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Phillips DNA News

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Please submit news articles or ideas for articles to the editor. Questions about Genetic Genealogy can always be sent to the editor.

Project News

Mid-Summer Greetings, everybody! Happy Canada Day to our Canadian participants and Happy Independence Day to our American participants. This is Nancy Kiser, volunteer administrator of your Phillips DNA project. During the final days of June, our project surged over the 400 member mark! We currently have twenty DNA tests being processed at the FTDNA lab in Houston. We will be able to purchase six kits at the terrific summer sales price of \$119 with funds donated to the General Fund. Many thanks to everyone who contributed! If you would like to view the contributions to the General Fund, here is a link to an accounting of it at our FTDNA website: <http://www.familytreedna.com/public/phillips/default.aspx>

In early June, we were approved by the British Guild of One-Name Studies (GOONS) as a registered study and we have set up a new website for our one-name study at this link: <http://one-name-study.phillipsdnaproject.com> Our one-name study website will be less DNA oriented and more slanted towards the origin of the Phillips surname, the history of the Phillips surname and Phillips statistics in general. It will also be more aimed at Phillips in the United Kingdom and Ireland. Please drop by and take a peek! Input on how to improve the new website as well as the old websites is always welcome.

With the help of some fellow GOONS members who live in the UK and Max Blankfeld, vice president of FTDNA, this month we will be handing out flyers advertising our Phillips DNA project at the South West Area Group Genealogy Fair in Somersetshire, England, and the Gathering of the Clans in Edinburgh, Scotland. We hope this will help recruit more British, Scottish and Irish participants. Currently, we have 24 participants from the UK and Ireland - more than most surname projects have been able to recruit. About one third of our participants from the UK and Ireland have DNA that does not match anyone in the project, which mirrors our project statistics as a whole. I believe this is partially due to non-paternal events whose effects have accumulated over time, but it is also a reflection of the fact that many unrelated men adopted the surname Phillips as surnames gradually came into existence from 1000 AD to 1800 AD in the British Isles and mainland Europe.

Housekeeping Note: If you change your email address, please be sure to let us know. Also, be sure to add our email address, administrator@phillipsdnaproject.com, to your email contacts or email address book, so your Internet Service Provider (ISP) recognizes us as a legitimate sender and not a spammer. Every time we send out a bulk email announcement, we have several emails bounce back to us, sometimes because email addresses have changed and sometimes because your ISP has blocked our email to you. Please help us with this problem and thanks to all for staying involved and making our DNA project a success!

Questions and Answers

Question: Is the surname Phelps a common alternative spelling of the name Phillips?

Answer: Interestingly, there are very few DNA matches between people named Phillips and people named Phelps. In fact, I don't know of any, and there is a Phelps DNA Project that has 73 participants. The Phillips DNA Project just reached a grand total of 400 participants.

Some believe the surname Phelps is derived from Guelph, the name of a historical family from Germany. The theory is this family originated in Italy. Others believe Phelps is derived from the Danish word Hvalp or the Swedish word Valp, both of which mean whelp. This is very different from the origin of the surname Phillips, which is believed to be derived from the male first name Phillip.

It is also worth noting that nearly half the participants in the Phelps DNA study belong to one of the various subclades of the Mediterranean Haplogroup E, whereas only 15 or 16 out of 400 participants in the Phillips DNA study belong to the Mediterranean Haplogroup E, which is less than 4%. I think this confirms that the surnames Phillips and Phelps have very, very different origins.

Of course, this does not mean that Phillips was never spelled as Phelps in the records or vice versa. I have definitely seen cases where it was. However, in general, I would have to say DNA clearly indicates that Phelps is not a common alternative spelling of Phillips.

Question: A few years ago, when the Thomas Jefferson-Sally Hemmings controversy was ever present, I remember an article concerning the Jefferson family DNA. Do not remember the source, but I think it was National Geographic. Anyway, the family was Welsh-English but the study maintained that there was a genetic link to the Phoenicians. I found it shocking that there would any record of Phoenician DNA. Where do you go to get Phoenician DNA these days? Would there be any knowledge of their haplogroup? Is this as goofy as it sounds?

