

**THE WILLIAMS FAMILY IN DOCUMENTS
FROM ST. CATHARINES, ONTARIO**

St. Catharines Journal, November 26, 1835:

- p. 2: "Proceedings of the **African Temperance Society**, at a Meeting held on the 18th November, 1835. [does not say where it was held]

At about 7 o'clock, William Robinson, president, took the chair, and requested Oliver Phelps, esq., to open the meeting with prayer; after which the Constitution was read.
By invitation, Mr. Phelps . . .

. . .

the following persons gave their names to the pledge of total abstinence from all that can intoxicate:

Joseph Thomson, Clarissa Ballard, James Henderson, **John Williams**, John Thompson, Cato Aedy, George Smith, William Robinson, Henry Gray, Gabriel Coleman, Robert Whyte, Samuel Ellis, Emma Robinson, Elizabeth Dunlap, Albert Outlin, **Henry Ballard**, William Sims, Edmund James Evans, Martha Armstrong.

Names of those who subscribed to the pledge of total abstinence from all ardent spirits:

Charles C. Coburn, Isaac Whippet, Ann Ball, John Parker.

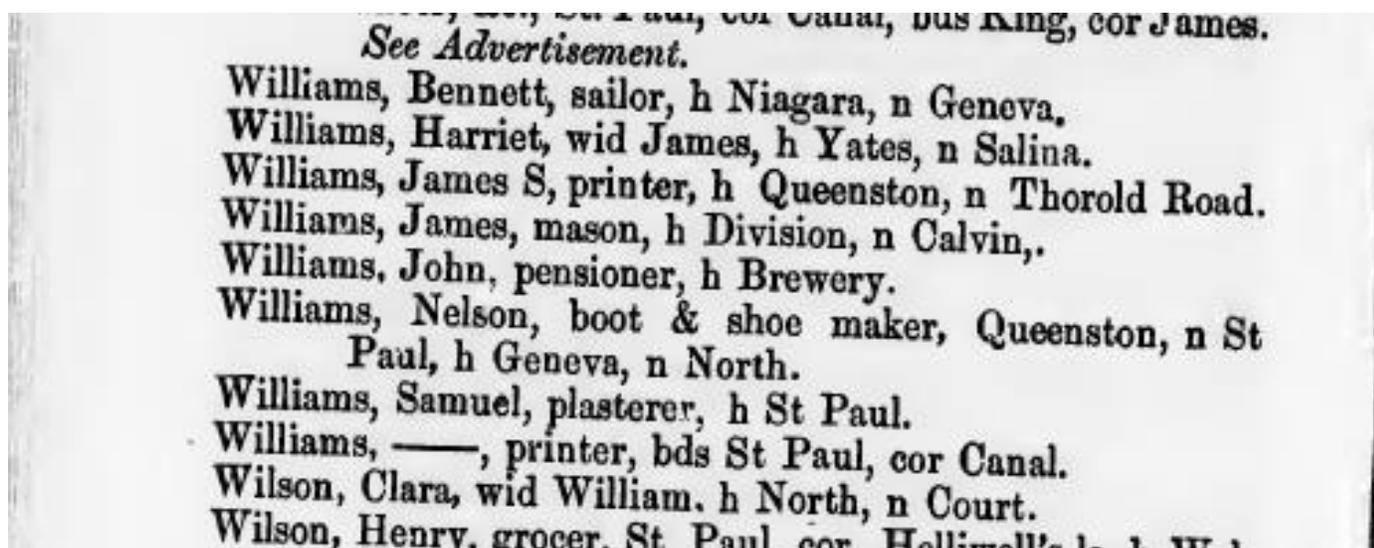
Mr. Colburn moved that the proceedings of the meeting be published in the *St. Catharines Journal*, and that Orrin S. Phelps be invited to prepare them for the press. Adopted.

John Thompson moved an adjournment to the first Monday evening in next month. Adopted.

Orrin S. Phelps."

1861 census of Canada [should be checked]

1863 St. Catharines City Directory



1865 St. Catharines City Directory

WILKINSON, JOHN (AUCH & WILKINSON) n St. Johns, C. W.
Wilkins, Oscar F. teacher, St. Paul's school, h Welland av, corner
Catherine

Williams, Bennett (colored) sailor, h Niagara, nr Geneva

Williams, Mrs. Harriet (widow James) seamstress, h Yate

Williams, Henry, compositor, *Journal* office, h Yate

WILLIAMS, J. S. foreman, *Weekly Post* office, h George, nr Wel-
land av

Williams, James, laborer, h Division

Williams, James S. printer, h George, cor Edmund

Williams, John, tailor, h Wall, nr Welland av

Williams, William, laborer, gas works, h Queenston

Evening Journal (St. Catharines), October 9, 1865:

p. 3: "re police court:

"Eliza Williams, a negro of the female persuasion, was arrested at the instance of Wm. Gross for stealing \$10. She was committed for trial."

