

A twist of fate...

A marriage in Hemel Hempstead, England between George Winchester and Annis Man in 1594...

The courageous choice of Willobye Winchester and his two sons, William and Willoughby, to cross the ocean for the New World to claim a royal land grant from King George III of England around 1760...

The decision of young Jack Winchester to leave his South Carolina home in 1890, ultimately to homestead in Wyoming...

A twist of fate that stationed a young Wyoming serviceman, Jackson Winchester, in Greenville, South Carolina in 1958 which led to the discovery of his father's 14 until-then-unknown brothers and sisters...

And the passion of this young serviceman's sister, Winnie Winchester Crowe, to devote the remaining 20 years of her life to researching the family and writing this book.

These are the Winchesters.

This book chronicles ten generations of Winchesters, beginning with George and Annis Winchester... their lives and passions; the hardships they overcame; the losses they had to endure; the successes they achieved...

It is an amazing journey...

Jane L.
Frank

PASSAGES

Ten Winchester Generations



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Jane Loretta Frank
and
Winnie Winchester Crowe

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St. Bride's Church, London, England

I found many records of our ancestors at St. Bride's Church. St. Bride's is located on Fleet Street in the heart of London proper. It's very easy to spot, as the steeple towers over the downtown London skyline. St. Brides is the eighth church on this site, and Christians have been worshipping on the site for the last 1500 years. The Romans originally built a church for the Celtic Christian community. Saxon and Norman churches followed.

The church was lost in the Great Fire of London in 1666 and rebuilt by Sir Christopher Wren, the builder of St. Paul's Cathedral. He designed the unique steeple which became the inspiration for the traditional bride's tiered wedding cake.



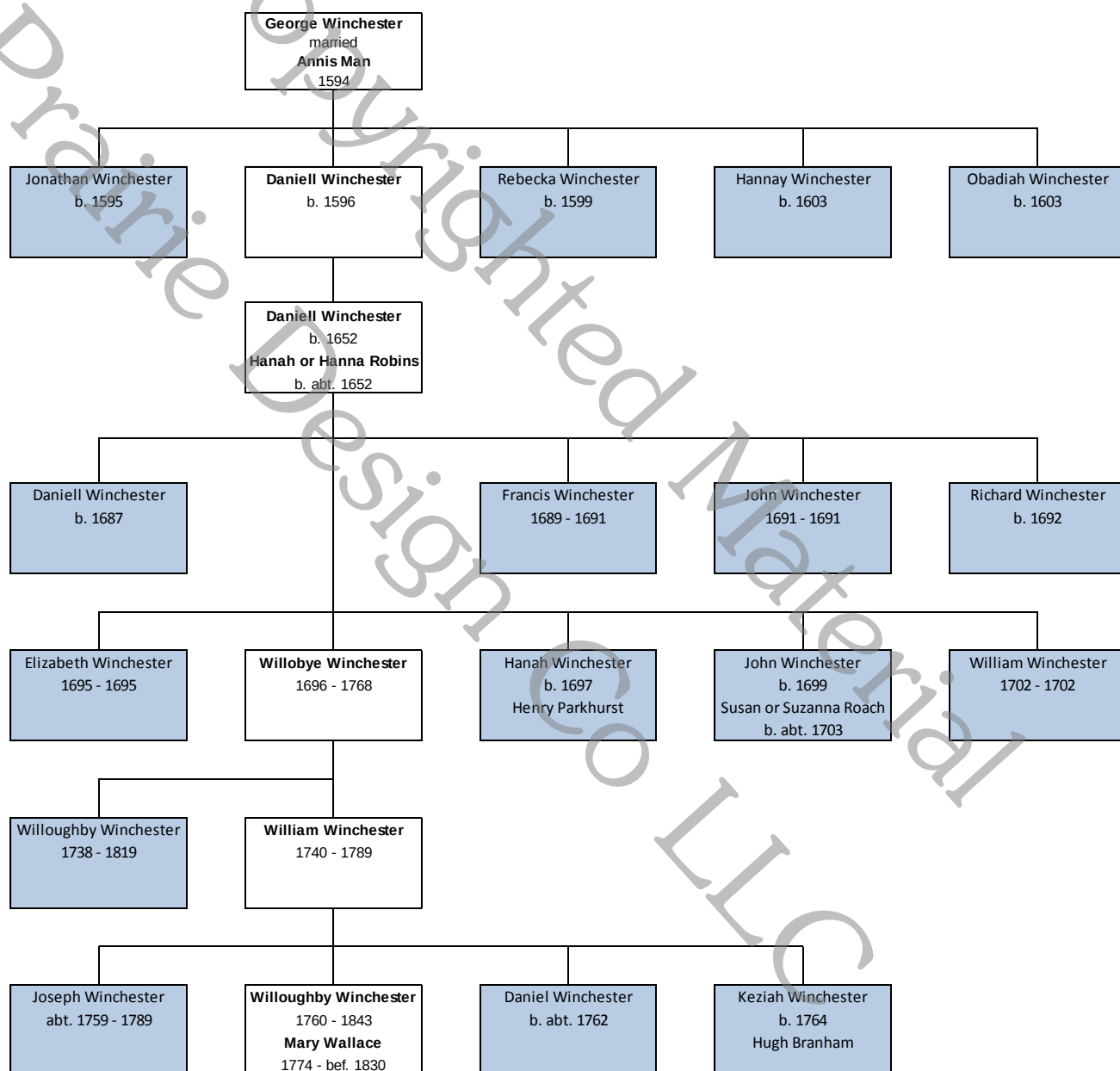
On December 29, 1940, during World War II, St. Bride's burned down – only the steeple and outer walls remaining – in the great fire-bomb raid on London. After the War, the church was rebuilt substantially to Wren's design.

