were stepbrothers and stepsisters to Narcissa Melissa. As we know they were her half brothers and half sister. It also says that Winborn A. Lawton and his second wife had no children. Her gravestone says that her child was buried with her.

I will not mention what you say about the families medical history. We agree. Long life also seems to be a family trait unless an infectious disease gets you. I am convinced that my father's early death was caused by cigarettes.

I know that you are very busy so I do not expect a reply to this letter since you have just written to me. I just wanted you to know that the good people of Charleston that I wrote to did not let me down. I will keep you posted.

Faithfully,

Clayton

P. S. I found another Nathaniel Rhodes and a Richard Rhodes in the 1850 census of Barnwell District. I am enclosing a copy of it. I wonder who they were. Both had sons named Nat. It seems that Nathaniel was a very popular name in the Rhodes family. My cousin J. W. Clayton's wife, who lives at Martin, S. C. said that at one time there was a Belfast Plantation near the old Cater place and was owned by a Rhodes family. There are a number of Rhodes from Ireland in the 1850 or 1860 census of Screven County, Ga. With a name like Belfast perhaps the Irish Rhodes from Screven County were the owners.

Also enclosed is the 1860 census information on Rachael and U. M. Robert from Dougherty County, Ga. I have the 1850 census information on them from the Baker County, Ga., census but have misplaced it.

I have also been wondering what happened to the property of Mary Wright, Thomas Rhodes first wife. Wasn't she the sole heir to her father's property?

→ SOME OF NAMES HERE DO NOT RESEMBLE THEIR CHILDREN. WOULD U. M. ROBERT, JR. NOT BE OLDER THAN 20. HOWEVER THIS IS OUR RACHAEL. ACCORDING TO CENSUS THEIR PLACE OF BIRTH WAS S. C.

B7 Oyster Shell Road
Savannah, Ga. 31410
September 2, 1991

Dear Cousin Robert and Cora,

I hope that both of you are well. I am fine except for recovering from a back injury suffered on the golf course.

I visited my college roommate in Albany, Ga., in early August. We went to Providence Canyon and Plains. We also visited the village of Westville near Lumpkin. This is an artificial village made up of authentic 1850 vintage buildings moved from other places in Southwest Georgia. After spending so much time going over census records, I felt as if I were an 1850 census taker making calls.

T. W. and I visited Cater Hall lake in July. Our cousin J. W. Clayton works for the Creek Plantation owned by Morris Newspapers.

He took us back to the lake. The week before was very rainy and we did not expect to be able to get to it. It is actually on the Belfast Plantation which Morris bought and leases out for hunting and fishing. On the way back home we visited the graves of some of George Rhodes' children or grandchildren at the Furse cemetery, I did not know who they were until I saw it in the family history book later.

Yes, I would like to trace the Rhodes family past what we already know. I am not sure yet how to do it. Your suggestions are good. In 1970 I wrote to the Mayor of Bridgenorth asking about the Rhodes family. At that time all I knew about our history was from the letter you wrote to Clare Mincey in 1964. I am enclosing the reply that the Mayor sent me. I also received two replies from the notice in the newspaper there. I thought you might find them interesting though they do not enlighten us about the family. Ms. Queenie Rhodes Thomas suggested Somerset House for tracing the family. That might be expensive but I think I will contact them.

While in Albany I looked up Aunt Emma Rhodes Walker in the census. Luckily there was no census index for the 1880 census because I was looking for Albert Walker. I had to scroll through the microfilm. I found them listed as James A. Walker. I am enclosing a photocopy. As you can see it shows Emma at 36 years old with seven year old daughter Ella. The age does not match up with the twins listed as ten years old in the 1850 census. Later in Savannah I was looking at the 1870 census index for Florida and found an Emma Rhodes listed. Unfortunately neither the Georgia Historical Society nor the Chatham County library has the 1870 Florida census. I did look at the 1870 index

while in Albany but did not think to look for an Emma Rhodes. The censuses mentioned above were for Jefferson County, Fla. I also found Aunt Emma in the 1860 census of Barnwell County, S. C. She is listed in the index as E. M. Rhodes. The microfilm is rather dim and the information is on two pages so I did not copy it. The machines at G. H. S. make such poor copies anyway. She is living with the Wood family just as my grandfather's letter said. Here is what is in the census:

I. M. Wood, 48 years old, planter, real estate \$27,715, personal property \$ 60,535.
J. M., female, 30,
T. S., female, 22
J. A., female, 18, attending school
E. M. Rhodes, female, 17, attending school
J. A. Wood, male, 14, attending school
Rabon Wood, male, 8, attending school
H. D. Wood, male, 2

Apparently J. M. (Julia Rabun???) married Mr. Wood who had children by a previous marriage. The age of E. M. (Emma) Rhodes does agree with the age in the 1880 Florida census. Both indicate she was born in 1843-44. This is definitely our Emma. One of the censuses has the age listed wrong. The same Wood family, without Emma, is listed in the 1870 census of Screven County, Ga. That census, which is typed out in a book, has the following:

Isaac Wood, 58, male, white, farm, born S. C.
Julia, 42, female, white, born Ga.
Rabon, 19, male, white, farm laborer, born S. C.
Haniford, 12, male, white, born S. C.
Josephine, female, white, born, S. C.

