

November 27, 1951

Mrs. Kathryn Drought
1417 N. Blackstone Street
Jackson, Michigan

Dear Kathryn,

I noticed you started my letter of November 1 with Mr. W. C. Collins. My name is W. C. Simons, the W. originally named for Your grandfather, which I changed to Wilford at a time when he was very unfriendly to mamma. He had been her favorite brother, but he had not been happy in his married life and in later years, my sympathy was largely with his wife, Lavina, with whom I corresponded a bit and received from her some of her poetical writings and a snapshot picture.

Some years ago, I placed a headstone at the grave of Uncle Harrison, who was buried at Jetmore, Hodgeman County, Kansas, and I intended marking the grave of Uncle William, but later I found he was buried near Burdette and the grave was already properly marked. For a long while I kept in touch with Ed Gowdy's son, whom I think is still a resident of western Kansas, but not of Hodgeman County. I no longer have his address.

It has been quite a long while since I have seen you, but I have always admired your spirit and the intelligence shown in your expressed opinion of various things. Although my acquaintance with your mamma was very short, I liked her very much and I thought she was a wonderful woman, who without the sight of her eyes knew the country so well that she could at all times tell where we were. If I remember correctly, she would now be in the early eighties.

Uncle William named two or three daughters Jennie for my mother, but unfortunately they died young.