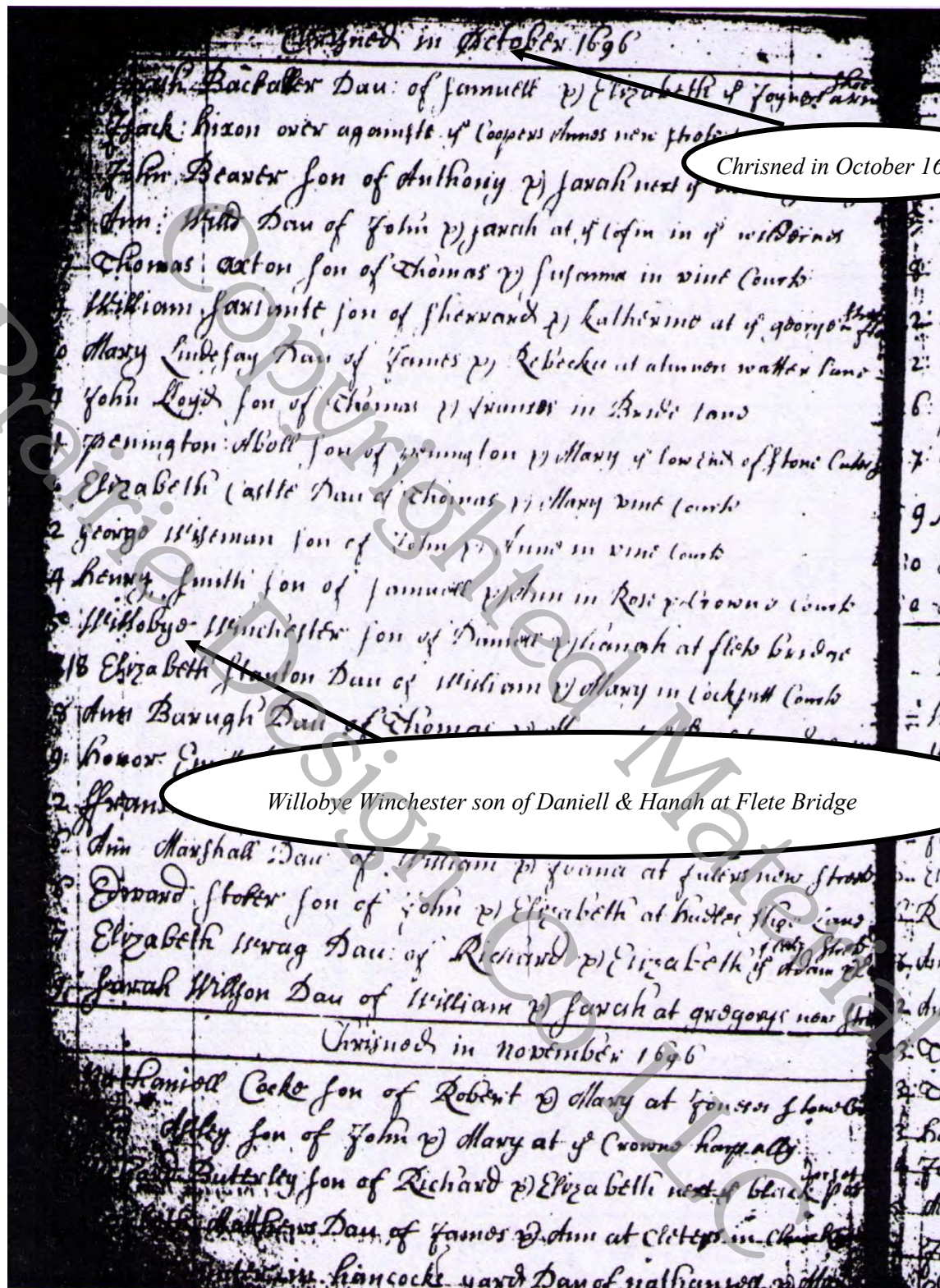
As a result of the bomb, Roman Crypts were discovered to have existed underneath the church. If you visit, you can go into the basement of the church and see the pavement on which the Romans walked in 180 AD. The basement is now used for Sunday School.