Answer: You ask some fascinating questions. Jefferson's yDNA belongs to a very rare haplogroup. His yDNA belongs to Haplogroup T, which used to be known as Haplogroup K2. It is considered to be an African or Middle Eastern haplogroup, because it is only rarely found in Europe. However, it is found in high concentrations in Lebanon, which used to be Phoenicia.

Because this was so shocking and so at odds with where Jefferson claimed his paternal line originated (Wales), researchers decided to study the DNA of other men named Jefferson who lived in the UK. They found two British Jefferson men out of 85 who also belonged to Haplogroup T. One of these men had ancestral roots in Yorkshire and the other one had ancestral roots in the West Midlands. So now the question is: how did men of Haplogroup T end up in England? Here is a paragraph from wikipedia:

"Researchers state that the background level of the K2 Haplogroup (now called Haplogroup T) in the UK is typical of the random dispersal of small numbers of uncommon haplogroups throughout the world. It could have had any ancient origin of arrival in the UK. Given known migration patterns, some researchers think it possible that Jefferson had a Sephardic Jewish ancestor from Spain or Portugal, or an even more ancient ancestor in Europe with origin in Phoenicia or the Levant.^[5] Dr. Michael Hammer, a geneticist at the University of Arizona, found an exact match with this sample with a Moroccan Jew. Additionally, there were close matches with two other Middle Eastern Jews and an Egyptian in his database. Bennett Greenspan, president of the DNA-testing service Family Tree DNA, noted that the haplotype T could have been introduced to Europe and England by quite separate ancient migrations from the Middle East.^[6]"

Question: Don't all people named Phillips originally come from Wales?

Answer: Many Phillips in America firmly believe they descend from Phillips who emigrated from Wales. It is hard to say how this belief got started. It may just be the result of wishful thinking, because many Phillips in America would like to think they descend from an aristocratic Philipps family who lived in a castle called Picton located in Pembrokeshire, Wales. DNA has now clearly proven we do not all descend from a single Phillips family, so it is impossible that we all trace back to Picton Castle.

The truth is Wales did not supply nearly as many immigrants to America as did England, Ireland and Scotland. Pembrokeshire itself supplied very few. Here is a description of emigration from Wales to America as found on the internet at this website:

http://www.bbc.co.uk/wales/history/sites/migration/pages/north_america.shtml

Howell Powell, who left Brecon for Virginia in 1642, was the first official Welsh settler in America. Until the late 17th century, most emigration from Wales had been on an individual basis.

However, when Charles II was restored to the English throne in 1660, he instigated a wave of religious intolerance which threatened the rights of several groups to worship in the way that they chose. Significant numbers of people - in some cases, whole communities - began to leave Wales.

The Court of Great Sessions in Bala, North Wales, threatened to burn Quakers, prompting the Welsh Quakers to acquire land (approximately 40,000 acres) in and around what is now Pennsylvania. They emigrated there in 1682.

In 1683 Baptists from Mid and West Wales made the journey to Philadelphia, where they settled and acquired 30,000 acres of land on the banks of the Delaware River. Llanbrynmair, in Montgomery, provided another wave of emigrants in 1795.

The first real Welsh colony - Cambria in western Pennsylvania - in which the Welsh language, culture and religion was maintained in a community with a distinct Welsh identity, was

established there by Morgan John Rhys, a Baptist minister from Glamorgan at around the same time. In the 1850s more settlers left Llanbrynmair led by the Reverend Samuel Roberts, who acquired land for a Welsh colony in Tennessee.

But South Wales provided most of the emigrants to America in the 19th century. The growth of the iron industry in the Valleys from the mid 18th century and the later development of the South Wales coalfield meant that South Wales had a reserve of skilled metalworkers, foundrymen and miners who could find work easily in the rapidly expanding industrial areas of America such as Scranton, Pennsylvania.

Even though migration from Wales to America in the period from the 17th-19th century sometimes involved the movement of whole communities, when compared to migration from other countries the numbers do not seem so significant.

