

THE NATIVE AMERICANS

# Cherokee-White Intermarriages

## PART VII

*Abstracted by James Pylant*

The following data was synopsised from affidavits filed for the enrollment of individuals claiming citizenship in the Cherokee Nation. Approximate dates of birth and death are estimated from ages given in affidavits. When two wedding dates are given, it indicates that a Cherokee-White couple "remarried" after arriving in Indian Territory. In most cases, only children under the age of 21 were required to be named in applications. Unless otherwise indicated, the cases below were accepted by the Commissioner to the Five Civilized Tribes. Source: *Applications for Enrollment of the Commission to the Five Civilized Tribes, 1898-1914*, National Archives Microfilm Series M1301, Roll 0306.

(Continued from Vol. 11, Nos. 3 & 4)

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**No. 5492: Mary J. Thompson, citizen by intermarriage, of Cooweescoowee District**  
John Martin THOMPSON

Mary J.  
b. ca. 1838

d. ca. 1886

m. 1877  
He m. (1) ....  
He m. (2) ....  
She m. (1) .... BROWN.  
She m. (2) 13 Jun. 1865, Rusk Co. TX, to John M. McNAIR (Cherokee), dec'd.

Testimony of Mary J. Thompson, 16 Nov. 1900; 6 Oct. 1902; 11 Jan. 1907.  
Testimony of James M. KEYS (age 63), 11 Jan. 1907.

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**No. 5726: Dovie Johnson, citizen by intermarriage, of Tahlequah District**

Cicero JOHNSON ("about 1/16" Cherokee)  
b. ca. 1843, NC

Dovie  
b. ca. 1851

m. 1867, Cherokee Co. NC.

Chil.:

1. Allen JOHNSON, b. ca. 1880.
2. Mollie E. JOHNSON, b. ca. 1881.
3. Thomas JOHNSON, b. ca. 1883.
4. Alonzo JOHNSON, b. 1886.
5. Henry JOHNSON, b. ca. 1888.
6. Bell JOHNSON, b. ca. 1893.

Testimony of Cicero Johnson, 27 Nov. 1909; 5 Jan. 1907.  
Testimony of Dovie Johnson, 5 Jan. 1907.  
Testimony of Martin WALLACE (age 60), 5 Jan. 1907.  
Testimony of Adeline RATLINGGOURD (age 56), 14 Jan. 1907. Her first husb. was a bro. to Cicero Johnson.

The Commissioner to the Five Civilized Tribes ruled that, "...Cicero Johnson was not at the time of said marriage a recognized citizen by blood of the Cherokee Nation, and did not become such until his admission to citizenship in said Nation by the duly constituted authorities thereof November 15, 1876. Said Dovie Johnson did not, therefore, marry a citizen by blood of the Cherokee National prior to November 1, 1875. Application denied." The Secretary of the Interior reversed the decision.

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**No. 4321: Andrew N. Norwood, citizen by intermarriage, of Cooweescoowee District**

Andrew Henry NORWOOD  
b. ca. 1860

Alice R. GOARD  
b. Cherokee Nation  
d. 1873

m. 25 Dec. 1872, Tahlequah Dist., by T. K. B. McSPADDEN. "She died ten months after our marriage."

He m. (2) 1879, Susan "Susie" LOVE ("a Delaware woman"), d. 1894.

He m. (3) 2 Oct. 1904, Ida M. WOODARD (b. ca. 1859), citing *Marriage Book C*, p. 336, U.S. Court in the Northern Dist., Indian Territory. Signers to marriage petition were Arch MILLER, W. H. TURNER, S. H. COLDIN, Richard HALFBREED, Henry BARNES, Jno. L. ADAIR, and Nathaniel FISH.

Testimony of Andrew H. Norwood, 11 Oct. 1900; 29 Sep. 1902; 4 Jan. 1907.

The Commissioner to the Five Civilized Tribes determined that Andrew H. Norwood "forfeited, by his marriage in the year 1879 to Susan Love, who was a person not of Cherokee blood..." The Secretary of the Interior reversed the decision.

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**No. 7482: Hattie Wright, citizen by intermarriage, of Delaware District**

James "Jim" WRIGHT ("full-blood Cherokee")  
b. bef. 1850

Harriet "Hattie" HALL, white  
b. ca. 1853  
Father: .... HALL ("I don't remember my father.")  
Mother: Annie, who m. (2) .... WALKER  
(Cherokee)

They "took up and lived together," ca. Dec. 1873.

m. 1899 by Ben HILDERBRAND, M. G.

