

Author: Jeanie Marrs-Vasseur Date: 21 Aug 1998 12:00 PM GMT

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In Reply to: MCCOY, MURPHY, PHILLIPS, WAGNON by: Betty[Wagnon]Wing

They had very little difficulty with the indians with whom Isaac Marrs and Thomas Wagnon were on friendly terms. When Isaac Marrs and Thomas Wagnon returned to the area around Rhea in 1827 they brought with them their families, slaves, and everything they needed to establish their new homes in a land where no other white man had lived. Thomas Wagnon rode a big roan; his wife drove one wagon pulled by a pair of gray mares carrying their personal belongings and two small children. The adult slaves drove a team of oxen each, their wagon being loaded with a few pieces of furniture and food supplies. Behind each of these two wagons two milk cows were tied. Thomas Wagnon also had a two year old bull which was tied behind one of his wagons.

This train composed of two families left Tennessee in the spring of 1827. They traveled along the Arkansas River to where Van Buren is now, turned north to Natural Dam, traveled north ward and arrived at their destination Marrs Creek.

Thomas Wagnon was admired and liked by the indians because of his willingness to learn their ways and he always made them welcome at his table, but he never became a woodsman or hunter.

Thomas Wagnon died Jan 29, 1838 at Rhea, Ark. His wife's name was Elizabeth. Their children listed in his will were Thomas Jr, Bazil, Marshall, John, Sarah, Matilda, & Polly.

SOURCE:

<http://boards.ancestry.com/mbexec/message/an/localities.northam.usa.states.arkansas.counties.crawford/294.44> This information is extracted from "Marrs and Allied Families, compiled by "4 Sisters", it was published in 1965. More information is obtained from "Flashback", Washington Co., Ark, Historical Society Publication, "The First Settlers" Aug 1955 in the Memoirs of Col. J.P. Neal. "The first settlement ever made in Prairie Grove Valley was in 1826 by Isaac Marrs. He was a native of Kentucky and before coming to this country, he had lived for six or seven years in Lovely's Purchase and on the Ark. River. About one hundred and fifty yards southeast of where the Fayetteville and Boonsboro road crosses Marrs Creek, he built the first campfire and constructed the first face-camp that was ever made in this broad and beautiful valley by a white man. He had a large family consisting of his wife, seven sons, two daughters, one daughter-in-law and three servants. As soon as they got fixed up for living, they commenced to clear land. Isaac Marrs was as straight as an Indian, had black hair, black eyes, dark skin and looked a great deal like one. He possessed all their woodcraft and was regarded as the best shot and hunter in this neighborhood for many years afterwards, until his eyesight began to fail him...". Lou Ann Marrs Wilkerson

Descendants of John Peter Wagnon

Generation No. 1

1. JOHN PETER¹ WAGNON was born 1750 in North Carolina or Virginia, and died August 22, 1828 in Sumner, Tennessee. He married HARRIET HOUGHTON. She was born 1758, and died 1820.

Children of JOHN WAGNON and HARRIET HOUGHTON are:

2. i. BURREL L.² WAGNON, b. 1774, Knox County, Kentucky; d. 1830, Brush Creek Community, Washington County, Arkansas.
3. ii. THOMAS WAGNON, b. May 26, 1783, Knox County, Kentucky; d. January 29, 1838, Rhea Community, Washington County, Arkansas.

Generation No. 2

2. BURREL L.2 WAGNON (JOHN PETER1) was born 1774 in Knox County, Kentucky, and died 1830 in Brush Creek Community, Washington County, Arkansas. He married MARY CATHERINE LEONARD. She was born 1788, and died 1830 in Brush Creek Community, Washington County, Arkansas.

Children of BURREL WAGNON and MARY LEONARD are:

- i. DANIEL LEONARD3 WAGNON, b. 1802, Henderson County, Kentucky; d. 1870, Barry County, Missouri.
 - ii. LUCINDA WAGNON, b. 1812; d. 1866.
 - iii. ZIMAROU WAGNON, b. 1818; d. 1913.
4. iv. BURRELL M. WAGNON, b. 1819, Arkansas; d. June 16, 1880, Sebastian County, Arkansas.