Featured Phillips Family Stories

The Ancestry Detective: Walking the Family Cat Backwards

By Everette Doyle Phillips, Phillips Family Group 9

My John and Gabriel Phillips website: www.hoydia.webs.com

Proven by DNA analysis, my most distant ancestor was a John Phillips, born circa 1735 and died documented 1801 North Carolina. Our most distant DNA Phillips relative is Gabriel Phillips, born circa 1735 and died 1809 South Carolina, documented.

John and Gabriel are exact DNA matches on 37 markers. Because they were contemporaries and lived in the same Virginia locale for many years, it is probably safe to assume they were brothers. Documented facts about these brothers and their children may give us a profile of their much-sought and missing father. Family traditions died out or changed slowly so the cliché “like father, like son” is a great aid to this kind of backwards-looking research.

The Missing Phillips (MP) might have lived (and died) in Bucks County, Pennsylvania. In our bloodline, the first documentation is 1758 in Bucks County when Gabriel married. Bucks County was at the time a very Welsh destination (and the name Gabriel is, in the Anglo world, most identified with Wales).

MP's bloodline may have been originally Welsh although the family may have dwelt in other countries, such as Ireland, before popping up in Bucks County. Further, my most distant surname DNA matches (12 markers mostly) are dominated by Welsh-like names, especially that of Lewis. And my family tradition says that our ancestors were part Welsh. Some researchers believe, also undocumented, that our Phillips came from Ireland.

MP was probably a Quaker. All known locales of John and Gabriel are documented Quaker settlements. Of all children of both John and Gabriel, there is only one "soldier" and that was in

the War of Independence; Quakers are for the most part pacifists. Nor did Quakers approve of slavery and no descendants yet found were owners of slaves.

Religious names are the norm in the families of John and Gabriel. Of a total seventeen offspring, the only two names not derived from the Bible are Robert and Edward. Thus a religious tradition is suggested.

There is a family history of G.W. Phillips (Memorial Record of Alabama) in which a grandson of Gabriel is said to have been a Quaker.

MP might have had eight children. This is pure speculation based on the average number of John's twelve and Gabriel's five kids.

MP was probably a farmer. Neither John nor Gabriel has a documented occupation, nor does their offspring, but farming was almost certainly the family tradition. The G.W. Phillips biography says that his father Joseph (grandson of Gabriel) was "one of the wealthiest men in Calhoun County", Alabama, and a farmer who established a flour and grist mill. It could be that Joseph's father Peter and grandfather Gabriel also had some connection to milling, in addition to farming in Union County, SC.

MP was probably uneducated. Both John and Gabriel signed their wills with X. There is no tradition of literacy although John's will provided money for the schooling of his last four children. (John had a son Gabriel who also signed his will with X.)

MP probably did not follow traditional naming patterns because there seems to be no naming pattern used either by John or Gabriel.

The spelling of Phillips might have varied. The use of "ap" was still familiar in Wales and sometimes in America when MP would have been born (c 1700). Thus the Missing Phillips grandpa might have been called "Philip ap X". Or his surname might have been Philip, Philips, Philipps, Phillips or other variations.

MP probably had "middle-class" money. Neither John nor Gabriel seemingly had financial problems. They paid cash for their lands. This would imply that their MP probably was not an indentured servant or otherwise penniless.

Like father, like son? I hope so because the above-noted characteristics might help narrow the search for the ol' MP.

Speculative profile of MP:

He may have lived in Bucks County, PA.

He may have been a Welsh Quaker.

He may have had a surname other than the spelling Phillips.

He may have had eight children, including Gabriel and John.

He probably was a farmer.
He was probably illiterate.
He was probably born around 1700.

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Final note: Unfortunately there is yet another brick wall regarding the surname of MP. I know of three instances in which the surname Phillips was in use for only one generation. For example, a Philip ap John had a child called John Philips. But in the next generation, the surname changed to John. Thus our John and Gabriel Phillips might have had a father named Philip ap X, not surnamed Phillips.

