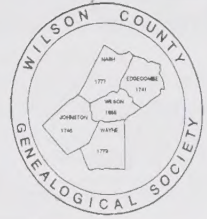




# TREES OF WILSON

*Wilson's Family Heritage*

Chronicles of the  
Wilson County Genealogical Society



January 2016

TWENTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY

Volume 25 Number 1

## TWENTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

In the fall of 1990, a course in beginning genealogy, taught by Joan L. Howell, was held at the Wilson County community college. In February 1991, Howell, some of the students of her class, and others interested in genealogical research, met and organized the Wilson County Genealogical Society.

On February 23, 2016, the society will celebrate its twenty-fifth anniversary in the Genealogy and Local History Room of the Wilson County Public Library from 7-8:45 pm. We will have an open house for viewing displays of our activities and accomplishments. Will Robinson, Genealogy Librarian, will give a tour of the library's genealogy and local history collection. Present and former members, and other interested persons are urged to join us as we review our twenty-five years, socialize, and enjoy refreshments. Door prizes will be awarded. Please come to celebrate with us.

## DUES FOR 2016 ARE NOW BEING ACCEPTED.

If dues are not paid by the end of January, members will not receive any additional issues of *Trees of Wilson* until their dues are paid. This is a departure from our previous practice of carrying unpaid members on the mailing list for several more months, but it is in accordance with our by-laws. The declining membership and rising operating costs have led the board to the reluctant decision that we can no longer mail the number of issues of *Trees of Wilson* required for bulk mail.

A receipt acknowledging your dues payment will be sent if we have your email address.

## WCGS MEETING

Wilson County Public Library  
Genealogy and Local History  
Room, Jan. 26th

Please join us for our meeting on January 26th in the Genealogy and Local History Room at the library. Ask at the reception desk for directions.

Our program, "Learn to Use Fold3.com," will be presented by Will Robinson, Genealogy Librarian at the Wilson County Public Library. The library has recently subscribed to Fold3.com, and Robinson will demonstrate how to use the many features. "Fold3 provides convenient access to United States' military records, including the stories, photos, and personal documents of the men and women who served." In addition to the military records, the site includes twenty non-military data bases and continues to add more. Some of those are census, city directories, naturalizations, newspapers, social security death index, town records, and vital records.

Please mark your calendars for the 2016 meetings:

Feb. 23:	Twenty-fifth Anniversary Celebration
Mar. 29	Sept. 27
Apr. 26	Oct. 25
May 31	Nov. 29

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## WILSON BUSINESSES

Extract from an article about Wilson included in the *Raleigh State Chronicle*, May 31, 1899  
Contributed by Robert Rountree

### THE DRY GOODS TRADE.

Among the dealers in this line we first mention the firm of

#### J. & D. Oettinger.

Though the partners in the above firm are young men, the business they conduct is the oldest established as well as the largest and leading one in their line. It was founded away back in the fifties by Mr. Henry Oettinger, who was succeeded in 1863 by Mr. E. Rosenthal who carried it on successfully until 1882 when he sold out to the present proprietors who, although born in Baltimore, had in their boyhood days selected the old North State for the home of their adoption.

Mr. Jonas or "Toney" as he is familiarly known came to Wilson in 1869 and has grown up in the business of which he is now senior partner. Mr. Dave dates his residence here since the organization of the present firm; for several years previously however, he had been in the employ of H. Weil & Bros at Goldsboro, N. C. It will thus be seen that they started on their own account with a thorough knowledge of every detail of their business.

Their business, already very large, grew from year to year, and finding themselves hampered for room they, in August last, secured the adjoining premises which being connected by archway with their old store gives them a double store which would do credit to any city.

[Editor's note: Paragraphing was added for ease in reading.]

(to be continued)



## **Trees of Wilson — WCGS**

This chronicle is published by the Wilson County Genealogical Society, organized February 26, 1991. Address: P.O. Box 802, Wilson, NC 27894 -0802. Telephone 252-243-1660. Internet address: <http://www.wcgs.org>

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Materials of genealogical interest to the members of WCGS are accepted for publication at the discretion of the Editors and should pertain to families with connections in Wilson County and its neighboring and parent counties. WCGS cannot accept any responsibility for the content of contributed materials, including errors and omissions. Please direct any questions to the contributor. Their names and addresses will be provided upon request for worthwhile purposes.

Transcripts of original records are recorded with the original spelling and punctuation.

Queries from WCGS members are accepted and posted at [WilsonNC@yahoogroups.com](mailto:WilsonNC@yahoogroups.com)

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## **GREAT WILSONIANS**

### **Contributed by Perry Morrison**

[Editor's note: At our April 2015 meeting, Mr. Morrison presented a most enjoyable program, in the format of a "Jeopardy" game, about Wilsonians "who have participated on the national stage." They have had a connection with Wilson but were also notable outside of North Carolina. With his permission, we will include the descriptions of the persons in *Trees of Wilson* and hope you will enjoy trying to name them. The answer will be hidden somewhere within the same issue of *Trees*.

I started out as a schoolteacher, but I studied at night to be a lawyer. In 1900 I was elected a Trustee of Trinity College, and I was named Chairman in 1912. While I was the chair of the Trinity College Board of Trustees, I approached my friend James Buchanan Duke and asked him if he didn't want to endow my little college. I continued to serve as the chair of Duke University Board of Trustees until my death in 1945. In my spare time, I founded a bank and was one of the original Governors of the Federal Reserve. I helped to lay the groundwork for the U. S. Government's modern monetary system.

### **TOISNOT HALL**

#### **A NON-SECTARIAN SELECT SCHOOL FOR BOYS AND GIRLS**

**Advertisement in the *Wilson Daily Times*, June 30, 1911**

**Contributed by J. Robert Boykin**

Rev. Evan A. Edwards, M. A., Head-Master, High School and College work. Greek, Latin, English, The English Bible. Prof. Karl Moench, Ph.D., Secretary, German, French, Greek.

High School: Prof \_\_\_\_\_ B.A., Graduate Johns Hopkins.

Higher Grades: Prof \_\_\_\_\_ Experienced teacher, graduate Lehigh University. At present in Y. M. C. A. work.

Middle Grades: A Deaconess, experienced in teaching.

Primary Grades: Miss Annie Bishop, of Wilson, and the Deaconess.

Music and Kindergarten affiliated: Further announcement to be made.

If applications are made a first class Business Department will be added.

School limited to fifty: a teacher to every eight pupils. Individual instruction that will assure all the progress possible.

The work of any year in college may be taken if desired.

Terms: Primary (a quarter) \$12.50. Middle Grades: \$15.00 Higher Grades and High School, \$20.00. Any year in College work: \$25.00.

Special rates for one or two studies. A reduction for two or more from one family. The right of refusing any application without explanation is reserved.

Please make application at once to the Head-Master in writing. When he goes on vacation, mail addressed Wilson will be forwarded.

There seems a demand for such a school. Unless the applications warrant it, the project will be dropped. There will be no personal canvassing.

[Contributor's note: Rev. Evan A. Edwards was the priest at St. Timothy's Episcopal Church.]



## THE MARY A. ROBBINS MYSTERY

Contributed by Albert R. Page, Sr.

### Introduction

Some research problems are harder than others to solve. For some time I thought the identity of Mary A. Robbins was going to be impossible for me to find out. Others who have researched the Gardners Township Robbins family of Wilson County, North Carolina, such as Hugh B. Johnston, Gladys Robbins, Guins Wrenn, Sue E. and Henry Powell left the above subject for another day or for someone else to unravel.

There is a parallel or two out there that fits this case. When Sherlock Holmes and Dr. Watson were hired for difficult cases, they often were fooled early on in their investigation, but soon they figured out the mystery and solved the crime. Finding Mary A. Robbins was not a crime, but this researcher and his very capable partner, Traci Thompson from the Braswell Memorial Library in Rocky Mount, N. C., put their experience and research skills together and after some time brought light to where there was darkness before and solved the case in the true Holmes and Watson style. The following is the account of how we successfully revealed again the real Mary A. Robbins.

### Background Setting

This author, with the help of genealogist Traci Thompson, recently completed a study on the family of Eli Robbins (1790-1866). That work was published in *Trees of Wilson* in this past August and September (2015) issues. The 1860 Wilson County Census included patriarch Eli Robbins and some of his surviving family members of that time.<sup>1</sup> This Robbins family had lived in what is now called the Gardners School area on Highway 42 for close to fifty years.<sup>2</sup> Mother Prudence Gardner Robbins had recently died in 1858 and left her sixty-eight year old husband Eli and what remained of her adult children to care for themselves thereafter.<sup>3</sup> None of the children remaining in the household were married; however, the older ones had married and lived apart from their family of orientation.

Despite this situation, there was in the home of Eli Robbins a one year old female listed as "Mary A. Robbins."<sup>4</sup> There was no easy way for this researcher one hundred forty-five years later to understand what relationship this infant was to the Robbins family. Father Eli Robbins died right after the Civil War in 1866 and left much of his real estate to daughter Lucinda Robbins.<sup>5</sup> The 1870 Wilson County Census listed Mary A. Robbins in the household of Nathan and Lucinda Everett.<sup>6</sup> Upon checking the marriage records of Wilson County, I found that Lucinda Robbins married Nathan Everett on the 22nd of December 1868, at her home.<sup>7</sup> No doubt this home place was the old Eli Robbins home that Lucinda inherited. Mary A. Robbins, along with other Everett children from Nathan's first marriage, were in this household. Mary A.

Robbins was listed as being 13 years old at that time.<sup>8</sup> By this time I could not resist my notion that Mary was Lucinda's child. Furthermore, I concluded that maybe Mary A. Robbins was an illegitimate addition to the Robbins family. When I was first trying to put the Robbins family together this seemed the obvious situation.

I wasn't happy to base my research on speculation, so I continued to search for more absolute information. Sadly, my research led me to the Eli Robbins' graveyard, and I found Nathan Everett's headstone which indicated he died in January 1871. He only survived this marriage about two years. Information on his stone said he was "about 50 years old."<sup>9</sup> I found his estate records in the State Archives in Raleigh. Nothing in this record said that Mary A. Robbins was one of his heirs.<sup>10</sup>

I pushed on to study the 1880 Wilson County Census record and found that Mary A. Robbins, now twenty-one years old was living in household number 191, and fifty-four year old "Sindy Everette" (same as Lucinda) was living next door in number 190.<sup>11</sup> I pressed on, and in the marriage records of Wilson County, I found that twenty-five year "Molley Robbins" married thirty-four year old W. T. (William Turner) Walston on the 26th of January 1887 at Lucinda Everett's.<sup>12</sup> Up to this point, I felt that my evidence was strong in favor of my speculation that Lucinda Robbins Everett was Mary A. Robbins' mother. The name Molley bothered me some, but I continued with my first impressions.

### A Wind with New Evidence Blows In

I have to say I was confused some by the nickname Molley or Millie because I had not seen it used before in the record. I wasn't totally sure it referred to my subject Mary A. Robbins.

I kept looking for more evidence and found the will of Amos Robbins who was an older brother of Lucinda Robbins Everett. Amos had died in late 1884, and his will came to the Wilson County Court on the 10th of January 1885. In this record, he identified his heirs, and this statement was included: "... residue & remainder to other children: Eli, Mollie & Jedidah Walston" (husband: Wilson).<sup>13</sup>

I knew that Eli and Mollie were not Walstons as they were Robbins. I was left with two problems now. First, the original concern was who was Mary A. Robbins? Then my second question was what do I make of this "Mollie Robbins"?

There is no 1890 Wilson County Census that survives due to a fire that destroyed most of the census work of that year. I kept looking for more on Lucinda Robbins Everett, and I found her headstone in the old Robbins graveyard. The information recorded on the stone revealed that she had died on the 12th of July in 1899.<sup>14</sup>

I decided to look for her will in the Wilson County Courthouse. I found the will as it was brought to the 14th of November 1899 court for probation. In this document, Lucinda Robbins Everett

(continued on page 4)



(Mary A. "Robbins Mystery, continued from page 3)

identified twelve of her nephews and nieces to whom she left property. Some received money while six received land. "Mollie A. Walston, wife of Turner Walston" along with cousins Kate Wiggins, Martha Forbes, Jedidah Walston, and Prudence Johnson received the bulk of the land Aunt Lucinda Robbins Everett had at her death. The nieces inherited in common two hundred five acres which was the center of the old home land of Grandfather Eli Robbins.<sup>15</sup>

I showed the will of Amos Robbins to Traci Thompson, and she was very adamant that Mollie was a nickname and that she had to be a child of Amos Robbins. She was very persistent in her opinion forcing me down and back some in my position. We looked at the Lucinda Robbins Everett's will, and Traci felt strongly that I needed to look more at Mollie Robbins Walston as Mary A. Robbins. I must say that I was somewhat deflated, but I continued the search to see if I could find the graves of Mary A. Robbins and her husband William Turner Walston. Traci Thompson's bark was pretty ferocious, and it drove me forward in looking for more sources.

### **The Final Pieces of the Mary A. Robbins' Puzzle**

I have to admit that I did not want to believe Traci Thompson's opinion, but I marched on in search of whatever evidence there was out there for me to find. I decided I must locate the graves of Mary A. Robbins and her husband William Turner Walston. I looked in the Wilson County Cemetery books for my subjects. I did not find these Walston family members in the cemetery books of Wilson County.

I was upset, but I enlisted Traci to apply her computer skills, and she called up the website "Find A Grave.com" for my subjects' graves. She found the Walstons in the William Walston graveyard.<sup>16</sup> We then looked back at the Wilson County cemetery books and found the William Walston graveyard, but in Book One, Mary and William Walston's graves were omitted in the survey of that graveyard. However, all the others on the list of "Find A Grave" were there in the graveyard. I know the readers can't believe this, but I refer you to Book One page 203 and especially page 204.<sup>17</sup>

This past week Traci and I both visited this graveyard. I took pictures of William and Mary A. Robbins Walston's headstones. For this story the subject of this study Mary A. Robbins' headstone records the following: Mary A. Robbins Walston, born 13th of December 1858 and died on the 2nd of November 1901.<sup>18</sup> This was very important information for me especially Mary A. Robbins Walston's birthday. At the time I found her headstone, I did not know how valuable this birthday was.

There is more to this story! One more source that becomes the final piece of the puzzle soon presented itself to me. When I found the Mary A.

Robbins Walston headstone, that solved the problem of the Mary/Mollie name concern in my mind. These names belonged to the same person, and I was satisfied with these results. I wanted to conclude the evidence once and for all on Mary A. Robbins. By now the weight of the evidence was in Traci Thompson's favor, but I needed the final piece of the puzzle.

I knew by my research that Amos Robbins was married twice. His first wife, the mother of all his children, had a headstone in the old Eli Robbins Cemetery. I relooked at that stone. The information said: "Mary A. Robbins, born 10 July 1821 and died on the 13th of December in 1858, wife of Amos Robbins, age 27 yrs., 5 mon., & 3 dys."<sup>19</sup> I knew that Amos Robbins married secondly to Polly Stokes (actually Mary A. Stokes) on the 1st of November 1859.<sup>20</sup> She could not have been the mother of any of Amos Robbins' children. Traci and I compared the death date of Amos' first wife Mary A. Robbins, 13th of December 1858, to the birth date of this paper's subject Mary A. Robbins Walston which was also the 13th of December in 1858. We finally had the revelation that turned into the last piece of evidence we needed in this case study!

### **A Happy Conclusion**

Mary A. Robbins, the subject of this research, was born to Amos Robbins and his first wife Mary A. \_\_\_\_ Robbins on the 13th of December 1858.<sup>21</sup> Unfortunately mother Mary A. Robbins did not survive her sixth child's birth. The family named the new born infant Mary A. Robbins after her mother. Amos Robbins and his children Jedidah, Frances, Eli, Prudence, John and infant Mary A. Robbins buried wife and mother in the old Eli Robbins graveyard with relatives such as patriarch Eli Robbins and among others Lucinda Robbins watching and helping as they best could.<sup>22</sup>

It seems obvious to this writer that Lucinda Robbins with her brother's permission took infant Mary A. Robbins and raised her in the old Eli Robbins home place where Amos himself had grown up. Father Amos Robbins lived near his father's home and likely he and Mary A. Robbins' five older siblings saw and helped every day as baby sister Mary A. Robbins grew up. About eleven months after Amos Robbins' first wife died he married Polly (Mary A.) Stokes on the 1st of November 1859, at her mother's home.<sup>23</sup> There may have been some romance here but likely practical reasons were the driving motivation behind this marriage.

No children were found in the census records for this marriage.<sup>24</sup> Amos Robbins did not see his youngest daughter Mary A. Robbins marry as he died on the 13th of November 1884.<sup>25</sup> His wife Mary (Polly) and Amos' children buried him in his own graveyard 500 yards east of his father and mother's burial ground.<sup>26</sup>

Amos's wife Mary survived him about six years as she died in early 1890. She left a will and most

(continued on page 5)



of what she had went to step grandson William Hansel Robbins who it seems had been helping her in her last years.<sup>27</sup>

It might be worth noting for the reader that my subject Mary A. Robbins and her husband William Turner Walston had five children but according to the 1900 census record only two survived.<sup>28</sup> They were raised on the Walston farm on what is now called the Good News Church Road (SR 1004). Their daughter Bettie was born in 1892, and three years later in 1895, her brother William Turner, Jr., entered mortality.<sup>29</sup> Bettie married John Arthur Gardner on the 29th of October 1911, and William Turner, Jr., married Sadie Whitley Galloway on the 4th of February in 1917.<sup>30</sup>

### End Notes and Sources

1. Joan L. Howell, *Wilson County, North Carolina, Federal Census of 1860*, pg.79, no. 756...see "Elisha Robbins".
2. Albert R. Page, Sr., "Old Eli Robbins and Prudence Gardner's Family" in *Trees of Wilson*, July/August 2015, pgs. 87-88. Also see Traci Thompson, MLIS, CG, "The Forbes Robbins Cemetery" *Trees of Wilson*, Sept. 2015, pg.89.
3. Joan L. Howell, *Wilson County, North Carolina, Cemeteries, Volume I*, pg. 71. See "Prudence Robbins" on this page.
4. See source 1, above.
5. Same source as no. 3 above and Wilson County Courthouse Register of Deeds Office, bk. 1, pg. 371. On the 30th of Jan. 1858 Eli Robbins left 600 acres to three of his children: Lucinda, James R. & Hansel Robbins. Lucinda's two brothers were killed in the Civil War. It appears Lucinda ended up with the total 600 acres.
6. Joan L. Howell, *Wilson County, North Carolina, Federal Census of 1870*, pg. 59, no. 142.
7. J. Robert Boykin, III, *Marriages of Wilson County, North Carolina, 1855-1899, Volume I*, pg. 267.
8. Same source as no. 6 above.
9. Same source as no. 3 above, pg. 70.
10. North Carolina State Archives, Raleigh, N. C. See estates file for Nathan Everett.
11. J. Robert Boykin, III, *Wilson County, North Carolina, 1880 Census*, pgs. 368 & 178.
12. Same source as no. 7 above, Vol. II, pg. 712.
13. J. Robert Boykin, III, *Abstracts of Wills, Wilson County, North Carolina, 1855-1899*, pg. 63. See will of Amos Robbins.
14. Same source as no. 3 above, pg. 70.
15. Same source as no. 13 above, pg. 29-30. See Lucinda Everett on these pages. It seems logical to this writer that Lucinda Robins Everett lived in the old Eli Robbins home place.
16. Site "Find a Grave" on the Internet for William Walston Cemetery.
17. Same source as no. 3 above, pgs. 203-204.
18. This information comes from the "Find a Grave" site in no. 16 above. Traci Thompson made a copy of the William Walston Cemetery for me. In addition we visited the graveyard on the 18th of October, 2015.

19. Same source as no. 3 above, pg. 71. See information for Mary A. Robbins wife of Amos Robbins.

20. Same source as no. 13, pg. 595. See marriage of Amos Robbins to Polly Stokes.

21. Absolutely critical information was found in the wills of Amos Robbins and Lucinda Robbins Everett. Also the headstones of mother Mary A. Robbins, wife of Amos Robbins, and that of her daughter Mary A. Robbins Walston are likewise necessary in this conclusion. In addition it is hard not to notice both mother and daughter bear the identical names.

22. Same source as no. 3 above, pg. 71.

23. Same source as no. 13 above, pg. 71.

24. This researcher checked Howell's 1860, 1870 & 1880 Wilson County Census books and Mary A. Robbins' will. There were no signs of any children born to Amos and second wife Polly Stokes Robbins.

25. Howell, *Wilson County, North Carolina, Cemeteries, Volume 1*, pg. 137. Note that the death date recorded as 1881 is incorrect and should read 1884 as per his will (written 24 Oct. 1884). The will was probated in the Wilson County Court on the 10th of Jan. in 1885. I was last in the Amos Robbins' graveyard in May of 2015 and could not locate Amos Robbins' headstone.

26. Same as above source. Amos Robbins' graveyard is at the junction of highway 42 and the Town Creek Road.

27. See Boykin's *Abstracts of Wills, Wilson County, North Carolina, 1855-1899*, pg. 64.

28. Joan L. Howell, *Wilson County, North Carolina, Federal Census of 1900*, pg. 126 no. 41. Take note that the name "Leonard" Walston was incorrectly transcribed and should read William Turner Walston.

29. Same source above no. 28.

30. See the Wilson County Courthouse Register of Deeds for these marriages.



Left: Traci Thompson and Albert Page  
Right: Grave marker of Mary A. Robbins, Wife of W. T. Walston, Born Dec. 13, 1858, Died Nov. 2, 1901



## OBITUARIES

Contributed by J. Robert Boykin

### MALINDA PRICE

*Zion's Landmark*, November 1, 1912

The subject of this brief notice was a daughter of Edwin and Sealy Hines. She united in marriage to W. S. [sic., G.] Price, December 25th, 1888, and from this union was blessed with two sons, J. B. and W. E. Price, both surviving her. God in His imputed wisdom thought proper to call her from this sin-disordered to that sinless, tearless world, where all but love is done away; on Saturday morning, February 17th, 1912, about 5 o'clock. On Sunday following funeral services were conducted by Elder Thomas Felton in the presence of a large crowd of friends and relatives. They sang her favorite hymn, "While sorrows encompass me 'round and endless distresses I see, astonished I cry, can a mortal be found, surrounded like me?" She had been in feeble health for some time prior to her death, but little did we think the end was so near. She cooked supper the night before and kindled a fire the morning of her death.

She possessed a gentle, unassuming disposition and was truly an old Baptist in spirit and faith and practice. She joined the Primitive Baptist church at Cross roads, Wayne County, N. C., and was baptized by Elder J. T. Edgerton and afterwards was granted a letter of dismissal to join at White Oak, Wilson County, N. C., where she lived an humble and faithful member until death.

We miss her presence, yet we hope to meet her by and by, where sin, sorrow, toil and pain cannot disturb and the weary are at rest.

We believe she is clothed with the imputed righteousness of Jesus Christ and that her exchange of worlds is a happy one. May the Almighty God fill the vacancy with His royal presence, reconciling all to his holy will. ...

Through love and affections,

H. S. Ward

[Editor's note: The *Wilson Daily Times* obituary of Malinda Price was included in the February 2014 issue of *Trees of Wilson*. Malinda Price, d. 17 FEB 1912, wife of Wm. G. Price, age 51 yrs, was buried in the Edwin Owens Cemetery on Piney Grove Church Road in Saratoga Township. *Wilson County, North Carolina, Cemeteries—Volume III*, Joan L. Howell]

### CLARA MAY THORNE

*Zion's Landmark*, January 15, 1912

It is by request of my dear mother, that I attempt to write the obituary of my dear little sister, Clara May Thorne, the baby daughter of J. D. and Mary S. Thorne. She was born March 25, 1902, and died August 16, 1911, making her stay on earth nine years, four months and twenty-two days.

Clara was never very healthy, but always bright and beautiful, the pride of our home and loved by all who knew her. She took a great delight in her

school work and was especially fond of music. We would often find her sitting at the piano, playing and singing. Most always she sang sacred songs, of which were "Jesus Lover of My Soul," "Cast Down but not Destroyed," "Sweet Bye and Bye," and others.

Little did we know at this time that our home would soon be dark and no little Clara to cheer us up.

She died with that dreadful disease typhoid fever, after suffering untold agonies of pain for some time. All was done for her that kind physicians, a nurse and loving hands could do, but none could stay the icy hand of death; but God who knows best, took this precious one home to rest.

All during her sickness she would take her medicine like those of matured years. Never would fret, but always had a gentle, loving smile for all, and would sometimes say, "Medicine will not cure me, will it mama?" No, medicine did not cure her, but instead she gradually kept sinking until Wednesday at 1:25 o'clock, Christ came and took her home with him, whom she so much loved. She told mama one day, that she loved Christ best of all and her next to him. Surely it was wonderful to hear her ask so much about heaven and Christ's works. One day just before her death she asked mama if we would know one another in heaven, and mama explained to her as best she could, then she said, "I hope every one of this family will be there, don't you mama?" Another time she wanted to know if she died and went to heaven would she have little wings and be an angel. It seemed as if such things as this was all she wanted to talk about during her last days.

One night after she had said her prayers and was fixing to retire, she looked up and said, "Mama didn't you rest better last night?" Mama told her yes, and she said, "I knew it." Mama said, "How did you know it, dear?" and she said, "Because I asked the good man to let you rest better, and I am going to ask him again tonight, too." Just as mama had come from church one Sunday, Clara looked up at her and said, "Mama why didn't you join church today? You know I want to be just what you are."

Oh, it was so hard to part from darling little Clara, and know that we could never more see her in this life; but we could only bow in submission to the will of Him who giveth and taketh away, and say thy will not ours be done.

We miss little Clara so much, every where we go, she is absent. We miss seeing her running from room to room playing with her dolls. Her loving voice is no more to be heard, all is still and lonesome, she is gone, yes, gone never to return. Yet we know she is far happier now, playing and singing with the angels, than she was when in our midst.

... [poetry omitted]

Written by her loving sister,

Mary Sue Thorne.

Farmville, N. C.

(continued on page 7)



### JOHN JAMES WELLS

*Zion's Landmark*, March 1, 1912

While the snow was on the ground in the month of January, Mr. Ivey Wells, an esteemed citizen and industrious farmer, of Old's Township, in Greene County, N. C. was out hunting birds with his oldest son, John James Wells. As they were returning through the field, Mr. Wells stooped to pick up some peanuts when his gun was in some way unexpectedly and accidentally discharged. His son exclaimed, papa you have killed me. Mr. Wells looked around and saw his son on the ground. The load of shot had entered his body. Mr. Wells had his son carried to the hospital and every attention given to him that was practicable but he died on the 20th of January, at the age of fifteen years, one month and four days.

Johnnie was a very obedient and industrious young man and much beloved by his father and all the family and friends. It is a heartrending bereavement, but the fond parents should remember and be comforted in the words of the apostle "For we know that all things work together for good to them who love God, to them who are called according to the purpose of God. Romans 8:28.

May the Lord abundantly bless and comfort them in their sore trial.

D. A. Mewborn

[Editor's note: Johnnie James Wells, son of I. W. and L. J. Well, born December 16, 1896, died January 20, 1912, was buried in the Shackleford-Wells Cemetery, located on the east side of Secondary Road 1312 about one hundred yards south of the junction with Secondary Road 1302. Greene County, North Carolina, Cemetery Inscriptions, 1750-1970, Mary Virginia Kilpatrick]

### WILLIAM B. WILLIAMS RESOLUTIONS OF RESPECT

*Zion's Landmark*, August 1, 1912

The Upper Town Creek church, Wilson County, N. C., met in Conference, Saturday, June 15, 1912, and passed the following preamble and resolution:

Whereas our Allwise and Heavenly Father in His Majesty enthroned on High who is too good to err and too wise to do wrong has deemed it wise and best to remove by death on Wednesday, June 11, our dearly beloved Elder and faithful Brother, William B. Williams whom God in His omnipotent purpose, wisdom and righteousness called and placed as gospel messenger on the watch walls of Zion and with tender love and mercy made him under shepherd of our little flock also other churches and filled his basket with Spiritual food that was edifying and upbuilding to those that thirst after righteousness.

He had faithfully declared the counsel of God as given him for fifty odd years, his gift being [sic.] bright and his power of explaining both natural and spiritual was clean. He was a deep scriptural expounder, preached with stability and christian fortitude

and delivered his divine messages sweetly to our understanding.

He was one of nature's noble sons and truly rendered faithful service to his churches. He was an obedient servant of God and we feel he has finished his course with joy.

Therefore be it resolved,

1st. In the death of Brother Williams the church has lost a wise counselor, an able preacher and a tender and careful instructor ever laboring for peace in Zion, faithfully bearing the cross and making peace and communion of the church the banner of his noble and christian life.

2nd. That as God has called him to his reward and his honorable and bereft family are deprived of a faithful father to whom a fond memory can but linger in meditation of his life and example as a rose transplanted to mark his grave whose blooms disclose the purity of his soul. To these bereft ones we extend our sincere sympathy.

3rd. That blessed are they who die in the Lord who run their race with patience ever trusting in God. That we mourn not for him as those who have no hope for we feel our loss is his eternal gain. That we should mark his foot prints and follow the example of his christian life and submit all things into the hands of Him who gave His life for us.

4th. That a copy of these resolutions be sent to the family, a copy be inserted in our church minutes and a copy be sent to *Zion's Landmark* for publication.

Written by request of the Conference.

J. J. Thorne

Elder Amos W. Crisp, Moderator  
D. T. Eason, Church Clerk

[Editor's note: W. B. Williams, Elder, b. 22 FEB 1835, d. 11 JUN 1912, was buried in the Upper Town Creek Church Cemetery in Toisnot Township. Margaret M. Williams, b. 20 May 1838, d. 07 JAN 1908, "Devoted wife of Elder W. B. Williams," was buried in the same cemetery. *Wilson County, North Carolina, Cemeteries—Volume II*, Joan L. Howell

In 1900 William Williams, b. FEB 1834, farmer; and his wife of 42 years, Margaret, b. MAY 1838, lived in Toisnot Township. Margaret had given birth to nine children and four were living. Their son Jesse L., b. OCT 1864, invalid; and daughter Nannie, b. OCT 1879; and boarder Mollie Williams, b. AUG 1857, lived with them. *Wilson County, North Carolina, Federal Census of 1900*, Joan L. Howell and Janice C. Sharpe]

### WALTER WILLIFORD

*Wilson Daily Times*, March 4, 1912

Mr. Williford Dead.

Mr. Walter Williford, 55 years of age who resides six miles from Wilson in Gardner's township passed away yesterday at two o'clock and was buried this afternoon at three o'clock in the Gill cemetery. He was a member of Rosebud Free Will Baptist church and a prominent farmer of that section who leaves a wife and two children.



# BLACK CREEK PRIMITIVE BAPTIST CHURCH, BLACK CREEK, N. C., CHURCH MINUTES YEARS: 1873-1930

FILMED: 5-27-65, R.105.01019

OSSIE R. DANIEL, SR., CH. CLERK, BOX 50, RT. 2 FREMONT N. C.

Contributed by Barbara Ferrell

[Editor's note: Mrs. Ferrell obtained a DVD scanned copy of these records from North Carolina State Archives which she has donated to the Wilson County Public Library. See page 11 of this issue of *Trees of Wilson* for the announcement of this new service offered by our archives.

Below is a transcription from the DVD of the first two pages which contain information of genealogical interest. The handwriting was difficult to read, the ink was often blotched, and the spelling was not "accurate." The periods in the date column may have been ditto marks. [?] indicates inability to read the information.

Please use the information with caution and make a visit to state archives or the Wilson County Public Library to see the original or scanned copy.]

## [Abbreviated table of contents]

Cut off Record	Page	20	
Returned to fellowship		20	
Conference Record		100 Vol. 15	
Articles of Faith and Rules of Decorum of the Church at Black Creek			Recorded on Page 319
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Record of those Excluded on	p	20	
of those Restored	"	21	
Money record	"	426-427	
A table showing names of those dismissed by letter	p	31	
List of names of the money record	p	424	
Table showing those ded [sic.]	page	32	
Resption [sic] to Babtism [sic.] by Eldr [sic] A Moore	page	35	
Reception to Babtism of col. members under Eldr [sic] A. J. Moore on			page 23?
List of Collored [sic] on	page	33	
Church Debt	page	100	

## Page 1 Church Decorum

## Page 2 List of Names now Alive

When Baptized	List of Names	
Oct. 2 1819[?]	Edath Horn	Decsd, Babtised [sic.] by Ruben Hays
Oct. 5 1829	Millicent Rose	Decesdt. [sic.] August 18 <sup>th</sup> 1878
June 21 1831	Isaac Lamm	
April 9 1859	Elizabeth Newsome	
April 1862	Evline Williams	
April 1871	Channey Pecoock, col	Excluded
June 1871	Benjamin Hardy col	Cut off March 8 <sup>th</sup> 18[?]
July 9 1871	Jas. H. Worrel	Cut off Aug the [?] 1876
Aug 14 1871	Patsy Boswell	Died Sep the 28 1877
... ..	Isiah Lane col	Cut off
Sep 10 1871	Wm. N. Cassda	Cut off
... ..	Isham Lamm	Cut off
Nov 12 1871	Ady Lamm	Cut off Aug 12 <sup>th</sup> 1876
Dec 10 1871	Milbry Hinnant col	
Mar 9 1872	Rhoda Hollon col	Cut off Aug the 12 <sup>th</sup> 187[?]
... ..	Fany Woodard col	Cut off
April 30 1872	Elizabeth Cox	Babtized [sic.] by P D Gold
May 11 1872	S. M. Trevathan	Died April 14 1875 [?]
... ..	John Hays	Ordined [sic.] as deacon February 11 <sup>th</sup> 18[?]
... ..	Thomas Hays	
... ..	John T. Lamm	
... ..	Gidian Hays	Dismiss by letter June 9 <sup>th</sup> 187[?]

(continued on page 9)



When Baptized	List of Names	
June 9 1872	Barden Lucas	
...	Edath Boyett	
...	Sally Bass	Died November 27 1878
...	Elizabeth Hays	
...	Sarah Brook col	
Date of baptism	Woodard Hooks col	Excluded
Unknown	Elizath Horn col	Deceased
	James Barnes col	Deceased
	Nathan Barnes	Excluded
	Nancy Barnes	
	Jincy Barden	
	Harriet Boswell	[?] Kinchen Crumpler
	Murill Thompson col	Cut off
	Hester Barnes col	
	[?] Lamm	Dismissed
	Benjaman [?]	
Page 3		
Feb 8 1873	Thomas Pitmon	Dismissed by letter Nov 8 18[?]
By letter	Charity Pitmon	Decd July 26 <sup>th</sup> 1873
March 8 <sup>th</sup> 1873	Elizabeth Toler	Dismiss by letter April 12 <sup>th</sup> 18[?]
April 13 <sup>th</sup> 1873	Rittie Hays	Dismiss by letter June 9 <sup>th</sup> 1877
...	Easter Trevathan	
May 10 <sup>th</sup> 1873	William Lamm	
	William Lucas	
	Jane Lamm	
	Margret Davis	
June 8 <sup>th</sup> 1873	Nancy A. Worrel	Deceased August 15 <sup>th</sup> 1874
...	Isaac Bass	
...	Peter Woodard col	
...	Lucy Woodard	
...	Frances [?] Simms col	Cut off
July 15 <sup>th</sup> [?] 1873	Susan Webb	
August 11 <sup>th</sup> 1873	Joseph Ferrel	
...	Charity Bass x Lucas by marriage	
...	[?] Hardy col	
...	Tilitha Hardy col	
Sept 14 1873	Thomas Boyett	
	Johnthon Barnes	Deceas'd
	Jeny/Jerry[?] Bass	
	Daniel Davis	
	Sealyk[?] Brook col	Cut off
	Litha Horn col	Tilitha Dew by marriage
April 11 1874	[?] Privett	Received[?] by letter
May 10 <sup>th</sup> 1874	Amos Bass	
July 12 <sup>th</sup> 1874	Bunyan Boswell	Ordained as deacon February [?] 1877
	Temperance Boswell	
	Isadorah King	Formaly [sic.] King at [?] Isadore Hinnant
	Blany Barnes col	Cut off
	Levi Bass col	Died
Aug 8 <sup>th</sup> 1874	Mary Hays	
	Connie Lucas	
	Lindie Bass	
	Penelopy Bass	Dismiss by letter
	Caroline Dawson col	
	Rufus Bass col	
Sept [?] 1874	Rhoennie Winstead	Cut off Aug 12 <sup>th</sup> 18[?]
	Smithie[?] Cooper col[?]	

[Editor's notes: On behalf of the Lower Black Creek Primitive Baptist Church of Wilson County, WCGS member Lois Bass donated to North Carolina State Archives the six volumes of Church Records, for the years 1931-2007, including conference minutes, baptisms, obituaries, and ordinations. The church closed March 14, 2010, and Mrs. Bass was able to obtain the records so that they could be preserved at Archives. Before she made the donation, a copy was made by WCGS to be placed in the Wilson County Public Library.]

(to be continued in a future issue)



## SPORTS IN THE NEWS

Contributed by J. Robert Boykin and  
Sue Evans Powell

### THE XMAS SHOOT.

*The Wilson Advance*, January 5, 1893

The Gun Club celebrated Xmas by giving a "pidgeon shoot," and although it was a very cold, disagreeable day there was a very fair attendance.

There were thirteen entries for the \$50 gun. The result of the first five rounds showed a tie between five of the competitors.

It then narrowed down to two, Dr. C. K. Moore and Mr. J. T. Edwards. Finally Mr. Edwards took pity on a beautiful bird and allowed him to escape. The doctor has his heart under better control, especially when a fine breech loading hammerless gun is in sight, so he blazed away and the little bird was no more. Mr. Edwards killed six out of a possible eight. Dr. Moore seven. Dr. Moore was declared the winner, and was awarded the gun, which will be furnished by Geo. D. Green & Co.

*The Wilson Advance*, April 4, 1895

### A FISH FRY.

Some of our boys went out to the seine hole, on Friday last, to enjoy a fish fry. A seine was carried and men familiar with shad fishing. It was not long before a dozen beautiful [sic.] white shad were in the hands of the cook, and in an incredibly [sic.] short time that crowd were looking for—more bones to pick.

Two of the party were deputized to try the temperature of the water, by taking a swim across the stream. They said it was not very cold, but the rest of the party did not think it necessary to prove their assertion false, and so a motion was made to have a meeting of the fishing club and arrange for a renewal of last seasons [sic.] pleasant meets. All those who were so fortunate as to attend a meet of the fishing club last year will be looking out for another invitation.

### THE FIRST FISHING EXCURSION

The Wilson fishing club wet [sic.] out to Wiggins mill Tuesday for their first fishing frolic of the season. Messrs. Gibbons, Bobbitt and Hargrave drew the seine. Mr. Hargrave after about five minutes in the water decided that his services might be dispensed with and so went ashore and put on his dry clothes, but so much interested was he in the fun, that he got into a boat so as to be near the boys. After paddling around for a few minutes his boat was caught in an eddy and capsized, throwing Mr. Hargrave in to the water and getting him as wet as a rat.

The result of the fish was very encouraging, the catch being about 50 lbs. of fine white chub, perch etc. all caught in about three quarters of an hour.

### BASE—BALL—BOYS.

What about our base ball team this season. Everywhere else we hear reports of clubs being

started and think that Wilson should not be behind, even in the matter of ball playing

Wilson at one time had the brag club of Eastern Carolina. In the time of the "light weights" and "brown stockings" we were some pumpkins.

Lets [sic.] have another series of games, everything points to a dull season and any sport that helps pass the time is acceptable.

### Wilson Fox Hunters Get Brush

*Wilson Daily Times*, December 30, 1910

Yesterday Messrs. John Forbes, W. P. Anderson, J. J. Clark, John Cutchen and H. C. Dance had a fine fox race out near Mr. Isaac Farmer's, and it proved to be a successful one, for they returned with a brush. At one time the pack of hounds became divided and were running three foxes at one time. This is the second fox these gentlemen have caught this week.

### BASKETBALL

*Wilson Daily Times*, February 14, 1911

There will be a game of basketball on the public school playgrounds Saturday afternoon at 3:30 o'clock between the teams of the Wilson High School and the Wilmington High School. The local high school team has made a splendid record this season. They had no trouble in defeating the high school teams of Enfield and Goldsboro, the former team going down in defeat to the tune of 33 to 3. The Wilmington boys have also made a good record and a hard-fought game is expected.

The game will be called promptly at 3:30 o'clock. The management of the Banner Warehouse has very kindly consented to let the game be played in their warehouse in case the weather is rainy. The admission will be 15 cents.

*Wilson Daily Times*, February 17, 1911

### BASE BALL

The base ball fans will be given an opportunity this week or next to show how much they want professional base ball this season. It is up to the fans to say whether Wilson will remain in the Eastern Carolina League and the time is rapidly approaching when the \$500 forfeit money must be put up.

Wilson has always been a good ball town and it is believed that when the meeting is called sufficient subscriptions will be received to finance a 1911 club. The date of the meeting will be announced later.

Wilson must raise big money to retain its franchise in the Eastern Carolina Baseball League. Do you want baseball this season? If so, attend the meeting to be called in a few days.

While the weather conditions appeared ideal last night, bre'er fox was too foxy for the hunters and those who went on the chase returned disappointed.



## DIGITAL DUPLICATION OF MICROFILM: IMPROVING ACCESS TO THE STATE ARCHIVES' COLLECTIONS

### Copied from the State Archives Web Site

As part of our ongoing goal of developing new tools to improve access to the State Archives' collections, the Imaging Unit of the State Archives is excited to offer a new service in the duplication of microfilm. In addition to the traditional Diazo and Silver Halide duplication services the Imaging Unit can now offer a digital copy of microfilm.

We have been testing this new service for a while – making sure we can offer a quality product in a timely manner. The results are in and we are ready to feature that service as a duplication option.

Imagine the viewing of microfilmed county or state agency records made as easy as slipping a DVD into your computer and clicking on an image. No need to track down a microfilm reader or reader printer. No need to get dressed to go out in public. All you need to do is insert the DVD into your computer, open the DVD folder and click on the image. From the comfort of your home office, with all your working files near at hand, you can view digital duplicates of original records.

Think how easy it will be to copy and attach evidence pages to your research work – or how easy it will be to share that research and evidence. Do you having trouble reading the small lettering when using a microfilm reader? Digital duplication makes it easier to expand the image to a size that you can easily read. Digital duplication offers new solutions for researching and for sharing your findings.

You may order digital copies of microfilm while visiting the Archives by asking for the service at the main reference desk. You may also order digital copies by contacting Chris Meekins, Imaging Unit Head, at either [chris.meekins@ncdcr.gov](mailto:chris.meekins@ncdcr.gov) or by phone at 919.807.7333. You may also contact Chris for lists of microfilm in the holdings of the State Archives of North Carolina. [Please note that there is no single listing of the microfilm holdings in the Archives.

When contacting Chris Meekins requesting microfilm listings please have an area of research in mind – for example, a listing of county records for Gates County; a list of newspapers for Wake County. There are 100 active and 5 defunct coun-

ties that have microfilm copies of records. See [http://archives.ncdcr.gov/Portals/26/PDF/guides/CO\\_GUIDE.PDF](http://archives.ncdcr.gov/Portals/26/PDF/guides/CO_GUIDE.PDF) for holdings of county records on microfilm.

The new service is offered at the rate of \$15.00 per reel of microfilm scanned. There is also a \$1.00 DVD fee. If you are able to pick up the digital duplication from the State Archives your total fee would be the \$16.00 (scan and DVD). The Imaging Unit can also mail the digital copy to you for an additional \$2.00 for shipping and handling per order.

The standard digital service is offered at 300 DPI in a JPEG format. If you have other format needs (TIF or PDF, for example) contact Chris. Formats other than JPEG may require additional DVD fees.

We look forward to completing your requests for digital copies.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Lisa Henderson will present **"Black Wide Awake: The Roots of Wilson's African American Community,"** Tuesday, February 9, 7pm – 8pm at the Wilson County Public Library. Ms. Henderson grew up in Wilson County, has extensive experience in African American research, and is a member of WCGS.
- **Edgecombe County Genealogical Society** usually meets at the Edgecombe County Memorial Library, in Tarboro, N. C., at 7:00 pm on the third Thursday of each month.
- **Greene County Family Researchers** meets on the third Thursday of each month at 7:30 pm at the Greene County Museum in Snow Hill, N. C.
- **Old Dobbs Genealogical Society** meets at 10:30 am the third Saturday of each calendar quarter, at the Wayne County Public Library, Goldsboro, N. C.
- **Tar River Connections Genealogical Society** meets at 6:30 pm on the 3rd Tuesday of each month, except Dec., at the Braswell Memorial Library in Rocky Mount, N. C.
- **Pitt County Family Researchers** meet at 7:00 pm, third Tuesdays, at Sheppard Memorial Library, 530 Evans St., Greenville, N. C.
- **Farmville, N. C., Ancestor Seekers** meet 10 am to 12 noon the second Saturday of each month at the Farmville Public Library.

JOHN FLETCHER BRUTON

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[www.wcgs.org](http://www.wcgs.org)

**Note:** Please see next page for additional items that are available for purchase.

Census records abstracted by J. Albert Bass with family data added from his files.

1880 Wilson County, Black Creek Township	\$32.00
1880 Wilson County, Crossroads Township	\$22.00
1900 Wilson County, Spring Hill Township	\$16.00
1850 Johnston County, District 9	\$16.00
1850 Johnston County, District 10	\$26.00
1860 Johnston County, East of the Neuse	\$23.00

1870 Johnston County, Bulah Township	\$10.00
1850 Wayne County, North of the Neuse	\$65.00
1860 Wayne County, Davis District	\$ 5.00
1860 Wayne County, Fork District	\$ 5.00
1860 Wayne County, Nahunta District	\$16.00
1860 Wayne County, Pikeville District	\$ 5.00
1870 Wayne County, Holden Township	\$10.00
1870 Wayne County, Nahunta Township	\$12.00
1880 Wayne County, Great Swamp Township	\$14.00
1880 Wayne County, Nahunta Township	\$18.00
1900 Wayne County, Great Swamp Township	\$ 6.00
1900 Wayne County, Nahunta Township	\$13.00



## Trees of Wilson

Family Chronicles of the  
**Wilson County  
Genealogical Society**

P.O. Box 802  
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252-243-1660

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*Black Creek PB Church,  
Obituaries, Oettinger,  
Robbins, Local Sports,  
Wells, Wilson Businesses*

January 2016

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### Books

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Thataway, Barnes Individuals Born in North Carolina Who Moved Elsewhere	\$6.00
They Moved Away - North Carolinians Who Went to Other States	\$10.00
Wilson County, North Carolina, Census of 1860.	\$30.00
Wilson County, North Carolina, Census of 1870.	\$25.00
Wilson County, North Carolina, Census of 1880.	\$40.00
Wilson County, North Carolina, Census of 1900.	\$40.00
Wilson County, North Carolina, Marriages, 1855-1899	\$75.00
Wilson County, North Carolina, Cemeteries Volume I	\$30.00
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Wilson County, North Carolina, Cemeteries Volume IV	\$30.00
Wilson County, North Carolina, Cemeteries Volume V	\$35.00
Wilson County's Architectural Heritage	\$20.00
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### Maps

Wilson County Historical Map	\$5.00
Confederate Field Maps #1, #2, #3, #4	(State choice) each at \$5.00
Town of Wilson, Map 1872	\$5.00
Town of Wilson, Map 1882	\$5.00
Wilson County Waterways	\$5.00
(tax and shipping included on previous items only)	

### Miscellaneous

Cemetery Finder (paper) donation	\$5.00
Wilson Co. Estates Inventory (paper) donation	\$5.00

**Note:** Please see previous page for additional items.

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[www.wcgs.org](http://www.wcgs.org)

**Payment and shipping:** Shipping cost for each book is \$5.00 (\$10.00 for *Wilson County Marriages*, a set of two books). Shipping cost for maps is \$5.00 for 1-4 items. Add 6.75% sales tax for NC residents on merchandise total (not on shipping).

Total of items ordered \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Shipping \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Sales Tax \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Total of Order \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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Please enroll me as a member of WCGS. I enclose \$20 for personal membership & subscription to *Trees*. Please allow 3-5 weeks for shipping on all orders. You may order books & membership through our website. <http://www.wcgs.org>.





# TREES OF WILSON

*Wilson's Family Heritage*

Chronicles of the  
Wilson County Genealogical Society



February 2016

TWENTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY

Volume 25 Number 2

## Editor's Message

One of the  
stated purposes  
of the Wilson  
County Genea-

logical Society is to "promote the collection and permanent preservation of materials of genealogical and historical value on Wilson County families."

Some of our members have abstracted, compiled, and/or edited cemetery, census, family, marriage, and will records that have been published. There are now thirty-eight publications in the compiled list. These have been of great assistance to researchers of Wilson County ancestors.

This journal has been another way that our members have contributed toward our purpose. The contributions of material, whether it be abstracts of original records, cemetery surveys, family research reports, newspaper articles, photos, or research tips, represents an ongoing collection of Wilson County history. Others have helped by preparing articles in computer ready format and by preparing *Trees* for mailing.

Still others have arranged for or presented programs and/or served as officers.

How can you help?

Please mark your calendars for the 2016 meetings:

Mar. 29 to be announced  
Apr. 26 Elton Franks, Metal Detecting and Artifacts found in Wilson County

May 31 Ashley Yandle, "An Introduction to Online Research Tools from the State Archives of North Carolina"

Sept. 27 to be announced  
Oct. 25 Martha Gay Morton, Mapping Land Research  
Nov. 29 Annual Meeting

## TWENTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

**Wilson County Public Library  
Genealogy and Local History  
Room, February 23rd**

Please join us for our meeting on February 23rd in the Genealogy and Local History Room at the library. Ask at the reception desk for directions.

In the fall of 1990, a course in beginning genealogy, taught by Joan L. Howell, was held at the Wilson County community college. In February 1991, Howell, some of the students of her class, and others interested in genealogical research, met and organized the Wilson County Genealogical Society.

On February 23, 2016, the society will celebrate its twenty-fifth anniversary in the Genealogy and Local History Room of the Wilson County Public Library from 7-8:45 pm. We will have an open house for viewing displays of our activities and accomplishments. Will Robinson, Genealogy Librarian, will give a tour of the library's genealogy and local history collection. Present and former members, and other interested persons are urged to join us as we review our twenty-five years, socialize, and enjoy refreshments. Door prizes will be awarded. Please come to celebrate with us.

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## WILSON BUSINESSES

Extract from an article about Wilson included in the *Raleigh State Chronicle*, May 31, 1899  
Contributed by Robert Rountree

### F. M. WINSTEAD'S PHOTOGRAPH GALLERY.

There is but one photographer in the place. He is a first class one and fills the bill to a "t." He understands his business and is always learning more about it. He has a commodious gallery, neatly and nicely fitted up, and is prepared to make the likeness of all who call on him.

"My face is my fortune, sir, she said" was the remark (as local tradition has it) made by a Wilson young lady who sent her photograph to her lover. After he married her he said that she was not as pretty as the picture and charged MR. WINSTEAD with making the picture a flattering one on purpose to deceive him. It turned out that the picture was a faithful likeness, but that the man was fickle and forgetful. He admitted it and wrote an article in the papers saying that WINSTEAD'S photographic establishment never failed to make a faithful likeness.

Since then all the old maids twenty miles around have had their "pictur' tuk" by Winstead. Three out of four have secured good looking husbands thereafter. If the husbands are disappointed hereafter it is not Mr. Winstead's fault.

[Editor's notes: Paragraphing added for ease in reading.]

The last issue of *Trees* carried an incomplete article about J & D Oettinger. The material sent to your editor did not include the end of that segment. As soon as it can be located, the article will be completed in *Trees*.]



## **Trees of Wilson — WCGS**

This chronicle is published by the Wilson County Genealogical Society, organized February 26, 1991. Address: P.O. Box 802, Wilson, NC 27894 -0802. Telephone 252-243-1660. Internet address: <http://www.wcgs.org>

*Trees* is published monthly except for December and July. An annual index is published with a spring issue. *Trees* is indexed in PERSI. Active membership in WCGS is for a calendar year and includes a subscription to the ten issues published each year. Annual individual membership is \$20, family membership is \$25.

Materials of genealogical interest to the members of WCGS are accepted for publication at the discretion of the Editors and should pertain to families with connections in Wilson County and its neighboring and parent counties. WCGS cannot accept any responsibility for the content of contributed materials, including errors and omissions. Please direct any questions to the contributor. Their names and addresses will be provided upon request for worthwhile purposes.

Transcripts of original records are recorded with the original spelling and punctuation.

Queries from WCGS members are accepted and posted at [WilsonNC@yahoogroups.com](mailto:WilsonNC@yahoogroups.com)

### **Officers 2016**

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## **GREAT WILSONIANS**

**Contributed by Perry Morrison**

[Editor's note: At our April 2015 meeting, Mr. Morrison presented a most enjoyable program, in the format of a "Jeopardy" game, about Wilsonians "who have participated on the national stage." They have had a connection with Wilson but were also notable outside of North Carolina. With his permission, we will include the descriptions of the persons in *Trees of Wilson* and hope you will enjoy trying to name them. The answer will be hidden somewhere within the same issue of *Trees*.

I was at one time the country's wealthiest woman, but around 1880 I was still a young woman living with my Uncle Tom on Nash Street while attending the Wilson Collegiate Institute. I later married one of the original partners in Standard Oil and a railroad magnate. My death would create a national news sensation, and ultimately 95 % of my estate would end up in the hands of my brother and two sisters. The University of North Carolina would end up the biggest winner, and the professorships that still bear my name are my greatest legacy.

## **LUCAMA BANK OFFICERS**

**Contributed by J. Robert Boykin**

*Wilson Daily Times*, August 1, 1914

### **DIRECTORS ELECTED**

**"The Lucama Bank" Choses [sic.] Mr. Nathan Bass, as Their President and Elected Other Directors—Will Soon Be Ready for Business.**

Attorney E. J. Barnes was in Lucama yesterday assisting in the further organization of the bank at that place. The charter was recently granted them by the Secretary of State to do a general banking business. The capital stock is \$12,400 and is subscribed by the citizens of Lucama.

The board of directors were elected yesterday and are as follows: Nathan Bass, president, Jas. H. Newsome, W. R. Davis, E. B. Capps, Joe Bass, Dr. D. W. Lamm and K. W. Barnes. These gentlemen are all prominent in the mercantile and agricultural interests of Lucama and the surrounding section of the county.

The name of the bank is "The Lucama Bank." The institution has selected well, indeed, when they chose Mr. Nathan Bass as their president. No other citizen could have been found who will better serve them. He is a former member of the legislature and the county board of commissioners. For years he has been a member of the county board of education and is at present serving as the chairman of that body.

The cashier has not yet been selected, but will likely be done in the very near future.

The directors are at present working on plans for a home for their institution, and while nothing definite has been decided upon they will very probably erect a handsome and commodious building.

The institution will be read [sic.] to do a general banking business very shortly now and will certainly be ready for work by the time the cotton is on the market.



## FINCH'S MILL POND DAM

Contributed by Sue Evans Powell

A place in Wilson County's history is gone. Finch's Mill Pond Dam has burst, and the mill pond has washed down stream into Bloomery Swamp. The mill pond, which covered about thirty acres, was located adjacent to Highway 264 West about 5 miles west of Wilson just before the intersection with I-95. The dam had not been properly maintained over the years, and erosion led to the collapse. Since it is on private property, there was no requirement that it be repaired, and no environmental or safety issues resulting from the breached dam have been found.

The accounts of the history of Finch's Mill carried in *The Wilson Daily Times* and in *The History of Wilson County and Its Families* (the "heritage book") vary somewhat. The *Times* reported, "The mill and dam on Bloomery Swamp was started by Hudson Finch after he purchased land from Wiley Tomlinson in the 1840s, according to Wilson County Library and deed records, said Doug Lamm" who owns farmland near the dam. The account of the mill's history in the heritage book credits Caswell Fletcher Finch (b. 23 MAR 1834—d. 10 DEC 1901) as the one who purchased the land from Wiley Tomlinson.

The *Times* account continued, "The mill wasn't named Finch's Mill until the property was passed down to Finch's son Caswell Franklin Finch, who bought additional property from James Tomlinson in 1872 and Isaac Lamm in 1873. ... After Caswell Finch purchased additional property, he raised the level of the dam and built a new mill house. The property then took on the name of Finch's Mill in 1875. Caswell also operated a country store next to the millhouse and a post office, from 1898 to 1901.

"Upon the death of Caswell Finch in 1901, the mill passed into the hands of his son, Doctor Franklin Finch [b. 4 DEC 1858—d. 1 MAY 1917]. Finch operated the original mill until it was destroyed by fire in 1912. Willie Thomas Finch [b. 19 JAN 1888, d. 25 DEC 1982], Doctor Finch's youngest son, rebuilt the mill in 1919 and operated it until the 1950s. The mill also had a country store, a service station and a fabric shop."

Returning to the heritage book account, "During this time [Willie's operation] much of the grain wasn't ground for a cash fee, but a toll bucket was scooped into the customers grain and an agreed upon portion kept to ground for personal use or to bag and sell to regular customers.

During the first quarter of the twentieth century Finch's Mill was a recreational area, providing a place for boating, swimming, fishing, and picnicking. Several mineral springs were also in the area. This water was bottled and sold throughout the state. Many churches in the area used the pond for baptism services. ...

"Falling water was the source of power to grind the grain, and it also provided enough electricity to provide lights to the mill and the home before it



Finch's Mill. Photo can be accessed at [https://wilsoncountylocalhistorylibrary.files.wordpress.com/2013/06/finchs\\_mill.jpeg](https://wilsoncountylocalhistorylibrary.files.wordpress.com/2013/06/finchs_mill.jpeg)

was available in other areas of the county."

After Willie Finch's retirement, "the mill house and store stood idle until the 1960s when he painted and repaired the structure and added a walk way across the dam." In 1968, the millhouse was torn down when Highway 264 was widened into a four lane highway.

[Author's note: Are there moments in your past that created vivid images that are still clear in your mind today? I have one such childhood memory of Finch's Mill Pond. My family was traveling to visit a college friend of my mother's. The route took us past Finch's Mill Pond. Standing by the pond were two horses, a white one and a dark one. It was such a beautiful sight, but I can't explain why it has remained such a lasting memory. Perhaps it was the first time that my childish mind was aware of the beauty in nature.]

MARY LILY KENAN FLAGLER BINGHAM.

## JOSEPH RUFFIN

Contributed by J. Robert Boykin, III  
*The Wilson Advance*, January 2, 1895

### Fine Farming.

Mr. Joseph Ruffin, of Edgecombe county, has shown himself to be one of the very best farmers in this country. Last year he raised on a three horse crop 53 bales of cotton, 250 barrels of corn, 350 bushels of potatoes, 300 bushels of peanuts, and killed six thousand pounds of pork. Besides that, he raised enough long feed to last his team eighteen months. He is not puffed up at all over his extraordinary crop, but seems to think that others might do as well if they would work as hard as he had.

This is the best crop we have heard of in a long time, and we are sure that nothing can kill hard times sooner than such crops, even if prices are low.



## THE ELI ROBBINS CEMETERY REVISITED

Contributed by Albert R. Page, Sr.

According to Joan L. Howell's *Wilson County, North Carolina Cemeteries, Volume I*, pgs. 69-71, the first survey of this cemetery was conducted by Frances Glover and Sue Mitchell on the 22th of February 1992. They observed 49 graves and 43 had readable stones or markers. I was in this burial location this past Sunday the 19th of October, 2015. Based on this writer's experience working on and in graveyards, it is highly likely that there are many more buried in this Eli Robbins Cemetery than the 49 noticed by the first surveyors. More than likely there are twice that number interred there, and most of them without burial markers. [See a photo of the cemetery in the September 2015 issue of *Trees*.]

Due to the present owners having converted the graveyard to a dog pen, which included three dogs loose inside the fence, and many years of little or no upkeep, this cemetery is very disheartening to see. Robbins family members have been contacted and encouraged to begin some maintenance of this property.

In the meantime, this writer, with the able help of Certified Genealogist Traci Thompson from the Braswell Memorial Library in Rocky Mount, N. C., have tried to identify those buried here from records that could be found in various sources. However, some graves defy identification at present. The following is a list of what our efforts have found which we hope will preserve some integrity for this old cemetery.

### New Life Brought to the Old Eli Robbins Cemetery

Aldonia "Addie" Thorne Bridgers, b. about 1879 d. ?, Parents: John D. Thorne & Diane Batts. Husband: Nathan Edward "Eddie" Bridgers, son of James Bridgers & Mary Everett. Marriage: 11 April 1900, Wilson County, N. C.

James William Bridgers, b. 1873, d. 1900. Parents: James Bridger & Mary Everett. Married: Artesia Howard, 14 March 1894, Wilson Co. N. C.

James Bridgers, b. 3 June 1850, d. 22 Feb. 1898. Parents: William Bridgers & Jane Flora. Wife: Mary Everett, daughter of Nathan Everett & Bytha Dunford. Marriage: 10th Oct. 1871, Wilson Co., N. C.

Mamie (Mary?) L. Bridgers, b. 19 Sept. 1881, d. 16 Aug. 1909. Parents: Wiley Bridgers & Mary Flora.

Walter T. Carter, b. 30 July 1910, d. 14 Oct. 1918. Parents: Jesse C. Carter & Effie Walston.

Bettie Jones Corbett, b. 5 Oct. 1886, d. 1 Nov. 1971. Parents: Turner Jones & Elizabeth Sherrod. Husband: Jesse William Corbett.

Jessie William Corbett, b. 14 Feb. 1887, d. 16 Mar 1936. Parents: Joseph C. Corbett & Tracy

Harrell. Wife: Bettie Jones. Marriage: 1 Jan. 1911, Edgecombe, N. C.

Sudie Ellis, b. 31 July 1888, d. 1 Sept. 1911. Parents: James "Jim" Bridgers & Mary Everett. Husband: James W. Ellis. See *Trees of Wilson*, July/Aug 2015, pg. 78, for the obituary of "Mrs. James Ellis."

Lucinda Everett, b. 23 July 1824, d. 12 Nov. 1899. Parents: Eli Robbins & Prudence \_\_\_\_\_. Husband: Nathaniel B. Everett. Married: 22 Dec. 1868, Wilson Co., N. C.

Nathan Everett, b. abt. 1820, d. Jan. 1871. Parents: \_\_\_\_\_. Wives: Bytha Dunford, married 19 Jan. 1849, Edge. Co. N. C. and Lucinda Robbins, married 22 Dec. 1868, Wilson Co., N. C.

Infant (son) Forbes, b. 17 Sept. 1917, d. 17 Sept. 1917. Parents: William Britton Forbes & Fannie Cobb.

James E. Forbes, b. 24 Feb. 1878, d. 2 July 1918. Parents: Joseph Wilson Forbes & Martha Carter. Single.

Martha Forbes, b. 16 Aug. 1843, d. 24 July 1912. Parents: John Carter & Martha Robbins. Husband: Joseph Wilson Forbes, married: 28 Jan. 1866, Wilson Co., N. C.

