

*Ross
Callan*

James Gilliam Brown, born December 25, 1898, was the youngest of eleven children born to Samuel L. Brown and Mary Jane (Ross) Brown. The Ross's and the Brown's had migrated from Virginia to Tennessee. The Ross's first settled near Chattanooga in what is now known as Rossville, Georgia. Gilliam's grandparents, John and Nancy Ross owned 500 acres of land known as Ross Mountain. After John died, Nancy had to sell most of her land to support herself and their nine children, Job, Jim, Harrison, Will, George, Sam, Mary Jane, Nancy and Jemimah. She sold 300 acres to the Tennessee Consolidated Coal Company and this was the beginning of the coalmines in Palmer where Gilliam would work in later years. Ross Creek Mines began after the Coalmont Company purchased the mineral rights from Sam Ross on the remaining 200 acres. Tom Brown and Sally (Layne) Brown were Gilliam's other grandparents and they lived in Bryant's Cove in the headwaters of the Little Sequatchee River. The land Tom owned in Bryant's Cove was over a mile in length. When Tom went into Bryant's Cove to live there was no road, only a path. After Tom built his house, a road was built and it became the main road from where Palmer now is to Tracy City. Wash Brown, their oldest son built a two-story house and the logs were so well hand hewed that people thought they had been planed at a sawmill. Gilliam's father, Samuel bought this house from his brother Wash when he decided to move to Hillsboro to farm. Samuel and Mary Jane had 11 children between 1881 and 1898, John, Frank, Thomas, Jemima Angeline, Benjamin Harrison, Lou, Webster, Lawrence, Jennie, Della, and James Gilliam. Samuel's brother Isaac owned 160 acres on the mountain above Bryant's Cove toward Tracy City. Samuel and Isaac made weekly trips in a buggy or buckboard to Tracy City, traveling the Brown Hollow Road to bring the products of their mountain farms to market. There was a mutual agreement between the owner of Dutch Maid Bakery and Samuel that he would buy all the butter and eggs he brought in. The old Brown homestead was a scene of a happy family life and the Brown's well known for their hard work, fairness, and honesty. Gilliam had these same characteristics.

As a young man, Gilliam worked with surveyors for the railroad from near Jasper up into Kentucky. He enjoyed this work and would have liked to have become a surveyor but returned home to Bryant's Cove when his parents needed help. Had he become a surveyor and traveled around he might have missed the opportunity to meet a tall red-haired woman that got off a train from Southern Georgia in 1923. On January 4, 1924, he and Gladys Scarboro were married.

Samuel, affectionately known by Uncle Sammy, remained on his farm until 1939 when he agreed to move to Laager with Gilliam, Gladys, and their seven children, Christine, Veola, Janie, James (Buddy), Clara, Betty, and Johnny Preston. They moved into a large two story white house on the Old Coalmont Gruetli Road at the foot of Ross Mountain, built by George Ross. This house was always crowded with cousins, grandparents, children, old friends, and strangers. Gladys cooked three big meals a day for however many people there were. No one ever left her kitchen hungry, and oh, what a wonderful kitchen it was. The warmth and love in this house was felt the minute you walked through the front door. You may have entered a stranger, but upon leaving, you knew that you were always welcome. Gladys served as midwife to many families in the community.

Gilliam, although small in stature was a giant of a man. He was strong and had a reputation of being a hard worker as he demonstrated when he broke the record of the most coal loaded by hand. On one occasion, he put his strength to the test when he lifted a man in a wagon after the man had lifted the wagon to show his strength. Gilliam would put in a full days work in the mines and then work until dark at home. He hand dug many graves for the people of Grundy County.

In 1942, he was ordained to preach in the Congregational Methodist Church, and this was his greatest work of all. The only Congregational Methodist Church in the area was at Ross Creek. Gilliam was instrumental in the building of three more churches, Bivens Chapel, Laager Congregational Methodist Church, and Burkett's Chapel. Each time he took a list into the mines and asked the men working to donate for the building of these churches. Gilliam was Pastor at, Bivens Chapel, Myers Hill, Chestnut Springs, Pryor Ridge, Barker's Cove, Flat Branch (Grace's Village), Laager, Harrison's Chapel, and Wilder's Chapel. He drove hundreds of miles in his ministry, and answered any call for help whether near or far. Gilliam Brown's name was synonymous with honesty, hard work, caring, and Preaching the Word of God. He lived what he preached. He had a great influence on many young ministers.

Gilliam ministered to many people in Grundy County in his lifetime, whether it was as a Pastor or as a friend and neighbor when someone had a need.. His spiritual strength was even greater than his physical strength. He put the Lord first in his life, and sought His guidance in everything he did. His grandson, Kenny Bivens tells a story of playing on the mountainside and hearing Gilliam in the barn praying. Gilliam never turned away from someone in need. His daughter, Janie Bivens, wrote one of the best descriptions of Gilliam. She wrote, "Daddy was like a tall oak tree and when he fell he took a lot of ground with him."

What a wonderful heritage this is to all of us that have had the privilege to be born into this family.