Daniell Winchester (1652) and Hanah (or Hanna) Robins

George and Annis had a least five children: Jonathan, Daniell, Rebecka, and twins Hanna and Obadiah.(1) Their second recorded child is Daniell, born October 24, 1596 in Hemel Hempstead. His wife is unknown. They had a son, also named Daniell, born about 1652 in Harefield, Middlesex, England. This Daniell married Hanah or Hanna Robins September 9, 1677 in Harefield.(2) They had at least nine children. In 1695 they resided in Ditch Side, in South London, east of Black Friars Road. By 1699 they were living in Fleet Bridge (now Ludgate Circus) near the River Thames. Daniell's occupation is listed as woodmonger (wood seller).(3)





Willobye Winchester son of Daniell & Hannah at Flete Bridge

Baptismal Records, St. Bride's Church, 1696

James Winchester (1798 – 1866)

James Winchester was born October 6, 1798 in Pendleton District (later Pickens County), South Carolina, the second child of Willoughby Winchester and Mary Wallace Winchester. James, a farmer, was in his early thirties when he married Winneyford Adelaide —“Winnie” Wilson, a small wiry person full of ambition ten or eleven years his junior.

They built their home and settled permanently on a 144-acre tract of land purchased Nov. 11, 1821 in the Pendleton District.(1) The property joined his father Willoughby’s land in the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains in the northwest corner of South Carolina on Little Eastatoe (known today as Sunset).

James and Winnie had seven children, all born during the first 10 or 12 years of their marriage. Two of the children died during childhood. Four sons served during the Civil War; one died of measles during the war. The three surviving sons returned home after the war and raised families; a daughter remained unmarried. James died of pneumonia at age 67.