3. THOMAS2 WAGNON (JOHN PETER1) was born May 26, 1783 in Knox County, Kentucky, and died January 29, 1838 in Rhea Community, Washington County, Arkansas. He married ELIZABETH RUDELLE, daughter of GEORGE RUDELLE and THEODOSIA LYNN. She was born February 14, 1783 in Bourbon County, Kentucky, and died March 27, 1879 in Cane Hill, Washington County, Arkansas.

Notes for THOMAS WAGNON:

A detail account of Thomas Wagon life can be found on the history of Rhea's Mill under County History on the www.luginbuel.com web page. This information was obtain from a book of Rhea by Dorothy M. Johnston, "HISTORY OF RHEA COMMUNITY".

More About ELIZABETH RUDELLE:

Burial: Old Union Cemetery, Washington County, Cincinnati, Arkansas

Children of THOMAS WAGNON and ELIZABETH RUDELLE are:

- i. BAZIL3 WAGNON, b. Abt. 1815; d. Aft. 1870, Washington County, Arkansas; m. ELIZABETH HILL.
 - ii. THOMAS JR. WAGNON, b. July 26, 1817, Rhea Community, Washington County, Arkansas.
5. iii. SARAH "SALLY" WAGNON, b. December 07, 1818, Rhea Community, Washington County, Arkansas; d. March 13, 1916, Jolly, Clay County, Texas.
6. iv. MATILDA WAGNON, b. January 11, 1822, Rhea Community, Washington County, Arkansas; d. March 03, 1905, Cincinnati, Washington County, Arkansas.
- v. MARY ELIZABETH "POLLY" WAGNON, b. November 08, 1824, Rhea Community, Washington County, Arkansas; d. December 03, 1908, Baird, Callahan County, Texas; m. WILLIS CUTBIRTH; b. August 20, 1818, Red River County, Texas; d. 1852, Pilot Point, Denton County, Texas.
7. vi. MARSHALL P. WAGNON, b. November 25, 1827, Rhea Community, Washington County, Arkansas; d. April 18, 1863, Fayetteville, Washington County, Arkansas.

Generation No. 3

4. BURRELL M.3 WAGNON (BURREL L.2, JOHN PETER1) was born 1819 in Arkansas, and died June 16, 1880 in Sebastian County, Arkansas. He married (1) ELIZABETH JANE SAMS. She was born 1830 in Arkansas, and died 1876 in Sebastian County, Arkansas. He married (2) MARY S. ANTHONY. She was born Abt. 1838 in Tennessee.

Children of BURRELL WAGNON and ELIZABETH SAMS are:

- i. WINFIELD4 WAGNON, b. 1847, Madison County, Arkansas; d. 1894.
- ii. SUSAN ELIZABETH WAGNON, b. 1849, Madison County, Arkansas.
- iii. THOMAS BRAXTON WAGNON, b. June 25, 1851, Fayetteville, Washington County, Arkansas; d. December 17, 1931, Arnett, Ellis County, Oklahoma.
- iv. LAFAYETTE WAGNON, b. 1856, Fayetteville, Washington County, Arkansas; d. January 14, 1900.
- v. ARA BELLE WAGNON, b. 1858, Sebastian County, Arkansas; d. November 29, 1938.

- vi. JOHN CALVIN "CAL" WAGNON, b. May 14, 1858, Mansfield, Scott County, Arkansas; d. February 08, 1900, Foss, Washita County, Oklahoma.
- vii. FRANCIS LAFAYETTE WAGNON, b. November 12, 1858, Texas; d. January 14, 1900, Foss, Washita County, Oklahoma.
- viii. B.B. WAGNON, b. Abt. 1860, Mansfield, Scott County, Arkansas.
- ix. JASPER P. WAGNON, b. October 01, 1862, Texas.
- x. ALBERT M. WAGNON, b. March 01, 1869, Sebastian County, Arkansas; d. Aft. 1930, LeFlore County, Oklahoma.