The Trial of R.W. Phillips

By Tom Hutchison, Phillips Family Group 5

While researching information on my GG Grandfather, Rufus Wiley Phillips, it never ceases to amaze me at some of the information you can gather from the oddest of places. The following information I discovered in House Documents, Otherwise Published as *Executive Documents, by United States Congress, House, Published by BiblioBazaar, 1870, Oxford University*. It helped fill in the gaps in regards to newspaper articles in the Atlanta Constitution that were published in January of 1870. Upon further research, I learned that my GG Grandfather was caught up in what became known as "Terry's Purge."

The period following the Civil War in the United States was a time of great turmoil in the southern States. The former Confederate States were under the rule of the Union military forces. As most of us know, this time in American History is known as the Reconstruction Period. Reconstruction is actually defined in steps, Presidential and Congressional. President Johnson's Reconstruction began during a long Congressional recess between March and December of 1865. When Congress reconvened, many were angered that he had overstepped his authority in restoring power to the southern States. After a political fight, Congressional Reconstruction began in March of 1867 with the First Reconstruction Act passed by Congress.

Because of the First Reconstruction Act, Georgia, together with Alabama and Florida, became part of the Third Military District, under General John Pope. From this point on the southern States were working for a now second time to gain their self-governance back as well as their right for Representation in the US Congress. Of all the States, Georgia was the last one to win back its right for re-admission to the US Congress. For many, these were very violent times, not only in Georgia, but throughout all the southern States. My GG Grandfather, R.W. Phillips, was involved in Georgia politics from 1868 to 1876 as a State Assembly Representative from Echols County. What transpired in Georgia in late 1869 and early 1870 is the same old story of power, politics and control.

In 1868, elections for Georgia State Senators and Representatives were held, but the real control of Georgia as well as other southern States was still held by the Union General in command of Georgia's Military District. The influence of what were commonly called, "Radical Republicans" was at a high. During this election, Rufus Bullock, a Republican, won the seat for Governor in

what many Georgians felt was a corrupt election. The State Senate was also firmly won by the Republicans 27 to 17, with three black Senators to be seated. The State's General Assembly was a different matter, the Conservative Party or basically the Democrats held a very slim majority, 88 to 84. On the Republican side of this newly elected Assembly, of the 84 elected, 29 of them were black.

Two terms that became prominent in the south were carpetbagger and scalawag. These words were used by the white Conservatives or those who became known later as Democrats to describe the two types of Republicans. Carpetbaggers referred to northerners who came south to seek their fortune in politics. This group used a law stating that one year of residency entitled them to voting and office holding rights. Scalawag was a name for those that were southern born whites or more to a point, any Republican who had lived in the south prior to the Civil War. Of the two types, the scalawags were often hated even more as it was thought they had turned against their own neighbors.

The old or true Georgians, or as in any other southern State, the white men of power and wealth in the pre-war south had a different variety of party names during the Reconstruction Era. However, by the late 1870's, the Democrat Party was the main name associated with these old time southerners. These Democrats had united and took the beliefs and governance style of a Conservative Party. Often, Conservatives and Democrats were terms used interchangeably. I suppose that these Democrats in Georgia, as many throughout the south, tried to hold on to their beliefs of the pre-war south. Many of them thought that the freed slaves would be given the rights of freed men of color pre Civil War. In other words, their freedom but they would not be permitted to vote or hold political office. It must be noted that in the newspapers during this period in history, these native southern men were referred to as "a good Democrat." This, I suppose, was meant to infer to the readers that he was a true southerner in his beliefs.

Without elaborating more on the politics and laws of the Reconstruction Acts in effect at the time, in two short years, by early 1870, the Republican Party in Georgia was already starting to lose its control in Georgia in the State Senate. The Assembly had been in control of the Democrats from the beginning in 1868, however the current Governor elected in 1868, Rufus Bullock was also a Republican. In a highly public and politically driven nature to disqualify some of its Democrat Party members in the State's Assembly and Senate, a handful of State Representatives and Senators were charged with being ineligible to hold office. Governor Bullock had been behind Georgia's failing to ratify the 15th Amendment of the Constitution in March of 1869 which led to the U.S. Congress barring Georgia Representatives. Georgia eventually came back under Military rule in December of that same year with President Grant urging Congress to act swiftly to reign in Georgia's Legislature. This is the period that is to become known as the third period of Reconstruction for Georgia.

