

The Children of William Faulkner Wilson



Henry Oscar Wilson (1843-1907)
unmarried son of William Faulkner Wilson

Henry Oscar Wilson (1843-1907)

William F. Wilson's first child and eldest son, Henry Oscar Wilson (known to the younger generation as "Uncle Oscar"), was, according to the Family Bible, born in Lincolnville, Maine in 1843. Although his birth is listed in *Belfast Vital Records*, it appears that after the formation of Waldo County (which included Lincolnville) in 1827, births in Lincolnville were officially recorded in the county seat of Belfast.

Oscar followed his father's family wherever they went, first to Illinois, then to Missouri, and finally to Minnesota. He appears on a photo of the family of his brother, John Ulmer Wilson, taken in 1893--the only known photographic image of him to survive. He smoked a pipe, and ultimately contracted mouth cancer which ate away part of his jaw. He lived out his last days with his brother's family, under the kind care of Melissa Jackson Wilson, and died in 1907. He never married.

Lucy A[bigail?] Wilson (1845-1846)

William F. Wilson's second child, Lucy A[bigail?] Wilson, was born in Lincolnville in May of 1845 and died of unrecorded causes seven months later.

Edward J[ohn?] Wilson (1846-1864)

William F. Wilson's third child, Edward J[ohn?] Wilson, was born in Lincolnville in 1846. After the family had relocated to Grand Rapids township, Illinois he enlisted in the army on 20 May 1864, and on June 21 joined Company I of the Illinois Infantry at Camp Wood, Quincy, Illinois. In July his Regiment was assigned to Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, but Edward was stricken with some kind of illness and returned to Camp Wood. When his Regiment was mustered out in Springfield, Illinois on October 14, 1864 he was still in Quincy and recorded as "absent for sickness." He died there two days later. Twenty years later his father applied for benefits as the surviving parent.

William Faulkner Wilson, Jr. (1848-?)

William Faulkner Wilson's fourth child, William Faulkner Wilson Jr., was born in Point Pleasant, West Virginia while the family was en route to Illinois in 1848. Census records show him with the family in Grand Rapids, Illinois in 1860, and again with them in La Hogue-Gilman, Douglas Township, Iroquoise County, Illinois in 1870. He had married Mary Elizabeth Lee in Illinois in 1873, and by the time of his parents' move to Missouri he was 28 (in 1876) and had established his own farm and household in Ford County, Mona Township, Illinois (just west of the Gilman area in Iroquoise County) where he appears on the 1880 census with wife Mary and 2-year-old daughter Mildred. A William F. Wilson is also recorded as having owned a small farm in section 5 of Fountain Creek Township, Iroquoise County, in 1876, some miles south of Danforth—this may have been him as well. Therefore it is clear that he remained behind during his parents' sojourn to Arkansas and Missouri, welcoming them all back when they returned to Illinois in 1882 or 1883.

The 1890 census was destroyed in a fire, but William F. Wilson appears on the Danforth Township tax list for 1890. He appears again in the 1900 census for Danforth, Illinois in Douglas Township, on land near to that of his sister Marie Antoinette Wilson and her husband Charles Lee, as well as his other sister, Nancy Mary Wilson and her husband Walter Woolway Lee. In the 1900 census, William's wife, Mary E[lizabeth Lee], reports having had three children, two of which were still alive at that time: Mildred (born March 1878) and Albany (born Dec 1884).



William F. Wilson, Jr. (1848-1948)
brother of John Ulmer Wilson, m. Mary Elizabeth Lee

By the time of the 1910 census Mary Elizabeth had died, and William was living with his son Albany and wife Livia (or Lyzie; born the same year as Albany), who as yet had no children. Mildred is probably married but a marriage record for her has not yet been found. By the time of the 1920 census for Danforth, William had died, and Albany had four children: William (born 1913), James (born May 1915), Alice (born Mar 1917) and Edward (born Feb 1919). Albany and his family also appear on the 1930 census for Danforth (with no additional children). Of Albany's children, at least William remained in the area, and died [according to the Social Security Death Index] in Gilman in August of 1978. James and Edward appear to have moved out of the area before they died.



Marie Antoinette Wilson (1851-1914), sister of
John Ulmer Wilson, married Charles F. Lee

Marie Antoinette Wilson (1851-1914)

William F. Wilson's fifth child, Marie Antoinette Wilson, was born in LaSalle County, Illinois in 1851, very shortly after the family's arrival in Illinois and before they acquired their land in Grand Rapids Township. In April of 1872, already four months pregnant, she married Charles F. Lee in nearby Watseka, Illinois. Charles Lee, born in England in 1847, had come to the U.S. with his family in 1852.