So this is the family of Julia Rabon (Rabun) Wood mentioned in my grandfather's letter. I believe that Julia Wood is probably the daughter of Harriet Amanda Hagood and John Wood Rabun who were married in Hancock County, Ga. Their marriage announcement appears in the "Southern Recorder" issue of January 7, 1828. Harriet was Susan Julia Hagood Rhodes' sister. The age of Julia Wood in the census would have her born in about 1830. The census says she was born in Georgia. One of the children is named Rabon (Rabun??). John W. Rabun is listed as a creditor in the settlement of Nathaniel H. Rhodes' estate. I will try to find John W. Rabun in the 1850 census of Georgia or South Carolina to see if there is a Julia living at home with him.

What happened to the twin Harriet mentioned in the 1850 census? Who is the Julia (Julian??) mentioned in my grandfather's letter? We will probably never know. Why did Emma go to Florida. Apparently she left the Wood family before 1870 and was unmarried when the census was taken that year. I did find a Harriet Rhodes in the

Georgia and S. C. censuses but it was not the one I was looking for.

I have tried to find Aunt Virginia Rhodes Brown and Laura Brown Axon in the census but so far have had no luck. Aunt Virginia may have remarried or be living in the household of some of Uncle William's relatives. I need to find the 1880 census of S. C. It is not available at G. H. S. or the local library. I also need to examine the Charleston City Directories. I might plan a stay of several days in Charleston. Do you think Charleston or Columbia would be better?

I saw a book on the Hagood, Haigwood, Hagwood families in the library here. I wrote to the author in Rome, Ga. He says we are all related and came from England to Virginia. He says he was given a copy of General Hagood's book Meet Your Grandfather by former Senator David Gambrell who is a descendant of the General. David Gambrell was appointed after the death of Richard Russell and lost the reelection bid. The gentleman from Rome sent some forms to be filled out to go into the next edition of the Hagood book. I informed him of some corrections to General Hagood's book.

We received the hard bound copies of the Rhodes history. The bindery did an excellent job. The book has been made more attractive and is better protected. Of course the contents are what counts and we all thank you and Cousin Alice for that. You may want to have your copies hardbound. It cost us \$56 to have six copies done. The representative picked the books up at the Screven County library during one of his periodic visits so there was no mailing fee to get them to the bindery. You could have it done through your local library.

I will visit my mother in Sylvania this coming weekend. We will attend a Parker reunion at Magnolia Springs on Sunday. I want to start on the Clayton genealogy. It will not be as easy to trace backward into early America and back to England as the Rhodes family. But the descendants of my great grandfather are legion. So I will have quite a job.

I almost forgot to mention the census data that I have enclosed on Aunt Rachel Rhodes Robert. I am sending the information on the 1850 census of Baker County, Ga., and another copy from the 1860 census of Dougherty County, Ga. They are copied on opposite sides of one page. I also included information on a S. C. Lawton that lived nearby in 1860. Maybe you know who he was. Who is the Mary listed as one of the 12 year old triplets in 1850? According to this A. Campfield is one of the triplets. Should we include this as corrections to the family history?

I have written at some length this time. I will close for now. The search shall not be given up. I will let you know if I find anything else of significance.

Faithfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Chapman". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Rhodes

B7 Oyster Shell Road
Savannah, Ga. 31410
February 14, 1992

Dear Cousin Robert and Cora,

I hope this letter finds both of you well and happy. It has been some time since I have written so I thought that I would touch base with you at least once more before the reunion in April.

I went to the Archives and the University of South Carolina Library in Columbia in December. I found a few things but not as much as I had hoped on the Rhodes, Claytons and related families. I have found out since that there were some more areas to look into there and may make a return trip.

I am enclosing something that I found on Calliwassee Island. You may have seen it already. It is from a study called Further Investigations of Prehistoric and Historical Folkways on Calliwassee and Spring Islands, Beaufort, S. C. put out by the Chicora Foundation, Inc. P. O. Box 8664, Columbia, S. C. 29202. It does mention our Thomas Rhodes and also mentions you. I regret that the copy machine cut off some of the text on the right hand side. Who is the Michie mentioned as a source?

I had always been curious about the land grant to a Thomas Rhodes in 1798. I found this in the Archives but it does not appear to be our Thomas Rhodes. I am enclosing a copy anyway for you to examine. I have found a Thomas Rhodes that married Eliza Atmore in the Circular Congregational Church in Charleston in 1790. I have also found mention of a Captain Thomas Rhodes who died in Charleston in 1810, son of Dr. John Rhodes of Newhaven, Connecticut. Perhaps this is the Thomas to whom the land was granted.

