

This paper is a "memoir",  
completely unreliable and  
filled with errors

Robert E. H. Peeples

George Edward Rhodes Cogg  
about 1969 to 1972

[written 1969 to Kay Rhodes Wiggins]  
[by Adrian Benjamin Rhodes]

In Beaufort Co. S.C. George Rhodes  
was welcomed to the home of <sup>of Thomas</sup> Cogg  
Rhodes in the year 1800. In his early  
years the lands along the coast had  
been brought under cultivation in  
rice, and an expanding population  
looking for fresh lands and more  
healthful summering resorts away  
from mosquitoes and marshes, many  
people were moving to the sandhills.  
In early manhood George was attracted  
to this new land and the Robert family  
whose daughter Evilina now in her late  
teens helped him decide to locate upland.  
HICKORY HILL  
Pg. 5 Hickory Hill was chosen and named  
the site of this "yard" because of the  
45 hickory trees on the 15 acre plot in  
middle of 150 acre flat hilltop 20 feet above  
water level a sand hill a mile east of the  
Orangeburg Road one mile south <sup>of COLYER</sup> ~~Cupper~~ <sup>of Colyer</sup>  
This Hickory Hill home became the base of  
George's operation and Evilina's domain



George gave attention to expanding  
 acres and Emeline's care was looking  
 after the health of the children, her own  
 and the children of the slaves. Her  
 responsibilities evidently weighed heavy  
 for her, 5 years after coming to Henry she  
 passed away leaving one son & daughter.

Not long after Emeline's death George  
 bore the hardship of raising 6 or 7  
 father & mother to these 2 small children.

Father-in-law Robert suggested that  
 Eliza was around and was the solution  
 to this problem. It has been recalled that  
 Eliza was called in from riding a carriage  
 horse to dress for the marriage - a message  
 having been dispatched for a minute. The  
 marriage forthwith gave George a second  
 wife from the Robert family near  
 Rotsville S.C.

George and Eliza by this time  
 had every thing pretty well organized  
 He with the acres she with the slaves.

Land was cheap and George added  
to the Nixville farm to plantation size  
where he first acquired acreage and  
placed a reliable tenant in charge  
to look after store and slaves and farm.

a farm also was acquired 5 miles  
north of Honey Hill in the sandy bottom  
This farm was approaching to plantation  
size - 3 to 5 thousand acres being classified  
and having a reliable tenant and a  
necessary quota of slaves to farm and  
care for raising profitably cattle stock & sheep.

George gave good assistance to his  
helpmate and children in increase in  
wealth and ability under the watchful  
eyes of Eliza. Honey Hill balance helped the labor force  
of the other plantations. The family of Eliza  
was an acquisition of the interest among  
the slaves of 16 children came from this  
second union. And the slaves increased  
on the 2 plantations of 13000 acres total  
to 360. at the time of the secession of 1861 from the Union

The south was growing fabulously wealthy with practically free labor on cheap land and favorable climate. Those who lived in colder climate and found slavery unprofitable as skilled labor in factories clamored for prohibition of slavery. Northern states outlawed slavery. Some men came south and ransomed or paid for all slaves on certain plantations, as did one Mr. Bishopp editor of New York World. He freed them, left them and they went back to former owners and begged them to take them back as slaves, which he did. The uproar for Prohibition of Slavery continued. The South was hot headed to continue. States gave a convention for leaving the Union assembled and passed a resolution favoring seceding from the Union. Delegates to this convention signed this Ordinance of Secession and George was a delegate and signed. (G. T. W. (Duty) has the copy)

George had much to lose as  
 payment for his part in this general  
 movement which brought our young  
 nation to the brink of chaos & distribution  
 of the young men flocked to the <sup>Stars & Bars</sup> ~~East~~ ~~side~~  
 the slaves were freed. Transportation blocked  
 commerce faded. Druggs and Physicians  
 were only at the battle line. Hostile  
 invasion sacked the camp. One battle  
 took the lives of three sons.

Nearing the end of the conflict  
 during the winter of 1864-5 George fled  
 refuging to Georgia behind Gen Sherman's  
 devastating army to George M. <sup>Richardson</sup> Richardson  
 who was neutral in the conflict. Bamerville Ga  
 the children and all valuables possible on 10 wagons  
 and both carriages reached Augusta in about 4 days.  
 All hurried to warm - leaving all silver behind.  
 First thought of it was too late. Thine <sup>had stolen all</sup>

During a short stay in Bamerville George  
 repaired with George M. for rebuilding from  
 old brick of the burned Bakery Hall in same  
 site for the enormous amount of \$30,000  
 The wall of this building remains at present

6 1865-6

The Winter of 1865-6 had little  
 cheer <sup>for</sup> George except his one  
 single son <sup>Jehu</sup> and six  
 maiden daughters. His new  
 house built on ground level  
 - old bricks on edge being the  
 floor. <sup>ROUGH</sup> sawn lumber  
 the superstructure with plenty  
 of ventilation in <sup>the</sup> walls.  
 Of course there 8 fireplaces and  
 a plenty of light wood gave some  
 comfort till the March winds  
 chased winter away.

Most of the servants were  
<sup>at</sup> other gates - being few.  
 a <sup>FEW</sup> faithful remained  
 in employment of the Old Master.  
 The currency was no longer  
 of value. Taxes fell due. The large  
 land holdings were reduced  
 from 13000 acres to 1300 acres  
 by not paying taxes <sup>DUE</sup> on  
 those restricted sections of the estate.

IMPLY ->



The 1718 is a date found on Memorial seen  
on grave of a Dr. Rhodes, (a brother) <sup>John Dr.</sup> in cemetery in  
a field west of Grayhill S.C. on Port Royal RR.

You can guess the connection.  
As far as I have been able to learn of  
our family forebears they have been honest  
diligent and unpretentious family men,  
all have been church men. None have  
ever been jailed. None millionaires. One  
of the honorable families of South Carolina.

From my Uncle Adrian Benjamin Rhodes  
mailed 10/27/1954 to George Edward Hale