On January 10, 1870, R.W. Phillips, my GG Grandfather was named along with several others to be tried by a Military Panel of three officers, Bvt. Maj. Gen. T. H. Roger, Bvt. Brig. Gen. T. J. Haines and Maj. Henry Goodfellow, judge-advocate, by the order of Brevet Major-General Alfred H. Terry. With this order was the start of "Terry's Purge."

The charges were simply stated:

That the said R. W. Phillips did hold a civil office created by law for the administration of justice in a State, and for the administering of a general law of a State, and therefore gave aid and comfort to the enemies of the United States.

Reading it, the charges sound worse today than they were in 1870, especially with, "...aid and comfort to the enemies of the United States." What was his crime? Why was he ineligible to hold the office of a State Representative? Simply put, R.W. Phillips was a mayor and a notary public, later he was also charged with being an Officer in the Confederate Army.

The specifications of the charges against my GG Grandfather, R.W. Phillips, were as follows:

1. In this: That the said R. W. Phillips did hold the office of mayor of the city of Valdosta, and the office of notary public in the county of Brooks, in the State of Georgia, in the year 1861, in the early part of said year, and thereafter gave aid and comfort to the enemies of the United States.

2. In this: That the said R. W. Phillips, having held the office specified in specification 1, did afterward give aid and comfort to the enemies of the United States, in that he held the office of adjutant of a regiment organized and acting in hostility to the United States.

***Henry P. Farrow
Attorney General***

The basis for the charges brought against R.W. and the handful of his peers are found in Section 3 in the 14th Amendment of our Constitution. The charges as an Officer in the Confederacy come out a bit later, but in regards to this, nothing was offered as evidence by the prosecutor or in defense by my GG Grandfather. Briefly, the 14th Amendment stated all persons born or naturalized in the United States were Citizens of the United States and their respective States. This made all former slaves born in the U.S. a U.S. Citizen. It also afforded all equal protection under the law and forbids States from denying persons of life, liberty and property without due process of the law. This trial against my GG Grandfather and the handful of others was based on the third section of the 14th Amendment which reads as such:

Section 3: No person shall be a Senator or Representative in Congress, or elector of President and Vice President, or hold any office, civil or military, under the United States, or under any State, who, having previously taken an oath, as a member of Congress, or as an officer of the United States, or as a member of any State legislature, or as an executive or judicial officer of any State, to support the Constitution of the United States, shall have engaged in insurrection or rebellion against the same, or given aid or comfort to the enemies thereof. But Congress may by a vote of two-thirds of each House, remove such disability.

A quick explanation: Confederate supporters, who prior to 1861 served in a state or national office which required an oath of allegiance to the U.S. Constitution, were prohibited from holding state and national executive, legislative, judicial, and military offices. This condition could only be removed by two-thirds approval from each House of Congress.

It is sadly humorous if you know some of the background of the whole political scene in Georgia during this time. Governor Bullock had appointed former Democrat, Governor Joseph E. Brown to the State's Supreme Court as Chief Justice in 1868. Brown was the Governor of Georgia during the Civil War, but had now become Georgia's most hated scalawag Republican. Ironically, the Conservatives (Democrats) asked Chief Justice Brown to interpret the meaning of the law being used to remove the Senators and Representatives in 1870. Chief Justice Brown sided with the Democrats, in direct conflict against the Republican State Attorney General, Henry P. Farrow. This must have greatly infuriated Governor Bullock, especially because in June of 1869, Brown had been one of the deciding votes for acknowledging that blacks had the constitutional right to hold political office. The Democrats did not believe blacks had these rights, Brown argued in favor of this denial himself in April of 1868. As an example of this, the newly elected legislators for the year 1868 met in July of 1868 and then proceeded to expel the blacks elected from office by September of 1868, even though these same blacks had argued to let ex-Confederates elected keep their seats earlier in July.

