

James,

This is just a brief history of the
Bracons, but I thought you would
like to have it before Roots I was
always interested in my family. Our
hometown Kenton, Tenn. honored my
father in 1972 for being the oldest
citizen born in Kenton I wrote his
history and it was put in a book
Kenton Folklore and Fact. Also after
my father's death they named the street
we lived on for years Cole St.

Aunt Jessie visited West Point Miss.
and met lots of our relatives but my
mother was very young when they
left West Point and didn't remember
them so we have quite a few relatives
we don't know. I'm sending \$1,000 to the
Home for William's cigarettes and snacks
also my sisters will send.

Love to Wilma and your
mother
Love for you & your love

I was named for "Uncle Jim (over) Willie (Smiles)
my dad + uncle Jim (over) Willie (Smiles) called me James)

Mrs. Claudia Fisher — School Principal
(Elsie's daughter-in-law) St. Louis,

Sophie E. Covington District Manager of
Postal Services — I U

Albert W. Moore — mail carrier ^{German}, I U

John ~~W.~~ Moore Purdue 71 Industrial Mgr.
CPA Blue Cross Blue Shield Auditor,
Indianapolis, Ind.

Charles W. Taber — owner and operator of
Taber's Upholstery St. Louis

Jim Brown and just that, hard work
in ~~fact~~ ^{rain} sleet, cold and extreme heat
but he lived to be past 80 years
old which proves hard work will
not hurt you.

We all like trains I rode the
Amtrack from Indianapolis to San
Diego, Calif and enjoyed it in 1977.

James I wanted you to know that
your ancestors were not lazy people
we are sometimes told that our folk
are lazy but I know better I know
how mine worked, Aunt Ada belonged
to the Methodist Church also Aunt Jessie
my mother and all of us are Baptist
because my father was Baptist.

1. William L. Cole (deceased May 1935)

Mrs. Kizzie A. Crawford
319 Eldridge Ave,
Rock Hill, Mo, 63119 1-314-962-9223

1. Louise's Children

Mr. Charles W. Tabor - St. Louis Mo, upholstery
Mrs. Frances Glenn Carona, N. Y. ^{Physician}

2. Ellsuis's Children

Mr. Becker J. Fisher Jr. St. Louis Mo,
Executive, The Donald's
Air Craft

Mrs. Aruelle Fisher - St. Louis Mo, Chevrolet Co.

Mr. Michael Fisher - Decatur, Georgia, Chevrolet
Co. transferred from St. Louis 1981

3. Jolie Lee's Children

Mrs. Sobbie Milliner - St. Louis Mo,

Mr. Billy Saylor (deceased) ~~Korea~~ U.S. Marines

Mrs. Juanita Finney St. L. Mo. - nurse

4. Willie's Children

Mrs. Sophie Covington - Indianapolis, Ind.

Mr. Albert Moore - " " "

Mr. John Moore - " " "

5. Mrs. Helen Waller

Mrs. Paqueline Meane - St. Louis Mo, nurse at Lake's

Miss Robin Meane - ^{St. Louis} Hospital Granddaughter

7, Sophie Brown Cole - my mother
(youngest sister of Jim Brown)

Sophie Brown was born in West Point Mississippi but moved to Kenton, Tenn with her brother Jim Brown. She was quite young when her parents died so she always said her brother and his wife raised her and she was very grateful. Sophie worked and paid for her piano lessons she played for the Kenton Baptist Church over 40 years.

Sophie was married to William Carter Cole Feb. 14, 1905 in Kenton and had the following children. Sophie died May 26, 1965 in Tennessee

Mrs. Louise Cole Williams - Lane College
1630 Sedell St. Jackson Tenn,
Richmond Heights, Mo, 63117 - 1-314-647-0719

Mrs. Ellouise Cole Fisher (deceased July 6, 1980)

Mrs. Jessie Lee Taylor

1414 Wishart Place
St. Louis, Mo, 63132 - 1-314-994-3295

Mrs. Willie J. Moore (Tennessee State St.)
6190 Bettcher Ave. Elem. Ed. Bldg 21,
Indianapolis, Ind. 46208 1-317-253-4582


Mrs. Helen Miller
1523 Baggett Place
St. Louis, Mo 63117 1-314-647-0719

James "Jim" Brown and the Railroad

Jim knew the tracks like a doctor.
Knew the human body.

The Mobile and Ohio Train ran from
New Orleans to St. Louis. Jim worked
from West Point, Mississippi up to
Illinois. All the engineers knew him.

His Hand car was equipped with
tools and if he discovered any
defects it was repaired. The crew made repairs.

