

Wilkinson Hewitt/Huett (Wilkinson Merrett)

William Hewitt was the son of James and Elizabeth Webb Hewitt. He was born March 20, 1812 in Belgrade, Washington, County, Missouri.

Sarah Ann "Sally" Robinson was the daughter of Archibald Josiah and Jane K. Vanlear Robinson. She was born in Virginia on April 9, 1816.

Wilkinson and Sarah were married in Washington County, Missouri on February 7, 1833. Their first child, a daughter, Mary Jane, was born in about 1837 in Missouri. Henrietta, another daughter, was born in about 1840 in Illinois. The Nauvoo Census of 1842 listed Wilkinson, Sarah, Mary Jane, and Henrietta as residing in the Ward 1.

Horace was Wilkinson and Sarah's next child. He was born in Nauvoo, Hancock County, Illinois in 1843. While living here, Wilkinson married Julia A. Jaques on February 6, 1846 before the Saints left for the Middle Missouri Valley.

After reaching their destination in the Middle Missouri Valley, the family wintered at Winter Quarters in the Fifteenth Ward. Another child, Sarah Ann, was born on February 1, 1847 probably in Winter Quarters.

Wilkinson is listed as a member of the Big Pigeon Branch and his name also appeared in the Tithing Record. His name was transcribed wrong on the Branch records as Wilkinson Merritt. The Tithing Record clarified the name which matched the Nauvoo Census Records, but the surname has many spellings—Hewitt, Huett, Huet, etc. Wilkinson married Margaret Grinder or Calhoun (adopted name) on May 19, 1848. Most families had moved out of Winter Quarters before May of 1848 so the marriage may have taken place in Big Pigeon. Since Wilkinson Hewitt, Jr. was born in 1848, it is likely that he was born in Big Pigeon as was Archibald R., who was born in 1851.

The 1850 U. S. Census, listed the family in dwelling #203 as Wilkinson, age 37; Sarah, age 33; Mary, age 14; Henrietta, age 10; Horace, age 7; Sarah, age 5; Wilkinson, age 2, and Margaret Calhoun, age 24. The family was also listed on the 1851 Iowa State Census.

Wilkinson died on July 16, 1851 possibly in Big Pigeon. There is no indication that Sarah and the children went west. Most of the children were married in Iowa, Nebraska, or Missouri. Sarah remarried to Lorenzo Don Burgess on March 20, 1853 in Mills County, Iowa. When he died between 1870 and 1878, she married William Barnett on October 5, 1879. She died on March 8, 1890 at Dexter, Dallas County, Iowa and is buried there.