

Wilford Collins Simons - Simons

Whos Who

Owatonna Minn - 7/8/1871

Adolphus Ezra Simons -

B. Feb 7 - 1835 D 10/29/1877

Jennie Bessie Gowdy - d. Collins Gowdy a
life long ~~good~~ teetotaler and prohibitionist
~~was a part of the~~ and abolitionist
of Scottish ancestry

No 6 - Educated largely at home under
direction of her mother, a college trained
woman - Attended Kansas Wesleyan -
Methodist college at University at Salina
Kansas -

No 7 - At ^{age} 16 my mother bought for me a one-half
interest in the weekly Gazette published for
a short time at Haysville, Kans - At 17
was a reporter on the Daily Republican
published at Salina, ~~part of the~~ attending
Kansas Wesleyan part time - Together with
brother Ed S and J. L. Brady entered newspaper
bus in Law Dec 14 - 1891, when ~~20~~ 20 yrs old

William Symonds sailed from the port of
London for America on the ship
Safety, Oct 20 - 1635.

Is it probable that this is
the William Symonds mentioned Page 637
History of Woburn Mass -

was in Woburn in 1644 - ^{Died June 7, 1672} M Jan 15.

1643-4 Judith Hayward, ~~was~~ widow
of James Hayward, who had married
her when Judith Phippen, a fellow
passenger and a fellow servant
on board the Plauder from London 1635

(date on chart B 1659. D. 1738)

William Borne Apr 15 - 1651 - ~~and wife Sarah~~
is doubtless the father of ~~Wm~~ Simon's born
Jan 20 - 1686 ^{the} Records at Enfield Conn - show
(chart shows 1696) L.A. Goudy from Enfield records says 1686
William Simon, son of William + Sarah -
born Jan 20 - 1696, died Apr 7 - 1726 - M.
Margaret Parson Apr 11, 1717.

Philip Philip was born 6/27/1675
and Aug 76.

Caleb -

Joos -

Barry -

James -

1649 - wife -
1652 -
1654 -
1658 -

voluntary or draft

Media Records mention -
William Simon's of Charleston Mass in 1639

While definite knowledge concerning my Simons ancestors in America begins with Wilkiam Simons Sr., found in the records of Enfield, Conn., it is probable that the first Simons of my line in this country was William Simonds, who sailed from the port of London for America, on the ship "Safety" October 20, 1635.

Media Records mention a William Simonds as being in Charlestown, Mass., in 1639. Charlestown was the first name given to the town which has since been known as Woburn, Mass. The history of Woburn on Page 637 tells of William Simonds, who settled there as early as 1644, and who died June 7, 1672.

In 1643 or 44, William Simonds married Judith Hayward, widow of James Hayward, who as Judith Phippen married James Hayward when both were fellow passengers or fellow servants on board the "Planter", which sailed from London in 1635. As William Simonds sailed from London also in the year 1635, it seems quite likely that he may have known Judith Phippen Hayward either before they sailed from London, or became acquainted immediately after they arrived in America.

a William Simonds and Judith Hayward
In any event ~~the two~~ were married at Woburn either in 1643 or in 1644 and to them were born twelve children. Their fifth child, William was born April 15, 1651. Four other sons; -Caleb born 1649, Joseph 1652, Benjamin 1654 and James 1658, served as soldiers from Woburn in King Philip's War, which began June 24, 1675 and ended a year later. The four soldier sons returned to Woburn where they reared families, but there is no record of William other than of his birth.

As the War was fought in Connecticut, it seems likely that William either accompanied his brothers there, or was charmed with the stories told him of the riches of the Connecticut River valley and settled near Enfield or Hazardville, where he is listed in the records of Enfield. While the records give his birth as in 1659,

and the Woburn records give the date as 1651, ~~17~~ it is quite possible that an error was made in copying, or that being away from his family the mistake in date may have been made by himself. The death of this William Simonds, or Simons, as it had then become, occurred in 1738.

This William Simons named his son for himself, but his grandson was named Benjamin, ^{evidently} ^{father's} for one of his ^{uncles}, instead of being named for his father, and grandfather.

William Simons Jr. as shown in the Enfield records married Margaret Pasco. My chart prepared by Ellen Glenn Shields gives the date of his birth as January 20 ~~17~~ 1696, but a distant cousin of mine, L. A. Gowdy, of Somersville, gave me the record as Jan 20, 1686. He was married April 11, 1717, and died April 7, 1726. One or the other made an error in copying the date. As William, the son of William and Judith, probably left Woburn after ~~the~~ King Philips War, which ended in 1776, I again presume that the date given by Mr Gowdy, as 1786 is probably correct.