The rails were put together with
big nails  the cross ties were
made of oak and other hard
wood and dipped in tar and
oil to preserve it. If one was
split or too many knots, it was
not used. After the tracks were
laid crushed rocks were put all
around to stabilize the track.

The tracks had to be strong and
had to be kept in good repair, and
(over)

Josie Jimmie's Brown Byrd
Jim Brown's Sister

Josie was born in Met Point, Mississippi but moved to Kenton Tenn. with her brother Jim Brown she attended Kenton Public School and married George Byrd in Hickman Kentucky and moved to New Madrid Mo. with her husband as his relatives lived there. Uncle Jim wasn't pleased because she slipped off but George was a good worker and made her a good living. They were very nice to Uncle Jim's children and to us as they had no children.

William visited Aunt Josie quite often during the summer sometimes we were there also. He was Aunt Josie's favorite she loved him dearly her husband called her "Dinah" and that's what William called her. William smoked a pipe when he was quite young but was always neat and clean. He rode the mobile and Ohio trains on passes that Uncle Jim would get for us.

George died in Cairo Ill. Josie died in St. Louis, Mo. in 1911.

Relatives of Kizzie Brown

Sister Ruth ^{20th name} ~~Prewell~~ ^{family name} disappeared in the early 20's in Fort Smith, Ark. Uncle Jim tried for a long time to locate her but finally concluded that she had crossed over.

Sister Lee Anna Prewell moved from West Point, Miss. to St. Louis, Mo. with her family. Her husband died in West Point.

She had 3 sons Jack Prewell who had a Cafe in St. Louis, he had 1 daughter Marjorie Prewell both are deceased.

Her son Bob lived with her in St. Louis with his 3 children Lee, Albe, Sister and Craig. Jimmie Prewell another son lived in Chicago but crossed over and had no contact with the family.

All are deceased but some of the grandchildren are living.

Ada Brown had one sister, Della in Missouri.

Wanted to live in ^{the} Damm. Leron the
youngest son was married and lived
in East St. Louis he has two children
Betty Fay and a son.

William served in the U.S. Army in
World War II he was married and has
one son James who lives in East Chicago,
Ind. Uncle Jim worked until he was
in his seventies he had his own
handcar and rode up and down the
tracks to inspect. He used to ride
from Cache to Mounds on the freight
train in the caboose Aunt Ada
would go over to visit Aunt Julia and
do her shopping she always carried
a basket to put her groceries in.
Uncle Jim wasn't a member of any
church but read his Bible and lived
by it, he loved his wife, children
his sisters and all of us, he helped
to feed and clothe us all, he
always gave my mother money any
time she visited him he called her
Seph and she called him B. Jim
and Aunt Ada Sis Ada. We all
loved Uncle Jim and all his family.

and others get names from Ruth,
 Floye the next daughter moved to
 St. Louis, Mo, and married Lounie
 Jayer, Lounie preceded her in death
 and was buried in Eldorado, Ark,
 Robert Russell graduated from
 Wilberforce U. and taught in
 the Western States he later moved
 to California and had a ^{the 60's} guitarial
 service his own business he
 died suddenly and willed his home
 and everything to Arthur Brown
 second son of James Brown Jr. Jim
 he had two sons James Jr. Brown
 and was married to Mollie Brown
 Jim died in the early 70's in a hospital
 in Palliser, Tenn. Arthur went and
 buried him in Palliser. Dewey Brown
 died in the late 30's he was married
 to Dovie Brown no children,
 Leroy the baby son died in the 60's
 before Floye. William is the only
 living uncle Jim purchased a home
 in Tatum, Ill. and enough space
 for each child to build their

Street he had 8 children 4 were born
in Kenton later he was transferred
to Cache, Del. and lived in the Rail-
road homes later he was transferred
to Tamm, Del. where he lived until
his death in the 40's

Jim's wife name was Ada Brown
a very good cook and housekeeper
Jim Brown was an excellent Provider
for his family. Ada died in 1927
during the flood. Jim lived in
Tamm with his children the older
two Jim and Agnes left home to
work on a boat from Memphis,
Tenn. to New Orleans, Ruth the
oldest daughter married Frank
Summers and lived in Tamm for
a while, she had 4 children Lucille
Fred, Archie and Ada Sell "we call
her tata's." (Smiles) Ruth died in Kankakee, Del.

Annie Sell married Theopolis James
and had one son Theopolis Jr. at
June's. Annie Sell died in Evansville, Del.

Annie Sell remarried after The's death
and had other children. Ruth the...

Your Great Grandfather Robert
Brown and Great Grandmother
Kizzie Brown were Slaves
but were freed and remained
working for the same family.