William Edwin Forbes, b. 27 Feb. 1909, d. 8 Dec. 1909. Parents: William Britton Forbes & Fannie Cobb.

Margaret Ethel Gardner, b. 27 Dec. 1881, d. 14 Oct. 1902. Parents: Eli Robbins & Martha Ann Batts. Husband: William Henry Gardner, married: 19 Oct. 1898, Wilson Co. N. C.

Infant daughter Harrell, b. 10 Dec. 1917, d. 10 Dec 1917, "Stillborn" was reported on D. C. Parents: S. M. Harrell & Bell Winstead.

Infant son Harrell, b. 27 July 1915, d. 27 July 1915, "Stillborn" was reported on D. C. Parents: S. M. Harrell & Bell Winstead.

Mary Lucinda Harrell, b. 22 Feb. 1887, d. 20 July 1914, Wilson Co. D. C. due to "T.B." reported. Parents: Wilson H. Harrell & Nancy Jones.

Jane Johnson, b. 24 June 1840, d. 23 Feb. 1904. Parents: Harris or Lester (?). Husband: John H. Johnson.

John H. Johnson, b. 22 Jan 1839, d. 3 Oct. 1894. Parents: \_\_\_\_\_. Wife: Jane Harris/Lester (?). Served in Co. B 44th Infantry CSA and reported to have been born in Martin Co., N. C.

Elizabeth Jones, b. 14 July 1862, d. 15 June 1931. Parents: James Pender & Lucinda Sherrod. (This information came from her Wilson Co. D. C.) Elizabeth went by her mother's name. Husband: Turner Jones, married: 22 Nov. 1883, in Wilson Co., N. C.

Lucinda Jones, b. 29 May 1889, d. 1 Dec. 1891. Parents: Turner Jones & Elizabeth Sherrod.

(continued on page 17)



(*Eli Robbin Cemetery, continued from page 16*)

Mary Jones, b. 29 Mar. 1890, d. 15 July 1896.  
Parents: Turner Jones & Elizabeth Sherrod.

Lucinda Jones, b. 29 May 1889, d. 1 Dec. 1891.  
Parents: Turner Jones & Elizabeth Sherrod.

Mary Jones, b. 29 Mar. 1890, d. 15 July 1896.  
Parents: Turner Jones & Elizabeth Sherrod.

Turner Jones, b. 20 Dec. 1861 (Edge. Co. D. C. 30 June 1862), d. 29 Oct. 1917. Parents: James "Jimmie" Jones & Anza Corbett. Wife: Elizabeth Sherrod, married: 22 Nov. 1883, Wilson Co., N. C.

Amos Julian Robbins, b. 27 Aug. 1886, d. 27 Sept. 1970. Parents: Eli Robbins & Martha Ann Batts. Wives: 1<sup>st</sup> Mary Jane Cale, married: 31 Jan. 1906, Edge. Co., N. C. & 2<sup>nd</sup> Ella Jester Varnell, married: 27 Mar. 1953, Emporia, Greenville Co., Va.

Eli Robbins, b. 21 Jan. 1849, d. 2 May 1926.  
Parents: Amos Robbins & Mary A. \_\_\_\_\_. Wives: 1<sup>st</sup> Margaret A. Wiggins, married: 9 Jan. 1873, Wilson Co., N. C. & 2<sup>nd</sup> Martha Ann Batts, married: 29 Dec. 1880, Wilson Co., N. C.

Eli Robbins, b. 15 Aug. 1790, d. 6 May 1866.  
Parents: William Robbins & Phebe \_\_\_\_ (?). Wife: Prudence Gardner.

Gaither Cornelius Robbins, b. 29 Mar. 1908, d. 13 Aug. 1962 (Wilson Co. D. C.). Parents: Amos Julian Robbins & Mary Jane Cale. Wife: Rosa Eubanks. Marriage in late 1920's.

Infant daughter Robbins, b. 24 Sept. 1911, d. 29 Sept. 1911. Parents: Amos Julian Robbins & Mary Jane Cale.

Infant son Robbins, b. 10 June 1925, d. 10 June 1925. Parents: Amos Julian Robbins & Mary Jane Cale.

Infant son Robbins, b. 2 Nov. 1921, d. 2 Nov. 1921. Parents: Amos Julian Robbins & Mary Jane Cale. The death certificate bk. 1921, pg. 244 stated 23<sup>rd</sup> as date of death.

John T. Robbins, b. 4 Dec. 1887, d. 14 Aug. 1889. Parents: Eli Robbins & Martha Ann Batts.

Margaret A. Robbins, b. 10 Oct. 1853, d. 12 May 1876. Parents: James Wiggins & Milly Taylor. Husband: Eli Robbins. Married: 9 Jan. 1873, Wilson Co., N. C.

Mary A. Robbins, b. 10 July 1821, d. 13 Dec. 1858. Parents: \_\_\_\_\_. Husband: Amos Robbins.

Mary Jane Cale Robbins, b. 22 Sept. 1888, d. 19 (?) Mar. 1951. Parents: Thad Cale & Emma Everett. Husband: Amos Julius Robbins. Her Wilson Co. death certificate stated death occurred on the 20th of Mar. 1951. See bk. 1951, pg. 316. Married: 31 Jan. 1906, Edge. Co., N. C.

Prudence Robbins, b. 16 Apr. 1792, d. 4 Feb 1858. Parents: Jonathan Gardner & Patsy \_\_\_\_\_. Husband: Eli Robbins.

Rosa Eubanks Robbins, b. 4 Sept. 1907, d. 9 Dec. 1962. Parents: Johnnie Eubanks & Ida Vick. Husbands: 1<sup>st</sup> Gaither Cornelius Robbins & 2<sup>nd</sup> Clarence Lamm, 15 July 1953, Emporia, Greenville Co., Va.

George L. Skinner, b. 15 July 1916, d. 11 Nov. 1920. Parents: Lonnie L. Skinner & Pattie Baker.

Jessie Melvin Vainwright, b. 7 July 1946, d. 24 Aug. 1947. Parents: Hardy M. Vainwright & Betty Kathaleen Corbett.

Mary Jane Webb, b. 24 July 1924, d. 17 May 1944. Parents: Jessie William Corbett & Bettie Jones. Husband: Thomas Webb, married: 4 Sept. 1943, Edge. Co., N. C.

Mary Lee Williams, b. 18 Mar. 1900, d. 4 June 1901. Parents: J. Thomas Williams & Betsy Barnes.

Sarah M. Williams, b. 1 Oct. 1896, d. 4 Dec. 1896. Parents: J. Thomas Williams & Betsy Barnes.

Nancy Jane Williford, b. 5 Apr. 1874, d. 24 Apr. 1907. Parents: Wiley Bridgers & Mary Flora. Husband: Thomas Jefferson Williford, married: 19 Nov. 1890 Edge. Co., N.C.

The September 2015 issue of *Trees of Wilson*, pg. 91, included this obituary: *Wilson Daily Times*, September 30, 1911, ... Robbins Infant--Infant Dies--The child of Mr. L. E. Robbins was buried today in Everett cemetery near Wilbanks." This may have been the baby of LeRoy Eli Robbins & Daisy Taylor. LeRoy Eli Robbins was the son of Eli Robbins and Martha Ann Batts. At that time the Old Eli Robbins Cemetery was called the "Everett Cemetery" after Lucinda Robbins Everett who lived there in the old Robbins home place for over 30 years after her parents Eli Robbins and Prudence died.

## DAVID NOLLEY

Contributed by J. Robert Boykin

*The Wilson Advance*, February 7, 1895  
**Something New.**

Mr. David Nolley has just completed two new inventions. One, a bottle that cannot be refilled. This is for the use of the manufacturers of patent medicines who wish to guard against the refilling of their bottles with inferior goods.

The second is a contrivance for stripping and pasting tobacco stamps, by this means the old style of coating a stone with paste and rubbing the stamps on the stone is done away with. Mr. Nolley claims that a twelve year old boy can take his machine and strip and paste 20,000 stamps a day.

[Editor's note: In 1900 David Nolley, born September 1854, repairer of bicycles; and his wife of twenty-six years, Elda, born February 1854; lived in Wilson Township. Martha Amerson sister, born September 1865, lived with them. *Wilson County, North Carolina, Federal Census of 1900*, Joan L. Howell and Janice C. Sharpe]



## OBITUARIES

Contributed by J. Robert Boykin, III

### MRS. MOURNEN A. E. ADAMS

*Zion's Landmark*, December 1, 1912

It is with a sad and lonely heart I attempt to write something of our dear precious mother, Mrs. Mournen A. E. Adams.

She was the daughter of Kitchen Edwards and Martha Ann, his wife. [She] was born December 14, 1858, in Wilson County, N. C. and peacefully fell asleep in the arms of Jesus May 25, 1911. She was married to our father, Lott Adams, December 23, 1875, and lived very happily together until March 2, 1900, when the blessed Lord called him home to rest, I hope.

He was 46 years and 21 days old when he died. Oh, how we did miss dear papa. Many sad and lonely hours mamma has spent, she being surrounded by her dear fatherless children. O, how sad and lonesome we feel to be now. Dear mamma, too, has gone and left us. No papa now, no mamma to speak to, or give us any advice nor cheer us on our way. O, Lord, will thou hear our sad and humble cries. Dear father and mother are gone, but their kind and tender cares are not forgotten. Unto them were born eight children, four boys and four girls. The oldest boy and girl are married, leaving six children sad and lonely at home. Mamma leaves eight children, five little grand-children, a loving mother (her father died about ten days after papa's death), two brothers, one sister and a host of relatives and friends to mourn their loss. We believe it was her eternal gain. Mamma said just before she was taken to her bed, she was suffering and in so much pain sometimes that she wanted to go to sleep and wake up at her home. I believe she is at her happy home now, where papa and all the loved ones are, and is there with her dear Savior, where they will have no more pain nor suffer any more.

Having been suffering so long from what she thought was indigestion, she was taken to her bed. She called on Dr. Moore of Elm City to see her. He pronounced her case one that medicine would not cure, so he advised her to go to Richmond for treatment. I can't express my feelings then to think of parting with our dear loving mother. And in fear she would never see or speak to us again. Believing [it] would be beneficial, Dr. Moore and Brother Vance took her to the Johnson & Willis Hospital at Richmond, Va., where she underwent an operation, her disease being a cancer of the stomach. Vance stayed with her there. She said she was glad he went and stayed there with her. She said she had good attention paid her by the doctors and the nurses. They said they did all they could for her.

Mamma stayed there only eighteen days, then she came back home on a stretcher, because she was so weak she could not even sit up alone. We felt so hopeful of her, but oh, how soon our bright hopes were banished.

Dear readers, you do not know how glad and

thankful we all were to see our dear sweet mamma once more. But we felt so sorry for her to see her in such a condition. She did look so humble and pitiful toward us. She was so patient during her long suffering, and so willing for the Lord's will to be done. Mamma said she was glad to see us all. She lived with us all only nine days after returning home. Then she heard that welcome voice, "Child, your Father calls come home, where sickness and sorrow, pain nor death are felt and feared no more." I believe she is at that happy place, dear friends, praising God and walking the golden streets that she would so often sing about. For she left such bright evidences. Mother and father both were members of the Primitive Baptist Church at Upper Town Creek, Wilson County, and were baptized by their pastor, Elder Wm. Fly, the third Sunday in July, 1899, and remained constant members until their deaths. Mamma was always glad when meeting days would come, so she could go to church, it being her greatest pleasure going to hear preaching and meeting up with her dear members and hear them telling and talking about the goodness and tender mercies of God. I don't remember her to miss attending her home church meetings but two or three times during her membership with them until her last meeting. Winter or summer, cold or warm, wet or dry, she was always present there.

She was well known by a great many people, and was loved and esteemed by many. She is so greatly missed at her home church by me and many others. She was such an attentive and faithful member, her seat is vacant here and everywhere she was accustomed to go.

As a neighbor, she was loyal and true, ready and willing to assist them when in need in any way she could. She had great sympathy for the sick and would often go to see them, far or near. She was a subscriber to *Zion's Landmark* and looked forward at its coming as one of her greatest pleasures. Mamma was a good home provider, always trying to make home comfortable. Her home was a welcome one to all friends, especially the Primitive Baptists, the people she so dearly loved. One time while thinking over her afflictions, these words came so forcible to her mind. Many afflictions have the righteous. A few days before she departed she would often say, "In this world ye shall have trials and tribulations, but in me peace." She died strong in that faith. She lived out the first verse of this hymn, as if she wanted to sing it:

"In thy great name O, Lord we come,  
To worship at thy feet;  
O, pour thy Holy Spirit down  
On all that now shall meet!"

On that morning she departed, mamma called me to her bedside and said, "Lay your arms around my neck." I did. It was more than I could hardly bear to bid my dear, darling mamma the last farewell on earth. My eyes filled with tears, we parted in hope of meeting again in that happy land far away. Oh, it was so sad to see her kissing

(continued on page 19)



and telling her dear children good-bye forever more here. She called several others bidding them the last farewell on earth. She told us to do the best we could. She was most all the time up until about five or ten minutes before she died. But, being so, she could not speak above a whisper about two days before. All was done for her that doctors, nurses, relatives and friends could do, but none could stay the cold hand of death. But I feel to say praise the Lord for He does all things right.

Mamma's funeral services were conducted at her residence by her pastor, Elder A. M. Chrisp, Friday evening, May 26, (closed at the grave by Elder W. B. Williams), afterwards she was gently borne to the family burying ground in the presence of many sorrowing relatives and friends, and tenderly laid to rest by the side of papa, to await the resurrection morn. (Written by one of her bereaved daughters.)

Dora C. Adams

Sharpsburg, N. C.

### **MRS. TETE RICKS**

*The Wilson Advance*, April 25, 1895

Sudden Death Last Week.

Quite a sudden death occurred near Farmer's Mill one day last week.

The miller, Mr. Tete Ricks had been to town all day and on his return home found his wife feeling a little unwell but not enough so to cause any alarm, and having some business at the mill he went to attend it before night. He had barely reached the mill house however when he was followed by a boy who announced that his wife was dead. Mrs. Ricks it seems was taken suddenly with a pain in the heart and told her mother who was present, that she could only live two minutes, and such proved the fact.

### **MRS. HENRY G. WILLIAMS, JR.**

*The Wilson Advance*, March 28, 1895

DIED.

On Saturday last at her residence on Tarboro St., Mrs. Henry G. Williams, Jr. The funeral was held on Sunday evening.

### **MRS. DILLIE WILLIFORD**

*Zion's Landmark*, May 15, 1913

Mrs. Dillie Williford died Jan. 22, 1913. She was about 60 years old. She leaves a husband and 11 children to mourn their loss.

She was not a member of the church but loved to attend and seemed to enjoy the gospel. She attended the services at Upper Town Creek church on Sunday before she died on the Tuesday following.

One of her neighbors says that she was for four years a benediction to his family.

The burial services were conducted by the writer at the grave, at Town Creek church.

She was a Primitive Baptist in sentiment.

W. O. Biggs

Elm City, N. C.

[Editor's notes: Dillie Williford was buried in the Upper Town Creek Church Cemetery. The inscription on her marker has this information: "d. 21 January 1913, Wife of E. E. Williford, Age 50 yrs, A tender mother and a faithful friend.]"

### **JAMES S. WOODARD**

*Zion's Landmark*, June 1, 1912

TOISNOT PRIMITIVE BAPTIST CHURCH  
WILSON, N. C.

In Conference assembled Saturday May 25, 1912, the following Preamble and Resolutions were unanimously adopted.

Whereas our all wise eternal heavenly Father who doeth all things after the counsel of his own will, who is too wise to err and too good to be unkind has deemed it wise to remove from among us by death on Mary 3rd last our highly esteemed and dearly beloved Brother, Elder Jas. S. Woodard, whom he in his loving kindness and tender mercy so wonderfully blessed "to walk about Zion" and go deep into the profound mysteries of the beautiful types and shadows of the old and new testaments, and expounding them so sweetly to our understanding.

Therefore, be it resolved:

First: That in the death of Brother Woodard the church has lost a deep and able minister and wise counselor whom we sincerely miss from among us.

Second: That the family has lost an affectionate, kind and loving father, to whom we extend our most sincere sympathy.

Third: That we mourn not for him as for those who have no hope for we feel that our loss is his eternal gain; that he has been transplanted from this earthly tabernacle to that "house not made with hands eternal in heaven" where "to him shall the gathering of the people be" and perfectly sing His praises forevermore.

Fourth: That a copy of these resolutions be spread upon our minutes, a copy sent to each of the family, *Landmark* and *The Times* with request for publication.

P. D. Gold, Moderator

J. B. Farmer, Clerk

[Editor's notes: The obituary of James Simms Woodard, published in the *Wilson Daily Times* on May 7, 1912, was included in the March 2002 issue of *Trees of Wilson*. An article about his funeral, published in the *Wilson Daily Times* on May 10, 1912, was included in the February 2014 issue of *Trees of Wilson*. Elder James S. Woodard was profiled in the *Biographical History of Primitive or Old School Baptist Ministers of the United States*, published in 1909. His profile was included in the April 2012 issue of *Trees of Wilson*.

James Woodard's marker in Maplewood Cemetery in Wilson gives his dates as b. 22 FEB 1833, d. 03 MAY 1912, and his grave bears a CSA marker. He is also recorded on the obelisk erected to the memory of William Woodard and wife Elizabeth Simms Woodard and their children in Woodard Circle in Maplewood Cemetery.]



## MARRIAGES

### **Allsbrook—Roberson**

*Wilson Daily Times*, February 17, 1911  
(*Tarboro Southerner*, 16th.)

A quiet yet very impressive marriage was solemnized in the Howard Memorial Presbyterian Church near noon today.

The contracting parties were Miss Sallie Roberson and Mr. R. G. Allsbrook, both of this place, both held in high esteem by a very wide circle of friends. The church was filled to its fullest capacity.

Bob Rawls presided over the organ. The usual selection from Lohengrin furnished the rhythmic vibrations [sic.] that enable [sic.] H. A. Gilliam, R. G. Kittrell of the place, Dr. J. A. White, of Williamston, and his brother, D. N. Allsbrook, of the A. C. L., as ushers to perform their duties with even step.

As the harmonious strains of the processional began the ushers, two and two up each aisles of the handsome edifice, marched up to the altar. Miss Gussie Harrell as maid of honor, followed these. Up one aisle went the groom and his best man, Henry Biggs, of this State, but now of Dayton, Ohio; up other the comely bride on the arm of her brother, Mr. Will J. Roberson. Rev. J. E. Ballou presided at the troth plighting which was done with the ring service [sic.] while that master of harmony, Rob Rawls, made the organ sweetly and deftly talk Schubert's Serenade.

The bride wore a gray suit that fitted her to perfection and she never looked better, which is saying much, for she always looks well and better than all this she has a disposition that matches the seeming. The writer has known her for years and he knows of no woman who is possessed of more wholesome, womanly traits than this bride. The groom was last year elected Solicitor of this district, a convincing test of his popularity.

Another evidence was the number of presents that these two received, and still another was the personnel of the givers, they ran down from the Chief Justice of the State to the office boy.

They left on the noon train for Florida, carrying with them the best and heartiest wishes of hundreds for the happiness and a firm belief that the two are mated for each other.

### **Aycock—Best Surprise Wedding**

*Wilson Daily Times*, June 18, 1914

An impromptu marriage of unusual interest took place yesterday afternoon at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. W. M. Carter when Mr. William Aycock, son of the late Governor Charles B. Aycock, and Miss Lucile Best, oldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. L. P. Best, of Warsaw, were united by Rev. John C. Shive, of the Presbyterian church.

Miss Best, who had gone to Tarboro to participate in the wedding of Miss DeBerry, was joined there by Mr. Aycock and after much importuning consented to make this her own wedding day.

With Mr. Ashley Young as chief aide to Cupid they motored to the home of a former school mate, Miss Erwin Carter, of this city where the ceremony was performed in the presence of a number of mutual friends.

The bride is a young woman of charm and culture and a graduate of the class of 1914 at Peace Institute.

Mr. Aycock has been established in business in this city for the past two years and gives promise of a brilliant future.

After the announcement of this all important event, the parents of each of the young people immediately invited them to be their guests for the honey moon [sic.] and Mr. and Mrs. Aycock left at once for the brides' home in Warsaw.

### **A Beautiful Reception**

*Wilson Daily Times*, June 27, 1914

Mr. and Mrs. W. M. Carter and their daughter, Miss Ervin Carter were at home last evening to a large number of friends in honor of Mr. and Mrs. Wm. B. Aycock and Mr. [and] Mrs. Frank Barnes Davis. Master George D. Green directed the guests to the Nash street entrance, where they were welcomed by Mrs. W. J. Williams and presented to the hostess and guests of honor by Mrs. Annie Branch and Mr. Crawford. Those receiving here were Mr. and Mrs. Carter, Miss Ervin Carter and Mr. Fitzhugh Wallace, of Kenansville; Mr. and Mrs. Aycock and Mr. and Mrs. Davis.

Handsome and elaborate decorations of stately palms and ferns with white Hydranges [sic.] suggestive of recent weddings predominated in the reception hall.

From here Mr. and Mrs. John A. Green invited the guests into the library where punch was served by Miss Laura Carter and Mr. Mercer Oates, of Tarboro and Miss Susan G. Wooten, of Tarboro and Lewis Connor, of Raleigh. Blue Hydrangeas and Zinnias enhanced the beauty of the punch bowl.

Miss Janie Penick and Mr. Robt. Coletz Jones of Richmond invited the guests into the dining room where ices were served by Misses Nannie Briggs and Mary Hunter.

Masses of Shasta [sic.] Daises adorned the dining table and the scheme of gold and white was carried out in the bonbons.

Later in the evening rugs were removed and the young people enjoyed an informal dance.

Pleasant memories of this brilliant event will linger long with those who were fortunate in being present.

[Editor's note: Miss Carter was named Erwin in the first article and Ervin in the second. We don't know which was the typo.]

### **Barnes—Williams Beautiful Marriage in Elm City**

*Wilson Daily Times*, November 21, 1915

Elm City, Nov. 20.—A beautiful wedding was solemnized at high noon Wednesday, November the eleventh, at the home of Mr. and Mrs. T. W. Williams

(continued on page 21)



when their attractive daughter, Miss Ida May became the bride of Mr. Jessie Norris Barnes. The interior of the home had been beautifully decorated for the occasion. Cascades of ferns, potted plants and chrysanthemums formed an appropriate setting for the "altar of love."

The ceremony was performed under an arch entwined with green trailing vines, lighted with candles. From the center of the arch was suspended a large wedding bell.

Miss Hazel Doles presided at the piano and as the first strains of fitting melody were heard, the hum of many voices were gently hushed. First come [sic.] the groom accompanied by his best man, Dr. J. T. Harrison, then followed Master Alton Strickland, nephew of the bride, carrying the ring in a huge chrysanthemum. The bride entered with her maid of honor, Miss Marie Bailey who was beautifully attired in pink crepe meteor and carried a bouquet of sweet [sic.] peas and maiden hair ferns. The bride was handsomely dressed in a lovely cloth suit and never looked prettier than on this occasion. She carried a bouquet [sic.] of bride's roses interwoven with lilies of the valley.

The ceremony was performed by Rev. J. E. Ashley, the ring service being used. Many and handsome gifts of cut glass, china and linen attest the popularity of both parties.

The bride is the only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. T. W. Williams and has a large circle of admiring friends.

The groom is the only son of Mr. and Mrs. G. A. Barnes and is a young man of true worth and noble character. He has a host of friends who have showered congratulations and good wishes upon him.

Among the out-of-town guests were Mrs. Wm. Wells of Wilson, Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Braswell of Rocky Mount, Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Joyner, Mrs. Joseph Fly, Mrs. C. C. Joyner, Mr. W. D. Joyner and daughter of Rocky Mount, Miss Louise Beason of Lexington, Miss Jean Ward of Bethel, Miss Mabel Hix of Laurel Springs, Mr. A. J. Moore, Master George and Elizabeth Moore of Wilmington.

#### **Cox—Hill**

*Wilson Daily Times*, October 13, 1911

Mr. William Cox, superintendent of the Pepsi-Cola bottling works in this city, and Miss Lizzie Hill of Stantonsburg, a stenographer for the same concern, were united in marriage at nine o'clock last evening at the residence of Mr. J. S. Elis, a relative of the bride.

The ceremony was performed by Rev. G. K. Smith in the presence of a number of friends and relatives of the contracting parties.

The young people are both from the Stantonsburg section where they are universally esteemed. Our best wishes are extended.

[Editor's note: Mr. Cox later worked, until his retirement, with Barnes-Harrell Bottling Company, the bottlers of Coca-Cola.]

#### **Farmer—Pitt Married**

*Wilson Daily Times*, October 10, 1911

Mr. J. J. Farmer, a prominent citizen of this county residing five miles up Nash road was united in marriage yesterday afternoon to Miss Pitt of Nash county. Rev. W. M. Huggins, pastor of New Hope church officiating. The ceremony occurred at the church in the presence of a large gathering of relatives and friends who repaired to the residence of the groom where an old fashioned country wedding supper was served and the tables groaned with the products of the farm.

Mr. Farmer lives at home and therefore it was no trouble for him to feed a multitude and have several baskets full left over.

#### **Howard—Mills**

Excerpt from *Deaths and Marriages Tarboro Newspapers 1824-1865*, compiled by Hugh B. Johnston, March 5, 1853, pg. 31

Contributed by Deborah Webb

Senor Don Alonzo Edgar Howard, "Cosmopolite and itinerate juggler," married Sarah Susan Elizabeth Panza Mills, daughter of Col. Everitt Mills, at Tarboro at midnight on Feb 25, 1853, by John S. Dancy, Esq., after one hour of acquaintance and a courtship of fifteen minutes.

#### **McKeel—Boswell**

*Wilson Daily Times*, October 3, 1911

Mr. J. R. Boswell and Miss Delia McKeel were united in marriage last evening at seven o'clock by Mr. J. B. Vick and at his residence.

#### **Peacock—Langley**

*Wilson Daily Times*, October 10, 1911

Miss Sallie Peacock and Mr. Wm. Langley were united in marriage last evening at eight o'clock at the home of the bride at Young's Spring, Mr. John B. Vick, officiating.

#### **Rice—Williams**

*Wilson Daily Times*, October 3, 1911

Miss Eula Rice, daughter of Mr. J. T. Rice and one of the prettiest young ladies of this city was united in marriage yesterday afternoon at 4:30 at the residence of her parents on Spring street, Rev. C. W. Blanchard of the Baptist church officiating. The happy groom is Mr. B. C. Williams an exceptionally fine young man, the son of Mr. Iredell Williams of near Elm City. Mr. Williams has decided to go west and grow up with the country and believing that railroading offers the greatest inducement for the development of his talents he holds a position with the Santa [sic.] Fe railroad in the great fruit producing section of California.

The happy couple will leave Wednesday for the west and take with them the best wishes of their numerous friends.



## FOLD3 OVERVIEW

### Contributed by Will Robinson

[Editor's note: The Wilson County Public Library now has a subscription to FOLD3 and hopes that you will use it and find it helpful in your research.]

### Fold3 Library Edition by Ancestry provides convenient access to:

- US military records
- Stories
- Photos
- Documents of the men and women who served.

It contains millions of records from world-class archives, many of which are exclusively available on Fold3.

Fold3 is invaluable for

- Historians
- Genealogists
- Researchers
- Military enthusiasts
- Teachers
- Battle reenactors
- Veterans and their families

### Content Categories

- Revolutionary War
- War of 1812
- Mexican American and early Indian wars
- Civil War
- Spanish American War
- World War I
- World War II
- Korean War
- Vietnam War
- Recent Wars
- Non-military records

### Revolutionary War Content

- Constitutional Convention records
- Continental Congress- misc.
- Continental Congress- papers
- Final payment vouchers for military pension, 1818-1864
- Foreign letters of the Continental Congress
- George Washington Correspondence
- Navy and Marine Corps Officers, 1775-1900
- Navy casualty reports
- Pennsylvania Archives
- Revolutionary War manuscript file
- Revolutionary War pensions
- Revolutionary War rolls
- Revolutionary War service and imprisonment cards
- Revolutionary War service records
- Revolutionary War service records- Navy
- Service records of volunteers, 1784-1811

### Civil War Content

- Army register of enlistments, 1798-1914
- Army registers, 1798-1969
- Emancipation of slaves in DC
- 54th MA infantry
- Widow's pensions
- Pensions index
- Service records

- Confederate amnesty papers
- Confederate casualty reports
- Confederate citizens file
- Final statements 1862-1899
- Register and dictionary of the US Army
- Southern Claims Commission
- NY Civil War regiment list
- Navy casualty reports
- Civil War maps

### World War I Content

- Navy Casualty Reports, 1776-1941
- American Battle Monuments Commission
- Foreign Burial of American War Dead
- National WWI Museum Portrait Photograph
- Rendezvous Reports Index - WWI Armed Guard Personnel
- US Expeditionary Force, North Russia
- WWI - State Dept. Records
- WWI Milestone Documents
- WWI Milestone Documents
- WWI Officer Experience Reports - AEF
- WWI Panoramic Unit Photos

### World War II Content

- Army registers, 1798-1969
- Military group records
- Headstone applications
- Foreign burial of American war dead
- Pearl Harbor muster roles
- Veterans Affairs BIRLS Death File
- WWII Army Enlistment Records
- WWII Cadet Nursing Corps Card Files
- WWII Draft Registration Cards
- WWII "Old Man's Draft" Registration Cards
- WWII European Theater Army Records
- WWII Navy Muster Rolls
- WWII Navy, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard Casualty List
- WWII War Diaries

### Prior Research

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- Shares your interests in the About Me section.
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### Your Profile Page contains

- Annotations, connections and comments you have made
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### Use Memorial pages to

- Remember those from your past and present
- Write a biography or memorial for a favorite person
- Share photos, stories, and facts about your ancestors with family and friends
- Collaborate with others
- Highlight documents you find on Fold3

*(continued on page 23)*



## WCGS JANUARY MEETING MINUTES

The first meeting of the Wilson County Genealogical Society for 2016 was held in the Local History and Genealogy Room at the Wilson County Public Library. Vice-president Joan Howell welcomed members and guests. There was no treasurer's report.

Howell reminded the Society that Lisa Henderson will be presenting a program at the library on Tuesday, February 9th at 7, in the assembly room at WCPL. The program, *Black Wide Awake: The Roots of Wilson's African American Community*, is a result of extensive research by Henderson who is a WCGS member and grew up in Wilson County.

There was some difficulty booking the assembly room for meetings of the Society for 2016. Some of the monthly meetings will be in the Local History and Genealogy Room. Will Robinson, local history librarian has booked the Society's meetings for 2017, and they will all be held in the assembly room.

Howell complimented Lois Bass, Barbara Ferrell and Ruby Reason for their efforts in getting copies of old Lower Black Creek Primitive Baptist Church records and donating them to N. C. State Archives and Wilson County Public Library. For those who missed the annual meeting, copies of the annual report will be included in a future edition of *Trees*.

Howell thanked Sue Powell for her work on the publications catalog that was included in the latest mailing of *Trees*. Howell noted that this catalog has a banner on the front cover that reminds one of the 25th anniversary of the Society. Powell also placed an insert in *Trees* as a reminder to pay dues.

The program was presented by Will Robinson. He gave an introductory overview of a program recently acquired by the library, *Fold 3*, an Ancestry product that deals with military records from the Revolutionary War through the recent military conflicts. The program was purchased with funds provided by the Friends of the Wilson County Public Library. Robinson advised persons using *Fold 3* to avoid the general search box. The content search option yields much better results. The program is available on computers at the library, but remote access is not provided at this time.

The next meeting of the Society, on February 23, will be a celebration of the 25th anniversary of the Wilson County Genealogical Society. Howell

urged members and guests to attend and asked members to provide assistance with the preparations.

Respectfully submitted,  
Deborah Webb, Secretary

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **FamilySearch database of North Carolina Loose Estates Data** had been nearly completed according to an announcement made in November 2015, with only five counties remaining. To search or browse the data, visit the FamilySearch website at <https://familysearch.org/search/collection/1911121>.
- **Edgecombe County Genealogical Society** usually meets at the Edgecombe County Memorial Library, in Tarboro, N. C., at 7:00 pm on the third Thursday of each month.
- **Greene County Family Researchers** meets on the third Thursday of the month at 7:30 pm at the Greene County Museum in Snow Hill, N. C.
- **Old Dobbs Genealogical Society** meets at 10:30 am the third Saturday of each calendar quarter, at the Wayne County Public Library, Goldsboro, N. C.
- **Tar River Connections Genealogical Society** meets at 6:30 pm on the 3rd Tuesday of each month, except Dec., at the Braswell Memorial Library in Rocky Mount, N. C.
- **Pitt County Family Researchers** meet at 7:00 pm, third Tuesdays, at Sheppard Memorial Library, 530 Evans St., Greenville, N. C.
- **Farmville, N. C., Ancestor Seekers** meet 10 am to 12 noon the second Saturday of each month at the Farmville Public Library.

(Fold3, continued from page 22)

### What you can do on Memorial Pages

- Attach pictures and documents
- Instantly see where events happen with a dynamic map
- Connect other Memorial Pages or add a web link to the page
- Easily gather facts or organize details
- Tell stories and include photos
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- Optionally prevent others from modifying or contributing to pages you create
- Save a link to your page on your Ancestry tree

**WCGS Publications:** Please call or write for a catalog with complete details, or order and pay on our web site.

[www.wcgs.org](http://www.wcgs.org)

**Note:** Please see next page for additional items that are available for purchase.

Census records abstracted by J. Albert Bass with family data added from his files.

1880 Wilson County, Black Creek Township	\$32.00
1880 Wilson County, Crossroads Township	\$22.00
1900 Wilson County, Spring Hill Township	\$16.00
1850 Johnston County, District 9	\$16.00
1850 Johnston County, District 10	\$26.00
1860 Johnston County, East of the Neuse	\$23.00

1870 Johnston County, Bulah Township	\$10.00
1850 Wayne County, North of the Neuse	\$65.00
1860 Wayne County, Davis District	\$ 5.00
1860 Wayne County, Fork District	\$ 5.00
1860 Wayne County, Nahunta District	\$16.00
1860 Wayne County, Pikeville District	\$ 5.00
1870 Wayne County, Holden Township	\$10.00
1870 Wayne County, Nahunta Township	\$12.00
1880 Wayne County, Great Swamp Township	\$14.00
1880 Wayne County, Nahunta Township	\$18.00
1900 Wayne County, Great Swamp Township	\$ 6.00
1900 Wayne County, Nahunta Township	\$13.00

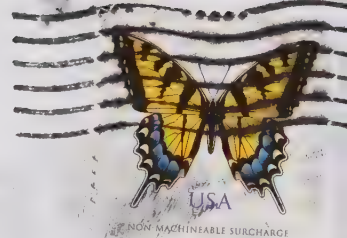
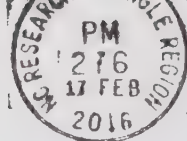


## Trees of Wilson

Family Chronicles of the  
**Wilson County  
Genealogical Society**  
P.O. Box 802  
Wilson, NC 27894  
252-243-1660  
[www.wcgs.org](http://www.wcgs.org)

*Finch, Lucama Bank,  
Marriages, Nolley  
Obituaries, Robbins, Ruffin,  
Winstead*

February 2016



Address Service Requested

WTTXS-E-RES & Serials MGMT  
PO BOX 8890  
Davis Library CB #3938  
Chapel Hill, NC 27514-8890

### Books

Barnes Narratives	\$12.00
Thataway, Barnes Individuals Born in North Carolina Who Moved Elsewhere	\$6.00
They Moved Away - North Carolinians Who Went to Other States	\$10.00
Wilson County, North Carolina, Census of 1860.	\$30.00
Wilson County, North Carolina, Census of 1870.	\$25.00
Wilson County, North Carolina, Census of 1880.	\$40.00
Wilson County, North Carolina, Census of 1900.	\$40.00
Wilson County, North Carolina, Marriages, 1855-1899	\$75.00
Wilson County, North Carolina, Cemeteries Volume I	\$30.00
Wilson County, North Carolina, Cemeteries Volume II	\$30.00
Wilson County, North Carolina, Cemeteries Volume III	\$25.00
Wilson County, North Carolina, Cemeteries Volume IV	\$30.00
Wilson County, North Carolina, Cemeteries Volume V	\$35.00
Wilson County's Architectural Heritage	\$20.00
Wilson, North Carolina, Historical Properties Inventory	\$20.00
Wilson County's Founding Families	\$55.00

### Maps

Wilson County Historical Map	\$5.00
Confederate Field Maps #1, #2, #3, #4 (State choice) each at	\$5.00
Town of Wilson, Map 1872	\$5.00
Town of Wilson, Map 1882	\$5.00
Wilson County Waterways	\$5.00
(tax and shipping included on previous items only)	

### Miscellaneous

Cemetery Finder (paper) donation	\$5.00
Wilson Co. Estates Inventory (paper) donation	\$5.00

**Note:** Please see previous page for additional items.

**WCGS Publications:** please call or write for a catalog with complete details, or order and pay on our web site.

[www.wcgs.org](http://www.wcgs.org)

**Payment and shipping:** Shipping cost for each book is \$5.00 (\$10.00 for *Wilson County Marriages*, a set of two books). Shipping cost for maps is \$5.00 for 1-4 items. Add 6.75% sales tax for NC residents on merchandise total (not on shipping).

Total of items ordered \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Shipping \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Sales Tax \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Total of Order \$ \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Check Enclosed

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Please enroll me as a member of WCGS. I enclose \$20 for personal membership & subscription to *Trees*. Please allow 3-5 weeks for shipping on all orders. You may order books & membership through our website. <http://www.wcgs.org>.

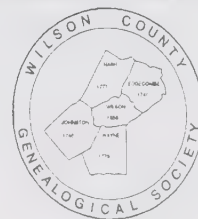




# TREES OF WILSON

Wilson's Family Heritage

Chronicles of the  
Wilson County Genealogical Society



March 2016

TWENTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY

Volume 25 Number 3

## Editor's Message

Stewart Dunaway, our speaker this month, has published quite an impressive collection of often overlooked records in N. C. State Archives. His format allows researchers to see the original document and to read at least a partial transcript.

WCGS has purchased some of his books to be placed in the Wilson County Public Library. When placing the order, we focused on records of our parent counties or those records that might include some of our parent counties.

When the books arrived, I perused the indexes for the names of my ancestors. Imagine my surprise and delight when I found one of my ancestors in the records of a neighboring county. He was named as the winning bidder to build a bridge on the county line. Imagine that! He was a bridge builder! Each of the counties were to pay the costs to the line. (A matching record for his home county was not found.)

We have been told to go beyond our ancestors' home counties to look for records and to utilize all available sources. You never know what you may find!

Schedule of 2016 meetings:

Apr. 26 Elton Franks, Metal Detecting and Artifacts found in Wilson County

May 31 Ashley Yandle, "An Introduction to Online Research Tools from the State Archives of North Carolina"

Sept. 27 Will Robinson, Searching for His Ancestors and Connecting with His Cousins in Ireland

Oct. 25 Martha Gay Morton, Mapping Land Research

## WCGS MEETING

Wilson County Public Library  
Assembly Room  
March 29th, 7 pm

Please join us for our meeting on March 29th in the Assembly Room at the library.

Stewart Dunaway will speak to us about the "History of Roads, Bridges, Ferries, and Mills." He will explain what these records were used for and what information they contain for genealogists, researchers, and historians.

Dunaway has published an amazing collection of 153 books on county records, 30 general history books, and 6 Revolutionary War books. His books present scanned images of the original documents and a short transcript (to allow for a document title and for indexing). In October 2015, he recorded that he had transcribed 42,058 documents from the Archives, pertaining to roads, bridges, mills, ferries, and taverns and a total of 56,761 documents including land, court records, etc.

Twenty-six of his books are in the collection of Wilson County Public Library. Spend some time researching in them. Do a page by page review because not every name, such as every signer of petitions, is indexed.

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## WILSON BUSINESSES

Extract from an article about Wilson included in the *Raleigh State Chronicle*, May 31, 1899  
Contributed by Robert Rountree

### THE GROCERY TRADE.

In this department are some of the cleverest and most successful of Wilson's establishments. Our space only permits our mentioning the names of those who cater to the appetites of the people and give them "inward satisfaction." They are Messrs. J. T. MCCRAW, NURNEY & COBB, A. N. DANIEL, GRAY COBB and perhaps others. Groceries are sold by all the dealers in General Merchandise before mentioned [see Nov. 2015 Trees], but these are the men who deal chiefly in groceries and make their sale their leading business. They are as enterprising Grocers as are to be found and we are glad to know that they are prospering.

### THE MILLINERY BUSINESS.

The business of making pretty hats and bonnets to set off the pretty faces of the young women here and hereabouts is in the hands of ladies who understand their business. The oldest establishment is that of MRS. O. E. WILLIAMS & CO. MISS ELLA HACKNEY, MRS. M. E. CHURCHWELL & CO., and MRS. S. I. GRIFFIN also have millinery establishments.

### THE JEWELRY TRADE

The business of repairing watches and jewelry and selling these articles of necessity and contributors to vanity is carried on by MR. J. R. RAWLS and MR. W. J. CHURCHWELL.



## **Trees of Wilson — WCGS**

This chronicle is published by the Wilson County Genealogical Society, organized February 26, 1991. Address: P.O. Box 802, Wilson, NC 27894-0802. Telephone 252-243-1660. Internet address: <http://www.wcgs.org>

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Materials of genealogical interest to the members of WCGS are accepted for publication at the discretion of the Editors and should pertain to families with connections in Wilson County and its neighboring and parent counties. WCGS cannot accept any responsibility for the content of contributed materials, including errors and omissions. Please direct any questions to the contributor. Their names and addresses will be provided upon request for worthwhile purposes.

Transcripts of original records are recorded with the original spelling and punctuation.

Queries from WCGS members are accepted and posted at [WilsonNC@yahoogroups.com](mailto:WilsonNC@yahoogroups.com)

### **Officers 2016**

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## **GREAT WILSONIANS**

### **Contributed by Perry Morrison**

[Editor's note: At our April 2015 meeting, Mr. Morrison presented a most enjoyable program, in the format of a "Jeopardy" game, about Wilsonians "who have participated on the national stage." They have had a connection with Wilson but were also notable outside of North Carolina. With his permission, we will include the descriptions of the persons in *Trees of Wilson* and hope you will enjoy trying to name them. The answer will be hidden somewhere within the same issue of *Trees*.

My passing was covered in both the Los Angeles Times and the New York Times. I was Wilson's only member of the Motion Picture Academy of Arts and Sciences. I grew up here and attended Coon High School. I played on the football team and was given the nickname, "Barnyard." My photo is on the wall of Dick's Hot Dog Stand. Even though I was in many wonderful, award-winning movies, I am best remembered for acting in one of the worst movies ever, Ed Wood's "Plan 9 from Outer Space." Do you know both his acting name AND his real name.

## **BLACK WIDE-AWAKE: THE ROOTS OF WILSON'S AFRICAN-AMERICAN COMMUNITY**

### **Lisa Henderson's Address**

Lisa Y. Henderson, researcher and writer, Wilson native and WCGS member, presented a lecture on the local history and heritage of Wilson County's early African-American community during Black History Month.

Jonathan Thomas' record of two enslaved people in 1745 was the earliest in what is now Wilson County. The 1765 will of John Woodard was the first record of slaves listed by their names. Records of the early African-American residents in our county can be found in wills, estates records, civil and criminal court records, and newspaper ads about runaway slaves.

The 1860 federal census recorded that Wilson County had few large plantations with many enslaved people. There were 446 slave owners of 3496 persons and 281 free persons of color (FPC) in the county.

She spoke of the difficulties in researching African-American families. Not only were families torn apart, they might have been relocated in different states. After emancipation, they may have taken different names.

Early Black churches were London's Church, St. John's AME Zion, and Jackson's Chapel. Early communities of FPC were in the Stantonsburg and Taylors sections. Early prominent African-American citizens of Wilson were the Reverend Mr. Owen Smith, AME Zion minister and Minister Resident and Consul General to the Republic of Liberia; the Reverend Mr. Joseph C. Price, principal of a black school in Wilson, founder and first president of Livingstone College; Daniel C. Suggs, PhD, nominated to West Point, graduate of Lincoln University, President of Livingstone College; Samuel H. Vick, graduate of Lincoln University, Wilson Post Master twice, educator, politician, businessman, real estate developer, church leader; Charles H. Darden, blacksmith, undertaker, founder of Darden Funeral Home; and Elijah L. Reid, veterinarian.

Henderson has posted information that she has gathered at [www.scuffalong.com](http://www.scuffalong.com) and [www.afamwilsonnc.com](http://www.afamwilsonnc.com) and [www.ncfpc.net](http://www.ncfpc.net)



# ELI ROBBINS AND HIS FAMILIES WITH MARGARET A. WIGGINS AND MARTHA A. BATTS

Contributed by Albert R. Page, Sr.

## Introductions

Robbins ancestors lived in what we now call the Gardners School area in Wilson County for four or five decades before Eli Robbins was born in 1849. Not only did the Robbins live in this area for about fifty years, but they also made a substantial contribution to Edgecombe and Wilson Counties. Eli's grandparents Eli Robbins and Prudence Gardner Robbins and their nine children were excellent examples for all those around them and especially for their descendants. Eli Robbins' own parents Amos Robbins and Mary A. \_\_\_\_ Robbins were likewise quality North Carolinians.<sup>1</sup>

They all were good farmers who bought land and took very good care of their families. That was a major achievement in the days before 1850 in the rural area of the Tarheel State. Only the War of 1812, the Texas Revolution in 1836 and the Mexican War of 1846-1848 troubled the United States during this time. Even these problems didn't cause too much concern for the everyday county folks as they were too busy trying to scratch a living out of the earth.

The largest concern for this period of time was the difference between the northern and southern states over slavery and slavery expansion. Both North and South went about their ways as it seemed best for their understanding of the way they lived and thought. But in the life of the subject of this paper, Eli Robbins, the issue of slavery would result in a very costly war that just seemed to be unavoidable.

## The Early Years of This Robbins Family

Eli Robbins' parents Amos and Mary A. Robbins were raised in fortunate circumstances. Amos' parents Eli and Prudence Robbins were well to do for the farming class of people they represented in Edgecombe County and also Wilson County when it was established in 1855. Amos and wife Mary got a better start in life because Amos' parents were successful. Amos received a financial stake from his parents. The Amos Robbins family started out with land, but he probably never owned slaves as his father did. Amos and Mary Robbins like others of their class worked hard and long to succeed. Mary birthed six children: Jedidah (1846), Frances (1848), Eli (1849), Prudence (1854), John (1856) and Mary A. (1858).<sup>2</sup> Mother Mary A. Robbins died in childbirth the day she gave birth to her last baby, Mary A. Robbins, on the 13th of December 1858. Father Amos Robbins, due to his young family needs and other reasons, married eleven months later on the 1st of November 1859, to Mary Ann "Polly" Stokes. Polly never had any children of her own.<sup>3</sup>

## How Does A Young Boy React To The Times?

Eli Robbins was born third in order on the 21th

of January 1849. Three more would follow after his birth. Eli must have had good early years in his first nine or ten years of life. However, 1858 was not a good year for the Robbins family. Eli's grandmother Prudence died the 4th of February, and his beloved mother passed away as the family was looking forward to adding another member to the family during the Christmas season. No one of this family ever suspected that mother Mary A. Robbins would not survive her sixth delivery. What a crushing blow this was to the family! It was difficult to understand and hard to make sense out of this family tragedy. Especially so was it the case for nine year old Eli Robbins. No doubt he wondered how he could survive this moment and the rest of his life without his mother.

It was very hard for the entire family then and thereafter. But they reluctantly moved forward broken heartedly because there wasn't any other meaningful option. Eli had his chores to do on a daily bases, and he went about them the best he could in much pain of heart.

When the 1860 Wilson County census taker recorded this family, he listed father Amos as 45 years old, stepmother Mary Stokes 38, Jedidah 14, Frances 12, Eli 10, Prudence 5 and John Robbins 4 years old.<sup>4</sup> Their one and one half year old baby sister Mary A. was being raised by Aunt Lucinda Robbins who lived a very short distance away from the rest of the family.<sup>5</sup>

During the next four years as young Eli grew in age from eleven to fifteen years during the Civil War days, he surely had many questions and probably lots of fears as the home land was under attack from the Yankees. Death was by now not a new concern for him anymore. It was bad news at the close of the war years when the family received information that Eli's two uncles James Russell and Hansel Robbins were killed in and around Petersburg, Virginia.<sup>6</sup> This surely did not help Eli's feelings. Adding more insult to injury, not too long after this bad news had arrived, they learned that General Robert E. Lee had surrendered at Appomattox, Virginia. All the Robbins, and others too, must have feared what they would do from this point in time.

The people as a whole in the South lost many rights and privileges as they saw it. Thousands of fathers and sons would not be coming home again and the homeland would be occupied by the Army of the North.

Little over a year later, after the War had ended, Eli Robbins' grandfather Eli passed away on the 2nd of May 1866, at 76 years old.<sup>7</sup> As with the many other Robbins family members who had died in Eli's 16 year life span, his grandfather was buried in the family graveyard on the farm in view of all who cared to look. With the passing of old Eli Robbins, a family era came to an end.

Young Eli had seen much in his short young life that could have undermined his determination to succeed. The death of eight close family members, the Civil War and the first phase of

*(continued on page 28)*



Reconstruction could have soured less determined men. But Eli stood by his father Amos and his stepmother Mary, his brother John and sister Prudence, and they pulled together during these difficult times after the War. Their 225 acre farm was a base that could sustain them when they together put in the required labor. The 1870 Wilson County Census speaks to this family's effort as they were all present putting in their equal share to succeed.<sup>8</sup>

### **Eli Robbins Takes on the Responsibility of a Personal Family Life**

Even with all the manual labor that was required in those times, Eli Robbins managed at age twenty two or twenty three years of age to find time to meet Margaret A. Wiggins, the daughter of James Wiggins and Milly Taylor. Comparatively, this must have been one of Eli's most enjoyable life experiences. Eli and Margaret were married on the 9th of January 1873, at Margaret's father's (James Wiggins') home.<sup>9</sup>

It seems reasonable to this writer that 23 year old Eli and his 19 year old bride likely continued to work for his father Amos Robbins until he and Margaret could get on their own. After getting married in early 1873, Margaret Robbins got pregnant later that year, and, on the 6th of August 1874, a new baby boy came to them whom they named Joseph W. Robbins.<sup>10</sup>

In 1875, about July, Margaret became pregnant a second time, and on the 12th of May 1876, she delivered another son. He was named William Hansel Robbins.<sup>11</sup> There is no way in words to emphasize the great shock to father Eli Robbins and his family that mother Margaret A. Robbins did not survive this birth. Eli had been through this kind of tragedy with his mother years before. Now he had to endure the circumstance again in his own family of procreation. Mother Margaret A. Wiggins Robbins was placed in her grave where the other Robbins family members were buried. It is even painful today to read from her headstone, "Wife of Eli Robbins...22 yrs. 7 mos."<sup>12</sup> In those days everyone knew all too well from personal experience the dangers of birthing.

Then father Eli Robbins, like his father Amos before, was left with infants to care for pretty much alone. Almost assuredly Eli's relatives stepped in and helped him in his plight. One hates to say they were getting to be experts at this kind of thing.

It is a sad reminder to review the 1880 Wilson County Census, which was four years after Margaret died, to see listed Eli Robbins and his two very young sons Joseph and William Hansel alone. Joseph was five and William Hansel was four years old.<sup>13</sup>

Maybe as she did with Eli's baby sister, Mary A., Aunt Lucinda Robbins Everett came to his aid and helped a lot with his boys. The need to close family ranks to help one another in those days was an

understood responsibility. They likely saw that as one of the big reasons for their being.

The reader of this work must be familiar with this scenario of life since it happened all too frequently. Graveyards everywhere makes this point all too clearly.

One event follows another, and, in due time, father Eli Robbins was looking for help and companionship when he found 21 year old Martha A. Batts in Gardners Township not too far away. She was willing and understanding and accepted Eli's invitation to marry. She must have had the personality for this situation which was an instant family. She herself came from a like situation where her father died and left her mother with several children to raise. Her mother Margaret remarried and had a second family by William M. Thorne.<sup>14</sup> Time would tell how successful a new marriage would be for this couple. Eli and Martha made it official on the 29th of December 1880 as reported in the Wilson County Courthouse marriage records.<sup>15</sup>

### **The Eli Robbins and Martha A. Batts Family Experience**

It is likely that Eli was still working for and with his father Amos in the first half of the 1880 decade. Things would and did change in 1884 and 1885 as the land and will records in the Wilson County Courthouse indicate. It appears after years of training under his father Eli Robbins was ready to strike out on his own. Father Amos Robbins made his will on the 24th of October 1884. It was filed in the Wilson County Courthouse on the 10th of January 1885. Eli and his siblings Jedidah, Frances, John, Prudence and Mary A. Robbins lost their father Amos Robbins on the 13th of November 1884.<sup>16</sup> The family buried Amos in his own graveyard two hundred yards east of his parent's burial grounds.<sup>17</sup>

As a result of the death of his father, Eli inherited 59 acres of his father's land on the 4th of February 1885.<sup>18</sup> On the 2nd of May in that same year, Eli purchased at auction 22 acres of additional land for \$132.00.<sup>19</sup> Now Eli and Martha had an 81 acres farm base to launch their future from.

By 1885, Eli and Martha had one daughter and two sons of their own. Margaret Ethel came first on the 27th of December 1881. LeRoy Eli was born on the 16th of June 1883, and James Franklin was born on the 6th of November 1884.<sup>20</sup>

Many motivations drove Eli and Martha to additional growth in expanding their farm. In January 1886, Eli Robbins added 82 more acres by purchase to his land base.<sup>21</sup> His farm acreage now totaled 163 acres for his support of his family.

The family expanded again in 1886 with the birth of their third son. They named him Amos Julius Robbins after Eli's father. Amos was born on the 27th of August.<sup>22</sup>

The county records indicate that Eli added four more acres, in 1889, at a cost of \$40.00.<sup>23</sup> Now the Robbins farm was a total of 167 acres of land.

(continued on page 29)



Over the next ten years Eli and Martha Robbins managed their family and property successfully. During those years Martha birthed five more babies. John Turner Robbins was born on the 4th of December 1887, but he lived less than two years as he died on the 14th of August 1889.<sup>24</sup> Ichabod Wilson came next, on the 8th of June 1890.<sup>25</sup> William Thomas was the next in order of births, and he came into the family on the 4th of June 1894. George Sanford Robbins was the last son born to Eli and Martha, and he made his appearance on the 8th of January 1896.<sup>26</sup> The ninth baby that Martha Robbins birthed was a daughter they named Mary Bahma. Her birthday was the 12th of August 1898.<sup>27</sup> It is not an understatement to say that Martha had her hands full tending eight children, and Eli was busy with his growing real estate as the 19<sup>th</sup> century came to an end.

At this same time Eli and Martha Robbins celebrated the first marriage in their family when their oldest child Margaret Ethel married at age sixteen with their permission to William Henry Gardner on the 19th of October 1898 in their home.

In this past decade of Eli and Martha Robbins lives, they were following the examples of their ancestors. Eli's dad and his grandfather were good managers, and Eli aspired to be like them as a successful farmer. He raised cotton and tobacco which provided cash for things they did not produce. About 1890, he had a new home built for his family next to the A. J. Moore's Primitive Baptist Church at the junction of what is now called Highway 42 and Gardners School Road.<sup>28</sup>

[To be continued in April *Trees of Wilson*.]

### Endnotes and Sources

1. Albert R. Page, Sr. "Old Eli Robbins and Prudence Gardner's Family," *Trees of Wilson*, July/Aug. 2015, pgs. 75-77 and Sept. 2015, pgs. 87-88.
2. Joan L. Howell, *Wilson County, North Carolina Federal Census of 1860*, pg. 73, no. 702 and pg. 79, no. 756.
3. Albert R. Page, Sr., "The Mary A. Robbins Mystery," *Trees of Wilson*, Jan. 2016, pgs. 3-5.
4. Same source as no. 2, pg. 73.
5. Same source as no. 2, pg. 79.
6. Weymouth T. Jordan, Jr., *North Carolina Troops 1861-1865, A Roster*, Vol. VI, pg. 278.
7. Joan L. Howell, *Wilson County, North Carolina, Cemeteries*, Vol. I, pg. 70.
8. Joan L. Howell, *Wilson County, North Carolina Federal Census of 1870*, pg. 60, no. 145.
9. J. Robert Boykin, III, *Marriages of Wilson County, North Carolina, 1855-1899*, Vol. II, N-Z, pg. 596.
10. Joan L. Howell, *Wilson County, North Carolina Cemeteries*, Vol. IV, pg. 190. Joseph W. Robbins married Emma Jane Gardner, 15 Feb. 1899, in Wilson Co., N. C.
11. See web site "Find A Grave" for William Hansel Robbins' headstone in the Luper Graveyard. Wm. Hansel Robbins married twice: 1<sup>st</sup> to Bessie Luper,

22 Dec. 1897, in Wilson Co., N. C., & 2<sup>nd</sup> Daisy C. Bass on the 16th of Dec. 1933, Greenville Co., Virginia.

12. Same as no. 7 above, pg. 71.

13. J. Robert Boykin, III, *Wilson County North Carolina, 1880 Census*, pg. 367, no. 189.

14. *Edgecombe County Heritage, North Carolina, 1735-2009*, pg. 304, no. 818, "William Martin Thorne" submitted by Jerri Thorne Moore.

15. Same as no. 9 above, pg. 596.

16. Same as no. 7 above, pg. 137.

17. Same as above. See the description of the cemetery location.

18. J. Robert Boykin, III, *Abstracts of Wills, Wilson County, North Carolina, 1855-1899*, pg. 63 for "Amos Robbins." Also see estates records for Amos Robbins in the North Carolina State Archives in Raleigh, N. C.

19. Wilson County Courthouse Register of Deeds Office, D. B. 22, pg. 301.

20. Joan L. Howell, *Wilson County, North Carolina, Federal Census of 1900*, pg. 73, no. 116. Lee Robbins was buried in the Emporia City Cemetery, Virginia. See also no. 10 above, pg. 190, for Frank Robbins.

21. Wilson County Register of Deeds Office, D. B. 23, pgs. 298 & 299.

22. Same as no. 20 above. Also see no. 7 above, pg. 70.

23. Wilson County Register of Deeds Office, D. B. 27, pg. 435.

24. Same as no. 7 above, pg. 71.

25. Same as no. 10 above, pg. 190.

26. Same as no. 20 above. George S. Robbins was buried in the Emporia City Cemetery, Virginia.

27. Same as no. 20 above. Mary Bahama Robbins was buried in the Pineview Cemetery, Rocky Mount, N. C.

28. *History of Wilson County and Its Families, Vol. II*, pgs. 102 & 103.

## THE STAR QUEEN CORNET BAND

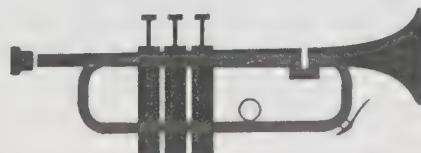
*Wilson Daily Times*, October 13, 1911

### BAND ORGANIZED.

We are glad to learn that a band has been organized in Wilson, which is of course sufficiently large to sustain a musical organization.

The members of the band are Messrs. W. T. Lucas, W. R. Meares, Lee Meares, M. C. Davis, R. W. Hathaway, Claudius Lewis, Frank Bridgers, J. H. Finch, Ernest Barefoot, S. A. Lamm, W. H. Dunn, F. Barham, Jimmie Hales.

The band has selected for its name "The Star Queen Cornet" and has purchased its instruments. They of course desire the encouragement of the people. Prof. Will E. Smith of Washington, N. C., the instructor says the members are doing good work. They expect to be on the street in a month.





## OBITUARIES

Contributed by J. Robert Boykin, III

### Mr. Jesse Deans Dead.

*Wilson Daily Times*, February 24, 1911

Mr. Jesse Deans, a prominent citizen of the county, and who resided in the Rock Ridge section, died yesterday at his home in his sixty-sixth year. Mr. Deans suffered with heart trouble.

The funeral was conducted today at the home by Elder George Boswell, of the Primitive Baptist faith.

Mr. Deans leaves his wife and five children surviving.

[Editor's note: Jesse Deans, 39, married Dilla Boykin, 30, on Dec. 12, 1886.

In 1900, Jesse Deans, b. Oct. 1846, farmer; his wife Dilla A., b. Mar. 1856; and their children, Clauda, b. Apr. 1887; Jesse, b. Feb. 1889; Dilla, b. June 1890; Hugh, b. Feb. 1893; and Dudley, b. Jan. 1895; lived in Old Fields Township.

Jesse Deans, b. Oct. 1844, d. Feb 22, 1911, husband of Dillie A., his widow, Dillie A. Deans, b. Jan. 13, 1858, d. Apr. 11, 1929; and Dudley Deans, b. Sep. 14, 1894, d. May 27, 1945. were buried in a family cemetery on Flowers Road in Old Fields Township.

*Marriages of Wilson County, North Carolina, 1855-1899*, J. Robert Boykin, III; *Wilson County, North Carolina, Federal Census of 1900*, Joan L. Howell and Janice C. Sharpe; *Wilson County, North Carolina, Cemeteries—Volume I*, Joan L. Howell]

### Willie B. Harrell

*Zion's Landmark*, January 1, 1913

I have been requested by his sad and afflicted mother to write the notice of the death of her dear son who departed this life in Pine Tops, N. C., Nov. 12, 1912, of typhoid pneumonia. He was sick only five days but his sufferings were intense, during that time.

Willie B. Harrell was the son of Sister Martha A. and Mr. Levi Harrell and was born near Sparta, N. C., October 15, 1875. He leaves a sad and lonely widow, Sister Emma and three little children, an afflicted mother almost blind, two sisters and one brother to mourn his departure.

His father died some months before him after being sadly afflicted for a long time. He was a dear son, father, husband and brother to the sad ones left behind and is sadly mourned by them. The main support of his afflicted mother who has been almost blind for several years and who is an esteemed and loving member of the church at Sparta, N. C. I can personally testify to his many virtues as I have often been in the pleasant home of this dear family and have spent so many happy hours with them and shared their kind hospitality and kindness. They all loved him and he was ever ready to serve them and do anything he could for them and any one else. He loved his wife's and mother's church and had confidence in their faith and doctrine. We have confidence and hope his sufferings are over and would offer them comfort

and consolation in this sad hour of their trial, that the Lord who has taken him and who cares for the afflicted, the widow and orphan, will care for and comfort them and ... may they confidently cast their cares on him for he careth for them.

Affectionately,

M. T. LAWRENCE

Robersonville, N. C.

### SARAH WOODALL TURLINGTON

#### Mrs. Sarah Turlington.

*Zion's Landmark*, November 1, 1910

Mrs. Turlington was the second daughter of James G. and Sarah Woodall, and was born near the present town of Benson, Johnston county, N. C., on August 23, 1837, and departed this life August 5th, 1910, aged nearly 73 years.