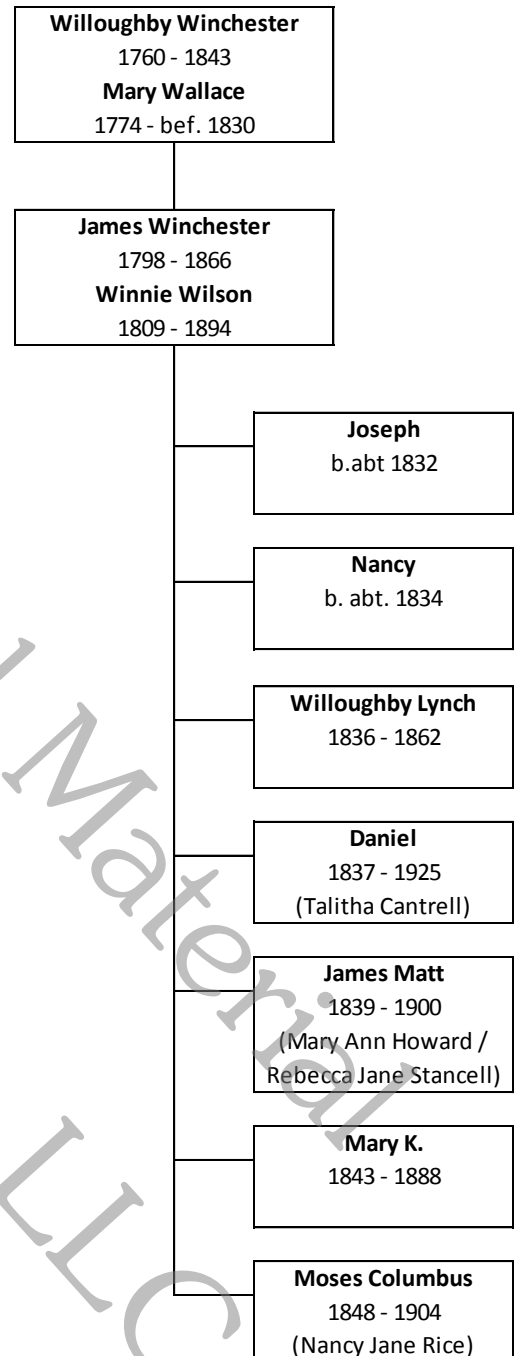
The following account is quoted from a letter written to Winnie Crowe by Lilly Winchester Smith:

“Grandfather James died rather early in his life from pneumonia caused by a wetting on his return home from a corn mill. He’d gone and taken a sack of corn for bread and got caught in a rain storm on his way home. Father said, ,his face was awfully red” when they helped him off his horse with the wet meal. A few days later he died.”

When James died, his wife Winnie continued operation of the small farm for another 18 years. Her daughter Mary moved in with her. Daniel and James Matt and some of their children lived and farmed nearby and helped with Winnie’s farm.

While researching the family’s history Winnie Crowe interviewed Lilly who spoke of her grandmother:

“Winnie Wilson Winchester was ... a very stern character; right and honor being a watchword with her. She was a typical woman of the Confederacy, having seen three of her sons off to War. She and Mary [her daughter] lived alone.”



Descendants of James Winchester

7. **Abraham Tollison "Sonny" WINCHESTER-3** (Daniel-2, James-1) was born on 26 Apr 1876 in Little Eastatoe, Pickens Co, South Carolina. He died on 26 Dec 1947 in Sunset, Pickens Co, South Carolina.

Flora Leona THOMAS was born on 05 Jan 1879 in Pickens Co, South Carolina. She died on 23 Mar 1937 in Pickens Co, South Carolina.

