

DESCENDANTS OF WILLIAM WILCOXSON  
(Fifth Generation & Later)

#39

SEPT - HEAD #137 - Nathan Wilcox, son of No. 49, born at Killingworth, Conn. 3/29/1730. Nathan married 1/11/1760 Thankful Stone (Dau. of Joseph Stone and Hannah Hotchkiss of Guilford, Conn. a descendant of Rev. Samuel Stone, early immigrant to New England). Nathan (the compiler's direct ancestor) lived all of his life at Tower Hill in North Killingworth and died there Jan. 2, 1797. Only the children, Nathan II, Joel and Thankful are of record at Killingworth. Elon is added on the strength of Nathan Sr's will which the compiler has seen in the Conn. State Library. Also there is a deed of record from Nathan Sr to son, Elon, 3/30/1796 for Tower Hill, Killingworth. Hence Nathan's children are listed as below:

1. Nathan II, b 11/16/1760 - See below
2. Joel, b 8/24/1762 (See extended sketch forward)
3. Thankful; b 12/16/1764; md Crippen Hurd of Haddam
4. Elon, born about 1766. See further mention below.

Nathan Wilcox II, born at Killingworth, 11/16/1760; Md Rachel Bennett of Easthampton, Long Island. My account of this individual in the "Preliminary Report" was somewhat confused with that of Nathan, the son of Stephen Wilcox, #53. The last mentioned Nathan married Elizabeth Elliott and migrated to LeRoy, New York. He became Major Nathan Wilcox of the N.Y. militia. Evidence obtained from Vermont histories proves that the present Nathan (son of Nathan I) migrated to that state with his younger brother Elon. For a short time previous to their appearance in Vermont they lived briefly in Woodbury, Conn., then the home of their brother Joel. Then the brothers separated, Nathan and Elon going to Vermont and Joel to Ohio. According to Vermont Historical Gazeteer the brothers Nathan and Elon were among the first settlers of Morgan in that State. We have the following on the descendants of Nathan and Rachel Bennett:

1. Calvin Wilcox, born 4/27/1781; md. Clarissa. He died at Morgan, Vermont, 6/21/1840: known children:
  1. Ruth Ufana, b 12/31/1811
  2. Pardon Bennett b 11/31/1813
2. Luther Wilcox, b 4/27/1781, twin of Calvin; married firstly Lucinda Dean, second Tirzah. children:
  1. Lucinda, b 11/26/1815
  2. Rachel b 8/27/1817
  3. Luther, b April 12, 1820
3. Benjamin, born 2/19/1783; rem. with father to Morgan. Married Beebe, children:
  1. Selon, b 3/29/1805
  2. Sullivan b 6/20/1807
  3. Albert, b 12/26/1808
4. Deborah, b 2/19/1783; twin of Benjamin
5. Jermiah, b 11/19/1785' sex doubtful; may have been Jeremiah
6. Thankful, b 4/13/1788

See next page for remainder of family

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Continuing Family of Nathan Wilcox of Morgan, Vermont

7. Lydia, b 9/19/1791; married Benjamin Boynton of Boyington. Lydia was the heroine of the "lost girl episode" mentioned in various local histories.
8. Rachel, b 10/12/1793; md. Micah Ferrin
9. Lucy, b 2/12/1796
10. Nathan III, born 5/12/1799, probably at Woodbury CT. He married Lucia. Their children were:
  1. David Leicester, b 11/3/1823
  2. Elizabeth S. b July 7, 1824; md Amos C. Hills
  3. Rachel Elvira, b 3/6/1838
11. John Morgan, b about 1803; the only one of the 11 children born in Vermont.. He married Philena Sehter of Salem Vt., 10/26/1823. Children:
  1. Jeremiah Selon, born 6/29/1824; md Lucy C. Bartlett:
    1. Orville Preston Wilcox, b 4/24/1852; md Ella R. Beebe. Had at least one son Ernest W. Wilcox
    2. Wilber A. b 3/26/1856; died 3/27/1905. No known marital record
    3. Sumner C. b 2/7/1859; md. Emma Colburn, children
      1. Clara Wilcox,
      2. Clyde
      3. Calvin
      4. Cora
      5. Catherine
 these children probably born in the 1880's
  4. Dexter V. b 3/29/1863 d.y.

