

FAMILY RECORD.

Joseph G Willis  
& Mary Wilson  
was married  
February the 7<sup>th</sup>  
1867

ORANGE COUNTY CALIFORNIA  
GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

THE  
NEW TESTAMENT

OF OUR  
LORD AND SAVIOUR JESUS CHRIST:

TRANSLATED OUT OF  
THE ORIGINAL GREEK;

AND WITH  
THE FORMER TRANSLATIONS DILIGENTLY COMPARED  
AND REVISED.

NEW YORK:  
AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY

INSTITUTED IN THE YEAR MDCCCXVI

1864

BIBLE RECORDS  
WILLIS FAMILY BIBLE

OCCGS REFERENCE ONLY

Willis  
from

BIBLE RECORDS  
WILLIS FAMILY BIBLE

FAMILY RECORD.

Joseph Willis  
was born January  
the 23<sup>rd</sup> 1827

Mary Willis was  
was Born August  
the 5<sup>th</sup> 1838

Orni Willis was  
Born June the  
18<sup>th</sup> 1865

Stephen J Willis  
was Born March  
18<sup>th</sup> 1870

Lydia B Willis was born  
March 24<sup>th</sup> 1872

## WILLIS BIBLE RECORDS

## FAMILY RECORD.

Thomas S Willis  
was born July  
17<sup>th</sup> 1874

Edna Willis was  
born December the  
10<sup>th</sup> 1876

Joy Willis was  
born December the 5<sup>th</sup>  
1878

Frank Willis was  
born February the 5<sup>th</sup> 1879

## FAMILY RECORD.

Joseph Willis  
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March 24<sup>th</sup> 1872

## Searching for a missing link...

by  
Timothy Todd Moore

I placed a query several months ago with the Broad River Genealogical Society, but flaws existed in the first query so I placed a second. Through aggressive and persistent research, I have found the true story that a relative had uncovered years ago, which initiated my desire for knowing who the Cherokee Indian was, and where he fit into my family's lineage.

The story goes as follows:

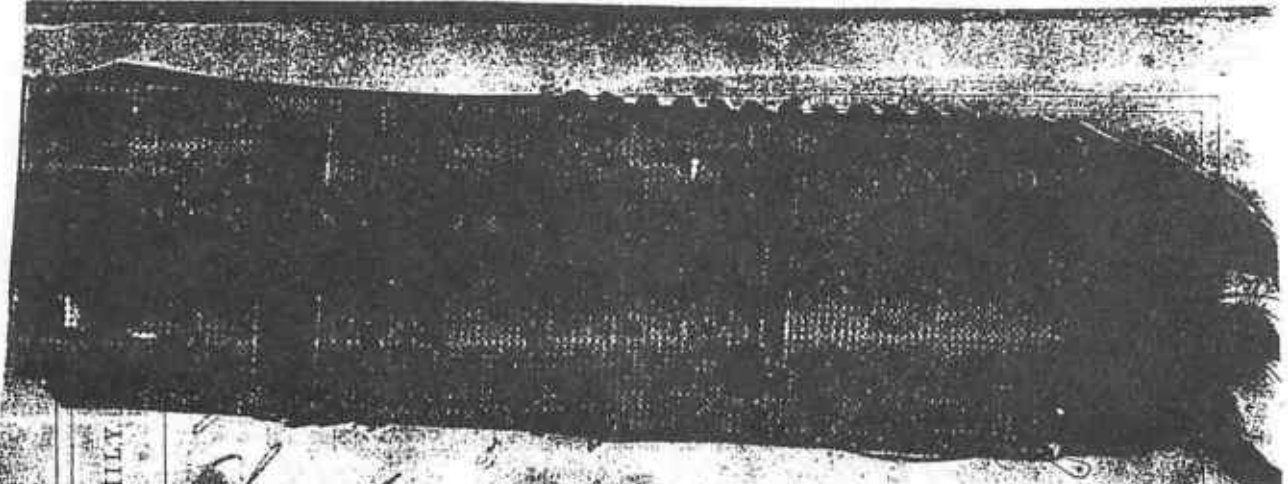
James Calvert's father was supposed to have been a Cherokee Indian, but his name is unknown. James's mother was Rebecca, but her birth surname is unknown.

James's father was shot and knew he was going to die, so he told Rebecca to carry their son down the mountain and find a place to raise him in safety. Rebecca followed these directions and proceeded down the mountain until she reached the area known as Boiling Springs, North Carolina. Here she stumbled upon Dixon Green's residence and requested a place to stay from him. Dixon had two daughters, Millie and Judie, but his wife had died, so he agreed to allow Rebecca and James to stay. Rebecca made a deal with Dixon that she would raise his two girls as though they were her own children if he would do the same with James and give James his name "Green," so that he could grow to adulthood without persecution. (James was born in 1865.) Rebecca and Dixon married. James became known as James Calvert Green.