Abraham Tollison "Sonny" WINCHESTER and Flora Leona THOMAS were married on 26 Apr 1899 in Pickens Co, South Carolina. They had the following children:

- i. **Rosa Kathleen WINCHESTER** was born on 23 Jul 1900 in Pickens Co, South Carolina. She married Louie David FRICKS on 12 Nov 1930. She died on 07 Feb 1974.
36. ii. **Mallie Irene WINCHESTER** was born on 12 Oct 1901 in Little Eastatoe, Pickens Co, South Carolina. She married Paul Columbus KEASLER on 25 Aug 1918 in Sunset, Pickens Co, South Carolina. She died on 20 Jul 1989.
37. iii. **Joseph Daniel WINCHESTER** was born on 13 Dec 1902 in Little Eastatoe, Picken Co, South Carolina. He married Mary Letha ARLEDGE on 06 Jul 1927. He died on 12 May 1955 in Travelers Rest, South Carolina.
- iv. **Mary Malinda WINCHESTER** was born on 30 Sep 1904 in Pickens Co, South Carolina. She died on 02 Apr 1907 in Pickens Co, South Carolina.
38. v. **Inez Leona WINCHESTER** was born on 28 Dec 1906 in Pickens Co, South Carolina. She married George Washington (Sr.) KEESLER on 23 Sep 1928. She died on 24 Jan 1998 in Pickens Co, South Carolina.
39. vi. **Florence Lois WINCHESTER** was born on 19 Jul 1908 in Pickens Co, South Carolina. She married George Washington (Sr.) KEESLER on 05 Jan 1927. She died on 22 Feb 1928.
- vii. **Thomas Watson WINCHESTER** was born on 29 Jun 1910 in Pickens Co, South Carolina. He died on 11 Oct 1954.
- viii. **Willie Bryan WINCHESTER** was born on 22 Mar 1912. He died on 13 Mar 1930.
40. ix. **Woodrow Wilson WINCHESTER** was born on 02 Nov 1913 in Pickens Co, South Carolina. He married Norene Carroll ADAMS on 25 Mar 1936. He died on 13 Apr 1998.
- x. **Oscar Underwood WINCHESTER** was born on 21 Mar 1918. He died on 21 Mar 1918.
41. xi. **Flora Elizabeth Carey WINCHESTER** was born on 22 Nov 1919 in Pickens Co, South Carolina. She married Roy Allen PEACE on 15 Jan 1944 in Greenville, Greenville Co, South Carolina. She died on 05 Jan 2004 in Easley, Pickens Co, South Carolina.

Ola Chappell STEWART was born on 02 Mar 1894. She died on 03 Jan 1959.

Abraham Tollison "Sonny" WINCHESTER and Ola Chappell STEWART were married on 11 Mar 1937. They had no children.

337a
The Claim of *Willoughby Winchester* of *Mississippi*, in the State of *Mississippi*

No. of Item.	NATURE OF CLAIM.	AMOUNT CLAIMED.		AMOUNT ALLOWED.		AMOUNT DISALLOWED.		REMARKS.
		Dollars.	Cts.	Dollars.	Cts.	Dollars.	Cts.	
1	One Mare	20000		12500		7500		<i>Charmante Property is satisfactorily established by his own State Court and the testimony of his witnesses. He was opposed to Secession voted for and advocated for the Union. Spoke against and against in favor of the Union as long as it was safe to do so, and was known as a Union man. He all rather during the war. He had some sons in the Union army who died in the service. He also had a son conscripted into the Rebel Service who died in about a month, and who was himself a Union man. The Property was taken by Gen. Croshaw's Regiment on the 1st of April 1865. We allow the Sum of <i>Three Hundred and Eighty Seven (\$587.00)</i> Dollars.</i>
2	1 Hrs. saddle horse	20000		12500		7500		
3	175 bush Corn	17500		15000		2500		
4	700 lbs. H. H. H.	1400		700		700		
5	1000	20000		18000		2000		
	Total	78900		58700		20200		

Claim filed with the Southern Claims Commission by Willoughby Winchester seeking payment from the government for property stolen by Union soldiers during the Civil War.



