

**ZACHARIAH W.
WAGGONER**

(1853 - 1926)

And

**ELIZABETH "BETTY" J.
HEAD**

(1861 - 1928)

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Zachariah W. Waggoner, the youngest of **Washington** (1814) and **Nancy A. (Smalling)** (1823) Waggoner's children, was born in Mississippi in December 1853. According to census information, and like his brothers and father, Zach was a farmer all his life.

Zachariah's parents moved from Blount County, Alabama to Mississippi shortly after the 1850 census was taken because both **Newton** (1851) and **Zachariah** (1853) were born in Mississippi according to the US Census of 1860. Also, in that census, their mother, **Nancy A. (Smalling)**, had moved to Caldwell Parish, Louisiana with all four Waggoner sons; we do not know what happened to Washington. Nancy, a widow, married **W.W. Gregory** in 1858 and had a daughter before the 1860 census. Six children of W.W.'s first marriage, Nancy's 4 Waggoner sons, and their daughter, **Emily Gregory (1858)** were in the same household. The location of Gregory's property in Caldwell Parish about a mile north of Vixen, became the area in which most of the Gregory and Waggoner boys settled.

In the US Census of 1870, **Zachariah** lived with his brothers and **Menerva Smalling** (age 40), Nancy's sister, as one household. On 14 March 1878, **Zachariah** (1853) married **Elizabeth J. "Betty" Head** (1861) in Caldwell Parish, Louisiana. Seven years later, his older brother, **William Newton** (1851), would marry Betty's younger sister, **Mary Judson Head** (1864). The US Census of 1880 shows the four Waggoner brothers; Calvin, John Thomas, Newton, and Zach, as close neighbors in Caldwell Parish. The younger two, Newton and Zach, would later move to Texas.

Loyd Washington Waggoner, Zachariah's first child, [See *picture above* circa 1902] was born in September 1882, in Ward 5, Caldwell Parish, Louisiana.

Before the US Census of 1900, **Betty** and **Zach** would have 6 more children. Their youngest, **Bascom**, was born in 1903. In the US Census of 1900, **Zach** is a farm owner and his 4 children between the ages of 17 and 10 years are farm laborers. Sometime between 1900 and 1910, **Zachariah** moved his family to Bexar (pronounced Bear) County, Texas.

The US Census of 1910 shows "**Jack**" Waggoner (age 54) and wife "**Bettie**" (age 49) in Texas with seven kids: single son, "**Loid**" (age 27); single son, **Lonnie** (age 21); single son **George** (age 18); single son **Louis Newsome "Jack"** (age 15); daughter, **Ella** (age 12); daughter, **Annie** (age 9); and son **Bascom** (age 7). We have not traced the children closely enough to know why Louisa is not on this census. **Louisa D. Waggoner** (1886) would have been about age 24, so could have been married.

By US Census of 1920, **Z.W.** and **Elizabeth J. Waggoner** had moved to Atascosa, Texas. Sixty-five year old Zachariah was still a farmer, renting the land he farmed. His wife and three youngest children were in the household. For the first time, we see that **Annie** (age 18) and **Bascom** (age 16) are attending school. Much census information is inconsistent for Zachariah's education, but most show he can read and write. However, most show that Betty did not read or write.

While most of Zachariah and Betty's descendants remain in Texas, we know that his son **Louis Newsom "Jack" Waggoner**, who was born 21 November 1894, returned from Texas and lived in Monroe, Louisiana for many years. He moved to Grayson, Louisiana before his death on 1 July 1972 and is buried in Rosefield Cemetery, Catahoula Parish, Louisiana.

Zachariah W. Waggoner died on 1 April 1926 in Jefferson, Texas. **Elizabeth "Betty" J. Head** died in 1928 and is buried beside her husband at Rest haven Cemetery, Silsbee, Texas. Zachariah's older brother and Betty's sister, **William Newton and Mary J. (Head) Waggoner**, died one year earlier and are buried about 300 miles away in Breckenridge, Texas.

Children of Zachariah W. Waggoner are:

- 1) Loyd Washington Waggoner (1882)
- 2) Louisa D. Waggoner (1886)
- 3) Lonnie Franklin Waggoner (1888)
- 4) George Britton Waggoner (1890)
- 5) Louis Newsom "Jack" Waggoner (1894)
- 6) Ella Annie Waggoner (1896)
- 7) Annie Edna Waggoner (1900)
- 8) Bascom Waggoner (1903)