The presumption that William Simonds, who came on the ship "Safety" was the first of my line in America has come after considerable research by well recognized and accepted genealogists.

Respectfully

Wilford Collins Simons.

Brothers
 &
 Sisters
 EBS

Mrs Char. H. Hornville deceased Granddaughter
 Julia Simon Oct 21-1943 Mrs. Chas D. Stough Jr.
 7589 Colfax Ave
 Chicago - 28
 Mrs Don A Freeman
 Grace Simon - Tree Tops Route 3
 Brainerd Minn - 67
 W. C. Simon - Lawrence Kansas 72
 L. A. Simon - deceased.
 Daughter Mrs. Julia Blackhurst
 Ogden Utah
 42

1943
 1915
 28
 1943
 1902
 41

November 15, 1943

Mr. Norman Endacott
810 East 13th
Lawrence, Kansas

My dear Endacott:

I have been delayed in giving you the copy for the marker for my sister's grave, awaiting word from others. You understand that this is for the lot in the northeast part of the cemetery where there is a red granite stone. Please cut the following inscription:

In Loving Remembrance

Etoile Bessie Simons

Died March 2, 1943

Please note also the Simons large variegated stone in the north central part of the cemetery where our son, John Louis Simons, is buried, and where my sister, Mrs. Hoinville, was recently buried. I think that the stone at our little boy's grave is also of red granite. Please note this and see if you have a similar stone that we could use for Mrs. Hoinville's grave.

Upon hearing from you, I will advise her husband in Chicago, and you will hear from us later.

Sincerely yours,

W. C. Simons

WCS:df

When I was twenty years old I came to Lawrence, December 14, 1891, where together with John Leeford Brady, aged 25; and my brother, Louis Adolphus Simons, aged 17, we leased The Daily and Weekly Record. The owner of The Record was a man of large wealth, and shortly after beginning operation of the paper we found that he wished us to take up his side of certain local quarrels or misunderstandings, which in our judgment would make it impossible for us to successfully produce a paper that would be representative of the entire community.

With practically no money, with limited experience, but with a great deal of courage we began the publication of the Daily and Weekly World on March 1st, 1892, the daily being issued each morning excepting Monday and the Weekly on Thursday. That made nine papers in the field and Lawrence had long been known as a "Newspaper Graveyard."

As already stated the Record was owned by a millionaire, and The Journal was also owned by a man of wealth, who besides owning the paper was the owner of a large publishing plant. To make matters worse he had been in Kansas in Territorial days, and the people of Lawrence in the nineties regarded anyone who had not been a resident since Quant-rill's Raid in 1863 to be an interloper.

In this case the "Annals of the Poor," were not short and simple, but were dragged out for years, but we took over one paper after another until in 1921 we had become the owner of all of the nine papers in the field when we started.

My brother sold his interests to us for a trifle, and in 1905 we took over The Journal, which we ran as a separate paper until February 1911, when The Journal and World were consolidated.

My partner, John Leeford Brady, was politically minded and served in the state legislature and senate. He secured the Republican Nomination for congress in 1912, but the party split over the Progressive

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movement and a Democrat was elected. Two years later in 1914 he was nominated by the Progressives, on the Bull Moose ticket, and again a Democrat won. Discouraged by his two defeats he was willing to sell his interest, which I bought in December 1914.

Believing that the publisher of a newspaper could do better work if he did not seek office, I have never been a candidate for an elective, or an appointive office. And would not accept appointment if it were offered.

When we purchased the Journal in 1905, it was necessary for us to borrow quite a large amount, and much to my chagrin I learned that the credit of newspapers at that time was on a par with that of livery barns. Rebelling against such a condition of affairs I came to the conclusion that the newspaper business should be a respectable one. That the credit of the paper should be as good as that of any other business concern, that the plant should occupy as good a building as that occupied by a bank, and that the newspaper man's home should be as good as that of the banker's.

Two things were necessary to prepare the way for the transformation. One was for the newspaper man to pay his bills promptly, and in order to do this he must collect promptly the accounts due him. It took about thirty lawsuits, all of which I won, to prove that a debt owed to a paper was just as much of an obligation as a note owed to a bank. With this fact established, we were in a position to be lenient and to extend necessary credit to our patrons.

I feel that perhaps I have had a real part in bringing the newspaper business to a higher standard. The boys born with silver spoons in their mouths, could not possibly have felt the same interest in the matter that I did.