John Ambrose
Gilstrap,
husband of
Joseph's daughter
Elizabeth Winchester



Joseph's
granddaughter
Sarah Isabelle
Gravely



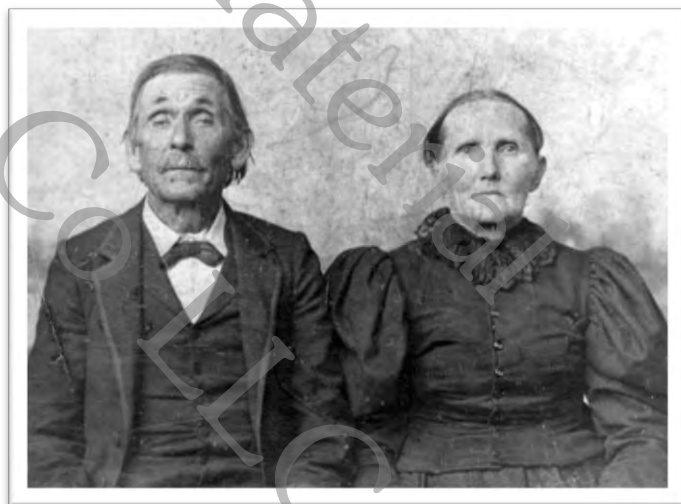
John Franklin Porter,
husband of Joseph's
granddaughter
Sarah Isabelle Gravely



Joseph's grandson
John Lewis Gravely



Joseph's grandson Joseph Benjamin Gravely
and wife Ella Baker Gravely
circa 1881



Luntford Ballenger "Bal" Gravely and wife
Nancy Naomi Winchester Gravely

The Civil War

The Civil War (1861-1865) profoundly changed the people who endured it, including the Winchester family. Many of our ancestors served during the War, which had a lasting impact on the family, with the loss of at least 15 of our Winchester ancestors. Most were young and single. Some were brothers. All except one served in the Confederate Army. A list of the Winchester Civil War Veterans who lost their lives in battle follows:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>DEATH DATE</u>	<u>REGIMENT</u>
GRAVELY, Bright G.	28 Sep 1864	Co. D, 7th Calvary North Carolina
GRAVELY, James W.	18 Oct 1862	Co. B, Palmetto Sharp Shooters, South Carolina
GRAVELY, John Hensley (Jr.)	24 Dec 1862	Co. I, 3rd Reserves South Carolina
GRAVELY, Joseph	30 Jul 1864	Co. F, 22nd Infantry Regiment, South Carolina
GRAVLEE, Jesse Lafayette	30 Nov 1862	28th Infantry Regiment, Alabama
NIX, James	After Dec 1863	Light Artillery, South Carolina
WINCHESTER, Isaac M.*	17 Sep 1862	Co. A, 22nd Infantry Regiment, South Carolina
WINCHESTER, James A.	07 Dec 1861	Co. C, 25th Infantry Regiment, North Carolina
WINCHESTER, John Thomas	03 Dec 1862	Co. A, 22nd Infantry Regiment Texas
WINCHESTER, Josiah S.	08 Mar 1865	Co. H, 5th Mounted Infantry, Tennessee
WINCHESTER, Richard	19 Nov 1862	Co. K, 43rd Infantry Regiment, Alabama
WINCHESTER, Samuel Crawford	30 May 1862	Co. L, 28th Infantry Regiment, Alabama
WINCHESTER, William R.	28 Jan 1864	29th Infantry Regiment, North Carolina
WINCHESTER, Willoughby*	11 Mar 1862	Co. F, 22nd Infantry Regiment, South Carolina
WINCHESTER, Willoughby Lynch	04 Mar 1862	Co. F, 22nd Infantry Regiment, South Carolina

*These soldiers were brothers. Their deaths during the war and the deaths of two other brothers in childhood resulted in the loss of the Winchester surname in the Joseph Winchester / Isabella Miller Winchester branch of the family.