

Winchester Wrangler

Summer 2000

Family newsletter of the descendants of Willoughby and Mary (Wallace) Winchester

Issue #00-1

Greetings from an Authentic Winchester

If this is your first newsletter, here is a short recap of the story: My name is Jane (Frank) Fruendt. I inherited the genealogy work of my late Great Aunt Winnie Winchester Crowe of Wyoming. She began writing several books about Willoughby and Mary Wallace Winchester's children and their descendants, that I am commissioned to finish. Willoughby is my great, great, great, great grandfather.

This newsletter is published semi-annually to keep you informed as to the progress of this project. Please contact me if you would like to help by providing your family's information. I plan to publish the book in a few years.

In the Summer of 1900

An interesting look at the last century from a book called "When My Grandmother Was a Child" by Leigh W. Rutledge, which begins, "In the summer of 1900, when my grandmother was a child..."

- The average life expectancy in the United States was forty-seven.
- Only 14 percent of the homes in the United States had a bathtub.
- Only 8 percent of the homes had a telephone. A three-minute call from Denver to New York City cost eleven dollars.
- There were only 8,000 cars in the US and only 144 miles of paved roads. The maximum speed limit in most cities was ten mph.
- Alabama, Mississippi, Iowa, and Tennessee were each more heavily populated than California. With a mere 1.4 million residents, California was only the twenty-first most populous state in the Union.
- The tallest structure in the world was the Eiffel Tower.
- The average wage in the U.S. was twenty-two cents an hour. The average U.S. worker made between \$200 and \$400 per year.
- A competent accountant could expect to earn \$2000 per year, a dentist \$2500 per year, a veterinarian between \$1500 and \$4000 per year, and a mechanical engineer about \$5000 per year.
- More than 95 percent of all births in the United States took place at home.

Bits and Pieces

🐾 If you got this newsletter and a relative did not, please have them contact me to be added to the mailing list.

🐾 The *Winchester History Fund* covers the expenses of this project. Expenses include postage, paper, and Internet costs. I more than happily accept donations to this fund! You can send your donation directly to me. (Please make checks payable to *Winchester History Fund*.)

MISSION STATEMENT

To document and preserve an accurate and complete family history of the descendants of Willoughby and Mary (Wallace) Winchester for future generations.

- Ninety percent of all U.S. physicians had no college education. Instead, they attended medical schools, many of which were condemned in the press and by the government as "substandard."
- Sugar cost four cents a pound. Eggs were fourteen cents a dozen. Coffee cost fifteen cents a pound.
- Most women only washed their hair once a month and used borax or egg yolks for shampoo.
- The five leading causes of death in the U.S. were: 1. Pneumonia and influenza; 2. Tuberculosis; 3. Diarrhea; 4. Heart disease; 5. Stroke
- The American flag had 45 stars. Arizona, Oklahoma, New Mexico, Hawaii and Alaska hadn't been admitted to the Union yet.
- Drive-by-shootings -- in which teenage boys galloped down the street on horses and started randomly shooting at houses, carriages, or anything else that caught their fancy -- were an ongoing problem in Denver and other cities in the West.
- The population of Las Vegas, Nevada was thirty. The remote desert community was inhabited by only a handful of ranchers and their families.
- Plutonium, insulin, and antibiotics hadn't been discovered yet. Scotch tape, crossword puzzles, canned beer, and iced tea hadn't been invented.
- There was no Mother's Day or Father's Day.
- One in ten U.S. adults couldn't read or write. Only 6 percent of all Americans had graduated from high school.
- Marijuana, heroin, and morphine were all available over the counter at corner drugstores. According to one pharmacist, "Heroin clears the complexion, gives buoyancy to the mind, regulates the stomach and the bowels, and is, in fact, a perfect guardian of health."
- Coca-Cola contained cocaine instead of caffeine.
- Punch card data processing had recently been developed, and early predecessors of the modern computer were used for the first time by the government to help compile the 1900 census.
- There were about 230 reported murders in the U.S. annually.

Winchester Website Strikes Out On Its Own

The Winchester Genealogy website appeared on the Internet in January 1998. It enjoys tremendous ccess. It connect worldwide with relatives that help fill in the missing branches of our family tree

The site grew so much in the last year, that it exceeded the allotted "free" space from the Internet Service Provider. Consequently, it was time for the website to "strike out on its own". A domain name was secured, and the files moved to a new ISP.

The Winchester Genealogy website can now be found at *<http://www.winchesters.net>*.

The site boasts over 700 visitors per month. A full description of the Winchester surname origin has been added since last year.

Needed: Descendants of Nancy

Of the five children of Willoughby and Mary with living descendants, the least amount of information is about Nancy (1795-1843). She married John Hensley Gravely, Jr. and had seven children. Most of the family started out in the Pickens District of South Carolina. If you know a descendant from the line, please have them contact me.

One year ago... research showed about **3,887** direct descendants of Willoughby & Mary in the database. Today... they have **5,056** direct descendants.

FGS Mailing A Success

Earlier this year, you should have received a package containing your family group sheets printed directly from the database. Over 500 packages were mailed out, and many responses have been returned. If yours is still sitting on your desk, please send it right away to verify your family's information for the book! If you did not receive a package, please let me know.