

“Hinsdale, My Home Town”

History and Memories

by

Lila G. Cooper

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Hinsdale (N.Y.) Historical Society

1999

Rollins, was manager of the Crosby Poultry Plant before returning to teaching. John C. Willover (1870-1951) son of Christopher, married Mary Babcock, and had one daughter Dessie. He attended the common schools and Chamberlain Institute at Randolph, N.Y. He was the owner of the Hinsdale Flour and Feed Mill for many years. Later he engaged in building county highways. Their daughter Dessie (1895-1985) taught school for many years in Manila, Utah; Allegany; Olean; Hinsdale and Buffalo. She never married.

Abram Willover (1805-1852) was a brother of John Willover the pioneer. He moved to Haskell Flats in 1832 and in 1839 settled on a farm at the foot of Hinsdale Hill. He was a first class mechanic and joiner and a good millwright, as well as a farmer. He married Emeline Coon and had 9 children: Julia who married James, son of Bela Norton; Halsey, Martin, Annie, William, John A., Elizabeth, Eveline and Abram Jr. Martin died of starvation at Andersonville Prison during the Civil War on Oct. 9, 1864. Halsey married Lucy Bush and was the ancestor of the John and Maryette Willover Golden family who lived in Hinsdale many years. William married Lodema Knowles and had children: Della (William Besecker); William; Jennie (Stanley) Miller; Guy; Charles; David; Clarence; Clayton; Leona (Robert) Waite; and Neola. William and his brother John were also Civil War veterans. Abram Jr. was in the blacksmithing business with his son Earl in Maplehurst. Abram and his wife Rosanne Reynolds also had a daughter Lottie who married Edwin J. Hull. They had children: Herman; Shirley (Edwin) Wakefield; Donna Larson; Ralph and Ernest. Ernest and his wife, Marjorie Fairfield, continued to live in Hinsdale. They had children: James d.y.; Carol (Richard) Hakes; and Jay Hull.

Many descendants of the Abram Willover family have lived in the Hinsdale area. At present, I know of Norman Case, Eleanor (Karl) Dutton, grandchildren of Clarence; Mark Williams, Leroy Hedlund descendants of Guy Willover; and Donna Miller, widow of William Miller and their families. I am sure there may be others of whom I do not know.

Many new families have come to the valley and few of the pioneer names are on the mailboxes today.

William
Co. I
John
Co. G