James married Sara Elizabeth Earls, the daughter of Martin Luther Earls and Nancy Green, when she was very young in 1884. Four children came as a result of this union. Carrie, who was my paternal great-grandmother, her brother was Drury, he married twice and had two children by each wife, his brother Thurman married once and had six children and Dora who married Latt Whisnant and had five children, but I have no dates on Dora. I don't even have a birthday on Dora; she could be the missing piece of information that could lead me to my Indian heritage.



BIBLE RECORDS  
WILLIS FAMILY BIBLE



FAMILY RECORD

Joseph G Willis was born 23<sup>rd</sup> January 1824

FAMILY RECORD

Thomas G Willis  
was born 17<sup>th</sup> 1824

George Willis was  
born December the  
10<sup>th</sup> 1826

Grey Willis was  
born December the 5<sup>th</sup>  
1828

Frank Willis was  
born February the 5<sup>th</sup> 1831

BIBLE RECORDS  
WHITESIDE FAMILY BIBLE

FAMILY RECORD.

BIRTHS.

DEATHS.

A. W. Whiteside was  
the  
Born March 14 - 1800

A. W. Whiteside,  
Died August 25<sup>th</sup> 1855  
Age - 55 years 8 6 months

Elizabeth Whiteside  
the  
was Born Decem. 1 - 1799

Minerva C. Whiteside,  
Died September 24<sup>th</sup> 1855

Sarah Evaline  
Whiteside the  
daughter of  
Whiteside &

Elizabeth Whiteside,  
Died May 30<sup>th</sup> 1862

Elizabeth Whiteside  
the  
was Born June 4 - 1825

Almina Clementine  
Whiteside the daughter  
of A. W. Whiteside was  
and Elizabeth Whiteside was the  
Born September 11 - 1827

Louisa C. Whiteside  
May the 10 1852

1933  
JAN 27

Willis  
7/20

## The Willis Brothers Letters

Submitted by Narcissa "Cissy" Boulware



This is the eighth in a series of nine letters from the Willis Brothers who are ancestors of Narcissa "Cissy" Boulware of Montgomery who graciously allowed MCG&HS to reprint them in *The Herald*. They provide us with a brief glimpse into the lives and happenings in the times they lived.

Potters Landing, Md.

April 19, 1878

Dear Brother:

As I am now the only male survivor of our family living in the Middle States to bear our Father's name, and being now in my 65th year, weak and frail, I will send you a short sketch of the Willis family as I had it from our Father (Short A. Willis) over fifty years ago, but more particularly from old Uncle Sam and Aunt Illika, slaves of our grand-father (John Willis), as they were some thirty years older than our Father (Short A. Willis) and raised with our grand-father (John Willis) who died four years before you were born. Our father never disputed their version.

Uncle Sam said his old master's father (John Willis' father) came from Wales. Our Grand-father (John Willis) also told him so. Our father, Short A. Willis, was born in Sussex Co., Delaware, in 1722. Our Grand-father, John Willis, was a son of a widow Sally Willis, who made her living by spinning wool and flax, and as our Father said, our Grandfather, John Willis, was born in 1742 in the great gum island swamps of Sussex Co., Del., where in his boyhood, he did a big turkey-catching business until he was bound out by the trustees of the poor to a man named Maluney, a blacksmith, until he was twenty-one, but Malunely held hire a year over his time as he proved by his two older brothers, Joshua Willis, and Joseph Willis. Our Father said his elder Uncle, Joshua Willis, settled in South Carolina and Joseph Willis settled in North Carolina. Our Grand-father (John Willis) married Nanna Short, as sister of Adam Short who married a widow Bell, mother of John Bell. Uncle Adam Short had one son by her, James. Our Grand-mother's sister was the mother of the famous Tom Buck Harrison of great notoriety, and another sister was the mother of Dow or Dodd that killed Cannon.

Uncle Adam Short was a soldier in the Revolution under Captain Colwell of the company called "The White Oak Boys of Kent". Our Grand-father (John Willis) served under Captain Collins whose Company was called "The Blue Hen's Chickens". He was wounded at the battle of Brandywine and Germantown. I saw the scars of his wounds when he was laid out. He died at our Father's (Short A. Willis) homestead, and I saw his services for seven years in the Army burnt up in Continental money and I now have the old wallet that held it.

Our Grand-father, John Willis, had three sons, all learned to be blacksmiths, and three daughters. His eldest son, John Willis, Jr., married and settled in Virginia. Polly, his eldest daughter, married John Spicer; Nancy married John Martin, an Englishman; Eliza married Joseph Ricketts (or Ricards); Short A., our Father, married a widow, Mrs. Mary Griffin, and Arthur H. married Nancy Wright.

