

Notes on Wiley Jackson Felkins

From Geneva Bailey:

"Wiley's wife Nancy died at the age of 45 yrs in Oct. 1899 from an Acute Appendicitus attack. She told Wiley she wanted him to take the family and move to Oklahoma Indian Territory and start a new life. They did so in spring of 1900. My Mother Nellie Mae Fletcher Cathey remembers a dog following their wagon for many days that belonged to her Grandfather Lemuet S. Fletcher. Also he gave them a large basket of apples to take with them. They received a letter from their relatives stating the dog had returned. They had moved from Sharp County, Arkansas.

Wiley and family first went to Koshkonong, Missouri to visit his sister Sarah who had married Newton Richardson. Wiley and family picked strawberries at Sarah's home, then went on their way. Children slept in tent on tree boughs.

They went to Jesse and Stonewall Territory in Oklahoma.

Wiley Jackson was a Farmer, had his own store, and carried the mail around Ada and Tuttle Oklahoma. My Mother remembers her grandfather in the mail buggy pulled by a horse bringing the mail to their house. Stated she and her sisters and brothers would run to meet him as he always brought them stick candy. Wiley remarried once but it did not work out. His wife wanted him to leave his children and be with just her and her own children. He could not do that.

After Wiley became older and could not run his own place or farm he lived with his children taking turns staying a few months or weeks at a time. Always helping in any way he could. The children and family always loved to have him come."