He m. (1) Awy MUSKRAT, dec'd.

Chil.: (Eight lv.)

1. Infant d. at age three weeks.
2. Ailey WRIGHT, b. 27 Mar. ca. 1875
3. Sarah WRIGHT, b. ca. 1885.
4. Thomas WRIGHT, b. ca. 1890.
5. Josie WRIGHT, b. ca. 1882.
6. Annie WRIGHT, b. ca. 1895.
7. Lizzie WRIGHT, b. ca. 1897.

Testimony of James Wright, 14 May 1901 (via Simon R. WALKINGSTICK, interpreter).

Testimony of Hattie Wright, 27 Oct. 1902; 20 Feb. 1907. Concerning her age, Hattie Wright stated: "I haven't got any education and I can't tell you exactly my age..."

Testimony of Joe FOX (b. Mar. 1846), a minister, 20 Feb. 1907. His testimony conflicted that of Mrs. Wright, by saying that the Wrights were married "about 32 years ago" [ca. 1875] at QUAH-LA-TAH's house, near Honey Creek, by Ben Hilderbrand. However, he recanted his testimony with the admission that the Wrights had lived together and had "two, or three, or four" children before marrying.

Testimony of Sarah MORGAN (age "about 71 or 73"), 20 Feb. 1907.

The Commissioner to the Five Civilized Tribes ruled that Hattie Wright was not entitled to enrollment in the Cherokee Nation. "In view of the foregoing it is considered that the evidence in this case is not sufficient to support a finding that the said James Wright and Hattie Wright were married prior to November 1, 1878." The Secretary of the Interior reversed the decision.

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**No. 5462: Amanda Beck, citizen by intermarriage, of Delaware District**

David M. BECK

Amanda  
b. ca. 1856

m. ca. 1882, but ruled invalid by the Dept. of the Interior.  
He m. (1) .... (Cherokee), dec'd.  
He m. (2) .... (white). "She run away from me."  
She m. (1) ....

Chil.:

1. Osborn A. BECK
2. Wesley C. BECK
3. David M. BECK, Jr.
4. Martha A. BECK
5. Walter F. BECK
6. George L. BECK
7. Birtha BECK, d. 2 Aug. 1902.

Testimony of David M. Beck, 3 Oct. 1902.  
[Other pages of testimony are missing.]

The Commissioner of the Five Civilized Tribes ruled that Amanda Beck was not eligible for enrollment in the Cherokee Nation. "...The evidence further shows that said Amanda Beck was married prior to the said David M. Beck, and fails to show that her former husband was dead, but affirmatively shows that she had not been divorced from him at the time of her marriage to the said David M. Beck..." The Secretary of the Interior (in view of the opinion of the Attorney General in the John W. Gleason case) enrolled David Beck as a citizen by intermarriage."

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**No. : Osburn J. Byrd, citizen by intermarriage of Delaware District**

Osburn J. BYRD  
b. ca. 1847

Julia Ann ELICK (Shawnee)  
b. ca. 1858  
d. Sep. or Oct. 1891

m. 23 Jan. 1874, six miles from Chepota, KS. Witnesses: Jackson MILLS, Johnny CHOTEAU and Edmund Choteau.  
She m. (1) Frank Choteau, dec'd.

Chil. (seven):

1. Susan R. BYRD, b. ca. 1881.
2. Annie D. BYRD, b. ca. 1883.
3. Eva R. BYRD, ca. 1885.
4. Fitzhugh Lee BYRD, b. ca. 1889.

Testimony of Osburn J. Byrd, 1 Oct. 1900; 30 Sep. 1902; 7 Jan. 1907.  
Testimony of Edmund Choteau (age 40), 7 Jan. 1907.  
Testimony of Thomas J. McGHEE (age 62), 7 Jan. 1907.  
Testimony of John Choteau (age 46), 7 Jan. 1907.

The Commissioner to the Five Civilized Tribes ruled that Osburn J. Byrd was not entitled to enrollment in the Cherokee Nation. His wife, a Shawnee, "acquired her right to enrollment as a citizen of the Cherokee Nation by virtue of her compliance with the provisions of the agreement entered into by the Cherokee and Shawnee tribes of Indians of June 7, 1869." She was not, therefore, a citizen of the Cherokee Nation by Cherokee blood. The Secretary of the Interior reversed the decision.