She had been in declining health several years, and for many months was helpless and blind and while it is so sad to part with mother, we are assured that death was a happy release from sickness, pain, darkness, and daily dying, and that she was ushered into the full sight and joys forever more.

At the early age of seventeen years she was married to Eli Turlington, Dec. 22nd, 1854, with whom she lived most happily at the old Willis Turlington homestead, for thirty-three years, until his death, March 28, 1887. The greater part of her life since that time, was spent in the home of her youngest daughter, Mrs. Jessie D. Morgan, at which place she died.

Perhaps there are but few such well-rounded lives as was hers, few filled with so many good works, and tender loving ministrations. Many a heart has been encouraged, and made happier by her smile, and kind words and helping hand. In her father's large family of twelve children, she grew up gentle, thoughtful, and unselfish, always willing to bear her own part and help others bear their burdens and sorrows and cares.

She rejoiced with those that did rejoice, and wept with those that wept, and these beautiful traits marked her life's journey to its end.

During the early part of her married life, her home was the home of her husband's father and his motherless boys. There were also several families of slaves, whose welfare she looked after well. Her women servants were noted for their good training. Although she was never strong, she was industrious, painstaking and thrifty, and in those days she spun, and wove and sewed and looked after their health and honor, too, and her works do follow her, as can be seen in the lives of all who came under her training. It seems that her sweet influence was felt throughout the community. She was a good neighbor, good and kind to the poor and afflicted, and a faithful nurse to the sick as long as she was able. There are few of whom it might truthfully be said: "None knew her but to love her," but I think it is true of her.

It was my sweet privilege to room with her during the fall and winter of '99 and 1900, while I was

(continued on page 31)



boarding at brother and sister Morgan's, and in memory I can see her dear face and hear her voice as we sat by the fireside, sometimes long after the family were asleep. How precious she seemed to me, and how motherly.

I think she was endowed with more than ordinary patience, courage, and devotion in rearing her own large family. I am told that she was ever ready to help and encourage her husband in his work for education in his family and the community, and after his death she would admonish her small boys to do as well as their older brothers had done.

She was the mother of ten children, eight sons and two daughters. Two sons preceded her to the grave, Dr. Willis E. Turlington in Sept. 1899, and Mr. Jefferson D. Turlington, in May 1900. Those surviving are brother James G. of Benson, Prof. Ira T. of Smithfield, Dr. Wm. T. of Fremont, Mr. Eli S. of Benson, Mr. Randall A. a druggist of Wilson, and Atty. Zeb. V. Turlington of Mooresville, N. C., and Mrs. Ellen Denning, and Mrs. Tabitha Morgan, of Benson, N. C.

Truly a good, noble set of children. It was with sincere gratitude and pleasure she would say, "I have raised eight sons to manhood and not a black sheep in the flock." She was justly proud of her boys and girls, and loved them most devotedly, and in their turn they were lovingly devoted to her.

Though helpless and blind, she was still the center of the family, and with chords of love drew her children, those from their distant homes and busy lives together around the arm-chair where she sat and bound her children's children, into a circle of tenderest affection. Her two devoted daughters and their daughters were as tender and careful and patient with her as if she had been an infant.

It seemed they tried to anticipate every want and her life was made as comfortable as it was possible for them to do.

All her children were present in her last hours of this life. She also leaves two sisters living, Mrs. Ellinor Woodard, of Wilson, and Mrs. Martha Lassiter, of near Smithfield, N. C.

Although she had had a good hope in Christ for more than thirty years, and had always lived a most exemplary life, she never united with the militant church until three weeks before she died. She desired to hear preaching, and several members together with Elder J. T. Coats met at brother Morgan's and after the preaching, she offered to the church, and was received, her membership to be placed with the Primitive Baptist church at Hannah's Creek, where she had long desired to be, we believe. Elder James Johnson preached her funeral sermon, and a very comforting, appropriate sermon indeed. It was words "fitly spoken." After the sermon her six sons, feeling that "mother would like them to do it," bore the casket that contained the body of their sainted mother, to the hearse, in a short while her body was resting beside her husband's in the Turlington family graveyard. Sweet be their rest.

Written by request of her daughters,  
In loving remembrance,

Emma Gilbert

Benson, N. C.

### **Zachariah Zebulon Weaver**

*Zion's Landmark*, January 1, 1913

On Sunday morning, Jan. 21, 1912, the death angel came and took from us our dear little boy, Zachariah. He with his brother and a neighbor boy were skating on the ice when little Zack fell, which caused his death. Oh it was so hard to give him up. He was unconscious as long as he lived, only living seventeen hours. He never knew any of us any more and never spoke but three words. Oh! It seems so hard, but I feel to know the Lord's will must be done, not mine. I miss him so much.

He only liked [sic.] one week being 12 years old. He was a bright, lively child and often spoke of what he was going to do when he got to be a man. He was the life of our family. The thought often comes to me that he was in heaven, but his little seat is vacant here and his little voice is still.

His funeral was preached by my dear pastor Elder Williford, who spoke so sweetly and comforting to us. Then his little remains were laid to rest in the cemetery at Mill Branch, beside his dear grand-father amidst a large crowd of relatives and friends.

Dear Household of Faith, please pray for me that I may be reconciled for I feel to know the lord giveth and the Lord taketh away, bless His Holy name.

I miss him, Oh! I miss him,  
No one knows but me—  
And his little seat is vacant  
Which none can ever fill.

Written by his grieved mother,  
DORA WEAVER.

Sharpsburg, N. C.

### **Mr. Jordan Winstead Dead.**

*Wilson Daily Times*, February 17, 1911

Last night about eleven o'clock Mr. Jordan Winstead died at the age of sixty seven at the "Moses Dew" place, about two miles from Wilson. The end came peacefully after a prolonged period of ill health. Mr. Winstead was a respected and upright citizen, having a wide circle of friends, and will be greatly missed. His wife, nee Miss Dew, daughter of Mr. Moses Dew, survives him and also several children.

The funeral was conducted this afternoon at five o'clock at Maplewood Cemetery by Elder P. D. Gold, of the Primitive Baptist church.

The pall-bearers were: Messrs. John Riley, J. D. Lee, W. H. Tyson, Jas. Marshburne, J. C. Hadley and George D. Green.

[Editor's note: He may have been Jourden C. Winstead, b. 1845, d. 1907 (?) buried in Maplewood Cemetery. *Wilson County, North Carolina, Cemeteries—Volume IV*, Joan L. Howell]



## ERNEST ELMER "ELMO" PEELE

Contributed by Horace Peele

[Contributor's note: If you are or know a descendant of Elmo Peele, I would like to make sure you have or he/she has this attached photo of him.]

### Descendants of Josiah "Joseph" Peele

Generation No. 1

1. Josiah "Joseph"<sup>9</sup> Peele (John R.<sup>8</sup> Peel, John<sup>7</sup>, John<sup>6</sup> Peele, Sr., Joshua<sup>5</sup> Peele, Robert<sup>4</sup>, Robert<sup>3</sup>, Robert<sup>2</sup>, Lawrence<sup>1</sup>) was born 1840 in Edgecombe Co., N. C.,<sup>1</sup> and died in Whitakers, Edgecombe Co., N. C.<sup>2</sup> He married (1) Mary Elizabeth Britt 05 Jan 1860, in Edgecombe Co., N. C.<sup>3</sup> She was born 1840 in N. C.,<sup>4</sup> and died abt. 1884 in Wayne Co., N. C.<sup>4</sup> He married (2) Martha F. Neal, 26 Nov 1884, in Nash Co., N. C., daughter of Angeline [Neal]. She was born Jun 1848.

Children of Josiah Peele and Mary Britt are:

- 2 i. Joseph F.<sup>10</sup> Peele, born 02 Sep 1861, in Edgecombe Co., N. C.,<sup>4</sup> died 10 Oct 1934, buried in Maplewood Cemetery, Durham, Durham Co., N. C. He married Lucy Lee Benson abt. 1889 in Edgecombe Co., N. C.,<sup>4</sup> born 24 Dec 1868, in Edgecombe Co., N. C.,<sup>4</sup> died 14 Jan 1937, buried in Maplewood Cemetery, Durham, Durham Co., N. C.<sup>4</sup>
- 3 ii. Charles Peele, born 1865.<sup>5</sup>
- 4 iii. John Henry Peele, born Sep 1867,<sup>6</sup>; died bef. 1920 near Whitakers, Nash Co., N. C. He married Florence Fountain on 07 Apr 1892, in Edgecombe Co., N. C., born 1870 in Edgecombe Co., N. C., died 14 Jun 1918, buried in Fairview Cemetery, Franklin Co., N. C.
- 5 iv. Robert Peele, born Sep 1869<sup>6</sup>.
- 6 v. Willis Peele, born 1871<sup>6</sup>.
- 7 vi. Blanche "Lulu" Peele, born Jan 1873<sup>6</sup>.
- 8 vii. Lillie Peele, born Feb 1877<sup>6</sup>.
- 9 viii. Leander Peele, born 1879<sup>6</sup>.

Children of Josiah Peele and Martha Neal are:

- 10 i. Ernest Elmer "Elmo"<sup>10</sup> Peele, born 25 Nov 1888, in Whitakers, Edgecombe Co., N. C., died 11 Aug 1965, buried in Riverside Cemetery, Macon, Bibb Co., Ga. He married Alma Newberry.
- 11 ii. Annie Selma Peele, born 12 Dec 1892, in Whitakers, Edgecombe Co., N. C., died 14 Aug 1987, in Charlotte, N. C. She married Charles Edwards, born 1892, died 1918, in Va.

Endnotes:

1. Hugh Buckner Johnston (1913) Papers.
2. Charles Lee Peele II (1921).
3. Hugh Buckner Johnston (1913) Papers.
4. Charles Lee Peele II (1921).
5. Hugh Buckner Johnston (1913) Papers.
6. Charles Lee Peele II (1921).

### Descendants of Ernest Elmer "Elmo" Peele

Generation No. 1

1. Ernest Elmer "Elmo"<sup>10</sup> Peele (Josiah "Joseph"<sup>9</sup>, John R.<sup>8</sup> Peel, John<sup>7</sup>, John<sup>6</sup> Peele, Sr., Joshua<sup>5</sup> Peele, Robert<sup>4</sup>, Robert<sup>3</sup>, Robert<sup>2</sup>, Lawrence<sup>1</sup>) was born 25 Nov 1888, in Whitakers, Edgecombe Co., N. C., and died 11 Aug 1965, buried in Riverside Cemetery, Macon, Bibb Co., Ga. He married (1) Flora Bowles on 20 Dec 1910, in Durham, N. C., daughter of Stephen Bowles. She was born 1883, and died 20 Apr 1954, in Charlotte, Mecklenburg Co., N. C. He married (2) Alma E. Newberry on 06 Apr 1955, in Richmond, Va, daughter of Columbus Newberry and Docia Jones. She was born 04 Oct 1902, and died 25 Jan 1988, buried in Riverside Cemetery, Macon, Bibb Co., Ga.



Ernest Elmer "Elmo" Peele,  
b. 1888, d. 1965

Children of Ernest Peele and Flora Bowles are:

- 2 i. Ernest Elmer<sup>11</sup> Peele, Jr., born 12 Apr 1912, in N. C., died 14 Apr 1973, buried in Evergreen Cemetery, Charlotte, Mecklenburg Co., N. C. He married Stella Barnard.
- 3 ii. Margaret E. Peele, born 19 Aug 1914; died 05 Jul 1973, buried in Macon Memorial Park, Macon, Bibb Co., Ga. She married Donald J. Weimer, born 05 Nov 1913, died 12 Sep 1998, buried in Macon Memorial Park, Macon, Bibb Co., Ga.
- + 4 iii. William Beverly Peele, born 02 Dec 1918, in Durham, N. C., died 09 Nov 1974, buried in H. Warren Smith Memorial Cemetery, Duval Co., Fla.
- 5 iv. Gertrude Peele, born 15 Jul 1920; died 10 Feb 2009, buried in Evergreen Cemetery, Charlotte, Mecklenburg Co., N. C. She married Walter Alexander Hodges, born 22 Nov 1919, died 10 Aug 1998, buried in Evergreen Cemetery, Charlotte, Mecklenburg Co., N. C.
- 6 v. Gladys Virginia Peele, born 23 Jun 1921, in Concord, N. C., died 25 Apr 1996. She married Daniel Murdock McCormick, Jr., on 04 Jul 1942, in Mecklenburg Co., N. C., born abt. 1919.
- 7 vi. James Leyburn Peele, born 21 Feb 1925, died 27 Mar 1985, buried in Charlotte, Mecklenburg Co., N. C.

Gregory Walcott aka Bernard "Barnyard" Mattox



## THOMAS RUFFIN

Contributed by J. Robert Boykin, III

### THOMAS RUFFIN'S SUCCESS

*Wilson Daily Times*, August 5, 1911

The following article taken from Red Buck Bryant's correspondence to the Greensboro News, will be interesting to Wilson people. The Ruffin boys are a product of Wilson county. They were born and raised here. Their father, Dr. John K. Ruffin, was universally beloved and esteemed, and our people rejoice in the success of the young men.

The following announcement has been made here: Charles R. Douglas, Gibbs L. Balker [sic.], Thomas Ruffin and Hugh H. Obear announce the formation of a partnership for the practice of law under the firm name of Douglas, Baker, Ruffin and Obear, as successors to the firm of Douglas and Baker, with offices at suite 821-831, Southern Building.

Thomas Ruffin is a North Carolinian, a graduate of the State University and a former instructor in the University Law School at Chapel Hill. He lived in Charlotte for a time.

Thomas Ruffin is a brother of Drs. Sterling and George Ruffin, two of the leading physicians and most successful young business men of Washington. The Drs. Ruffin came here on leaving college and have succeeded beyond their own expectations. Both are able, well-equipped and popular.

Thomas Ruffin is one of the most learned young lawyers here. No one is better prepared for the work he is undertaking. He will practice before the Supreme Court of the United States, District of Columbia courts, Interstate Commerce Commission, United States Court of claims and United States Customs court.

### WILSONIAN MENTIONED

#### Mr. Thomas Ruffin, Former Wilson Citizen, May Become Supreme Court Justice of District of Columbia.

*Wilson Daily Times*, April 7, 1914

Wilson people will be interested in the news that Mr. Thomas Ruffin, a prominent lawyer, of Washington City and a former Wilsonian is being prominently mentioned for a place on the Supreme court of the District of Columbia. The place is now held by Judge Barnard.

This judgeship is obtained by a direct appointment of President Wilson. The term of office is for life and the salary is \$6,000 per annum.

Mr. Ruffin has practiced law in the capital city for a number of years and has achieved much distinction. He is the son of the late Dr. John Ruffin of Wilson. Thomas Ruffin lived here until he went to the University of North Carolina to study law. The sons of the late Doctor Ruffin have all done well in their several chosen professions.

It is said in good authority that if President Wilson wants to appoint a resident of Washington to the Supreme court of District of Columbia, that Mr. Ruffin's name will be urged by the North Carolina Senators.

## TOM PERSON

Contributed by J. Robert Boykin, III

### DR. PERSON'S GENEROSITY

*Wilson Daily Times*, January 30, 1912

The following from the Durham Sun shows the generous character of Dr. Tom Person postmaster at Wilson whose bravery during the war made the yanks "skeedaddle" from this section sooner than they otherwise would. Dr. Tom looked after the women and children and protected the homes of our people. His


heart is a big one and when he saw Mr. Rufus Massey, a one armed soldier he wanted to help him.

But read the account in the Durham Sun.

"Dr. Tom Person, postmaster of Wilson, who was in the city this week is a character witness in the Morgan vs Holloway case, was standing on the street Wednesday talking to friends when Mr. Rufus Massey came along.

"Now here comes an old soldier," said Dr. Person, "and if there is any one I wish to help it is old soldiers," and he ran his hand in his pocket to get the one armed man some money. Some of the Durham people near by informed the Wilson postmaster that the man on whom he was about to bestow alms was one of the wealthiest men in the city. Mr. Massey came up and enjoyed the joke as much as any one.

Dr. Person is one of the most generous hearted men as well as a unique character. He is 78 years old, and has served in a number of public places in his county. As a physician he is beloved by the Wilson people. He himself served in the army."



Dr. Tom Person, standing; Elias Aycock, seated. Photo contributed by J. Robert Boykin, III

## MR. SATTERFIELD

Contributed by J. Robert Boykin, III

### Will Pound the Old Soldier

*Wilson Daily Times*, November 6, 1911

The children of Miss Bishop's school will pound Mr. Satterfield, the old confederate soldier. They will proceed to his home on Railroad street under the direction of their teacher and leave him articles that will be of service.



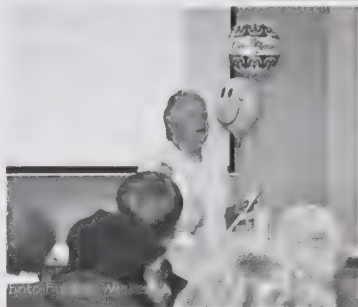
## TWENTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Contributed by Carol Forbes

We had very good attendance for the 25th Anniversary Celebration of WCGS. There were at least 50 people there to celebrate with us. The *Wilson Daily Times* had done a feature article about WCGS, our beginnings, and our activities, which increased interest in the event.

WCGS publications were on display, as were newspaper clippings about our cemetery research efforts. The scrapbooks were also on display for all to see. Nice gifts were offered in the drawings for winners to select. I myself won a nice book of my choice.

We all enjoyed Anniversary Cake and other refreshments. It was good to see fellow members we had not seen in a while, as well as new members who joined that night. Joan Howell did a wonderful job presiding over the meeting as usual.



Scenes from the Twenty-fifth Anniversary Celebration. See more photos on the next page. Photos by Bob Wicker.

## NEW BOOKS WCGS HAS PURCHASED FOR THE LIBRARY

*Camden, South Carolina, 1816-1865, Marriage & Death Notices, 1816-1865*, Brent Holcomb  
*Early Virginia Families Along the James River: Their Deep Roots and Tangled Branches, Vol. III*, Louise Pledge Heath Foley  
*Edgecombe County, North Carolina, Road Records, (1764-1849—Vol. 1)*, Stewart E. Dunaway  
*Emigrations to Other States from Southside Virginia, (Vol. #1)*, Katherine B. Elliott  
*Gates County, North Carolina, Deeds, 1819-1828, (Vol. #4)*, Mona A. Taylor  
*Gates County, North Carolina, Deeds, 1828-1833, (Vol. #5)*, Mona A. Taylor  
*Greene County, North Carolina, Road Records, (1874-1940)*, Stewart E. Dunaway  
*History of Grist Mills in North Carolina—Vol. 1*, Stewart E. Dunaway  
*History of Grist Mills in North Carolina—Vol. 2*, Stewart E. Dunaway  
*History of Grist Mills in North Carolina—Vol. 5*, Stewart E. Dunaway  
*Indexes to Irish Wills, Five Volumes in one*, William P. W. Phillimore and Gertrude Thrift, eds.  
*Jamestowne Ancestors, 1607-1699*, Virginia Davis  
*Johnston County, North Carolina, Road Records (1861-1918)*, Stewart E. Dunaway  
*Lenoir County, North Carolina, Road, Bridge, Ferry, and Mill Records—(1878-1906)*, Stewart E. Dunaway  
*Maps and Drawings from North Carolina Road, Bridge, Mill and Ferry Petitions*, Stewart E. Dunaway

*Marriages of Richmond County, Virginia, 1668-1853*, George H. S. King  
*Marriages of Some Virginia Residents, 1607-1800*, Dorothy Ford Wulfeck  
*Nash County, North Carolina, Road Records, (1768-1833)*, Stewart E. Dunaway  
*North Carolina Confiscation Records—Vol. 3*, Stewart E. Dunaway  
*North Carolina Colonial Land Records—Lapsed Warrants (1740-1761)*, Stewart E. Dunaway  
*North Carolina Tavern Bonds—Vol. 2*, Stewart E. Dunaway  
*Some Marriages in the Burned Record Counties of Virginia*, Virginia Genealogical Society  
*Spotsylvania County, Virginia Records (Surry & Sussex County's) The Register of Albemarle Parish, Virginia, 1739-1778*, NCSD  
*Surry County [Virginia] Tithables, 1668-1703*, Edgar MacDonald and Richard Slatten  
*Tithables from Burned Record Counties, Virginia*, R. F. Woodson and I. B. Woodson  
*Virginia Revolutionary War State Pensions*, Virginia Genealogical Society  
*Wayne County, North Carolina, Bridge Records, (1793-1886)*, Stewart E. Dunaway  
*Wayne County, North Carolina, Road and Mill Records, (1791-1875)*, Stewart E. Dunaway  
*White Slave Children of Colonial Maryland and Virginia: Birth and Shipping Records*, Richard Hayes Phillips, Ph.D.  
*Wills and Administrations of Surry County, Virginia, 1671-1750*, Eliza Timberlake Davis  
*Without Indentures: Index to White Slave Children in Colonial Court Records*, Richard Hayes Phillips, Ph.D.





Past Presidents: Wanda Taylor, Sue Powell, Joan Howell, Reese Ferrell, Carol Forbes. Photos by Bob Wicker

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

• **Free Special Presentation:** Order of First Families of North Carolina, featuring **John Brayton** of Memphis, Tennessee, Genealogist for OFFNC and author of many N. C. and Va. genealogical books. Sunday, April 17th, 2016, 3 p. m., Broad Street Christian Church Fellowship Hall, 802 Broad Street, New Bern, N. C. Refreshments will be served.

• Ancestry.com's unpopular announcement that it would be retiring its **Family Tree Maker software** was followed by a loud "never mind!" Software MacKiev has acquired Family Tree Maker software for both Mac and Windows and will continue the software's production. According to Ancestry.com, "This new agreement means you will receive software updates and new versions from Software MacKiev, and have the ability to purchase new versions of Family Tree Maker from Software MacKiev as they are released."

"You will have continued access to Ancestry Hints, Ancestry searches, and be able to save your tree on Ancestry with Family Tree Maker."

• **RootsMagic software and Ancestry.com** will be connected by the end of 2016. According to a RootsMagic press release, this means RootsMagic users will "be able to display Ancestry hints, search for Ancestry records, and share data between [their] RootsMagic file and [their] Ancestry tree, all from within RootsMagic itself." (This will be an optional function that can be enabled or disabled at will.)

RootsMagic 7 is already known as the software "easiest to sync with FamilySearch." For some

time, it's been culling web hints from MyHeritage.com, and it will soon start integrating hints from FindMyPast. RootsMagic even backs up directly to Dropbox and Google Drive, which is also handy for those who want to share their tree files with others.

• If you are not already aware of **DigitalNC** or have not looked at it lately, check it out. You can find many digitized images in the categories: N. C. Newspapers, Yearbooks, Images, Memorabilia, City Directories, and Audio Visual. There are frequent updates.

• **Edgecombe County Genealogical Society** usually meets at the Edgecombe County Memorial Library, in Tarboro, N. C., at 7:00 pm on the third Thursday of each month.

• **Greene County Family Researchers** meet on the third Thursday of the month at 7:30 pm at the Greene County Museum in Snow Hill, N. C.

• **Old Dobbs Genealogical Society** meets at 10:30 am the third Saturday of each calendar quarter, at the Wayne County Public Library, Goldsboro, N. C.

• **Tar River Connections Genealogical Society** meets at 6:30 pm on the 3rd Tuesday of each month, except Dec., at the Braswell Memorial Library in Rocky Mount, N. C.

• **Pitt County Family Researchers** meet at 7:00 pm, third Tuesdays, at Sheppard Memorial Library, 530 Evans St., Greenville, N. C.

• **Farmville, N. C., Ancestor Seekers** meet 10 am to 12 noon the second Saturday of each month at the Farmville Public Library.

**WCGS Publications:** Please call or write for a catalog with complete details, or order and pay on our web site.

[www.wcgs.org](http://www.wcgs.org)

**Note:** Please see next page for additional items that are available for purchase.

Census records abstracted by J. Albert Bass with family data added from his files.

1880 Wilson County, Black Creek Township	\$32.00
1880 Wilson County, Crossroads Township	\$22.00
1900 Wilson County, Spring Hill Township	\$16.00
1850 Johnston County, District 9	\$16.00
1850 Johnston County, District 10	\$26.00
1860 Johnston County, East of the Neuse	\$23.00

1870 Johnston County, Bulah Township	\$10.00
1850 Wayne County, North of the Neuse	\$65.00
1860 Wayne County, Davis District	\$ 5.00
1860 Wayne County, Fork District	\$ 5.00
1860 Wayne County, Nahunta District	\$16.00
1860 Wayne County, Pikeville District	\$ 5.00
1870 Wayne County, Holden Township	\$10.00
1870 Wayne County, Nahunta Township	\$12.00
1880 Wayne County, Great Swamp Township	\$14.00
1880 Wayne County, Nahunta Township	\$18.00
1900 Wayne County, Great Swamp Township	\$ 6.00
1900 Wayne County, Nahunta Township	\$13.00



## Trees of Wilson

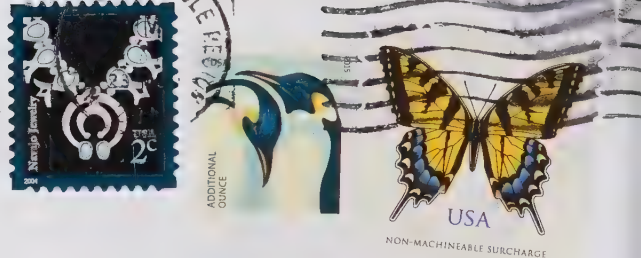
Family Chronicles of the  
**Wilson County**  
**Genealogical Society**

P.O. Box 802  
Wilson, NC 27894  
252-243-1660

[www.wcgs.org](http://www.wcgs.org)

*Black Wide-Awake,  
Obituaries, Peele, Person,  
Robbins, Ruffin, Satterfield,  
Wilson Businesses*

March 2016



WTTXS-E-RES & Serials MGMT

PO BOX 8890

Davis Library CB #3938

Chapel Hill, NC 27514-8890

### Books

Barnes Narratives	\$12.00
Thataway, Barnes Individuals Born in North Carolina Who Moved Elsewhere	\$6.00
They Moved Away - North Carolinians Who Went to Other States	\$10.00
Wilson County, North Carolina, Census of 1860.	\$30.00
Wilson County, North Carolina, Census of 1870.	\$25.00
Wilson County, North Carolina, Census of 1880.	\$40.00
Wilson County, North Carolina, Census of 1900.	\$40.00
Wilson County, North Carolina, Marriages, 1855-1899	\$75.00
Wilson County, North Carolina, Cemeteries Volume I	\$30.00
Wilson County, North Carolina, Cemeteries Volume II	\$30.00
Wilson County, North Carolina, Cemeteries Volume III	\$25.00
Wilson County, North Carolina, Cemeteries Volume IV	\$30.00
Wilson County, North Carolina, Cemeteries Volume V	\$35.00
Wilson County's Architectural Heritage	\$20.00
Wilson, North Carolina, Historical Properties Inventory	\$20.00
Wilson County's Founding Families	\$55.00

### Maps

Wilson County Historical Map	\$5.00
Confederate Field Maps #1, #2, #3, #4 (State choice) each at	\$5.00
Town of Wilson, Map 1872	\$5.00
Town of Wilson, Map 1882	\$5.00
Wilson County Waterways	\$5.00
(tax and shipping included on previous items only)	

### Miscellaneous

Cemetery Finder (paper) donation	\$5.00
Wilson Co. Estates Inventory (paper) donation	\$5.00

**Note:** Please see previous page for additional items.

**WCGS Publications:** please call or write for a catalog with complete details, or order and pay on our web site.

[www.wcgs.org](http://www.wcgs.org)

**Payment and shipping:** Shipping cost for each book is \$5.00 (\$10.00 for *Wilson County Marriages*, a set of two books). Shipping cost for maps is \$5.00 for 1-4 items. Add 6.75% sales tax for NC residents on merchandise total (not on shipping).

Total of items ordered \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Shipping \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Sales Tax \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Total of Order \$ \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Check Enclosed

Ship to: \_\_\_\_\_

Street \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Please enroll me as a member of WCGS. I enclose \$20 for personal membership & subscription to *Trees*. Please allow 3-5 weeks for shipping on all orders. You may order books & membership through our website. <http://www.wcgs.org>.

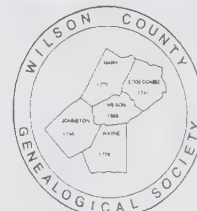




# TREES OF WILSON

*Wilson's Family Heritage*

Chronicles of the  
Wilson County Genealogical Society



April 2016

TWENTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY

Volume 25 Number 4

## Editor's Message

When we set out to learn the history of our families, we

needed to learn about methods and methodology, record types and where to find them, evidence analysis—how to do it and when a fact can be accepted, and how to document our findings.

We also need to know the historical context in which our ancestors lived. That includes having a knowledge of the laws and regulations governing the creation of the records that we are using in order to have a better understanding of the meaning of those records. We need to understand the events occurring in the times in which our ancestors lived. This will give us a better understanding of concepts such as migration patterns, the effects of weather, war, pestilence; and the socio-political environments. Our ancestors' decisions, lives, alliances, and migrations were formed by these factors.

If you wish to have a better understanding of your ancestors and need to learn more about these concepts, the websites listed on page 38 can provide ways to build more general historical knowledge (some free and some with a fee). Use your library and e-book collections.

Please mark your calendars for the 2016 meetings:

May 31 Ashley Yandle, "An Introduction to Online Research Tools from the State Archives of North Carolina"

Sept. 27 to be announced

Oct. 25 Martha Gay Morton, Mapping Land Research

Nov. 29 Annual Meeting

## Wilson County Public Library Genealogy and Local History Room, April 26th

Please join us for our meeting on April 26th in the Genealogy and Local History Room at the library. Ask at the reception desk for directions.

Our program will be presented by Elton Franks who has been interested in family history as long as he can remember. That interest has extended to metal detecting to find historical artifacts. He will share with us the methods and techniques that he uses. While he is modest about his findings, he has found artifacts that are treasured by descendants of their owners. He will share some of those findings and their stories with us.

A protégé of Hugh B. Johnston, the renowned Wilson County genealogist, Franks often went along with Mr. Johnston on genealogical excursions to landmark sites in Wilson and the surrounding counties. He took advantage of the opportunities to learn from the master and can tell us what it was like to "tag along" with Mr. Johnston.

## LOCAL [excerpt]

*The Wilson Advance*, May 4, 1893

The water works are progressing rapidly. The chimney at the power house which is to be 65 feet high was started Tuesday. The work of laying pipe in the town is almost completed.

## Contents of This Issue

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## WILSON BUSINESSES WILSON DAILY TIMES, JANUARY 10, 1950

### EARLY MERCHANT

S. M. Warren, the senior member of the firm of Warren and Barnes moved to Wilson in 1858. From the account in Industries and Resources of the South, the North Carolina volume, published in 1885, anything bought from this store was "taken without question." The store was located on the corner of Tarboro and Nash, "in the very center of town."

Mr. Warren was deputy sheriff of the county during the war, "and advanced the general interests of the people. He has been more or less all his life a town commissioner, he was long a county commissioner and chairman of the board; and a K. T. Mason," so the book records.



## PHOTO CORRECTION

Contributed by Sonia Aycock

The photograph on page 33 of March 2016 *Trees of Wilson* was incorrectly identified. The man standing was Barnes Aycock, brother of Elias Aycock, seated. "Their beards were so long that they tucked them into their suits."

[Source: Charles Aycock and Max Aycock, compilers of the history of the Aycock family]

## Trees of Wilson — WCGS

This chronicle is published by the Wilson County Genealogical Society, organized February 26, 1991. Address: P.O. Box 802, Wilson, NC 27894 -0802. Telephone 252-243-1660. Internet address: <http://www.wcgs.org>

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Materials of genealogical interest to the members of WCGS are accepted for publication at the discretion of the Editors and should pertain to families with connections in Wilson County and its neighboring and parent counties. WCGS cannot accept any responsibility for the content of contributed materials, including errors and omissions. Please direct any questions to the contributor. Their names and addresses will be provided upon request for worthwhile purposes.

Transcripts of original records are recorded with the original spelling and punctuation.

Queries from WCGS members are accepted and posted at [WilsonNC@yahoogroups.com](mailto:WilsonNC@yahoogroups.com)

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## GREAT WILSONIANS

### Contributed by Perry Morrison

[Editor's note: At our April 2015 meeting, Mr. Morrison presented a most enjoyable program, in the format of a "Jeopardy" game, about Wilsonians "who have participated on the national stage." They have had a connection with Wilson but were also notable outside of North Carolina. With his permission, we will include the descriptions of the persons in *Trees of Wilson* and hope you will enjoy trying to name them. The answer will be hidden somewhere within the same issue of *Trees*.

Along with Dr. Francis P. Venable, I discovered carbide, (a fact disputed by John Motley Morehead, Jr.) which when burned produces acetylene gas, a substance that revolutionized industrial production in the early 20th century. I spent much time in my youth visiting relatives in Wilson.

My first independent business venture was an attempt to consolidate local gas and electric utilities in Wilson, North Carolina, founding the Wilson Lighting Company with Shorty Goodman of Niagara Falls, N. Y., in 1903. When we were outmaneuvered by local businessmen eager to profit from our idea, the company was dissolved.

As an engineer, I designed the building structure of the Breakers Hotel in Palm Beach. I inherited wealth, but I also was enormously successful in my own right.

I was the subject of major national newspaper scrutiny a number of times in my life, particularly as executor of one of the country's largest estates and as president and sole shareholder of the Florida East Coast Railroad.

Despite my business success, I would be befuddled today to think that my name is most frequently associated with college football.

## WEBSITES OF INTEREST

### Online Education

The National Genealogical Society: genealogy specific:

[http://www.ngsgenealogy.org/cs/online\\_courses](http://www.ngsgenealogy.org/cs/online_courses)

Cyndi's List: genealogy courses: <http://www.cyndislist.com/education/online-courses-and-webinars>

The Great Courses—audio or video, many history and genealogy courses: <http://www.thegreatcourses.com/>

Coursera—courses from major universities:

<http://www.coursera.com/>

EdX—courses from major universities:

<https://www.edx.org/>

The Khan Academy—historical courses:

<http://www.khanacademy.org/>

Debbie's Lineage Research Corner: free how to guide to conduct genealogical research. Includes step by step guides, forms, links to databases:

<http://www.learnwebskills.com/family/debbieduay.html>

Hidden Gems—articles about genealogical research and Links to databases (Much of the site is DAR focused, but there is good information for any researcher.) Includes links to databases for each state:

<http://www.learnwebskills.com/lineage/hidden.htm>

### Databases

State Libraries and Archives—links to U. S. state level repositories: <http://www.cyndislist.com/us/state-level-records-repositories>

Library of Virginia—microfilms through inter-library loan: <http://www.lva.virginia.gov/public/local/>



# ELI ROBBINS AND HIS FAMILIES WITH MARGARET A. WIGGINS AND MARTHA A. BATTS

Contributed by Albert R. Page, Sr.

[Editor's note: This is the second part of the article about this family unit. The first part was included in the March issue of *Trees of Wilson*.]

When Eli Robbin's aunt Lucinda Robbins Everett died at age 75 on the 12<sup>th</sup> of November 1899, she had arranged by will to divide the real estate she had been given by her father Eli Robbins, which was the old Robbins home place and the remainder of his farm acreage. Eli received 25 acres to add to his 167 acre farm which brought his total to 192 acres. Eli, by this time, had close to the same amount of land his father Amos had at his death.

Aunt Lucinda left the larger part of her land in common to her five nieces: Kate Carter Wiggins, Martha Carter Forbes, Jedidah Robbins Walston, Prudence Robbins Johnson, and Mary A. Robbins Walston.<sup>29</sup> This 205 acres was the home base of her parents and had been her home all of her natural life of 75 years. Lucinda had lived in this location for over thirty years after her father died. By this time some people were actually calling the old Eli Robbins' place after Lucinda and referring to it as "the Everett Place" even though Eli and Prudence Robbins had lived there over fifty years before she inherited it.<sup>30</sup>

It seems to this writer that Eli Robbins, the subject of this paper, probably had long had his eye on this family homestead. Just over two months after Eli's relatives had inherited Lucinda's home and land, Eli Robbins purchased this 205 acres for his family, on the 17<sup>th</sup> of January 1900, for the sum of \$1,500.<sup>31</sup> Once again, an Eli Robbins owned the Old Robbins home place.

That large land acquisition doubled Eli Robbins' real estate base to 397 acres. His resources were large enough now, plus, he was a good manager, to pay off the burden of the recent \$1,500.00 cost of the 205 acres of Aunt Lucinda's land that came by sale to him from his cousins and sister.

The 1900 Wilson County Census listed Eli and Martha Robbins as "farmers" and as having been married 19 years. Eli was 51 and Martha was 42 years old. Martha was reported as having had nine children with one dead. Seven offspring were there at home helping as they were old enough to do so. Other relatives lived near and were also farmers or listed as farm laborers.<sup>32</sup>

Life was going so well for the Robbins family, but maybe that was a bad sign that caught them off guard. Recently married daughter Margaret Ethel Robbins Gardner died on the 14<sup>th</sup> of October 1902, after less than three years of marriage. Husband William Henry Gardner and Margaret's family lay this twenty year old angel to rest in the Robbins family graveyard. The grief must have been more than they could bear.<sup>33</sup>

During the thirteen years, the Wilson County Courthouse land records do not indicate that Eli and Martha Robbins added anymore land to their real estate holding.

The 1910 Wilson County Census listed this Rob-

bins family again in their routine location. Only son Amos Robbins was married, but he lived right next to his parents and siblings<sup>34</sup> Likely he was continuing there to help his father on his large farm.

The Wilson County Courthouse Register of Deeds records indicate that in 1913, 1915 and 1919 Eli Robbins added 73.4 acres in four deeds to bring his estate up to 470.4 acres of land.<sup>35</sup>

## Greener Grass in Emporia, Virginia

Eli, his wife Martha and their children's history in Wilson County, North Carolina, up to this time (1919) can be explained in the natural course of development like any other family. However, about 1919 factors that are not totally known to this writer influenced Eli, Martha, and three of their sons, to make a major move from Wilson County, N. C., to Emporia, Greensville County, Virginia. They targeted the farm land at Emporia, Virginia, because "they were looking for good sandy soil to grow tobacco in."<sup>36</sup> This writer did not know this information until it was learned in interviews with two granddaughters of Eli Robbins. Geraldine Batts Armstrong and Louise Robbins Bryant both told me of this move to Virginia by the family for this adventure there.<sup>37</sup>

I first found land records in the Wilson County Courthouse that told me Eli Robbins surveyed and sold half of his land in 1919 which included Grandfather Eli Robbins' home place and farm. Eli Robbins was no spring chicken at this time as he was 70 years old. Nevertheless he sold 232.9 acres in four lots of land in 1919 for a total of \$68,712.00. The new owners took possession on the 1st of January 1920.<sup>38</sup>

Eli and Martha Robbins bought 404.6 acres of land about where Emporia, Virginia, was located. That farm and business came with a cotton gin, a grist mill, a hominy mill, and a new telephone line to Emporia, Virginia. The cost of this new investment was \$52,000. Eli and Martha took sons Lee, Will and George Robbins with them to this new business. Obviously they were going to be the work force for this enterprise.

For some reason this family could not be found on the 1920 census record for either Wilson County, N. C., or Greensville County, Virginia. No doubt they worked away in Virginia to be successful in these first years of the early 1920's.

Wilson County Courthouse records indicate that Eli Robbins, while living in Emporia, Virginia, made his last land transaction in Wilson County as he sold, on the 30th of January 1923, his home and 69 acres on the north side of the Wilson Road in Wilson County for \$7,000. This tract and home was east of the A. J. Moore Primitive Baptist Church.<sup>39</sup>

It is not known if Eli needed more investment capital in Virginia from this additional sale of land. Whatever the case here, Eli Robbins was getting older by the day now. He died on the 2nd of May in 1926 there in Greensville County, Virginia, at age 76 years.<sup>40</sup> His venture in Virginia lasted about five years or so. The family brought his body back to the familiar surroundings of the old

(continued on page 40)

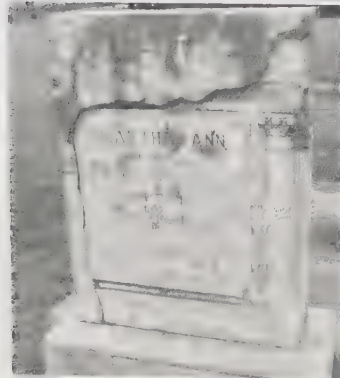
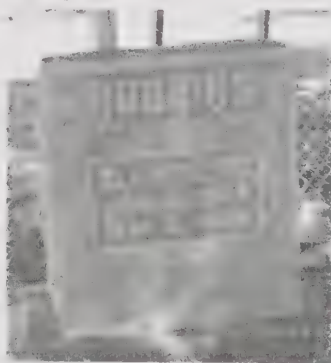
(Eli Robbins, Margaret and Martha, continued from page 39)

Robbins home place in Wilson County for burial among his close kin.<sup>41</sup>

Eli Robbins had written his will, according to Wilson County Courthouse records, on the 7th of June 1915, while he still lived in North Carolina. Evidently, he never changed it after he moved to Virginia, and no additional will has been found by this writer. The will was filed in Greensville County, Virginia, on the 20th of October 1926, and also in Wilson County because he had property in both counties. The will is vague as to the exactness of where his property was and how many acres he owned. He provided money for older son William Hansel and Mary B. Batts. He left his wife Martha \$300.00 for her year's support and \$300.00 per year as long as she lived. To his sons, Lee, Frank, Amos, Ick, Will, George and Joseph Robbins, he left his real estate.<sup>42</sup>

Mother Martha continued to live in their home in Emporia with her sons. The 1930 Greensville County Census listed Martha living with sons Lee and Will.<sup>43</sup> At some point later, Martha Ann Robbins returned to Wilson County because it was there that the Wilson County death records include her demise. The Wilson County Register of Deeds Office records list her death as the 5th of August 1935.<sup>44</sup> Her son Lee was the executor of her estate, and after all her bills were paid, she left \$413.52 to divide between her children. For the seven of them that came to about \$59.07 each.<sup>45</sup>

Interestingly enough to this writer, when Eli Robbins died, they buried him in his grandfather Eli Robbins' graveyard on Highway 42 in the Gardners School area. Eli Robbins' first wife Margaret Wiggins Robbins had been buried there years earlier. Eli's headstone is the largest in the cemetery.<sup>46</sup> Mother Martha A. Batts Robbins was placed in the graveyard of her family of orientation: the Batts/Thorne cemetery on what is today Redmon Road in Wilson County. She too has a massive headstone exactly the size of her husband's.<sup>47</sup>



The present writer wonders what family statement these separate burials represented?

Sons Lee, Will, and George Robbins remained in Virginia, married there and had families. They never returned to Wilson County to live and are buried in the Emporia,

Virginia, Cemetery.<sup>48</sup> The other four siblings of Eli and Martha and Eli's two older sons continued to live in and around Wilson County and are buried there except Mary Bahma Robbins Batts. She was buried with her husband Jerry in the Rocky Mount Pineview Cemetery.<sup>49</sup>

### Conclusion

Eli Robbins was cut from the same quality stock his grandparents and father were made from. He was fortunate that he personally escaped national conflicts such as the Civil War, the Spanish American War and World War I. However, his uncles and older cousins paid plenty in the Civil War as several did not come home thereafter. But on the other hand, he and his family were not spared any of the other natural hardships of normal life.

Eli, Martha and all the children were blessed in a sense that they came from a family who had land, and they managed their business expertly which provided a comfortable life style. Eli and Martha Robbins came along in life at a good period, and they made the best of their favors and luck. As a result, they managed to stay on top of their successful run in the agricultural world that provided them some good options.

They lost two children in their journey which was heart wrenching. But, by and large, it is the opinion of this writer that this family managed to travel the high road of life. Robbins family members remained in Gardners Township for at least another generation of time.<sup>50</sup>

Sadly today the old Robbins home place location no longer includes Robbins family members that this writer found. The result is that most of the old Robbins history of that area is lost in this modern day period.<sup>51</sup> One would be hard pressed to find a few folks left who have a meaningful interest and respect for the contributions the old Robbins family made in the area of Gardners School and the Wilbanks locations. Cars, trucks and some buses today zoom east and west on Highway 42 or travel quickly north and south on Gardners School Road without a thought of the once important Robbins families who contributed so much to this location. Time marches on it is said.

### END NOTES AND SOURCES

29. Same as no. 18 above, pg. 29 for "Lucinda Everett."

30. *Trees of Wilson*, Sept. 2015, pg. 9. The reader should see the obituary of L. E. Robbins' infant who was buried in the Everett Cemetery."

31. Wilson County Register of Deeds Office, 17 Jan. 1900, D. B. 54, pgs. 16-17.

32. Same as no. 20 above.

33. After a personal visit, on the 8th of Nov. 2015, with Geraldine T. Batts Armstrong of Rocky Mount, N. C. (a granddaughter of Eli & Martha Robbins) and a discussion with Traci Thompson of the Braswell Memorial Library, I decided to do additional research on Ethel Robbins. Her marriage

(continued on page 41)



record was found in the Wilson County Register of Deeds Office along with a letter from her parents giving their permission for her to marry William Henry Gardner. Traci Thompson found Margaret Ethel and W. H. Gardner on the 1900 Wilson County Census record: Same source above in no. 20, pg. 73, no. 115. Her headstone was found: Same source above in no. 7, pg. 70, "Margaret E. Gardner."

34. See Ancestry.com for the Wilson County 1910 Census, no. 293, "Eli Robbins" family & no. 294 for "Amos Robbins" family.

35. Wilson County Register of Deeds Office, D. B. 94, pg. 499; D. B. 102, pg. 261 & 379 & D. B. 123, pg. 107.

36. This writer had a telephone conversation with Louise Robbins Bryant of Courtland, Virginia, about the 30th of October 2015. She is a daughter of George S. Robbins.

37. This writer also talked with Geraldine Batts Armstrong on the phone about her mother Mary Bahama Robbins Batts and her family of orientation in May and October 2015.

38. Wilson County Register of Deeds Office, Plat of Survey for the Eli Robbins land he sold in 1919, D. B. 1, pg. 169.

39. Same source above, no. 37, D. B. 140, pg. 390.

40. Greensville County Register of deeds Office, Emporia, Virginia, for Eli Robbins death certificate.

41. Same as no. 7 above, pg. 70, "Eli Robbins."

42. Wilson County Courthouse, Clerk of Superior Court, Probate Records, "Eli Robbins Will," Bk. 5, pgs. 189-190.

43. 1930 Greensville County Census on Ancestry.com.

44. Wilson County Courthouse Register of Deeds Office, death certificate of Martha Robbins, bk. 1935, pg. 546.

45. Same as no. 41 above, "Final Account for Settlement" of Martha A. Robbins' Estate by administrator J. F. Robbins [son] 5th Aug. 1937.

46. Same as no. 7 above, pgs. 70 & 71.

47. Joan L. Howell, *Wilson County, North Carolina, Cemeteries, Vol. II*, pg. 280, "Martha Ann Robbins."

48. This information came from my telephone conversation with Louise Robbins Bryant, daughter of George S. Robbins.

49. City of Rocky Mount Cemetery Divisions, ... Burial Records ... Pineview Cemetery by Linda S. Moore," pg. 10 of 38, Braswell Memorial Library, Rocky Mount, N. C.

50. This information came in part from two telephone conversations with Raymond Robbins of Wilson, N. C., in May and October 2015. Raymond is a grandson of Amos Julius "Jude" Robbins.

51. After considerable research by this writer only a few descendants were found who had some little knowledge of the Robbins family who had lived in the Gardners School location. Current land owners of the old Robbins land know little or nothing about the Robbins family, their history or the old Robbins cemeteries in their area.

### Eli Robbins Family:

The front row left to right: John & Gaither Robbins sons of Amos Julius "Jude" Robbins; the old man sitting is Henry Cleaphus Gardner son of Brittan Gardner & wife Edna Draughn (two of his children married Eli Robbins' daughter & son); Martha Ann Batts Robbins, wife of Eli Robbins, is holding baby Lawrence "Pete" Batts born mid 1915. Baby is Mary Bahama Robbins & Jerry Lawrence Batts' first child. This picture was taken in the fall of 1915. The last person on the front row is MacDonald "Mack" Robbins who was a 1st cousin of Eli Robbins. His father was Willie Robbins the brother of Amos Robbins.



Back row left to right: Amos Julius "Jude" Robbins, son of Eli Robbins and his second wife Martha Ann Batts. Jude married Mary Jane Cale who was the mother of the two boys in the front row. Next to Jude is his older brother Lee Robbins who went to Virginia with his parents to live in 1919-1920. The next person is the patriarch of this family Eli Robbins. His parents were Amos & Mary Ann Robbins. His second wife is holding the baby Martha Ann Batts. Her parents were William W. Batts & Margaret Peele. The last person in the picture is Mary Bahama Robbins Batts. She is the daughter of Eli Robbins & Martha Ann Batts. Her husband was Jerry Lawrence Batts. The home was located on Hwy 42 East, east of the old A. J. Moore Primate Baptist Church, across the street from Gardners School. (Photo contributed by J. Robert Boykin, III, Identification of individuals by Albert R. Page, Jr.)

## OBITUARIES

Contributed by J. Robert Boykin, III

### MRS. RACHEL APPLEWHITE DIES

*Wilson Daily Times*, August 14, 1913

At her home this morning on West Gold street, Mrs. Rachel Applewhite passed away. The funeral services will be conducted at 9 o'clock tomorrow morning from her home. She was a consistent member of the Christian church. The funeral services will be conducted by Rev. M. Bradshaw of the Methodist church.

The deceased left two daughters Misses Lula and Anna.

[Editor's note: Rachel Olivia Applewhite, b. 13 FEB 1859, d. 14 FEB 1913, wife of W. H. Applewhite, was buried in the Bagley/Applewhite/Whitley Cemetery on Hwy 58, abt. 1.1 miles NW of HWY 222. William H. Applewhite, b. 28 JUL 1840, d. 09 OCT 1903, (Civil War Marker), was also buried there. Rachel was apparently his second wife as Virginia Applewhite, b. 26 NOV 1846, d. 30 APR 1887, wife of W. H. Applewhite, was interred there also. Three other Applewhites were buried there: Henry, Orpha (Pike), his wife, and Lucretia Ann, wife of Jonathan Applewhite. *Wilson County, North Carolina, Cemeteries—Volume I*, Joan L. Howell]

According to the Feb. 27, 1872, marriage record of Jonathan Applewhite to Sallie Bynum, Henry and Orpa were his parents. Sallie was the daughter of Reuben Bynum. *Marriages of Wilson County, North Carolina, 1855-1899*, J. Robert Boykin, III]

### MR. GEORGE BAKER DEAD

*Wilson Daily Times*, August 28, 1913

At his home in Wilbanks yesterday, Mr. George Baker, a well known and prominent farmer of that community, passed away. Mr. Baker was about 50 years of age. He leaves a wife and several children, besides a host of friends who mourn his death.

Mr. Baker was a prosperous farmer, a good citizen and a true friend and the community has suffered a distinct loss by his death.

[Editor's notes: He may have been George Baker, 24, who married Alsey Baker, 19, on June 19, 1887, at the home of Frank Webb. *Marriages of Wilson County, North Carolina, 1855-1899*, J. Robert Boykin, III]

George Baker, b. 18 SEP 1862, d. 28 AUG 1913, husband of Alsie; and Alsie Baker, b. 05 MAR 1868, d. 27 JUN 1954, wife of George Baker; were buried in the Baker Cemetery on Webb Lake Road in Gardners Township. Also buried there were their daughter Effie E. Baker, b. 27 MAR 1889, d. 11 JUN 1912; and son Paul Baker, b. 05 JUL 1899, d. 20 OCT 1933. Other Bakers buried in this cemetery were Jack Baker, b. 11 MAR 1828, d. 22 MAY 1891, and his wife Nancy, d. 28 MAR 1895; and William Jackson Baker, 03 MAR 1926, Pvt. 323 Inf. 81st Division. *Wilson County, North Carolina, Cemeteries—Volume I*, Joan L. Howell]

### MRS. MATTIE BYNUM

*Wilson Daily Times*, August 9, 1913

The many friends of Mrs. Mattie Bynum who has been very low for several days will regret to learn of her death. She passed away at 6 o'clock Saturday morning and her remains were interred in her church burying grounds at 11 o'clock Sunday morning. We extend our sympathy to the bereaved husband and relatives.

### HENRY CAMPBELL DANCE

*Wilson Daily Times*, August 12, 1913

#### IN MEMORIAM

"When the last sunshine of expiring day  
In summer's twilight weeps itself away."

There passed into the Great Beyond the soul of Henry Campbell Dance, July 14th, 1913.

As was his life, so was his death, patient in suffering gentle indeed, quietly he went to sleep; not a sigh, save in tender care for those he loved. As in life, so in death his last thoughts were only of their suffering and pain. To them, his family, and to his friends he was the soul of patience and kindness. Always proving the endurance that only a quiet, big heart can know.

He was member of the Episcopal church, and the love of his faith was a part of his gentle nature. When the way seemed hard his thoughts were drawn to the hymn he loved, ... [words of hymn omitted]

Henry Campbell Dance was born in Powhatan Co., Va., July 6th, 1873 where he spent his early life. He lived for several years in Danville, VA. From there he moved to Wilson in 1898, and was happily married to Miss Gladys Clark. Of his married life I shall not attempt to write. His love and devotion in his home could never be told save by those he leaves behind—the wife and 7 children. To them his tenderest care was given, even unto the end.

A genius he was, an unassuming genius in patience and care as a husband and father ... [poem omitted]

A FRIEND.

[Editor's note: Henry Campbell Vance, 27, married Gladys V. Clark, 20, on Feb. 14, 1900, at the residence of Mrs. Nettie Clark. M. T. Moye, minister of the Christian Church performed the ceremony. H. G. Whitehead, T. M. Washington, and Lat. Wilson were witnesses. *Marriages of Wilson County, North Carolina, 1855-1899*, J. Robert Boykin, III]

Henry Campbell Dance, b. 06 JUL 1873, d. 14 JUL 1913; and Gladys Clark Dance, b. 14 FEB 1880, d. 20 FEB 1944; were buried in Maplewood Cemetery. Henry Campbell Dance, Jr., b. 04 OCT 1904, d. 01 MAR 1941; and Sudie W. Dance, b. 11 APR 1906, d. 19 APR 1906; were buried in the same section. *Wilson County, North Carolina, Cemeteries—Volume IV*, Joan L. Howell]

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**ANNIE SAULS FINCH  
DEATH OF MRS. FINCH**

*Wilson Daily Times*, September 30, 1913

Mrs. F. I. Finch died at the home of her son, Mr. Frank Finch on Park Ave. today about 1 o'clock after a lingering illness.

Mrs. Finch leaves two sons, Messrs. Frank and Sam Finch, and was highly esteemed in her circle of relatives and friends. The deceased was an old resident of the city and well advanced in age, being 72 when she died. She leaves four brothers, Messrs. Dred Sauls, M. M. Sauls, J. R. Sauls and Lee Sauls.

The funeral will occur at 10:30 in the morning from the residence of her son Mr. Frank Finch on Park Avenue, and will be conducted by her pastor Rev. Mr. Bradshaw of the Methodist church.

[Editor's notes: F. I. Finch, 30, and Annie E. Sauls, 30, were married on Jan. 30, 1873, at the home of Jesse Sauls. *Marriages of Wilson County, North Carolina, 1855-1899*, J. Robert Boykin, III

In 1880, Frank I. Sauls, 36, carriage maker; and his wife Ann E., 39; lived in the Town of Black Creek. Their children Laura, 16; Nettie, 11; and Samuel H., 1; were living with them. *Wilson County, North Carolina, 1880 Census*, J. Robert Boykin, III

In 1900, Francis I. Finch, b. in Sep. 1843, machinist; and his wife of 27 years Annie E., b. in Jun 1841; lived in Wilson Township. They had three children and two were living: Samuel H., b. in Mar. 1879, machinist; and Francis J., b. in May 1881, carriage trimmer; lived with them. *Wilson County, North Carolina, Federal Census of 1900*, Joan L. Howell and Janice C. Sharpe

Annie E. Sauls Finch, b. 14 JUN 1841, Wife of F. I. Finch; and Francis I. Finch, b. 18 Sep 1843, d. 07 JAN 1903; were buried in Maplewood Cemetery, Wilson, N. C.]

**MARTHA ANN LANE**

*Wilson Daily Times*, February 24, 1911

**Mrs. Martha Ann Lane Dead.**

Miss Martha Ann Lane, of Rocky Mount, died at the Wilson Sanatorium yesterday at the age of seventy-five. The Remains were taken to Rocky Mount where the funeral was conducted today.

**GRANDPA PEARSALL**

*Wilson Daily Times*, September 24, 1913

Grandpa Pearsall, the dean of the letter carriers of this State, who has attended every convention of the R. F. D.'s is no more, having been gathered to his Father's in the 68th year of his age.

Mr. Pearsall contributed to the columns of the Times and while the paper was the organ of the rural carriers, was the corresponding secretary of the organization.

His brethren and friends will miss his genial smile and hearty handshake. At home he was known as the sage of Rocky Point where he lived the greater part of his life and leaves a wife and

four sons.

**SULAR DEW WILLIAMS  
MRS. WILLIAMS PASSES AWAY**

*Wilson Daily Times*, September 6, 1913 and September 9, 1913

Yesterday evening after an illness of six weeks Mrs. A. B. Williams, wife of Mr. A. B. Williams, passed away. She leaves her husband and two young children who survive her. Had Mrs. Williams lived to the sixth day of next October she would have been 35 years of age. She was born in the New Hope community and before her marriage was Miss Sula Dew. She had two brothers and one sister, Messrs. John and George Dew and Mrs. Batt Thompson.

Mr. Williams, husband of the deceased, is superintendent of the W. W. Simms Co. Her brother Mr. John Dew is connected with the same firm while Mr. George Dew is one of Wilson county's most prominent farmers. A sweeter and more lovable woman never lived and she leaves a host of friends who mourn her death.

The funeral services will be held this afternoon at New Hope church and will be conducted by Rev. T. W. Chambliss of the First Baptist church. The interment will be at the church burying ground. The pall bearers are as follows: Messrs W. M. Moss, R. A. Turlington, W. W. Simms, R. E. Hagan, E. B. Mayo and J. T. Rice.

[Editor's notes: Arthur Williams, 21, Nash Co. resident, married Sular Dew, 21, Wilson County resident, on Oct. 9, 1899, at the home of J. T. Dew, who was one of the witnesses. *Marriages of Wilson County, North Carolina, 1855-1899*, J. Robert Boykin, III

In 1900, Arthur Williams, b. in Oct. 1879, farmer; and his wife Sular, b. in Oct. 1879; lived in Taylors Township. George Dew, b. in Mar. 1874, farmer; and John T. Dew, b. Jan. 1870, farmer; lived next to them. *Wilson County, North Carolina, Federal Census of 1900*, Joan L. Howell and Janice C. Sharpe]

Sular Williams, b. 06 OCT 1878, d. 05 SEP 1913, wife of A. B. Williams; and A. B. Williams, b. 04 OCT 1878, d. 27 AUG 1920; were buried in the New Hope Church Cemetery on Hwy 58, near Hornes Church Road, in Taylors Twp. *Wilson County, North Carolina, Cemeteries—Volume III*, Joan L. Howell

**T. H. BEST**

**Contributed by J. Robert Boykin, III**

**Mr. Best No Better**

*Wilson Daily Times*, February 14, 1911

We regret to hear that the condition of Mr. T. H. Best, one of our most highly esteemed citizens, is no better, and that he has not regained consciousness since receiving his last stroke of paralysis ten days ago. His condition awakens the deepest solicitude of his hosts of friends all over the State, who feel the tenderest sympathy for his loved ones in their distressing suspense.

## ST. AUSTIN'S INSTITUTE

Contributed by J. Robert Boykin and  
Sue Evans Powell

[Editor's notes: A disagreement between the Primitive Baptists who had been operating the Wilson Male Academy and the Female Seminary led to the establishment of a new school in Wilson. Under the leadership of Moses Rountree and Wiley (Willie) Daniel, a new three story Methodist school was built. Dr. Charles Force Deems, noted Methodist minister and educator, was selected to head the new school.

Dr. Deems had been president of Greensboro Female College and had been instrumental in the establishment of Trinity College. Boys at the Deems school could take mathematics, physical sciences, ancient languages, belles lettres, physical instruction and military training. Girls could learn music, drawing, painting, and languages.

Due to the Civil War, both schools lost students, teachers, and income. In an effort to provide continuing education for the remaining students, the two schools merged at some point.

Dr. Deems and other Wilsonians began an effort to open a military college in Wilson for sons of fallen Confederates prior to July 1863. The effort seems to have been another casualty of the Battle of Gettysburg.

After the end of the war, David Sydney Richardson, former superintendent of the Wilson Male Academy and the Female Seminary, left for Mobile, and later California. Dr. Deems became minister of the Church of the Strangers in New York City. He had headed his academy in Wilson for four years.

*The Rise of a Southern Town, Wilson, North Carolina, 1849-1920*, Patrick M. Valentine]

Wilson, NC, 7th February 1861.

MY DEAR SIR:

I beg leave to call your attention to the character of my Schools, located in Wilson, N.C. on the Wilmington and Weldon Rail Road:

1. THE MALE SEMINARY is intended not only to prepare students thoroughly for any College or University, but to afford to such as design devoting themselves to the learned professions, or to business, just such instruction as may be necessary. In addition to this, the boys who are sufficiently large, (and all who come from a distance are,) for a corps in which they receive regular Military Drilling. All students have therefore the usual advantages of the Military Academies, and much more thorough Classical training than those Academies usually give, they design to enter professional life,—or, a more practical education, if they are to follow ordinary business pursuits. The drill is arranged so as not to interfere with the regular studies.

My ASSISTANTS in this department are *Prof. Thomas W. Peirce* and *Mr. John W. Dunham*. Mr. Peirce is a very superior linguist. When he graduated, he took the first honors in a class of fifty-three. He has been an assistant instructor in a *Military Institute*,

and has lately been Professor of Language in the Florida State Seminary at Tallahassee. Mr. Dunham has been a pupil of my own, and has distinguished himself in the department of Mathematics. He has also had military instruction. These gentlemen devote themselves to the Male Academy. They are both Southern men. The Academy has one large Hall for purposes of instruction, and several smaller rooms well adapted to separate recitation. It is built apart from other edifices, in a quiet portion of the town.

The PUPILS board in town with some of the most respectable families: Rev. Mr. Hudson, Maj. Gay, James Davis, Esq., Capt. Barden and W. S. Jordan, R. D. Johnston, Willie Daniel, W. D. Roundtree and Wm. Murray, Esqs., have consented to take our pupils as inmates of their families. I mention their names, because these gentlemen are so well known in this vicinity that parents will feel safe in entrusting the boys to them. If need be, other places will be made. These gentlemen take our pupils as *members of their families*, admit them to the parlors, take them at their own tables, and *by written contract, are responsible to me for seeing that their boarders are in lodgings every night from dark until morning*. The present arrangement of boarding is to exist until the times allow me to erect a larger edifice. Since my return from Europe I have given special attention to the school, and believe, what the gentlemen of the place, and my associates declare, that there is not a better behaved body of boys in the State than our pupils. I earnestly urge that no remittances of money be made to the boys, but to me or to some other member of the Faculty, stating how much monthly pocket money is to be allowed.

