

Aaron Wilson, Jr., and Sarah Jane Gilley

By George Stover

Aaron Wilson, Jr., born 1805 in Henry County, Virginia, died August 18, 1878, on the Wilson's farm near Stephens Lake, Raleigh County, West Virginia. Aaron married Sarah Jane Gilley who was born about 1806 in Henry County, Virginia. Sarah died January 3, 1879, near Stephens Lake, also. They moved from Henry County, Virginia, in the 1840's to settle in Carroll County, Virginia. They spent about 20 years in Carroll County, during which time Aaron Wilson served on the county court. Aaron was a carpenter by trade. Family history said that Aaron Wilson owned slaves, but so far no evidence of this can be found. None of the censuses he is on list any slaves. Sarah Jane Gilley's parents were Joseph Gilley and Elizabeth Bryant. Both were born in Virginia about 1780. They were married January 5, 1801, in Henry County, Virginia. Aaron and Sarah (Gilley) Wilson had six children:

1. Robert Wesley Wilson, was born in November 1830 in Henry County, Virginia, and died October 6, 1906, on the Wilson farm near Stephens Lake in Raleigh County, West Virginia. He married, date unknown, Theresa Ann Colton, born in 1832 in Carroll County, Virginia, and died June 8, 1882, in Raleigh County, West Virginia. She also had more than one way of spelling her name. Records show her as Thursa, Thursey, and Thursy. I do not know her parents' names. She is buried at Clay-Snuffer Cemetery at Lake Stephens, Raleigh County, West Virginia. He was a farmer by trade.

Thursa's age is a bit of a mystery. She is listed as a 49-year-old wife, keeping house, on the 1880 Raleigh County Census. Her age puts her birth year as 1831. She would be born about 1830 based on the 1850 Carroll County, Virginia, census. Finally, her birth date is listed at 1837 on her tombstone.

Robert Wesley Wilson served on the Union side of the Civil War. From the West Virginia State Archives records, we learn he was mustered into Raleigh County Scouts, West Virginia State Troops, under Capt. William Turner who was "Authorised to raise a Company of Scouts for Raleigh County, of 50 men. Commissioned as Captain of Raleigh County Scouts, order of May 11, 1864, to rank February 11, 1864. By Special Order #5, Company ordered disbanded and discharged the State Service, expiration term of service." On the roster is "Wilson, R.W. Mch. 4, 1864 Raleigh County."

I have no marriage date for them. They had ten children.

-1 Harden Monroe "Hardie" Wilson born about 1856 in Carroll County, Virginia, and died December 21, 1910, in Washington County, Arkansas. He married Claessa "Cleo" Hendrix. He and his sister Sarah Elizabeth Wilson were married in a double wedding service. They were married by William Turner on February 2, 1876, in Raleigh County, West Virginia.

-2 John Wesley Wilson was born about 1858 in Carroll County, Virginia. He was a farmer. He married Melissa Edmonds on June 15, 1887 in Raleigh County.

-3 Robert Wilson was born about 1859 in Carroll County, Virginia.

-4 Sarah Elizabeth Wilson was born June 4, 1860, in Raleigh County, Virginia, and died 5 July 1887 in Raleigh County, West Virginia. She married Andrew Lewis McMillion on February 2, 1878. They had five children.

-5 George Wesley Wilson was born about 1862 in Raleigh County, Virginia, and died July 23, 1922, at Metalton, near Lake Stephens, in Raleigh County. George is buried in the Snuffer cemetery. He married Eunice Francis Wilson on December 13, 1886. She was born February 3, 1869, and died October 9, 1936, in Raleigh County, West Virginia. They had eleven children.

i Thomas Wesley Wilson, Sr., born November 1, 1887, and died March 19, 1976. He married Rosa Ann Reed.

ii Minnie Jane Wilson, born January 17, 1890, died July 11, 1965. She married James Franklin Bonds.

iii Sidney L. Wilson, born November 3, 1892, died March 10, 1933. He married Eva M. Daniels, born February 6, 1885, died March 24, 1912. Sidney L. Wilson died during a fire at the Summit Coal Company Tipple at Metalton, Raleigh County.