While advertising is generally considered to be the life blood of a newspaper, it is not always so apparent that the heart and soul

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While advertising is generally considered to be the life blood of a newspaper, it is not always so apparent that the heart and soul

of a publication is the confidence that a paper merits. Controlling both the counting room and the editorial department we have long believed that our main efforts should be given to publishing a good strong, newsy paper, ably edited, and fair to all.

I learned one day many years ago that four children had died of an ailment that had not been understood. We had an expert obtain swabs and found it to be diphtheria. We came out in a top head story that made every parent and every physician alert to the conditions confronting them. There was but one more death. But one of our advertisers thought we were running trade away from the town and tried to start a boycott. We successfully met the issue by asking the merchant to tell us just how much trade he should have to warrant the unnecessary death of a child.

We have won the confidence of our readers and rumors do not last long in Lawrence. When someone hears a cock and bull story, he waits to see if it appears in the paper, and if it does not, he decides that it is not true. That kind of confidence puts a tremendous weight of responsibility on a publisher, but it is worth maintaining.

We have had a lot to do developing cordial relations between the town and the State University, which is located here, and also between the city and the country. Our civic clubs and our Chamber of Commerce exist, not for the town alone, but for the entire community.

Our relations with employees has been fine. We have told our workers that they held their jobs as we hold ours. Our hold on the newspaper field depends upon the kind of service we give. If someone else will give better service the field is open. So to our help we say, "Don't worry about holding your job. Just do your work in a satisfactory manner and you can stay on the job indefinitely."

The result is that our young men marry and rear families. They own their own homes and educate their children. They take a real part in the life of the community. Their credit is good and they know that in case of death, or sickness, the office is behind them.

With the exception of perhaps half a dozen all of our employees have been born since I came to Lawrence. Many of them have learned their trade in our office. And altho it is a small plant as bigger things go, thirty of our employees have had college work, twelve of them have degrees and three are Phi Beta Kappas.

We are not smug as a community, we are always trying to improve, but we find satisfaction in the fact that generally speaking we have a higher standard of culture than many communities. We have less swearing, less drinking, fewer bankruptcies, finer music, and according to U. S. records we spend more per capita, and have more payers of income tax than other comparable cities. We have few rich--no great fortunes--and little poverty.

Lawrence was founded eighty-five years ago and for forty-eight years, all but thirty-seven in the life of the city, I have had a part in producing its newspapers. A few years ago I found that one hundred and four papers had been published in Lawrence, some sixty had died without a trace, and more than forty had been consolidated into the Journal-World.

13. In 1918 I was one of the organizers and
(Vice President) of the Home Guards, which later
became a regular company of the National Guard.
I was a 4 Minute speaker and aided in all drives
for Red Cross, sale of U. S. Bonds, etc. We had
27 members of our force in the War.

The World Company, Lawrence; President and General Manager.

Lawrence Memorial Hospital; Member of the board and president.

Lawrence Board of Health; Member and secretary.

Peoples State Bank; Member of Board.

Kansas Baptist Convention; Member of board, and served two terms as president.

Kansas State Historical Society; Member of board and former president.

First Baptist Church, Lawrence; Moderator.

Sunset Home for Aged and Concordia Hospital, Concordia, Kansas; Member of board and former president.

Sons and Daughters of New England; Former president.

Douglas County Old Settlers Assn.; Former president.

Douglas County Historical Society; Member of board and former president.

Lawrence Chamber of Commerce; Former president and still an active member, serving on various committees.

Rotary; First president of Lawrence club.

University Club; ex governor.

Saturday Night Club

Member: - Associated Press

Kansas Press Association

National Editorial Assn.

Employing Printers of America.

Audit Bureau of Circulations; formerly representative on Advisory Board for small town papers of the United States and Canada.

Mason

Shrine

Grange

Farmers Union

Farm Bureau

Central Protective Assn.

Ex-Member: -

Board of Ottawa University.

Advisory board of Kansas University Y.M.C.A.

Kansas Baptist Laymen, state chairman.

State Chamber of Commerce; Former Vice Pres.