Robert Brown - Shared the horses
took care of all the animals
when they were sick or had
their young he would be making
money today but that was just
one of his chores. He also milked the
cows and churned the butter.

Kizzie Brown cooked, washed, ironed,
sewed, knitted, crocheted and kept
the house and yards cleaned
also was babysitter for all
the children.

Uncle Jim heard from the family
that owned his parents, they
did not give them any property
after they were freed.

Robert Russell was named for Grandfather
Robert.
My youngest sister was named for Grandmother Kizzie.

Facts 1. The Brown Family

Robert Brown West Point, Mississippi
Occupation Black Smith - Veterinarian
Kizzie Brown - Cook + Housekeeper

Robert Brown died in West Point, Miss.
Elnora Brown daughter died in West Point
Kizzie Brown moved to Kenton, Tenn.

with her son James "Jim" Brown
who worked for the Mobile and Ohio
Railroad making and repairing tracks

Jim Brown had two younger sisters
Josie and Sophie Brown of which
he raised after the passing of his
mother Kizzie Brown in Kenton, Tenn.

Kizzie was buried in the Rossow
Memorial Cemetery in Kenton. Rossow
is still the only cemetery for blacks
in Kenton and is well kept by a
Club started by Sophie Brown Cole's
children the Club has an annual
program each year on the 30th of
May proceeds go to keep up the
Cemetery. Jim Brown lived in the Rail-
road houses in Kenton for a while
later he bought a home on Belok...

6. William L. Cole (Deceased no children)

7. Mrs. Kizzie A. Crawford

Mrs. Yvonne Taylor - St Lewis mo.
Seaside

Miss Darlene Crawford BS from Grinnell
College, ^{the} manager of
a chain of stores in
St. Lewis, mo.

There's quite a few grandchildren
and great grandchildren too numerous
to write, (smiles)

We still own our home in Kenton,
Tenn. we remodeled it in 1980 we
use it as a summer home and
vacation home.

If you and wife can come down
to Kenton for May 30th also your mother,
Uncle Jim's Kenton home is at 405
Vilgiman St. and is owned by Mr,
& Mrs. Edward Ervin they remodeled
it and it looks good we'll
be glad to show you where your
Dad was born and some of the
trees Uncle Jim planted.

You have plenty cousins so
don't feel alone we all are so

Family Military Record

Robert Russell Brown - W.W.II. Served in Jefferson Barracks St. Louis Mo. Died in Calif. Buried in a field basket the first I had ever seen.

William Brown - W.W.II Army

James Brown - U.S. Army Vietnam

Charles St. Labor U.S. Navy, ^{James's son}
Billy Joe Taylor U.S. Marines Korea
Deceased Buried in Jefferson Barracks Mo. ^{James's son}

Charles Milliner - U.S. Army 2 yrs
Works at St. Louis Postoffice - ^{James's son} Jim Lee's grandson

Arnelle Fisher - U.S. Army 2 yrs ^{Charles's daughter & son}

Albert St. Moore U.S. Army 2 yrs ^{James's son}

Billy Joe Taylor Jr. U.S. Army Currently serving ^{James's son}

Steven Taylor U.S. Marines - ^{James's son} Jim Lee's grandson
deceased 1982 Buried in Jefferson Barracks

Robert St. Covington II U.S. Army currently serving in Germany (my grandson)

Miss Jessie Lee Helm - U.S. Army currently serving at Fort Mc Clellan, Ala. (James's grand daughter)

These are military pay clerk Record's Div.
U.S. Army Finance Center USA Fort Benjamin Harrison, Ind.
Service 24 yrs, 1 mo, 22 days - Retired Jan 1976

Musicians

Sophie S. Cole - Organist for St. Paul Baptist Church, Kenton, Tenn. Taught private lessons 25 years, 40 yrs for church; she organist at our church in Tenn. was one of my mother's ^{potter sisters}

Louise Cole Williams - Studied at Lane College Jackson Tenn. Organist and Director over 30 yrs St. Louis choir

Robert Russell Brown Wilberforce U. was quite a musician and was owner of a gold piano willed to his nephew Arthur Brown.

Teachers

Robert Russell Brown Wilberforce U. Taught in several Western States.

Willie J. Cole Moore - Tennessee State U. Butler U.

Taught in Tenn. Public Schools was substitute in Indianapolis Public Schools before I went into Govt service
my husband taught in Tenn. and died. He died in 1954.

Mrs. Patricia Taber - School principal (over) St. Louis and Teacher formerly ^{at} ~~new~~ school ^{at} ~~at~~ ^{at} ~~at~~