Evening Journal, December 2, 1865

p. 3 "Police Court –
Charcoal Sketches

Dec. 2—Walter H. Williams, son of Reason Williams, a colored man residing in Grantham, was arrested at the instance of William R. Havens for assault while in the discharge of his duty as bailiff. It seems that Williams had a load of hay in the market and Havens seized it under warrant for default of taxes. Walter Williams, under the impression – 'dat a man has a right to protect his own property,' grabbed the bailiff thereby committing assault and battery on him \the case being prove, Williams was fined \$4.50, including costs. At the close of the trial Mr. Reason Williams made his appearance with a lawyer in order to discover 'what that's got to do wid da hoss' The horse not being there to answer the assembly dispersed.

Evening Journal (St. Catharines), January 17, 1867,

p. 2 charges pressed against R. Williams for doing something to Mr. Dawson (black) and his white wife;

Evening Journal (St. Catharines), February 2, 1867,

p. 2: "Turmoil in Africa": stories of three black men brought to trial; names include William Jackson, Allan Dorsey, Richard Williams and Robert Richardson, "a very black boy with lips that rival Wald's sausages in size, and ivories that many a toothless wretch would be glad to possess, . . ."

Evening Journal (St. Catharines), May 19, 1868

p. 3: "POLICE COURT"

A GREEN AFRICAN

May 19--John Green, a cullud person of 40 horse African fighting power, was charged by a peaceful swain of the African persuasion named George R. Williams, with challenging him to 'fight on the Sabboff day,' while he was "agwine to meetin wid de songs ob Zion' under his arm. Green endeavoured by making certain hieroglyphic signs with his fingers and sage wags of his cranium to explain to his worship 'how dis yeah sarcumstance come round to dis yeah pitco.' Williams was

equally solicitous to make his worship's mind clear that Green was 'a very bad niggah indeed, sah an hab' no regard foh de Lord's day,' at the same time insinuating in the most plausible manner that he (Williams) was the pick of African perfection and a model of devotion to his spiritual affairs. After a very patient hearing in which both sides had a full scope for a display of their peculiar oratorical power, the Mayor dismissed the case, it being pretty clear to his mind that one was about as much to blame as the other."

St. Catharines Constitutional, May 21, 1868:

p. 3 Police Court:

May 19 session; "**John Green was charged by another colored gent named Geo. R. Williams** with challenging him to fight. From the evidence it appears that both were equally to blame. His Worship discharged the case."

Evening Journal (St. Catharines), September 11, 1868:

p. 2 A full page of returns of convictions for the county of Lincoln June through September; shows: **William Payne** prosecuted by **Henry Williams** for assault and battery, convicted July 8;

Evening Journal (St. Catharines), November 2, 1868:

p. 3 Police Court:

"An incipient blackbird riot.

Nov. 2—**Henry Williams**, George Henderson and R. Harrison, a trio of full-fledged blackbirds from Coontown, were charged by Henry Gibson, trustee of the colored Methodist church, with making a disturbance at 'de meting' last night. The evidence taken in the case as very voluminous and somewhat contradictory, but there is little doubt the boys did 'speak in meetin' and raise de debbil.' Indeed the case looked so black against them that his Worship adjudged them to pay a fine of \$10each or 30 days each at ball and chain exercise. This will likely keep them quiet for some time to come."

Evening Journal (St. Catharines), November 28, 1868:

p. 3: POLICE COURT . . . Nov. 28—John Fleck and **J. Williams**, were charged by a 'yaller" moke **named Roy** with abusing him at the Minstrels on Wednesday night. Roy was drunk at the time but still he swore to them, For their sport the boys were fined \$5 and costs or 20 days. Rather heavy."

[1871 census of Canada ---- should be checked]

Evening Journal (St. Catharines, February 22 issue missing.

Evening Journal (St. Catharines), February 23, 1872:

p. 3: "**Catching a Coon.**—**Henry Williams**, an ebony youth of bibulistic proclivities, put himself outside of some fighting fire-water yesterday, assaulted Mr. David Schram at the junction of St. Paul street, without cause or provocation, and was sentenced to two months Hamilton Castle regimen."