2. In the SEMINARY FOR YOUNG LADIES, I am endeavoring to impart a thorough training, together with the accomplishments a young lady should *know*—and shall advance the pupils just as their grade of intellect and application give them success. No showy parade of teachers is made. Occasional mistakes may be made in selecting instructors, but they will be supplanted by others, and really capable and faithful teachers will be retained at any price. In Music, we have a good supply of Pianos, and shall procure new ones as needed. I am negotiating for a very excellent teacher of *vocal* music. In Drawing and Painting, my teacher has been *proved*; and I have never seen pupils make *safer* progress. That department has been helped by my late trip abroad. French and Latin are taught, and Greek, if required.

THE YOUNG LADIES board with my own family in the Seminary, which is a large building, and they have the constant supervision of the teachers, and of a matron who is specially employed for that purpose. Our table, I am sure is, in its average, quite equal to that of the best boarding schools in the State; and I have visited the leading schools.

3. THE SCHOOLS are two squares apart, in the town—the pupils meeting only at lectures and in church. They will attend any church designated by

(continued on page 45)



their parents. They are not allowed to contract debts in town; and if any merchants induce them to violate this rule, I shall thank parents to inform me. We have a capitally selected apparatus, to which additions will be made. I am negotiating for a very fine Mineralogical cabinet, for which the University of California offered \$800, but being the property of a personal friend, he is arranging to put it in my possession. Lectures are delivered to both Schools weekly. One of the Professors has been delivering scientific lectures twice a month with the apparatus, and I am giving "Travel-Talks" in the alternate weeks, to render our pupils familiar with European subjects. I expect to extend this course by inviting other gentlemen. Monthly letters are written to parents, and more frequent communications are had when necessary, and I invite free and frank replies, that I may know what is necessary for the advancement of our pupils.

4. IT MAY be proper to say that I have sons and daughters, and have established these schools for the purpose of educating *them*, and a many of the children of my friends as may be intrusted [sic.] to me.

5. TERMS.—Our *fifth session* began on the 7th of February, and will close on the 27th of June. Pupils are received in either school and charged only from the date of their entrance until the close of their Session; but in case of protracted absence caused by sickness of the pupil, the loss is shared equally by the parent and the school.

IN THE MALE ACADEMY, the fee is \$100 a session. This will pay for tuition, board, washing, lights, fuel, incidentals, attendance on all the lectures, use of library and the regular books of the course. For \$150 a session, in addition to the above, the pupil will be furnished all the necessary uniform of the corps. But in every case, one-half must be paid in advance, and a note for the balance, due at the close of the session.

IN THE SEMINARY FOR YOUNG LADIES, the fees are regulated by the studies taken. The tuition varies from \$10 to \$25. French is \$10 a session. No extra charge for Latin. Music, with use of the Piano \$22.50. Oil Painting \$20. Drawing \$10. Each scholar is charged 75 cents a session for school-fuel, and \$1 for incidentals. Board, including room rent, washing and fuel, \$2.75 per week. A payment of \$50 is to be made at the beginning of the session, and all accounts bear interest from the 1st of July and 1st of January of each year.

I RESPECTFULLY request that you will consider the claims of these schools to your patronage, and exhibit this circular to such of your friends as have wards or children.

Very truly yours,

CHARLES F. DEEMS.

[Editor's note: Fonts and italics typed as in the original.]



"This house, at 200 W. Green St., was built in 1853 as the Wilson Male Academy and was a twin to the Dr. James Gorham Home [pictured below] which housed the Wilson Female Academy. The school was sold in 1863 to Dr. Charles F. Deems. He sold the building in 1866 to Thomas C. Davis who lived there until he sold the building in 1897 to Silas Lucas. The extensive Victorian changes were made during Lucas' residence. In 1907, Silas Lucas sold the house to his son-in-law, J. T. Barnes," president of the Boykin Grocery Company. The house has been designated as a Landmark property. [Photos: City of Wilson Archives]



"In 1853, a group of Wilson citizens erected this building on the corner of Goldsboro and Academy Streets for a female seminary. The property was purchased in 1861 by Enterprise Lodge 100F who sold it to Dr. James E. Gorham, a prominent physician who moved to Wilson that year." After his death, "his wife and children continued to occupy the house until 1903" when Dr. E. T. Dickinson purchased it. In the 1880's several porches, the bay window and some rear wings were added. Dickinson moved it to its present location at 200 W. Vance Street. This house is also designated as a Landmark property. [See definition on page 47.] [Wilson, North Carolina, Historic Buildings Inventory, Second Printing, Robert C. Bainbridge, Kate Ohno]

## HE RECALLED 19TH CENTURY WILSON LIFE

*Wilson Daily Times*, February 24, 1984

(About 1922 Jonas Oettinger wrote a brief but valuable account of his impressions of Wilson as experienced over a half-century of residence here. The manuscript was discovered in 1963 by Mrs. Ivan Wolf.)

During my first years in Wilson, besides a comparatively small crop of cotton, the other items of commerce were: rosin, pine wood, fat lightwood knots, fodder, split-bottom chairs, watermelons, chickens, eggs, etc. The corner of Nash and Tarboro was headquarters, and several ox teams loaded with these items could be seen there almost any time. These were rarely sold for cash, being usually bartered for merchandise.

At the time I came to Wilson, it was a town of not to exceed 1,200 persons. The only brick buildings in the town were the Court House, the Ed Clark building on Barnes Street near the railroad, and three one-story brick stores just being completed at the corner of Nash and Tarboro (our present store site).

The passenger depot was on the other side of the railroad south of Barnes Street, and most of the residences of the town were below Tarboro Street. It was several years afterward that Barnes Street was opened from Tarboro to Pine.

When the first houses were being built in Mr. Wylie Daniels' pear orchard, which we now know as Park Avenue west of Board Street, we thought the owners were building clean out of town. On Nash Street there were very few houses further up than Jackson Street (the [former] Presbyterian Church corner), and only a very few between there and Tarboro Street on either side of Nash.

Everyone had their houses fenced in, from necessity, as cattle, hogs, and chickens had full and free use of the streets, and at night we had to pick our way around tree roots, hogwallows and cattle lying in the streets. We had no paved streets or sidewalks, no water, sewerage or lighting system. Our only fire department was a bucket brigade of citizens with a water supply drawn from open wells by means of buckets at the end of long wooden well-sweeps.

The first pumps (small wooden ones) brought to town were as much of a novelty as was the La France engine in later years. The well-to-do used small kerosene oil lamps for lighting purposes; others used candles or tallow dips.

The first street lighting system was authorized on June 20, 1872, and consisted of 20 lamp posts at \$1.25 each, with 20 lamps at \$3.75 each. On July 15, 1872, it was ordered that the Chief of Police see that the lamps were lighted and kept in proper condition. This arrangement evidently did not work satisfactorily, for on Aug. 6, 1873, it was ordered that the lamplighter be allowed \$5 per month.

On July 8, 1879, the records tell us that G. H. Horn was employed as lamplighter and superinten-

dent of cemeteries, to give his entire attention thereto, at the price of \$25 per month. On Dec. 31, 1879, the same party contracted with the town to light the lamps, keep the same in repair, furnish oil, lamp chimneys and wicks, and keep both cemeteries in order, for \$40 per month, and what he could make at the cemeteries.

From this you will see that the old cemetery, which was located on the site of Smith's Warehouse and marked the limit of town in that direction, still existed as late as 1880. Incidentally, don't forget that when the lamplighter was a few minutes later in making his rounds, or miscalculated the moon, the kicking was just as hard as it is now when something goes wrong at the electric light plant.

The importance of the town's enterprises during those early years can best be judged by the fact that the entire amount of taxes collected for all town purposes for the quarter ending Oct. 31, 1872, was \$656.36. That it had not yet thought of putting on city airs will be realized when I tell you truthfully that it was not of infrequent occurrence to hear the hounds baying in the distance and later to see them chasing through the streets a rabbit which they had just jumped in the nearby woods. We were real boys in those days just as boys have been in every other day. For several years we dubbed ourselves regulators and kept the town guessing as to who it was that took gates off the hinges and deposited them in the neighbors' yards, moved wagons, carts, etc., from lot to lot, etc.

Also, we objected to chicken coops in the streets in front of merchants' stores and kept them, chickens and all, on the move constantly. I remember distinctly that one night six or eight of us moved one weighing several hundred pounds from the corner of Nash and Tarboro streets (Mr. Steve Wells, I think, was proprietor of the store) to Hooper's School yard (where Mr. Jim Wiggins now lives). Should we have been asked to do it, we probably would have struck for a dollar each. The first gymnasium in Wilson was located in the old foundry which stood about where Mr. Will Walls' house now stands and was started by Doug Hackney, Bud Warren, several other boys, and myself. We had horizontal bars, rings, Indian clubs, padded gloves, etc., and we surely did have some scraps trying to knock each other out.

Above all else, I am grateful that there are several families in Wilson whom it has been my privilege to cater to for five generations. And when Dick Grantham's granddaughter comes shopping, she will be the first of the sixth generation, as Aunt Betsy Woodard was among those I waited on during my first months in Wilson. Aunt Betsy was the mother of William, Calvin, Warren and Jim Woodard. Miss Mollie, daughter of Calvin, married Tommy Daniel; Mrs. Grantham is her daughter. Tom Grantham is of the fifth generation, and little Jean the sixth. Also, we have in our own household a merry little sunshine representing the fifth generation of Aunt Betsy.



## WCGS MARCH MEETING MINUTES

The March 29th meeting of the Wilson County Genealogical Society was held in the assembly room of the Wilson County Public Library at 7 pm. Joan Howell welcomed those assembled and reminded everyone to check the announcements in *TREES*, making note of the RootsMagic software partnership with Ancestry, and of the meeting in New Bern on April 17th featuring speaker John Brayton, Historian of the Order of First Families of North Carolina.

Lois Bass brought in some old family jewelry to show the group. The treasurer's report was given by Wanda Lamm. Sue Powell told the Society that WCGS has recently donated 29 books to the Local History and Genealogy Room that concern Wilson and surrounding counties and parts of Virginia. There will be other donations very soon. Will Robinson, Wilson County Local History and Genealogy Librarian thanked the Society for the donations.

Robinson is currently working on indexing Wilson County deeds. He said that it is a time consuming, but worthwhile effort. Volunteers are needed and welcome to assist with this undertaking. Some of those present suggested that the Society investigate the feasibility of hiring someone to help record the church and deed records for Wilson County. The board will consider the suggestion at the next meeting of the board.

The speaker for the evening was Stewart Dunaway. The topic of the evening was "The History of Roads, Bridges, Ferries, and Mills." He told the audience that these records are a gold mine of information and are underutilized by genealogists and historians alike. Dunaway has published 153 books on county records, 30 general history books, and 6 Revolutionary War books. His books present scanned images of the original documents and a short transcript. Twenty six of his books are in the Wilson County Public Library.

He noted that Edgecombe has great mill records. There are hundreds of names and locations listed in these records, a place to look for those ancestors who were born too early to have a birth or death certificate recorded. Migration patterns and economic conditions can be tracked through these records. Dunaway did a great job of pointing out resources that one would not ordinarily think of to help find those elusive ancestors.

The evening concluded with adjournment to the hallway for refreshments.

Respectfully submitted,  
Deborah Webb, secretary

William Rand Kenan, Jr.

**WCGS Publications:** Please call or write for a catalog with complete details, or order and pay on our web site.

[www.wcgs.org](http://www.wcgs.org)

**Note:** Please see next page for additional items that are available for purchase.

Census records abstracted by J. Albert Bass with family data added from his files.

1880 Wilson County, Black Creek Township	\$32.00
1880 Wilson County, Crossroads Township	\$22.00
1900 Wilson County, Spring Hill Township	\$16.00
1850 Johnston County, District 9	\$16.00
1850 Johnston County, District 10	\$26.00
1860 Johnston County, East of the Neuse	\$23.00

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### • Genes & Genealogy: DNA Testing Basics

The N. C. Genealogical Society will co-sponsor a full-day workshop with the Durham-Orange Genealogical Society, Saturday, 21 May 2016, 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., St. Thomas More Catholic Church Friends and Family Hall, 940 Carmichael Street, Chapel Hill, NC 27514. Register on the NCGS website by 11 May 2016 to be guaranteed the workshop packet and to order lunch.

Patti Hobbs, CG, featured speaker, will present four sessions:

DNA Testing: Beginning Steps

Y-DNA and Mitochondrial DNA: Particular Tests for Particular Purposes

Autosomal DNA: Testing for All Genealogical Lines

Autosomal DNA: Analyzing Your Results

During lunch, participants will have the option of attending demonstrations of the DNA-related tools available on the websites of the testing companies, Ancestry, 23 and Me, and Family Tree DNA.

### • Edgecombe County Genealogical Society

usually meets at the Edgecombe County Memorial Library, in Tarboro, N. C., at 7:00 pm on the third Thursday of each month.

• **Greene County Family Researchers** meets on the third Thursday of the month at 7:30 pm at the Greene County Museum in Snow Hill, N. C.

• **Old Dobbs Genealogical Society** meets at 10:30 am the third Saturday of each calendar quarter, at the Wayne County Public Library, Goldsboro, N. C.

• **Tar River Connections Genealogical Society** meets at 6:30 pm on the 3rd Tuesday of each month, except Dec., at the Braswell Memorial Library in Rocky Mount, N. C.

• **Pitt County Family Researchers** meet at 7:00 pm, on the third Tuesdays, at Sheppard Memorial Library, 530 Evans St., Greenville, N. C.

• **Farmville, N. C., Ancestor Seekers** meet 10 am to 12 noon the second Saturday of each month at the Farmville Public Library.

## LANDMARK PROPERTY

A property determined to have significance for its architecture, history, and/or association with a community leader.

1870 Johnston County, Bulah Township	\$10.00
1850 Wayne County, North of the Neuse	\$65.00
1860 Wayne County, Davis District	\$ 5.00
1860 Wayne County, Fork District	\$ 5.00
1860 Wayne County, Nahunta District	\$16.00
1860 Wayne County, Pikeville District	\$ 5.00
1870 Wayne County, Holden Township	\$10.00
1870 Wayne County, Nahunta Township	\$12.00
1880 Wayne County, Great Swamp Township	\$14.00
1880 Wayne County, Nahunta Township	\$18.00
1900 Wayne County, Great Swamp Township	\$ 6.00
1900 Wayne County, Nahunta Township	\$13.00

## Trees of Wilson

Family Chronicles of the  
**Wilson County  
Genealogical Society**  
P.O. Box 802  
Wilson, NC 27894  
252-243-1660  
[www.wcgs.org](http://www.wcgs.org)

*19th Century Life in Wilson,  
Best, Deems,  
Obituaries, Robbins,  
St. Austin's Institute, Warren*

April 2016



WTTXS-E-RES & Serials MGMT  
PO BOX 8890  
Davis Library CB #3938  
Chapel Hill, NC 27514-8890

### Books

— Barnes Narratives	\$12.00
— Thataway, Barnes Individuals Born in North Carolina Who Moved Elsewhere	\$6.00
— They Moved Away - North Carolinians Who Went to Other States	\$10.00
— Wilson County, North Carolina, Census of 1860.	\$30.00
— Wilson County, North Carolina, Census of 1870.	\$25.00
— Wilson County, North Carolina, Census of 1880.	\$40.00
— Wilson County, North Carolina, Census of 1900.	\$40.00
— Wilson County, North Carolina, Marriages, 1855-1899	\$75.00
— Wilson County, North Carolina, Cemeteries Volume I	\$30.00
— Wilson County, North Carolina, Cemeteries Volume II	\$30.00
— Wilson County, North Carolina, Cemeteries Volume III	\$25.00
— Wilson County, North Carolina, Cemeteries Volume IV	\$30.00
— Wilson County, North Carolina, Cemeteries Volume V	\$35.00
— Wilson County's Architectural Heritage	\$20.00
— Wilson, North Carolina, Historical Properties Inventory	\$20.00
— Wilson County's Founding Families	\$55.00

### Maps

— Wilson County Historical Map	\$5.00
— Confederate Field Maps #1, #2, #3, #4	(State choice) each at \$5.00
— Town of Wilson, Map 1872	\$5.00
— Town of Wilson, Map 1882	\$5.00
— Wilson County Waterways	\$5.00
(tax and shipping included on previous items only)	

### Miscellaneous

— Cemetery Finder (paper) donation	\$5.00
— Wilson Co. Estates Inventory (paper) donation	\$5.00

**Note:** Please see previous page for additional items.

**WCGS Publications:** please call or write for a catalog with complete details, or order and pay on our web site.

[www.wcgs.org](http://www.wcgs.org)

**Payment and shipping:** Shipping cost for each book is \$5.00 (\$10.00 for *Wilson County Marriages*, a set of two books). Shipping cost for maps is \$5.00 for 1-4 items. Add 6.75% sales tax for NC residents on merchandise total (not on shipping).

Total of items ordered \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Shipping \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Sales Tax \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Total of Order \$ \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Check Enclosed

Ship to: \_\_\_\_\_

Street \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Please enroll me as a member of WCGS. I enclose \$20 for personal membership & subscription to *Trees*. Please allow 3-5 weeks for shipping on all orders. You may order books & membership through our website. <http://www.wcgs.org>.





# TREES OF WILSON

*Wilson's Family Heritage*

Chronicles of the  
Wilson County Genealogical Society



May 2016

TWENTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY

Volume 25 Number 5

## Editor's Message

### HELP WANTED!

Your society  
needs your help!

As you know, the society is functioning without a president. Joan Howell, our vice-president, is presiding at the membership and board meetings and continues to keep us going. However, we need persons who are willing to assume the leadership positions.

Horace Peele built our website many years ago and has been our web master ever since. He has asked to be relieved of that responsibility. We need someone who will assume the task of updating the website when changes/additions need to be made. You do not have to live in Wilson County to do this.

Will Robinson, Genealogy Librarian, at the Wilson County Public Library, has started to transcribe the Wilson County land deeds. He has asked for the society's assistance to move the project along faster. He would print pages from the microfilm, and they would be mailed to you for you to transcribe at your home on your schedule. You would return your work to us (via email if possible). This will be a big project and many persons would make it move along faster.

Think about what you can do to help WCGS and Wilson County researchers.

Please mark your calendars for these 2016 meetings:

Sept. 27 to be announced  
Oct. 25 Martha Gay Morton, Land Records, Where to Find Them and How to Use Them  
Nov. 29 Annual Meeting

## Wilson County Public Library Genealogy and Local History Room, April 26th

Please join us for our meeting on May 31st in the Assembly Room at the library. Ask at the reception desk for directions.

Ashley Yandle will speak on "An Introduction to Online Research Tools from the State Archives of North Carolina." "Online Research Tools" is an overview of digital resources available from the State Archives and State Library of North Carolina, as well as selected state and national initiatives. The focus will be on digitized sources that are most useful to genealogists, such as newspapers, Bible records, military pensions and vouchers, and other archival materials. Please see the inserted handout.

Ashley Yandle is the Digital Access Manager for the State Archives of North Carolina. Ashley has worked for the State Archives since 2001 and has a Master's of Library Science from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

The North Carolina Digital Collection (NCDC) is a joint project of the State Archives and State Library of North Carolina. The goal of the North Carolina Digital Collections is to support instructional and research needs related to the history and culture of North Carolina.

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## WILSON BUSINESSES

*Wilson Daily Times*, January 10, 1950

Young Merchant



In 1885, one of the most promising young businessmen in the town of Wilson was J. T. Rountree, who was associated with the business house of Rountree, Barnes and company, gen-

eral merchants, cotton buyers, dealers in guano and wagons.

*The Wilson Advance*, January 5, 1893, Excerpts from "Local"

The firm of Weaver & Clark is dissolved. Mr. Clark will continue the business at the old stand.

Crawford is a stylish, tasty, and good tailor. If you need anything in his line call and see him.

*The Wilson Advance*, January 12, 1893, Excerpts from "Local"

Gay's is the place for bargains in clothing and dry goods.

E. R. Gay still leads on Rubbers boots—having sold more in the last two weeks than all the other merchants in town for two years past.

Mr. W. B. Young has purchased the stock of goods formerly owned by Mr. W. J. Harriss.

*The Wilson Advance*, February 23, 1893, Excerpt from "Local"

Edgar R. Gay is a "fixy" man. To prove this you will only have to take a peep at the tasty way in which he decorates his windows. Not only the windows look prim, but he himself is prim and his prim corps of prim clerks are

(continued on page 53)

## Trees of Wilson — WCGS

This chronicle is published by the Wilson County Genealogical Society, organized February 26, 1991. Address: P.O. Box 802, Wilson, NC 27894 -0802. Telephone 252-243-1660. Internet address: <http://www.wcgs.org>

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Materials of genealogical interest to the members of WCGS are accepted for publication at the discretion of the Editors and should pertain to families with connections in Wilson County and its neighboring and parent counties. WCGS cannot accept any responsibility for the content of contributed materials, including errors and omissions. Please direct any questions to the contributor. Their names and addresses will be provided upon request for worthwhile purposes.

Transcripts of original records are recorded with the original spelling and punctuation.

Queries from WCGS members are accepted and posted at [WilsonNC@yahoogroups.com](mailto:WilsonNC@yahoogroups.com)

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Email: [wcgs@earthlink.net](mailto:wcgs@earthlink.net)

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## GREAT WILSONIANS

Contributed by Perry Morrison

[Editor's note: At our April 2015 meeting, Mr. Morrison presented a most enjoyable program, in the format of a "Jeopardy" game, about Wilsonians "who have participated on the national stage." They have had a connection with Wilson but were also notable outside of North Carolina. With his permission, we will include the descriptions of the persons in *Trees of Wilson* and hope you will enjoy trying to name them. The answer will be hidden somewhere within the same issue of *Trees*.

I was a minister, but I was quite fond of learning. I founded both male and female seminaries in Wilson in 1853. My family and I lived in the female seminary at the corner of Vance and Pine Streets that still stands today. I left Wilson in 1861 at the time of the beginning of the "Late Unpleasantness." After the war, I ended up in New York City where I founded a church known as the "Church of the Strangers." One of my parishioners was Cornelius Vanderbilt. I became friends with Vanderbilt and convinced him to use a part of his fortune to endow an institution of higher education. I am given credit for being one of the five people who worked together to found Vanderbilt University in Nashville, TN.

## WILSON FIRE DEPARTMENT'S OYSTER ROAST

Contributed by J. Robert Boykin

### A Fine Oyster Roast.

*Wilson Daily Times*, January 21, 1914

Wilson Firemen gave a delightful oyster roast in the market house last evening and shared the pleasures of the occasion with a number of their friends. The firemen made excellent hosts not only by having plenty of the bivalves [sic] on hand with ample pickles, crackers and seasoning, but were kept busy opening the luscious inhabitants of the deep which were served to the guests arranged around the long table.

Wilson's fire department is composed of enterprising public spirited citizens, gentlemen, who take a deep interest in the organization and are serving for the pride and glory they feel in the city and its welfare.

The very small loss occasioned by fires in Wilson is due in a large measure to their activity and efficiency.

The following members are enrolled:

Messrs. E. F. Killette, Chief; C. H. Killette, A. L. Lancaster, R. B. Pool, Willie Welfare, A. G. Duke, Perry Godwin, J. G. Overman, J. E. Alphin, E. E. Winstead, L. K. Wilkins, James Roberts, V. C. Martin, R. E. Batten and E. F. Nadal.





## THIRSTY! JUST WHISTLE

*The Wilson Daily Times*, March ?, 1961

Whistle was a popular drink—orange flavor—bottled in Wilson between 1917 and 1924, and there are many here who remember it. A few details vary but the general information concerning the bottling company are [sic] relatively the same.

The interest in Whistle started Feb. 15 when *The Daily Times* ran a picture of the bottle with Whistle on it, found by H. T. Herring, Jr., in the woods near his home on Walstonburg, RFD. He queried Whiz Quiz and with no success until the picture of the bottle appeared in the newspaper.

And this is the gist of the information received from many sources:

The bottling company was located in the third building on the left side of the second block beginning at Barnes and S. Goldsboro streets. Boykin Grocery Company was on the corner of Goldsboro and Barnes, next came the Merchants Produce Company, operated by W. J. Williams, and next was the wholesale grain and feed business operated by Kirby Woodard. The bottling company was in the rear of the building and this was where Whistle was bottled.

To advertise this popular drink, out in front of the building was a large bottle mounted on a pole with Whistle painted on it.

Caney Brown, who owned a bottling company on Barnes St., consolidated his company with Kirby Woodard's feed and grain business and this is when the bottling operation began. Next to the bottling company was the wholesale grocery business owned by Herbert Woodard.

Somewhere along the way the firm of W. H. Woodard and Sons came into being, which was a consolidation of the businesses of W. H. Woodard and his sons Herbert and Kirby, and this included the bottling company as Caney Brown had sold his interest to Kirby Woodard.

Other drinks bottled were Pepsi Cola and Nu-Grape but Whistle was the most popular. It also had a catchy slogan, "Thirsty! Just Whistle." J. R. Shannon was the city salesman and bookkeeper until 1923 when Shannon, E. J. Harrell and H. W. Walker left the firm to form the Acme Candy Company. Harrell worked as a shipping clerk for Woodard Bros. from 1914 to 1923.

Paul Braswell, of Braswell Equipment Company, was one who gave the newspaper information which started the hunt for more. When a small boy he would help his relative, James Calvin Farmer, deliver the drinks on Saturday. Mrs. Nellie Farmer, widow of James Farmer, said her husband ran a delivery truck for the bottling company until some time [sic] in 1922. According to information given to *The Daily Times* the drink of Whistle was not made after Herbert Woodard went out of business around 1924.

To illustrate the interest in Whistle, *The Daily Times* received a letter from Bill Brown, 207 York Drive, Portsmouth, Va., who had seen a picture of

the Whistle bottle in *The Daily Times*.

The *Norfolk Ledger Star* has the same type feature as Whiz Quiz only the name is Hot Line. A bottle carrying the Whistle trademark was found buried in the ground in Norfolk. The one who found it wrote to Hot Line asking information on the subject.

Brown, being a subscriber of *The Daily Times*, sent the clipping from the *Norfolk Ledger Star* and this is what Hot Line had to say: "Whistle was a lime-flavored soft drink that was bottled in Norfolk from 1919 to 1925, according to a local bottle collector. Many pop companies sprang up in the area at that time, nurtured by the Prohibition thirst. However, few of them survived since lime isn't much of a substitute for what Prohibition prohibited."

[Editor's notes: With the use of a computer today, newspaper features such as "Whiz Quiz" and "Hot Line" are not needed to find information about an artifact. A search for Whistle today results in vintage "Whistle" products available for purchase. Apparently, the drink "Whistle" was bottled in several places in the eastern United States and for a longer time than the Wilson bottling plant. Below are several "Whistle" bottles and a bottle cap found online available for purchase. Only one was likely of the same time period of the Wilson bottler.]



The bottle on the left was posted as being from the 1920's.



**WILEY BRONSON MERCER FAMILY**  
Contributed by Jane Salmon

Photo Contributed by Barbara Ferrell and  
Edna Woolard



Mercer Family at the Home Place, originally built in the late 1800s.

In this picture, dated about 1907, are descendants of Wiley Bronson and Elizabeth T. Mercer. Wiley was a civil war soldier of the 55th N. C. Regiment and was at the surrender of Confederate forces at Appomattox. According to his son Larry D. Mercer, when Wiley walked home from Appomattox, his only provision was a jar of molasses. He then made a cross bow and arrows in order to hunt for food.

In 1867, Wiley married Elizabeth "Betsy" Tomlinson. She was the daughter of Warren Tomlinson and Charity Worrell Tomlinson.

Wiley and Elizabeth had nine children: Frances "Fanny" Virginia, John Daniel, James Gary, Mary Lou Emma, Martha Ann, Lawrence "Larry" Douglas, Charlie May Warren, Effie Cornelia, and Robert Lee. They were all members of the Lower Black Creek Primitive Baptist church, and several of the sons served as Elders and Deacons in the church. They were baptized there along with many members of the Black Creek Community.

The wine prepared for communion was made from the black muscadine grapes Wiley Bronson grew on his grapevines on his farm.

Wiley and Elizabeth lived on the farm with her sister Martha Ann Tomlinson, assisted by the housekeeper Sally Woodard (who appears in the picture). Wiley and Elizabeth both died in 1922.

The Mercer families continued living in and around Black Creek as tobacco farmers. Larry Mercer and his family lived in the home place, which would later pass down to his son Bronson Mercer and his wife Willie Rogerson Mercer. The old home place is located on the Mercer farm on Blalock Road.

W. B. Mercer's children and their spouses were:

Fanny Mercer married Joseph Daniel,  
John Daniel married Ophelia Hatcher,  
James Gary married Addie Thompson,  
Mary Lou Emma married Benjamin Dickerson,  
Martha Ann married Stephen Tomlinson,  
Lawrence "Larry" Douglas married Nora Farmer,  
Charlie May Warren married Nettie Owens,  
Esther Britt,  
Effie Cornelia married Sid Bass,  
Robert Lee married Maggie Moore.

Ethel Mercer Murray and Myrtle Mercer Lamm provided the identification of the persons in this photograph. They prefaced their work with these statements. "This family photograph was taken at the home of our grandparents, Wiley B. and Elizabeth T. Mercer. Their nine children were John, Larry, Gary, Charlie, Robert, Fannie, Mary, Martha Ann, and Effie. We believe this picture was made

*(continued on page 53)*



(Wiley Bronson Mercer, continued from page 52)

around 1907 because our father, Charlie Mercer, is holding our brother Luther in his arms. Luther was born on August 16, 1907, and died on September 14, 1910. In this picture, it appears Luther is only a few months old according to the way our father is holding him. No leaves on the trees and the warm clothing being worn in the picture lead us to believe that this photograph was taken around the winter of 1907."

#### **First Row—Pictured Left to Right**

Channie and Charlie, twin sons of Gary and Addie T. Mercer; Chalmers, son of Gary and Addie T. Mercer; Addie Bass, daughter of Sid and Effie M. Bass; Mae Bass, daughter of Sid and Effie M. Bass; Madeline Dickerson, daughter of Ben and Mary M. Dickerson; Lutoria Mercer, daughter of Charlie and Nettie O. Mercer; Adolphus Mercer, son of Charlie and Nettie O. Mercer; Mamie Mercer, daughter of John and Ovelia Mercer; Georgia Tomlinson, daughter of Stephen and Martha Ann M. Tomlinson; Lossie Tomlinson, daughter of Stephen and Martha Ann M. Tomlinson; Betty Dickerson, daughter of Ben and Mary M. Dickerson; Mattie Mercer, daughter of John and Ovelia Mercer; Minnis Mercer, daughter of John and Ovelia Mercer; Amy Mercer, daughter of Gary and Addie T. Mercer; Alma Mercer, daughter of Gary and Addie T. Mercer; P. J. Thompson, visitor; Lillie Daniel, daughter of Joe and Fannie M. Daniel; Dewey Dickerson, son of Ben and Mary M. Dickerson; Willard Mercer, son of John and Ovelia Mercer; Walter Mercer, son of John and Ovelia Mercer.

#### **Second Row—Pictured Left to Right**

Addie T. Mercer and Gary Mercer; Sid Bass and Effie Bass holding sons Russell Bass and Ernest Bass; Wiley Daniel, son of Joe and Fannie M. Daniel; Charlie Mercer and Nettie O. Mercer holding son Luther; Ovelia and John Mercer holding daughter Claudia; Larry and Nora F. Mercer; Martha Ann M. and Stephen Tomlinson holding son Clifton.

#### **Third Row—Pictured Left to Right**

Joe Daniel and Fannie M. Daniel; Wiley Bronson Mercer and Elizabeth Tomlinson Mercer, [Ethel and Myrtle's grandparents].

#### **Fourth Row—Pictured Left to Right**

Sally Woodard, housekeeper for our grandparents and later for Uncle Larry when his wife, Nora, passed away. Lena Daniel, daughter of Joe and Fannie M. Daniel; Naomi Daniel, daughter of Joe and Fannie M. Daniel; Luther Daniel, son of Joe and Fannie M. Daniel; Robert Mercer, son of Wiley and Elizabeth T. Mercer; Lucretia Daniel, daughter of Joe and Fannie M. Daniel; Ben Dickerson and Mary M. Dickerson holding daughter Lois.

(Wilson Businesses, continued from page 49)

always pleased to wait on bargain gathers.

Clothing! Clothing!—New line just arrived. Clothing department up stairs, at E. R. Gay's.

Tobacco! Clothing!—Our sales on it are immense at E. R. Gay's.

## **CONTENTNEA WAS ONCE SHIPPING LANE**

Eddie Wooten, *Daily Times Intern.*

*The Wilson Daily Times*, February 24, 1984

The Contentnea Creek has never been the size of a major creek, say the Mississippi River, but its importance to the community around what is now Wilson was just as grand in the late 1700s and early 1800s.

Once known as the Moccasin River, the Contentnea was a major shipping lane from the area at Wiggins Mill to New Bern. From the mid-1750s to 1840, the stream was used for shipment of valuable commodities used by the country's early Navy, according to county historian Hugh B Johnston Jr. Materials such as pine tar, rosin and turpentine were taken from the area's forests and loaded on flat boats manned by one or more persons and floated to the Neuse. There, the goods were shipped by larger boats to other ports for processing.

The main shippers of such materials were Capt. Stephen Cobb of what was then the Dobbs County militia, and William White, an area merchant, both of whom apparently shipped from Cobb's Landing. Cobb was the first to use the stream to its fullest advantage around 1773. Johnston said White probably began shipping around 1808.

Cobb's Mill was on the south side of the creek in then Wayne County, with a portion in Edgecombe on the northern side. His main shipping consisted of timber.

Growth of the stream as a shipping mode caused the establishment of an inspection station at Cobb's Landing in 1790. Cobbs's Landing was located near the present intersection of U.S. 301 and U.S. 117.

In 1811, another inspection point for Naval stores was set up at Rountree's Bridge and Landing, which was named for the Moses Rountree family. The state inspector checked the commodities to make sure they were good enough for shipping. The landing was on the present Secondary Road 1613 [known today as Frank Price Church Road], about 2½ miles southeast of Cobb's.

Two other landings in Wilson County included Simm's Landing on current secondary Road 1622 [known today as Evansdale Road] between Black Creek and Evansdale, and Stanton's Landing on the present N.C. 222 just west of Stantonsburg. With the growth of the Hickory Grove area, shipping continued to be popular. In 1813, a group formed the Contentnea Navigation Co., which was created for the purpose of clearing the creek of sand banks, fallen logs and other debris that hindered passage of the flat boats.

Johnston said the company apparently failed to operate for a long period, and in 1840, the coming of the train signaled the eventual end of shipping by flatboat on Contentnea Creek. The Wilmington and Weldon [Railroad], as it was later known, became the major method of shipping goods.

## OBITUARIES

Contributed by J. Robert Boykin, III

### MRS. RACHEL APPLEWHITE DIES

*Wilson Daily Times*, August 14, 1913

At her home this morning on West Gold street, Mrs. Rachel Applewhite passed away. The funeral services will be conducted at 9 o'clock tomorrow morning from her home. She was a consistent member of the Christian church. The funeral services will be conducted by Rev. M. Bradshaw of the Methodist church.

The deceased left two daughters Misses Lula and Anna.

[Editor's notes: In 1900, William Applewhite, b. Jul 1840, farmer; and his wife of nine years Rachel O., b. Feb 1859, two births, both living; lived in Stantonburg Township. Their daughters Cora, b. Dec 1867; Lillie, b. Sep 1891; and Annde Z., b. Jul 1895; and a boarder John F. Wheeler, b. Jan 1878, farm laborer; lived with them. *Wilson County, North Carolina, Federal Census of 1900*, Joan L. Howell and Janice C. Sharpe, page 187

Rachel Olivia Applewhite, b. 13 Feb 1859, d. 14 Aug 1913, wife of W. H. Applewhite, was buried in the Bagley/Applewhite/Whitley Cemetery west of Hwy 58, near the intersection with Hwy 222, in Stantonburg Township. Other Applewhites buried there were Henry Applewhite, b. 03 Oct 1806, d. 29 Nov 1849; Lucretia Ann, b. 02 May 1840, d. 18 Feb 1862, wife of Jonathan Applewhite; Orpha (Pike) Applewhite, b. 21 Oct 1806, d. 11 Aug 1896, wife of Henry Applewhite; Virginia Applewhite, b. 26 Nov 1846, d. 30 Apr 1887, wife of W. H. Applewhite; and William H. Applewhite, b. 28 Jul 1840, d. 09 Oct 1903 (Civil War marker). *Wilson County, North Carolina, Cemeteries—Volume I*, Joan L. Howell, page 6]

### MR. GEORGE BAKER DEAD

*Wilson Daily Times*, August 28, 1913

At his home in Wilbanks yesterday, Mr. George Baker, a well known and prominent farmer of that community, passed away. Mr. Baker was about 50 years of age. He leaves a wife and several children, besides a host of friends who mourn his death.

Mr. Baker was a prosperous farmer, a good citizen and a true friend and the community has suffered a distinct loss by his death.

[Editor's notes: George Baker, 24, and Alsey Baker, 19, both Wilson Co. residents, were married on June 19, 1887, at the home of Frank Webb. Witnesses were B. W. Barnes, J. T. Barnes, and James Bridgers. *Marriages of Wilson County, North Carolina, 1855-1899*, J. Robert Boykin, III, page 29.

In 1900, George Baker, b. Sep 1860, farmer; and his wife of 13 years, Alice, b. Nov. 1867, 6 births, 6 living children; lived in Gardners Township. Their children Maggie, b. Sep 1887; Effie, b. Mar 1889; Flonnie, b. Sep 1891; Floyd, b. May 1893; Pattie, b. Feb 1895; Paul, b. Jul 1899; and

George's brother Frank, b. May 1855, farm laborer; lived with them. *Wilson County, North Carolina, Federal Census of 1900*, Joan L. Howell and Janice C. Sharpe, page 73.

Alsie Baker, b. 05 Mar 1868, d. 27 Jun 1954, wife of George Baker; and George Baker, b. 18 Sep 1862, d. 28 Aug 1913, husband of Alsie, were buried in the Baker Cemetery on Webb Lake Road near the intersection with Gardner's School Road in Gardners Township. Other Bakers buried in that cemetery were Effie E. Baker, b. 27 Mar 1889, d. 11 Jun 1912, dau. of Geo. and Alsie Baker; Jack Baker, b. 11 Mar 1828, d. 22 May 1891, husband of Nancy; Nancy Baker, d. 28 Mar 1895, wife of Jack Baker; Paul Baker, b. 05 Jul 1899, d. 20 Oct 1933, son of Geo. and Elsie Jane Baker; and William Jackson Baker, 03 Mar 1926, Pvt 323 Inf. 81 Div. *Wilson County, North Carolina, Cemeteries—Volume I*, Joan L. Howell, page 8]

### MRS. MATTIE BYNUM

*Wilson Daily Times*, August 9, 1913

The many friends of Mrs. Mattie Bynum who has been very low for several days will regret to learn of her death. She passed away at 6 o'clock Saturday morning and her remains were interred in her church burying grounds at 11 o'clock Sunday morning. We extend our sympathy to the bereaved husband and relatives.

### HENRY CAMPBELL DANCE

*Wilson Daily Times*, August 12, 1913

#### IN MEMORIAM

"When the last sunshine of expiring day  
In summer's twilight weeps itself away."

There passed into the Great Beyond the soul of Henry Campbell Dance, July 14th, 1913.

As was his life, so was his death, patient in suffering gentle indeed, quietly he went to sleep; not a sigh, save in tender care for those he loved. As in life, so in death his last thoughts were only of their suffering and pain. To them, his family, and to his friends he was the soul of patience and kindness. Always proving the endurance that only a quiet, big heart can know.

He was member of the Episcopal church, and the love of his faith was a part of his gentle nature. When the way seemed hard his thoughts were drawn to the hymn he loved, ...

Henry Campbell Dance was born in Powhatan Co., Va., July 6th, 1873 where he spent his early life. He lived for several years in Danville, VA. From there he moved to Wilson in 1898, and was happily married to Miss Gladys Clark. Of his married life I shall not attempt to write. His love and devotion in his home could never be told save by those he leaves behind—the wife and 7 children. To them his tenderest care was given, even unto the end.

A genius he was, an unassuming genius in patience and care as a husband and father.  
... [poem omitted]

A FRIEND.

(continued on page 55)



[Editor's notes: Henry Campbell Dance, 27, and Gladys V. Clark, 20, both Wilson County residents, were married by M. T. Moye, minister of the Christian Church, on Feb. 14, 1900, at the home of Mrs. Nettie Clark. *Marriages of Wilson County, North Carolina, 1855-1899, Volume I*, J. Robert Boykin, III, page 199.]

In 1900 Henry Dance, b. Jul 1873, in Virginia (as were both his parents), tobacco dealer; and his wife Gladys C., b. Feb 1880, lived in Wilson Township. *Wilson County, North Carolina, Federal Census of 1900*, Joan L. Howell and Janice C. Sharpe, page 365.

Henry Campbell Dance, b. 06 Jul 1873, d. 14 Jul 1913; Gladys Clark Dance, b. 14 Feb 1880, d. 20 Feb 1944; and Henry Campbell Dance, Jr., b. 04 Oct 1904, d. 01 Mar 1941; were buried in Maplewood Cemetery in Wilson, N. C. *Wilson County, North Carolina, Cemeteries—Volume IV*, Joan L. Howell, page 58]

#### **ANNIE E. SAULS FINCH**

*Wilson Daily Times*, September 30, 1913

#### **DEATH OF MRS. FINCH**

Mrs. F. I. Finch died at the home of her son, Mr. Frank Finch on Park Ave. today about 1 o'clock after a lingering illness.

Mrs. Finch leaves two sons, Messrs. Frank and Sam Finch, and was highly esteemed in her circle of relatives and friends. The deceased was an old resident of the city and well advanced in age, being 72 when she died. She leaves four brothers, Messrs. Dred Sauls, M. M. Sauls, J. R. Sauls and Lee Sauls.

The funeral will occur at 10:30 in the morning from the residence of her son Mr. Frank Finch on Park Avenue, and will be conducted by her pastor Rev. Mr. Bradshaw of the Methodist church.

[Editor's notes: F. I. Finch, 30, married Annie E. Sauls, 30, both Wilson County residents, on 30 Jan. 1873, at the home of Jesse Sauls. *Marriages of Wilson County, North Carolina, 1855-1899*, J. Robert Boykin, III, page 291.]

In 1880, Frank I. Finch, 36, carriage maker; and his wife Ann E., 39, lived in the Town of Black Creek. Their children Laura, 16; Nettie, 11; and Samuel H., 1; lived with them. *Wilson County, North Carolina, 1880 Census*, J. Robert Boykin, III, page 196.

In 1900, Francis I. Finch, b. Sep 1843, machinist; and his wife of 27 years, Annie E., b. Jun 1841, three births, two living [?, it would appear that should be four births] lived in Wilson Township. Their sons Samuel H., b. Mar 1879, machinist; and Francis J., b. May 1881, machinist. *Wilson County, North Carolina, Federal Census of 1900*, Joan L. Howell and Janice C. Sharpe, page 354

Annie E. Sauls Finch, b. 14 Jun 1841, interred, has a double marker with Francis I. Finch, b. 18 Sep 1843, d. 07 Jan 1903, in Maplewood Cemetery in Wilson, N. C. *Wilson County, North Carolina, Cemeteries—Volume IV*, Joan L. Howell]

#### **GRANDPA PEARSALL**

*Wilson Daily Times*, September 24, 1913

Grandpa Pearsall, the dean of the letter carriers of this State, who has attended every convention of the R. F. D.'s is no more, having been gathered to his Father's in the 68th year of his age.

Mr. Pearsall contributed to the columns of the Times and while the paper was the organ of the rural carriers, [he] was the corresponding secretary of the organization.

His brethren and friends will miss his genial smile and hearty handshake. At home he was known as the sage of Rocky Point where he lived the greater part of his life and leaves a wife and four sons.

#### **SAMUEL VINES**

Reprint from *Clarendon Courier, Journal of the Old New Hanover Genealogical Society*, Vol. 27, Issue 2, 2015-16

Died. In Greene county, 17th ult., Mr. Samuel Vines, aged about 60 years. *Wilmington Journal*, Vol. 1, No. 12, Friday, December 6, 1844, Page 3, Column 4.

#### **SULA DEW WILLIAMS**

*Wilson Daily Times*, September 6, 1913, and September 9, 1913

#### **MRS. WILLIAMS PASSES AWAY**

Yesterday evening after an illness of six weeks Mrs. A. B. Williams, wife of Mr. A. B. Williams, passed away. She leaves her husband and two young children who survive her. Had Mrs. Williams lived to the sixth day of next October she would have been 35 years of age. She was born in the New Hope community and before her marriage was Miss Sula Dew. She had two brothers and one sister, Messrs. John and George Dew and Mrs. Batt Thompson.

Mr. Williams, husband of the deceased, is superintendent of the W. W. Simms Co. Her brother Mr. John Dew is connected with the same firm while Mr. George Dew is one of Wilson county's most prominent farmers. A sweeter and more lovable woman never lived and she leaves a host of friends who mourn her death.

The funeral services will be held this afternoon at New Hope church and will be conducted by Rev. T. W. Chambliss of the First Baptist church. The interment will be at the church burying ground.

The pall bearers are as follows: Messrs W. M. Moss, R. A. Turlington, W. W. Simms, R. E. Hagan, E. B. Mayo and J. T. Rice.

[Editor's notes: Arthur Williams, 21, Nash County resident, and Sular Dew, 21, Wilson County resident were married Oct. 9, 1899, at the Taylors Township home of J. T. Dew. *Marriages of Wilson County, North Carolina, 1855-1899*, J. Robert Boykin, III, page 754

In 1900, Arthur Williams, b. Oct. 1879, farmer, and his wife of one year, Sular, b. Oct. 1879, lived in Taylor's Township. *Wilson County, North Carolina, Federal Census of 1900*, Joan L. Howell and Janice C. Sharpe, page 198]

## ELISHA WOODARD, SR.

### Hugh B. Johnston Files

Elisha Woodard, Sr., son of John Woodard and wife Margaret \_\_\_\_, was born about 1728 in Isle of Wight County, Va., and settled in Edgecombe County, N. C., in 1748. Sometime later he married Mary \_\_\_\_, whose surname has not been ascertained. He died in the spring of 1798, but she was already deceased. It is believed that she died before the birth of natural daughter Delanah Woodard.

Although Elisha Woodard, Sr., became a substantial planter in lower Edgecombe (now Wilson) County, he left little imprint on the public records. By the terms of his father's will on Feb. 11, 1765, he received the home plantation of 495 acres north of Contentnea Creek.<sup>1</sup> On October 23, 1779, he secured from Governor Alexander Martin (the grant was issued on Oct. 28, 1782) a tract of 83 acres north of Contentnea Creek adjoining himself, Archelaus Barnes, Jonathan Robertson, and the old Robert Peele corner.<sup>2</sup> On Feb. 6, 1786, Spencer Ball sold Elisha Woodard for £100.0.0 in specie money 175 acres west of Bear Branch adjoining Cox; witnessed by William White, Joseph Daniel and Jephtha Barefoot.<sup>3</sup>

On Jan. 28, 1788, John (J) Charles of Edgecombe County sold Elisha Woodard for £48.0.0 "in silver or Gold" 100 acres on Bear Branch (formerly bought from Joseph Mayo); witnessed by John Woodard and Robert Peele, Sr.<sup>4</sup> The Edgecombe County Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions appointed him to a Commission to divide an estate on Aug. 7, 1789, and he was named again on Aug. 5, 1790.<sup>5</sup> In the Edgecombe County Census of 1790, Elisha Woodard, Sr., was listed with two males over sixteen, two males under sixteen, one female, and one slave.<sup>6</sup> The Edgecombe County Court appointed him guardian of Thomas Jordan and Levi Jordan on Aug. 29, 1791, and he was placed on a list of Jurymen on Nov. 30, 1892.<sup>7</sup>

On August 21, 1793, Elisha Woodard, Sr., Planter, of Edgecombe County sold Elias Daniel of Wayne County for £50.0.0 a tract of 150 acres in the latter county on Contentnea Creek, Long Pond, Black Creek to its mouth, and then up Contentnea Creek to the first point; witnessed by Lemuel Daniel, Josiah Daniel, and Asa Daniel.<sup>8</sup> On Aug. 26, 1793, Elisha Woodard (by Governor Richard D. Spaight) was granted 300 acres in Wayne County south of Contentnea Creek and westward from Flat Branch.<sup>9</sup> On July 8, 1797, Elisha Woodard of Edgecombe County deeded to his son Joshua Woodard for love and £.5.0 a tract of 300 acres where he was then living in Wayne County south of Great Contentnea Creek and above Black Creek (patented by Joseph Skipper and sold to said Woodard); witnessed by John Woodard, Briton Simms, and James Hesty.<sup>10</sup>

Elisha (E) Woodard, Sr., made his will in Edgecombe County on Mar. 26, 1798, and it was probated on May 28, 1798; (a) James Woodard, son of Joshua Woodard, five shillings; (b) Jesse

Woodard, son of Joshua Woodard, five shillings and a brindled heifer; (c) Elizabeth Woodard, daughter of Joshua Woodard, five shillings; (d) Margaret Woodard, daughter of Joshua Woodard, five shillings; (e) Anna Woodard, daughter of Joshua Woodard, five shillings; (f) deceased son Joshua Woodard; (g) son and executor Elisha Woodard, the home plantation of 495 acres on Contentnea Creek patented by my father John Woodard, 83 acres adjoining Robert Peele, crosscut saw, carpenter's adze, 119 silver dollars, and £2.0.0 N. C. paper currency; (h) son and executor John Woodard, 300 acres where he was living south of Great Contentnea Creek, 309 acres north of Black Creek in Wayne County, "my old horse & mare," cow with calf, 119 silver dollars and £2.0.0 in N. C. paper currency; (i) son David Woodard, plantation of 175 acres where he was living on Bear Branch, 100 adjoining acres that were settled by John Bullock, 3 cows, 2 calves, and a yearling; (j) son Lemuel Woodard £.2.0 current N. C. money; (k) daughter Mary Daniel, wife of Elias Daniel, pine chest, 2 pewter basins, and ten silver dollars; (l) daughter Martha Amerson, wife of Benjamin Amerson, mid-le-sized pot, cow, and yearling; (m) natural daughter Delanah Amerson, wife of Isaac Amerson, cow with calf; (n) grandson Asa Jordan, £.5.0 N. C. money; (o) grandson Thomas Jordan £.5.0 N. C. money; (p) grandson Levi Jordan, £.5.0 N. C. money; (q) deceased son-in-law Cornelius Jordan; (r) witnesses: Robert Peele, Archelaus Barnes, and Willie Stanton.<sup>11</sup>

The inventory of the personal estate of Elisha Woodard, Sr., was taken on Aug. 25, 1798, by Executors Elisha Woodard, Jr., and John Woodard, and was presented in the Edgecombe County Court on Aug. 27, 1798: 29 cattle, 30 hogs, 12 fowls, horse, mare, colt, negro man; note for £8.0.0 against Spencer Ball "expect not to be got," ten shillings balance due on note against Isaac Amason, £.2.6 due by account against Peter Munden, £2.15.0 by account against Thomas Mumden, \$237.00, £4.0.0 in specie, pocket book, pair of spectacles, saddle, 2 bridles, Psalter Book, pair of money scales, crop of corn, parcel of fodder, parcel of flax, 636 pounds of bacon, 60 pounds of fat, "small quantity of spun truck," 14½ yards of country woven cloth, 20 pounds of picked cotton, 125 pounds of seed cotton, some seed peas, 3 bushels of wheat, 8 sides of leather and a piece, 3 pecks of salt, iron frow, crosscut saw, carpenter's adze trowel, drawing knife, gouge, chisel, 3 augers, clawhammer, basket of old iron lumber, 6 pounds of steel, 36½ pounds of iron bar, pair of iron wedges, collar and hames, 4 old stock locks, buckle, cart saddle, single tree, pair of hames, bell and collar, pair of lines, plow saddle, plow bridle, calf rope, comb, spur, cross & pinter iron, whetstone, 3 open barrels, carry logue, cart and wheels, 3 reap hook, broken axe, 4 axes, 7 plowhoes, coulter, 7 weeding hoes, grubbing hoe, 2 sleys, wheel spindle, woolen sheel, 3 fire dogs, 2 iron potracks, fire shovel, pair of fire tongs, 4 iron

(continued on page 58)



## WOODARD BRIDGE

Contributed by Sue Evans Powell

Woodard's Bridge crosses Contentnea Creek on Woodbridge Road which extends from Stantonburg to Black Creek, in Wilson County. According to the Gazetteer of Wilson County, N. C., compiled by Hugh Buckner Johnston and Garland P. Stout, the bridge was named for Elisha Woodard.

Several bridge records exist for Woodard's Bridge in the Wayne County Bridge Records Group. Prior to the formation of Wilson County in 1855, Contentnea Creek was the boundary between Edgecombe and Wayne County in this area. The Wayne County records indicate that each county was to pay half the costs to build the bridge. The Edgecombe County Bridge records do not include those for Woodard's Bridge.

What follows is a transcription of the Wayne County records for Woodard's Bridge. The bridges needed to be replaced every five to seven years as routine maintenance.

### 1831

In pursuance to an order of Wayne County Court to us (the undersigned commissioners) directed to let out the rebuilding of the bridge across Contentna creek known by the name of Woodards bridge we the undersigned commissions in conjunction with the Edgecombe County Commissioners proceeded to let it out (on the 27th June 1831) to be built as follows. (viz.) 4 arches 20 feet long, 5 joists on each arch 10 inches square, 10 posts 12 inches square and of the same highth of the old bridge, 5 cup sills 12 inches square 12 feet long, 6 braces 8 by 10 inches to extend up the post 2/3 the way and to extend 8 feet along the mud sills, 4 mud sills. The bridge to be 12 feet wide. The plank not to be more than 8 inches wide 2 inches thick. The bench plank to be 3 inches thick 12 inches wide and 17 feet long. The posts for the railing 8 by 4 inches 3 feet high to be capd with such plank the railing to be 4 by 6 inches to be 10 panels 2 sets of railing the post to be well braced—all the timber to be of good heart pitch pine or post oak and to be done in workman like manner. Stephen Woodard being the last and lowest bidder it was bid off by him at \$84—We the undersigned Commissioners further report that the afore said Woodard's bridge has been built agreeable to contract by Stephen Woodard undertaker and for which he is entitled to receive from the County of Wayne forty two Dollars which is our half he was to have for building. Given under our hands this 28th Oct. 1831

Sher. L. Simms [?]  
A. Barden

Ordered that Stephen Woodard have forty two dollars for building the above named Bridge and let it be paid out of the county Tax

### 1838

Wayne County Nov Term 1838

Ordered that Stephen Woodard, Jas Daniel, Robt Sims, & Bunyan Barnes be appointed a committee by and in behalf of this county to meet such committee as may be appointed in behalf of Edgecombe county to let out the repairing of Woodard's Bridge across Contentna and make report to next court

Jno A Green Clk

Wayne county n Carolina Feb 12th 1839 Agreeable to an order issued at Nov Term 1838 we the under signed Commissioners met at the bridge called Woodards bridge across Contentnea Creek with the Commisioners of Edgecome County for the purpose of letting out the Rebuilding of sd. Bridge and report as follows Robert Simms being the last and lowest bider it was knocked of at \$137 64cts the bridge being finished in workman like manner and Agreeable to Contract we think him Justly entitled to one half of the Above named amount from Wayne county

Bunyan Barnes  
James Daniel

### 1847

Agreeable to the annexed order we the undersigned Commissioners in conjunction with the Commissioners of Edgecombe County met on the 14th of May 1847 & let out the building of a Bridge across Contentnea Called Woodard's Bridge. Lewis Ellis became the last & lowest bidder at \$165. We also put up & sold the old Bridge & Lewis Ellis became the last & highest bidder at three dollars which sum deducted leave \$162 dollars which this County of Wayne is subject to pay one half. We also met on the 27th of August & found the Bridge built agreeable to contract & received it.

Stephen Woodard  
James Daniel  
Henry Pope

## THE LUCAMA DIAMONDS

*Wilson Daily Times*, January 17, 1912

The following news item from Wilmington will be of interest to Wilson county people.

There is to be again in court the matter of the diamonds scattered in an Atlantic Coast Line wreck at Lucama, this known as "The Lucama Diamond Case." Judge Connor is to be here on February 8 to open depositions as to the diamonds, taken in Paris and Cuba.

The case is a civil action, brought by the government against the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad Company for the failure to carry out a mail contract. The car in which was a quantity of diamonds enroute from Paris to Cuba was destroyed by fire and the diamonds were lost. The exact value of the gems has not yet been set out, but this will probably be revealed in the depositions to be opened by Judge Connor.

DR. CHARLES FORCE DEEMS

## RAINES AND COX PHOTOGRAPHERS

### Photos Contributed by Lynda Cox Dixon

After his retirement, Guy Cox made arrangements for State Archives to preserve the firm's negatives to make them accessible for the future. The pictures to the right show the boxes of their negatives in the stacks of State Archives. To make it even more impressive, the boxes are two deep on each shelf.

Over the years that their photography studio was open, they took studio portraits, family candid shots, school pictures, local scenes and events, weddings, reunions, funerals, and facilitated photo restoration. Just about anything that a person might want recorded in pictures was taken by them.

His daughter, Lynda Dixon, is in the process of donating other historically significant artifacts of her father's collection to the North Carolina Museum of History. She has already donated his U. S. Navy dress blues (World War II) along with a child's size uniform that Guy had made for his nephew, Henry Powell. Guy never outgrew the uniform. She has found other items that will be donated to the museum after some research.

#### HAVE YOU PLANNED AHEAD?

Have you made provision for what happens to your research after you no longer want to use it? Do you have someone who would want to continue your work? Or would you like it to go to a local or regional library? Does your family know your wishes? You have spent so many hours and probably money compiling your families histories. Don't let all that work go to the local trash dump. State your wishes! Include a statement in your will! Or donate it yourself!



#### Sources:

1. Edgecombe Co. Will Book A, p. 146
2. Deed Book E, p. 326; Land Grant Book 48, p. 174
3. Deed Book 4, p. 371
4. Deed Book 5, p. 493
5. Minute Books in the N. C. Dept. of Archives, Raleigh, North Carolina.
6. *Heads of Families, etc., in the Census of 1790: North Carolina* (Washington, D. C., 1908), p. 57
7. Minute Books, under aforesaid dates
8. Wayne County, Deed Book 5-E, p. 183
9. Deed Book 6, p. 37; Patent Book 80, p. 330
10. Deed Book 5-E, p. 467
11. Edgecombe County, Will Book D, p. 50
12. Inventories & Sales of Estates, 1798-1800, pp. 33/34

(Elisha Woodard, continued from page 56)

pots, 2 pair of pothooks, iron kettle, skillet spider, frying pan, pot lid, 2 saltfums, half bushel, gourd of soap, trough of soap, 2 gourds of soap grease, bread tray, meal sifter, cake of tallow, basket, pepper box, spice mortar and pestle, gourd of "lumber," powdering tub, meal tub, water pail, 2 washing tubs, 2 small bags, another tub, sein, candlestick and snuffers, vinegar cruet, earthen pitcher, pair of spoonmolds, 2 jugs, butter pot, 4 dishes, 7 basins, 2 quart bottles, cup & saucer, knife, 11 forks, 8 knives, 2 bells, 11 spoones, 11 pewter plates, table and cloth, 8 sitting chairs, 5 bedsteads, 3 feather beds and furnishings, hat, 2 shirts, 2 pair of breeches, shoes, great coat, and other wearing clothes.<sup>12</sup>

Children of Elisha and Mary Woodard:

1. Elisha Woodard, Jr., was born about 1750.
2. Joshua Woodard was born about 1755.
3. John Woodard
4. David Woodard was born on May 10, 1771.
5. Mary Woodard married Elias Daniel.
6. Martha Woodard
7. Lemuel Woodard

- Child of Elisha Woodard by \_\_\_\_
8. Delanah Woodard



## WCGS 26 APRIL 2016 MEETING MINUTES

The April meeting of the Wilson County Genealogy Society was held in the Local History Room of the Wilson County Public Library. The meeting was called to order by Joan Howell, who greeted members and guests. Treasurer Wanda Lamm Taylor gave a report on the Society's finances.

Howell announced that she plans to attend a May 21st workshop in Chapel Hill, "Genes and Genealogy: DNA Testing Basics" and would welcome anyone who would like to attend with her. Howell passed out samples of the first pages of her final volume of Wilson County Cemeteries series. The final volume will be listings of cemeteries that were not included in the previous volumes, many unknown to the Society, or inaccessible to recorders at the time of the publication of previous cemetery books. This will be a valuable addition to the cemetery books published by the society. On May 19th, Perry Morrison, president of the Wilson County Historical Society will present "Wilson County Jeopardy" in the assembly room of the Wilson County Public Library. Mr. and Mrs. Bailey, who have spent eleven years recording and researching the persons buried in the Bailey cemetery, located just outside Bailey, N. C., are getting close to publishing their efforts. They have compiled about 600 pages of information, so it may be a two volume publication. They plan to make copies available to area genealogy societies. The cost has not yet been determined, but the plan is to publish a small number, unless there is greater interest than anticipated.

Elton Franks was the speaker for the evening. A resident of Black Creek, Franks has had a lifelong interest in local history. He spoke about metal detecting to find historical artifacts and brought a small part of his collection of artifacts to show what interesting things can be found right in your own backyard. He told the group that he concentrated on areas of historical significance in the county. He has also found numerous artifacts in areas known to be Civil War camp sites. He said that a metal detector has helped him find many items.

Our next meeting will be on May 31st with Ashley Yandle as our guest speaker. She will give us an introduction to online research tools from the North Carolina State Archives.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,  
Deborah Webb, Secretary

## WCGS BOARD MEETING

The board of the Wilson County Genealogical Society met at 7 p.m. on April 12th, 2016, in the

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[www.wcgs.org](http://www.wcgs.org)

**Note:** Please see next page for additional items that are available for purchase.

Census records abstracted by J. Albert Bass with family data added from his files.

1880 Wilson County, Black Creek Township	\$32.00
1880 Wilson County, Crossroads Township	\$22.00
1900 Wilson County, Spring Hill Township	\$16.00
1850 Johnston County, District 9	\$16.00
1850 Johnston County, District 10	\$26.00
1860 Johnston County, East of the Neuse	\$23.00

home of board member Sue Powell.

Will Robinson, Local History and Genealogy librarian at the Wilson County Public Library, has undertaken the project of transcribing Wilson County deeds from the microfilm held at the library. The board discussed ways that the Society could be of service, financially or as volunteers, to help Robinson with this project. It was decided that the board will meet with Robinson to determine his wishes and or concerns about the project before making a decision on how best to proceed.