Together Charles and Marie farmed in the Danforth Township area of Iroquois County, Illinois [where they appear on the 1880 census] and had a remarkable 16 children: Walter Willian (8 Sept 1872), Edward Elmer (1874; died in infancy), John Henry Lee (1875; married

Olive Francis "Fanny" Jackson, sister of John Ulmer Wilson's wife Melissa Jackson and of Albert George Wilson's wife Molly Jackson), Warren Faulkner (1876), Maud Mildred (1878), Charles Alfred (1880), Mabel Susanna (1882), Thomas Bennett (1884; died in infancy), Edwin Emery (1881), Guy Wilson Lee (1882; married Florence Olive Wilson, his wife's niece), Lena Eunice (1883) James Paul (1893), Robert Raymond (1897), Maud (1880), Edward (died in infancy) and Benjamin (died in infancy).



**Charles F. Lee (1847-1907),
husband of Marie Antoinette Wilson (1851-1914)**

All of Charles and Marie's children who did not die in infancy grew up, married and had children, so that today the descendants of Marie Antoinette Wilson and Charles Lee are numerous indeed. In fact, there were so many Lee families farming in the same general area of Iroquois County that a small school referred to as the "Lee School" was opened, with only Lee children from the various families as students, and with a family member (Leatha Orr, daughter of Susannah Lee and Emerson Orr) as teacher. Charles died in 1907 and Marie in 1914; both are buried in the Gilman, Illinois cemetery.



Albert George Wilson (1856-1943) and wife Mary ("Molly") Jackson (1857-1941), with their eight children: [back row from left]: Muriel (1897-1962), Floyd (1883-1919), Arvil (1892-1911), Thomas (1895-1980), Frank ("Darby")(1888-1974), Charles (1886-1973), [front row:] Florence (1903-1977) and Raymond (1900-1971). Photo ca.1910

Albert George Wilson (1856-1943)

William F. Wilson's seventh child, Albert George Wilson, was born in Grand Rapids in 1856. He moved with the family to Missouri in 1876, working for a time as a miner with his brother John Ulmer Wilson. The family returned to the Gilman area of Illinois sometime in 1881-1883, and it was there that he married Mary Isobel "Molly" Jackson in April of 1883.

They must have known each other in Missouri, since her sister Melissa had married Albert's brother John there in 1876 and started a family.

Together Albert and Molly had eight children: Floyd Edward (born in Illinois in February of 1883, two months before their marriage; died unmarried in 1919 at the age of 25), Charles Emery (1886), Frank "Darby" (1888; never married), Arvil Lee (1892; died unmarried in 1922 at the age of 19), Thomas Arley (1895; who had seven children and many descendants), Muriel Bernice (1897), Raymond Glenn (1900; married but died childless in 1971), and Florence Maud (1903). The Albert Wilson family farmed in Iroquois County, Illinois for 20 years, then moved in 1903 to Watonwan County, Minnesota where they farmed near Butterfield and St. James. In 1920 Albert retired from farming and moved to St. James.



Albert George Wilson (1856-1943),
son of William Faulkner Wilson, with his wife Molly Jackson

Oddly enough, Albert (age 73) appears on the 1930 St. James census living as a boarder in the house of Ben and Olga Bertilson, along with his unmarried son Frank. He lists himself as married (not widowed), but Molly is nowhere to be seen...she may have been in the hospital at the time. Molly died in 1941 and Albert died in 1943.

Sarah Josephine Wilson (1858-?)

William F. Wilson's eighth child was Sarah Josephine "Sadie" Wilson, born in Grand Rapids in 1858. She moved with the family to Boone County, Missouri near Sullivan in 1876. There she met Charles H. Blanton [son of Sullivan blacksmith and wagon-maker John A. Blanton and Sarah A. Pratt], a blacksmith in Sullivan, and they were married in 1877. She remained in Missouri with her husband when the rest of the Wilson family returned to Illinois a few years later.

Together Sadie and Charles had four children: Thomas (1885), Albert (1891; apparently died young), Jesse (1893), and Laura (1899). Thomas never married; he spent most of his time fishing and camping out on the banks of the Meramec River with his friends. He died in 1962, and is buried in an unmarked grave in the Bigelow Cemetery, Sullivan. Jesse Virgil Blanton married Minnie Benson and had two children, descendants of whom still live in the Sullivan area. Laura Blanton moved to St. Louis, Missouri but she is said to have died childless.



**Walter Woolway Lee (1853-1907),
husband of Nancy Mary Wilson (1865-1931)**

Nancy Mary Wilson (1865-?)

William F. Wilson's ninth and last child, Nancy Mary Wilson, was born in Grand Rapids Township in 1865. She moved with the family to the Gilman area, and there she met and married Walter Woolway Lee in 1883. Walter was the brother of Charles F. Lee (husband of Nancy's sister Marie Antoinette Wilson) and Mary Elizabeth Lee (wife of Nancy's brother William F. Wilson). They farmed in the Danforth area near Gilman for many years, and raised eight children: Minnie (1884), Ross (1887), Frank (1889), Susan (1892), Leda (1895), Arthur (1898), Evelyn (1903) and Eldred (1907). Only Leda's family has thus far been traced: she married Frank Hamer in 1913 and moved to Rensselaer, Indiana. She undoubtedly has many descendants today.