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**No. 2291: Daniel Harmon, citizen by intermarriage, of Canadian District**

Daniel HARMON

b. ca. 1839

Father: Joshuaway HARMON

Mother: Henrietta

Cyntha PACK

Father: Thomas J. PACK, d. bef. 1880.

Mother: Jane, d. bef. 1880.

m. 23 Feb. 1865

Chil.: (all b. in Cherokee Nation)

1. McGilbray HARMON, b. ca. 1880.

2. Benjamin HARMON, b. ca. 1881.

3. Lena HARMON, b. ca. 1884.

Testimony of Daniel Harmon, 30 Aug. 1900; 7 Apr. 1905; 3 Jan. 1907.

Letter dated 7 Jan. 1907 to the Commission to the Five Civilized Tribes by Daniel "Dick" Harmon stated that he was a Creek Indian, not "white intermarried." Mr. Harmon stated that he had been brought to the Creek Nation from Mobile, Alabama, "with a good many other Creeks Indians by Wm. **McMaston & Ward Coachman** in 1847... I will give you the names of my mother *Henreitta* Harmon my brothers Benjamin Harmon and William Harmon and myself My name is Daniel Harmon they *alway* call me Dick. we all cam[e] to Creek Nation together when I was a small boy. I have some strong evidence that is my nephews Ben & Dan Harmon *bothe* have filed on land in the Creek Nation my grand children also filed up there whos[e] names are as foll[o]ws Fred Boles, Holland Boles Pearl Boles Cherokee Boles Ruby Boles Henrietta Boles. They live near Broken Arrow their Mother's name was Jennie Boles who was my daughter My wife has no Creek blood *neather* has Frank Boles the *farther* of my grandchildren then where did they get their right by me as a matter of fact..."

The Commissioner of the Five Civilized Tribes ruled that Daniel Harmon was ineligible for enrollment in the Cherokee Nation. His marriage "was not in accordance with Cherokee law, the said Daniel Harmon having failed to secure a license as required by the laws of the Cherokee Nation..." The Department of the Interior reversed the decision.

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**No. 8915: Nancy Wolfe, citizen by intermarriage of Delaware District**

Daniel WOLFE

Nancy (or Anna)

b. ca. 1812

m.

Chil.:

1. .. m. Elam FOREMAN.

Testimony of Ben O'FIELD (age 46), 28 May 1902.

The Commissioner of the Five Civilized Tribes ruled that Nancy Wolfe was not eligible for enrollment in the Cherokee Nation. "It is considered that there is not sufficient evidence in this case to support a finding that the applicant was married to her Cherokee husband prior to November 1, 1875..." The Secretary of the Interior reversed the decision.

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**No. D-701: Sarah F. Gage, citizen by intermarriage, of Cooweescoowee District**

John Jackson GAGE

b. Cherokee Nation

d. 16 Oct. 1884

Father: David GAGE

Mother: Lucy

Sarah Frances

b. ca. 1848

m. TX; re-m. Indian Territory.

No chil.

Testimony of Robert L. WAYBURN (age 33; nephew to Mrs. Gage, 25 Oct. 1900.

Testimony of Sarah F. Gage, 20 Nov. 1900; 9 Oct. 1902.

The Commissioner to the Five Civilized Tribes ruled that Sarah F. Gage "did not...marry in accordance to Cherokee law." The Secretary of the of Interior reversed the decision.

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**No. 195: John J. Smith, citizen by intermarriage, of Delaware District**

John J. SMITH  
b. ca. 1845

Sarah P. FIELDS  
b. ca. 1842

m. ca. 15 Oct. 1859, Maysville, AR, by .... BASS (Methodist minister)

Chil.:

1. Jeff D. SMITH, d. 1887; m. 1884 or 1885, Missouri ..... (who later m. .... WELLS). Chil.: William L. (b. ca. 1886), Pearl H. (b. ca. 1887).
2. Walter F. SMITH
3. Nathaniel D. SMITH, b. ca. 1877.
4. Homer L. SMITH, b. 31 Jul. 1879.

Testimony of John J. Smith, 13 Jul. 1900; 2 Jan. 1907.

Testimony of W. W. HASTINGS (age 35), 1 Oct. 1902.

The Commissioner to Five Civil Tribes denied the application for enrollment because the Smiths failed to secure a license as required by an Act of the Cherokee Council passed on 15 Oct. 1855." The decision was reversed by the Secretary of the Interior.