The compiler regrets that at the present time he has no further information concerning the descendants of Nathan Wilcox II, the Vermont pioneer. We doubt if this is the complete record. In our researches in Western states we have often come across such names as Calvin and Luther but have had no data by which to connect them up with this family.

ELON WILCOX, the youngest son of Sept-head #137. As there is little to say about him we show him here a bit out of natural order or ahead of his older brother Joel. Elon was born at Killingworth about 1766. He is mentioned in the town records 1/21/1799 as having deeded a parcel of land he inherited from his father to Jedediah Harris. A year later he was at Woodbury where his brother Joel had preceded him. Later again he evidently went to Vermont with his brother Nathan II. In the Vermont Gazeteer in connection with an account of Morgan, there is mention of an "Elon Hill", so-called on account of a settlement that was commenced there by Elon Wilcox". It seems probable that he did not remain long at Morgan but migrated westward. Elon is an unusual name which I have seen in connection with no other Wilcox. Hence, I believe that a certain Elon Wilcox, mentioned at Jackson, Susquehanna Co. Pa. may have been himself or his son of same name. This family became Mormons and joined the great migration to the Far West.

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Further remarks about Elon Wilcox and his family:  
There is record of an Erastus Wilcox, born 5/22/1791.  
"probably at Ashford" who married Martha Hamilton.  
It is mentioned in connection that they moved first  
to Halifax Vermont and later to Susquehanna County,  
Pennsylvania. Their family is shown as

1. Elon, b 1815; md Mary E. Bryant
2. Erastus Jr. b 1817
3. Martha b 1818; md Martha Guke
4. Hyde, b 1820
5. Sylvia md Tennent

The compiler finds this information among his massive notes on miscellaneous Wilcoxiana. It is now regretted that the source was not noted down. My impression is that Erastus could have been a son and Elon II a grandson of our Killingworth Elon. Elon is a very uncommon name that I have found in no other family. These People went from Vermont and thence to Utah and Idaho. Until there is more certain information I forbear to say anything more.

**JOEL WILCOX**, son of Nathan, Sept-head #137. Joel was born at Killingworth, Aug. 24, 1762. In the will of his father he was bequeathed two parcels of land from the old farm at Tower Hill, North Killingworth, one of 9 acres and one of 16 acres. In Vol. 15, Killingworth Land Records it is shown that Joel Wilcox, "of Woodbury" sold on Jan. 30, 1798 "nine acres received from his father, Nathan" In the same book, page 199 it is record that "Joel Willcox, in the county of Litchfield, State of Conn, sold 16 acres received from his father, to Nathan Willcox 2nd, Jan. 29, 1798" It is evident from this that Joel lived some 14 years at Woodbury before going to Ohio. This town was also the home of his father-in-law, Mulford Coan. Note also that at that time the town clerk spelled the name with two lls

This is the compiler's own line and our traditional record is that Joel Wilcox removed, about 1812, with the younger members of his family, to Madison County, Ohio. This is shown as his residence (Union Twp) at the time he applied for a pension in 1818. He also lived for a time at Chillicothe. A query directed to the War Dept brought the following information about the revolutionary service of Joel Wilcox:

"Went to the Alarm of East Haven, July 7th, 1779.  
Enlisted 6/27/1780 in Capt. Aaron Steven's Company, 7th Conn. Regiment, Col. Heman Swift; discharged 12/31/1780.  
Enlisted 3/1/1781 in Caleb Baldwin's Company, Second Conn. Regiment; transferred in May to the Sixth Company. Sent home sick in July, 1783

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Continuing account of Joel Wilcox, son of #137

In the year 1936 while at the Congressional Library, this compiler perused an early Chillicothe (Ohio) newspaper. In it were several references to Joel Wilcox. However, I did not jot down the information.