Cherokee By Blood
Jerry Wright Jordan

22566. ZACHARIAH PRESTON (Cont)
21645 FCT COMM #4471m - Herman J. D. (son) - 1
22567. LOWERY DAVIS, Stilwell, Okla
Admitted. First cousin of 562. Claims thru mother Eliza Davis enrolled in 1851 as Eliza Lowery 536 Tahl.
ROLL P52 #9399 FCT COMM #17120 - Lowery Davis - 35
22568. WM. OSCAR COCHRAN, Stilwell, Okla
Admitted. Nephew of 1071. Father enrolled in 1851 in Sal #339.
ROLL P45 #8029 FCT COMM #26978 - William Cochran - 23
8030 26979 - Oscar (bro) - 21
22569. KATE STONE and 2 children, Noblesville, Ind
Rejected. Applicant's mother was a slave and applicant was born in slavery.
EXCEPTION CASE. Noblesville, Ind. Rejected. Total number of exceptions filed in this group - 2. Original recommendation renewed.
22570. JOHN WATKINS and 2 children, Muskogee Okla
Rejected. Brother of Tenn. Watkins Desbozo (514)
22571. ELLEN GRAVES, Webbs Falls, Okla
Rejected. Daughter of #9236.
22572. BRANTLEY MULLENS and 7 children, Rossville Ga
Rejected. Claims thru same source as #7613.
22573. JULIA P. FILE and 4 children, Muskogee, Okla
Admitted. First cousin once removed of #98 and claims thru same source.
ROLL P61 #11326 FCT COMM #45 - Julia P. File - 39
11327 46 - William P. (son) - 16
11328 47 - Frances (dau) - 13
11329 48 - F. Barto (son) - 11
11330 49 - Edward H. (son) - 8
22574. SARAH C. TUCKER and 1 child, Stilwell, Okla
Admitted. First cousin once removed of #2714 and claims thru same source. Daughter of #22577. [For Roll information see App 22546.]
22575. WILLIAM P. GOSS and 3 children, Stilwell, Okla
Admitted. Son of #2482.
ROLL P67 #12465 FCT COMM #15650 - William P. Goss - 32
12466 15651 - Mamie J. (dau) - 6
12467 15652 - Walter F. (son) - 5
12468 3580m - William T. (son) - 3
22576. CHARLES BEAN and 8 children, Stilwell, Okla
Admitted. Son of #2482.

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Records of Eastern Cherokee ancestry in U.S. Court of Claims

- ROLL P27 #4462 FCT COMM # 1674 - Charles Bean - 43
4463 1675 - Sam (son) - 17
4464 1676 - Pearl (dau) - 16
4465 1677 - Mack (son) - 14
4466 1678 - Kate (dau) - 12
4467 1679 - Lee (son) - 10
4468 1680 - George P. (son) - 5
4469 4762m - Madge (dau) - 2
4470 - Jennie (dau) - 1/12
22577. SARAH A. KELLEY and 10 children, Stilwell, Okla
Admitted. First cousin of #2714 and claims thru same source.
Applicant's mother enrolled Flint #399.
ROLL P84 #15991 FCT COMM #2137 - Sarah A. Kelly - 38
15992 2139 - George W. (son) - 20
15993 2140 - Valentine (Viola) (dau) - 17
15994 2141 - Addie R. (dau) - 13
15995 2142 - Lillie M. (dau) - 11
15996 2143 - Floyd (son) - 10
15997 2144 - Gertie (dau) - 8
15998 2145 - Homer (son) - 7
15999 20150 - Flora (dau) - 4
16000 4206m - Grace (dau) - 2
16001 - Norma (dau) - 1

22578. JAMES SCOTT, Chatt., Tenn
Rejected. Son of #21908 and claims thru same source.
22579. IRVIN P. GREEN and 4 children, Wartrace, Tenn
Rejected. Claimant, his father and grandfather were born in Warren County, Tenn. remote from the Cherokee domain. Their names do not appear on the rolls of 1835 nor 1851. Claimant's great grandfather, the ancestor whom he alleges Cherokee descent was but a 1/4 Cherokee, born in 1777, and died in Warren Co., Tenn. 1861. His name Absobom [sic] Brown, does not appear on the rolls, of 1835 or 51, and there is no evidence to show that he ever lived with the tribe or was recognized as being a member of the tribe at the time of the treaty of 1835-6 or since. Nor does it appear that Irvin P. Green, or his ancestors back to Absolom Brown were ever thus recognized.

22580. MOLLIE HUNT, Chattanooga, Tenn
Rejected. It does not appear that applicant or any of her ancestors were ever enrolled. It does not appear that they were living within the Cherokee Domain in 1835-6 or 1846. It does appear that applicant's mother and grandmother, thru whom she claims, were from Ky. that they were never near the Cherokee tribe never lived with them and always lived with white people. Misc. Test. P. 184.
MISC. TEST. P. 184. Appl. #22580 - Mollie Hunt:
My name is Mollie Hunt. I live at 233 10th Street, Chattanooga, Tenn. I was born at Kingston, Tenn., 1850. I claim

Brown File 315