The matter of maintenance and updating of the Society's website was also discussed by the board. Horace Peele, the current webmaster, has indicated that he would like for the Society to find someone else to maintain the website. Sue Powell, chair of the committee, is investigating various options. If someone in our Society has the necessary skills and desire, and would like to volunteer to be webmaster, please contact Powell or any member of the Wilson County Genealogical Society.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,  
Deborah Webb, Secretary

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### • Edgecombe County Genealogical Society

usually meets at the Edgecombe County Memorial Library, in Tarboro, N. C., at 7:00 pm on the third Thursday of each month.

• **Farmville, N. C., Ancestor Seekers** meet 10 am to 12 noon the second Saturday of each month at the Farmville Public Library.

• **Greene County Family Researchers** meets on the third Thursday of the month at 7:30 pm at the Greene County Museum in Snow Hill, N. C.

• **Old Dobbs Genealogical Society** meets at 10:30 am the third Saturday of each calendar quarter, at the Wayne County Public Library, Goldsboro, N. C.

• **Pitt County Family Researchers** meet at 7:00 pm, third Tuesdays, at Sheppard Memorial Library, 530 Evans St., Greenville, N. C.

• **Tar River Connections Genealogical Society** meets at 6:30 pm on the 3rd Tuesday of each month, except Dec., at the Braswell Memorial Library in Rocky Mount, N. C.

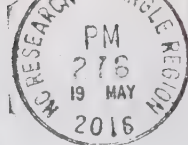
1870 Johnston County, Bulah Township	\$10.00
1850 Wayne County, North of the Neuse	\$65.00
1860 Wayne County, Davis District	\$ 5.00
1860 Wayne County, Fork District	\$ 5.00
1860 Wayne County, Nahunta District	\$16.00
1860 Wayne County, Pikeville District	\$ 5.00
1870 Wayne County, Holden Township	\$10.00
1870 Wayne County, Nahunta Township	\$12.00
1880 Wayne County, Great Swamp Township	\$14.00
1880 Wayne County, Nahunta Township	\$18.00
1900 Wayne County, Great Swamp Township	\$ 6.00
1900 Wayne County, Nahunta Township	\$13.00

## Trees of Wilson

Family Chronicles of the  
**Wilson County  
Genealogical Society**  
P.O. Box 802  
Wilson, NC 27894  
252-243-1660  
[www.wcgs.org](http://www.wcgs.org)

*Contentnea Creek, Mercer,  
Obituaries, Raines and Cox,  
Wilson Businesses, Woodard*

May 2016



WTTXS-E-RES & Serials MGMT  
PO BOX 8890  
Davis Library CB #3938  
Chapel Hill, NC 27514-8890

### Books

Barnes Narratives	\$12.00
Thataway, Barnes Individuals Born in North Carolina Who Moved Elsewhere	\$6.00
They Moved Away - North Carolinians Who Went to Other States	\$10.00
Wilson County, North Carolina, Census of 1860.	\$30.00
Wilson County, North Carolina, Census of 1870.	\$25.00
Wilson County, North Carolina, Census of 1880.	\$40.00
Wilson County, North Carolina, Census of 1900.	\$40.00
Wilson County, North Carolina, Marriages, 1855-1899	\$75.00
Wilson County, North Carolina, Cemeteries Volume I	\$30.00
Wilson County, North Carolina, Cemeteries Volume II	\$30.00
Wilson County, North Carolina, Cemeteries Volume III	\$25.00
Wilson County, North Carolina, Cemeteries Volume IV	\$30.00
Wilson County, North Carolina, Cemeteries Volume V	\$35.00
Wilson County's Architectural Heritage	\$20.00
Wilson, North Carolina, Historical Properties Inventory	\$20.00
Wilson County's Founding Families	\$55.00

### Maps

Wilson County Historical Map	\$5.00
Confederate Field Maps #1, #2, #3, #4	(State choice) each at \$5.00
Town of Wilson, Map 1872	\$5.00
Town of Wilson, Map 1882	\$5.00
Wilson County Waterways	\$5.00
(tax and shipping included on previous items only)	

### Miscellaneous

Cemetery Finder (paper) donation	\$5.00
Wilson Co. Estates Inventory (paper) donation	\$5.00

**Note:** Please see previous page for additional items.  
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complete details, or order and pay on our web site.  
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**Payment and shipping:** Shipping cost for each book is \$5.00 (\$10.00 for *Wilson County Marriages*, a set of two books). Shipping cost for maps is \$5.00 for 1-4 items. Add 6.75% sales tax for NC residents on merchandise total (not on shipping).

Total of items ordered \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Shipping \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Sales Tax \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Total of Order \$ \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Check Enclosed

Ship to: \_\_\_\_\_

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City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

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Please enroll me as a member of WCGS. I enclose \$20 for personal membership & subscription to *Trees*. Please allow 3-5 weeks for shipping on all orders. You may order books & membership through our website. <http://www.wcgs.org>.

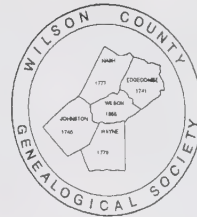




# TREES OF WILSON

*Wilson's Family Heritage*

Chronicles of the  
Wilson County Genealogical Society



June 2016

TWENTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY

Volume 25 Number 6

## Editor's Message

In May, I attended the National Genealogical Society Annual Conference. Attendees had a choice of 180 sessions spread over four days. In four days, I attended sixteen excellent sessions. My research skills were expanded as I was exposed to a variety of approaches to genealogical problems. Having learned to do research the old way, I learned more about the vast digital resources available today. I left with a renewal of zeal to continue research into my ancestors and their lives.

The professional genealogists described successful research into families that were difficult to follow. They told us of the variety of resources that they used to find the necessary records. They explained the importance of going beyond the vital records.

They told us that our brick walls could be broken down if we expanded our search into lesser used records and re-searched our ancestors' "FAN" clubs. The friends', associates' and neighbors' records should be studied for mention of our ancestors. The collateral lines of our ancestors should be thoroughly studied as they may provide relationship information that we had previously been unable to find. We should learn how to glean every piece of information from the records. The compiled information will provide a more complete study of our ancestor and may provide new answers or avenues to research.

Take advantage of genealogical learning opportunities at workshops or online.

## THREE PRE-TRIP STEPS FOR MAKING THE MOST OF YOUR RESEARCH TRIP

**Diane Haddad, Family Tree  
Magazine, June 7, 2016**

Summer is the perfect time for taking road trips, including journeying to record repositories and libraries. Co-host of The Genealogy Guys podcast and author Drew Smith shares some thoughts about how to best plan for research trips.

In a time when documents from all over the world are being digitized and made available to us in online databases, we might not spend much time thinking about the need to travel to physical repositories, near and far. Libraries, archives, courthouses, cemeteries and churches continue to hold materials that may never be scanned during our lifetimes, and this means that eventually we genealogists need to pack up our travel kits and hit the road for hours, days or even weeks to accomplish our research goals.

... you need to knock out a few quick tasks before planning the rest of a research trip. Do as much online research as you can. There is no point in wasting a single moment of precious research trip time in viewing materials that we could have seen from the comfort of our own research workspace at home. Learn all you can about each repository's online catalog, including how to use it. This will help you not only do preparatory research, but also

make you proficient in checking it when you're at the physical repository. You should also read (and if possible, download) a copy of the finding aids for the research collections you plan to use. These finding aids will describe the scope of each collection, and may identify the specific boxes and folders you'll want to request when at the repository. In some cases, you may want to request that the repository pull the items you [need] so you can have them as soon as we walk in the door, saving you time better spent on examining the materials.

Study the repository's hours, rules and regulations. What can't you bring into a repository's research room? Can you make an appointment with an archivist or member of the staff? How long is the repository open? Knowing answers to these questions ahead of your visit will free you to do more research when you're actually at the archive. Specifically, you might even email the repository in advance with your planned dates of visit and the kinds of records you're looking for. The repository can then inform you of any unusual closures for local events or renovations, or if records you want to use are actually located elsewhere.

When you're done with all of this pre-trip research work, you're finally ready to create your research itinerary, book your flights and hotels, and think about what to pack. Safe travels!

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Please mark your calendars for these 2016 meetings:

Sept. 27 Will Robinson, Ancestor Hunting in Ireland

Oct. 25 Martha Gay Morton, Land Records, Where to Find Them, How to Use Them

Nov. 29 Annual Meeting

## **Trees of Wilson — WCGS**

This chronicle is published by the Wilson County Genealogical Society, organized February 26, 1991. Address: P.O. Box 802, Wilson, NC 27894-0802. Telephone 252-243-1660. Internet address: <http://www.wcgs.org>

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Materials of genealogical interest to the members of WCGS are accepted for publication at the discretion of the Editors and should pertain to families with connections in Wilson County and its neighboring and parent counties. WCGS cannot accept any responsibility for the content of contributed materials, including errors and omissions. Please direct any questions to the contributor. Their names and addresses will be provided upon request for worthwhile purposes.

Transcripts of original records are recorded with the original spelling and punctuation.

Queries from WCGS members are accepted and posted at [WilsonNC@yahoogroups.com](mailto:WilsonNC@yahoogroups.com)

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## **HASSELL—GARY MARRIAGE**

**Contributed by J. Robert Boykin, III**

*Wilson Daily Times*, June 10, 1913

### **A HISTORIC PLACE**

Hon. John E. Woodard has returned from the marriage of his nephew Mr. Frank Hassell a prominent attorney of this city to Miss Blanche Cary, daughter of Chief Justice Cary.

The wedding was a beautiful home affair and a number of prominent men of the State were present.

Those included United States Senator Frank Cary an uncle of the bride and ex-Gov. Evans. The ceremony was conducted by Rev. Mr. Gringood rector of the Episcopal church and the presents lavished upon the happy couple were numerous and very handsome.

Abbeville is a pretty town of 5,000 people and is noted for its history.

While there Mr. Woodard visited Mrs. Marshal, a cousin of John C. Calhoun. She is 83 years of age clear of mind and talks most interestingly of the great statesman whom she remembers so well.

A short distance from the Gary home is Magazine Hill where the colonists kept their munitions of war, and on the crest of a hill is the site of Fort Pickens with some of the old brick lying around.

Mr. Woodard visited the spot where the first order for secession in the South was promulgated in 1860. In the same town is the house where the last cabinet meeting of Jefferson Davis and his advisors was held.

At the wedding were the maternal grandparents of the bride, the grandfather being 83 and the paternal grandfather [sic.?] being 81. All in good health and spirits.

Mrs. Hassell will meet with a cordial reception by our people when the bride and groom return from their honeymoon.

## **TOMLINSON'S SCHOOL**

**Contributed by J. Robert Boykin, III**

*Wilson Daily Times*, January 25, 1915

The steady advancement of the children in this school is easily shown in the rapid progress they have made in their studies during the past few months. Under the present supervision of two accomplished teachers, the spring term promises to be a very profitable one to the seventy pupils now enrolled.

The school is situated in Black Creek township, about six miles from Wilson. The building is nice and cozy with very pleasant surroundings.

Outdoor games will be added to the life of the spring term, such as baseball and tennis.

The mid-term examinations closed Friday, and those making 95 per cent and over are recorded on the honor roll as follows:

### **Fourth Grade**

Mamie Mercer and Claudia Mercer

### **Sixth Grade**

May Bass, Georgia Tomlinson and Minnie Mercer

### **Eighth Grade**

Lossie Tomlinson



# THE FAMILY OF JOHN CORNELIUS ROBBINS AND MARY (POLLY) E. WILLIAMS

Contributed by Albert R. Page, Sr.

## Introduction

My object in further exploring the Robbins family has to do with finding the common ancestor for the Gardeners School area family of Robbins and the Robbins family who lived just east outside of Sharpsburg, N. C., for decades. I have been for years interested in talking with the present Robbins of the Sharpsburg location. I mentioned that to a Sharpsburg resident Darrell Barfield, and he said he knew these Robbins, and he would make that arrangement. Soon after that, Darrell gave me Marvin's telephone number. After a call, I was invited to come to Marvin and Annette Robbins' home, so we could share Robbins family history. As luck would have it, Annette McGahee Robbins was a classmate of mine and my sister Cherry at the Rocky Mount Senior High School back in the 1950's.

Around November 2015, we visited, and Marvin showed me the will of his great grandmother on his paternal side. Mary "Polly" E. Williams Robbins had substantial assets at her death which she passed on to her children. Thereafter, I became very interested in both these Williams and Robbins families. Marvin told me exactly where the old Robbins graveyard was on his farm. Since then I have been studying the Robbins family of Sharpsburg to see how much kin they are to the Robbins of the Gardeners School area of Wilson County.

In January 2016, Marvin and I visited the old Robbins graveyard down on his farm. We could see better in the winter time, but the graveyard had been unattended for so long that, even in the winter, it was hard to see who was buried there because it was so overgrown. We found five headstones in the briars and weeds but not the stones of John C. and Mary Robbins. Needless to say, I was disappointed and planned to return sometime in early April to try to locate the rest of the markers.<sup>1</sup> The following information is the result of my research effort to learn the details of the family history of the John C. and Mary Robbins family.

## The Early Years of the Robbins Family

Mary's will told me that her parents were Whit and Zada (Taylor) Williams. I later found out they had been lifetime Edgecombe County residents. Mary had eight siblings: Michael, Phenella, Wright, Daniel, Oney, Perry, Ellen and Emily Williams.<sup>2</sup> I did not have a quick source of reference for John Cornelius Robbins' parents.

I went to the 1850 Edgecombe County Census which provided me with a starting point. At that time, 20 year old Cornelius Robbins was still at home with his 39 year old mother Catherine (Daws) and his eight siblings.<sup>3</sup> The wills of Edgecombe County filled in the answer as to why father Isaac Robbins was not listed with his family

on the 1850 census. Isaac Robbins made out his will on 26 June 1847. He died about August of that same year, and his will was probated at that time. Wife Catherine was granted the 300 acre family farm and everything else for her life or widowhood to help take care of the children.<sup>4</sup> John Cornelius and his siblings Warren, Starkey, Willie, Isaac, Catherine, Zelfhia, Basheba and Priscilla continued to help on the farm thereafter to support their family in those trying times.

It would be very interesting to know how John Cornelius Robbins met Mary Williams in the early 1850's since she lived north of him just east of Rocky Mount in the Buck Swamp area. The Robbins, by the description in their deed, lived in the southwest part of Edgecombe County on the west side of what is now called Old Wilson Road. This is exactly where we find them today. The history of their relationship seems to be lost in time now. The marriage records of Edgecombe County include their matrimony as having taken place on 30 January 1853.<sup>5</sup> Likely, John C. continued to help on his family's farm for a period of time.

Sometime in the second half of the 1850's, John got a farm of about 170 acres. It is not clear at this point to this writer just how that happened.<sup>6</sup> Records in the Register of Deeds Office of Edgecombe County report that John C. Robbins got into debt by securing loans of money from over six different sources to operate his farm.<sup>7</sup> The 1860 Edgecombe County Census reports that this Robbins farm was worth about \$750 and had 70 acres cleared and 100 acres unimproved.<sup>8</sup> His mother's place was nearby, and she had 120 cleared acres and 241 unimproved acres which, in total, was worth about \$2,500.<sup>9</sup>

John and Polly Robbins' farm was plenty large enough to support their growing family if they could and did pay their debts. John and Polly had been married six years by 1860. Son Henry Clay was conceived early in their first year of marriage, and he was born 13 November 1853.<sup>10</sup> The next sibling born was Mary Matilda Robbins on 21 October 1855.<sup>11</sup> William Elijah Robbins, their second son, was birthed on 15 July 1857.<sup>12</sup> Their fourth child, Lizina Della Robbins came to her family on 30 May 1859.<sup>13</sup>

## The Civil War and Reconstruction Years

The 1860 Edgecombe County Census lists this family only seven households from mother Catherine Robbins with her remaining children at home. In this neighborhood, John and Mary Robbins must have felt secure and comfortable among their Robbins kin John W. Robbins, Elisha Robbins and other friends.<sup>14</sup>

With our 2016 perspective, we know that the Civil War was in the making and would start at the end of 1860 in South Carolina. Maybe the subjects under study were too busy trying to make a living to pay a lot of attention to what was politically about to boil over on them. In the midst of all this trouble coming to a head between the

*(continued on page 64)*

Northern states and that of the slave states down south, mother Mary Robbins gave birth on 25 February 1861, to her fifth baby whom they named Zilphia Ellen Robbins.<sup>15</sup> No more children were born in this family during the war. This almost suggests that father John Cornelius Robbins was gone to the War. A search was made of all 19 volumes of the series called *North Carolina Troops, A Roster*, and no record was found that could be identified reporting he served.

In the post war years, economic prosperity was difficult for southern farmers and maybe for everyone. The reconstruction years were designed to be hard on Southerners, and, with so many men having been killed and injured, it was likely that agriculturalists suffered more than others. The loss of slave labor also added to this difficulty. Under these circumstances, John Cornelius Robbins may have found it harder to pay his loans off. It is an understatement to say that these times were stressful for Southerners as losers of the War. However, life must go on for these families no matter what might come their way.

Wife Mary Robbins got pregnant her last time in August of 1869, and, on 13 May 1868, she gave birth to son Richard Isaac Robbins.<sup>16</sup> He survived nicely, and the family concentrated on productive efforts to support themselves.

When the 1870 Edgecombe County census taker came to the Robbins home, he recorded that J. C. Robbins was 39 years old, and Mary was 38. The report states that the family farm was valued at \$1,500, and they had personal property worth \$700.<sup>17</sup> On the surface, this looks good economically for the Robbins family at that time after the War, but there was still the issue of their debt, and also the fact that it bore interest. Possibly, they might have been threatened by foreclosure. About eighteen months later, a record in the Edgecombe County Courthouse included the following. John C. Robbins was pressed to pay the seven loans on the farm plus the interest. On 10 January 1872, a legal course was followed where Mary E. Williams Robbins paid off her husband's debt. It was stated that the total bill was \$1,308.08, and it was paid in full. This writer cannot see or understand where wife Mary Robbins would have gotten that kind of money. Maybe she borrowed money to add to some she already had to pay off that large debt. The Edgecombe County record indicates this problem was settled at that time.<sup>18</sup>

In March of the following year (1873), Mary Williams Robbins' father died on the Buck Swamp farm. It took months to settle Whitmel Williams' estate, and, when it was completed, daughter Mary Williams Robbins received one ninth of her father's estate. Mary's share probably would have been no more than \$400. Part of that sum included 29 acres that was in lot number 6 in the Whitmel Williams land division.<sup>19</sup> What she re-

ceived did not come close to what she paid to free her family's debt on their farm.

Over the next five years from 1873 to 1878, a decision was made between John Cornelius and wife Mary Williams Robbins in which John transferred the family farm, by deed, to Mary Robbins on 21 June 1878. The transfer included two separate pieces of land. The first was the familiar 170 acre farm, and the second acreage was one that John C. Robbins had received from his father Isaac Robbins. It totaled 50 acres and seems to have been separated from the first.<sup>20</sup> Thereafter, Mary Robbins appears to have been decision maker in this family as the 220 acre real estate that the family possessed, according to the land deed, was in her name only.

### **The Robbins in the 1880's and 1890's**

The 1880 Edgecombe County census taker found the Robbins family continuing to work their farm. Father J. C. was 49 years old and Mary was reported to have been 47. Most of the children were by now grown up. Henry Clay was 26, Mattie 24, Elijah 22, Della 21, Zilphia 19, and the youngest child Richard was 11 years old. Henry and Elijah were listed as farm laborers. The young girls were no doubt valuable assets to their parents now also.<sup>21</sup> About this time bad news once again came to the Robbins home from Buck Swamp. Mary Robbins' 68 year old mother Zada Taylor Williams died about October or November 1880. She left her personal possessions to her children which was reported to have been but a small sum.<sup>22</sup>

Several years passed and more happy news presented itself to the Robbins family as their 22 year old daughter Zelfphia Robbins married 23 year old Wiley G. Batts on 16 December 1883.<sup>23</sup>

At this same time, another interesting thing that affected this Robbins family and others in that general location was the change of their county obligation. Wilson County annexed a part of Edgecombe County into their townships of Toisnot and Gardners. Thereafter the J. C. Robbins family and others of that area found themselves in the newer County of Wilson with the county seat in the town of Wilson.<sup>24</sup> Zilphia and Wiley Batts' marriage license was the first in the family to be registered in the new Wilson County.<sup>25</sup> Over the next few years of their marriage, the Batts lost three infants to death, and they were buried in the Robbins family graveyard. Their graves were marked by headstones.<sup>26</sup>

Records in the Edgecombe County Register of Deeds Office for 15 July 1886, indicate that Mary E. Robbins sold her land that she had inherited from her father to W. E. Bradley.<sup>27</sup> Interestingly enough the records also tell us that in 1887 Mary bought her sister Emily's 30 acre lot on Buck Swamp that her heirs had inherited from father Whitmel Williams.<sup>28</sup> Around this time, Mary bought another piece of land nearer where she lived. She purchased the Menchall Moore 50 acre

(continued on page 65)



farm which adjoined the lands of Rev. Hilliard S. Taylor near the Old Wilson Road.<sup>29</sup>

No 1890 census survives, due to a fire, that could have given important information on the J. C. and Mary Robbins family's living conditions. John C. would have been 60 years old and Mary two years younger at 58. Except for daughter Zilphia Robbins Batts, all the other children would have been home helping in their support. That would change in 1892 when Richard Isaac Robbins married Elizabeth "Betty" Cobb on 6 January.<sup>30</sup> Even though Richard married, it appears that he stayed right there at home and continued to help on the Robbins family farm. Four more years would pass before William Elijah Robbins married Sarah Whitehead on 17 November 1896.<sup>31</sup> They seemed to have stayed close and worked on the Robbins family farm to make their living.

[To be continued in the next issue of *Trees of Wilson*]

### Endnotes and Comments

1. I visited the J. C. Robbins graveyard on April 15, 2016, and found John Cornelius Robbins' marker in line with that of Mattie & Della Robbins headstones. It was discovered by probing with a metal object as it had fallen over and was laying on its backside down on the ground. It had three or four inches of overburden covering it and therefore was hidden to view and could not be seen while standing right over it. I dug the stone clear and photographed it. This was quite a bit of work, so I called on my nephew Mike Page of Sharpsburg and brought him back to the graveyard with me. We were not sure where Mary E. Williams Robbins' stone was, but we cleared the briars and weeds to the left of her husbands' grave and Mike found it with a probe. It was face up under the dirt, leaves and briars. Both stones were large and beautiful. We took some more pictures and were proud of our efforts. These stones need to be cared for and raised back up in their natural place.
2. I researched the Whit Williams family in deeds, wills, censuses and estates records of Edgecombe County. There is a large estates file in the N. C. Archives in Raleigh that deals with his estate.
3. Dr. Stephen E. Bradley, Jr., *The 1850 Federal Census, Edgecombe County, North Carolina*, pg. 51, no. 1411.
4. David B. Gammon, *Abstracts of Wills Edgecombe County, North Carolina, 1824-1857. Vol. III*, pg. 81, no. 340; Same as no. 3 above pg. 127, no. 174.
5. Ruth Smith Williams & Margarette Glenn Griffin, *Marriages of Early Edgecombe County, North Carolina, 1733-1868.*, pg. 135.
6. Dr. Stephen E. Bradley, Jr. *The 1860 Federal Census, Edgecombe County, North Carolina*, pg. 123, no. 730.
7. Edgecombe County Register of Deeds Office. D. B. 27, pg. 246. This property was next to The-

- ophilus Moore's land which is today on the Sam Williford Road right south of the Robbins' land.
8. Same source as no. 6 above, pgs. 10, no. 287 & pg. 123, no. 730.
9. Same source as no. 6 above, pg. 10, no. 280 & pg. 123, no. 727.
10. See Henry Clay Robbins' death certificate in Nash County Courthouse for birth, death and burial record.
11. See death certificate in Wilson County Courthouse and his headstone for birth, death and burial record.
12. Joan L. Howell, *Wilson County, North Carolina, Cemeteries, Vol. II*, pg. 111; Also see headstone in Cedar Grove Cemetery, Elm City, N. C.
13. See death certificate in Nash County Courthouse and headstone in Robbins Graveyard for birth and death dates.
14. Same as source no. 6 above.
15. Joan L. Howell, *Wilson County, North Carolina, Cemeteries, Vol. II*, pg. 315. See birth date on headstone.
16. Same source as no. 12 above. See birth date on stone.
17. See census on Ancestry.com for 1870 Edgecombe County, N. C.
18. Edgecombe County Register of Deeds Office, D. B. 46, pg. 27.
19. See Whitmel Williams estates file in the North Carolina Archives at Raleigh or on line.
20. See same source as 18 above.
21. See 1880 Edgecombe County Census on Ancestry.com
22. David B. Gammon, *Abstracts of Wills, Edgecombe County, North Carolina, 1858-1899*, pg. 136, no. 629.
23. J. Robert Boykin, III, *Marriages of Wilson County, North Carolina, 1855-1899, Vol. I*, pg. 104.
24. David LeRoy Corbitt, *The Formation of the North Carolina Counties 1663-1943*, pgs. 237-239.
25. Same as no. 23 above.
26. See the Robbins Graveyard survey at the end of this paper. [To be included in July/August issue of *Trees of Wilson*]
27. Edgecombe County Register of Deeds Office, D. B. 62, pg. 585-589.
28. Same as above in no. 27, D. B. 65, pg. 126.
29. J. Robert Boykin, III, *Abstracts of Wills Wilson County, North Carolina, 1855-1899*, pg. 64. See Mary E. Williams Robbins' Will.
30. Same source as no. 23 above pg. 598.
31. Same source as no. 23 above pg. 596.

### NEW BOOKS WCGS HAS PURCHASED FOR WILSON COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY

*Emigration to other States from Southside Virginia, Volume #2*, compiled by Katherine B. Elliott  
*Richmond County, Virginia, Marriages, 1668-1853*, George H. King  
*White Slave Children of Colonial Maryland and Virginia: Birth and Shipping Records*, Richard Hayes Phillips, Ph.D.

## OBITUARIES

Contributed by J. Robert Boykin, III

### **EFFIE BAKER**

*Wilson Daily Times*, January 11, 1912

#### **A Horrible Death.**

About noon yesterday Miss Effie Baker, aged 20 years and daughter of Mr. J. O. Baker, of the Wilbanks' section, this county, came to a horrible death from burning.

The young lady is subject to epileptic fits and while the family was at dinner and she alone in the room fell in the open fireplace face foremost. When found she was badly burned and life was extinct.

The funeral occurred this afternoon at three o'clock in the Baker cemetery, near Wilbanks.

[Editor's notes: In 1900, Effie Baker, b. Mar. 1889, lived in the Gardners Township household of her parents, George Baker, b. Sep 1860, farmer; and his wife of 13 years, Alice, b. Nov. 1867, six births, all living. Her siblings, Maggie, b. Sep 1887; Flonnie, b. Sep 1891; Floyd, b. May 1893; Pattie, b. Feb 1895; and Paul, b. Jul 1899, lived with them. George's brother Frank Baker, b. May 1855, farm laborer, also lived in the household. *Wilson County, North Carolina, Federal Census of 1900*, Joan L. Howell and Janice C. Sharpe, page 73

Effie E. Baker, b. 27 Mar 1889, d. 11 Jun 1912, daughter of Geo. And Alsie Baker, was buried in the Baker Cemetery, located on Webb Lake Rd. in Gardners Township. Her parents were also buried there: Alsie Baker, b. 05 Mar 1868, d. 27 Jun 1954, wife of George Baker; and George Baker, b. 18 Sep 1862, d. 28 Aug 1913, husband of Alsie. Other Bakers buried there were Jack, b. 11 Mar 1828, d. 22 May 1891, husband of Nancy; Nancy Baker, d. 28 Mar 1895, wife of Jack Baker; Paul Baker, b. 05 Jul 1899, d. 20 Oct 1933, son of Geo. and Elsie Jane Baker; and William Jackson Baker, 03 Mar 1926, Pvt 323 Inf 81 Div. *Wilson County, North Carolina, Cemeteries—Volume I*, Joan L. Howell, page 8]

### **PEARL BARNES**

*Wilson Daily Times*, September 11, 1913 & September 16, 1913

#### **Miss Pearl Barnes.**

Miss Pearl Barnes, the attractive daughter of Mr. George Barnes, who resides some five miles from Wilson, passed away last night about midnight, from typhoid fever. The young lady was a favorite with all who knew her. She was bright and vivacious just blooming into young womanhood at the age of 17 and her friends and relatives are distressed at her untimely taking away. The funeral will be conducted tomorrow afternoon.

[Editor's note: In 1900, George Barnes, b. Aug 1848, farmer; and his wife of 28 years, Spicey, b. Nov 1857, 8 births, all living; were listed in the Town of Black Creek. Their children Ella, b. Sep 1881; Anna, b. Nov 1884; Rosel, son, b. Dec

1885; Julian F., b. Oct 1887; Sulia, b Oct 1887; Lafayette, b. Aug 1891; Pearl, b. Feb 1896; and Earl, b. Feb 1896; were all still living at home. *Wilson County, North Carolina, Federal Census of 1900*, Joan L. Howell and Janice C. Sharpe, page 36]

### **FIELDS**

*Wilson Daily Times*, January 22, 1912

#### **Death of Mr. Fields**

The following is taken from a lengthy notice appearing in the Hickory Democrat concerning the death of Mr. Fields, a prominent citizen of that place.

Mr. Fields is father to Miss Fields, a teacher in our Graded school, a talented young lady who has won a host of friends since her stay in Wilson. Our people will deeply sympathize with her in the loss of a devoted parent.

We append the notice from the Hickory Democrat.

"Mr. Fields was one of the pioneer merchants of this city, and many of its present successful merchants got their start under him. In his younger years he was one of the leading merchants of this part of the State. He came here with his brother, R. H. Fields, from Kernersville in 1870 and about 20 years later the brothers dissolved partnership, the latter going to Charlotte, where he recently died. Mr. Fields was a brave veteran, belonging to Company F, Twenty-sixth N. C. Regiment. He married a daughter of Harrison Wilson in 1870 and seven daughters and a son survive."

*Wilson Daily Times*, January 15, 1912

#### **Mrs. Mattox Dead.**

Mrs. W. R. Mattox of Wendell passed away last Friday and the funeral was conducted by Dr. J. C. Caldwell, President of the Atlantic Christian College. The deceased was 50 years of age, a member of the Christian church, was highly esteemed and leaves a husband and eight children.

Mr. and Mrs. Mattox resided in Wilson county some three years ago, moving to Wendell when that place began to thrive.

*Wilson Daily Times*, February 14, 1911

#### **Owens Infant Died.**

Yesterday the eight month old child of Mr. John I. Owens who resided near Saratoga, died and the funeral was conducted this afternoon in the family burial ground near there.

### **LEVI OWENS**

*Wilson Daily Times*, September 27, 1913

#### **Levy Owens Dead.**

Levy Owens of Saratoga passed away yesterday in his 65th year. He was a member of the Free Will Baptist church and a well known carpenter in that section. He leaves a wife and two children who survive him.

(continued on page 67)



His funeral will be conducted today at the family burying grounds.

[Editor's notes: Levi Owens, 27, married Aquilla Harrell, 18, "sometime in 1873" at the home of John Harrell. The license was issued on Feb \_\_\_, 1873. The marriage was performed by George R. Owens, J. P. and the witnesses were Jackson Owen, Thos. Owen and Hilliard Owen. *Marriages of Wilson County, North Carolina, 1855-1899*, J. Robert Boykin, III, page 529

Levi Owens, b. May 1850, farmer; and his wife of 26 years, Equilla, b. May 1853, 5 births, 2 living; their son Dallas, b. Apr 1876; and daughter Khiva, b. May 1892; lived in the Town of Saratoga in 1900. *Wilson County, North Carolina, Federal Census of 1900*, Joan L. Howell and Janice C. Sharpe, page 132]

### **MITTIE PERSON**

*Wilson Daily Times*, January 15, 1912

#### **Mrs. Fox Person Dead.**

Mrs. Mittie Person, wife of Dr. Fox Person a prominent physician of Fremont and related to Dr. Tom Person, of this city, died this morning at eleven o'clock, age 60 years. She will be buried in the cemetery in Fremont tomorrow.

Mrs. Person was a most estimable lady and leaves several children as follows: Mrs. J. B. Lane, Mrs. T. L. Person, Dr. Cooper Person, Mr. Rodgers Person, Mr. Guy Person, Mr. Rex Person, Mrs. Gertrude Person and Mrs. Flowers of Fremont.

### **LILLIAN PENICK ROUNTREE**

*Wilson Daily Times*, January 30, 1912

#### **Resolutions of Respect.**

On Jan. 20, 1912, our Heavenly Father, in His wise providence, suddenly called from our midst our faithful friend and co-worker, Mrs. Herbert Rountree. The summons came quickly but it found her ready. Therefore, be it resolved by the members of the Home Mission Auxiliary of the Wilson M. E. Church, South.

Though she has gone from us in person, we feel that the influence of her sweet Christian character abides with us and inspires us to a more earnest consecration of our lives and our talents to the service of the Saviour whom she loved and served so joyfully.

2nd. That we bow in submission to the will of Him, who is "too wise to err, too good to be unkind."

3rd. That we extend our heartfelt sympathy to her dear loved ones and pray our Father's blessing upon them.

4th. That a copy of these resolutions be sent to the family, a copy to the Raleigh Christian Advocate and to the Wilson Times for publication, and a copy be spread upon the minutes of our society.

MRS. M. BRADSHAW,  
MRS. SUE D. SWINDELL,  
MRS. J. T. McCRAW,  
MRS. ERNEST DEANS.

[Editor's Notes: Herbert Rountree, b. Nov 1861, clerk; and his wife of 8 years, Lillian, b. Mar 1868, born in Virginia as were her parents, 5 births, 3 living children; lived in Wilson Township in 1900. Their children Moses, b. Apr 1895; Nannie B., b. Nov 1895; and James E., b. Feb 1900; lived with them. *Wilson County, North Carolina, Federal Census of 1900*, Joan L. Howell and Janice C. Sharpe, page 342]

Lillian Penick Rountree, b. 1869, interred 20 Jan 1912, wife of Herbert Rountree, was buried in Maplewood Cemetery, Wilson, N. C. *Wilson County, North Carolina, Cemeteries—Volume IV*, Joan L. Howell, page 194

Lillian Rountree's obituary and another Resolution of Respect were included in the November 2013 issue of *Trees of Wilson*.]

### **MARY SUGG, REDDING S. SUGG**

*Wilson Daily Times*, October 22, 1913

#### **A Double Funeral**

A double funeral occurred here this morning when the remains of Mrs. Mary Suggs and Captain R. S. Redding, both of King's Mountain were laid away in Maplewood cemetery. The death of Mrs. Sugg occurred Monday night at 9:30, that of Captain Redding Sugg, her husband, about eight years ago. It was at Mrs. Sugg's request that she be buried in Wilson, and beside her husband, hence the removal of his remains. Both arrived here this morning on the early train and the funeral occurred about 9 o'clock and was conducted by Rev Mr. Bradshaw of the Methodist church of which the couple were devoted and prominent members.

Those attending the funeral from a distance and relatives of the deceased were Mrs. H. M. Barrow of Spartosburg [sic.], S. C.; Mrs. H. T. Felton and Mrs. James Cobb of Pine Top [sic.]; Mrs. Sugg of Tarboro; Messrs Will and Vines Cobb of Pinetop. She had quite a number of relatives in this section being an aunt of Mr. Leslie Barnes.

The pall bearers were Messrs. E. F. Nadal, Ernest Deans, Doane Herring, R. J. Grantham, T. F. Pettus and E. F. Killette.

[Editor's notes: Mary S. Vines Sugg, b. 16 Oct 1840, d. 20 Oct 1913. and Redding S. Sugg, b. 12 Jul 1835, d. 27 Jul 1907, share a double marker in Maplewood Cemetery, Wilson, N. C. His grave also has a CSA marker. *Wilson County, North Carolina, Cemeteries—Volume IV*, Joan L. Howell]

### **CHARLES WARREN**

*Wilson Daily Times*, January 23, 1912

#### **Mr. Charles Warren Dead.**

The many friends of Mr. Charlie Warren of Spring Hope will regret to learn of his recent death.

Mr. Warren was a native of Wilson and removed to Spring Hope several years ago.

He was prominent in the affairs of that section and leaves a wife and several children.

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## HOWARD CEMETERY

### Contributed by Margaret Boykin Bailey

Located at 6089 Lamm Road, Wilson County, North Carolina  
Surveyed November 5 and 14, 2013

Roy Blackwell (Daddy)  
May 16, 1912  
Jan. 18, 1983

Mrs. Bettie Blackmon (Mother)  
Died - January 30, 1937, Age 50

Mr. John Blackmon (Father)  
Died June 4 or 8, 19??  
Age ??

Mr. Ivey Blackmon (Brother)  
Died (Sept 22?) 19(24 or 34?) or (34? or 37?)  
Age ??

Albert Howard  
May 16, 1892  
August 3, 1956  
WWI

Sally Ann Blackwell (My own dear wife....)  
October 17, 1889  
June 10, 1920

Etta Lucas  
wife of Robert Lucas  
January 5, 1890  
August 31, 1960

Clifton Eatmon  
Died March 12, 1980  
Aged 56 Yrs.  
Darden Memorial Funeral Home, Wilson, NC

Margaret Evans Blackwell (Mother) [This may be Yank's sister. The informant, Mattie, may be Yank's niece.]  
Sept. 11, 1879 (?)  
Dec. 7, 1961

Gladys Blackwell (Daughter)  
Feb 9, 1931  
Oct. 27, 1961

Betsie Strickland  
May 12, 1904  
March 13, 1957

Herman Howard  
January 27, 1897  
January 31, 1958

Thomas Jefferson Howard  
December 31, 1893  
May 22, 1972

Oscar Howard  
February 14, 1886  
November 26, 1957

Pietie Rowe  
April 12, 1894  
November 10, 1941  
[Father: Giford Lucas, Mother: Beda Blackwell]

Etta Lucas  
January 1, 1897  
August 31, 1960

Gilbert Howard  
Abt. 1868  
July 17, 1943  
(Wife Mandy Howard)  
[Father: Deal Howard, Mother: Roda Eatmon]

Frances Lyles "Yank" Finch  
April 3, 1886  
September 11, 1958  
[Father: Ivey Evans, Harriet Lyles]

Asbury Blackwell  
July 20, 1896  
February 13, 1967  
[Father: Albert Blackwell, Mother: Clossie Lucas]

Herman Earl Howard  
January 15, 1959  
August 6, 1959  
[Father: Abbie Lee Howard, Mother: Herlean Crumbley]

Beatrice Howard  
April 1, 1932  
December 3, 1949  
[Father: Herman Howard, Mother: Malindie Roe]

Alvin Howard  
March 15, 1903  
August 15, 1974  
[Father: Deal Howard, Mother: Nancy Blackwell]

Johnnie Howard  
March 15, 1885  
February 17, 1952  
[Father: Deal Howard, Mother: Nancy Blackwell]

Lula Howard  
November 23, 1883  
May 27, 1959  
[Father: Rook Farmer, Mother: William Howard]

Beadie Lyles Howard  
June 20, 1910  
April 12, 1955  
[Father: Emanuel Lyles, Mother: Nancy Howard]

*(continued on page 69)*



### Howard Family Members Buried in Other Cemeteries:

Rest Haven Cemetery

Levy Evans

July 18, 1898

November 6, 1970

[Father: Unknown, Mother: Dora Evans]

Lucas Cemetery

Dora Battle

October 17, 1871

October 21, 1960

[Father: John Lucas, Mother: Delphia Taylor]

**Burial Location for the Following Persons Has Not Been Located:** Wilson County (Could these be buried in Howard Cemetery? If not, would like to determine where they are buried, if possible.)

Deal Howard

[Wife: Nancy Blackwell, Father: Deal Howard, Mother: Rodie Howard. Looks like: November 12, 1862

December 6, 1939]

Bertha Rea Eatmon

[March 2, 1924

April 1, 1938

Father: Clyton Eatmon, Mother: Bertha Blackwell]

Thomas Evans

[Abt. 1894

July 9, 1934]

Nancy Evans

[Date of Birth Not Listed

September 26, 1937 or 1939

Father: Tom Coleman, Mother: Mollie Wooten]

Mollie Coleman

[December 1862

September 14, 1933

Father: Squire J. Coleman, Mother: Nancy Roundtree]



Sue Powell, Joshua Taylor, star of "Genealogy Road Show," and Betty Batchelor at the 2016 National Genealogical Society Conference

## ROMANCE IN THE NEWS

Contributed by J. Robert Boykin and Sue Evans Powell

*The Wilson Advance*, March 30, 1893

Excerpt from "Elm City Item" column.

There has been many happenings in our town since our last correspondence, many of which are too old to mention, but for the sake of the young I will say that a regular matrimonial "cyclone" passed over us sometime ago, and made nearly a "ten strike" eight being the number of our young ladies that have married, within the last three months. We have several more beautiful young ladies of marriageable age, who shall we expect to get off next?

*The Wilson Daily Times*, February 14, 1911

### BREWER—CARROLL

This afternoon Squire Elias G. Barnes united in marriage Mr. David Brewer and Miss Jodie Carroll. Both of the parties were from Johnston county.

### DAVIS—FINCH.

Today the register's office issued license for the marriage of Mr. Robert Davis and Miss Loutonia Finch, daughter of Mr. Charlie Finch. Both of the contracting parties reside in Old Fields township.

### DEANS—LUCAS

License has been issued for the marriage of Mr. Herbert Deans and Miss Bettie Lucas, daughter of Mr. John Lucas. Both the prospective bride and groom reside in Old Fields township.

### CLODFELTER—FARMER.

*The Wilson Daily Times*, February 17, 1911

Tomorrow evening at eight o'clock Mr. Paul Clodfelter, of Winston-Salem, and Miss Hattie Farmer, daughter of Mr. J. O. Farmer, will be united in marriage at the home of the bride on Rountree street.

### CLODFELTER—FARMER.

Last evening at the home of Mr. J. O. Farmer, father of the bride, on Rountree street, his daughter, Miss Hattie Farmer, and Mr. Paul Clodfelter, were united in marriage, Elder J. F. Farmer, uncle of the bride, officiating.

The ceremony took place at eight o'clock following which the bride and groom left for Mr. Clodfelter's former home in Winston-Salem.

No invitations were issued to the wedding, which was solemnized in the presence of only the members of the immediate family and a few close friends.

Mr. Clodfelter for the past several months has been in the tobacco business here, being connected with the Farmers Consolidated Tobacco Co. His bride is a most attractive young lady, immensely popular in her wide circle of friends, who trust that Mr. and Mrs. Clodfelter will make their permanent home in this city.

(continued on page 70)

**LAMM—GARDNER.**

License was issued this morning for the marriage of Mr. Charley Lamm and Miss Sallie Gardner, daughter of Mr. Cad Gardner. Both of the contracting parties reside in Black Creek township.

**MR. AND MRS. GEORGE D. GREEN**

*The Wilson Advance*, April 18, 1895

**Silver Wedding.**

Mr. and Mrs. George D. Green, will receive their friends on Saturday evening April 20th. The occasion being the 25th anniversary of their marriage. Mr. Green has been identified with every move that has had the advancement of Wilson for its object for many years past. It was under his able administration that Wilson was brought from the class of "country town" and placed well up in the scale of modern, up to date cities. To him we in a large measure owe the excellent condition of our town and it was by his personal effort that many broad acres of private property were donated to the town, to be converted into streets for the convenience of our suburban residents.

*The Wilson Daily Times*, February 10, 1911

**HOPKINS—BOYKIN.**

License has been issued for the marriage of A. K. Hopkins and Miss Amanda Boykin. Both of the contracting parties reside in Nash county.

*The Wilson Daily Times*, February 24, 1911

**COOK—KENNEDY.**

Sunday morning at the parsonage of the Second Baptist church in Durham, Rev. W. C. Barrett, in the presence of only a few friends, united in marriage Mr. Jesse Cook and Miss Eula Kennedy. Miss Kennedy resided in Wilson until last fall when she with her parents moved to Durham.

**WHITLEY—BATTON.**

This afternoon at five-thirty o'clock at the home of the bride on Barnes street, Mr. C. B. Whitley and Miss Nellie Batton will be united in marriage.

**WHITLEY—BATTON.**

Yesterday evening five-thirty at the home of the bride on Barnes street, Mr. C. B. Whitley and Miss Nellie Batton, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Batton, were united in marriage, Rev. S. P. Spiegel, pastor of the Christian church, officiating.

The wedding was a quiet home one, witnessed by only the relatives and a few friends of the contracting parties.

Immediately after the ceremony Mr. and Mrs. Whitley left for Raleigh, where they will spend their honeymoon, after which they will make their home in Wilson.

**MR. AND MRS. W. E. LEACH**

*The Wilson Daily Times*, September 26, 1911

**BACK FROM BRIDAL TOUR.**

Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Leach are back from their

bridal tour in the northern cities. They will make their residence at the home of Mr. J. B. Leach, father to the groom.

*The Wilson Daily Times*, October 24, 1911

**PAGE—LAMM.**

Miss Addie Lamm and Mr. F. D. Page, two prominent young people of this county were united in marriage at 1:30 this afternoon in the store of Messrs. J. T. Williams & [\_\_\_\_line missing\_\_\_\_]

Quite a number of friends in addition to the employees and customers of the store witnessed the ceremony which was conducted by Mr. \_\_\_\_ Lamm, Justice of the Peace.

**RAPER—MERCER**

*The Wilson Daily Times*, January 18, 1912

**Married**

Mr. A. T. Barnes [J. P.], who was here today informs us that he united in marriage a few days ago Miss Mattie Raper, daughter [sic.] of Mr. Martin Raper and Miss Dorah [sic.] Mercer, daughter of Mr. James Mercer. The marriage ceremony of these popular young people of the Cross Roads section was postponed on account of the illness of both contracting parties.

[Editor's Notes: Walter T. Raper, 25, resident of Cross Roads, son of Martin and Polly Raper, married Dora Mercer, 20, daughter of James Mercer (mother deceased), resident of Spring Hope, NC, on 11 Jan 1912, at the Cross Roads home of Barney Watson.

Ancestry.com. North Carolina, Marriage Records, 1741-2011 [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA:

Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2015.

Original data: North Carolina County Registers of Deeds. Microfilm. Record Group 048. North Carolina State Archives, Raleigh, NC.]

**ROSE—WINSTEAD**

*The Wilson Daily Times*, January 29, 1912

Mr. W. T. Rose, of Nash and Mrs. Annie Winstead of Wilson county residing near Elm City were married yesterday by Mr. E. T. Braswell, Esq.

The groom is a good farmer and was a brave Confederate soldier. He is 66 years of age. His bride is a splendid woman with a large circle of friends.

**WILLIAMSON—BOYKIN**

*The Wilson Advance*, April 6, 1893

Excerpt from the "Taylors Township Topics" column

Mr. W. H. Williamson was married on Wednesday of last week to Miss Anna Boykin. Both of Old Fields Township. J. H. Fulghum, Esq., officiating. The attendants were: Monroe Bullock and Miss Geneva Williams, S. P. Boykin and Miss Lincy Bullock, E. C. Williamson and Miss Sarrah High, J. F. Williamson and Miss Mary J. Boykin. Many good wishes for them as they start out on the journey of matrimonial bliss. Who next.

Lenox.



## WCGS 31 MAY 2016 MEETING MINUTES

The final meeting of the Wilson County Genealogy Society before summer break was held on May 31, 2016, 7pm, in the Wilson County Public Library assembly room. Joan Howell, vice-president, welcomed all those present in her opening remarks. Wanda Taylor, treasurer, presented the financial report. The report was approved as presented.

Howell reported that the WCGS board met on April 12, 2016. The two main items addressed by the board were the Wilson County deeds transcription project and the need to update the online presence of the Society. The board decided to continue the use of volunteers for the Wilson County deeds project for the time being. A member of WCGS from Arizona has volunteered to help with the revitalization of the WCGS website. The board will meet on June 14, 2016, to consider the website issues and how best to proceed.

The speaker for the evening was Ashley Yandle, Head of the Digital Access Branch of the State Archives of N. C. "An Introduction to Online Research Tools from the State Archives of N. C." was the focal point of the presentation. Yandle told the membership that Michelle Underhill, her counterpart at the State Library of N. C., normally accompanied her for the presentation, but that she would give us an overview of that side of the North Carolina Digital Collections as well. Since 2008, the State Archives of N. C. and State Library of N. C. have collaborated on a shared digital collection. Named the N. C. Digital Collection, it includes over 90,000 historic and recent photographs, state government publications, manuscripts, government records, links to audio visual materials, and other resources on topics related to N. C. The web address is <http://digital.ncdcr.gov/>. Yandle said there are about 41 collections currently, some with complete records online and some that contain a sampling of holdings. The landing pages will tell the user about the materials in the various collections and how to conduct a more fruitful search. One of the complete collections of special interest to genealogists is the 1901 Confederate Pension Applications records. An example of records that are a sampling of the holdings of the State Archives is the N. C. Family Records online. It would be necessary to go to Raleigh to see all of the records. Yandle talked about Mars, the online catalog for the State Archives. She suggested other sites

of interest to researchers, North Carolina Digital Heritage Center, <http://www.digitalnc.org/>, a statewide digitization and digital publishing program housed in the N. C. Collection at UNC. She also suggested that North Carolina Maps, <http://www2.lib.unc.edu/dc/ncmaps/>, a comprehensive online collection featuring maps from three of the state's largest map collections could aid one in research. Her handout, which was mailed as an insert in May "Trees of Wilson," listed several other sites of interest.

The next meeting of WCGS will be September 27, 2016. Also, mark your calendar for our meetings on October 25 and November 29th.

Respectfully submitted,  
Deborah Webb, Secretary

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

• **Genes & Genealogy: Interpreting and Using DNA Test Results**, a full-day workshop co-sponsored by NCGS and the Wake County Genealogical Society, speaker, Blaine Bettinger, PhD, JD, 13 August 2016, McKimmon Center, 1101 Gorman Street, Raleigh, NC 27606. More information can be found in the workshop flyer and on the NCGS website. You may register online or, if you prefer, print and mail the registration form.

• **Edgecombe County Genealogical Society** usually meets at the Edgecombe County Memorial Library, in Tarboro, N. C., at 7:00 pm on the third Thursday of each month.

• **Farmville, N. C., Ancestor Seekers** meet 10 am to 12 noon the second Saturday of each month at the Farmville Public Library.

• **Greene County Family Researchers** meets on the third Thursday of the month at 7:30 pm at the Greene County Museum in Snow Hill, N. C.

• **Old Dobbs Genealogical Society** meets at 10:30 am the third Saturday of each calendar quarter, at the Wayne County Public Library, Goldsboro, N. C.

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1880 Wayne County, Nahunta Township	\$18.00
1900 Wayne County, Great Swamp Township	\$ 6.00
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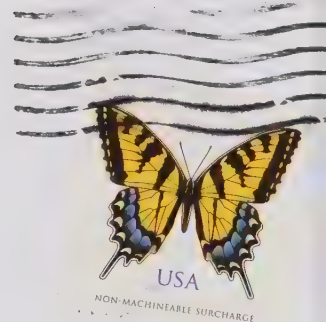
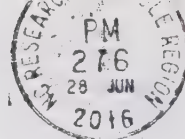
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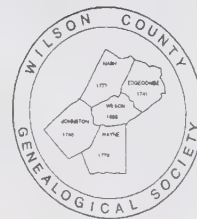




# TREES OF WILSON

*Wilson's Family Heritage*

Chronicles of the  
Wilson County Genealogical Society



August 2016

TWENTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY

Volume 25 Number 7

## Editor's Message

Have you done newspaper re-search? Did you think that there

was no point in looking for your ancestors in the news because they were just ordinary people who led ordinary lives, that there would not have been anything about them to print in the papers? Did you think that it was not worth your time to search microfilm reels on the chance that there may have been mention of an ancestor. Please think again.

You may have looked for an obituary or notice of a marriage and stopped there. We have endeavored to publish in *Trees* obituaries for the years before vital records and have published 1002 to date. Unfortunately, some of them have been short without much information other than the record of the death. We have published in *Trees* marriage notices that have been found in local newspapers, but they have been much fewer.

We also try to include articles about other occurrences in the lives of people of this area. This issue is filled with articles about persons who would not have made the newspaper ordinarily. You may call it their "fifteen minutes of fame," but the articles tell something about persons who may have been your ancestors. Most are just a moment in time, but they put a person in a certain place at a certain time and in a certain circumstance (good or bad, just interesting or unfortunate).

As more newspapers are digitized, finding our ancestors in newspapers will become easier. In the meantime, we will continue to search the local papers for items of interest for our researchers.

## FULGHUM FAMILY REUNION *Wilson Daily Times*, September 13, 1912

Contributed by J. Robert Boykin, III  
**Family Reunion.**

The children of Mr. and Mrs. T. W. Fulghum met at the old Fulghum home place in Wilson county, four miles of Middlesex, Sunday, the 8th of September, and enjoyed a family reunion that, in every sense of the word was a delightful success.

There are nine children in the family, Mrs. Stephen Peel, of Kenly; Mrs. C. J. Strickland, of Wilson; Mrs. J. A. Fughum [sic.]; Mrs. John Windborn, Mrs. Alford Lewis, of Middlesex; Mrs. Lemon Boyett, of Kenly; Mrs. Jesse Fulghum, of Bailey; Mrs. J. A. Lewis, Mr. A. T. Fulghum, of Middlesex. There are 56 grandchildren and 25 great-grandchildren.

The day was ideal for such an occasion and refreshing showers in the afternoon cooled the atmosphere. The family began to assemble about nine in the morning in the spacious grove of evergreens and flowers, beside the old well in which swung the old oaken bucket which afforded the life-giving water upon which the healthy human stock were reared.

The grove was soon filled with buggies, carriage and automobiles.

The party discussed old-times and incidents, and family relationships, for the estate has been in the family at least 100 years.

## Contents of This Issue

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The dead were remembered and flowers were placed upon the graves of departed ancestors, and sweet recollections of loved ones gone before were tenderly referred to.

When dinner was announced a most bountiful spread of good things met the gaze of the assemblage under the wide spreading oats [sic.]. Barbecue, chicken, hams, cakes, pies and all the good things were enjoyed.

Divine blessing was invoked by Mr. James Fulghum, 72 years of age.

It is unnecessary to state that those who gathered were benefited by the occasion. Such meetings are an inspiration and are to be commended. We desire to congratulate the family on their effort to perpetuate a noble family name and to bind the kindred ties closer as the years roll on.

The above facts were furnished by Mr. W. C. Harper.

[Editor's notes: This may have been the family of Thomas Williamson Fulghum and Delaney High, married 24 Oct 1852 (Nash County, N. C., marriage bond).

In 1880, Williamson Fulghum, 50, farmer; his wife Delaney, 47; and children, James A., 21; Lee Ellen, 18; Mary E., 14; Sidney, 11; Jessie, 9; Sallie, 5; and A. Thomas, 1; lived in Old Field Township. (Wilson Co. 1880 Census)

Thomas Williamson, b. 23 Dec 1829, Nash Co., d. 18 Dec 1910, Wilson Co. (Find A Grave Index)

Please mark your calendars for these 2016 meetings:

Sept. 27, Will Robinson, Ancestor Hunting in Ireland

Oct. 25, Martha Gay Morton, Land Records, Where to Find Them, How to Use Them

Nov. 29, Annual Meeting

## Trees of Wilson — WCGS

This chronicle is published by the Wilson County Genealogical Society, organized February 26, 1991. Address: P.O. Box 802, Wilson, NC 27894-0802. Telephone 252-243-1660. Internet address: <http://www.wcgs.org>

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Materials of genealogical interest to the members of WCGS are accepted for publication at the discretion of the Editors and should pertain to families with connections in Wilson County and its neighboring and parent counties. WCGS cannot accept any responsibility for the content of contributed materials, including errors and omissions. Please direct any questions to the contributor. Their names and addresses will be provided upon request for worthwhile purposes.

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## DISBURSEMENTS TO THE POOR

*The Wilson Times*, January 20, 1899

Contributed by Sue Evans Powell

### STATEMENT

Receipts and Disbursements of Wilson County for the Year Ending December 6th 1898.

### OUTSIDE POOR.

DISBURSEMENTS FOR DEC. 1897.

1. Teresa Watson,	allowance	\$2.00
2. Thany Bynum,	"	.75
3. Tis Pridgen,	"	.75
4. Patience Johnston,	"	.75
5. Mingo Johnston,	"	.75
6. Crecy Thompson,	"	.75
7. Shade Jones,	"	.75
8. J. P. Evans,	"	.75
9. Sany Webb,	"	.75
10. Jane Barnes,	"	1.75
11. Sidney Tant,	"	1.50
12. Wilson Hawley,	"	2.50
13. Kinchen Watson and wife,	"	1.50
14. Hezekiah Moody,	"	.75
15. Martha Williford,	"	.75
16. Dred Gay,	"	1.50
17. Violet Coppage,	"	1.50
18. Levi Mercer and wife,	"	1.50
19. Blount and J Lancaster,	"	1.50
20. Tiny Anderson,	"	.75
21. Lucy Williams,	"	.75
22. John Walston,	"	1.50
23. Geo Daniel,	"	1.50
24. Rachel Bardin,	"	.75
25. Millie [N?]ooly,	"	.75
26. Jennie Robbins,	"	.75
27. Calvin Mucro,	"	1.50
28. Mrs. Jesse Adams,	"	3.00
29. Samson Farmer and wife,	"	1.50
30. Jesse Jones,	"	.75
31. Joseph Webb,	"	1.50
32. Moses Batts,	"	.75
33. Eliza Taylor,	"	.75
34. Thos Williamson,	"	.75
35. Nancy Reasons,	"	.75
36. Joseph Taylor,	"	.75
37. Sallie Moore,	"	.75
38. Lorenah Parish,	"	.75
39. Sallie ?	"	.75
40. ? ?	"	.75
41. Mrs ? ?	"	.75
42. Joe P ?	"	.75
43. Lottie Bu ?	"	.75
44. H H Hutchinson,	"	.75
45. Joseph Darden,	"	1.50?
46. Toby Farmer,	"	.75
47. Anthony Taylor,	"	.75
48. Gattsie Baron,	"	.75
49. E M Bunn,	"	.75
50. F M Bunn,	"	.75

[Editor's note: This list is not complete. There were 178 names on the December 1897 list. The next issue of *Trees of Wilson* will continue with no. 51 on the list.]



## BENNETT BLAKE RHODES

*Wilson Daily Times*, February 14, 1911

### IN MEMORIAM.

In the death of Mr. B. B. Rhodes which occurred in Wilson on Monday afternoon, February the 6th, our community lost one of its best and noblest examples of loftiest citizenship, for in Blake Rhodes were all the elements that give to manhood its highest worth and noblest grandeur, for he was the embodiment of truth and honesty and integrity. And while he would not boast of fine intellectual culture or any literary attainments, and while he never filled any high positions of brilliant usefulness or heard the empty adulations of the \_\_\_\_opathic public, yet he had attainments of greater value and higher worth and sweeter satisfaction, for he had the resplendent virtues of truth and honesty which won the highest respect and the unlimited confidence and the affectionate esteem of our entire community. There was nothing mean or low or little or dwarfish in his noble bosom. He wore the shield of integrity without one stain of dishonor to soil its purity or dim the spotless beauty of its radiant \_\_\_\_\_. He was among the bravest of the brave, a true Confederate veteran, a faithful follower of the Immortal Lee, and for a mortal no higher honor can ever be.

His noble wife, the faithful sharer of his joys and sorrows, was formerly Miss Louisa Battle, daughter of the Rev. Amos Battle, brother of Judge W. [?] H. Battle, who was for a long time one of our Supreme Court Judges. She richly inherited the magnificent intellectual gifts of her distinguished family and was a lady of ripest culture and finest literary attainments and a writer of exquisite grace and poetic fancy, having furnished for the press some of the rarest gems that ever glistened in the casket of poesy.

By his marriage to this brilliant [?] gifted and talented woman a daughter was given to him, Mrs. Rosa Bitting, who has developed into the finest specimen of queenliest womanhood \_\_\_\_ ever adorned humanity, and who, with his excellent wife was a comfort and a solace to him in his declining years, and by their sympathetic ministry and affectionate considerations, made his closing scene fragrant with the sweetest perfume of deepest affection and devotion. And he passed away calmly, serenely, peacefully. No agonizing struggle, no torturing convulsions, no terrible gasping for breath, but gently as daylight fades from the landscape when the sun has entered his chamber of rest, and as noiselessly as a snowflake finds burial in the softly rippling current of a placid stream, his soul passed through the sunset bars of life, and our dearly loved friend fell on the dreamless slumber of the grave, and from whose sweet repose he will awaken on the morning of the resurrection to don the robes of blissful immortality.

H. B.

[Editor's notes: B. B. Rhodes, son of John and Rebecca Rhodes, married Louisa Rhodes, daughter of

Amos and Margaret Battle, on 15 Jan 1871, at her home. P. E. Hines, minister, performed the ceremony. *Marriages of Wilson County, North Carolina, 1855-1899*, J. Robert Boykin, III

Amos I. Battle married Margaret Hearn Parker on 07 Jan. 1830. Margaret, b. 19 Jan 1811, was the daughter of Weeks and Sabra Hearn Cooke Parker. *Bible Records of Early Edgecombe*, Ruth Smith Williams and Margarette Glenn Griffin

In the 1860 Wilson County census, the Town of Wilson household of Margaret and Amos Battle included Louisa and her first husband A. G. Rhodes: Margaret Battle, 49, landlady; Amos J. Battle, 56, manager of farm; Caroline Battle, 27; A. G. Rhodes, supt. hotel; Louisa Rhodes, 22; and Julia Rhodes, 1; George Battle, 15; Cullen Battle, 12; Jesse Battle, 10; Mrs. S. Parker, 84; and W. J. Bulluck, 26, physician. *Wilson County, North Carolina, Federal Census of 1860*, Joan L. Howell

In the 1870 Wilson County Census, the Town of Wilson household of Louisa Rhodes, 32, dress maker; included Margaret, 13; Julian, 11; Henriett, 8; Walter, 5; Mincy, 3; and Clyde, 1. *Wilson County, North Carolina, Federal Census of 1870*, Joan L. Howell

In the Wilson County 1880 census, B. B. Rhodes, 47, drayman; and his wife Martha L., 42, dressmaker; lived on Barnes Street in the Town of Wilson. Her children Etta L., 18; Minnie L., 13; Vivian Clyde, 11; Julian C., 21, printer in newspaper office; Walter B., 15, tin shop worker; and their child together, Rosalie, 8, lived with them. *Wilson County, North Carolina, 1880 Census*, J. Robert Boykin, III

The 1900 Wilson Township household of Blake B. Rhodes, b. Jan 1833, drayman; and his wife of 29 years, Martha L., b. Jul 1837, 16 births, 5 living children; included three generations. Their daughter Rosa L. Applewhite, b. Sep 1871, 5 births, 3 living children; and her children Blake D. Applewhite, b. Dec 1891; Annie L. Applewhite, b. Mar 1893; and Eric L. Applewhite, Oct 1896; lived with then. *Wilson County, North Carolina, Federal Census of 1900*, Joan L. Howell

Bennett Blake Rhodes, b. 29 Jan 1838, d. 06 Feb 1911, was buried in Maplewood Cemetery in Wilson. Louisa Battle Rhodes (Mrs. Blake), b. 1837, interred 28 Jan 1921, was also buried in Maplewood. *Wilson County, North Carolina, Cemeteries, Volume IV*, Joan L. Howell]

## C. MANLY MORTON

*Wilson Daily Times*, February 14, 1911

Contributed by Sue Evans Powell

### "Made Good"

We learn with real pleasure that the talented and gifted young preacher, the Rev. C. Manly Morton, who graduated at the Atlantic Christian College, and who is most affectionately remembered by our community, has "made good" in Wilmington, and has already established the reputation of being a preacher of thrilling eloquence and electrifying oratory. He is pastor of the Christian church in Wilmington and is daily growing in popularity for he has those fine qualities and Christian graces that win the highest esteem.