Joel Wilcox, our present subject, married at Killinworth, 10/22/1786. His bride was Elizabeth Houd Coan, daughter of Mulford Coan. We have no information concerning the date and place of Elizabeth's death, nor do we have much data on the subsequent careers of Joel's daughters. It may be that a search of the records at Woodbury, Conn, for the period 1798 to 1812 would reveal something more about the family. The older girls evidently married there. Below is listed the complete family of Joel Wilcox and Elizabeth Houd Coan, as we now have it.

1. Loammi Wilcox, born 8/27/1787 at Killingworth -see fwd
2. Ann Ruth, born at Killinworth -- She is said to have married a British officer (Muir) stationed at Quebec. We know of at least one son, Peter Muir who visited our grandfather's family in Ohio about 1852.
3. Cynthia, born at Killingworth. She went to Ohio with the family and married there, Stephen Kingery. She and her husband went to Putnam about the same time as her brother Joel II. From grandfather's reminiscences we have: "Stephen Kingery died a short time (in Putnam County) from exposure and his family left the county". By 1850 Cynthia had married again -- a Mr. Warburton-- and was then living at Sidney, Ohio.
4. Lucinda, probably born at Woodbury, Conn. All that we know of her is that she went to Ohio with the family and married a Mr. Shaw. They were living in Sidney, Ohio in 1850.
5. Nancy, died young
6. Joel Wilcox II (compiler's <sup>great-</sup>grandfather) born 6/10/1800 at Woodbury, Conn. See extended sketch forward
7. Alvin, b July 2, 1802 at Woodbury, Conn. See forward
8. born abt 1804. She married in Ohio, Joseph Worley. We last heard of this family in Marion Co. Iowa abt 1856.

Loammi Wilcox, son of Joel I and grandson of #137 sept-head  
He removed as a lad with the family to Woodbury where his father bound him out as an apprentice to a Mr. Thaddeus Minor. Loammi probably left Conn. before the family. There is mentioj of him in the local histories of Onondago C<sup>o</sup>unty, New York. He married there, Hannah Paddock (dau. of Jonathan Paddock and Hannah Kronkhite) see Onondago Centennial, Vol. I, p698

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## Continuing account of Loammi Wilcox

which mentions Loammi Wilcox as the owner of a farm known locally as "Seven Pastures". It was located near Elbridge, New York. Loammi died in Onondago County, May 15, 1836. Hannah Paddock Wilcox died at Joliet, Ill. July 22, 1866. Their children were:

1. Caroline, b 8/1/1813 in Onondago County. She married David Wilson 3/25/1845. She died 5/31/1853.
2. Edmund, b 9/18/1816 at Elbridge, N.Y. Removed to Joliet, Ill. See sketch below.
3. Isaac, born 10/16/1818; died age 4 years
4. Harvey, b 3/30/1822 at Elbridge, N.Y. Went to Calif. Sketch below
5. Cordelia, b 3/10/1825. Married Charles Clement 1844. See Clement Genealogy for children and descendants. Some of them ztill live around Joliet, Ill.

JOEL WILCOX II, son of Joel I (the compiler's great-grandfather) He was born June 10, 1800 at Woodbury, Conn. In 1812 he removed with his father's family to Southern Ohio. There he met and married Sarah Williams (Feb. 21, 1821) She was a daughter of Captain Richard Williams and wife Mary McCartney who had lived previously in Westmoreland County Pennsylvania. The following is copied from a family memorandum written by the compiler's "Aunt Lyde" Sarah Eliza Wilcox. She wrote about 1905:

"In 1827 grandfather Wilcox moved from Madison County into the wilderness of Northwestern Ohio (what later became Putnam County). There was plenty of bear and wolves and Indians. He Joel Wilcox I) was a man of great firmness and determination. Out of the wilderness he carved a home -- the finest on Blanchard River in those days.... He was a stock raiser...he would start with two or three men on horseback to drive a hundred young steers to the market at Cincinnati. He helped to organize the first militia company of his county of which he was captain. In politics he was a Whig; in religion he was a Methodist. Grandfather was the third white settler between what is now Ottawa, Ohio and the junction of the Blanchard and Auglaize Rivers. At that time Ottawa was only a large Indian encampment called Tawatown, from which the little creek which flows through it gets the name of Tawa River. For many years Kalida was the county seat and the chief town in the county (Putnam) and where grandfather paid his taxes and where his old militia company used to muster"

There are eleven typewritten pages in Aunt Lyde's sketch. It re;ates more to early Ohio history than to genealogy.

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There are eleven typewritten pages in Aunt Lyde's sketch which related mainly to pioneer Ohio life. Place cannot be given for all of it here.

Howe's Historical Collections gives some account of our family in connection with the great flood which occurred the first year our people settled there. While Joel was away from home looking for his strayed horses the river rose and his wife Sarah and her two young children were marooned on a little area of higher ground. The account relates how she was rescued by Johnny Appleseed, the famous early Ohio character, who happened to be going down river about that time in his canoe.

Although Joel Wilcox was doing very well in Putnam County and although his lands in the rich bottom of the Blanchard far exceeded in acreage and productivity the rocky hill land held by his father and ancestors in Connecticut he nevertheless made the unwise decision to move again. The period which immediately followed the year 1846 was a restless and uprooting one for the Wilcoxes as it was for many other American families. Tales began to float in from the Far West. Settlers were needed in Oregon to hold it against British encroachment. At the same time the Mexican War and the consequent enlargement of territory in the Southwest had added new fields for adventure. It was difficult indeed to resist such lures.

At any rate, during the winter of 1846 Joel Wilcox made the fateful decision to go to Oregon. He outfitted himself with ox teams, Conestoga wagons and equipment and supplies for the long transcontinental journey. He did not even remain to sell his rich 400 acres of bottom land on the Blanchard River but left it for another settler to squat upon. He pulled out of Putnam County, some time in April, 1847. At that time both he and his wife were 47 years old. They were already the parents of nine children. Of these the seven youngest accompanied their parents while the oldest, Mary and John, already married, remained behind.

Aunt Lyde, then three years old, had a vague recollection of being lifted up into a wagon to take final farewells from her grandparents. For weeks and months after they left Ohio letters came back at intervals to the John Wilcox home. Now the folks were passing through Illinois. Now they had crossed the Mississippi. Now they had passed Independence and now they had joined Magoney's wagon train. Later still the word was that they were slowly plodding through Indian territory up the Platte River Valley. At length they reached Fort Bridger and paused for rest and re-outfitting. Unfortunately the intervening generations did not preserve these letters. They would now be priceless as a contribution to general historical information.

Everything went well enough until the final stage of the long journey. Then tragedy overtook the Joel Wilcox family. So tedious a trip, continued day after day for seven months, was

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Joel Wilcox narrative continued

bound to wear down the strongest constitutions. The Wilcox entourage was particularly difficult because of the number of cattle they were taking across the continent. I have before me a photostat copy of the will of Joel Wilcox (from the original in the office of the County Clerk, Oregon City, Oregon) Attached thereto is an itemization of personal effects and of cattle. It is far too long a paper to copy here but I count on it 38 head of cattle and one "Indian horse". Of the cattle six were yoke oxen and 8 "unbroken oxen".

What effort and labor it must have taken to bring this livestock all the way across the plains. However, the family would probably have made it through without tragedy ~~xxx~~ save for an epidemic common among the wagon trains of the period. It was described then as "mountain fever". Others have described it simply as "measles". I do not know what modern physicians would have called it. At any rate the malady was responsible for three deaths in the Joel Wilcox family. The younger members stood the ordeal best. Those who died were, first, the mother, Sarah Williams Wilcox, who passed away October 18th, 1847. The wagon train was then encamped at the Dalles, on the Columbia River. Leaving his outfit at the Dalles Joel obtained the help of some Indians with a canoe and took the body of his wife down the Columbia to the old Fort Vancouver cemetery for burial. He then returned up river and rejoined his outfit. However, soon thereafter he was himself stricken, dying at the Dalles, Nov. 10, 1847. He also was buried at Vancouver. Loammi, the oldest boy to cross the plains, was ~~xx~~ also stricken soon afterwards, dying late in November, 1847.