I looked through some of the Charleston city directories. The 1878 directory lists Virginia Brown, widow of William, living at 53 America Street. The same entry is in the 1892 directory except that she lived at 20 Bogard Street. Same entry in the 1901 directory except that she lived at 20 Percy St. I would like to look at some more directories when I have the time and access to them. Samuel K. Liebenrood is listed in the 1892 directory as a policeman living at 57 Spring Street. I could not find Laura as Laura Axon but did find Laura Brown in the 1892 directory as working at W. E. & C. Co. I could not find a Paul Axon in the 1900 census but did find a William R. Axon, clerk, living at 20 Bogard St. in the 1901 directory. This address, 20 Bogard St., keeps appearing in the records concerning Aunt Virginia's family. Could it be that Paul was

actually William R. Axson? I want to go to Charleston and investigate cemetery records there. Do you know if there is a cemetery associated with the Cannon St. Baptist Church? I could not find Julia Liebenrood in the 1900 census. We know she was living because she is in the 1901 directory. I did find a George E. and William E. Liebenrood ages twelve and ten in the 1900 census living in the Charleston Orphans Home on Calhoun St. I hope that Julia did not give her children up for adoption.

I did obtain a copy of the will of Isham Clayton from 1778. It was settled in 1804 after his wife died. I found a document showing Thomas H. and Martha E. Rhodes petitioning for the estate of Cornelia Beard after the child's death in 1861. A brother of the child's father, William Beard, had been appointed guardian in 1856.

I had the pleasure of escorting two beautiful ladies to the Lee-Jackson dinner of the Sons of Confederate Veterans at the Oglethorpe Club in January. Both are descendants of old South Carolina families. I mentioned Missy Heriot in my last letter. Her friend, Barbara Pinckney, attended the dinner with us. Barbara Pinckney is also known as Callan Pinckney who has made a fortune on "Callanetics", an exercise technique that she developed. Missy may attend the First Families affair with me in April.

I recently wrote again to Dr. Julian Kelly about joining Sons of the American Revolution. The address you gave me was his office. I sent the second letter to his address on Washington Avenue. Perhaps I will hear ~~from~~ from him soon.

T. W. and I plan to attend both reunions on Easter. We may be a bit late to the church in Estill.

I hesitate to mention this. I would like to see the writing desk of Thomas Rhodes someday. If you ever make copies of the picture of Dr. Nathaniel Henry Rhodes, cousin of Thomas, I would like to have one.

I will stop from now. I look forward to seeing you in Estill and in Charleston.

Faithfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Clayton". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.

B-7 Oyster Shell Road
Savannah, Ga. 31410
July 14, 1992

17

Dear Cousin Robert and Cora,

I hope this letter finds the two of you well. Before I tell any more news I want to explain the enclosures.

I wrote to a couple of people named Rhodes in Bridgenorth. I found their names in a worldwide directory of Rhodes. I sent a certificate that could be exchanged for stamps. I have not heard from either of them. Apparently one of them put my information in the Bridgenorth newspaper. I received the enclosed brochures from The Church of St. Mary Magdalene. I knew you would be interested in them because of your family connection with the church and your position as a minister. You may keep these. I may send a small contribution and ask for another copy. It seems that our Thomas left Bridgenorth just as the old church was coming down and the new one going up.

I finally contacted Dr. Kelly. I have my application for SAR. I have a lot of work to do to complete it. Dr. Kelly asked how close kin we were. I said we go back a bit. If we were somewhat nearer kin, I could have used your proof. Was your ancestor Thomas Cater or did you cite another Revolutionary ancestor? I feel that my weakest link is Nathaniel H. Rhodes and Susan J. Hagood. We know it is valid but there are not any official records of it except what I wrote in our history book.

I have been talking quite a bit with Mrs. Ruth Elsom. We are helping each other on a few genealogical problems. She bought a copy of our book and I think she will buy a copy of the Screven County history book. I may go to Vidalia soon to the library there that Jack Ladson left to the city. It is supposed to be one of the best around. I have not done much on our family recently. I have traced my niece's grandmother's family back quite a bit. I can only trace the Morels back to the late 1700's. But using the book Our Family Circle I was able to carry them back to Virginia in 1613 through the Stafford and Mason families. I also connected them to the Rahn family that came to Ebenezer in 1751. So my niece and her children are eligible for quite a few genealogical societies should they ever be interested in ~~joining~~ so. I believe they are also connected to the Goldwire family but have not found out how yet. This family is in Our Family Circle.

I suppose I should write to Somerset House in England and get some help to trace the Rhodes family past Nathaniel and Harriet (George) Rhodes. I do plan to write to them soon. My company may send me to Finland again next year. If so,

think I will visit Bridgenorth on vacation on the way back home.

My company just underwent a reorganization. We were all worried about our jobs. Praise the lord I made the cut and am still employed.

I was in Hilton Head to play golf at Port Royal the last Saturday in May. I have played Cat Island at Port Royal-Beaufort recently also. My niece's husband, Bill Degenhart, and some of his associates just built a golf course on Gibbs Island which is adjacent to Cat Island. It is named Secession and each hole is named for a battle in the War Between the States. It is supposed to be quite exclusive, complete with caddies.

Thank you so much for bringing Thomas Rhodes' desk to the reunion. It was such a privilege to see it. I hope you will bring it again sometime.

Let me know what you think of the enclosed brochures. I will close for now.

Faithfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'W. J. ...', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.