# THE FAMILY OF JOHN CORNELIUS ROBBINS AND MARY (POLLY) E. WILLIAMS

Contributed by Albert R. Page, Sr.

## Mary E. Williams Robbins' Death and the Aftermath

Mother Mary E. "Polly" Williams Robbins may have begun to experience ill health by 1897 and 1898. She wrote her will on the 15th of August 1898. She died on the 12th of December of that year, and she was interred in the Robbins family graveyard on her farm.<sup>32</sup> The family placed a nice headstone at her grave. Four days later, on the 16th of December, her will was probated in Wilson County. Husband John Cornelius Robbins was extended the courtesy of "a home at the homestead, a horse and a buggy and spring wagon ... if he stays at home ..." with Mattie and Della. Son Henry Clay Robbins received the Buck Swamp 32 acres. William Elizah Robbins' share was one acre next to "his own land." Richard Isaac Robbins inherited 50 acres of the home place. Zilphia Robbins Batts got the 50 acre Menchall Moore farm. Daughters Mary Matilda and Lizina Della Robbins received the lion's share of the farm and its equipment. They inherited 116 acres of the original farm that came into the family back in the 1850's.<sup>33</sup>

The 1900 Wilson County Census reported that 70 year old Cornelius Robbins was at home with his daughters, 45 year old Mattie and 42 year old Della. Sons Richard and his family and Elijah with his family were living on the home place helping with most of the farm work for their father and sisters.<sup>34</sup> On the 23rd of October 1900, Henry Clay Robbins married widow Henrietta Sharpe Lancaster of Sharpsburg.<sup>35</sup> Zilphia Robbins and her husband Wiley Batts lived not far away, but it was in Nash County.<sup>36</sup>

Over the next ten years, as father John Cornelius Robbins aged from 70 to 80 and likely reached his retirement age, Richard Isaac Robbins took more lead in running the Robbins 166 acre farm. The 1910 Wilson County Census listed this old Robbins family. J. C. was 80, Matilda was 54, and Della was 50 years old. They had 26 year relative Starkey Robbins staying with them and helping on the farm.<sup>37</sup> John Cornelius Robbins passed away at age 82 on the 7th of February 1913. His family buried their father next to their mother in the family Robbins graveyard. The children placed a nice large headstone at his grave next to their mother Mary E. Williams Robbins.<sup>38</sup>

## The Closing Years of This Robbins Family

The six children of J. C. and Polly Robbins, all but Richard Isaac Robbins, would die within five years of each other. Zilphia Williams Batts died first on the 7th of April 1927. She was buried in the Upper Town Creek Primitive Baptist Ceme-

tery.<sup>39</sup> Unmarried sisters Mattie and Della Robbins died about 27 days apart in 1929. Mary Matilda Robbins passed away on the 14th of January.<sup>40</sup> Sister Lizana Della expired on the 11th of February after a short period in the Park View Hospital of Rocky Mount.<sup>41</sup> Both were buried in the family Robbins graveyard with their parents and other kin. Brothers Henry Clay and William Elijah Robbins died in 1932. Henry departed on the 20th of January and was likely buried with his parents and sisters in the family graveyard.<sup>42</sup> William Elijah passed away on the 19th of August, and he was buried in the Elm City Cedar Grove Cemetery.<sup>43</sup> Richard Isaac Robbins, the youngest Robbins child, lived 16 years longer than his older brothers Henry and Elijah. He died on the 31st of December 1948 and was buried in the Cedar Grove Cemetery.<sup>44</sup>

John Cornelius Robbins and Mary E. Williams' family spans 118 years from J. C.'s birth in 1830 to Richard's death in 1848. The Robbins land was passed down to family members over decades of time. When Mattie and Della Robbins died, they willed their 116 acres to their brother Richard Isaac Robbins in 1929.<sup>45</sup> Richard willed the farm to his children. Marvin Robbins, a great grandson of John Cornelius and Mary Robbins owns and lives on his peoples' land today. This land appears to have been in good hands for over 160 years. If the Robbins family owned this land before John Cornelius Robbins did, then the Robbins ownership goes back years before the 1850's.<sup>46</sup>

## The John Cornelius Robbins Graveyard<sup>47</sup>

Located east out of Sharpsburg about one half of a mile and south of County Line Rd. It is behind an old trailer court and about 150 yards beyond the cotton field next to the woods. It is over grown and has been for years. There are seven headstones visible, but there are likely more there under the overgrowth.

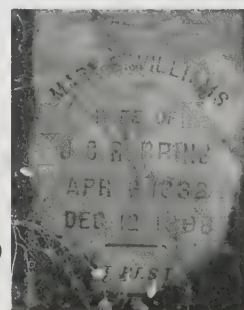
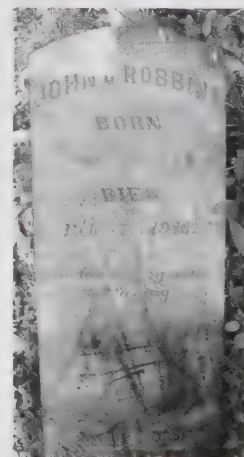
Mary E. Williams Robbins  
8 Apr. 1832  
12 Dec. 1898

John Cornelius Robbins  
10 Sept. 1830  
7 Feb. 1913

Mary Matilda Robbins  
29 Oct. 1855  
14 Jan. 1929

Lizina Della Robbins  
30 May 1859  
11 Feb. 1929

Zebbie D. Batts  
Dau. of W. G. & Zilphia Batts  
11 Oct. 1884  
15 July 1885



(continued on page 77)



## ENCOUNTERS WITH NATURE

### GUSTON DAVIS

*The Wilson Advance*, May 4, 1893

Contributed by Sue Evans Powell

### KILLED A CHICKEN HAWK

Guston Davis, who lives with Mr. C. W. Knight, at Barnes Store, killed a chicken hawk which measured three feet eight inches from tip to tip.

### CHARLIE KILLETTE

*Wilson Daily Times*, June 11, 1913

Contributed by J. Robert Boykin, III

### SOME SNAKES

Mr. Charlie Killette who has had a force of hands cleaning out the water works canal and cutting the bushes from the right of way along side [sic], tells us of the experience his help had with snakes. They killed altogether 35 moccasins, some of them of extraordinary size. A number of the snakes showed fight and would chase the men until they could be dispatched.

One snake was five feet long and eight inches in circumference.

The canal has been thoroughly cleaned out and prepared for the summer.

### GEORGE WARREN

*Wilson Daily Times*, May 26, 1914

Contributed by J. Robert Boykin

### KILLED AN ALLIGATOR

Mr. George Warren on Friday killed a young alligator in the ditch on the corner of Kenan and Warren streets.

### JOHN D. MERCER

*Wilson Daily Times*, June 23, 1913

Contributed by J. Robert Boykin, III

### 35 TURTLE EGGS

Constable John D. Mercer captured a turtle weighing ten pounds Saturday morning down on Great Swamp below Black Creek and secured from the animal 35 hard eggs.

Mr. Mercer had been fishing in the creek for a couple of days and the evening before saw signs of a turtle rooting in a pile of sawdust, but on that day was unable to find his turtleship.

But on Saturday morning while approaching the pile of sawdust with his little son the turtle was seen rooting in the sawdust presumably for the purpose of making her nest and when she saw the people approaching she began to work in earnest to hide in the sawdust. It was an easy matter to catch her and when dressed was found to contain 35 hard eggs.

Mr. Mercer and his family had a fine feast yesterday. He has been quite lucky fishing for robins also.

[Editor's note: John D Mercer may have been John D. Mercer, b Nov 1869, farmer, who lived in the Town of Black Creek in 1900. His wife of five years, Ovelia, b. Mar 1872, farm laborer; and children Walter H., b. Jul 1895; Williard, b. May 1897; and Minnie P., b. May 1899; lived with him. *Wilson County, North Carolina, Federal Census of 1900*, Joan L. Howell and Janice C. Sharpe, p. 33 ]

(John Cornelius Robbins, continued from page 76)

Infant of W.G. & Zilphia Batts

31 Aug. 1898

Wiley J. Batts

Son of W.G. & Zilphia Batts

18 Aug. 1903

8 June 1905

It is this writers' speculation that Henry Clay Robbins might be buried here too. His headstone likely is under the growth.

(Henry Clay Robbins

13 Nov. 1853

20 Jan. 1932)

### Endnotes and Comments

32. See the J.C. Robbins Graveyard survey at the end of this paper. Also same source as no. 29 above. [See *June Trees* for no. 29.]

33. Same source as 29.

34. Joan L. Howell & Janice C. Sharpe, *Wilson Co. N.C. Federal Census of 1900*, pg. 232, nos. 41, 42 & 44.

35. Same as no. 23 above, pg. 597. [See *June 2016 Trees* for no. 23.]

36. See Nash County 1900 Census on Ancestry.com.

37. See 1910 Wilson County Census on Ancestry.Com.

38. See Robbins Graveyard Survey at the end of this paper and the headstones of the Robbins Graves.

39. Same as source no. 15 above. See also death certificate. [See *June Trees* for no. 15.]

40. See death certificate in the Wilson Co. Register of Deeds Office, bk. 1929, pg. 132.

41. Nash Co. Register of Deeds Office, bk. 1929, pg. 203.

42. Same as above in no. 41, bk. 1932, pg. 258.

43. Wilson Co. Register of Deeds Office, bk. 1932, pg. 203.

44. Edgecombe Co. Register of Deeds Office, bk. 1948, pg. 98.

45. See the will of Mary Matilda Robbins in the Wilson Co. Courthouse. Della died a few days after her sister, and since both owned their land together, they willed it to their young brother Richard Isaac Robbins. He most likely had been tending it all the past years.

46. It looks like these Robbins owned this land, by deed, dating back to the 1850's.

47. Nephew Mike Page and this writer surveyed this small but over grown graveyard and took pictures on April 15, 2016. This graveyard has not been included in the Wilson County Cemetery books.

## OBITUARIES

Contributed by J. Robert Boykin, III

### JESSE BARNES

*Wilson Daily Times*, February 17, 1911

#### Mr. Jesse Barnes Dead.

Mr. Jesse Barnes, aged thirty-four, died suddenly last night at his home on Capt. Washington's farm near Wilson. The end came quietly and not until his lifeless body was found in bed this morning did Mrs. Barnes learn of his death.

His father, Mr. Arthur Barnes, also died suddenly several years ago. Mr. Barnes leaves his wife, whose maiden name was Miss Montgomery and from Johnston county, and one child surviving.

The funeral will be held tomorrow at the Contentnea Primitive Baptist church.

### MOSES FARMER

Reprint from *Clarendon Courier*, Journal of the Old New Hanover Genealogical Society, Vol. 27, Issue 2, 2015-16

Died. In Edgecombe county, 24th ult., in the 54th year of his age, Mr. Moses Farmer. *Wilmington Journal*, Vol. 1, No. 12, Friday, December 6, 1844, page 3, Column 4.

### WILLIAM GARDNER'S INFANT

*Wilson Daily Times*, February 2, 1911

#### Gardner Infant Death.

Saturday the three months old baby of Mr. and Mrs. William Gardner, who live near Wilbanks, died after an illness with whooping cough. The funeral was conducted Sunday afternoon in the burial ground near Wilbanks.

### MRS. H. J. HESTER

*Wilson Daily Times*, February 14, 1911

#### Mrs. H. J. Hester Dead.

Relatives in Wilson today received the intelligence that Mrs. H. J. Hester died last night in Baltimore, where she was carried several weeks ago for treatment. The funeral will be held in that city.

Mrs. Hester leaves ten children, seven daughters and three boys. Two of her children, Mrs. A. J. Ford and Mrs. H. M. Rodgers, of Wilson, recently returned from their mother's bedside in Baltimore when it was thought that she was improving, but after they left Mrs. Hester's condition gradually became worse until the end.

### FREDERICKA LEAKE SWINDELL

*Wilson Daily Times*, August 16, 1913

#### MRS. F. D. SWINDELL DEAD

**Sad News of the Death of This Beloved Young Lady at the Home of Her Parents in East Lake, Va. Reaches Wilson.**

A telegram bearing the sad news of the death of Mrs. Fredericka Leake Swindell, at 9 o'clock this morning at the home of her parents in East Lake, Va., reached Wilson this morning. Although the

friends of Mrs. Swindell knew that for the past several days that she had been desperately ill with typhoid fever, they were shocked and saddened at the news.

The funeral services will be conducted at ten o'clock Monday morning from the First Presbyterian church of Richmond. The interment will be in Richmond.

Mrs. Swindell was the wife of Mr. Fred D. Swindell a prominent young attorney of Wilson, having been married about three years.

In the early part of the summer she left to visit the home of her parents in Virginia. Their home is in Richmond, and they have a summer home in East Lake, a short distance out from Richmond. Several weeks ago she became sick, and it was thought that it was only an attack of malaria. A few days ago the physicians in charge realized that typhoid fever had set in. Her brother-in-law, Dr. Charles Swindell of Beaufort and her brother, Mr. Charles Leake, of Wilson, rushed to her bedside.

Mrs. Swindell was the daughter of the late Judge Leake. She has several relatives in Wilson, whom she visited prior to her marriage, thereby making a host of friends here.

No young woman has ever come into a community and made more loyal friends than Mrs. Swindell did in Wilson. She was loved by all who knew her, old and young, for her sweet and kindly disposition and lovely character. Those friends are grieved on account of her death more than words can tell.

Mr. Swindell was called to his wife's bedside five weeks ago on account of her condition and has been at her bedside ever since.

Mr. L. D. Giddens has gone to Richmond to be with Mr. Swindell in this his sad hour.

Beautiful floral tributes were sent by members of the local citizens and friends.

#### Mrs. Frederick Swindell, Jr.

*Wilson Daily Times*, August 16, 1913

A very beautiful and livable spirit passed from earth to heaven this morning. When the wires flashed the news of her passing, Wilson was wrapped in gloom, for here it was, she spent her happily married life. Here it was where her sweet Christian influence touched all with whom she came in contact. Her life in this community was, as an open book, to be read and known by all. She carried sunshine and gladness in to all the homes she visited, her very face beamed with a radiance and brightness that came from the Father of Lights. She was loyal and strong in her convictions; true in all the relations of life. She possessed many admirable traits of character. Of them all, the one that impressed the writer, perhaps more than all others, was her sincerity. She was truly unaffected, perfectly sincere, amiable and sweet in disposition, pure in the thought and deed. In truth one of God's own. What more can we say of any one? We will miss her sweet voice in the Wilson Methodist church choir but hope to

(continued on page 79)



hear that voice again "some sweet day," in the Angelic choir above. May the Comforter abide in the hearts of the distressed husband and other loved ones.

#### **MAUD WHITLEY**

*Wilson Daily Times*, October 17, 1913

Miss Maud Whitley Dead.

Miss Maud Whitley, the 13 year old daughter of Mr. C. W. Whitley, of Wilbanks, passed away yesterday evening.

Miss Whitley had been ill for some time with pneumonia, and every attention had been given her, but in vain.

She will be buried at the family burying ground today at 3 P. M.

[Editor's note: She may have been the daughter of Connie Whitley, 37, farmer; and his wife of 11 years, Fanny, 5 births, 4 living children; who lived in Gardners Township in 1910. Their children were Maud, 9; Frank, 5; Betsy, 3; and Nellie, 7 mos. Ancestry 1910 Census, Gardners Township, Wilson County, North Carolina; Roll: T624\_1137; Page: 4A; Enumeration District: 0106; FHL microfilm: 1375150]

#### **WILLIAM BERT WILLIAMS**

*Zion's Landmark*, May 15, 1913

Elder W. B. Williams

I am requested by Sister Mary Luper to write an obituary notice of her dear father, Elder W. B. Williams, who departed this life June 11, 1912.

Brother Williams was the son of Redmon and Martha Williams. He was born Feb. 8, 1834, making his stay on earth 78 years, 4 months and 3 days.

He was married to Margaret M. Ruffin July 30, 1857. There were born unto them 9 children, only 3 of whom survive him, and also 8 grandchildren.

He was taken sick at Benson on the 11th of March, at the home of brother Ezekiel Barber's about the time his last appointments ended. He was cared for and given very kind attention by brother Barber and family, and also by the kind physician that treated him while there, but he was unconscious until after he came home. His mind got better and he revived a little. His daughter says that his sufferings were great but he bore them all with the greatest of patience and expressed a willingness to die.

He joined the church very young (but I could not learn the exact date) and began to preach soon after. He preached over 50 years. He was a faithful old soldier of the cross and we all miss his services here, and miss his bright and shining face as he would come limping in our churches. He was a cripple all his life.

Many of you know him well and know that he had to walk with a stick in one hand and the other hand on his knee. Often when I would see him these words would come in my mind, Poor and afflicted Lord are thine, and I had not a doubt but he was one of the Lord's afflicted ones and was called

and qualified of him to preach the unsearchable riches of Christ.

I dreamed one night several years ago that brother Williams and when he was called to preach he had two calls, one was to preach and one not to preach, but the impression to preach was so much greater than the other, he felt he was bound to preach. He preached for us at Mill Branch regularly at times for several years. We have lost two pastors and Brother Williams was so faithful in preaching for us both times until the Lord would bless us with another. He would ride miles through the cold and heat to visit the churches around. Too much could not be said about this dear and tried servant of God and I am not competent to write his obituary but felt I must do the best I could.

The children deeply feel the loss of their father but desire to be submissive to the Lord's will. His companion died a few years ago which left him all alone except his children. They were very kind and attentive to him during his sickness.

May the Lord comfort them in their bereavement is my desire.

His afflicted son has also passed from this world to a better one I believe, since his father passed away.

I believe they are both now around the Throne of God praising him in Heaven.

May we all be prepared to meet our loved ones in that happy home above.

A very little one if one at all,

MATTIE LUPER JARRELL

[Editor's notes: Resolutions of Respect, submitted by the Upper Town Creek Church, were published in *Zion's Landmark*, August 1, 1912, and published in *Trees of Wilson* in the January 2016 issue of *Trees of Wilson*, page 7.

In 1860, W. B. Williams, 26, lemonade shop; Margaret, 22; Elisha T., 1; and B. R., 3 months, lived in Joyners and Gardners District. *Wilson County, North Carolina, Federal Census of 1860*, Joan L. Howell

In 1900, William Williams, b. Feb 1834, farmer; and his wife of 42 years Margaret, b. May 1838; lived in Toisnot Township. Margaret had given birth to 9 children, and 4 were surviving. Their son Jesse L., b. Oct. 1864, an invalid; and daughter Nannie, b. Oct. 1879; and a boarder Mollie Williams, widow, b. Aug. 1857; lived with them. *Wilson County, North Carolina, Federal Census of 1900*, Joan L. Howell and Janice C. Sharpe, page 234

Margaret M. Williams, b. 20 May 1838, d. 07 Jan 1908, "Devoted wife of Elder W. B. Williams, was buried in Upper Town Creek Cemetery in Toisnot Township. The cemetery is located at the intersection of Town Creek Rd. and East Langley Rd. W. B. Williams, Elder, b. 22 Feb 1835, d. 11 Jun 1912, was also buried in the Upper Town Creek Cemetery. *Wilson County, North Carolina, Cemeteries—Volume II*, Joan L. Howell, pages 329, 330]

## EVERYDAY PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

Contributed by J. Robert Boykin, III

### CHARLES BARRON

*Wilson Daily Times*, May 17, 1912

#### General Wilson's Sword

Dr. Charles Barron, of Edgecombe, has in his possession the sword of Gen. Louis D. Wilson for whom this county was named.

General Wilson presented it to Col. John L. Bridgers, a relative of Dr. Barron who in turn gave it to him.

Dr. Barron used the sword a while during the late war while in command of his company. The sword has therefore been through two wars: the Mexican and Civil.

### JOSH BYNUM

*Wilson Daily Times*, September 17, 1912

#### A Good Farmer

Prof. Josh Bynum, colored, who lives on Mr. Charlie Bryant's farm, near Saratoga, has made a wonderful record this year.

He planted 8 acres of tobacco and has sold \$1,388.00, and has two more barns worth \$400.00. He sold one barn last Friday for \$308.46 and one yesterday for \$256.33 and he planted 4 acres in corn and will make 25 barrels.

Josh says he has been in debt a long time, but has bought him a rubber tire buggy, paid every cent he owes and has started a good bank account.

Josh is also a school teacher and will begin teaching again in November. This is certainly creditable to a worthy colored man and we commend his example to others of his race.

Wilson county is the garden spot of the world and any man can succeed if he will work and use his head.

[Editor's note: Josh Bynum may have been Joshua Bynum, b. Aug. 1876, farm laborer, son of George Bynum, b. Jan 1835, farmer; and Ally Bynum, b. Jan. 1837. They lived in the Town of Saratoga in 1900. *Wilson County, North Carolina, Federal Census of 1900*, Joan L. Howell and Janice C. Sharpe, p. 124]

### E. T. CARNEY

*Wilson Daily Times*, October 25, 1911

#### A Picture of a Child

Mr. E. T. Carney today showed us a picture of pretty little Rosaline, the four year old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Will Bryan that he is framing.

The child was seated in a chair, the property of her great grandmother, held a doll, the property of her grandmother and was attired in a dress that her mother wore when she was four years of age.

### A. B. COLLIER

*Wilson Daily Times*, February 29, 1913

#### Pays to Live at Home

That it pays to live at home and board at the same place is amply illustrated by the experience of Mr. A. B. Collier, of Cross Roads township who has refused \$20,000 for a farm for which he paid \$2,750 several years ago.

The following article sent the New and Observer by its correspondent, Mr. R. B. Evans of this city concerning Mr. Collier is interesting:

"Mr. A. B. Collier, who lives five miles southeast of Lucama, is not only an intelligent, practical and progressive farmer, but he is the father of nine children and his grand children total up twenty-seven. There are only eight girls in the whole bunch—four daughters and four grand daughters.

Mr. Collier has a farm containing 406 acres, for which he paid, in 1900, only \$2,750 and has turned down an offer of \$20,000 for the tract. He is one of Wilson county's most progressive and substantial planters; lives at home, eats home-made biscuits, home-raised meats of all kinds. In fact he makes a point to raise everything at home and stipulates in contracts with tenants that they must raise so much corn and wheat—leaving it to their choice to plant surplus land in either cotton or tobacco. From eight acres planted in tobacco last year, he realized \$2,100. Says there will be no increase in tobacco acreage in his locality this year."

[Editor's note: A.B. Collier may have been Acey Collier, b. Dec 1858, farmer, who lived in the Town of Black Creek in 1900. His wife of 19 years, Sallie, b. Oct 1858, and seven of their eight children lived with him. Their children were Robert E., b. Jul 1883, farm laborer; Netta A., b. Jun 1885, farm laborer; Fred A., b. Apr. 1888, farm laborer; Cornelia, b. Apr 1890, farm laborer; Nellie G., b. Feb 1892; Benjamin A., b. May 1894; and Susan E., b. Mar 1898. *Wilson County, North Carolina, Federal Census of 1900*, Joan L. Howell and Janice C. Sharpe, p. 12-13]

### EVELYN HOPE DANIELS

*Wilson Daily Times*, August 28, 1913

#### Quite an Artist

Miss Evelyn Hope Daniels, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Daniels is home from the Berkshire hills in New York where she has been pursuing her studies in art under such painters as Johansen, a man of world-wide reputation. Miss Daniels is thoroughly interested in art and is pursuing her studies with great earnestness.

From early childhood she demonstrated a remarkable talent and is greatly encouraged by the criticisms of her teachers and those who are judges of good work. Miss Daniels is fond of landscapes and after a short stay in Wilson will accompany her mother on a visit to relatives at Franklin, in the mountains of Western North Carolina, where she expects to place upon canvass the beauties of this section.

[Editor's note: This family may have been that of

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Charley C. Daniel, b. Sep 1864, lawyer; and his wife of seven years, Marry L., b. June 1870, who lived in Wilson Township in 1900. Their children Evlelyn [sic.] H., b. Nov. 1893; Charlie C., b. Jul 1895; and his mother Marry C. Daniel, b. Sep. 1835; lived with them. *Wilson County, North Carolina, Federal Census of 1900*, Joan L. Howell and Janice C. Sharpe, p. 324]

### J. B. PASCHAL

*Wilson Daily Times*, March 24, 1914

#### Old Papers

Mr. J. B. Paschal has shown us some very old papers, the property of his father, the late Dr. Paschal, which are exceedingly interesting.

One of these is for a bill of goods purchased of Mr. C. C. Blacknall, a merchant of Kittrell, N. C. in 1856. On this bill head is a picture of one of the first trains on the Seaboard Air Line railroad. The study of this old engine with its box cars opening like a barn door, its engine a wood burner and the engineer having to hold an umbrella over him in order to keep off the rain is certainly very interesting.

We also saw the commission handed Dr. Paschal as captain of a company of State militia issued in 1856 and signed by Governor Bragg.

Again there is an order for all able-bodied men between the ages of 18 and 45 to meet in the town of Louisburg on June 22, 1863 in order to be mustered in. Those were in the days of the State militia long before the war.

[Editor's notes: J. B. Paschall is somewhat confusing. Ruby P. Shackelford wrote in *Black Creek: The First One Hundred Years*, (p. 332), compiled by the Black Creek Historical Society, that the [4] children of Dr. Robert Paschall were Robert Albirtus "Birt," Joshua Walter, Benjamin Greene; and Henrietta. She continued that Joshua married Sallie Poole.

In 1900, Joshua Paschall, b. Sep 1858, saw miller; and his wife of 8 years, Sallie J., b. Jan 1874 (4 births, 3 living children), lived in the Town of Black Creek. Their children were May, b. Sep 1893; Ernest, b. Aug. 1896; and Luther, b. Apr. 1899. *Wilson County, North Carolina, Federal Census of 1900*, Joan L. Howell and Janice C. Sharpe, p. 13

Robert Paschall, b. Nov. 1830, physician; and his wife of 47 years, Mary F., b. Apr. 1829, (5 births, all living) also lived in the Town of Black Creek. *Wilson County, North Carolina, Federal Census of 1900*, Joan L. Howell and Janice C. Sharpe, p. 8-9

There was a Joeeph [sic.] B. Paschall, b. Mar 1855, butler, living in Wilson Township in 1900. Could he have been the fifth child of Robert and Mary? Living with "Joeeph" were his wife of 23 years, Lou, b. Oct 1858 (4 births, 3 living); and their children Robert, b. Nov. 1880, butcher; Dida B., b. Sep. 1888; and Etta L., b. Aug. 1889. *Wilson County, North Carolina, Federal Census of 1900*, Joan L. Howell and Janice C. Sharpe, p. 339]

### NANNIE SHARPE

*Wilson Daily Times*, July 14, 1914

#### A Family Reunion

Quiet [sic] a happy event occurred [at] the home of Mrs. Nannie Sharpe, four miles East of Elm City, July 5th, when all her children and grand children [sic] gathered home to spend the day with greatest of pleasure with their mother and grandmother. She had the pleasure of having five sons, five daughters, three daughters-in-law, three son-in-laws [sic] and twenty grand children to enjoy the good dinner with her which had been prepared before the occasion.

The dinner being spread upon a large table built in the cool shady [sic].

[Editor's note: This may have been the family of John T. Sharp, b. Oct 1856, farmer, and his wife of 25 years, Nannie, b. Nov 1857, 12 births with 10 living children. Eight of their children were living with them in 1900: John W., b. Aug 1880, farm laborer; Charles C., b. Aug 1882, farm laborer; Mary E., b. May 1884; Thadeous, b. May 1889; Marth M., b. Mar 1890; Bettie R. b. May 1892; Thomas A., b. Sep 1897; and Nannie A., b. Sep 1898. *Wilson County, North Carolina, Federal Census of 1900*, Joan L. Howell and Janice C. Sharpe, page 242

In 1880, Jack T. Sharpe, 23, farmer; his wife Nannie, 21; and children Hattie L, 3; and Jesse D., 1; lived in Toisnot Township. *Wilson County, North Carolina, 1880 Census*, J. Robert Boykin, III, page 386

J. T. Sharpe, 21, had been married to Nannie Farmer, 18, on 19 Jan 1876, by J. E. Brown, J. P, at Toisnot. E. D. Sharpe was one of the witnesses. *Marriages of Wilson County, North Carolina, 1855-1899*, J. Robert Boykin, III, page 628]

### R. J. TAYLOR

*Wilson Daily Times*, February 20, 1912

#### 79 Years of Age

Mr. Editor:

Dear Sir:

It is pleasant to notice in Saturday's issue of THE TIMES, how candidly and good humoredly you "acknowledged the coin" also what complimentary [sic.] terms you used in reference to me. I am glad to be considered as well as really to be, your "good friend."

I must, however, correct your statement concerning my age. I was born July the 4th 1833. Therefore, should I live to see it, I shall be 79 on my next birthday.

When I look back and see that almost all my early acquaintances and school mates are dead, it is hard to understand why I am yet spared. I thank the good Lord, that I have not only been permitted to live out my three score and ten, but also for the strength that has enabled me to get so near the four score mile post.

Yours respectfully

R. J. Taylor

[Editor's note: R. J. Taylor may have been Robert Taylor, b. Jul 1832, farmer, who lived in Wilson Township in 1900. His wife of 39 years, Sallie,

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## SAM AND ETTA (HENRIETTA?) WEST

Compiled by Sue Evans Powell

Sam West, son of Doch and Charity West, was born 01 Oct 1889, in Wayne County, North Carolina. His parents were both born in North Carolina.

On 25 Sep 1909, Sam West, 19, son of Doch and Charity West, married Etta West, 20, daughter of Henry and Sally Ann West, in Wilson, North Carolina.<sup>1</sup>

As recorded in the Wilson County, N. C., 1910 Federal Census, Sam West, 20, and his wife Etta, 19, lived in a rented house at 504 Hines Street in Wilson, Ward 1. Sam was a factory laborer.<sup>2</sup>

On 05 Jun 1917, Sam West, (natural born in Wayne County, N. C., on 01 Oct 1889), registered for the draft at Bull Head, Greene County, N. C. He was living in Stantonsburg, N. C., was farming, was married [but his wife was not named], and was described as of medium height, stout, with blue eyes and dark brown hair.<sup>3</sup>

Sam West served in the U.S. Army during World War I. He was slightly gassed while serving in combat in France and Germany.<sup>4</sup>

As recorded in the 1920 Federal Census, Samuel West, 29, and his wife Etta, 28, lived on Julian Avenue in Stantonsburg, Wilson County, N. C. He was a salesman in the market meat industry.<sup>5</sup>

In the Greene County, N. C., 1930 Federal Census, Samuel West, 40, and his wife, Etta, 39, and daughter, Myrtle, 7, were recorded as living on Bull Head/Wilson Road, dwelling number 248, family number 258. They owned their home, and he was farming, working for himself.<sup>6</sup>

A birth certificate for Myrtle West was not found in an April 22, 2016, search on Ancestry.com.

Mrs. Etta West, born 22 Sep 1888 [sic.], in Green [sic.] Co., N. C., died from pernicious anemia, at Woodard Herring Hospital, in Wilson, N. C. on July 18, 1940. Her death certificate stated that she was the wife of Sam West, daughter of Henry West, born in Wayne Co., N. C., and Sallie Ann Darden, born in Wayne Co., N. C. She was buried by Hunt Funeral Home in Stantonsburg, N. C.<sup>7</sup>

Etta West, b. 22 Sep 1889, d. 18 Jul 1940, "Wife of Sam West," double marker, was buried in Stantonsburg Cemetery, Stantonsburg, N. C.<sup>8</sup>

Myrtle West, 18, the daughter of Sam West, living, and Etta West, dead, married Jarvis Dexter Cox, 30, son of Jason D. and Otta Cox, both living, on 04 Oct 1941, at the Parsonage of Stantonsburg Methodist Church, Stantonsburg, N. C. C. W. Goldston, Methodist minister, performed the ceremony, and Wayne Cox, Walstonburg, Mrs. Edward West, Stantonsburg, and Mr. & Mrs. Edmundson, Stantonsburg, were witnesses.<sup>9</sup>

Sam West served as post commander of the American Legion Dail-Bell Post No. 245 in 1954.<sup>10</sup>

Sam West, b. 01 Oct 1889, d. 29 Apr 1971, "Husband of Etta," "North Carolina, Pvt. US Army, World War I," was buried adjacent to Etta in Stantonsburg Cemetery, Stantonsburg, N. C.<sup>11</sup>

Myrtle West Cox, 50, b. 05 Feb 1923, resident of Route 1, Stantonsburg, Greene County, N. C., died

24 Feb 1973, at Wilson Memorial Hospital, Wilson N. C. Her death certificate recorded that she was the wife of Jarvis D. Cox and daughter of Sam West and Etta West West. Prior to her death Myrtle was a librarian at Greene County School. She was buried in the Cox Family Cemetery, Route 1, Stantonsburg, N. C., by the Farmville Funeral Home, Farmville, N. C., on 25 Feb 1973.<sup>12</sup>

In the U.S., Find A Grave Index, 1600s-Current, the Cox Cemetery is recorded as being in Walstonburg, Greene County, N. C.<sup>13</sup>

[Editor's note: This research effort was undertaken at the request of the daughter of Guy O. Cox.

When clearing her fathers home, she found this dress made by Elizabeth Hill Cox, her grandmother, for the daughter of Mrs. Sam West. When Guy's daughter contacted the North Carolina Museum of History about a donation of the dress, they were interested but wanted information about the family.]



Sources:

1. Ancestry.com. North Carolina, Marriage Records, 1741-2011 [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2015. Original data: North Carolina County Registers of Deeds. Microfilm. Record Group 048. North Carolina State Archives, Raleigh, NC.
2. Year: 1910; Census Place: Wilson Ward 1, Wilson, North Carolina; Roll: T624\_1137; Page: 20B; Enumeration District: 0117; FHL microfilm: 1375150. Ancestry.com. 1910 United States Federal Census [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2006.
3. Ancestry.com. North Carolina, U.S., World War I Draft Registration Cards, 1917-1918 [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2015.
4. *A History of Stantonsburg, Circa 1780-2004*, Second Edition—2004, Compiled by Stantonsburg Historical Society, page 137
5. Year: 1920; Census Place: Stantonsburg, Wilson, North Carolina; Roll: T625\_1327; Page 1A; Enumeration District: 106; Image: 185. Ancestry.com. North Carolina, 1920 United States Federal Census

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

• The **Wilson County Genealogical Society** does not meet in August. Our next meeting will be on September 27, at 7 pm, at the Wilson County Public Library.

• **Trees of Wilson error corrections:** In the April 2016 issue, page 42, editor's notes for Henry Campbell Dance, please correct his surname to Dance. On page 43, please change the surname in paragraph 5 of the Annie Sauls Finch obituary to Finch not Sauls.

• **Edgecombe County Genealogical Society** usually meets at the Edgecombe County Memorial Library, in Tarboro, N. C., at 7:00 pm on the third Thursday of each month.

• **Farmville, N. C., Ancestor Seekers** meet 10 am to 12 noon the second Saturday of each month at the Farmville Public Library.

• **Greene County Family Researchers** meets on the third Thursday of the month at 7:30 pm at the Greene County Museum in Snow Hill, N. C.

• **Old Dobbs Genealogical Society** meets at 10:30 am the third Saturday of each calendar quarter, at the Wayne County Public Library, Goldsboro, N. C.

• **Pitt County Family Researchers** meet at 7:00 pm, third Tuesdays, at Sheppard Memorial Library, 530 Evans St., Greenville, N. C.

• **Tar River Connections Genealogical Society** meets at 6:30 pm on the 3rd Tuesday of each month, except Dec., at the Braswell Memorial Library in Rocky Mount, N. C.

(Everyday People, continued from page 81)

b. Sep 1836 (10 births, 8 living); and three of their children, Mattie, b. Dec. 1872, housekeeper; Etta, b. Apr. 1874; and Cora, b. Jul. 1881; lived in the household. Sallie's sister, Bettie Drake, b. Oct. 1853, soeing [sic.]; and her brother James A. Drake, b. Oct. 1854, farmer; were also listed in this household. *Wilson County, North Carolina, Federal Census of 1900*, Joan L. Howell and Janice C. Sharpe, p. 328

Robert J. Taylor married Sally A. Drake February 14, 1861, in Nash County, N. C. *Nash County, North Carolina, Marriage Records, 1783-1868*, Frances T. Ingmire, p. 36

The 1880 household of R. J. Taylor appears to be the same family, but there are some inconsistencies, particularly in regard to ages. R. J. Taylor, 46, steam

millers; and his wife S. H., 42; lived on Railroad St. in the Town of Wilson. Five of their children were in the household: Charles, 18, at school; B. F., 16 (son), at school; Effie, 7; Robert, 5; and John, 2. James Drake, brother-in-law, 30; and M. E. Drake, sister-in-law, 34, lived with them. *Wilson County, North Carolina, 1880 Census*, J. Robert Boykin, III, p. 418]

(Sam and Etta West, continued from page 82)

[database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2010. Images reproduced by FamilySearch.

6. Year: 1930; Census Place: Bull Head, Greene, North Carolina; Roll: 1693; Page 14B; Enumeration District: 0001; Image: 975.0; FHL microfilm: 2341427. Ancestry.com. 1930 United States Federal Census [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2002.

7. Ancestry.com. North Carolina, Death Certificates, 1909-1976 [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations Inc, 2007.

Original data: North Carolina State Board of Health, Bureau of Vital Statistics. North Carolina Death Certificates. Microfilm S.123. Rolls 19-242, 280, 313-682, 1040-1297. North Carolina State Archives, Raleigh, North Carolina.

8. *Wilson County, North Carolina, Cemeteries—Volume I*, Joan L. Howell, page 184

9. Ancestry.com-North Carolina, Marriage Records, 1741-2011 [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2015. Original data: North Carolina County Registers of Deeds. Microfilm. Record Group 048. North Carolina State Archives, Raleigh, NC.

10. *A History of Stantonsburg, Circa 1780-2004*, Second Edition—2004, Compiled by Stantonsburg Historical Society, page 147

11. *Wilson County, North Carolina, Cemeteries—Volume I*, Joan L. Howell, page 184. Ancestry.com. U.S., Find A Grave Index, 1600s-Current [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2012. Original data: Find A Grave. <http://www.findagrave.com/cgi-bin/fg.cgi>.

12. Ancestry.com. North Carolina, Death Certificates, 1909-1976 [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2007. Original data: North Carolina State Board of Health, Bureau of Vital Statistics. North Carolina Death Certificates, Microfilm. S.123. Rolls 19-242, 280, 313-682, 1040-1297. North Carolina State Archives, Raleigh, NC.)

13. Ancestry.com. U.S., Find A Grave Index, 1600-Current [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2012. Original data: Find A Grave. <http://www.findagrave.com/cgi-bin/fg.cgi>.)

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**Note:** Please see next page for additional items that are available for purchase.

Census records abstracted by J. Albert Bass with family data added from his files.

1880 Wilson County, Black Creek Township	\$32.00
1880 Wilson County, Crossroads Township	\$22.00
1900 Wilson County, Spring Hill Township	\$16.00
1850 Johnston County, District 9	\$16.00
1850 Johnston County, District 10	\$26.00
1860 Johnston County, East of the Neuse	\$23.00

1870 Johnston County, Bulah Township	\$10.00
1850 Wayne County, North of the Neuse	\$65.00
1860 Wayne County, Davis District	\$ 5.00
1860 Wayne County, Fork District	\$ 5.00
1860 Wayne County, Nahunta District	\$16.00
1860 Wayne County, Pikeville District	\$ 5.00
1870 Wayne County, Holden Township	\$10.00
1870 Wayne County, Nahunta Township	\$12.00
1880 Wayne County, Great Swamp Township	\$14.00
1880 Wayne County, Nahunta Township	\$18.00
1900 Wayne County, Great Swamp Township	\$ 6.00
1900 Wayne County, Nahunta Township	\$13.00

## Trees of Wilson

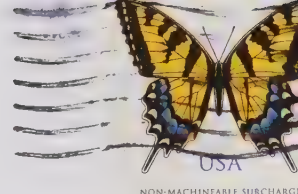
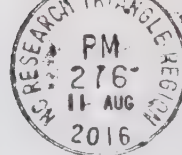
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*Disbursements to Poor,  
Everyday People, Fulghum,  
Nature, Obituaries, Rhodes  
Robbins, West*

July/August 2016



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### Books

Barnes Narratives	\$12.00
Thataway, Barnes Individuals Born in North Carolina Who Moved Elsewhere	\$6.00
They Moved Away - North Carolinians Who Went to Other States	\$10.00
Wilson County, North Carolina, Census of 1860	\$30.00
Wilson County, North Carolina, Census of 1870	\$25.00
Wilson County, North Carolina, Census of 1880	\$40.00
Wilson County, North Carolina, Census of 1900	\$40.00
Wilson County, North Carolina, Marriages, 1855-1899	\$75.00
Wilson County, North Carolina, Cemeteries Volume I	\$30.00
Wilson County, North Carolina, Cemeteries Volume II	\$30.00
Wilson County, North Carolina, Cemeteries Volume III	\$25.00
Wilson County, North Carolina, Cemeteries Volume IV	\$30.00
Wilson County, North Carolina, Cemeteries Volume V	\$35.00
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Wilson, North Carolina, Historical Properties Inventory	\$20.00
Wilson County's Founding Families	\$55.00

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Wilson County Historical Map	\$5.00
Confederate Field Maps #1, #2, #3, #4 (State choice) each at	\$5.00
Town of Wilson, Map 1872	\$5.00
Town of Wilson, Map 1882	\$5.00
Wilson County Waterways	\$5.00
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### Miscellaneous

Cemetery Finder (paper) donation	\$5.00
Wilson Co. Estates Inventory (paper) donation	\$5.00

**Note:** Please see previous page for additional items.

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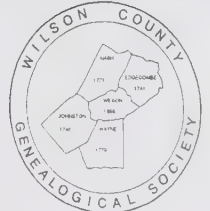




# TREES OF WILSON

## Wilson's Family Heritage

Chronicles of the  
Wilson County Genealogical Society



September 2016

TWENTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY

Volume 25 Number 8

### Editor's Message

Our ancestors interacted with others in their families, their

neighbors, and their acquaintances. They had circles of involvement in their work, church, and community. We need to explore all of those areas in our research.

We need to network with others in our families and local historians. Many people hold pieces of information that could help us have a more complete picture of our ancestors' lives.

Our families' histories and records are not our private possessions. They belong to everyone. When we network, we should be willing to share what we have collected and our own memories. We can do that in many different ways. Here are some ideas:

Create a collection of photographs from family members. A slideshow presentation could be shown at family reunions or shared on a CD.

Create a written collection of family memories. Each person in our families has different stories that could be recorded. What a treasure such a collection would be! Don't you wish you had been given one.

Determine what will happen to your work! Designate a family member who would value your work, or donate it to a library, local history collection (see page 88), or museum. Make sure your work is not trashed!

Your society "promotes the collection and permanent preservation of material of genealogical and historical value on Wilson County families ..." Do you?

### WCGS'S MEETING

Wilson County Public Library  
Genealogy and Local History  
Room, September 27th

Please join us for our meeting on September 27th at the library. Ask at the reception desk if you need directions.

Our program, "Tracing the Irish Diaspora from the Ancient Island to the New World," will be presented by Will Robinson, Genealogy Librarian at the Wilson County Public Library. He recently traveled to Ireland to connect with living relatives and to visit ancestral sites.

Ireland is such a beautiful country, and so many researchers have ancestral connections with its people (even if you don't know it yet).

At the meeting, a presentation will be made to the library of an important part of Wilson County's military history. The family of the late Major William L. Massingill has contributed a large panoramic framed photograph and accompanying yearbook of the 30th Division 120th Infantry Company M, taken in 1941. These men were from Wilson County [see their story on page 88]. WCGS member Helen Bennett made arrangements for the donation to be made to the library. The photograph and the yearbook will become part of the Wilson County World War II "Greatest Generation" collection and will be scanned (in segments) to be added to the DigitalNC project.

### Contents of This Issue

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### ELM CITY CITIZENS SUPPLEMENT SCHOOL FUND

*Wilson Daily Times*, October 22, 1913

Contributed by J. Robert Boykin, III

Elm City, Oct. 22.—At a recent meeting of the county board of education, Superintendent W. G. Coltrane of Elm City, was promised \$87.59 for school furniture out of the general fund, if he would raise a like amount by private subscription in his own town. The Elm City people responded as follows:

R. S. Wells.....	\$25.00
J. W. Cox.....	10.00
G. A. Barnes.....	10.00
J. D. Bryant.....	10.00
Dr. B. F. Barnes.....	5.00
W. A. Pridgen.....	5.00
W. H. Dixon.....	5.00
John L. Bailey.....	5.00
W. G. Sharp.....	5.00
F. R. Brinkley.....	5.00
D. W. Farmer.....	3.00
B. A. Harrelson.....	2.50
J. W. Hays.....	2.00
A. C. Dixon.....	2.00

County Superintendent Charles L. Coon has forwarded a check for \$87.50 and \$175.00 worth of furniture ordered for the Elm City schools. More will be added to the remaining \$7.00 and used for something else.

This is another expression of the generosity and progressiveness of Elm City citizens.

Please mark your calendars for these meetings:

Oct. 25 Martha Gay Morton, Land Records, Where to Find Them, How to Use Them

Nov. 29 Annual Meeting, Installation of Officers, Social  
We do not meet in December.  
Jan. 31, 2017 TBA  
Feb. 28, 2017 TBA

## Trees of Wilson — WCGS

This chronicle is published by the Wilson County Genealogical Society, organized February 26, 1991. Address: P.O. Box 802, Wilson, NC 27894 -0802. Telephone 252-243-1660. Internet address: <http://www.wcgs.org>

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Materials of genealogical interest to the members of WCGS are accepted for publication at the discretion of the Editors and should pertain to families with connections in Wilson County and its neighboring and parent counties. WCGS cannot accept any responsibility for the content of contributed materials, including errors and omissions. Please direct any questions to the contributor. Their names and addresses will be provided upon request for worthwhile purposes.

Transcripts of original records are recorded with the original spelling and punctuation.

Queries from WCGS members are accepted and posted at [WilsonNC@yahoo.com](mailto:WilsonNC@yahoo.com)

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## DISBURSEMENTS TO THE POOR

*The Wilson Times*, January 20, 1899

Contributed by Sue Evans Powell

### STATEMENT

Receipts and Disbursements of Wilson County for the Year Ending December 6th 1898.

### OUTSIDE POOR.

DISBURSEMENTS FOR DEC. 1897.

[Continued from August 2016 *Trees of Wilson*]

51. Eliza Locust,	allowance	\$ .75
52. Miss Annie Jenkins,	"	1.50
53. Spencer and Edieth Battle,	"	1.50
54. Tobe Farmer,	allowance for clothes	3.00
55. Mrs Nancy Mattox,	allowance	.75
56. Nannie Holloman,	"	1.50
57. Peggie Whitley,	"	.75
58. Polly Lucas,	allowance for shoes	1.00
59. Harriet Adams,	"	.75
60. Poney Williams ,	allowance void dead	
61. Bettie Taylor,	allowance	1.50
62. Mary Thigpen,	"	1.50
63. Tis Pridgeon,	"	.75
64. Frank Bullock,	"	.75
65. Jane Pittman,	"	.75
66. Martha Williford,	allowance for shoes	1.00
67. Alice Page,	allowance	.75
68. Eli Mercer,	"	1.50
69. Patsy Williams,	"	1.50
70. [skipped]		
71. Zany Hill,	"	.75
72. Rebecca Short,	"	1.50
73. Dr R B Whitley,	services rendered	
	Pauper	2.50
74. Shade Jones,	allowance for clothes	3.50
75. Mrs Riley Lucas,	allowance for self	
	and daughter	2.00
76. Dick Wilkins,	allowance	.75
77. Jack Williamson,	"	.75
78. Hester Simms,	"	.75
79. Lizzie Bryant,	"	2.00
80. Chris Webb,	"	.75
81. Harriet Tain Boswell	"	2.00
[The page was torn and six lines were illegible.]		
? ____ Hill	allowance	1.00
? ____ Bailey	burial and	
	? Cally Hinnant	?
? ____ C. Pridgen	mer_?_	
	For Tis Pridgeon [see No. 3, 63] ?	
? ____ m	provisions coun_	4.00
? ____ Gardner	caring for ____ Jones	5.00
? ____	allowance for ?	3.00
[The rest of the December list is missing until no. 178]		
178. Rendo Bass	allowance	?

[Editor's note: It seems inconceivable that persons could have survived on these amounts. The total readable amount is \$92.25.

The next issue of *Trees of Wilson* will continue with no. 183 on the list, the beginning of the January 1898 Disbursements. Numbers 179-182 were skipped. The January list contained 101 names and ends with number 291. There were persons who were listed in multiple months.]



# **SOUTHERN CROSS OF HONOR DEDICATION FOR LT. JESSE ANDREW BATTLE THORNE CO. I 17TH REGIMENT, CSA**

**Contributed by Deborah Webb**

On June 11, 2016, The Gen. William Dorsey Pender Sons of Confederate Veterans Camp #1916 (SCV) conducted a ceremony to honor the Civil War service of my great-great grandfather, Jesse Andrew Battle Thorne. The cemetery where the ceremony was conducted is in Edgecombe County, down a farm path, behind Webb's Chapel Church on land that once belonged to the Thorne family.



Jesse Andrew Battle Thorne was born in 1828 in Edgecombe County, N. C. His parents were William Henry Thorne and Elizabeth Jenkins Thorne. William Henry and Elizabeth lived in Temperance Hall, in lower Edgecombe County.

William Henry was born about 1794 and was dead before 1859. Elizabeth was born in 1800 and died in 1898. Jesse had several siblings. His brothers were John J. (married Dephia Robbins), Dempsey J. (married Delphia Jones), and Samuel H. Thorne (married Frances Stallings). His brother Henry died as a young child. His sisters were Mary Thorne, wife of John Killebrew, and Lucinda Jane Thorne, wife of William Bulluck.

On December 23, 1846, at the age of 19, Jesse enlisted at Tarboro under Captain Louis Dickens Wilson for service in the War with Mexico. He was a private in Company A, 1st Regiment, North Carolina Volunteers. He was described in the roster as being 5'9 7/8", a farmer, with light eyes, hair and complexion. He served from 1846 to 1848. Making a trip to Mexico must have been quite exciting for a young farm boy who had most likely never been out of his own county.



Mexican War Medal

He returned to Edgecombe County, and, in 1852, he married Elizabeth Sassnett. After the death of his first wife, he married Elizabeth Norville, daughter of James and Elizabeth Norville. They were married on December 15, 1857. They had three sons: A. Oal (married Susan Elizabeth Phillips), Van. B. and William H. They had three daughters: Molly or Mary B. (married L. O. Batts), Elizabeth (married W. T. Lewis), and Sarah J. Thorne (married Orren Proctor).

In May 1862, at the age of 34, he once again left Edgecombe County to serve in the Civil War. He enlisted in May 1862 in Co. I, 17th Infantry Regiment as a Corporal. He was promoted to Sergeant (Full) on Jan. 25, 1863. He was promoted to Full Lt. 2nd Class in 1864. He was listed as absent wounded on January 30, 1864, and returned to action on May 30, 1864 (estimated dates). Thorne was paroled at Greensboro on March 30, 1865.

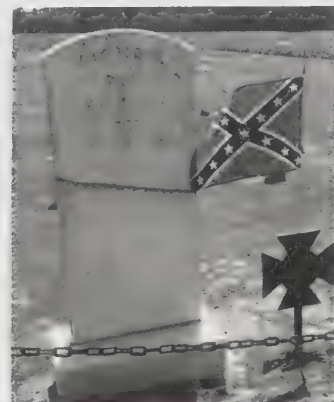
After the war, Jesse ran for Congress on the third party ticket, but did not win. In addition to farming, Jesse served as a magistrate in his township. He must have been well respected and trusted in his neighborhood because his name appears as administrator on numerous deeds and



wills in Edgecombe County records.

Mr. Ken Hill, Commander of the William Dorsey Pender SVC Camp and Mr. Jerry Stancil, camp historian conducted the ceremony. Mr. Homer Robbins, SCV N. C. Division, Color Sergeant played taps. The canon gun salute was provided by Latham's Battery.

I had never witnessed a Southern Cross of Honor dedication ceremony before. It takes an enormous amount of time, money and effort for these SCV camps to provide these ceremonies. Why do they do it? I think they would tell you that they wish to preserve the memories and history of our state for those who come after them, which is a very worthy cause indeed.



## 30TH DIVISION, 120TH INFANTRY, COMPANY M

Extracts from the *Wilson Daily Times*, March 23, 1968, Section II

Contributed by Sue Evans Powell

The history of this company of men from Wilson County could be said to have begun in 1885 when Company F, Second North Carolina Regiment was organized. It was succeeded in 1898 when Company K, the Second North Carolina Regiment was organized and stayed in existence until 1916 when it was mobilized and sent to the Mexican Border. Later Company K was transferred to the 119th Infantry.

On July 18, 1917, the National Guard troops from the Carolinas and Tennessee were combined into the 30th Division, nicknamed "Old Hickory." They served with distinction in World War I, participating in the Flanders campaign, Ypres-Lys, and the Somme offensive. On September 29, 1918, they "smashed through" the "Hindenburg Line," thus hastening the end of the conflict.

After the armistice, on April 7, 1919, the company was demobilized at Camp Jackson, South Carolina. The men returned home to resume their lives.

On April 1, 1921, Company M, 120th Infantry was organized in Wilson under the command of Capt. Carl F. Batts. The company was called to handle riot duty in Wilson County in the fall of 1922, in Nash County in 1925, in Halifax County in

1926 and 1928, in Bertie County in 1929, in Hertford County in 1930, and in Alamance County in 1934.

The company was mobilized and placed on active duty again in September 1940. Under the command of Lieutenants Oakley B. Beland and Joseph Adkins, the unit had a strength of one hundred thirteen men. In the fall of 1944, they were deployed to Europe where they participated in the battles across France. The 30th Division pushed to the Elbe River, not far from Berlin, earning the reputation of the "Workhorse of the Western Front."

In an evaluation of the divisions as to which had performed the most consistent and efficient battle service, "The 30th Division was No. 1 in the combined judgment of the 35 historical officers who worked on the records. It was our finding that the 30th had been outstanding in three operations any one of which would merit the presidential citation.

"It was further found that the division had in no single instance performed discredibly or weakly when considered against the averages ETO. We had to keep looking at the balance of things always—and we felt that the 30th was the outstanding infantry division in the theatre."

"For those who look askance when the National Guard is mentioned, U. S. Army officials are quick to point out that some of the finest fighting units, such as Old Hickory, had their origins in the guard lineup."

## PERSONNEL IN COMPANY M, 30TH INFANTRY DIVISION, 120TH INFANTRY

*Historical and Pictorial Review, 30th Infantry Division, Army of the United States, Fort Jackson, South Carolina, 1941*

Contributed by Sue Evans Powell

Oakley B. Beland, Captain, Commanding  
Ibby J. Lancaster, First Lieutenant  
Douglas S. Tolar, Second Lieutenant  
Philip M. Chandler, Second Lieutenant

William L. Massingill, First Sergeant  
Oria G. Harrell, Staff Sergeant

### Sergeants

Ivan B. Davis,  
Grady W. Hawley  
James S. Howard, Jr.  
Marvin J. Lewis  
James W. Patty  
Simon J. Pike  
Roy P. Raper  
Edmond J. Reizck  
Arthur B. Smith  
Wilson Williams

### Corporals

Kenneth E. Allen  
Glenn W. Ansley  
John W. Barrett

Jerry H. Beamon  
Leslie A. Beamon, Jr.  
John T. Bone  
Henry D. Boswell  
Roy L. Brantley  
Carl N. Church  
Oscar J. Davis  
Dobbin B. Eatmon, Jr.  
Sunny W. Farmer  
Paul Forbes  
James G. Gliarmis  
James C. Horne  
Russell A. Keen  
Henry M. King  
Wiley F. Lamm  
Edward E. Little  
Paul A. Lucas  
Dillon L. Massingill  
Robert L. Moore  
Joseph A. Narron  
Ernest E. Norris  
Charles R. Taylor  
Arthur W. Winstead

### Privates First Class

Willard G. Anderson  
John D. Batton  
Budde Boykin  
Willie J. Brewer  
Charles E. Bunn

(continued on page 89)



(Company M Personnel,  
continued from page 88)

John O. Burress  
Hunter B. Capp  
Robert Carter  
Frank E. Cobb  
George E. Cockrell  
Jack C. Corbett  
Sammy R. Davis  
Herbert R. Deans  
Purnie W. Draper  
Wilbur L. Eason  
Millard D. Ezzell  
Edward R. Felton  
Leslie R. Hathaway  
John J. Hawkins  
Albert C. Lewis  
Wilbur R. Moore  
Earl W. Nichols  
Thomas R. Owens  
Harold R. Price  
Jesse C. Pugh  
John Sauls  
Stephen L. Sealey  
George Skinner  
Jesse J. Skinner  
Wiley C. Skinner  
Spencer J. Smiley  
James W. Southard  
Jonas P. Turner  
Julian Vester  
Rayford T. Wells  
David W. Whitley  
Thurman Whitley  
George F. Winbourne  
Carl M. Winstead  
John Winstead, Jr.  
Putney J. Winstead  
Rufus C. Winstead

#### **Privates**

Juler Bailey  
Hosea Bass  
Edward E. Bennett  
John T. Broadway  
Jimmie J. Bynum  
James C. Carver  
Larry T. Cary  
John T. Cobb  
Willie J. Cook  
Forrest T. Cornelius  
Thurman L. Creech  
Albert A. Crump  
James E. Foster  
Willis S. Hargroves  
James H. Hathaway  
Clayton Hinnant  
Paul F. Jones  
Preston Jones  
Gordon W. Kanupp  
Elwood J. Kennedy  
Kelfod Kennedy  
James A. Laws  
Colon F. Luther

Marvin O. Lutz  
Robert A. Nance  
James M. Norris  
Lendo Norris  
Lonnie H. Norton  
Paul Norton  
Jimmie Parker  
Johnnie R. Pennington  
Clabon Perry  
Allen E. Pittman, Jr.  
Jack A. Pittman  
James M. Pope  
Chester Poythress  
William Propst  
Luby E. Raynor  
Charlie Renfrow  
Joseph E. Revis  
Munroe Reynolds  
Woodrow Richardson  
Floyd B. Roberson  
Bob Roberts  
James Roberts  
Russell T. Rushing  
Howard Searcy  
William D. Shearon  
Marvin G. Shook  
Worth H. Shytle  
Lewis Sims  
Clyde P. Sisk  
Craig Sisk  
Clarence Smith  
James P. Smith  
Joe Smith  
Graham Snider  
Sam L. Stancil  
Rufus Stanley  
Claude Stepp  
Leroy Stokley  
Clarence M. Stone  
Robert L. Sullivan, Jr.  
Iry T. Taylor  
Robert W. Taylor  
Ray T. Terress  
Charles L. Thomas  
Dennis R. Thompson  
Robert Trevathan  
Kern H. Varner  
John F. Walker  
Joseph W. Walston  
John S. Warner  
Charlie L. Waters  
Lorey H. White  
James R. Whitley  
Robert J. Whitley  
William M. Williams  
Paul D. Winstead  
Robert W. Wynn

## **TEACHER'S ASSOCIATION**

*The Wilson Advance*, January 24, 1895

Contributed by Sue Evans Powell

Below we give the programme of the next meeting of the Wilson County Teacher's Association which meets in the Graded School building in Wilson on the first Saturday in February.

Teaching of Language—Paper by I. W. Lamm. Discussion of this subject will be continued by A. M. Moore and others.

Teaching of Spelling—Paper by J. E. Debnam. Discussed by Miss M. A. Hearne and others.

Teaching of Geography—Paper by Miss Mattie Harrison. Discussed by Rev. E. T. Phillips and others.

Teaching of History—Paper by W. M. Peele. Discussed by W. T. Holden and others.

This is a very attractive programme for the attention of teachers, and it is hoped that every teacher in the country will attend. The hour of meeting is eleven o'clock a. m.

## **THE GRADED SCHOOLS**

*The Wilson Advance*, March 28, 1895

Contributed by Sue Evans Powell

The Wilson Graded Schools have just closed the seventh month of the present school year. Although the weather has been severe and the roads at times almost impassible, there has been a marked improvement both in promptness and regularity of attendance. The total enrollment for the white school for the month was 300, for the colored school 252, making a total of 562. Both schools were taught the full twenty days, every teacher being at her post of duty, except one who was absent two days, by reason of sickness in her family.

The captains for the next month are:

- 1st. Lena Farmer, Richard Snipes.
  - Adv. 1st. Glen Daniels, Edmund Gorham.
  - 2nd. Annie Gorham, Jack Ellis.
  - 3rd. Mabel Ellis, Nathan Daniel.
  - 4th. Bettie Bynum, Earnest Farmer.
  - 5th. Fannie Pearce, Chas. Gibbons.
  - 6th. Fannie Bullock, Floyd Bullock.
  - 7th. Katherine Pace, Walter Ward.
  - 8th. Mary Setzer, Hugh Murray.
- Chief Officer Henry Meredith.

The following statistics of white school [sic.] are gathered from the Superintendent's report:

Average daily attendance 257 67. [???] Total enrollment 310. Per cent of attendance 88.26. No. of tardies 66.

The opening game of ball was played here Tuesday. The Graded School against town. At last accounts the game was still progressing, the umpire generously calling time when the meal bells rang.

## OBITUARIES

Contributed by J. Robert Boykin, III

### BRUCE ANGLER EVANS

*Wilson Daily Times*, May 22, 1914

#### Mr. Bruce Evans.

Mr. Bruce Evans, son of Mr. and Mrs. June Evans of Black Creek died yesterday afternoon at the Moore-Herring hospital with peritonitis following an operation for appendicitis.

The young man was 22 years old.

The funeral was held this morning at Black Creek.

[The source was not included with the following clipping held in a personal family file contributed by Junius Evans]

Evans—On the 20th of May, 1914, near Black Creek, N. C., one more precious soul floated heavenward from this old sinful world, to join that grand celestial band of heaven.