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**No. 3927: Emma L. Ironside, citizen by intermarriage, of Delaware District**

Colin C. IRONSIDE (Shawnee)  
b. ca. 1837

Emma Louisa KIBBIE (white)  
b. ca. 1850

m. 29 Apr. 1874, near Vinita, Delaware Dist., by Jas. KETCHAM, M.G. Witnesses: G. BLAKENEY and Mrs. Hester I. WEST.

Chil.:

1. Henry T. IRONSIDE, b. Dec. 1880.

Testimony of Colin C. Ironside, 2 Oct. 1900.

Testimony of Emma L. Ironside, 16 Oct. 1902; 18 Jan. 1907.

The Commissioner to the Five Civilized Tribes ruled that Colin C. Ironside was a citizen by virtue of his compliance with the provisions of the agreement entered into the Cherokees and Shawnee tribe of Indians June 7, 1869." Although he was a citizen of the Cherokee Nation, he was not of Cherokee blood. However, the decision was reversed by the Secretary of the Interior.

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**No. 2030: Phirena Harris, citizen by intermarriage, of Canadian District**

James S. HARRIS (1/16 Cherokee)  
b. ca. 1835

Phirena CONLEY

Father: William HARRIS (white), dec'd.  
Mother: Susan (Cherokee descent), dec'd.

Father: dec'd.  
Mother: Elizabeth (d. aft. 1880)

m. 1872

Chil.: (all of age).

Testimony of James S. Harris, 27 Aug. 1900; 18 Oct. 1902.

The application was denied because Mrs. Harris failed to appear before the Commission to establish the date of her marriage. The decision was reversed by the Secretary of the Interior.

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**No. 1874: Sarah A. Jordan, intermarriage, of Canadian District**  
Andrew Vann JORDAN (Cherokee)

d. 9 May 1862, TX  
Father: Alec JORDAN  
Mother: Nancy ROGERS (she m. (2) Mr. ANDERSON)

Sarah A. WILLIAMS (considered white\*)  
b. 3 Nov. 1831  
d. 6 Jun. 1906

Father: Joseph WILLIAMS (white), d. ca. 1895.  
Mother: Martha (Cherokee), d. ca. 1865.

m. ca. 9 Dec. 1851, Rusk Co. TX

Chil.:

1. John D. JORDAN, b. 7 Mar. 1854, TX.
2. James Alexander JORDAN, d. bef. 1907.
3. Martin JORDAN, d. bef. 1907.
4. Fannie JORDAN, d. bef. 1907.

\*"I am [Cherokee], but then my mother never came to this country to prove her rights, she followed the Cherokees to Alabama and when she got to Alabama her and her husband stayed there."

Testimony of Sarah A. Jordan, 23 Aug. 1900; 14 Oct. 1908.

Testimony of John D. Jordan, 4 Jan. 1907; 8 Jan. 1907.

Testimony of Sarah A. HALTOM (age 75), 2 Jan. 1907.

Testimony of Jim POPE (age 56), 8 Jan. 1907.

The Commissioner to the Five Civilized Tribes ruled that, "Andrew V. Jordan died in the State of Texas without becoming a citizen of the Cherokee Nation; that in 1878 the said Sarah A. Jordan removed to the Cherokee Nation, and the said applicant does not claim to have been admitted to citizenship in the Cherokee Nation until the year 1879. Said applicant did not, therefore, marry a recognized citizen by blood of the Cherokee Nation prior to November 1, 1875." The decision was reversed by the Secretary of the Interior.

File includes Widow's Penion No. 3169, Sarah A. Jordan

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**No. 6571: Robert H. F. Thompson, citizen by intermarriage, of Delaware District**

Robert H. F. THOMPSON  
b. ca. 1840 [GA?]

Narcissa BROWN  
b. ca. 1847

m. 1872

He m. (1) 1 Apr. 1869, Mary A. (DAMERON) COWART (Cherokee), dau. of William Dameron and Nancy, and the wid. of Lemuel Cowart. She died in 1870.

Chil.:

1. Jesse THOMPSON }
2. Andrew L. THOMPSON } Admitted citizenship on 10 Dec. 1879.
3. Hattie E. THOMPSON }
4. James C. THOMPSON }
5. Ethel THOMPSON, b. ca. 1888.