My GG Grandfather was a well-educated attorney since the mid 1850's, he as well as the others, hired counsel for their defense. I don't know when the old adage came about, "A man who represents himself has a fool for a client." I can only guess that those who stood accused talked amongst themselves before making this decision to hire counsel. My feeling was they presented a strong united front by banding together. Some of those charged were done so on the basis they were a road commissioner, state librarian, tax collector, justice of the peace or notary public before the Civil War started. In the records I found along with old newspaper clippings, R.W. did prepare his own statement for his defense. Newspaper clippings stated he turned in a written statement to the charges, but the paper did not publish it. I believe what is below to be a summary of his statement during the period of when my GG Grandfather answered the charges against him.

Rufus W. Phillips was elected mayor of the town of Valdosta, in Lowndes County, in the State of Georgia, in the early days of January, 1861; and that he was installed and qualified as such mayor about the 10th of February, 1861, and exercised the duties of the position until about the 1st of June, 1861, when resigned. Said Phillips afterwards took part with the confederate government against the said government of the United States in the war that followed the secession of Georgia. He held no other office before the mayoralty aforesaid. He further admits that he was appointed a notary public for the county of Lowndes by the inferior court thereof, and was qualified at the February term, 1861, sitting for county purposes; precise date not remembered, but asks permission to the date if held material.

R.W. Phillips

It is further admitted by Mr. Phillips that he was ex officio justice of the peace while acting as mayor.

At this point, counsel for the prosecution announced there was no further evidence to present and closed the case against my GG Grandfather and proceeded with the next case against another in the group of elected officials charged. Governor Bullock and the Republican Election Committees had worked to gather evidence against all the men charged. I cannot answer why more about my GG Grandfather's Confederate service was not brought to light. I also cannot explain why they first said he was a notary public in Brooks County, Georgia. Brooks was on the border of Lowndes county and it may be that he did do some work in that county as Brooks was made from a small part of Lowndes.

In the early period of our nation, the wheels of justice were faster than those of today. In two weeks, by January the 24th, my GG Grandfather was acquitted of the charges against him.

The board finds that R.W. Phillips, of Echols County, was mayor of the city of Valdosta from about the 10th of February, 1861, until some time during the rebellion, and that he was during the same time notary public. The board is of opinion that he held no office before the rebellion, in the sense of the law aforesaid.

Nothing was said of his service as an Officer in the Confederacy, but I don't think he ever took part in any battles. His original unit from Lowndes County did engage the Union forces in the fall of 1861 in West Virginia in what was then still known as Virginia. His service record shows he was discharged as a 2nd Lt. from Richmond late that September because of an illness and sent home. Later records and a gem of a newspaper piece in early 1862 place him in Savannah attached to the same Regiment as his two brothers from Jasper County, Georgia. However, he was once again discharged from the hospital with the Doctor telling him erroneously he had tuberculosis. I did find it interesting that his brother Capt. John B.M. Phillips's Company records had reported their younger brother on emergency leave around the time R.W. was sent home from the hospital in Savannah. Did he escort his older brother back to Valdosta from Savannah? Cannot definitely say for sure at this time, but it does make me wonder.

Later, by R.W.'s own hand he admits that he was made the Adjutant of the 6th Georgia Regiment late in the Civil War by then Governor Brown. I believe this was a State Guard Regiment and have had a hard time finding any records for him. Again, by R.W.'s own hand he claimed he was discharged from this duty at the close of the Civil War with Lee's surrender. His discharge location was St. Marks, Florida. Again, interesting because, St. Marks was a location that the precious commodity of salt was manufactured on the Florida Gulf Coast. I have been told that Georgia sent State Guard to the Gulf Coast in order to bring salt back for Georgia as it was desperately needed late in the war.

As far as his acquittal, I do know that a few of the men he stood with were denied their seats in the Assembly and Senate based on this trial. Others that stood accused were acquitted, with a few

held over to investigate in more depth, with even more that were summarily expelled and never brought to trial. The total General Terry expelled was 24 in some history books, with others stating 29. In either case, the Republicans were now firmly in control of both legislative branches in Georgia, even the expelled black legislators of 1868 were reelected. Governor Bullock was pleased as now he had a full majority, something he had lacked from the start of his term as Governor. History records that Georgia's Legislature ratified the 15th Amendment in February of 1870 at the point of General Terry's sword and Georgia was once again permitted representation in Congress.

