

Geneological Notes of Lucy Benedict Williams

I was born March 25, 1866 in Marietta, Georgia, the second daughter and seventh child in a family of eight of Reverend Samuel Benedict, D.D. and Julia Bush Hicks Benedict. My birth occurred shortly after the return of the family from Grimsby, Canada (near Niagara Falls) where they were sent by General Sherman during the Civil War. My father being from the north (Connecticut) and sympathizing with the South, used the prayer for the President of the Confederate States. He was imprisoned and exiled; his home and it's effects burned. He and his family were shipped to Grimsby in a freight car! My father had charge of the Anglican Church in Grimsby, Canada, for over a year but returned to his old parish in Marietta, Georgia after the end of the War. I was named Victoria as a remembrance of the life in Canada - Queen Victoria then being the British Queen.

My father, Samuel Benedict, was born in Danbury, Connecticut, September 1 1824. He had one brother, Andrew, and a sister, Emily. His parents were Andrew Benedict and Lucy Dibble Benedict. He was called to St. Paul's Church, Cincinnati in 1877 and remained there until his death, October 6, 1891. He was killed in an elevator accident when calling on a sick parishoner. He was most systematic in all his work, conscientious in everything, gentle and merry, a devoted father and husband and much beloved by his parishoners. He had the full, round voice of his day. He could always be heard and understood and was a good preacher. During Bishop Jagger's years of illness, he was chairman of the Standing Committee and administered the affairs of the diocese of Southern Ohio, and was a delegate to the general convention for several years.

My mother, Julia Bush Hicks Benedict, was born in Rutledge, Vermont about 1828. She was the oldest daughter of Reverend John Hicks and Lucy Cleveland Hicks. There were four daughters and five sons in the family. My grandfather

William and Elizabeth Campbell Dickson settled in Cherry Valley, New York in 1741 and there Elizabeth was massacred by the Indians November 11, 1778. Their son Lt. Benjamin Dickson served in Washington's army. He married Esther Morris of the very early Morris family of New Haven, Connecticut. Robert Dickson, their eldest son, married Mary Rice and settled in northeast Pennsylvania. Eliza Dickson was born of this marriage. Her first husband was Nathan S. Cook of Bellevue, Ohio. They had four children, three sons and a daughter. Nathan Cook died early in the fifties and Eliza founded the first library in that city. In 1859 she married David Williams. She possessed qualities which were lacking in her energetic and forceful husband. She had poise and tender sympathy and was interested and well versed in literature. She was not particularly interested in farm life but spent a good deal of her time reading and studying. David and Eliza Williams had but one son, Charles David, born July 30, 1860. During the greater part of the first seven years of his life, however, this boy was a member of a large family circle of step-brothers and step-sisters. He afterwards called himself "the missing link" because of this relationship.

*