iv Fred Mc Kinnley Wilson Sr., born July 29, 1896, died November 13, 1988. He married Nettie Geneva Reed, born April 13, 1891, died May 30, 1936.

iv James Dewey Wilson, born July 21, 1898, died August 28, 1959. He married Ann Webb.

vi Martha Ellen "Mattie" Wilson, born August 4, 1902, at Hinton, Summers County, West Virginia. She died February 2, 1987, in Jacksonville, Florida. She married Horace Doff Stover on August 7, 1918. They had nine children:

1. Quinton Doff Stover (1919-1978).
2. Carman Alice Stover (1921-1995).
3. Sereda Agnes Stover.
4. Howard Fenton Stover (1924-1944).
5. William Andrew Stover (1926-1926).
6. Charles Edward Stover.
7. Fances Charlene Stover.
8. Glen Wallace Stover (1934-1979).
9. Larry Kent Stover.

vii Theodore French Stover, born July 31, 1904, died April 3, 1955. He married Hazel Sarver.

viii Gladys Wilson, born August 24, 1907, married Arbie Daniels.

ix Robert Wilson, born November 8, 1909, died August 13, 1990. He married Connie Hand or Hames.

x Milton Wilson, born April 8, 1913, died July 27, 1968. He married Virginia Farley Bowling.

xi Lina Wilson.

-6 Joseph Aaron Wilson born May 30, 1865, in Raleigh County, Virginia. He married Malinda Adeline Stover born in April 1863 in Raleigh County, Virginia, on December 20, 1884, in Raleigh County, West Virginia. Her parents were Irvin Stover and Malinda Leanna Williams. Her grandparents were John Stover and Nancy (Harper) Stover and David Williams and Elizabeth (McGriff) Williams, two of the first families in the county.

-7 Greenbury Wilson was born August 15, 1867, and died in October 1948, in Raleigh County, West Virginia. He never married.

-8 Mary Sue Wilson, born September 5, 1870, and died March 24, 1949, in Raleigh County, West Virginia. She married William H. Miller born June 1871 and died January 24, 1927, both in Raleigh County, West Virginia, on June 23, 1892.

-9 Julia Francis Wilson, born June 24, 1874, and died October 10, 1941, in Raleigh County. She married a McGhee.

-10 David Garland Wilson, born in May 1876 in Raleigh County, married Louisa Ellen Hutchison, born in December 1877. They were married on April 22, 1897, in Raleigh County, West Virginia.

2. Polly Wilson was born about 1832. No marriage data. Her occupation was listed as a Tailoress on the 1860 Carroll County, Virginia, census.

3. Sarah Jane Wilson was born about 1834 in Henry County, Virginia. She died February 3, 1877, in Raleigh County, West Virginia. She married John W. Myers on January 21, 1865 in Carroll County, Virginia.

4. Greenbury Wilson was born about 1842 in Carroll County, Virginia. No other data.

5. Maria L. Wilson, born about 1843 in Carroll County, Virginia, married Henry Fernandes McMillion on May 18, 1870 in Raleigh County, West Virginia.

6. Susan E. Wilson, born about 1846 in Carroll County, Virginia, died about 1936 in Raleigh County, West Virginia.

Sources:

1810 Kanawha County, Virginia, census

1815 Giles County, Virginia tax list

1827 Logan County, Virginia tax list

1830 Logan County, Virginia census

1840, 1850, 1860, 1870, 1880, 1900, 1910, 1920, 1930 Fayette County, West Virginia census

1850, 1860, 1870, 1880, 1900, 1910, 1920, 1930 Raleigh County, West Virginia, census

7th West Virginia Cavalry by Ronald R. Turner

Coal Marsh Church Minutes (1831-1861)

Death #3 1892-1914 Raleigh County, West Virginia by Pauline Haga
Early Birth of Raleigh County, West Virginia. (1853-1870) by Pauline Haga
Early Deaths of Raleigh County, West Virginia (1853-1875) by Pauline Haga
History of Summer County by James Miller
Raleigh County, West Virginia, Marriages (1850-1898) by Ronald R. Turner
Raleigh County West Virginia, by Jim Wood
Raleigh County Marriages by Ronald R. Turner
National Archives
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