Testimony of Robert H. F. Thompson, 13 Dec. 1900; 6 Oct. 1902; 7 Jan. 1907.

\*Mr. Thompson stated that he was absent from the Cherokee Nation from the Fall of 1874 to 1879, during which time resided in Atlanta, Georgia, "visiting my family relations." His father died there in 1879. In Georgia, Mr. Thompson operated a mercantile business and blacksmith shop.

The Commissioner to the Five Civilized Tribes ruled that Robert H. F. Thompson, "by reason of his removal from the Cherokee Nation and his continued residence in the State of Georgia for a period of four or five years," denied his enrollment. This decision was rescinded by the Secretary of the Interior due to Thompson's name on the 1880 enrollment.

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**No. D-1786: James Bullet, et al, citizens by intermarriage**

*Note: The following applications were made by Emmet Starr.*

*E. A. Welch, citizen by intermarriage, of Flint District:*

John E. WELCH

E. A.  
b. ca. 1854

m. .... They divorced.  
She m. (2) William WRIGHT (white)

Note: The application of E. A. Welch was made by Emmet Starr, a 31 year-old Cherokee, on 30 June 1902. The Commissioner to the Five Civilized Tribes requested the address of E. A. Welch from her ex-husband, John E. Welch. The following is a transcript of his reply:

Coffeyville Kans  
Dec. 23rd 1902  
Hon L. B. Bell  
Muskogee

Dear Sir

I thought I would write you a few lines this morning. The Commissioner wanted to know where the address of E. A. Welch, who was enrolled on the Rolls of 1880, was. This woman was then my wife. In 81 (I think) She was Divorced from me, in Flint District Hon Steve Tehee was the presiding Judge at that time.

Soon after this woman was Divorced from me, She married William Wright, who ran a Black Smith shop on the Old George Starr farm, in Flint District and now living at the Saline Court House. Rose is their Post office.

I called your attention to this fact thinking perhaps you might know something in regard to the matter yourSelf.

S[h]ould their be any thing else needed in regard to my wife and Children being enrolled, please inform me, and I will take it as a great favor.

Respectfully  
your friend  
J E Welch  
Hudson

I.T.

The following is a transcript of Mrs. Wright's response to the Commissioner's inquiry:

Rose I. T.  
Nov. 4 1873

To the Commission of the five Civilized tribes in answering to your question I am the person whos name appears on the roll of 1880 and that I sepperated from John E. Welch and that I married a white man and forfeited my citizenship I havent made any application for enrolement what ever now I would be glad the Commision would inform me who made the application.

yours resp.  
E. A. Wright

The Commissioner to the Five Civilized Tribes ruled that E. A. Welch was not eligible for enrollment, stating "that the application was made by Emmet Starr, apparently without her knowledge or authority." However, the Secretary of the Interior granted the application.

*Martha Randolph, citizen by intermarriage, of Goingsnake District*  
..... RANDOLPH

Martha  
b. ca. 1844

m.  
She m. (2) ... KERNAN (white), who was killed.

Testimony of Johnson SPADE (age 69), 18 Aug. 1902.

The Commissioner of the Five Civilized Tribes ruled that Martha Randolph forfeited her enrollment by reason of her remarriage to a non-citizen of the Cherokee Nation. The decision was reversed by the Secretary of the Interior.

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**No. 2529: Mary A. Raper, citizen by intermarriage, of Cooweescoowee District**

John A. RAPER (about 1/16 Cherokee)  
b. ca. 1836, NC

Mary Ann  
b. ca. 1845

Father:

Mother: Polly (Cherokee descent)

m. 1869, NC, by ... WALKER, a Baptist preacher.

Chil.:

1. William Penn RAPER
2. Henry Marshall RAPER

Testimony of John A. Raper, 11 Sep. 1900; 3 Jan. 1907.

Testimony of Mary A. Raper, 7 Oct. 1902; 3 Jan. 1907.

Testimony of Clement HAYDEN (age 60), 3 Jan. 1907.

Affidavit of John A. Raper, 1 Mar. 1907.

Affidavit of Cale WRIGHT (age 61), 16 Feb. 1907. "I have known Catherine JOHNSON and Eliza BROWN and Nancy HARLIN ever since 1868 in the Cherokee Nation Flint Dist. and I saw John A. Raper (or POWELL) in 1870 in Flint Dist. C. N. and I know that he had a family at that time and I know that he is a brother of the above named women..."

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