CAPTAIN JOHN LUTHER

Came to America 1635

Was a descendant of John
brother of Martin Luther

1. John Luther
2. Samuel
3. Ebenezer
4. Ebenezer
5. Deborah Luther-Gowdy
6. Collins Gowdy
7. Jennie B. Gowdy-Simons
8. W. C. Simons

Maternal

1. Captain John Luther
2. Hezekiah
3. Hezekiah
4. Robert
5. Thomas
6. Phoebe Luther-Mason
7. Ezra Mason
8. Alfred Smith Simons
9. Adolphus Simons
10. W. C. Simons

Paternal

1. Simon Gowdy - Was in Boston in 1710 - Married
Martha Cox. Ceremony being performed by
Cotton Mather
2. James Gowdy
3. James Gowdy
4. James Gowdy
5. Collins Gowdy
6. Jennie Bessie Gowdy-Simons
7. W. C. Simons

Maternal

December 21, 1620

1. William Bradford - Governor Plymouth Colony
2. Major William Bradford
3. Alice Bradford
4. Alice Adams
5. Deacon William Collins
6. Ann Collins Gowdy
7. James Gowdy - Revolutionary War
8. Collins Gowdy
9. Jennie Bessie Gowdy-Simons
10. W. C. Simons

Maternal

1. Thomas Hubbard
2. James Hubbard
3. Samuel Hubbard
4. Ruth Hubbard-Burdick, born January 11, 1640,
Springfield, Mass.
5. Benjamin Burdick
6. Mary Burdick-Lewis
7. Elisha Lewis
8. Asa Lewis
9. Sally Lewis-Cook
10. Betsy Nichols Cook-Gowdy
11. Jennie B. Gowdy-Simons
12. W. C. Simons

Maternal

1. John Lewis)
2. John Lewis)
3. John Lewis) Records in Westerly, Rhode Island
4. Elisha Lewis)
5. Asa Lewis - Revolutionary War
6. Sally (or Sarah) Lewis-Cook
7. Betsy Nichols Cook-Gowdy
8. Jennie Bessie Gowdy-Simons
9. W. C. Simons

Maternal

1. William Eddy
2. Samuel Eddy - Came 1630 on Handmaid
3. Zachariah Eddy
4. Joshua Eddy
5. Daniel Eddy
6. Olney Eddy
7. Sarah (or Sally) Eddy-Simons
8. Alfred Smith Simons - Civil War
9. Adolphus Ezra Simons - Civil War
10. W. C. Simons

Paternal

Sir John Olney, Born 1393

12 generations to

Olney Eddy

4 additional generations to

W. C. Simons

Have complete data on male ancestors in their line

Thomas Olney came on Planter in 1635

Paternal

1. Sampson Mason - At Dorchester as early as 1649
2. Joseph Mason
3. Oliver Mason
4. Simeon Mason - Revolutionary War
5. Jeremiah Mason - Revolutionary War
6. Ezra Mason
7. Wealthy Ann Mason-Simons
8. Adolphus Simons - Civil War
9. W. C. Simons

Paternal

1. Joseph Cook - Born in England 1727 - Came to America in 1755 and served under Braddock at his defeat. At opening of Revolutionary War was called by Geo. Washington to serve under his personal command, and thus served thruout the war. Was on many Battle fields including Yorktown. Died at Stonington, Conn., 1829. See obituary Independent Chronicle and Boston Patriot, March 21, 1829.
2. Samuel Brown Cook
3. Betsy Nichols Cook Gowdy
4. Jennie Bessie Gowdy - Simons
5. W. C. Simons

Maternal

OTHER FAMILIES

Buckland

Butterworth, Jno. - Came to Rehoboth 1643

Burlingame

Abel, Mary - B. 1642, Weymouth, Mass.
Maternal

Allen

Adams

Barney

Wilbor

Browning

Collins - Deacon Edw. - Came prior to 1642
Maternal

Cole

Carpenter, Wm. back to 1303 - To America prior to 1644
Maternal

Foxwell, Mary, Born 1635 ^{Sci} ~~Scituate~~ ^{Scituate}, Mass. - Paternal

Fosten

Gardner

Graves

de Lobel

Markham

Meacham

Mott

Paddock, Alice b. 1640, E. Bridgewater, Mass. Paternal

Parke, Isabel, Came 1635

Paine

Redeway

Richards, Alice, B. 1627 - M. Maj. Bradford - Maternal

Whipple

Page 2. Other Families

Whiting, Major Wm. - Came in 1630 - Maternal
Wodell

Whitmore, Elizabeth B. 1649 Cambridge

and many others who simply

appear for one or two

generations.

