

ISAAC W. WHITLOCK (1800?-1881) of Augusta, Georgia

In March 2009 I did an article for the Newsletter regarding Adoniram Judson Whitlock of Brevard Co., Florida. He was a son of Isaac W. Whitlock and we speculated at that time that Isaac likely was connected to the WHITLOCK16 family the Whitlocks of New Jersey and Wiltshire, England. This was a reasonable speculation as Isaac was born in New York and the census records showed his parents were both born in New Jersey. Unfortunately there were no male Whitlock descendants of Isaac that we could use for a DNA test to confirm the connection.

I was recently contacted by Edwin Harleston Whitlock and through him put in touch with his first cousin Elmyra Powell. Elmyra has been working on her family history for many years and the family stories indicated that they descended from Adoniram Judson Whitlock through a child he had fathered with Adeline Jackson, one of his family's slaves. The family story was that if Adeline gave birth to a son they would both be freed and her son would not grow up as a slave and he would have a free mother to provide for his care. The child was a son and both the mother and son were granted status as free persons. Isaac W. Whitlock became their legal guardian. This was 1850 in South Carolina and free blacks were required to have a legal guardian. The son, William Henry Whitlock was apprenticed as a harness maker, a very lucrative business in the 1870's and he thrived. In 1879 he married Lucilla Dickersen and they raised a family. William Henry Whitlock fought in the Civil War and later became a respected Methodist Minister. He died in Gary, Indiana in 1917.



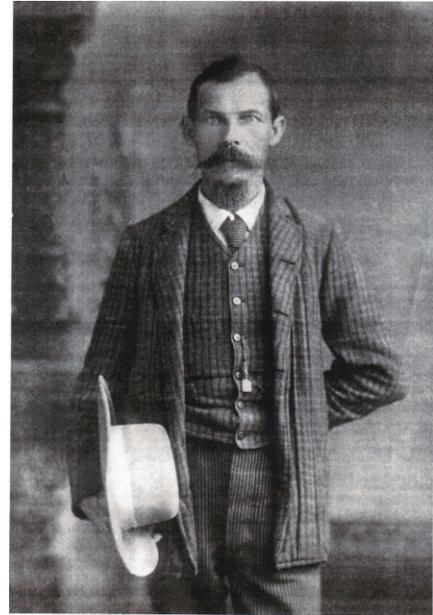
William Henry Whitlock & Lucilla Dickersen

Edwin asked about the Whitlock DNA project and I advised him that while I had DNA samples from several members of the WHITLOCK16 family, I was not positive Isaac W. Whitlock actually was part of the family. Therefore if his DNA sample did not show a connection it could mean he was not a descendant of Adoniram Judson Whitlock or that Isaac W. Whitlock was not part of the WHITLOCK16 family. Edwin took the risk and in April got his DNA results. It was a 35 of 37 marker match and thus indicated that yes, the family did descend from Adoniram Judson Whitlock and that yes, Isaac W. Whitlock did share DNA with the members of the WHITLOCK16 family. A double connection.

As Elmyra sent more information in about the family it became evident that this family was related to the Harleston family that was the subject of the books by Edward Ball. I have both his *Slaves In The Family* and *The Sweet Hell Inside* as both include personal recollections by Edwina Harleston Whitlock. I should have twigged when I noticed Edwin was Edwin Harleston Whitlock!! Edwin is the son of Edwina Harleston Whitlock. Interesting to discover that both the Harleston and Whitlock families have similar origins, both descending from the white slave owning families.

Isaac W. Whitlock was a Corn Merchant and by 1830 was living in Richmond Co., Georgia. He was married to Elizabeth B. Morris and they had six children, three sons and three daughters. The eldest,

Frederick A. Whitlock was born in New York in 1821, the rest were born in Georgia. Frederick A. Whitlock shows on the census records until 1870. Isaac W. Whitlock's will is dated Jan.28,1875 and mentions all six of his children although his daughter Susan has died and the reference is to her children. Isaac W. Whitlock died Mar.7,1881 in Atlanta, Georgia. We know Isaac W. Whitlock was born in New York and his eldest son was born there as well so based on this, I am currently working on the 1800-1820 census records for New York to determine who Isaac W. Whitlock's father might be. Hopefully by a process of elimination I can narrow down the possibilities to a few families that may, with more research, reveal which one Isaac W. Whitlock connects to. I can already eliminate quite a few of the families as they do not meet the criteria we already know. I had thought the "W" in Isaac W. Whitlock might have been William and that his father may be been a William Whitlock but the only William Whitlocks living in New York in 1800 are well known and I know the names of all their children. The "W" may still be William but the likelihood of that being his father's name is slim. Adoniram Judson Whitlock did name his son William Henry Whitlock.



William Henry Whitlock (1850-1917)

A very interesting family and I appreciate Elmyra Powell sharing her many years of research. I met one branch of the family while in Maui recently. I had lunch with Barry Allison and his wife and mother. His mother was telling me about living in Gary, Indiana and I realized later that this was where the family owned a newspaper business. Elmyra is busy working on material for the family reunion in Chicago this July. I will be very interested to hear how the reunion goes and what new information about the family is revealed. I am also hoping that Elmyra's material for the reunion will result in some interesting articles for our Newsletter.

SOURCES: X4190; X7017; R2033; R3029; PH1219; PH1239