Our Father, with his two brothers, Arthur H. and John Willis, Jr., was at the bombardment of Lewistown in 1812 (now Lewes, Del.). Our Mother's father, Major Peter Rich, was an officer in the Revolution. He married the widow of a parson Macracken, a sister of old Colonel Whitely, father of Doctor Whitely.

Our Grand-father Rich on our Mother's side had three daughters and three sons. Sally married Matthew Travers; Nancy married Arthur Travers, and Mary, the youngest, married our Father, Short A. Willis, in 1812. The three sons, James, Peter and John, all served in the War of 1812. John was killed in an engagement.

Our Father, Short A. Willis, moved to the Willis Homestead in 1822 and had eight children, Arthur John, Peter James, William Henry, Richard Short, Sarah Ann, Mary Elizabeth, Mary Ellen, and Thomas Alexander.

Peter James, William Henry, and Richard Short went to Texas in 1836, and Thomas Alexander died in 1850.

Our Uncle, Arthur H. Willis, had four children, Gorlus, Nathan, Eliza Anne, and Martha Jane. Our Aunt Polly Spicer had six children, Lewis, Theopilus, Elizabeth, Nancy, Tincy, and Marianna. Elizabeth married Watson Jefferson; Nancy married Miles Tindall; Tincy married Adam Short Vincent, and Marianna married John H. Harris. Aunt Nancy Martin had six children. Sarah married Captain Raymond; John, Jane and Hugh married and settled at Seaford, Del. Eliza married John Dryden, and Mary Anne married Cyrus Townsend of Laurel, Del. Captain Raymond had one daughter who married a Doctor Roberts, and she won a good name for her many virtues and has gained a great notoriety in Philadelphia for the interest taken by her in the Sabbath schools.

*(This letter was written by Arthur John Willis to Richard S. Willis. The original is lost)*



Short Adam Willis (born April 13, 1783, Died November 6. 1860) married Mary (Polly) Rich Griffin (born June 24, 1788, died September 15, 1861). They had eight children:

- |                            |  |
|----------------------------|--|
| 1. Arthur John Willis      | Born September 27, 1813 Died March 1889 Age 76       |
| 2. Peter James Willis      | Born March 26, 1815 Died November 28, 1873 Age 58    |
| 3. Sarah Ann Willis        | Born January 12, 1817 Died September 24, 1828 Age 11 |
| 4. William Henry Willis    | Born July 2, 1819 Died July 2, 1843 Age 24           |
| 5. Richard Short Willis    | Born October 17, 1821 Died July 27, 1892 Age 71      |
| 6. Thomas Alexander Willis | Born November 5, 1822 Died 1850 Age 28               |
| 7. Mary Elizabeth Willis   | Born May 17, 1824 Died October 6, 1824 Age 4 months  |
| 8. Mary Ellen Willis       | Born June 11, 1826 Died 1879 Age 53                  |

Arthur John Willis was a Senator in the Congress of the State of Maryland during and after the Civil War. Peter James Willis, William Henry Willis and Richard Short Willis, the second, fourth and fifth children (sons) came to Texas in 1838—Peter had made an initial exploratory journey in 1836. They first settled on Buffalo Bayou near Houston, but later moved to Grimes County and purchased a farm called "Ringold Farms" between Navasota and Washington-On-The-Brazos.

In 1843 William Henry Willis died in the Yellow Fever Epidemic. Peter James and Richard S. moved to Montgomery, where both married and built their homes. Thomas Alexander Willis was lost at sea.

Mary Ellen Willis , the youngest child and only daughter to live to adulthood, was badly spoilt and quite determined. During the time their roof was being renovated she fell in love with the Scot carpenter who worked on the job named Jones. Failing to convince her parents of her determination to marry him, she crept out of her bedroom window and escaped on a ladder he had placed against the side of the roof and they eloped. Her brothers were broken hearted.



Peter J. Willis

X. S. Willis

Office in New York  
36 Thomas Street

Peter J. Willis & Brother  
Willis Building

Office in Boston  
18 Pearl St.