1. Wilford Collins Simons
2. Briefly in Who's Who and in V. 16 Kansas Historical collections published by Kansas State Historical Society.
3. July 8, 1871, in Owatonna, Minnesota.
4. Adolphus Ezra Simons, born Feb. 7, 1835 in Ogden (now a part of Rochester), Monroe County, New York. Died Oct 29, 1877 in Faribault, Minn. m. July 3, 1866, Waukegan, Ill. Served five years in Civil War enlisting at Lincoln's first call for Volunteers. Was Fife Major, (principal musician) in 37th Ill. Vol. Infantry. Was mustered out in spring of 1866. Was a capable farmer, business man and salesman.
5. Jennie Bessie Gowdy, educated at Hillsdale College, following death of her husband kept her five children together and gave to each a good education. Taught school for many years. Father was Collins Gowdy, a strong abolitionist and temperance worker. Jennie B. Gowdy was born in Constantia, N. Y. April 12, 1836, died in Chicago Nov. 17, 1921.
6. W. C. Simons was educated at his mother's knee, while living in Western Kansas. Spent some time in public schools at Larned, Kansas, and afterward at Kansas Wesleyan University Salina, Kansas. Completed High School and had some work in the college.
7. Really began Dec. 14, 1891 when he came to Lawrence, Kansas. For 23 years was associated with John Leeford Brady and earlier for a few years with his brother L. A. Simons. Became sole owner of Lawrence Daily Journal-World, Dec. 19, 1914. Since has been President, General Manager and Editor.
8. Have done all kinds of work in the publishing business during past forty-eight years. Have served on many boards of directors and have been president of many organizations and corporations.
9. If connected with other business enterprises give particulars.
--None.
10. Details of vocation, profession or business.
--Left Blank.
11. Mention noteworthy incidents in business or professional career.
See attached sheet numbered 11.
12. An address to Douglas County Old Settlers Association Sept. 15, 1924. Published in Vol. XVI Kansas State Historical Society. Paper on "Early Newspapers of Kansas" published in Vol. XVII of State Historical Society. Travel articles and historical sketches.
13. World War Record. (See attached sheet No. 13)
14. Republican. No public office.

15. Saturday Night and University Club.
16. None
17. Member Baptist Church. Taught a Sunday School class of young ladies for ten years. Later led men's class. Have taken an active part in church finances. Was a trustee for many years. Have made funeral addresses and have spoken in many churches.
18. Enjoy constructive community work, and aiding in the solution of difficult problems. Have a small part in many world-wide activities. Love art and music. Have some ability as an organizer. Recreation: travel, fishing and study.
19. Married Nov. 14, 1894 in Kansas City, Mo., to Miss Mary Gertrude Reineke.
20. Mrs. O. W. (Blanche Simons) Maloney, Lawrence, Kansas
O. W. Maloney is Sales Manager, The World Company,
722 Mass. Street, Lawrence, Kansas.
Mrs. L. A. (Janet Simons) McNalley, Minneapolis, Kansas.
L. A. McNalley, Attorney, Minneapolis, Kansas
Dolph C. Simons, Lawrence, Kansas. Business Manager
The World Company, 722 Mass. Street, Lawrence, Kansas.
Mrs. H. F. (Dorothea Simons) Johnson, Dawson, Nebr.
H. F. Johnson, Johnson Lumber Company, Dawson, Nebr.
John Louis Simons - deceased.
21. Blank.
22. Samuel Eddy came on Ship Handmaid in 1630, m. Eliz. Savery in England. Yes
Earliest maternal ancestor, Gov. Wm. Bradford.
23. On Simons direct line.

Not definitely proven,
 1. William Simonds of Woburn, Mass.
(Presumably is the Wm. Simons who sailed from London 10-20-1635, Ship Safety)
m. 1-18-1643 or 1644 Judith Phippen-Hayward, widow.
(Judith Phippen Hayward sailed from London in 1635 on Ship Planter)
 2. William Simons
Woburn record b. 4-15-1651
Enfield, Conn. record b. 1659 and wife Sarah
 3. William Simons
b. 1-20-1686 or 1696, Enfield, Conn.
Date 1686 given in letter to me,
but 1696 appears on my chart. and wife Margaret Pasco
 4. Benjamin Simons
b. 8-12-1731 and wife Edith Markham
d. 10-30-1805 m. 4-24-1751

23. Continued

5. Benjamin Simons
Soldier Rev. War
B. 5-11-1754
and wife Martha Nooney
m. 4-15-1776
6. Adolphus Simons
b. 2-4-1781
d. 8-22-1873
and wife Sally Eddy
m. 5-16-1809
7. Alfred Smith Simons
b. 12-21-1809
Soldier Civil War
d. about 1896
and wife Wealthy Ann Mason
m. 4-13-1834
8. Adolphus Ezra Simons
Soldier Civil War
b. 2-7-1835
d. 10-29-1877
and wife Jennie Bessie Gowdy
m. 7-3-1866
9. Wilford Collins Simons
b. 7-8-1871
and wife Mary Gertrude Reineke
m. 11-14-1894