It was a young man, Mr. Bruce Evans, only 22 years of age, son of Mr. and Mrs. June Evans. Was just in the prime of life. His death was a sudden and most overwhelming shock to his many friends. He was a member of the Methodist Church of Black Creek, N. C., and was a most consecrated Christian until the end. He was a most excellent young man. He lived a life of "honest and uprightness." His moral character was clean. There was nothing in his life to hide. It was for the world to know him as he was.

He was such a kind and sweet tempered young man that everybody loved him. Everybody was a friend to him. He loved his friends most ardently. There are very few young men equal to him. He was loved and held in the very highest esteem by everybody that knew him. His death is a great loss to his many friends, but it was doubtless gain to him.

"Death does not alter the value of life." His life has just begun. His funeral was very largely attended and was conducted by B. F. Watson, pastor of the M. E. Church, South, Spring Hope, N. C.

His body now lies at rest beneath the dust in the family graveyard, while his precious soul sweetly sleeps in the arms of Jesus.

JAMES CARLYLE DEMPSEY.

[Editor's notes: Bruce Angler Evans, the fifth child of Glenn Junius "June" Evans and wife Amanda Luvenia Robinson, was born August 20, 1892. At the time of his death, he was the third of their children to pass away. Cecil Roads Evans, b. 5 Jul 1901, d. 29 May 1902, and Paul Evans, b. 13 Apr 1909, d. 3 Nov 1909, preceded him. The family was a large one with fourteen children in all. The others were:

Arthur Glenn Evans, b. 13 Jul 1886  
Lee Ernest Evans, b. 21 Jun 1888  
Hugh Anthony Evans, b. 19 Aug 1889  
Henry Preston Evans, b. 24 Jan 1891  
Harvey Spate Evans, b. 4 Mar 1894  
Alice Inez Evans, b. 27 Mar 1896

Norman Evans, b. 21 Jul 1897

Urey Gordon Evans, b. 29 Mar 1899

Marvin Ennis Evans, b. 8 Feb 1903

Eugene Clifton Evans, b. 25 Dec 1904

Cameron Blue Evans, b. 5 Jan 1907

Source: The Junius and Amanda Evans family Bible.

The family graveyard is adjacent to the family home place on Frank Price Church Road.

Family oral history is that Bruce had tried to walk a rope tied between two trees when he fell and apparently received internal injuries. He was taken to the hospital in Wilson in a wagon, but we don't know how much later.]

### SARAH LOU FULGHUM.

*Zion's Landmark*, October 1, 1913

She was born Jan. 7, 1911, died on June 18 1912. She was the daughter of T. R. and S. C. Fulghum. She was sick seven days.

We did what we could for the dear little child, but we could not stay the hand of death. We loved her, but Jesus love her more.

We know it is God's will for it to die. May he give us resignation to his will.

Her mother,  
Lucinda Fulghum

### BEULAH GRADY HAYES

*Wilson Daily Times*, October 13, 1913

### MRS. JAMES W. HAYES.

The many friends of Mr. and Mrs. James Hayes in this county are greatly distressed at the sudden death of Mrs. Hayes, which occurred at her residence in Elm City last evening at 6 o'clock.

The funeral will be held tomorrow morning at 10 o'clock and will be conducted by Rev. Mr. Ashbury, of the Methodist church of which Mrs. Hayes was a member.

Mrs. Hayes was a friend to all, exceedingly kind and gracious in her manners, a devoted wife and mother and highly esteemed by all who knew her. She leaves a husband and two children, son and daughter, Miss Mary Bell and J. W. Hayes, a \_? \_age in the General Assembly.

The death of Mrs. Hayes was quite unexpected and caused from neuralgia of the heart.

### MRS. JAMES W. HAYES.

(Special to *The Times*)

*Wilson Daily Times*, October 17 & 28, 1913

Fountain, N. C., Oct. 16.—Death always brings sorrow to those who are left, even though we be with our love ones and know they cannot live.

I was shocked and made to feel very sad when I learned of the sudden death of my dear friend, whom I have loved since we first met soon after I first went to Elm City, where I taught for three years, and saw her often, as I boarded near her dear home, in which her many virtues were beautifully displayed. We became fast friends and my love for her has continued to deepen.

(continued on page 91)



Her many personal attractions, lovely disposition, beautiful Christian character, sincerity, gentleness and unselfishness were her most conspicuous graces. I esteem it a great privilege to have known Mrs. Hays [sic.] and to have enjoyed her friendship, as I have these few short years, and the sweet fragrance of her memory will be an abiding pleasure and inspiration.

To us it seems a mysterious Providence which has taken away this noble woman, whose presence on earth appeared so needful and helpful. The world can so poorly spare such pure and noble spirits. But they who are most fit to live are most fit to die and doubtless God, who never makes a mistake, saw she had fulfilled her mission and was prepared for the mansion which Jesus had prepared for her.

... [A quote about friendship was omitted.]

God keep and comfort those who are so sadly bereaved by her death.

#### A FRIEND.

[Editor's notes: In 1900, James W. Hayes, b. Mar 1857, teacher; and his wife of 10 years, Beulah, b. Jun 1870, music teacher, 2 births, both living; lived in the Town of Elm City. Their children, Mary Belle, b. May 1896; and James W., Jr., b. Mar 1899, lived with them. *Wilson County, North Carolina, Federal Census of 1900*, Joan L. Howell and Janice C. Sharpe, page 211

Beulah Grady Hays, b. 19 Jun 1870, d. 12 Oct 1913, wife of James W. Hays, was buried adjacent to James W. Hays, b. 27 Mar 1857, d. 23 Apr 1940, in Cedar Grove Cemetery in Elm City. *Wilson County, North Carolina, Cemeteries—Volume II*, Joan L. Howell, page 96]

#### W. R. HOOKS

*Wilson Daily Times*, October 30, 1913

#### A PROMINENT CITIZEN DEAD (Special to The Times)

Fremont, N. C., Oct 30 —Mr. W. R. Hooks, a prominent citizen of Fremont died at 8:30 this morning in the 62nd year of his age.

He leaves a wife and six children and was universally beloved and esteemed.

He was a consistent member of the Primitive Baptist church and lived the principles of that faith. He will be missed in this section.

His funeral will be held tomorrow afternoon.

#### MISS JANE NARRON

*Wilson Daily Times*, October 21, 1913

Miss Jane Narron, aged 50 years, living on the Sid Clark Place, died yesterday at the home of Mr. E. B. Baines. She will be buried today at 4 p. m. in the N. H. Cozart cemetery.

Miss Narron [sic.] was a member of the Methodist church.

#### MARY FRANCES COOK PASCHALL

*Wilson Daily Times*, Oct 21, 1913

#### MRS. R. L. PASCHALL DEAD.

Mrs. R. L. Paschall, of Black Creek, wife of Dr. R. L. Paschall passed away at her home this morning at 5 o'clock in the 85th year of her age, after a lingering illness.

The deceased leaves a husband and five children, Messrs. J. B. Paschall and J. W. Paschall of Wilson; A. R Paschall of Goldsboro; B. G. Paschall of Stantonsburg and Mrs. W. F. Patrick of Goldsboro.

The funeral services will be held at the home in Black Creek tomorrow at 10:30 and the interment made at Maplewood cemetery here at 12.

Rev. Lance of Stantonsburg will conduct the services.

The pall bearers are Messrs. Barney Daniels, Billit Barnes, Dred Sauls, Bud Aycock, Anderson Bass, and June Evans.

Mrs. Paschall was a staunch member of the Christian church and a pure and noble woman. She is still survived by her husband they having been married for 62 years.

[Editor's notes: In 1900, Robert Paschall, b. Nov 1830, physician; and his wife of 47 years, Mary F., b. Apr 1829, 5 births, all living; lived in the Town of Black Creek. *Wilson County, North Carolina, Federal Census of 1900*, Joan L. Howell and Janice C. Sharpe, page 8-9

Mary F. Paschall (Mrs. R. L.), b. 09 Apr 1829, d. 21 Oct. 1913; and Dr. R. L. Paschall, b. 08 Nov 1830, d. 26 Feb 1914, C. S. A., have a double marker in Maplewood Cemetery, Wilson, N. C. *Wilson County, North Carolina, Cemeteries—Volume IV*, Joan L. Howell, page 172

Joshua Paschall, b. Sep 1858, sawmill, and his wife of 8 years, Sallie J., lived in the Town of Black Creek; and Benjamin G. Paschall, b. Jan 1859, machinist, and his wife of 17 years, Ira P., b. Jan 1865, lived in Wilson Township in 1900. *Wilson County, North Carolina, Federal Census of 1900*, Joan L. Howell and Janice C. Sharpe

Please see the article about Dr. Robert Paschall on page 95.]

#### MRS. J. J. PITTMAN

*Wilson Daily Times*, October 21, 1913

#### DEATH OF MRS. PITTMAN.

Mrs. J. J. Pittman of near Saratoga passed away yesterday morning in the 45th year of her age. She was highly esteemed by all, a devoted wife and mother, a devout Christian, a member of the Free Will Baptist church. The deceased left a husband and three children, and a large circle of relatives and friends to mourn her departure.

[Editor's note: She may have been Mollie H. Pittman, b. 10 Oct 1868, d. 17 Oct 1913, "His Wife," who was buried with a double marker beside Joe Pittman, b. 29 Sep 1876, d. 26 Dec 1922, in the Edwin Owens Cemetery on Piney Grove Church Road in Saratoga Township, *Wilson County, North Carolina, Cemeteries—Volume III*, Joan L. Howell, page 121]

## THE BOYETTE SCHOOL

*The Kenly News*, March 20 and 27, 1991

Contributed by Joan L. Howell

Bob Boyette wrote "Reflections" for the Kenly News, and two of those which appeared in March 1991, were about the one-room Boyette School, located, on land owned by J. Q. Boyette, about one mile west of Kenly on old NC Hwy 22, now SR 2143.

Records kept by teacher Ophelia Woodard indicated that average attendance in November 1900 was 30. Forty-two were enrolled at that time, but the number increased to 46 in January and dropped to 32 in February. The school term was four months, November-February, until 1904 when it was increased to four and one-half months. Below are the names of students attending 1900-1904.

### William Overman's Children:

Leesom b. ?  
James b. ca 1880  
Mattie b. ca 1888  
Ellen b. ca 1891

### Charlie Edwards' Daughter:

Ida Edwards

### J. H. Durham's Sons:

Milton b. ca 1882  
Tommy b. ca 1886  
Berry b. ca 1888  
Rosker b. ca 1890

### W. T. Kirby's Children:

Sallie b. ca 1886  
Henry b. ca 1886  
Emma b. ca 1890

### J. Venson Kirby's Daughters:

Lillie b. ca 1890  
Etta b. ca 1893

### J. G. Boyette's Children:

Oscar b. ca 1885  
Fannie b. ca 1892

### B. J. Alford's Daughters:

Victoria b. ca 1886  
Nellie b. ca 1894

### Jane Aycock's Children:

Od(i)a b. ca 1887  
W. J. b. ca 1882

### Nannie Alford, Guardian of:

Fanny Wall b. ca 1886  
Emma Starling b. ca 1890

### B. Ballance's Children:

Sarah b. ca 1885  
Andrew b. ca 1889  
Nephew b. ca 1886  
Thomas b. ca 1887  
Elijah b. ca 1891

### Alvin Atkinson's Children:

Willie b. ca 1888  
Montie b. ca 1890

### J. H. Holland's Sons:

Henry b. ca 1884  
John b. ca 1883

### Hardy Holland's Sons:

Ransom b. ca 1891  
Gray b. ca 1887

### Jack Davis's Son:

Tomas b. ca 1887

### P. Ballance, Guardian for:

Bessie Bowen b. ca 1891

### Jonathan Jones's Children:

Senie b. ca 1894  
Charlie b. ca 1892  
Grover b. ca 1893

### Pennie Jones's Children:

Martha b. ca 1882  
Dock b. ca 1884  
Mero b. ca 1889

### Martha Ballance's Son:

Larkin b. ca 1888

### W. T. Durham's Son:

Vance b. ca 1894

### Treshendia Denton's Daughters

Ida b. ?  
Lily b. ca 1895

### George Durham's Son:

Luther b. ca 1892

### Henry Ballance's Sons:

Tommie b. ca 1891  
George b. ca 1892

### Robert Bass's Daughter:

Delphia b. ca 1887

### Berry Watkins' Daughters:

Fanny b. ca 1894

### J. Q. Boyette's Son:

Arthur b. ca 1883

### J. H. Hales' Children:

Eliza b. ?  
Walter b. ?

### W. G. Watkins' Children:

Eliza b. ca 1891  
Ida b. ca 1892  
Myrtie b. ca 1896  
Budie b. ca 1894

### C. R. Jones's Children:

Saphronia b. ca 1890  
Freddie b. ca 1893  
Jasper b. ca 1891  
Tessie b. ca 1895

The same register of students was used by other teachers: Emma Matthews, 1901-1902 and 1902-1903; and Annie Aycock, 1903-1904 and 1904-1905. The teacher's pay was \$25 per month.

W. T. Kirby, J. Q. Boyette, and J. H. Holland made up the District #5 school committee in 1900.



## SCHOOL NEWS

*Wilson Daily Times*, July 15, 1913

Contributed by J. Robert Boykin, III

### GOING BACK TO BOYHOOD INTERESTING ACCOUNT OF THE CLOSING EXERCISES THIRTY YEARS AGO.

#### WERE YOU A PUPIL?

The passing years have brought large progress to Wilson and in no department is more marked development than in the graded school system. Thirty years ago the first session of the Wilson Graded school closed and with a knowledge of work well planned and well executed.

The first superintendent was Prof. J. L. Tomlinson, one of the pioneers in Graded school work in North Carolina. The successful inception of the work in Wilson was largely due to the ability of that master man, who has since passed to the other side. Prof. Tomlinson went from Wilson to Winston and did a splendid work in that community.

This morning Mr. Ed. T. Barnes brought THE TIMES a clipping from the Wilson Advance of June 23, 1882, giving an account of the closing exercises of the first session of the Wilson Graded school. Readers of this account will notice that the name of Ed. Barnes does not appear on the honor roll—but Mr. Barnes explains this by stating that he was not a pupil that session. The name of Geo. W. Connor, now Superior Judge Connor, appears as the third monitor and other names of well known and well loved Wilsonians are here recorded.

The daily average attendance for the first year is given as 267 with a total enrollment of 396. The percentage of attendance for the year was a little less than 96 per cent.

The pupils of that day were well behaved as is shown by the statement that during the year only two cases of corporal punishment was necessary.

The report of the closing exercises is interesting and is reproduced in full:

#### THE GRADED SCHOOL

(*Wilson Advance*, June 23, 1882)

The Graded School closed the work for its first year's session last Friday afternoon, at which time the usual presentation exercises, consisting of the appointment of Monitors, presentation of medals, etc., took place. In addition to the school medal which is awarded monthly to the one in the highest grade who may have obtained the highest general average during the month the trustees of the Peabody Education Fund, in recognition of the great success of the school, presented through their agent, Dr. Cury [sic.], of Richmond, two beautiful medals to be awarded to the two pupils who should obtain the highest distinction, based on general average, during the last three months—the time intervening since their award by Dr. Curry.

Jefferson Bardin, of the 8th grade, and Laura McConnoughey of the 6th grade succeeded in winning the coveted prizes, though not without a close

and spirited contest. Dred Peacock won the school medal and so succeeds to the chief officership. H. G. Connor, Esq., on the part of the board of trustees presented the awards to those who had so worthily won them, in an eloquent address eulogizing the life and character of the great Peabody whose liberal benefactions the children of all the Southland are enjoying and commending in fitting terms the laudable efforts of those who had won the prizes.

#### Peabody Medalists

Jefferson Bardin, Laura McConnoughey  
Chief officer, Dred Peacock

#### Monitors

For the boys.—Jefferson Bardin, 1st monitor; Isaac Lamb, 2nd monitor; Geo. W. Connor, 3rd monitor; Charley Harris, 4th monitor; Wiley Dew, 5th monitor; Howell Whitehead, 6th monitor; Jos. Hudson, 7th monitor.

For the girls.—Laura McConnoughey, 1st monitor; Sue Bardin, 2nd monitor; Mamie Kinsey, 3rd monitor; Mary Glenn, 4th monitor; Meda Gardner, 5th monitor; Katie Mercer, 6th monitor; Nannie Gardner, 7th monitor.

#### Roll of Honor

Jefferson Bardin, Dred Peacock, Jno. Singeltary, Ernest Young, Isaac Lamb, Henry Farmer, Marcus Harris, Wm. O. Whitehurst, George W. Connor, Willis Warren, Jas. Kirby, Willie Harris, Willie Green, Daniel Cone, Robt. Clarke, Louis Farmer, Thomas Kirby, Charlie Harris, W. Dew, Lawson Barnes, Ernest Meredith, Zeb V. Jenkins, Jos. Hudson, Paul Anderson, Wiley Barnes, Gus Jarman, Joe Gardner, Thos. Peacock, Wm. Wallace, Howell Whitehead.

Laura McConnoughey, Fannie Adams, Nona Taylor, Corea Jarman, Nannie Jarman, Sue Bardin, Blanche Barnes, Kate Barnes, Carrie Quinn, Mamie Kinsey, Lucy Smith, Helen Jenkins, Mattie Hadley, Nettie Hansley, Henrietta Green, Lillie Smith, Ella Clements, Ida Brownley, Carrie Horn, Mary Glenn, Ellen Knight, Harriet Thompson, Meda Gardner, Myrtie Bunn, Lillie Bass, Mary Connor, Edith Dew, Sallie Dew, Mamie Hines, Cornelia Moyer, Nannie Gardner, Effie Brownley, Etta Prossie, Sarah Farmer, Daisy Simpson, Katie Mercer, Susie Moyer and Ida Taylor.

The total enrollment of pupils during the year was	396
Enrollment of boys	196
Enrollment of girls	200
Average daily attendance for year	267
Average attendance for last five months	300
Percentage of attendance for year	95.88
Number [of] corporal punishments	2
Number [of] visits paid school during the year (not including those of the last week during which time 50 to 70 teachers were in daily attendance)	8,291

Number [of] visits by teachers of other schools (not including the last week)	237
Number of counties represented by visitors	41

## **Craven County Announcement**

**Contributed by David French, Director, The Family History Society of Eastern North Carolina**

Sherri Bowers Richard, Craven County Register of Deeds, has announced that all land records from 1739 to the present are available online.

Craven County is the Mother County to several other ENC counties.

### **Accessing The Craven County Register of Deeds "Land Records 1737-1983" Instructions**

Note: These records are not available via the regular search on the Craven County Register of Deeds (RoD) site, you must follow the directions below to access them.

1. Go to <https://cotthosting.com/NCCravenexternal/User/Login.aspx>
2. On the left hand side of the page, under Account Sign-in, click "Sign in as a Guest"
3. At the top of the page, Indexed Records, click "Land Records 1737-1983" which will bring you to the Search Index Book and Search Record Book Screen areas.
4. On the left hand side of the screen is the Search Index Book area:

Under Series there are four options:

- A. Index To Real Estate 1737 thru 10-31-1912
  - B. Index To Real Estate 11-01-1912 thru 12-31-1946
  - C. Index To Deeds & Mortgages 1-01-1947 thru 6-30-1972
  - D. Index To Deeds & Mortgages 7-01-1972 thru 12-31-1983.
5. Select which series you would like to search
  6. Select Party: Either Grantor or Grantee
  7. Select Type: Either Individual or Corporation/Firm
  8. Type In Firm/Last Name
  9. Click Search
  10. A window displays the pages of the name of the party selected
  11. To look up the specific deed, find the book number and page number.
  12. Use The Search Record Book area at the top right hand of the page to enter in the kind of instrument, book number and page number.
- Note: Deeds can be several pages so make sure to look at surrounding pages.
13. You have several options to View as well as to Print, Save Document as Image, or Save Document as PDF.

Note: This is just part of the information that is available at the Craven County Register of Deeds website. Here is a list of the other records that are available:

BIRTHS: 1/1/1914 thru 5/25/2016

CONSOLIDATED REAL PROPERTY: 1/1/1995 thru 5/26/2016

CORPORATIONS & A/N: 6/27/2002 thru 3/30/2007

DEATHS: 1/1/1914 thru 5/25/2016

FINANCING STATEMENTS: 11/19/1999 thru

7/30/2001

MARRIAGES: 8/22/1908 thru 5/26/2016

PRE-95 REAL ESTATE: 1/1/1984 thru 12/31/1994

The above Birth, Marriages, and Deaths (BMD) are Indexed, but the Images are not available on the Craven County RoD website, but may be obtained in-person or by mail. This link provides more info: <http://www.cravencountync.gov/departments/reg.cfm>.

Some of the BMD records are available at FamilySearch.org (Free) and/or Ancestry.com (Paid) as noted below:

- North Carolina Deaths, 1906-1930 Includes Death Certificate Abstracts and Images (Free) <https://familysearch.org/search/collection/1609799>
- North Carolina Deaths, 1931-1994 Includes Death Abstract (No Images) (Free) <https://familysearch.org/search/collection/1584959>
- North Carolina Death Index (1909-1976) Includes Death Abstract and Certificate Images (Paid) <http://search.ancestry.com/search/db.aspx?dbid=1121>
- North Carolina Indexed Historical Records <https://familysearch.org/search/collection/location/20...>

The Family History Society of ENC has created a list of NC and ENC Research Links that is available via [http://encfamilies.org/Research\\_Links.html](http://encfamilies.org/Research_Links.html).

Also, the Craven County Genealogical Society has created a more general list of Research Links that is available via <http://www.cravengenealogy.org/-useful-genealogy-websites.h...>

The Kellenberger Room at the New Bern-Craven County Public Library has a wealth of resources that are available at <http://newbern.cpclib.org/research/index.html>

There are a few other ENC Counties who have made their early records available. Some are on the Cott Systems and some are not.

Cumberland County: <http://www.ccrod.org/>

Duplin County: <http://www.duplincountync.com/governme.../registerOfDeeds.html>

Onslow County: <https://deeds.onslowcountync.gov/.../protect.../v4/SrchName.aspx>

Pitt County: <http://regdeeds.pittcountync.gov/External/User/Login.aspx...>

### **NORTH CAROLINA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY LIVE WEBINAR**

"Born NC and Living Elsewhere: Making the Connection Back," by Diane L. Richard, ME, MBA.

16 Sep 2016, 3-4 pm EDT. (An encore recording will be presented during a Free Viewing Period: 7-9 Oct 2016.) Richard will present some rules of thumb and strategies for research into N. C. born individuals to determine where in N. C. they came from. Also shared will be a select list of records that are key to this type of N. C. research with a discussion on what makes them so invaluable.



## DR. ROBERT PASCHALL

*Black Creek: The First One Hundred Years,*  
Published 1984

Article by Ruby P. Shackelford

Paschall—The family name derives from Paschal (meaning Passover or Easter). The Paschall family in France has been traced back to 1450. In England, the Paschall coat of arms was granted by Herald's College in 1558 A. D. to John Paschall. Thomas Paschall acquired a holding from William Penn and came to America with his family aboard the ship, the "Society of Bristol" landing in Philadelphia in 1681.

The first Paschall settlement in North Carolina was on land bought by William Paschall in Granville County. William's great-grandson, Joshua (born 1804) married Susan Langford. Their son, Robert Lee (called "Bob") the subject of this article, was born November 8, 1830. Robert married Mary Frances Cook (born April 9, 1829) and the couple settled on their farm located on the Old Goldsboro-Snow Hill Road. They also owned and operated a grist mill and a sawmill. The couple had four [sic.] children: Robert Albirtus (Birt); Joshua Walter; Benjamin Greene; and Henrietta. Joshua married Sallie Poole, who later became Sallie P. Hollowell and lived in the vicinity of Black Creek until her death at eighty-two in 1956.

Robert Paschall was an unusual man. His 6-foot height necessitated a special bed and chair. He was a fun-loving prankster who gave strange nicknames to his grandsons. He was a ventriloquist and delighted his family and friends with his skill. In the early 1900's he sold his land in Wayne County and moved to Black Creek.

He became a doctor in Black Creek and had an office adjacent to his home on Bardin Street. He was widely known and respected as a physician and was often called to other towns to visit the sick. Mrs. Pattie Taylor told me of her visits to his office to pick up medicine when she was seven or eight years old. My sister, Ethel P. Massengill, remembers the interesting little office with its big and little bottles of medicinal supplies. The first recorded date of his practice in Black Creek is 1902 (Business Directory III, edited by Hugh Johnston.)

Bob and Mary, his tiny wife, held a family reunion at their home each year. Relatives came on the train or in buggies for a lively day of feasting,

music and fun.

Mary died October 21, 1913, and Robert spent his few remaining months with his son, Birt, in Wayne County. He died February 26, 1914.

[Editor's note: According to Mrs. Paschall's obituary on page 91, there was another child, who may have been Joseph [Joseph?] B. Paschall, b. Mar 1855, butler, and his wife of 23 years, Lou, b. Oct 1858, 4 births, 3 living children, who lived in Wilson Township in 1900. *Wilson County, North Carolina, Federal Census of 1900*, Joan L. Howell and Janice C. Sharpe]

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

• **North Carolina Genealogical Society Fall Workshop**, 29 Oct 2016, 8:45 a.m.—4:00 p.m., McKimmon Center, 1101 Gorman St., Raleigh, NC. "Unused, Underused, and Misused Records in Genealogical Research," Rev. David McDonald, speaker. The lectures included are "Churches in North Carolinas," "The Draper Manuscripts," "Brick Wall or Black Hole? Knowing When to Stop." and "Reach for the Power Tools: Record Transcription and Analysis." For more information and registration instructions, go to the NCGS website: [www.ncgenealogy.org](http://www.ncgenealogy.org)

• **Edgecombe County Genealogical Society** usually meets at the Edgecombe County Memorial Library, in Tarboro, N. C., at 7:00 pm on the third Thursday of each month.

• **Farmville, N. C., Ancestor Seekers** meet 10 am to 12 noon the second Saturday of each month at the Farmville Public Library.

• **Greene County Family Researchers** meets on the third Thursday of the month at 7:30 pm at the Greene County Museum in Snow Hill, N. C.

• **Old Dobbs Genealogical Society** meets at 10:30 am the third Saturday of each calendar quarter, at the Wayne County Public Library, Goldsboro, N. C.

• **Pitt County Family Researchers** meet at 7:00 pm, third Tuesdays, at Sheppard Memorial Library, 530 Evans St., Greenville, N. C.

• **Tar River Connections Genealogical Society** meets at 6:30 pm on the 3rd Tuesday of each month, except Dec., at the Braswell Memorial Library in Rocky Mount, N. C.

**WCGS Publications:** Please call or write for a catalog with complete details, or order and pay on our web site.

[www.wcgs.org](http://www.wcgs.org)

**Note:** Please see next page for additional items that are available for purchase.

Census records abstracted by J. Albert Bass with family data added from his files.

1880 Wilson County, Black Creek Township	\$32.00
1880 Wilson County, Crossroads Township	\$22.00
1900 Wilson County, Spring Hill Township	\$16.00
1850 Johnston County, District 9	\$16.00
1850 Johnston County, District 10	\$26.00
1860 Johnston County, East of the Neuse	\$23.00

1870 Johnston County, Bulah Township	\$10.00
1850 Wayne County, North of the Neuse	\$65.00
1860 Wayne County, Davis District	\$ 5.00
1860 Wayne County, Fork District	\$ 5.00
1860 Wayne County, Nahunta District	\$16.00
1860 Wayne County, Pikeville District	\$ 5.00
1870 Wayne County, Holden Township	\$10.00
1870 Wayne County, Nahunta Township	\$12.00
1880 Wayne County, Great Swamp Township	\$14.00
1880 Wayne County, Nahunta Township	\$18.00
1900 Wayne County, Great Swamp Township	\$ 6.00
1900 Wayne County, Nahunta Township	\$13.00

## Trees of Wilson

Family Chronicles of the  
Wilson County  
Genealogical Society

P.O. Box 802  
Wilson, NC 27894  
252-243-1660  
[www.wcgs.org](http://www.wcgs.org)

Boyette School,  
Disbursements to Poor,  
Obituaries, Paschall,  
School News,  
WWII Company M, Thorne  
September 2016



WTTXS-E-RES & Serials MGMT  
PO BOX 8890  
Davis Library CB #3938  
Chapel Hill, NC 27514-8890

### Books

Barnes Narratives	\$12.00
Thataway, Barnes Individuals Born in North Carolina Who Moved Elsewhere	\$6.00
They Moved Away - North Carolinians Who Went to Other States	\$10.00
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**Volume 25 Number 9**

## Trees of Wilson — WCGS

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## DISBURSEMENTS TO THE POOR

*The Wilson Times*, January 20, 1899

Contributed by Sue Evans Powell

### STATEMENT

Receipts and Disbursements of Wilson County for the Year Ending December 6th 1898.

### OUTSIDE POOR.

DISBURSEMENTS FOR DEC. 1897.

[Continued from September 2016 *Trees of Wilson*]

### JANUARY 1898

183.	Nancy Mattock,	allowance	?
184.	E. M. Bunn,	"	?
185.	F. M. Bunn,	"	1.?
186.	Eliza Lucas,	"	.75
187.	Mrs. Amos Jenkins,	"	1.50
188.	Tobe Farmer,	"	.75
189.	Nannie Holleman,	"	1.50
190.	Teresa Walston,	"	2.00
191.	Thaney Bynum,	"	.75
192.	Peggy Whitley,	"	.75
193.	Paterno Johnston,	"	.75
194.	Eli Owens' children,	"	4.50
195.	Nancy Mattox,	allowance for shoes	1.00
196.	Frank Bullock,	allowance	.75
197.	Jane Pittman,	"	.75
198.	Sidney Tant,	allowance for clothes	2.00
199.	Sydney Tant,	allowance	1.50
200.	Mayo Hines,	"	.75
201.	[skipped]		
202.	J. P. Evans,	"	.75
203.	Shade Jones,	"	.75
204.	Sallie Webb,	"	.75
205.	Jane Barnes,	"	1.75
206.	Sallie Pittman,	"	.75
207.	Rindo Bass	"	.75
208.	Wilson Hawley,	"	2.50
209.	Mrs. Kinchen Walston,	"	1.50
210.	Edith and Spencer Battle,	"	1.50
211.	Hezekiah Moody,	"	.75
212.	Martha Williford,	"	.75
213.	Eli Mercer,	"	1.50
214.	Dred Gay,	"	1.50
215.	Violet Coppedge,	"	1.50
216.	Patsy Williams,	"	1.50
217.	Patsy Williams,	allowance for clothes	2.00
218.	Levy Mercer and wife,	"	1.50
219.	Blount and Jeff Lancaster,	"	1.50
220.	Tilly Anderson,	"	.75
221.	Lucy Williams,	"	.75
222.	Jno Walston,	"	1.50
223.	Zany Hill,	"	.75
224.	Geo Daniel,	"	.75
225.	Mady[?] Hadley	"	.75
226.	Jennie Robins,	"	.75
227.	Calvin Moore,	"	1.50
228.	Mrs Jesse Adams,	"	2.00

[Editor's note: Numbers 179-182 were skipped.

The next issue of *Trees of Wilson* will continue with no. 229 on the list. The January list contained 101 names and ends with number 291.

There were persons who were listed in multiple months.]



## LUTHER WINBORNE

Contributed by J. Robert Boykin, III

*Wilson Daily Times*, October 27, 1913

### Luther Winborne Missing

Luther Winborne a young business man of this city has disappeared and absolutely no clue can be found of his whereabouts. Mr. Winborne was recently in the employ of Mr. M. C. Forbes, who conducts a grocery store on East Nash Street.

He was last seen Thursday evening and told several of his friends that he was going to the Raleigh Fair and would return Friday night. It seems however, that he did not go to Raleigh and messages from nearby towns bring no news of him.

His wife and two brothers, Messrs. Otis and Edgar Winborne, are making every effort to locate him, his wife being prostrated from the shock of his sudden disappearance.

It is impossible to imagine any reason for his leaving so unexpectedly, he being a man of best habits and good character. Mr. Winborne is about 25 years old.

The *Times* knew of Mr. Winborne's disappearance last Saturday but refrained from publishing the news thinking possibly he had decided to visit other points and had neglected to notify his people.

*Wilson Daily Times*, October 28, 1913

### Luther Winborne Returns

**Wilson Man Who Disappeared Several Days Ago,**

**Home Again—A**

**Case of Mental Aberration [sic.]**

Mr. Luther Winborne, the Wilson man who disappeared last Thursday, October 23, returned to his home last night of an absence of four days. During his absence not the slightest clue could be

learned of his whereabouts.

In an interview with Mr. Winborne today we get the following statement:

Last Thursday, Mr. Winborne says, he went to his home and donned his traveling suit telling his wife that he intended going to Elm City with Mr. Harrell. Instead he went to depot and purchased a ticket to Raleigh. When he arrived in Raleigh he realized for the first time that he was leaving home without his wife's knowledge. He says he then determined to return by the next train, but as he was sitting in the station awaiting the arrival of the train for Washington he was approached by a gentleman who asked him if he wasn't in trouble. Mr. Winborne answered in the affirmative. The man then told him that he would help him if it was in his power and that he would carry him to any place he wished to go. Mr. Winborne accompanied him to a nearby automobile and the man told him that he was going to Clarksville, Va., and that he (Mr. Winborne) could go with him. Mr. Winborne consented. They left immediately for Clarksville and reached there Saturday. Mr. Winborne now realizes more than ever the grave mistake he had made and when he asked his friend for advice, the man advised him to return to his wife. Mr. Winborne accordingly left for Raleigh Monday morning. Here he took the first train for Wilson, arriving at 11:30 at night.

Mrs. Winborne says that several years ago her husband had a severe attack of pneumonia that affected his heart and entire nervous system. Since then he has been [sic] a subject of nervous spells that caused mental abhorration [sic.]. It was during these attacks possibly that the above incident occurred, Mr. Winborne being a gentleman in every sense of the word and a loyal husband, we are sure this is the reason for his actions.

## DR. SPENCER D. ARMSTRONG

**Hugh Buckner Johnston, no. 2,453**

Not having had any previous reference to Dr. Spencer D. Armstrong of Rocky Mount in the accounts of the Tilman Hunt murder as published in the *Tarboro* newspaper at an earlier date, I was astonished to find on March 27, 1852 news that Nash County's March Court heard the case of the State vs. Spencer D. Armstrong "charged with being accessory after the fact to the murder of Tilman Hunt," which had to be continued because witness Dr. Pitman was "now in Paris."

On April 10, 1852, S. D. Armstrong advertised a reward of \$10 for "a mulatto fellow named Jerry Manly," about thirty years of age and "has a free woman for his wife ... well known by the name of Nancy Reed; she has a sister in the neighborhood of *Tarboro* ... . The above reward will be paid for his delivery to the undersigned at Rocky Mount, or any jail so that I can get him again."

*The Southerner* of October 2, 1852, referred

again to the continuing murder case: "The trial of Dr. Spencer D. Armstrong, of Rocky Mount, on a charge of being accessory to the murder of Tilman Hunt, was removed last week from Nash to Edgecombe county, on the affidavit of a prisoner that he could not have a fair trial in Nash Co. The case has now been pending eighteen months, and there are nearly fifty witnesses, many of them from this place [Fayetteville], Elizabethtown, Guilford, Rockingham, Caswell, etc. The costs are about \$500 each Term, \$1500 already. It is a case of great hardship on the distant witnesses, who receive about \$8 for each Term, and pay about \$25 in expences [sic] ... . We think some more liberal provision should be made by the Legislature for paying distant witnesses a larger proportion of their expenses."

[Editor's note: Mr. Johnston wrote articles of genealogical or historical interest for the *Wilson* and *Rocky Mount* newspapers. The number above after his name was assigned by him from a numbering system that he used for those articles.]

## STEPHEN AND ANDREW ETHERIDGE MURDERS

*The Wilson Daily Times*, August 15, 1946 and  
August 17, 1946

Contributed by Rusty Rains

### **One Killed Another Wounded By Tenant Willie Harvey Hobson and Wife Jailed in Thursday Etheridge Shooting**

Stephen Etheridge, 49, was instantly killed and his brother Andrew Etheridge, was seriously wounded Thursday night about 7 o'clock by Willie Harvey Hobson, tenant on the Etheridge farm on the Rock Ridge road, when they went to a spring on the farm to get water for their mules.

Immediately following the shooting Hobson came to Wilson and surrendered to local police who placed him in jail and notified Sheriff W. A. Weathersby of the murder. Mrs. Ruby Hobson, wife of the tenant, was taken into custody by State Highway Partolman George W. Oakley when residents of the section reported she fired on them with a rifle when they attempted to go to the aid of the Etheridge men.

Sheriff Weatherby and Deputy Sheriff Earl Weathersby investigated the murder and shooting Thursday night but Friday morning had not lodged any charges against the Hobsons.

The Etheridges and Hobsons have been having trouble since the first of August when Stephen Etheridge and Cecil B. Lamm went to the Hobson place for the purpose of appraising buildings on the farm for insurance coverage. At the time Hobson was reportedly on his front porch with a rifle and ordered them not to come on the place, allegedly threatening to kill them.

About 7 o'clock on the night of August 1, Mrs. Callie Etheridge, wife of Stephen, and her daughter, Grace Etheridge, were allegedly fired on by Mrs. Ruby Hobson as they went to a barn, between the Etheridge and Hobson houses, to feed mules. At the time the Hobsons were sitting on the front porch and allegedly ran into the house from which Mrs. Hobson emerged with a rifle and fired two shots while running towards the Etheridges, who ran home and were fired on another time before reaching the house.

The Hobsons were indicted on charges of assault with a deadly weapon with intent to kill and at preliminary hearing before Justice of the Peace J. N. Pearce Mrs. Hobson was ordered held under \$250 bond for trial in Superior court and Hobson waived preliminary hearing and was placed under a like bond.

Etheridge was represented by George W. Tomlinson and Charles M. Griffin at the court hearings.

Fearful that the Hobsons would harm some member of the Etheridge family, Stephen Etheridge swore out peace warrants for the Hobsons before Justice of the Peace J. N. Pearce who held, after a hearing, that the Etheridge family was enti-

tled to protection under the evidence and placed the Hobsons under \$250 peace bond each.

Still fearful of harm from the Hobsons, Stephen Etheridge had his attorney, Charles M. Griffin, write a letter to Sheriff Weathersby requesting that he secure Hobson's gun as a precautionary step.

Stephen Etheridge, according to his attorney, asked again Thursday that the weapon be taken away from Hobson, whom he feared was intent on doing serious harm.

Thursday night Stephen, Andrew and their father, Richard Etheridge, went to the spring for water for the mules. Hobson opened fire on them with a shot gun, Stephen being killed by a blast that struck him in the back of the head and right shoulder and Andrew being seriously wounded by a blast in the back and right arm. Their father fled the scene unhurt.

When he surrendered to local police Hobson said he shot the Etheridges because they were trying to take his crop away from him. County officers said Hobson had very little to say Friday when they attempted to talk to him about the shootings.

The letter written to the sheriff by Etheridge's attorney regarding the Hobson weapons follows:

August 5, 1946

Sheriff of Wilson County  
Wilson, N. C.

Dear Sir:

This is to call your attention in writing to the cases entitled State against Harvey and Ruby Hobson wherein the defendants are charged with assault with a deadly weapon with intent to kill. In the case of Ruby Hobson, the defendant, according to evidence at the preliminary hearing, fired upon Mrs. Callie Etheridge and her daughter three times. The warrant in this case was served through your office but for some reason, which I do not understand, the gun involved was not seized at the time of the arrest.

This is an aggravated case wherein feeling is high between the parties. It is not improbable that serious trouble may hereafter arise, for which reason I call upon you to seize the gun involved in this case for the protection to which the Etheridge family is entitled, and which we understand to be within the scope of your duty, and that this action be taken without delay.

A copy of this letter is retained as evident of notice to your office in the event of injury or harm hereafter to the parties involved, as above recounted.

Attorney for the State  
Chas. N. Griffin

Stephen Etheridge is survived by his wife; one daughter, Miss Grace Etheridge of the home; parents, Mr. and Mrs. Richard Etheridge; two brothers, Andrew of Wilson and Charlie Etheridge of Petersburg, Va., and six sisters, Mrs. J. L. Boswell and Mrs. Grover Williamson of Wilson; Mrs. Claude

*(continued on page 101)*



*(Etheridge Murders, continued from page 100)*

W. Williamson, Mrs. Millard Lamm and Mrs Paul Williamson of Portsmouth, Va., and Mrs. Zakary Chase of Eureka.

Funeral services will be held from the Contentnea Primitive Baptist Church Saturday afternoon at 3:30 o'clock, conducted by Elder Gerald Pate of Goldsboro. Interment will be made in the church cemetery.

### **Etheridge Succumbed To Shotgun Wounds In Hospital Last Night Hobson Claims Three Etheridges Attacked Him Before Fatal Shooting**

The second death in the "landlord-tenant row" over a crop resulted Friday night as Andrew Etheridge, brother of Stephen Etheridge who was instantly killed, died in a local hospital from shotgun wounds in the back and right arm.

The shooting occurred on the Etheridge farm about six miles from Wilson on the Rock Ridge highway at about 7 o'clock Thursday night when Willie Harvey Hobson opened fire on the two dead men and their father, Richard Etheridge with a shotgun.

Conflicting stories are being told about the double killing. The Etheridges were said to have been at a spring drawing water for mules when they were attacked by Hobson. Andrew gave a death bed statement to this effect at noon Friday according to reports.

Hobson, through his attorney, R. F. Mintz, contends he was attacked by the three Etheridges while working up some tobacco; that the elder Etheridge held his arms from the back while one son covered him with a pistol and the other struck him several blows. He alleges he escaped the Etheridges, was shot at three times, secured his shotgun and opened fire resulting in the instant death of Stephen Etheridge and the fatal wounding of Andrew. The father, Richard, fled the scene when the shooting started.

Hobson and his wife, Ruby, are in the county jail while an inquiry into the shooting is being continued by sheriff's officers. The Hobsons have seven children, the oldest about 13 years old.

The funeral of Mr. Stephen Etheridge, scheduled to be held this afternoon has been postponed until Sunday afternoon at 3:30 o'clock, when double services will be held for him and his brother at Contentnea Primitive Baptist Church, conducted by Elder Gerald Pate of Goldsboro. Interment for the victims will be made in the church cemetery.

Stephen is survived by his wife and one daughter, while Andrew is survived by his wife and two sons, Rudolph and A. J. Etheridge, Jr.

Also surviving the two brothers are the parents, Mr. and Mrs. Richard Etheridge and the following sisters and a brother: Charlie Etheridge of Petersburg, Va., and Mrs. Grover Williamson of Wilson; Mrs. Claude W. Williamson, Mrs. Millard Lamm and Mrs. Paul Williamson of Portsmouth, Va., and Mrs. Zackary Chase of Eureka.

## **DOCK LUCAS**

*Wilson Daily Times, August 6, 1912*

Contributed by J. Robert Boykin, III

### **Prominent Citizen of Lucama Arrested.**

Mr. Dock Lucas, of Lucama, and a young girl who has been residing with his family, were arrested yesterday in Fayetteville where they went several days ago.

Mr. Lucas left home last Sunday expressing an intention to go to the Springs for his health. On Monday the young lady left and Thursday night she phoned to a friend to express her trunk to Fayetteville.

Mr. John Moore, a young man who is engaged to the young lady and expected shortly to be married found out about the trunk and desirous of ascertaining her whereabouts, followed the trunk finding her with Mr. Lucas in Fayetteville, registered at the hotel as man and wife.

Young Moore phoned Mrs. Lucas, who immediately instructed the sheriff of Cumberland county to arrest her husband and the girl. This he did and friends of Mr. Lucas from Lucama left today for Fayetteville to get him out of trouble.

Mr. Lucas has five children and some of these stated today that if he would deed sufficient property to their mother to care for her, he might take the balance and the girl and go away.

Mr. W. A. Finch left today for Fayetteville as a legal representative of the family, while Mr. Lucas has employed counsel there. He phoned to a friend in Lucama who keeps his papers to bring them with him, and it is generally believed he is willing to comply with the terms laid down by his wife and children.

Mr. Lucas carried \$1500 with him and offered the sheriff a bond of a thousand to release him.

The young lady is 17 years old and from South Carolina, and has been living with Mr. and Mrs. Lucas for some time.

## **STEPHEN BARNES SUICIDE**

*Wilson Daily Times, May 9, 1916*

### **Mr. Stephen Barnes**

Mr. Stephen Barnes, who attempted to commit suicide about two weeks ago, on account of being separated from his wife for more than a year, and who was brought to this city for treatment, died this morning at 11:30 o'clock.

Mr. Barnes resided some three and one half miles west of the city on the farm of Mr. R. G. Briggs.

The funeral will take place tomorrow from the residence of Mr. Geo. Whitley on Oak avenue, this city, and [Mr. Barnes] will be buried in Maplewood cemetery. Rev. Mr. Biggs of Elm City will conduct the services.

Mr. Barnes was only twenty years of age. He was a man of very good character and highly esteemed by all who knew him. He was a member of Elm City Baptist church.

## SUICIDES

Contributed by J. Robert Boykin, III

**GEORGE T. BOYETT**

*Wilson Daily Times*, May 15, 1896

### **Killed Himself**

Mr. Geo. T. Boyett of Old Fields township shot himself last Monday. He was on the front porch, when his sister, who was in the rear of the house, heard a shot. She hurried to the porch and found her brother lying with a pistol by his side and a bullet hole in his head. The pistol had been held near the neck, the ball entering just under the ear and coming out of the top of the head. No information can be obtained as to whether it was an accident or a suicide.

### **E. J. FERGUSON**

*Wilson Daily Times*, October 6, 189

### **Mr. E. J. Ferguson Dead**

#### **Committed Suicide in Kinston Last Wednesday Morning**

"About 2:15 o'clock p. m. yesterday Mr. E. J. Ferguson, of Wilson, N. C., committed suicide near the Gay Lumber Company's mills, on the outskirts of Kinston, by shooting himself in the head with a 38-calibre revolver. The ball entered just behind the right ear.

"An employee of the mills saw him from a short distance, and heard the report of the pistol. He and others quickly gathered around the suicide. Death occurred almost instantly.

"Sheriff Wooten was soon on the scene and took charge of the body, and the papers and valuables.

"About \$80 in cash and checks were found in the pockets of the suicide's clothes. There were many bills and papers, most of them being bills of Boykin & Co., wholesale grocers of Wilson, N. C., of whom, we suppose, he was an employee in the capacity of traveling salesman.

"The suicide left a note in his memorandum book, stating that whiskey was the whole cause of his suicide, that his home was in Wilson, that he was a married man, and requesting that a telegram be sent to Boykin & Co. In the same book he left a very touching note to his wife, stating that he had broken his promise not to drink any more, etc. We respect the wish of the dead man, expressed at the bottom of the note to his wife, that the note would not be published.

"He was a nice looking man of about 30 years of age. He had been in Kinston about a week, and we suppose the sad ending of his life yesterday is the result of a spree during the time he has been here.

"The coroner's inquest was held yesterday afternoon, and his remains will be sent on today's train to Wilson."

The above was taken from Wednesday's Kinston Free Press, and gives all the information known of a very sad tragedy.

Mr. Ferguson and his wife have been in Wilson for several years, and each was deservedly popu-

lar.

The remains of Mr. Ferguson were sent to Richmond Wednesday, Mrs. Ferguson and her sister, Mrs. J. N. Gibbons, coming from Fair Bluff.

Rev. Thomas Bell and Mr. B. W. Hargrave accompanied the funeral party from here.

### **HENRY H. FRIZZELLE**

*Wilson Daily Times*, December 23, 1910

#### **Greene County Man Suicides.**

(Kinston Free Press)

Mr. Henry H. Frizzelle, a well-to-do farmer, whose home is four miles beyond Snow Hill, in Green [sic] county, died Saturday night about 11 o'clock as a result of drinking a large dose of laudanum, which it is believed was taken with suicidal intent. When discovered by his wife Mr. Frizzelle had sunk so low that his life could not be saved. A statement made by his little daughter gives color to the suicide theory. She said that only a little while before she was sitting in her father's lap, when he remarked to her, "You are talking to papa now, but in a short time you won't have any papa," and pointed to the two empty laudanum bottles on a table. He had already drunk the poison, when talking with his little daughter. She did not comprehend his remarks and had said nothing to her mother about it.

Mr. Frizzelle was 67 years of age, and a brother to Mr. T. D. Frizzelle and uncle of Mayor Paul Frizzelle, of Snow Hill.

### **RUFFIN HAWLEY**

Source not given, November 4, 1911

#### **Committed Suicide**

#### **Ruffin Hawly [sic] of Aycock's Crossing Shoots Himself with a Gun Has Been Demented**

Mr. Ruffin Hawley, a citizen of this county, residing at Aycock's Crossing a flag station of the Atlantic Coast Line, 3 miles south of Lucama, shot himself late yesterday afternoon with a shot gun.

Mr. Hawley was 45 years of age and leaves a family. He was evidently demented, having been an inmate [sic] of the State hospital some time ago.

### **JOHN HILL**

*Wilson Daily Times*, December 11, 1916

#### **John Hill Suicides**

#### **LUCAMA BLACKSMITH AND REPAIRER SHOT HIMSELF THROUGH THE HEAD**

This afternoon about two o'clock a phone message from Lucama, located about nine miles south of this city, state [sic.] that John Hill a blacksmith who has been living there probably 25 years and running a small repair shop had been found in an out house near his home with a pistol by his side, and a bullet wound in his head inflicted by his own hand.

(continued on page 103)



Hill who has been drinking continuously of late had a trouble last Saturday with Mr. John Williams of the same place who runs a little store and restaurant. Hill and Williams had been good friends and on Saturday without any warning whatsoever Hill went up to Williams and cut him in the face with his knife. He was promptly placed under arrest and his trial was to have been held tomorrow. Williams and Hill had been good friends, and Hill alleged Williams had gotten some of his money. There was no foundation for this however in the opinion of Lucama people, Hill making the statement while under the influence of whiskey, and when he came to realize what he had done killed himself. The dead man leaves a wife and two children. When not under the influence of liquor he was quiet and inoffensive, and a good workman, attending to his business. His funeral will be held tomorrow.

*Wilson Daily Times*, December 13, 1916

#### **FUNERAL OF MR. HILL.**

The funeral of Mr. John Hill who committed suicide was conducted from his late residence in Lucama. We are requested to state that Mr. Hill did not drink anything after noon on Saturday and that he went home and went to bed. Mr. Hill complained of headache and at times was not himself due, it is presumed, from the fact that when a child he stuck a lightwood splinter in his head and this has never been removed.

A short while back he thought of having it removed but his wife begged him not to do so. He was very deaf and this fact made him melancholy at times.

He leaves besides a wife and two children three sisters, Mrs. Will Ruffin and Mrs. Mary Barnes of this city and Mrs. R. B. Etheridge of Evansdale.

#### **R. F. MOSELY**

*Wilson Daily Times*, May 1, 1916

#### **Letters of F. Mosely**

We have been requested to publish the letters of R. F. Mosely, who committed suicide near Kenly by shooting himself in the head.

The funeral was conducted by Rev. George Boswell, who spoke of the love of husband and wife and that couples should preserve the marital relation and be true to one another. The letters of Mosely disclosed the fact that he had brooded over the thought of his wife leaving him and going with her people that he shot himself.

These letters were read at his request at the grave.

Dear people: I write this to let you all know my wishes after I am dead. I wish to be buried nice. I have enough money and I want to be buried in a nice place. When you find me dead you may know that I died for the lack of love. For I love Minnie better than I do my life. But I find that she doesn't love me. She has left me for someone else and has broken my heart and I must die. I cannot live without her. So when you read this I will be

dead and if she goes with me bury us together. Please don't put us in the Davis graveyard.

Be sure to have this letter read, for I want her to know how she has caused me to suffer. She has caused me to lose my life because I love her so. I have always tried to do the best I could for her. When we were married I promised never to part from her until death.

(Signed)

R. F. Mosely

#### **FRED OVERMAN**

*Wilson Daily Times*, July 17, 1917

#### **A SUICIDE**

Mr. Fred Overman, a farmer who resides near Five Points, shot and killed himself on the shoo-fly from the north Saturday night and his remains were interred in Maplewood cemetery this morning.

No cause is assigned for the act, except that a note was found on his person which stated that if anything happened to him that his body be sent to Five Points. A rumor is in circulation that he was depressed on account of domestic differences. He left a wife and three small children. Both himself and wife bear a good reputation, and he was considered a hard-working man.

Overman left home last Wednesday, so his sister relates, who lives in Durham, and visited her there. She says he was depressed and she gave him money to buy a ticket to Baltimore, thinking the trip might do him good. It was on the return from Baltimore, where it is presumed he went, that he was found dead in the closet of the southbound train Saturday night by the conductor of the train, who, after passing Wilson looked in as he began to take up tickets and found the man with a pistol in his hand and a hole in his temple near his right eye.

Death must have been instantaneous and the decision to kill himself must have been made quickly after reaching Wilson, for, it is learned, he bought his ticket for Wilson and got off the train here and then back on again. His body was found between here and Contentnea.

The deceased was only 26 years of age and has been married only a few years.

#### **ANADA MCLAWHORN**

*Farmville Enterprise*, July 29, 1927

Reprinted from Pitt County Genealogical Quarterly, February 2013

Greenville, July 26--- Mrs. Anada McLawhorn, 50, wife of W. Bert McLawhorn, committed suicide Saturday by drowning herself in a small creek about one hundred yards from her home on the Cox Mill road, five miles from Greenville. Before committing the deed, Mrs. McLawhorn took off her shoes and placed them on the bridge. She then removed her hat, glasses, apron, placing the glasses and apron on the inside of the hat. Coroner E. S. Williams conducted the jury hearing which returned the verdict that the deceased came to her death by drowning with suicidal intent.

## MURDER AND MAYHEM IN THE NEWS

Contributed by Sue Evans Powell

*Roanoke News*, January 6, 1887. Reprint from Halifax County Genealogical Society, Vol. 25, No. 1, April 2014.

### Murder at Belfield

On Sunday, December 26th, a murder was committed at Belfield under the following circumstances. Randolph Watson had charged Joe Robinson with having undue relations with his (Watson's) wife, and had sent him word that he intended killing him on sight. The two men met at Belfield on Sunday when Watson shot and instantly killed Robinson with a gun loaded with buckshot, the load taking effect in the head and tearing nearly the whole of it off. Robinson was at one time employed here by the Atlantic Coast Line but was discharged for attempting to raise a row when a negro was run over and killed here under the shed during the fair. Watson escaped and came here and took the train for Wilmington. Before the train reached Halifax, Bill Roberts and Bug Parker attempted to arrest him, but he eluded them by jumping from the train while it was at full speed. It is not known whether he received any injury from his jump, but nothing has been heard from him since.

*The Wilson Advance*, April 4, 1895

### A Dastardly Act.

Squire Eagles of Saratoga was in town Tuesday and told us of the loss of one of his neighbors, we failed to put down his name. Some rascal went to the poor man's house and set fire to all the fodder and shucks on the place. The loss though small, as to dollars and cents, is a serious one as it amounted to all the long feed he had provided for his stock, and every farmer knows what that means. The Squire has issued a warrant for the suspected criminal and hopes to have him lodged in jail before long. His punishment should be to the full limit of the law.

*The Wilson Advance*, May 14, 1895

### How Is This?

Our attention has been called to a stack of brick piled upon the sidewalk near the Goldsboro street entrance to the Court House square. On enquiring we were informed that these brick were the property of a private citizen, who placed them there for a certain class of customers. What we want to know is, by what authority are our public highways converted into brick yards, and, if there is no authority, how is it that the police have not ordered the removal of said obstruction. We pause for reply.

*The Wilson Daily Times*, February 10, 1911

### Blood Hounds Needed Here.

The recent developments here would seem to show the wisdom of the proposed act of the Legislature requiring all counties to keep blood hounds. If trained dogs had been available here at once last Friday afternoon, the murderer of Mr. George Mum-

ford would have been doubtless caught in a few hours, and again the known presence of blood hounds in a community has a strong effect on the intentions of would be criminals. [See note below.]

*The Wilson Daily Times*, February 17, 1911

### Wilson Police Well Armed.

The city today received nine Colt automatic pistols and two Remington riot guns so as to arm the police in an up-to-date manner.

If Chief Glover and Deputy Mumford had been armed with automatic guns at the time of the recent tragedy, West would doubtless have been killed. The old time pistol used failed to penetrate seriously the leather jacket West wore.

Other officials here also have provided themselves with Colt automatic pistols.

A big supply of ammunition was also received with the fire arms.

[Editor's note: The murder of Deputy George Mumford by Lewis West was covered in the October and November issues of *Trees of Wilson*, pages 105-106, 109, 111-115.]

*The Wilson Daily Times*, February 17, 1911

### Fire at Bailey.

Sunday morning about 3 o'clock the Norfolk Southern depot and three box cars were burned with contents at Bailey. The origin of the fire is unknown. It may be that thieves burglarized the depot and burned the building to cover up their tracks.

Robbers are unusually active this year in Georgia, North Carolina and South Carolina and the public should be on their guard.

*The Wilson Daily Times*, February 24, 1911

### SPECIAL TERM OF COURT

An order having been made by the Governor of North Carolina for a Special Term of Superior Court for the County of Wilson, notice is hereby given that a Special Term of the Superior Court, for one week, for the trial of criminal cases exclusively, will be held in the County of Wilson during the week beginning Monday March 23th, 1911.

This the 18th day of Feb. 1911.

DOANE HERRING,

Chairman Board of Commissioners for County of Wilson.

*The Wilson Daily Times*, September 26, 1911

### Case of Ejectment.

This afternoon Magistrate Ward is trying a case of ejectment which has some interest to the general public upon the ground that it is a violation of contract.

Neverson Green contends that he rented his store building on Spring street to Aggie Taylor with the understanding that she run a restaurant, but that she has put in a stock of goods and taken a partner by the name of Alfonzo Speight and in that way competes with Green who conducts a store nearby.

(continued on page 105)



*The Wilson Advance*, March 26, 1896

### **Verdict of Not Dead.**

Gus Williams, a colored man who lives near Four Oaks, one evening not long ago drank more liquor than he could carry and so decided to spend the night in town. He did not go to a house but stretched himself out on the ground. It was one of the coldest nights we have had this winter. Next morning he was found stiff and, as everyone thought, dead. The matter was reported to the coroner and a jury of inquest was summoned. But when they went to the place where he died he was gone. They followed him up and found him in a house drinking coffee. There was no verdict made out but if it had been, it would have been a verdict of "not dead."—*Smithfield Herald*.

*The Wilson Daily Times*, January 13, 1920

Contributed by Joan L. Howell

### **Only Two Cases**

There were only two cases before Mayor Hill this morning, that of Mattie Chatman and Minnie Banks, who were charged \$.22 each for fighting.

[Contributor's notes: Wilson's Mayor, Deleon Millan Hill, who served in 1920 and 1921, was a lawyer.

The only Wilson County census I found him in was the 1920:

Mary G. Hill	27
Dillion (sic) M. Hill	27, both parents born NC
Mary G. Hill	3

His parents were D. D. Millan (sic) born in New Hanover County, North Carolina, and Janie Winstead born in Wilson County, North Carolina, according to his death certificate #377.

Deleon Millan Hill, b. 22 Apr 1892, Wilson Co., N. C., d. 13 Sep 1945, of coronary occlusion. His wife, Mary Gilliam Hill, b. 21 Jun 1892, Tarboro, d. 25 Nov 1964, Wilson, death certificate #546, was the daughter of Donnell Gilliam and Mary Rawls. Deleon Hill, Mary Gilliam Hill, and five of their children are buried in Maplewood Cemetery, in West Section, A Street.

Dates from tombstones and Wilson birth certificates:

Infant Hill born and died 27 Jun 1910  
Katie E. Hill b. 20 Sep 1911; d. 18 Jun 1912  
Infant Hill b. 02 Jun 1912; d. 09 Jun 1912  
Mary Gilliam Hill b. 13 Feb 1916 Birth Certificate #814. (She died 10 Nov 2010, in New Hanover County, N. C. as Mary Gilliam Carr Clark. She was the widow of Dr. Badie T. Clark.)  
Velma Briggs Hill b. 01 Dec 1917, Wilson Co., N. C., Birth Certificate #740, 11 Jun 1918  
Stillborn Son Hill b. 05 Sep 1923 Wilson Co., N. C., Birth Certificate #1048  
Sarah Jane Hill b. 01 Nov 1926, Wilson Co., Birth Certificate #15]

## **DEATH OF GEORGE TAYLOR**

Contributed by J. Robert Boykin, III

*Wilson Daily Times*, September 30, 1913

### **Kills Sleeping Negro.**

George Taylor, a negro tenant living on Mr. Wiley Webbs place in Greene county, was shot and instantly killed Sunday morning by Will Newsome, another negro who believed Taylor had conjured his wife, causing her death.

It seems that Newsome's wife died about two weeks ago with consumption and Will believed her death was caused by Taylor's having conjured her.

Sunday morning Taylor's wife awoke suddenly and saw some one raise the window and shoot. She received several of the shots herself but the biggest part of the load entered her husband's body who was sleeping nearest the window.

An inquest was held and blood hounds were put on the trail of the assassin who proved to be Will Newsome. Will was lodged in the county jail for trial.

Taylor was about 65 years old and had been with Mr. Webb for years. Mr. Webb is the father of Mr. Bud Webb of the local police force.

*Wilson Daily Times*, October 6, 1913

### **Will Newsome Confesses**

Will Newsome, the negro confined in the Greene county jail has confessed to the killing of George Taylor whom he shot while asleep in his home.

Newsome is trying to work the insanity dodge by claiming that Taylor "conjured" his wife who died recently of tuberculosis. He says he intended to kill both Taylor and his wife whom he imagined was also responsible for the death of his wife through the exertion of some mystic spell.

Taylor has been living on Mr. Webb's place for 15 years, was an unusually good negro and a most excellent farmer, while Newsome was a tough character. Newsome tried to hire negroes staying on the place to swear that he was with them at the time of the shooting but it is evidence that he went away and returned in order to cover his tracks and left again after the shooting. His confession of course fixes the crime.

## **MRS FINCH SUED THE CITY**

*Wilson Daily Times*, February 6, 1911

### **City Pays Mrs. Finch \$1,250**

Yesterday the city and Mrs. Frank Finch compromised the damage suit brought by Mrs. Finch against the corporation, and Mrs. Finch was paid \$1,250.

Last fall, it will be recalled, Mrs. Finch stepped on an insecure drain cover on the sidewalk at the corner of Nash and Jackson streets, the cover slipping out of place and she falling and being severely injured. Suit was soon afterwards brought which was settled yesterday out of court.