5. SARAH "SALLY"³ WAGNON (THOMAS², JOHN PETER¹) was born December 07, 1818 in Rhea Community, Washington County, Arkansas, and died March 13, 1916 in Jolly, Clay County, Texas. She married (1) JOSIAH HARRELL. He was born January 06, 1820 in Arkansas, and died December 12, 1883 in Jack County, Texas. She married (2) CURRY.

Child of SARAH WAGNON and JOSIAH HARRELL is:

- i. JANE⁴ HARRELL, b. September 08, 1843, Sumner, Lamar County, Texas; d. March 09, 1899, Tigertown, Lamar County, Texas; m. ISAAC MONROE SHIPMAN; b. December 18, 1838, Tennessee; d. April 10, 1929, Lamar County, Texas.

6. MATILDA³ WAGNON (THOMAS², JOHN PETER¹) was born January 11, 1822 in Rhea Community, Washington County, Arkansas, and died March 03, 1905 in Cincinnati, Washington County, Arkansas. She married JEREMIAH SMITH. He was born February 07, 1825 in Overton, Shelby County, Tennessee, and died June 01, 1903 in Cincinnati, Washington County, Arkansas.

Child of MATILDA WAGNON and JEREMIAH SMITH is:

- 8. i. WILLIAM B.⁴ SMITH, b. February 1853, Washington County, Arkansas; d. 1936, Washington County, Arkansas.

7. MARSHALL P.³ WAGNON (THOMAS², JOHN PETER¹) was born November 25, 1827 in Rhea Community, Washington County, Arkansas, and died April 18, 1863 in Fayetteville, Washington County, Arkansas. He married MARGARET ALEY PEGGY WOODALL. She was born 1820 in Marietta, Cobb County, Georgia, and died 1884 in Cherokee Nation, Indian Territory, Oklahoma.

Children of MARSHALL WAGNON and MARGARET WOODALL are:

- i. THOMAS FOREMAN⁴ WAGNON, b. March 03, 1851, Cherokee Nation, Indian Territory, Oklahoma; d. December 23, 1911, Westville, Adair County, Oklahoma.
- ii. MARGARET MARSHALL WAGNON, b. July 03, 1863, Cherokee Nation, Indian Territory, Oklahoma; d. 1936, Westville, Adair County, Oklahoma; m. WILLIAM WALLACE COSTEN; b. July 27, 1840, Weakley, Tennessee; d. April 02, 1899, Westville, Adair County, Oklahoma.

Generation No. 4

8. WILLIAM B.⁴ SMITH (MATILDA³ WAGNON, THOMAS², JOHN PETER¹) was born February 1853 in Washington County, Arkansas, and died 1936 in Washington County, Arkansas. He married MARTHA J. ULSEY. She was born March 1854 in Kentucky, and died 1936 in Washington County, Arkansas.

More About WILLIAM B. SMITH:

Burial: Old Union Cemetery, Washington County, Cincinnati, Arkansas

More About MARTHA J. ULSEY:

Burial: Old Union Cemetery, Washington County, Cincinnati, Arkansas

Child of WILLIAM SMITH and MARTHA ULSEY is:

9. i. JERRY COLUMBUS5 SMITH, b. 1885, Washington County, Arkansas.

Generation No. 5

9. JERRY COLUMBUS5 SMITH (WILLIAM B.4, MATILDA3 WAGNON, THOMAS2, JOHN PETER1) was born 1885 in Washington County, Arkansas. He married MARY L. MORGAN.

Child of JERRY SMITH and MARY MORGAN is:

- i. DEARL D.6 SMITH, b. 1908.

FROM THE HISTORY OF WASHINGTON COUNTY

The Goodspeed Publishing Co.