Galveston, Oct 17 1884

Dear Brother

As this is my 63 Birthday I am after writing to all my absent children Kate at Bardstown, Ky Dcik at Swarthmore Delaware County rld. 11 miles from Phila & Olive Beatrice at Ogoutys 6 miles from Phila. the two latter I put to school at the above places last month -while in Phila I saw Luther Martin & his two sons--cosin Eliza & Martha Jane Nanie & Edward Williams & his new wife also Richard Louis--so I thought of you next & write as above. My wife & daughter Laura (the latter in bad health ) arrived from New York on the 15th in usual health So I only have with me Laura Lee--besides Short who is married again & is living to him self--well so much for the history & location of my family--at this writing--this leaves me in usual good health--as to business never have I see it so dull & depressed & I see no hope for any material imprut until after another crop is made we have had two short cotton crops in our state & it has pretty well blattened business out here. we have discharged 1/2 of our store help & will have to reduce the saleries of the Bal- so as to bridge over--until a crop is made I mean next season.--should it be another short prod the permanent depressed business must continue--but it is hardly probable that we will have 3 short crops in succession hand running--I should be pleased to here from you occasionally

Your Brother

R.S. Willis *fr*

*Cissy Boulware is a columnist for the Montgomery County News in Montgomery, Texas.*



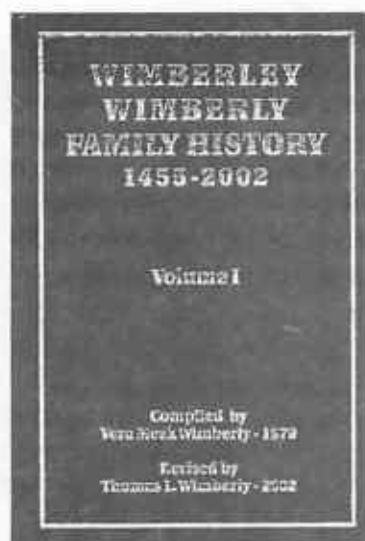
**EXXON GRANT FOR MONTGOMERY  
COUNTY MEMORIAL LIBRARY  
GENEALOGY DEPARTMENT**

Left: Robert Hart presents Barbara Franz, right, of the genealogy department of Montgomery County Memorial Library with a check for \$2,000.00 from a grant from Exxon.

## Book Review

## Wimberley Wimberly Family History 1455-2002

Reviewed by Lena Bridgman Truster



*Wimberley Wimberly Family History 1455-2002*, Volume I - Ancestors, Relatives and Descendants of William Wimberly, Pioneer from Georgia to Louisiana 1837. It was compiled by Vera (Meek) Wimberly (Mrs. Scott F.) who originally published in 1979 and with additional material and updates furnished by Thomas L. Wimberly in 2002. E-mail: [twimberly@wimfamhistory.net](mailto:twimberly@wimfamhistory.net) It contains 864 pages and is nicely indexed and cross-indexed for maiden names including first names.

When I was called upon to review this book, I contemplated saying "no". I am glad that I did not refuse. My knowledge and experience in genealogy has certainly been enhanced and my own outlook on genealogical research and publication has been heightened.

The beginning of this book explores the many possibilities and probabilities of knowing the first ancestor of the Wimberlys in the USA. It explores in depth the reasons for believing or disbelieving what has been assumed by others for years. Reading this portion is well worth one's time to set the stage for your own publication. It starts with William Wimberly b. ca 1455 down through the present generation in March 2002 with information from courthouses,

national and state archives, libraries, letters, census records, family stories and traditions, items of interest and newspaper articles.

There is a great part of this publication which clearly reflects the deep devotion of Vera Wimberly to genealogical research. I truly like the reading of the old wills, land records and other material which is left in the flavor of the document from which they were derived. Many misspellings and grammar errors give you the sense of the times. As you journey from century to century, you see the progress of the times as these documents continue to reflect the times.

As I read from VA to GA to LA to TX, many of the counties in which I have researched appeared. I gleaned much more knowledge about the areas from reading about the Wimberly's in those areas as many of my family left few footprints there. Their writings gave me knowledge of the area and customs.

While this is a multi-page genealogy, it is well worth any genealogical researcher's time to glean the areas where one's family had lived. It is not just a valuable book for the Wimberly family but truly for all researchers.

Our "hats off" to Thomas L. Wimberly who picked up the content of the first book and collaborated with Vera to produce this fine publication.

The Potpourri section of the book reflects the honor bestowed on Vera Wimberly in 2000 for the years of contribution she made to the Montgomery County Genealogical and Historical Society. I had the privilege of being President and coordinator of that event. It is one of the highlights of my life to bestow the duly deserved honor upon her.

It would be nice if all family histories were so nicely done. My one comment to all who contemplate writing a family history is to include in a separate "Place" index.

*Wimberley Wimberly Family History 1455-2002* can be purchased from Thomas L. Wimberly, Publisher, 1804 Julianne Drive, Marion, IL 62959 or e-mail: [wimberly@wimfamhistory.net](mailto:wimberly@wimfamhistory.net). The current price is \$85.00 plus handling and shipping charges. Only 400 limited edition copies of the book were printed. ♪

Lena Bridgman Truster is the past president of MCG&HS and can be reached at [lent@wt.net](mailto:lent@wt.net)