

## John Williamson Bird

John Williamson Bird was born September 27, 1824, in McDowell (formerly Burke) County, NC, the third son of Clark Bird and Mary Pauline "Polly" Curtis Bird. While he was still a boy, his parents moved to Macon County (established as a separate county from Old Buncombe and Haywood in 1820). He married first Jane Elizabeth Moore, daughter of Thomas P. Moore and ? Porter of Macon County. To this union were born four daughters and one son: (1) Mary Elizabeth Bird, who married Joseph S. Campbell on November 14, 1867 in Macon County. (2) Urena Cornelia Bird (1849-1929), who married Charles Coleman Campbell (1848-1915), on August 10, 1873 at the home of Joseph Campbell in Macon County. (3) Laura Kansas Bird, who married Tom E. Campbell on December 9, 1875, at the home of Charles Campbell. (4) Ellen (Ella) Bird, who married John P. Campbell on June 13, 1877, at the home of Charles C. Campbell. All four of these Bird sisters married four Campbell brothers; and all four couples lived and reared their families in the Iotla community near Franklin in Macon County. Their homes were not more than a mile or so apart and all the sisters and their husbands are buried in the Iotla Methodist Church cemetery.

(5) Charles Asbury Bird (1853-1938), who married Sarah Ermina Terrell (1861-1943), daughter of Captain James W. Terrell and Anne Eliza Keener Terrell. They had ten children, whom they brought up in the Qualla community, near Whittier and Cherokee in Jackson County.

After his first wife's death in 1860, circuit-riding preacher John Williamson Bird was unable to care for his five small children, and they were temporarily placed with different relatives. Cornelia

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lived about six years longer; then she too, died at the home of Charles A. Bird in Qualla. Both are buried at the Old Campground cemetery at Qualla. His first wife, Jane Elizabeth Moore Bird, is Buried in a small private cemetery in the Candler community of Buncombe County.