The particular wagon train in which the Joel Wilcox family journeyed to Oregon was captained by Joseph Magone or Magoney. The Oregon Historical Quarterly, Vol. 3, pg 283 (Sept. 1902) contains the reminiscences of a certain James Jory who was a member of this train. He recalled that

Magoney

"At the Dalles Captain/still stayed by his party, to see that the last one got through. He had indeed made all the young men promise that they would stay by the families until all were at their journeys end. There were some, however, that never came through. A family named Wilcox contracted the measles early on the way, and owing to exposure and looking after their cattle in the rain, the entire family except two girls and a little boy, died."

James Jory was 82 years old when he gave this account of something that had happened 55 years previously. Obviously he was unconsciously exaggerating. The Wilcox tragedy was bad enough but not as bad as he suggested. There were three boys and three girls of this family who finally reached the Willamette Valley and who married and left descendants:

See following page for the children  
and descendants of Joel and Sarah Wilcox

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Family of Joel and Sarah Williams Wilcox

1. Mary, born in Madison County, Ohio, date lacking.  
(She was one of the children rescued via canoe by Johnny Appleseed) She married Elijah Stalnaker prior to the departure of the parent and therefore remained in Ohio. This couple is said to have had a large family but the compiler has the names of only two:
  1. George Stalnake, a soldier in the Civil War
  2. Emma Stalnaker who married a Mr. Kirk
 Contemporary descendants of the couple live around Logansport, Indiana.
2. John, b 3/12/1825 in Madison County, Ohio - sketch below
3. Loammi, b 1827; one of the first white children born in Putnam County, Ohio. He died in the Dalles Oregon at the wagon encampment, November 1848. Presumably he was buried with his parents at Fort Vancouver, Wash.
4. Elmira, born Feb. 26, 1930 in Putnam County, Ohio. She accompanied the family across the plains. While en route with the wagon she met William B. Chatfield whom she married as his second wife soon after reaching Oregon. He was much older (b 10/27/1812). Their address in 1854 was West Tualatin, Washington County, Oregon, as I have it in the copy of an old letter she wrote to her brother John in Ohio. In 1942 I corresponded with a Harry Cusack, a grandson of Elmira Chatfield. He was then living at Olympia Wash. John Chatfield, another grandson was living at Anacortes, Wash. The children of Elmira Wilcox Chatfield were
  1. John Chatfield, b July 1849, md Sarah E. Splossom
  2. George Wilcox Chatfield b 2/22/1852; died 10/9/1875
  3. Olive Chatfield, b 5.25/1854; md Henry B. Cusack 4/14/1874 Olive Chatfield Cusack died 4/25/1924
 Their one son Henry B. Cusack was living at Olympia Wash. a few years ago.
5. George Wilcox, fifth child of Joel, born in Putnam County, Ohio, 12/26/1831 Sketch below.
6. Clarissa, b Sept. 24, 1850 in Putnam County, Ohio She married Hiram Fellows Aug. 24, 1850. Both husband and wife were granted 320 acre "donation" claims at Highland, near Oregon City. There they lived for nearly fifty years. Children (Fellows)
  1. Joseph Fellows, born Jan. 1st, 1852 at Highland, Ore. Married Mary Miller, 10/8/1885, Three children:
    - 1 Hiram 2 Amanda 3 Stephen
  2. Orlando, b Feb. 1857; Md. Olive Kirk 6/25/1883
    1. Lester Fellows of Portland
    - 2 Hurley Fellows of Manhattan, Kansas