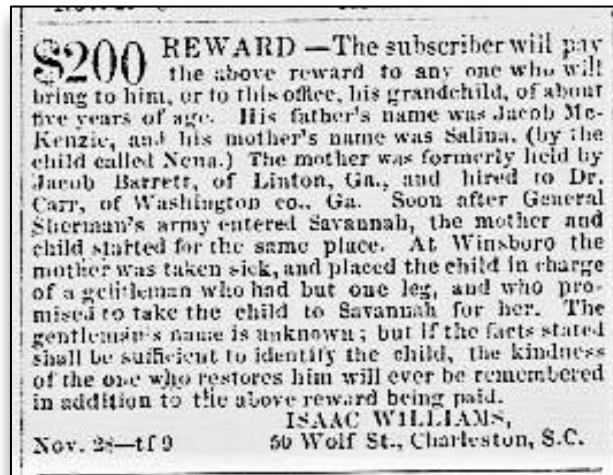


## Isaac Williams offering \$200 reward to anyone who can find his grandchild

Seven months after the close of the Civil War, Isaac Williams began placed this ad in the *South Carolina Leader* in Charleston, South Carolina. The ad first ran in November and appeared in at least nine issues. The *South Carolina Leader* began in 1865 as an African American owned Republican newspaper dedicated to “improv[ing] the whole people” and was a staunch advocate for equal rights with a focus on education and suffrage. In 1868, it changed its name to the *Missionary Record*. At its peak, it claimed a circulation of almost 2,000 with subscribers in South Carolina, North Carolina, and Georgia.

Williams’s ad, placed months after the close of the Civil War, demonstrates that newly freed people acted quickly to locate their children and grandchildren. The fact that Williams offered a sizable reward (over \$3,600 in 2022 dollars) for information about his grandson indicates that he was a man of some means. Williams includes several specific details about his daughter’s and grandson’s journey from Georgia to South Carolina. These details suggest that his daughter might have arrived in Charleston after recovering from her illness.



**\$200 REWARD**—The subscriber will pay the above reward to any one who will bring to him, or to this office, his grandchild, of about five years of age. His father's name was Jacob McKenzie, and his mother's name was Salina. (by the child called Nena.) The mother was formerly held by Jacob Barrett, of Linton, Ga., and hired to Dr. Carr, of Washington co., Ga. Soon after General Sherman's army entered Savannah, the mother and child started for the same place. At Winsboro the mother was taken sick, and placed the child in charge of a gentleman who had but one leg, and who promised to take the child to Savannah for her. The gentleman's name is unknown; but if the facts stated shall be sufficient to identify the child, the kindness of the one who restores him will ever be remembered in addition to the above reward being paid.  
ISAAC WILLIAMS,  
Nov. 28—tf9 50 Wolf St., Charleston, S.C.

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