1874 St. Catharines City Directory

Wiley, Mrs. Estler, (widow) Niagara street.
 Wilkins, O. F., gentleman, Centre street.
 Williams, Henry, laborer, North street.
 Williams, John, tailor, Wall street.
 Williams, George, laborer, Water street.
 Williams, Richard J., terripin restaurant, 35 St. Paul street.
 Williams, Chas., upholsterer, 189 St. Paul street.
 Williams, James, carpenter, 163 St. Paul street.
 Williams, James, printer, 48 Ontario street.
 Williams, Joseph, waiter, Decotah street.
 Williams, Bennett, cook, Dacotah street.
 Williamson, John, blacksmith, 11 Ontario street.
 Williamson James carriage maker, hds. William street

Daily Times (St. Catharines), November 10, 1875,

p. 3 "Police Court." November 10: "The only case this morning was a fast young "blood" named **Bennett Williams**, sometimes called 'Toot,' who was charged with forcing an entry into the house of another gentleman of color, named Thomas Morgan, at 1 o'clock this morning, for the purpose of seeing a female of some persuasion, breaking at the same time a window pane. The P.M. said he must bring down the strong and vigorous arm of the law to break up such diversions, and fined Bennett \$10 and costs or 2 months in jail."

1881 St. Catharines City Directory

WILKINS James, farmer, nr. Edge Mt. School
 Wilkins Mary A. Mrs. wid. Elias, h. 103 King
 Williams, bds. 3 St. Paul west
 Williams Bennett, laborer, h. Dacotah nr. Niagara
 Williams Elizabeth Miss, tailoress, bds. Wall, east side
 Williams Hattie, domestic, 107 King
 Williams Hy. barber, h. North nr. Geneva
 WILLIAMS JOHN, grocer, 85 Queenston, house do.
 Williams John, tailor, h. Wall, east side
 Williams R. J. proprietor Victoria Hotel, 33 and 35
 St. Paul
 Williams Richard F. barber, h. Wall nr. Railway
 Williams T. Lewis, head waiter, h. 24 William
 Williamson Annie, domestic, Geneva nr. Bond
 Williamson Jas. carriage painter, h. Merritt nr. York

Wilkins Mrs Mary (wid Elias) Ly-
man

Williams Henry laborer North

WILLIAMS Rev J A (methodist)
Church

Williams Jas carpenter George

Williams John grocer 85 Queenston

Williams John tailor Wall

Williams John E hotel keeper 33-
35 St Paul

Williams Richd barber Wall

Williams Richard tailor George

Williams T L hotel clerk William

Williamson Jas painter Merritt

Wiley, Jno., blksmith, Chestnut, n.
Fitzgerald.
Wiley, Mrs., Ottawa.
Wiley, Robt., farmer, Niagara.
Wiley, Thos., cptr., Dacotah.
Wiley, Walter, blksmith., Victoria.
Wilfred, Mrs., 183 Church.
Wilfred, Harry, 183 Church.
Wilfred, John, 183 Church.
Wilkins, Miss, tchr., St. George's Ward
School, 78 Church.
Willard, Jos., cam. fac., 179 Church.
Williams, Alf., cptr., Wall.
Williams, Miss Annie, Wall.
Williams, Mr., Carleton.
Williams, Thos. L., 26 King.
Williams, Frank, painter, Wall.
Williams, Robt., cptr., George.
Williams, Geo., Louisa, cor. George.
Williams, H. G., tohr., 18 Yate.
Williams, Jas., cptr., Wall.
Williams, Mrs. Jno., Wall.

Williams, Louis, Hainer.
Williams, John, grocer, Queenston.
Williams, Frank, byc. wks., Wall.
Williams, Reuben, cptr., Wall.
Williams, Miss Mary, Queenston.
Williamson, J., ins. agt., Cross.
Williamson, Jas., painter, John.
Willis, Geo., mgr. Pure Food Co., 24
Yate.
Willis, John, grinder, John.
Wills, W. J., Welland Vale, Ontario.
Wills, Wm., pattern mkr., Rolls Ave.
Wilkin, Fred., jeweler, 103 Queen.
Wilmitt, Miss Elizabeth, Albert.
Wilmitt, Nelson, Albert.
Wilson, A., grocer, 33 Queen, h. Wel-
lington.
Wilson, John, 125 Ontario.
Wilson, Lawry, 125 Ontario.
Wilson, Alex., Welland Vale, Lake Av.
Wilson, Mrs. H. P., 17 Elizabeth.
Wilson, Chas. A., 125 Ontario.