

107 Redan Drive
Savannah, Ga. 31410-2071
August 2, 1994

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Dear Cousin Robert and Miss Cora,

I hope this letter finds you well and happy.

I am about settled into my house now. I am very happy that I left the condo even though I now have to tend to a lawn. I should have done it last year. I would have got a better interest *rate*.

My main reason for writing this time is to say that I have run into a problem with my SAR application. I looked it over again and noticed that in the generational digression that I did not include the Thomas Rhodes-Nathaniel Rhodes generation or any mention of proof for it. I do have the proof so that is no problem. It is impossible to make corrections on the application now. I have asked Dr. Kelly to send me some more applications. I will complete two of them and send them to you again for your signature. If the cosponsor is not still available, maybe we can find another one. I regret that this has happened and ask for your patience. This is very important to me though it may not seem so. Getting in touch with Dr. Kelly is not easy. He seems unsure about how to proceed after I complete the papers. He says he will find out for me. He seems a bit disorganized but who am I to criticize. If I do not hear from him soon, I will call him again.

After joining SAR I think I will do like we discussed in Estill and decline invitations to other organizations (unless I find a Huguenot ancestor or maybe First Families of Georgia). As you know the Magna Charta Barons have been invited to join the Order of Washington.

T. W. and I went to Barnwell on July 5. We were looking for material on the various families including the family of Adam Carter of Colleton County. He was my great great grandfather who died in the Yankee prison at Camp Chase, Ohio and is buried there. We found a little. The Colleton County records may have *more* even though the prewar records were burned by the Federals. While there T. W. looked up some material on the McPhersons. The only one living in that area was James McPherson. We did find a document from March 1830, witnessed by our Nathaniel Henry Rhodes, in which our Aunt Susan Miles McPherson, James' mother, and Elvira Ann Hagood McPherson agreed that Elvira Ann would inherit Armenia Plantation. Susan McPherson retained Cotton Hall, including the Deveaux tract and part of the Laurium tract with Elvira Ann getting the rest of the Laurium tract

including the dwelling house. There was another document in which James' sister, Ann McPherson Cleary and her husband Nathaniel Cleary of Charleston relinquished all claims to these properties. I looked up Cotton Hall Plantation in the book Prince William's Parish and Plantations. It states that the plantation was not called Cotton Hall during the McPherson ownership. This is obviously wrong. According to your records James also at one time owned a plantation called Pine Lawn.

We also found a drawing of ^{the} Cater Hall ^{tract} in the 1850's, some time after it passed from the Cater family. This drawing, which I have enclosed, concerns the sale of the property to Jack Hazel, a free black man (according to Leonardo Andrea's research).

I read the article in the recent issue of the "South Carolina Historical Magazine" about the 1876 Ellington riots which they say spilled over into the Barnwell District. I vaguely remember someone saying that my great grandfather Thomas Hagood Rhodes, left for Georgia because of violence and unrest in S. C. As you know there was quite a lot of contention between the Democrats and Republicans (Hampton's Redshirts and others) in S. C. during the last years of Reconstruction. He did leave in 1876 but perhaps it was be nearer to his brother Nathaniel who already lived in Ga.

I will send the papers when I have them completed. I will get onto them as soon as I get blank applications. Hope to see you in April if not sooner. Do call if you are in Savannah and have time.

Faithfully,

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