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Reference to the Wagnon Family

Page 150

For the following account of the wild animals of Prairie Grove Valley this chapter is indebted to Col. James P. Neal. With little modification it applies to the whole county .. He says: " My first acquaintance with the valley was in 1829. The buffalo had then receded some fifteen or twenty miles to the northwest. Their paths were still numerous, leading mainly from one lick to another. Their heads were scattered all over the prairies, one perhaps to every three acres of land. These licks were depressions in the earth, filled with water a little brackish in wet weather. In summer, when dry, they were the resorts of buffalo for the salt with which the earth was saturated, and were known as buffalo licks. They afforded salt for stock for many years after the country was settled, and even yet when not enclosed. In an early day hunters often captured and brought in buffalo calves, and tried to domesticate them, but they invariably died in one or two years. In that day buffalo skins were used for carpets, door mats, hearth rugs, mattresses, bed covers, saddle blankets and numerous other things. It is said that Thomas Wagnon, an old timer, while out hunting, wrapped himself, arms, hands and all, from shoe-top to chin, in a green buffalo hide at night. In the morning it was frozen and would not enroll, and when found he was well nigh_ dead. This same man burned out the first stump in which to pound corn into meal at this place, which was the only evidence of civilization when we first camped here. This we used until mills were built.

Page 188 - 189

This case had scarcely been disposed of when Willis Wallace killed another man. On one Sunday morning L. D. Pollock, Thomas Wagnon and one Curry, his brother-in-law J. Wagnon, all fairly respectable citizens of the county, came to Fayetteville, and became engaged in a game of cards. This was reported to some of the citizens, and Willis Wallace, his brother, Riley and two or three others, resolved to put a stop to the game. They went to where the men were playing, and threatened them with arrest. This very naturally enraged them and a quarrel ensued. Wallace and his party were getting the better of the card players, and Wagnon started to run away. He ran across the public square, and passed out on the other side of town. All the party followed, and Willis Wallace attempted to take Curry's horse from the rack on the square to pursue Wagnon. At this Curry pulled a pistol from his saddle-bags, but Wallace was too quick for him, and without waiting for further demonstrations drew his own revolver and shot Curry dead. As he fired, Pollock, who was close by, threw a stone, striking Wallace upon the head and knocking him down, whereupon Riley Wallace, in a similar manner, struck down Pollock. He

remained unconscious for several seconds. Meantime Willis Wallace regained his feet, and going up to Pollock plunged a bowie knife through his body, pinning him to the ground. It was at first thought that he was killed, but Dr. P. J. PoJlard, who had witnessed the fight from his window, had him at once removed to the hotel, dressed his wounds, and by his skill in a few weeks restored him to health. Two or three years later Pollock and Riley Wallace met at a saloon in Fayetteville. Both instantly recognized that it was "kill or be killed." Wallace drew first, but his pistol missed fire. Pollock was either too nervous or too drunk to take advantage of this accident, and before he could fire Wallace drew a bowie knife and plunged it into his heart, killing him instantly. He then fled the country, and was never captured.

Willis Wallace gave himself up to the authorities, but was released upon bail. After the Cane Hill murder occurred the public mind became agitated about Wallace's being at large. This feeling was encouraged by A. W. Arrington, until finally a mob gathered in Fayetteville, and placed itself under his leadership for the arrest of Wallace. The latter had in his possession a cannon or two, and some small arms and ammunition, which had been placed under his care by the State, and with a party of his friends he fortified himself in his store-house on the west side of the public square, where the arms were stored. Arrington and his party occupied the court-house. The excitement became intense, and bloodshed seemed inevitable. Families within range of the guns took refuge in cellars, and all waited in breathless anxiety for the battle to begin. It did not take place, however. The party in the court-house did not venture an attack, and finally dispersed. At the next term of the circuit court Wallace was tried upon an indictment for manslaughter, and was acquitted. He soon after moved to Texas.