Why did the Military Panel find in favor of my GG Grandfather? It might have been by his reputation or perhaps by his political associations. Family tradition passed down that my GG Grandfather, R.W. Phillips, was an extremely fair and honest man. Even later in life, after he retired from an appointment as a Judge in Suwannee County, Florida, R.W.'s neighbors in the community sought out his advice and opinion to solve their disputes. Maybe it was his association with ex-Governor Brown, now the State's Supreme Court Justice?

A testament to his character and possibly his political connections might be found in the fact that he was nominated and served as Co-Chairman of the Assembly's Judiciary committee and the Chairman of the committee, Privileges and Elections, while he was a member of the Georgia's Assembly. The committee of Privileges and Elections investigated all complaints of Election fraud and inappropriate behavior. As I said earlier, these were violent times, especially in Georgia's history with the murdering of black politicians and leaders by the Ku Klux Klan. All articles I have found so far in the newspapers of this era seem to point to the fact that R.W. Phillips took this position seriously and his committee fully investigated and reported everything they found to the full Assembly in a very timely fashion, along with their recommendations. Perhaps the Republicans regarded him as a Democrat they could trust to do his duty for the State of Georgia, no matter what the outcome.

There is no way for me to know how he and his entire family must have felt during the period of these two weeks. His father, Wiley Phillips, was still living in Jasper County, Georgia, as well as his brothers and now married sisters. I would think they all rallied around him to give him encouragement, R.W. might have even sought his father's counsel as Wiley Phillips was also a lawyer, plus former Legislator and a Judge. After all, R.W.'s service for his county, Echols, was hanging in the balance of the three Officers appointed to oversee everything and report back to General Terry. From a lawyer's point of view, I can only guess that my GG Grandfather must have felt that there can be Justice, even when tempers are flaring as they were during January of 1870.

Postscript:

Governor Bullock's Republican reign of Georgia only lasted 11 months. Georgians were quite outraged by the events in January and February of 1870. The Democrats won the majority of both the Senate and Assembly in the elections in December of that same year. Governor Bullock had been the target of many accusations of fraud while he was the Governor. In 1871, talk of his impeachment along with a thorough investigation of his business dealings must have been too

much for Bullock to face. Governor Bullock vanished from Georgia shortly before the new legislature was to be seated. His resignation had been kept a secret for a week.

Former Governor Joseph E. Brown, now Chief Justice Brown, apparently had a change of heart and changed his political affiliation back to a Democrat after they regained control. Joseph Brown was the ultimate self preserving politician as he even became part of the politically powerful trio called the Bourbon Triumvirate. In his later years, Brown used this political power and in 1880 he was appointed a Senator to Congress. By the time of his death, he had been forgiven by most Georgians for aligning himself with the Republicans during Reconstruction.

As for my GG Grandfather, R.W. Phillips, he did not run for re-election and left behind the political life of Georgia's Assembly in 1876. He took his wife and still growing family across the State border of Georgia into Florida where he taught school in the county of Hamilton. By the early 1880's Governor Perry of Florida appointed him as a Judge in Suwannee, the county right below Hamilton. Upon moving his family, they homesteaded 80 acres in an area known as Suwannee Station where he helped found the Suwannee Station Baptist Church. He was also considered a Baptist Minister by this time and his name can be found in Florida Baptist Church records. Family lore has him teaching law at Mercer University late in life, but I can find no evidence of this except the fact that he and his youngest son, my Great Grandfather James Alfred Phillips, are missing from the Census of 1900 in Suwannee County. His wife Rebecca Pritchett passed away a few years before him in 1897. At the age of 72, R.W. Phillips passed away in 1903, on his homestead in Suwannee and was buried next to his wife Rebecca in the Cemetery at Suwannee Station Baptist Church.