W. A. Finch, Esq., represented Mrs. Finch, and H. G. Connor, Jr., City Attorney, the corporation.

## JOHN SIMPSON

*The North Carolina Journal*, September 14, 1801

Reprint from Halifax County Genealogical Society Newsletter, December 2015

### 100 DOLLARS REWARD

Whereas in the month of March last, John Simpson, of Bertie county, and late of North Carolina, my lawful husband, eloped from my bed side without any provocation whatever; and on the last of July, was by licence (sic) granted him in Halifax county, married to Miss Charity O'Daniel, of the said county. Being conscious that I have always acted towards him as a wife, I am resolved he shall be chastised in the manner that the law directs. It may be proper to give a description of this last married couple as they probably will leave

the neighbourhood (sic)., and proceed to a place where they are not known. John Simpson is a man of a dark complexion, of a low stature, and about the age of thirty, brown hair, black eye-brows, light coloured (sic) beard, and an everlasting tobacco chewer; his fore teeth very dark and rusty; the little finger on his right hand has perished in consequence of a whitlow, has a scar on his neck occasioned by a burn when small. His companion, Charity, of usual height, about the age of eighteen, thick and full fleshed, light complexion, very freckled, and a large bushy head of rusty red hair. The above reward will be paid on having him delivered to me in Bertie county, or secured in any goal so that I may have it in my power to bring him to justice.

Allese Simpson – August 26th

## DEATH OF BENJAMIN F. COLEY

*Goldsboro Daily Argus*, August 6, 1912

Reprint from Old Dobbs Trail, Vol. XXXII, Summer 2012, Issue III, page 15.

### HOMICIDE AT EUREKA

Drinking Hard Cider Ends in Tragedy—  
Murderer Arrested

Benjamin F. Coley, a young white man of the Eureka neighborhood about 16 miles north of this city, was shot in a row at that place Sunday morning about 11 o'clock and died at an early hour yesterday morning.

Coroner C. E. Stanley and Sheriff Edwards were notified at once of Coley's death and hurried to the home of Coley where he had been carried. The jury which the coroner empaneled placed the killing on Ernest [sic] Cook, who fired the shot, and his brother, Arthur Cook, as an accessory. Ernest Cook was arrested after a long chase by the sheriff while he was waiting to board a train at Beston on the Norfolk Southern, and is now in the Wayne county jail.

Josiah Roe, a friend of Cook's who drove him through the country to the station, was arrested for aiding him to escape and is held in default of \$1,000 bond. The officers are on the hunt for Arthur Cook.

The drinking of hard cider is said to have been the cause of the Sunday morning row. A number of young men had been drinking cider and were engaged in a wrestling contest when Arthur Cook, became angry with Alvin Coley, a brother of the dead man and drew a pistol, snapping it several times at Coley. He was disarmed by bystanders and went at once for his horse and rode to get his brother, Ernest Cook, who returned with him in about half hour, followed up the Coleys and started the fuss over again, shooting B. F. Coley and firing several times at a man named Pittman, who was with the dead man. All the men accused of his murder stand well in their community.

## THOMAS CARLTON MOORE

*The Washington Post*, Washington D. C., August 28, 1937

Reprinted from Pitt County Genealogical Quarterly, August 2014

### Tom Moore, D. C. Gambler Dead, 1937

Thomas Carlton Moore, 37, widely known for many years in Washington's gambling and sports circles, died last night at his home at Greenville, N. C., after a lingering illness. The Associated Press reported Moore returned to his home in Greenville two months ago from Washington.

Funeral services will be held at 4:30 p.m. Saturday. His mother, two sisters and seven brothers survive in Greenville.

For eight years or more, through the height of prosperity, Moore was a familiar figure in Washington's gambling world. He owned several gambling houses

through the Northwest section of the city, one of them on Fourteenth street near the business section.

A former tobacco salesman, Moore was among the first to develop the numbers racket on an organized basis controlling most of the Northwest territory. His main source of income was believed to have come from private gambling sessions in his apartment at the old Arlington Hotel on Vermont avenue.

At one time he was rumored engaged to Fifi D'Orsay, a movie star, and there were seen frequently together.

On at least two occasions he was the object of underworld hijackers. In 1933 Moore received a tip that he was to be ambushed in his apartment. Police were notified and Detective Frank Brass, now Detective sergeant attached to the pickup squad, shot his way into the room, capturing four armed men.

[Editor's note: Reformatted with paragraphs for more ease while reading.]



## WCGS SEPTEMBER MEETING MINUTES

The Wilson County Genealogical Society met September 27, 2016, in the Local History and Genealogy Room of the Wilson County Public Library (WCPL). Joan Howell, president, called the meeting to order. There were quite a few guests attending and Howell told them that she hoped they would return for future meetings.

Howell reminded the group to check the announcements in *Trees* for upcoming opportunities. The nominations committee presented a partial slate of officers for the coming year. Pat Montgomery told the members that she had not been successful so far in finding someone willing to fill the offices of president and vice-president. Howell said that she would be willing to serve as vice-president if someone could be found to fill the office of president. Deborah Webb agreed to continue to serve as secretary, and Wanda Lamm agreed to continue as treasurer. Election of officers will be held at the October meeting with installation to be part of the Annual Meeting in November.

A framed photograph of servicemen in the 30th Division, 120th Infantry, Company M, that was taken in 1941, has been donated to the Wilson County Public Library by the family of the late Major William L. Massengill. The names of the Wilson County men in the photograph are listed on pages 88 and 89 of the September issue of *Trees*. Howell made the presentation to Will Robinson, WCPL Genealogy Librarian, on behalf of Helen Bennett who made arrangements for the library to receive this gift. The photograph will be also be added to "The Greatest Generation" digital archive.

Will Robinson, Local History and Genealogy Librarian at WCPL recently visited Ireland and shared his experiences in his presentation, "Tracing the Diaspora from the Ancient Island to the New World." Robinson told the group that many family names came from the original language of Ireland, Gaelic, and from natural and manmade features. Robinson said that farmers and herdsman can be difficult to find because they purposely hid themselves from landlords whenever possible.

The 1901 census is the earliest surviving census due to the destruction of the Civil Records Office. Robinson indicated that the earliest census based on tax records was in 1659 and is helpful if your ancestor was a landholder.

Other sources of information are the Valuation

Records and the Tithe Applotment Books. Catholic parish church records can also provide information. Robinson said that the National Library of Ireland is a great resource as well. Online resources that he suggested are: Find My Past, Irish Genealogy.ie, Ancestry.com and Family Search.

The next meeting will be on Tuesday, October 25th at 7 pm at WCPL.

Respectfully submitted,  
Deborah Webb, Secretary

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **North Carolina Genealogical Society Fall Workshop**, 29 Oct 2016, 8:45 a.m.—4:00 p.m., McKimmon Center, 1101 Gorman St., Raleigh, NC. "Unused, Underused, and Misused Records in Genealogical Research," Rev. David McDonald, speaker. The lectures are "Churches in North Carolina," "The Draper Manuscripts," "Brick Wall or Black Hole? Knowing When to Stop," and "Reach for the Power Tools: Record Transcription and Analysis." For more information and registration instructions, go to [www.ncgenealogy.org](http://www.ncgenealogy.org)
- **Accessions at the N. C. State Archives**. The North Carolina State Archives provides a bimonthly list of recent accessions. These lists only include accessions with a genealogical interest. For a complete listing please see the Archives website at <http://archives.ncdcr.gov>
- **Edgecombe County Genealogical Society** meets at the Edgecombe County Memorial Library, in Tarboro, N. C., at 7:00 pm on the third Thursday of each month.
- **Farmville, N. C., Ancestor Seekers** meet 10 am to 12 noon the second Saturday of each month at the Farmville Public Library.
- **Greene County Family Researchers** meets on the third Thursday of the month at 7:30 pm at the Greene County Museum in Snow Hill, N. C.
- **Old Dobbs Genealogical Society** meets at 10:30 am the third Saturday of each calendar quarter, at the Wayne County Public Library, Goldsboro, N. C.
- **Pitt County Family Researchers** meet at 7:00 pm, third Tuesdays, at Sheppard Memorial Library, 530 Evans St., Greenville, N. C.
- **Tar River Connections Genealogical Society** meets at 6:30 pm on the 3rd Tuesday of each month, except Dec., at the Braswell Memorial Library in Rocky Mount, N. C.

**WCGS Publications:** Please call or write for a catalog with complete details, or order and pay on our web site.

[www.wcgs.org](http://www.wcgs.org)

**Note:** Please see next page for additional items that are available for purchase.

Census records abstracted by J. Albert Bass with family data added from his files.

1880 Wilson County, Black Creek Township	\$32.00
1880 Wilson County, Crossroads Township	\$22.00
1900 Wilson County, Spring Hill Township	\$16.00
1850 Johnston County, District 9	\$16.00
1850 Johnston County, District 10	\$26.00
1860 Johnston County, East of the Neuse	\$23.00

1870 Johnston County, Bulah Township	\$10.00
1850 Wayne County, North of the Neuse	\$65.00
1860 Wayne County, Davis District	\$ 5.00
1860 Wayne County, Fork District	\$ 5.00
1860 Wayne County, Nahunta District	\$16.00
1860 Wayne County, Pikeville District	\$ 5.00
1870 Wayne County, Holden Township	\$10.00
1870 Wayne County, Nahunta Township	\$12.00
1880 Wayne County, Great Swamp Township	\$14.00
1880 Wayne County, Nahunta Township	\$18.00
1900 Wayne County, Great Swamp Township	\$ 6.00
1900 Wayne County, Nahunta Township	\$13.00

## Trees of Wilson

Family Chronicles of the  
**Wilson County**  
**Genealogical Society**  
P.O. Box 802  
Wilson, NC 27894  
252-243-1660  
[www.wcgs.org](http://www.wcgs.org)

*Disbursements to Poor,  
Murder and Mayhem,  
Suicides*

October 2016

WTTXS-E-RES & Serials MGMT  
PO BOX 8890  
Davis Library CB #3938  
Chapel Hill, NC 27514-8890



27514-8890



### Books

Barnes Narratives	\$12.00
Thataway, Barnes Individuals Born in North Carolina Who Moved Elsewhere	\$6.00
They Moved Away - North Carolinians Who Went to Other States	\$10.00
Wilson County, North Carolina, Census of 1860	\$30.00
Wilson County, North Carolina, Census of 1870	\$25.00
Wilson County, North Carolina, Census of 1880	\$40.00
Wilson County, North Carolina, Census of 1900	\$40.00
Wilson County, North Carolina, Marriages, 1855-1899	\$75.00
Wilson County, North Carolina, Cemeteries Volume I	\$30.00
Wilson County, North Carolina, Cemeteries Volume II	\$30.00
Wilson County, North Carolina, Cemeteries Volume III	\$25.00
Wilson County, North Carolina, Cemeteries Volume IV	\$30.00
Wilson County, North Carolina, Cemeteries Volume V	\$35.00
Wilson County's Architectural Heritage	\$20.00
Wilson, North Carolina, Historical Properties Inventory	\$20.00
Wilson County's Founding Families	\$55.00

### Maps

Wilson County Historical Map	\$5.00
Confederate Field Maps #1, #2, #3, #4	(State choice) each at \$5.00
Town of Wilson, Map 1872	\$5.00
Town of Wilson, Map 1882	\$5.00
Wilson County Waterways	\$5.00
(tax and shipping included on previous items only)	

### Miscellaneous

Cemetery Finder (paper) donation	\$5.00
Wilson Co. Estates Inventory (paper) donation	\$5.00

**Note:** Please see previous page for additional items.

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[www.wcgs.org](http://www.wcgs.org)

**Payment and shipping:** Shipping cost for each book is \$5.00 (\$10.00 for *Wilson County Marriages*, a set of two books). Shipping cost for maps is \$5.00 for 1-4 items. Add 6.75% sales tax for NC residents on merchandise total (not on shipping).

Total of items ordered \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Shipping \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Sales Tax \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Total of Order \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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Please enroll me as a member of WCGS. I enclose \$20 for personal membership & subscription to *Trees*. Please allow 3-5 weeks for shipping on all orders. You may order books & membership through our website. <http://www.wcgs.org>.

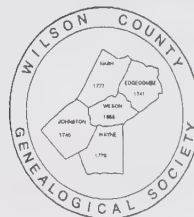




# TREES OF WILSON

*Wilson's Family Heritage*

Chronicles of the  
Wilson County Genealogical Society



November 2016

**TWENTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY**

Volume 25 Number 10

## Editor's Message

Christmas is fast approaching and it is time to turn our

thoughts to ways that we can share our passion for family with our family members. Here a few ideas that you might consider.

- A gift membership to Wilson County Genealogical Society which includes the subscription to Trees of Wilson will remind the recipient of your gift with the ten issues they will receive.
  - One or more of the WCGS publications especially if your ancestors are included.
  - A printout of the results of your research so far. You could dress it up with an attractive binder and include some family photographs.
  - A photograph album with photos of your ancestors with accompanying biographies of those individuals
  - A CD with a Powerpoint presentation of the photographs of your ancestors and extended family members. Include photos of your shared childhood and more recent ones of them as well.
  - Transfer old home movies to DVD format and share copies of them. Imagine the enjoyment as they watch their memories come alive again.
  - Prepare a calendar showing the birthdates of living and deceased family members. You could also add photos for each of the monthly pages.
  - Prepare and frame a family tree chart.
  - Purchase a collage frame and insert photos of family members. A theme, such as weddings, could be used.
- These are just a few ideas. Use your imagination!

## WCGS NOVEMBER MEETING Wilson County Public Library Assembly Room, November 29th

Please join us for our meeting on November 29th at the library. Ask at the reception desk if you need directions.

This will be our Annual Meeting, and reports of our 2016 activities will be made. We will install officers for 2017. They are:

President: vacant  
Vice-President: vacant  
Secretary: Deborah Webb  
Treasurer: Wanda Lamm  
Board Member: Lynn Lamm

After the business session, we will have a social to honor the 2016 and 2017 officers. Those attending are encouraged to bring a sweet or savory to share.

## DUES FOR 2017 ARE NOW BEING ACCEPTED.

**Submit yours now while it is  
on your mind!**

### NEW MEMBER SPECIAL!

**Persons who join WCGS in  
November 2016**

**will receive the remaining  
2016 issue and all the 2017  
issues. Membership would be a  
good gift.**

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## Elizabeth Whitley Lee Hunt Hugh B. Johnston Files

Tossnot Depot  
August 26th 1842

Dr. Sir:

I received your answer a few days ago Respecting the claim of a widow of a Revolutionary Soldier. I can inform you that the widow's name when she married her first Husband was Elizabeth Whitley. She married her first husband in the year 1782. His name was Jesse Lee. He died in the year 1805. In the year 1821 she married her second Husband. His name was David Hunt. He died in the year 1829 and Drew a pension until he died. Her present name is Elizabeth Hunt.

If she is entitled to a pension from the death of both Heer Husbands or either of them, you will inform me and the amt. under each, and also what course to pursue to get it.

Yours with respect,  
Joshua Barnes

Mr. J. L. Edwards  
Coms. of Pensions  
Washington City  
D. C.

[Editor's Note: David Hunt enlisted 20 Jul 1778, in Edgecombe Co., N. C., and served nine months as a private in Capt. John Baker's Co., Col. Hogun's N. C. Regm't. He was allowed a pension 10 May 1819, at age 76, as resident of Nash Co., N. C., Pension S. 41671. Elizabeth was denied survivor's benefits because their marriage date was too late. Revolutionary War Pension Records, Ancestry.com]

**We do not meet in December. Our next meeting will be Jan. 31, 2017, program TBA.**

## Trees of Wilson — WCGS

This chronicle is published by the Wilson County Genealogical Society, organized February 26, 1991. Address: P.O. Box 802, Wilson, NC 27894 -0802. Telephone 252-243-1660. Internet address: <http://www.wcgs.org>

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Materials of genealogical interest to the members of WCGS are accepted for publication at the discretion of the Editors and should pertain to families with connections in Wilson County and its neighboring and parent counties. WCGS cannot accept any responsibility for the content of contributed materials, including errors and omissions. Please direct any questions to the contributor. Their names and addresses will be provided upon request for worthwhile purposes.

Transcripts of original records are recorded with the original spelling and punctuation.

Queries from WCGS members are accepted and posted at [WilsonNC@yahoo.com](mailto:WilsonNC@yahoo.com)

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**Secretary:** Deborah Webb

**Treasurer:** Wanda Lamm Taylor

**Board Members:** Jerry Stancil,  
Carroll Gaissert, Sue Evans Powell

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Carol Forbes, Wanda Lamm Taylor

**Journal Editor:** Sue Evans Powell

**Contributors:** J. Robert Boykin, III,  
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## DISBURSEMENTS TO THE POOR

*The Wilson Times*, January 20, 1899

Contributed by Sue Evans Powell

### STATEMENT

**Receipts and Disbursements of Wilson County for the Year Ending December 6th 1898.**

### OUTSIDE POOR.

DISBURSEMENTS FOR Jan. 1898.

[Continued from October 2016 *Trees of Wilson*. The disbursements for December 1897 were included in the August and September issues. The January 1898 disbursements began in the October issue.]

### JANUARY 1898

229. Sampson[?] Farmer & wife,	allowance	1.50
230-233. [several lines illegible]		
234. Eliza Taylor,	"	.75
235. _?_ Williamson,	"	1.50
236. Nancy Reason [?],	"	.75
237. Joe[?] Taylor,	"	.75
238. Sallie Moore,	"	.75
239. Dick Wilkins,	"	.75
240. Loretta Parish,	"	1.50
241. Polly Lucas,	"	.75
242. Jack Williamson,	"	.75
243. Mrs. David Parish,	"	.75
244. Joe Pierce,	"	.75
245. Hester Simms,	"	.75
246. Lottie Bullock,	"	.75
247. H H Hutchinson,	"	.75
248. Lizzie Bryant,	"	1.00
249. H H Hutchinson	allowance for clothes	2.00
250. Joe Darden,	allowance	1.50
251. Christian Webb,	"	.75
252. Anthony Taylor,	"	.75
253. Hinnant and Sally Boswell,	"	2.00
254. Gatsy Barnes,	"	.75
255. Jonas Wilkins,	"	.75
256. Mariah Cooper	"	1.50
257. Baldy Joyner	"	1.50
258-259 Skipped		
260. W. J. Oewsome [sic.?] merchandise for county poor		1.15
261-268 Skipped		
269. Dr. N Anderson	examining Owens and Bryant	10.00
270-271 Skipped		
272. Mayo & Watson	coffin for pauper	2.00
273-286 Skipped		
287. Calvin Moore	allowance	.75
288. Skipped		
289. Lee Joyner	"	1.50
290. Skipped		
291. Tis Pridgeon	"	1.50

[Editor's note: The January list contained 101 names and ended with number 291.

The next issue of *Trees of Wilson* will continue with the February Disbursements, beginning with no. 294 on the list. Numbers 292-293 were skipped.

There were persons who were listed in multiple months.]



## WILSON COUNTY SCHOOL

### ATTENDANCE, 1913-14

*Wilson Daily Times*, January 18, 1915

Contributed by J. Robert Boykin, III

Recently *The Times* printed some school attendance figures for Wilson County, which were three or four years old. The figures for last year will possibly interest your readers.

Our school census included all persons between 6 and 21 years of age. These figures are fairly creditable except for the low average daily attendance. We seem to be getting a fair number on the roll, but the irregular attendance is where we are failing. If we get 66 per cent of the census on the roll, I think we make a creditable showing. The census includes all persons 6-21 who are married, away at school, or who are at work.

There are some 50 white children and 200 Negro children in the town of Wilson who ought to be in school and are not. In the county we have a similar condition. The irregularity of attendance, considering the short school term, makes the figures indicate that we are giving many of our children very meager educational opportunities. Here are the figures in detail.

Wilson City—Census 6-21: White, 1,425; colored 1,686; total 3,111

Enrollment—White, 910 or 64 per cent of census; colored, 858 or 51 per cent of census; total 1,768 or 57 per cent of census.

Average attendance—White, 695 or 76 per cent of enrollment; colored, 528 or 61 per cent of enrollment; total, 1,223 or 69 per cent of enrollment.

Elm City—Census 6-21: White, 276; colored, 256; total 532

Enrollment—White, 213 or 77 per cent of census; colored, 197 or 77 per cent of census; total, 410 or 77 per cent of census.

Average attendance—White, 133 or 62 per cent of enrollment; colored, 102 or 51 percent of enrollment; total, 235 or 57 per cent of enrollment.

Lucama—Census 6-21: White, 244; colored, 145; total, 389.

Enrollment—White, 242 or 100 per cent of census; colored, 148 or 100 per cent of census; total, 390 or 100 per cent of census.

Average attendance—White, 151 or 62 per cent of enrollment; colored, 90 or 60 percent of enrollment; total, 241 or 62 per cent of enrollment.

The white enrollment at Lucama includes the enrollment of the high school, which enrollment included a number outside the district. The colored enrollment was larger than the census because the children of an adjoining district attended that school.

Wilson county (outside Wilson, Elm City and Lucama)—Census 6-21: White, 3,840; colored, 2,881; total, 6,721.

Enrollment—White, 2,771 or 72 per cent of census; colored 2,018 or 70 per cent of census; total, 4,989 or 71 per cent of census.

Average attendance—White, 1,612 or 58 per cent of enrollment; colored, 1,089 or 52 percent of enrollment; total, 2,699 or 56 per cent of enrollment.

Wilson County (total)—Census 6-21: White, 5,785; colored, 4,968; total 10,753.

Enrollment—White, 4,136 or 71 per cent of census; colored 3,221 or 64 per cent of census; total, 7,357 or 68 per cent of census.

Average attendance—White, 2,591 or 62 per cent of enrollment; colored, 1,807 or 56 percent of enrollment; total, 4,398 or 59 per cent of enrollment.

The school term in Wilson was 186 days; in Elm City and Lucama, 160 days; in the country it was 103 days in 1913-14.

CHARLES L. COON

## 1914-1915 GRADED SCHOOL TEACHERS ANNOUNCED

*Wilson Daily Times*, August 3, 1914

Contributed by J. Robert Boykin, III

### Graded School Elects Teachers for Fall Schools Will Open on Monday, September 14; Teachers for the Session are Announced.

The graded schools of Wilson will open for the fall term on September 14th, the second Monday in the month.

If the new school is not completed by that date, all the classes will begin at the old school and half day sessions will be arranged until the new building is ready. It is planned to use the new building for some of grades, first to the fifth. All the higher grades, beginning with the fifth will go to the old school. There will also be a first, a second, a third, and a fourth grade at the old school. This plan will make it possible to accomodate [sic.] all the smaller pupils and prevent their having to walk so far to school.

Superintendent Coon announces that the following teachers of last year have been reelected: Misses Cleo Winstead, Dell Woodard, Allie Pearsons, Emma Cobb, Zanie Koonce, Eva Royall, Daphne Carraway, Clyde Farmer, Margaret Hearne, Lillian Field, Verta Idol, Margaret Wilson, Belle Hampton, Eula Cox, Marshall Cole, Sallie Royster, and Mr. W. A. Young.

The new teachers are Misses Nina Gasner, Newport; Emma Lossen, Wilmington; Sudie Landon, Clinton; Belle Lupton, Belhaven; Hazen Black, Wilmington; and Miss Rosa Walls, Wilson.

Mr. C. C. Haworth, of High Point, will be principal of the old graded school. Miss Cleo Winstead will have charge of the new school on Kenan street.

It is a rule of the school that all pupils who enter school must have been successfully vaccinated. It is very much desired that this be attended to before school opens by parents who may have new pupils to enter.

## WILSON COUNTY SCHOOLS

### ELM CITY ACADEMY

Contributed by Joan Lawrence Howell

*Week Ending*

April 1, 1902

Lynda Barnes  
Minnie Batts  
Arthur Batts  
Annie Bass  
Ethel Brinkley  
Edgar Brinkley  
Lloyd Brinkley  
Lonnie Brinkley  
Isaac Braswell  
Minnie Cobb  
Hattie Cobb  
Lady Doles  
Lucy Edwards  
Doretha Farmer  
Clarence Farmer  
Ida Farmer  
Marie Griffin  
Mamie Hales  
Carrie Harrison  
Emma Harrison  
Lena Harrison  
Emma Joyner  
Claudia Joyner  
Elsie Langley  
Grady Langley  
Gordan Langley  
Mary McGowan  
Rowena Mears  
Addie Owens  
Hattie O'Berry  
Tina Rice  
Belle Robbins  
Ellen Vincent  
Johnnie Wells  
Ida Wells  
Lillie Watson  
George Winstead  
Lettie Winstead  
Lilla Winstead  
Mamie Winstead  
Eliza Winstead  
Daniel Winstead  
E. C. Winstead  
Florence White

*Week Ending*

April 18, 1902

Rodger Armstrong  
Johnnie Barnes  
Arthur Batts  
Isaac Braswell  
Edgar Brinkley  
Ethel Brinkley  
Lloyd Brinkley  
Lonnie Brinkley  
Hattie Cobb  
Minnie Cobb  
Lady Doles  
Lucy Edwards  
Doretha Farmer  
Ida Farmer  
Elsie Griffin  
Marie Griffin  
Lena Harrison  
Claudia Joyner  
Emma Joyner  
Gordon Langley  
Mary McGowan  
Oscar McGowan  
Rowena Mears  
Lucile Moore  
Hattie O'Berry  
Addie Owens  
Tina Rice  
Belle Robbins  
Stella Waters  
Lillie Watson  
Bettie Webb  
Johnnie Wells

Lizzie Bass  
Arthur Batts  
Edgar Brinkley  
Lonnie Brinkley  
Weedy Davis  
Lucy Edwards  
Doretha Farmer  
Marie Griffin  
Mary Hales  
Lena Harrison  
Irma Jordan  
Luther Jordan  
Lucile Moore  
Ocie Sharp  
Stella Waters  
Katie Wells  
Charlie Williams  
Clayton Winstead  
George Winstead  
Lettie Winstead  
Lewis Winstead

Lizzie Bass  
Edgar Brinkley  
Lonnie Brinkley  
Doretha Farmer  
Donley Friar  
Elsie Griffin  
Marie Griffin  
Mary Hales  
Lena Harrison  
Irma Jordan  
Luther Jordan  
Mary McGowan  
Lucile Moore  
Belle Robbins  
Chris Taylor  
Ellen Vincent  
Rebbie Viverette  
Johnnie Wells  
Katie Wells  
Charlie Williams  
Clayton Winstead  
George Winstead  
Glays (sic) Winstead  
Jordan Winstead  
Lettie Winstead  
Lewis Winstead  
Lilla Winstead  
Mary Winstead  
Solon Winstead  
Jesse Winstead  
Johnnie Wells

*Week Ending*

Sept. 26, 1902

Bertis Adams  
Herbert Adams  
May Armstrong  
Norma Armstrong  
Roger Armstrong  
Winnie Barkley  
Lizzie Bass  
Gideon Boykin  
Edgar Brinkley  
Viola Dixon  
Lucy Edwards  
Donley Friar  
Elsie Griffin  
Marie Griffin  
Mary Hales  
Lena Harrison  
Mary Belle Hays  
Irma Jordan  
Luther Jordan  
Elsie Langley  
William Langley  
Mary McGowan  
Lucile Moore  
Ivey Pridgen  
Belle Robbins

*Week Ending*

Oct. 3, 1902

Bertis Adams  
Herbert Adams  
Herbert Adams  
Lynda Barnes  
Lizzie Bass  
Arthur Batts  
Gideon Boykin  
Edgar Brinkley  
Lonnie Brinkley  
Weedy Davis  
Lucy Edwards  
Donley Friar  
Marie Griffin  
Mary Hales  
Lena Harrison  
Irma Jordan  
Luther Jordan  
Curtis Land  
Ethel Land  
Mary Land  
Elsie Langley  
William Langley  
Mary McGowan  
Lucile Moore  
Ivey Pridgen

## ROLLS OF HONOR AS PUBLISHED IN THE ELM CITY ELEVATOR SINCE THE OPEN- ING OF THE SCHOOL SEPT. 1, 1902.

Contributed by Joan Lawrence Howell

*Week Ending*

Sept. 12, 1902

May Armstrong  
Norma Armstrong  
Roger Armstrong  
Winnie Barkley

*Week Ending*

Sept. 19, 1902

Norma Armstrong  
Roger Armstrong  
Winnie Barkley  
Lynda Barnes

[Both columns continue at the top of the next page]

(Continued on page 113)



Ocie Sharp	Belle Robbins
Ellen Vincent	Ocie Sharp
George Walston	George Walston
Laura Ward	Lillie Watson
Lillie Watson	Johnnie Wells
Charlie Williams	Katie Wells
Minnie Williams	Redmond Wells
Clayton Winstead	Minnie Williams
George Winstead	Barney Winstead
Gladys Winstead	Clayton Winstead
Lewis Winstead	Daniel Winstead
Lilla Winstead	Eliza Winstead
Mary Winstead	George Winstead
Solon Winstead	Gladys Winstead
Jesse Winstead	Jesse Winstead
Johnnie Wells	Lettie Winstead
	Lewis Winstead
	Lilla Winstead
	Mary Winstead
	Solon Winstead

Week Ending October 10, 1902

Minnie Cobb	Belle Robbins
Willie Coggins	Fannie Vick
Lady Doles	Laura Ward
Lucy Edwards	Stella Waters
Doretha Farmer	Lillie Watson
Donally (sic) Friar	Johnnie Wells
Marie Griffin	Florence White
Emma Harrison	Ida Williams
Lena Harrison	Luther Williams
Seth Harrison	Westie Williams
Luther Jordan	Carrie Winstead
Emma Joyner	Daniel Winstead
Emmie McGowan	Eliza Winstead
Mary McGowan	George Winstead
Oscar McGowan	Gladys Winstead
Rowena Mears	Lettie Winstead
Hattie O'Berry	Mamie Winstead
Addie Owens	Mary Winstead
Tina Rice	E. C. Winstead

The following were listed without a date.

Bertis Adams	Ivey Pridgen
Winnie Barkley	Belle Roggins
Lizzie Bass	Ocie Sharp
Arthur Batts	Molle Tans?
Edger Brinkley	Chris Taylor
Jack Brinkley	Fannie Vice
Hattie Cobb	Laura Ward
Minnie Cobb	Stella Waters
Walter Crumpler	Lillie Watson
Gideon Boykin	Catharine Wells
Mattie Lee Dixon	Johnnie Wells
Viola Dixon	Katie Wells
Lucy Edwards	Ida Williams
Clarence Farmer	Luther Williams
Doretha Farmer	Barney Winstead
Donley Friar	Eliza Winstead
Marie Griffin	George Winstead

[Each column continues at the top of the right side of this page.]

[The list without a date continued.]

Irma Jordan	Lewis Winstead
Mary Hales	Gladys Winstead
Emma Harrison	Jesse Winstead
Lena Harrison	Lettie Winstead
Luther Jordan	Lilla Winstead
Ethel Land	Mamie Winstead
Elsie Langley	Stella Winstead
William Langley	Sudie Winstead
Mary McGowan	William Winstead
Lucile Moore	
Effie Page	

The Roll of Honor for the Elm City Academy was not published in the *Elm City Elevator* from Oct. 13 for some reason unknown (sic) only to the publisher. But from Jan. 16, 1903 it will appear in the *Wilson Times* Prof. Cameron having arranged with Mr. Gold.

## A BIG TIME AT HIGH'S SCHOOL HOUSE

The Wilson Advance, February 7, 1895

Connor, N. C., Feb. 4th, 1894

Contributed by Sue Evans Powell

Mr. Editor:—Please allow me space in your paper to let the people know what a grand time we had at High's school house Feb. 1st. it was the closing exercises of the school at that place which had been taught by Mr. A. R. Flowers, a student of the State University. The concert was gotten up by the school and the public debate was held there. The people were expecting to see a grand concert and they were not disappointed.

It was understood that the exercises would not begin until 7 o'clock. But about 5 o'clock the people began to pour in from all directions. They were there from Wilson, Nash, Johnson [sic.], Wake, and Wayne counties and at 6 o'clock the school house was packed as full as could be. But the people did not cease to come until about five or six hundred had gathered. The deportment of the students and the correctness with which every piece was rendered was sufficient proof of the efficiency of the work done in the school room and the thoroughness of the training each had received.

The programme was a lengthy one and every piece was conducted with a promptness that was commendable.

The exercises closed at eleven o'clock and every one present went home well pleased with what he had heard and seen.

Mr. Flowers will leave in a few days for the University where he will remain the balance of the session.

Mr. Flowers is an excellent teacher and we hope to have him with us again at some future day.

S. E. H.

[Editor's note: Connor was a community in western Wilson County near Turkey Creek and the Nash County line, with a post office from 1890-1904.]

## OBITUARIES

Contributed by J. Robert Boykin, III

### ADLINE COLSON BOYKIN

*Wilson Daily Times*, November 15, 1913

#### Mrs. N[athan] R. Boykin.

Mrs. N. R. Boykin died at 5:30 this morning at her home in Spring Hill township.

She leaves a husband and one child to mourn her departure.

The burial will be made tomorrow afternoon at 3:30 in the family plot.

Mrs. Boykin was a prominent lady in that section and was highly esteemed by all who knew her.

[Editor's Notes: Nathan Boykin, 22, and Adline Colson, 23, both Old Fields residents were married on 06 Nov 1889, by J. F. Eatmon, J. P. Harriet Taylor, Neely Taylor and E. Taylor were witnesses. *Marriages of Wilson County, North Carolina, 1855-1899*, J. Robert Boykin, III, page 133

In 1900, Nathan R. Boykin, b. Jun 1868, farmer, and his wife of 10 years, Adline, b. May 1862, lived in Old Fields Township. Adline had one birth, their son David S., b. Apr. 1891, who lived with them. Also living in the household were Jonathan and Hattie Rountree and their daughter Julia. *Wilson County, North Carolina Federal Census of 1900*, Joan L. Howell and Janice C. Sharpe, page 113.

Adline Boykin, b. 23 May 1862, d. 08 Nov 1913, wife of N. R. Boykin was buried in the Boykin/Lamm/Wells Cemetery on Ernest Rd, in Old Fields Township. *Wilson County, North Carolina, Cemeteries—Volume III*, Joan L. Howell, page 44.]

### SHELBY KANNAN

*Wilson Daily Times*, November 16, 1913

#### Syrian Dies Suddenly.

Mr. Shelby Kannan, a Syrian traveler with headquarters in Wilson, died suddenly last night at the home of his brother M. N. Kannan on Lee street.

It is thought his death was caused by an attack of acute indigestion.

Mr. Kannan is survived by a father, Mr. Cannon Kannan of Mount Lebanon [sic.], Syria and three brothers, Messrs. George W. Kannan of Goldsboro; N. Kannan and James Kannan of this city.

The interment will be made at Maplewood cemetery tomorrow morning at 11 o'clock, Fathers Rabil and Francis officiating.

Mr. Kannan was a member of the Roman Catholic church.

[Editor's note: Shelby Kannan, b. 09 May 1875, d. 05 Nov 1913, was buried in Maplewood Cemetery, Wilson, N. C. *Wilson County, North Carolina, Cemeteries—Volume IV*, Joan L. Howell, page 127.]

### MARY LUCAS

*Wilson Daily Times*, December 27, 1913

#### Infant Dies.

Yesterday morning at 10 o'clock Mary, the infant child of Mr. and Mrs. Will Lucas, on Lodge street, died after a brief illness.

The funeral was conducted this afternoon at 1:30 and the interment made in Maplewood cemetery.

[Editor's note: Mary Lucas was interred 25 Dec 1913, according to the records of Maplewood Cemetery, Wilson, N. C. There is not a marker at her grave. *Wilson County, North Carolina, Cemeteries—Volume IV*, Joan L. Howell, page 143.]

### NORA MERCER

*Wilson Daily Times*, December 28, 1913

#### Mrs. L[arry] D. Mercer Dead.

Mrs. Nora Mercer, wife of Mr. L. D. Mercer, of Black Creek, died suddenly yesterday evening at 6 o'clock, following an attack of acute indigestion.

The deceased was 24 years of age and leaves a husband and two children, as well as a host of friends and relatives who mourn her sudden departure.

The interment was made at 3 p. m. today in the Warren Tomlinson cemetery, near Black Creek.

[Editor's Notes: Please see the "Wiley Bronson Mercer Family" article in May 2016 *Trees of Wilson* which states that Nora Farmer married Lawrence "Larry" Douglas Mercer, son of W. B. Mercer and his wife Elizabeth "Betsy" Tomlinson.

Nora E. Mercer, b. 11 Aug 1892, d. 26 Dec 1913, wife of Larry D. Mercer, and Larry D. Mercer, b. 05 Jun 1878, d. 07 Sep 1964, were buried in the W. B. Mercer Cemetery off Hwy 117, in Black Creek Township. *Wilson County, North Carolina, Cemeteries—Volume I*, Joan L. Howell, page 118.

In 1900, Larry D. Mercer and Nora Farmer lived three households apart in the Town of Black Creek households of their parents. Wiley B. Mercer, b. Apr 1844, farmer; and his wife of 23 years, Elizabeth, b. May 1843, 9 births, 9 living children still had four of their children living at home. They were Larry D., b. Jun 1878; Charlie M., b. Jun 1881; Effie C., b. Jun 1883; and Robert L., b. Nov 1887, all farm laborers.

Jonathan Farmer, b. May 1849, farmer; and his wife of 19 years, Francis E., b. Dec 1861, five births and five living children, had all of their children living at home. They were Geneva, b. Apr 1883; Vernie, b. Oct 1885; Arnold, b. Sep 1886; Nora, b. Aug 1887; all farm laborers; and Mattie, b. Aug 1893. *Wilson County, North Carolina Federal Census of 1900*, Joan L. Howell and Janice C. Sharpe, page 29.

Please note the discrepancies in Nora's age between the census record, the obituary, and her grave marker.]

### ROBERT L. MORGAN

*Wilson Daily Times*, December 9, 1913

#### Robt. L. Morgan.

This morning at 1 o'clock at the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. George W. Morgan, near Bailey, after a lingering illness of over three years

(Continued on page 115)



Mr. Robt. L. Morgan passed peacefully away. Besides his parents he leaves four brothers and two sisters to mourn their loss, viz: Geo. L. Morgan of Wilson; John Irwin Morgan, Farmville; Paul Morgan, Spring Hope; Millard Morgan, Durham; Mrs. Roscoe Strickland, Newark, N. J.; and Miss Mattie Morgan, Middlesex. The interment will be made Saturday morning at the family burying ground near Bailey. For more than two years past the deceased had been traveling in quest of health which he failed to find. Visiting New Mexico, Denver, Col., and Asheville, N. C.

#### **PITTMAN INFANT**

*Wilson Daily Times*, December 5, 1913

##### **Death of an Infant.**

The infant child of Mr. and Mrs. T. R. Pittman, who reside on Vance street, died yesterday afternoon at 2 o'clock. The babe was buried in Maplewood cemetery late this afternoon.

[Editor's note: He may have been William L. Pittman (pauper), interred 03 Dec 1913, in Maplewood Cemetery, Wilson, N. C., according to WPA records. *Wilson County, North Carolina, Cemeteries—Volume IV*, Joan L. Howell, page 180.]

#### **PAULINE BLOUNT SIMMS**

*Wilson Daily Times*? October 20, 1913

##### **In Memory of Mrs. W[illiam] W. Simms**

With full knowledge of the fact that he cannot appropriately or with true justice portray the characteristics of the beautiful life of the lamented one whose name appears above, yet this writer, a kinsman, can not refrain from paying to her sweet memory his meagre, but heart-felt tribute of affection.

Mrs. Simms, prior to her marriage was the beautiful and attractive second daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Geo. W. Blount. Her honored and beloved father preceded her to the Home of the Blest many years ago; her mother still lives to bless and minister gladness to the surviving children, and they are, Mrs. J. A. Martin of Hickory and Mr. Charles E. Blount, Mrs. J. R. McLean and Mrs. T. F. Pettus of Wilson.

"Pauline," though reared in luxury, with every wish and want gratified, was not haughty or inclined to live and move above others less fortunate than she, and with this pre-dominant characteristic and her strong, beautiful personality, she won as friends the old and young, the rich and poor, and held them all through life as steadfastly as if bound to her by "hooks of steel."

Her married life with the chosen one of her girlhood, Mr. W. W. Simms, a large land owner and progressive, prosperous business man of Wilson, embodied all the phases of an ideal, happy life, and he and two fine, noble sons, Messrs. George and Philip, are left to mourn the passing of the devoted wife and fond mother, on the evening of the 4th.

She was a consecrated member of the First Baptist church, and her loyalty to its cause, its various causes, was a beautiful evidence and token of the good, true, noble woman that she was. Long will her memory be cherished and revered by those who will gather about that sacred altar and temple when the Sabbath's morning and evening bells call them to the worship of their God and hers.

In the social life and in the home life of that people 'mid whom she was reared and spent all her happy years, she will be sorely, so sadly missed. This writer will miss her whenever chance permits him to visit that town, will miss the cordial grasp of the hand now still, the voice now hushed, that always gave him glad welcome whenever he entered her happy, delightful home.

No, she cannot be forgotten. Her sweet memory will be treasured and hallowed in fond hearts as long as life shall last. We can not, will not, say that she is dead. She is only away, and though all that is mortal of her has been committed to the grave, it is not her final abiding place, but the gateway through which she, ransomed and redeemed, passed to the glories of immortality, and the higher life.

We will not say good bye, but good night, and bid her sweetly rest and dream till the brighter morn shall dawn and then her loved ones down here will meet her again and have a home with her in the Golden Palace of the Great High King—united up there forevermore.

[Editor's notes: William W. Simms, 20, and Pauline Blount, both Wilson County residents, were married on 09 Sep 1886, by W. J. Gay, Minister of M. E. Church South, at the home of J. S. Weaver. The witnesses were J. L. Weaver, Mrs. J. L. Weaver, and Keneth Weaver. *Marriages of Wilson County, North Carolina, 1855-1899*, J. Robert Boykin, III, page 636.

In 1900, William Sims [sic.], b. Apr 1865, lumber merchant, and his wife of 14 years, Pauline B., b. Oct. 1865, 4 births, three living, lived in Wilson Township. Their children George, b. Sep 1888, school boy; Phillop B., b. Sep 1893, school boy; and Pauline, b. Jan 1898; were in the household. William's mother was born in Virginia. *Wilson County, North Carolina Federal Census of 1900*, Joan L. Howell and Janice C. Sharpe, page 336.

Buried in Maplewood Cemetery, section SA:

Pauline Blount Simms, b. 03 Oct 1865, d. 04 Oct 1913, wife of W. W. Simms

William Wiley Simms, b. 30 Apr 1866, d. 11 Feb 1932

George W. Simms, b. 19 Sep 1887, d. 17 Dec 1947

Sarah Eliza Simms, b. 30 Jul 1890, d. 05 Sep

1890, Daughter of W. W. & Pauline Simms

Philip Blount Simms, b. 10 Sep 1892, d. 05 Dec 1955

Pauline Blount Simms, b. 16 Jan 1896, d. 28 May 1902, daughter of W. W. & Pauline Simms  
*Wilson County, North Carolina, Cemeteries—Volume IV*, Joan L. Howell, page 200.]

## UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA ALUMNI MEET

*Wilson Daily Times*, September 30, 1910

Contributed by J. Robert Boykin, III

### Alumni Banquet Wilson County Sons of University of North Carolina Meet

The New Briggs hotel last evening from 9:30 to 12 o'clock was the scene of the first banquet and smoker held by the Wilson county Alumni of the University of North Carolina in celebration of the 116th anniversary of the founding of the institution. The repast was indeed a sumptuous one, and many were the tales told of student days at the Hill.

At the conclusion of the "stuntte" course, cigars were brought in, and amid the mellow haze and fragrant incense of "the weed," Mr. T. J. Hadley, of the class of 1861, president of the Association and Toastmaster on the present occasion, started the "ball of Yarns" by calling on Mr. Fred Carr, of the class of 1895. His remarks were most appropriate and were vigorously applauded.

In rapid succession, 'Squire Mewborne, of the class of '95; Frederick Archer, class of 1904; F. S. Hassell, of the class of 1903; D. S. Boykin, class of '82, and the President and Toastmaster himself, regaled the banqueters with tales of the college in their days.

The occasion was a most enjoyable one, and steps were taken to make the banquet an annual affair. The members present at this celebration were:

Mr. Graham Woodard, class of 1900.  
Mr. H. M. Rowe, class of 1885.  
Mr. E. J. Barnes, class of '99 (Law).  
Mr. Sam E. Clark, class of 1900.  
Mr. Giles Winstead, class of 1900.  
Mr. Frederick Archer, class of 1904.  
Mr. H. B. Wadsworth, class of 1909.  
Mr. W. M. Farmer, class of 1888.  
Mr. L. P. Woodard, class of 1887.  
Mr. T. J. Hadley, class of 1861.  
Mr. Frank Hassell, class of 1903.  
Mr. W. A. Lucas, class of '03 (Law).  
Mr. S. G. Mewborne, class of 1895.  
Mr. J. S. Whitehead, class of 1903.  
Mr. T. J. Hackney, class of 1910.  
Mr. Elmer Oettinger, class of 1909.  
Dr. Carl Moore, class of 1907.  
Mr. Alvis Patterson, class of 1905.  
Mr. D. S. Boykin, class of 1882.  
Mr. F. L. Carr, class of 1895.  
Mr. L. E. Barnes, class of 1894.

Before adjournment the feasters got a telegram of congratulation to \_\_\_\_ [unreadable].



## COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' LETTER TO THE PUBLIC

*Wilson Daily Times*, July 26, 1910

Contributed by J. Robert Boykin, III

To the Voters of Wilson County

A report is being circulated that a majority of the board of county commissioners of Wilson county has given away six feet of the land on the back side of the court house lot. Those who are circulating this report say that this land has been given to those who own property back of the court house square. Why such a report should be circulated, I can't understand, unless it is for campaign purposes.

The only thing which the commissioners did was to give the said property owners, the permission to pave six feet of the property which they had been using for thirty-one years. No other construction can be put upon it when the resolution is read together with the following:

"Be it remembered that on the first day of September A. D. 1887, being the first Monday of said month, S. M. Warren, Alfred Thompson, Jno. H. Barnes, Jno. D. Wells and D. G. W. Ward commissioners of Wilson county, met at the court house in Wilson and the following proceedings are had to-wit: (Among the proceedings of said date is found the following):

"Permission is granted to Geo. W. Blount and others to use the back of the court house square as a front for law offices."

I, John R. Dildy, clerk to the board of commissioners of Wilson county, hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy as taken from the records of the proceedings of the county commissioners of Wilson county.

This the 25th day of July, 1910.  
(Seal) Jno R. Dildy

You will see from the foregoing that thirty-one years ago the board of commissioners of Wilson county recognized that the county could not prevent these people who own property at the back of the court house from coming out to the street.

If the county commissioners had never at any time acted upon this matter, still the property owners would have this right.

The county has given to us no property, and if they should offer to make us a deed for any property belonging to the public, it would not be accepted.

Yours truly,  
O. P. Dickinson

## EPISCOPAL CHURCH IMPROVEMENTS

*Wilson Daily Times*, July 28, 1910

Contributed by J. Robert Boykin, III

The pulpit and clergy's stalls of St. Timothy's church, which were sent to the factory to be refinished have been returned and replaced in the church. The church windows have been darkened, thus relieving the glare which formerly was objectionable.



## INSURANCE BENEFITS RECEIVED

Contributed by J. Robert Boykin, III

**M. R. Hinnant**

*Wilson Daily Times*, November 4, 1910

R. F. D. Lucama, N. C., Oct. 31, 1910

Mr. W. L. Banks, Special Agent  
Union Central Life Ins. Co.  
Wilson, N. C.

Dear Sir: I am in receipt of yours enclosing your company's check for \$1002.61 in full settlement of the insurance carried by my late husband, Mr. M. R. Hinnant, who died October 14th, from appendicitis. This is indeed a quick settlement and more than the face of the policy called for, as the policy was for only \$1000.00 and you have paid me \$2.61 more than the policy called for which you state is post-mortem dividend accumulated since the last payment.

Mr. Hinnant took this policy last year while in the best of health and at the time I had no idea that it was possible for my husband to die and leave me, but now I can fully realize the benefits of life insurance and I shall try and use it to the best advantage possible in protecting myself and in the education of our dear little boy. Thanking you for the promptness and in assisting me in the matter, I am,

Yours very truly,

(Signed) Mrs. Sallie A. Hinnant

**Z. R. Liles**

*Wilson Daily Times*? December 13, 1910

Bailey, N. C., Dec. 8th, 1910

Mr. W. L. Banks, Special Agent  
Wilson, N. C.

Dear Sir: I am [in] receipt of yours enclosing your company's (Union Central) check for \$2000.00 in full settlement of policy carried by my father, Z. R. Liles, who died November 19th. The proofs were mailed the company November 26th and the check is dated December 2nd, which is indeed a prompt settlement. Father applied for this policy in 1905 while in good health, paid in all \$496.56. Received \$2000.00, thus demonstrating the value of insurance. Our mother died June 8th, 1909, and father before his death directed in his will that a portion of this money be used in buying suitable monuments to his deceased wife, daughter and himself to mark their resting places and the balance to be used for heirs and estate.

Thanking you for the interest you have taken in the matter, I am,

Yours very truly,

Percy Liles,

Executor of the estate of Z. R. Liles.

[Editor's note: Z. R. Liles, b. 28 Nov 1858, d. 19 Nov 1910, was buried in the Manning Cemetery, on New Sandy Hill Church Rd, in Old Fields Township. *Wilson County, North Carolina, Cemeteries—Vol. II*, Joan L. Howell]

## VISITORS TO WILSON

Contributed by J. Robert Boykin, III

**E. Jeffries**

*Wilson Daily Times*, August 30, 1910

**Wilson is Simply Fine**

*The Daily Independent*, of Monessen, Pa., of Saturday said:

E. Jeffries, who is now visiting his son, Tom, in Wilson, N. C., writes that he is wonderfully pleased with the sunny clime. Just "simply fine" is the way he expresses it. We have traveled over the same road where Ed. is now located, and can vouch that it is questionable whether or not he ever comes back to smoky Monessen to live after breathing the pure air up in the Blue Ridge mountains. When it comes down to real healthful, wholesome climate the Carolinas can not be surpassed in the United States.

While the editor of the Independent erred in referring to Wilson as being in the Blue Ridge, we are glad to learn that Mr. Jeffries described our little city as "simply fine." We learn that both Mr. and Mrs. Jeffries, who are visiting their son, Mr. Tom Jeffries at Mr. Blauvelts, are pleased with Wilson, and trust that they will decide to locate here. "You Will Like Wilson." Every one does that comes here.

**Jesse Battle**

*Wilson Daily Times*, November 15, 1910

**An Old Wilsonian Here**

Mr. Jesse Battle, a Wilson boy, now of St. Louis, is in the city visiting relatives. Mr. Battle is one of the several other Wilson "boys" who went west about thirty years ago (after a fortune) and found it. However, in maturer age Mr. and Mrs. Battle have decided after extensive travel in America and abroad that North Carolina, after all, is the place for home, and a handsome brick and stone residence in Clayton, the scene of Mrs. Battle's girlhood days, is nearing completion, and there they expect to spend the winter months.

Their new home is an elegant one and supplied with hot water, heat and a private electric light and water system. All the conveniences of city life will be at their service on its occupancy and in addition they will have the excellent climate of Eastern Carolina. His old Wilson friends were delighted to see Mr. Battle here again after his long absence.

## HENRY DANIEL

*Wilson Daily Times*, February 6, 1911

**Mr. Henry Daniel's Condition.**

Mr. Henry Daniel, formerly of Wilson, but who for years has resided in Philadelphia, and who was critically injured a few days ago, continues in a very precarious condition. Mr. Daniel was riding horseback when the girth broke, which caused him to fall off and striking on his head his skull was badly fractured. His mother, Mrs. Helen B. Daniel, and sister, Mrs. E. G. Rawlings, both of this city, are still at his bedside in Philadelphia.



## BUCKHORN SCHOOL CLOSING EXERCISES

*The Wilson Advance*, January 24, 1895

Contributed by Sue Evans Powell

### A Grand Time at Buck Horn

Barnes Store, Jan. 21st 1895

Mr. Editor: Please allow me space in your most valuable paper to tell the people of the county and the readers of the *Advance* generally, especially those who were not present, something of the occasion above mentioned. It was the closing exercises of Capt. E. J. Barnes' school at Buck Horn on the 17th inst. Mr. Barnes has been teaching the public school at this place for the past three and a half years and he thinking that perhaps this would be his last school at this place, decided to give the people of the community a "lift" in the way of a concert. This was something of a novelty in this community. This fact together with the fact that Mr. Barnes is so well known and admired as a teacher brought out the people by the hundreds. It was understood that the exercises would open at 7 o'clock p. m. At about 5 o'clock the people commenced coming in from all directions. They were here from Wilson, Johnson [sic.] Wayne and Nash. By 6:30 the large church house in which the exercises were held was literally packed, but the people did not cease to come until about five or six hundred had assembled. Every seat, aisle, and every other accessible \_\_\_\_ was occupied by some one anxious to see and hear.

All who knew Mr. Barnes expected something grand, notwithstanding it was only a public school. Their most sanguine expectations were fully realized. The deportment of the students and the correctness with which every piece was rendered was sufficient proof of the efficiency of the work done in the school room and the thoroughness of the training each had received.

After the exercises came the address which was delivered by the Rev. Mr. Flowers, a student of the State University. Mr. Flowers is a most eloquent and ornate speaker; he is a self-made young man, and gave much wholesome advice to the young men on the subject of education, which was appreciated by the large audience. Miss Sissie Barnes presided at the organ. She is a very accomplished musician, and added much to the occasion. Everybody went home well pleased.

Mr. Barnes leaves immediately for Smithfield, N. C., where he goes to take charge, as commander of the cadet corps of Turlington Institute. He is a most worthy and excellent young man, and a teacher of no small ability, and carries with him the gratitude of the entire community, old and young. We hope to have him with us again.

C. W. Knight,  
Committee

Right: Betty McCain, "The Greatest Generation" chairperson, and Will Robinson receive donation of WWII photograph from Joan Howell and WCGS.

## ROCK RIDGE SCHOOL

Contributed by J. Robert Boykin, III

*Wilson Daily Times*, August 12, 1910

### Improvement at Rock Ridge

Considerable improvements are being made at Rock Ridge High School at a cost of \$3,000.

The old school building will be moved away and converted into a dormitory for boarding pupils and a residence for the teacher.

The new building will contain an auditorium, music and recitation rooms and will in every way meet the demands of the progressive educational necessities of that section. The work is being done under the direction of Supt. E. J. Barnes and the trustees of that school.

*Wilson Daily Times*, September 17, 1914

### Rock Ridge Farm Life School

The Rock Ridge Farm Life School will begin work September 21. The principal, C. O. Armstrong and the agriculture teacher, Mr. J. T. Lazar of Alledale, S. C. are already on the job putting things in readiness for the opening.

The new dormitory is practically completed and the furniture is being installed. This dormitory will make it possible for us to accomodate [sic.] as many as fifty students.

As the school is a new effort for Wilson county, we expect to have a mass meeting in the school auditorium next Saturday, 3 p. m., September 19. There will be some good speakers on hand, probably Dr. J. Y. Joyner, State Superintendent will be one of these. The object of the meeting is to get the teachers, parents and their children together, in order that we may map out our work and have a mutual understanding with each other concerning the work which we expect to do. This school now is not a local affair but it is for the entire country and the teachers must have the cooperation of all the citizens of the country who are interested in the development of rural life and the dissemination of general culture. You must come to the preliminary meeting next Saturday, 3 p. m. We want all the fathers, mothers, boys, girls and babies to be on hand.

[Editor's note: A related article was included in October 2003 *Trees of Wilson*, page 100.]





## WCGS OCTOBER MEETING MINUTES

The Wilson County Genealogical Society met in the Wilson County Public Library assembly room at 7 pm. Vice-President, Joan Howell called the meeting to order. Howell reminded those present that the minutes are printed in the current issue of *Trees* each month. There was no treasurer's report. The Nominating Committee, Pat Montgomery, Jerry Stancil and Richard Rountree, were unable to find anyone willing to serve as president or vice-president for the coming year. Deborah Webb will continue to serve as secretary, and Wanda Lamm will continue to serve as treasurer. Lynn Lamm will replace Jerry Stancil as a board member. Howell stated that it is time for membership dues to be paid.

Will Robinson was the presenter for the evening. Robinson's program, "The Role of the Wilson Woman's Club in Establishing the Wilson County Public Library," showed how the early efforts of the Wilson Woman's Club led to the establishment

of the Wilson County Public Library. Robinson said that the Wilson Woman's Club opened the Wilson County Library in 1921. This library was subscription only, and it was not until December 8, 1939, that the Wilson County Public Library was dedicated. Robinson showed photographs of some of the women instrumental in the establishment of a library presence in Wilson. Robinson has a history of the Wilson County Public Library and records from the earlier libraries in Wilson in the Local History and Genealogy Room.

Albert Page gave an update on the status of the Robbins graveyard. He told the society that his current research project is the Mattox family. One of the more famous members of that family from our area was Bernard Mattox. Mattox became a film star and used the stage name Gregory Walcott. The next WCGS meeting will be at 7 pm on November 29, 2016, in the WCPL assembly room. Officers will be installed and refreshments will be served.

Respectfully submitted,  
Deborah Webb, Secretary

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

- The North Carolina Genealogical Society will present Blaine Bettinger, PhD, JD, "Using Autosomal DNA for 18th and 19th Century Mysteries," a recorded webinar, 18 November 2016, 3:00 pm - 4:00 pm EST. (An encore recording will be presented during a Free Viewing Period, 2-4 Dec 2016.)

Even though our 18th and 19th century ancestors have been dead for decades, their DNA still survives in their descendants. Learn how to use autosomal DNA to attack and potentially solve genealogical mysteries and brick walls for ancestors who were born or lived in the 1800s, 1700s, and beyond. Together we'll also examine some of the ways that leaders in the field have attacked or solved their 18th and 19th century mysteries using autosomal DNA.

- The **National Genealogical Society 2017 Family History Conference**, "History Lives Here," will be held in Raleigh on 10-13 May 2017. Mark your calendars and make your plans to take advantage of the opportunity of easy access to many outstanding educational speakers who will renew your enthusiasm for genealogical research and advance your understanding of ways to trace your ancestors and add to the stories of their lives.

### • Accessions at the N. C. State Archives.

The North Carolina State Archives provides a bi-monthly list of recent accessions. These lists only include accessions with a genealogical interest. For a complete listing please see the Archives website at <http://archives.ncdcr.gov>

- Edgecombe County Genealogical Society** meets at the Edgecombe County Memorial Library, in Tarboro, N. C., at 7:00 pm on the third Thursday of each month.

- Farmville, N. C., Ancestor Seekers** meet 10 am to 12 noon the second Saturday of each month at the Farmville Public Library.

- Greene County Family Researchers** meet on the third Thursday of the month at 7:30 pm at the Greene County Museum in Snow Hill, N. C.

- Old Dobbs Genealogical Society** meets at 10:30 am the third Saturday of each calendar quarter, at the Wayne County Public Library, Goldsboro, N. C.

- Pitt County Family Researchers** meet at 7:00 pm, third Tuesdays, at Sheppard Memorial Library, 530 Evans St., Greenville, N. C.

- Tar River Connections Genealogical Society** meets at 6:30 pm on the 3rd Tuesday of each month, except Dec., at the Braswell Memorial Library in Rocky Mount, N. C.

**WCGS Publications:** Please call or write for a catalog with complete details, or order and pay on our web site.

[www.wcgs.org](http://www.wcgs.org)

**Note:** Please see next page for additional items that are available for purchase.

Census records abstracted by J. Albert Bass with family data added from his files.

1880 Wilson County, Black Creek Township	\$32.00
1880 Wilson County, Crossroads Township	\$22.00
1900 Wilson County, Spring Hill Township	\$16.00
1850 Johnston County, District 9	\$16.00
1850 Johnston County, District 10	\$26.00
1860 Johnston County, East of the Neuse	\$23.00

1870 Johnston County, Bulah Township	\$10.00
1850 Wayne County, North of the Neuse	\$65.00
1860 Wayne County, Davis District	\$ 5.00
1860 Wayne County, Fork District	\$ 5.00
1860 Wayne County, Nahunta District	\$16.00
1860 Wayne County, Pikeville District	\$ 5.00
1870 Wayne County, Holden Township	\$10.00
1870 Wayne County, Nahunta Township	\$12.00
1880 Wayne County, Great Swamp Township	\$14.00
1880 Wayne County, Nahunta Township	\$18.00
1900 Wayne County, Great Swamp Township	\$ 6.00
1900 Wayne County, Nahunta Township	\$13.00



## Trees of Wilson

Family Chronicles of the  
**Wilson County  
Genealogical Society**

P.O. Box 802  
Wilson, NC 27894  
252-243-1660

[www.wcgs.org](http://www.wcgs.org)

*Battle, Daniel,  
Disbursements to Poor,  
Hinnant, Hunt, Jeffries,  
Liles, Obituaries,  
School News, UNC Alumni,  
Wilson Visitors*

November 2016

RALEIGH NC 275  
Research Triangle Region  
21 NOV 2005 PM 1 1



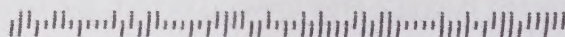
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27515-889090



### Books

Barnes Narratives	\$12.00
Thataway, Barnes Individuals Born in North Carolina Who Moved Elsewhere	\$6.00
They Moved Away - North Carolinians Who Went to Other States	\$10.00
Wilson County, North Carolina, Census of 1860	\$30.00
Wilson County, North Carolina, Census of 1870	\$25.00
Wilson County, North Carolina, Census of 1880	\$40.00
Wilson County, North Carolina, Census of 1900	\$40.00
Wilson County, North Carolina, Marriages, 1855-1899	\$75.00
Wilson County, North Carolina, Cemeteries Volume I	\$30.00
Wilson County, North Carolina, Cemeteries Volume II	\$30.00
Wilson County, North Carolina, Cemeteries Volume III	\$25.00
Wilson County, North Carolina, Cemeteries Volume IV	\$30.00
Wilson County, North Carolina, Cemeteries Volume V	\$35.00
Wilson County's Architectural Heritage	\$20.00
Wilson, North Carolina, Historical Properties Inventory	\$20.00
Wilson County's Founding Families	\$55.00

### Maps

Wilson County Historical Map	\$5.00
Confederate Field Maps #1, #2, #3, #4	(State choice) each at \$5.00
Town of Wilson, Map 1872	\$5.00
Town of Wilson, Map 1882	\$5.00
Wilson County Waterways	\$5.00
(tax and shipping included on previous items only)	

### Miscellaneous

Cemetery Finder (paper) donation	\$5.00
Wilson Co. Estates Inventory (paper) donation	\$5.00

**Note:** Please see previous page for additional items.

**WCGS Publications:** please call or write for a catalog with complete details, or order and pay on our web site.

[www.wcgs.org](http://www.wcgs.org)

**Payment and shipping:** Shipping cost for each book is \$5.00 (\$10.00 for *Wilson County Marriages*, a set of two books). Shipping cost for maps is \$5.00 for 1-4 items. Add 6.75% sales tax for NC residents on merchandise total (not on shipping).

Total of items ordered \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Shipping \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Sales Tax \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Total of Order \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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