

B-7 Oyster Shell Road
Savannah, Ga. 31410
November 18, 1993

Dear Cousin Robert and Cora,

I received your letter yesterday. It was good to hear from you again. I never discard your letters. They go into my files.

I am answering so soon because the answer to my inquiries in England arrived the same day as your letter. Not too much I am afraid. But there may be a few hints to build on. I had an outfit called Certificates and Searches do the work for me. Perhaps I should find a genealogist based in Bridgenorth. Better yet I should go myself but I do not know when that would be.

They sent a very long list of Rhodes' living in Shropshire in the 1700's and 1800's concerning marriages, births, christenings, etc. Some of it is the same information that you have already provided us. There are a few references to a Thomas Rhodes that may be the one you said we hear no more of (our book page 4). I have copied this page for you. No mention of our Nathaniel or Harriet George. They said they could not find a will for Thomas Rhodes. They misunderstood because the 1742 will was the will of Nathaniel Rhodes. I am sure this will could be found in Bridgenorth.

I am sending a few other pages. See if you can make anything out of them.

I was looking at some old newspapers on microfilm at the library. It was interesting to note that a Thomas Rhodes went into the mercantile business in Savannah about 1798. I wondered if Uncle John Rhodes might have set Thomas up in business here. I dismissed the idea based on what we know. I did see a advertisement concerning runaway slaves from John Rhodes' plantation that mentioned Thomas. I copied it but it is very difficult to read.

Francis Yonge, husband of Susannah Johnson Yonge, was the son of Robert Yonge and his wife, Hannah Eve. Francis was a name that occurred frequently in the Yonge family. The family has been traced to the 13th century. The family acquired Caynton Hall, Salop, as a family home through marriage in about 1340. The Francis Yonge whom I thought I descended from was apparently the one for whom Yonge's Island was named. See enclosed sheets on Yonge family.

I will see that you are invited to the next meeting of the Magna Charta Dames. However it will be next November in Albany, Ga., quite a bit further than Columbia. I did not go to the tea in LaGrange, Ga., last year either. I may go to Albany though and visit my college roommate while there. I will certainly see that you are invited to anything that the Barons in Georgia come up with. I may see Col. Henderson at the Sons of Confederate Veterans meeting this week. I will talk to him about MCBarons. He nor Mr. Sibley are listed in the directory put out by Ga. Div. of MCDames. I am sure the list is not complete.

Yes, I am enjoying Carologue. That is where I learned of the Open Land Trust plantation tour T. W. and I attended.

Yes, I would be honored to have you propose me for a seat on the First Families Council in 1995.

Thanks for the information on Edmund Bellinger. I will pass it along to the Mixons.

I hope to be able to see the book by Ivers that mentions James McPherson. I will look for it the next time I visit the Fireproof Building. I did not find much on James McPherson during my July trip there. I did find a typed copy of his will and the will of Robert Yonge and Francis Yonge at the public library.

I have been reading the book Tombee, Portrait of a Cotton Planter which mentions you as a reference (though they call you Robert E. E. Peeples). It was very interesting especially since Thomas Wright Rhodes and/or his children are mentioned several times by Thomas B. Chaplin. I am sending Cousin Alice in Mullins a copy since she cannot find one near her.

Cousin Robert, I know you are very busy so I do not expect an answer to this letter. I do appreciate the letters you do write. If I had to type on a typewriter, instead of my word processor, I would do a lot less letter writing. I can type fairly fast (and make corrections fast) on the work processor.

I will be in touch, especially when I find something that I think will interest you.

Warm Regards,

Copy to

I copied this both sides to take up less space in the envelope.

P.S. Glad to see Milton, Jr. taking over Spoleto. I need to attend one of these years.