

## Individual Narrative of Thomas<sup>7</sup> Whaley [114] Son of Alexander Whaley and Abigail<sup>6</sup> Leverich [55]

Thomas Whaley<sup>1,2,3,4</sup> was born on 16 May 1790 at Bushwick, Kings County, New York, the son of Alexander Whaley and Abigail Leverich. The birth date is documented in a Whaley Family Record, communicated by Mrs. Ida Whaley Strahan of Montclair, New Jersey in a 12 March 1924 letter to Dr. Charles K. Clearwater. A transcription of this record is appended to the *Register of Baptisms, Marriages and Deaths of the Bushwick Reformed Church*. Dr. Clearwater was the minister for 28 years at the Colonial Reformed Church at Newtown. A review of that Church's records did not disclose any Whaley family records.<sup>5,6</sup>

Thomas Whaley was baptized on 27 June 1790 at the Newtown Presbyterian Church, "infant of Alexander Wailey."<sup>7</sup>

During the War of 1812, Thomas Whaley served with the 11th Artillery Regiment of New York. Thomas' widow Rachel Pye Whaley, later applied for a widow's pension based upon Thomas' service.<sup>8,9</sup>

Thomas Whaley married Rachel Pye, daughter of Thomas Pye and Amelia Mills, on 14 Feb 1814 at Elizabeth, Union Co, New Jersey. The marriage notice in the New York Weekly Museum identified Rachel as coming from "New-Barbadoes."<sup>10,11,12</sup> Rachel Pye was born 2 August 1792 according to her gravestone inscription at Green-wood Cemetery in Brooklyn. As per U.S. Census records, Rachel was born in England.<sup>13,14</sup>

The New York City Directory for 1814 lists brothers Thomas and Alexander Whaley, locksmiths 139 Chatham. The 1815 New York City Directory lists each brother separately as locksmiths, Thomas at 12 Mott and Alexander at 10 Catherine. The brothers are similarly listed at the same locations in the 1820 New York City Directory.<sup>15,16,17</sup>

Thomas Whaley is listed as a head of household in the 1820 U.S. Census, Ward 6 Manhattan, New York County, New York. The total family size reported is 9. There are 3 free white males under age of 10: most likely son John T. Whaley, son Henry H. Whaley (died as a child), and Frederick Alexander Whaley (died as a child). There are 1 free white male age 10 to 15, 1 free white male age 16 to 18, 2 free white males 16 to 25: most likely apprentices to Thomas who was a locksmith. There is also 1 free white male and 1 free white female age 26-44 (Thomas and wife Rachel). And finally there is one free white female under the age of 10 (Amerlia Pye Whaley, died as a child).<sup>18</sup>

On 1 May 1823, Thomas Whaley locksmith of New York City, purchased land in Ward 6 of Manhattan at Chatham and Mott Streets for \$2,100.00 from Obadiah Peck and his wife Elizabeth, merchant of New York City. The deed was recorded 1 May 1823.<sup>19</sup>

On 4 January 1826, Thomas Whaley purchased land in Ward 12 of Manhattan, lots 169, 170, 171, 172 between 6th and 7th Avenues and 61st and 62nd Streets; and Lots 241, 242, 243, and 244 between 8th and 9th Avenues and 61st and 62nd Streets; for \$600 from Francis Pike and his wife Jane. The deed was recorded 23 October 1826.<sup>20</sup>

On 21 April 1829, Thomas Whaley purchased land in Ward 11 (formerly Ward 10), lots 42 and 160 on 4th Street, for \$2,150.00 from the executors of the estate of Mangle Minthorne, Gentleman.<sup>21</sup>

Thomas Whaley is listed as a head of household in the 1830 U.S. Census, Ward 6 Manhattan, New York County, New York. The census tallies include 1 free white male age 5 to 9 (son Thomas Jr); 2 free white males age 10 to 14 (sons John T. and Henry H); 5 free white males age 15 to 19 (likely apprentices to Thomas, a locksmith); 1 free white male age 40 to 49 (Thomas Sr.); 1 free white female age 5 to 9 (daughter Rachel Harriet); 1 free white female age 20 to 29 (unidentified); and 1 free white female age 30 to 39 (wife Rachel).<sup>22</sup>

Th <sup>o</sup> Whaley	1	2	5	1	1	1	1	1
P <sup>r</sup> Hooley			2					
Anna E. Lee	1	1			1	1	2	1
M <sup>r</sup> Hoops					1	2	2	
Edw and Chatterton								

The 1830, 1831, and 1832 New York City Directories list Thomas Whaley, locksmith, 46 and 48 Mott Street.<sup>23,24,25</sup>



**1807 William Bridges Map <1871 Reissue>  
Thomas and Rachel Whaley  
46 and 48 Mott Street, near Chatham Street  
New York City Directories 1830-1832**

Thomas Whaley died on 14 Feb 1832 presumably at Manhattan/Brooklyn, New York Co/Kings Co, New York/New York, at age 41, leaving a wife and four children. He was likely buried in the Williamsburg vault referred to in his will, but his remains were subsequently removed to Green-wood Cemetery in Brooklyn 29 November 1865.<sup>26,27,28</sup>



On 28 March 1832 Alexander Whaley wrote to his daughter-in-law Rachel Whaley, subsequent to the death of his son Thomas Whaley: "Dear Daughter: I thank God I am weel at Present as I wish theas May find you and all Your family is My Wish in the I am hath (healthy?) I have a Sound Mind as yet I can read & Wrigh (write?) without the using of spectacles it Greeves me to see some of My Dear Children are My Greatest Enemies in this that I get uneasy and sory (sorry?) from their so Lot against me But I can freely forgive them But won (won't) forgit them O that God Would Shed his Love into all our hearts that None Shal be taken from us let logic, God's Love to us (?) and Love our neighbors as others May all bee prepared to Meat in heaven above and bee desired into that hapy Number of Saints and Angels Where no being Prises to God and to our Saviour. Whom on all all Eternity Way this be the happy Lot of us My Dear Daughter Sorrow and Mourn With you for the Lov of Dear husband and my Dear son which I cannot forgit But I trust he is in a better in the Wood dear prepar yourself to be With him then can both sing to God together An May this bee the Day of Desire to us that has Made their Peas with God Remember me to Uncle John Py & family My daughter Sally takes good care of Mee I remain I remain your mourning father-in-law and friend till death." Signed Alexander Whaley no cross.

Bushwick, March 28<sup>th</sup> 1832

Dear Daughter

I thank God I am weel at Present as I wish theas May find you and all your family is My Wish in the I am hath I have a Sound Mind as yet I can read & Wrigh without the using of spectacles it Greeves me to see some of My Dear Children are My Greatest Enemies in this that I get uneasy and sory from their so Lot against me But I can freely forgive them But won forgit them O that God Would Shed his Love into all our hearts that None Shal be taken from us let logic, God's Love to us and Love our neighbors as others May all bee prepared to Meat in heaven above and bee desired into that happy Number of Saints and Angels Where no being Prises to God and to our Saviour. Whom on all all Eternity Way this be the happy Lot of us My Dear Daughter Sorrow and Mourn With you for the Lov of Dear husband and my Dear son which I cannot forgit But I trust he is in a better in the Wood dear prepar yourself to be With him then can both sing to God together An May this bee the Day of Desire to us that has Made their Peas with God Remember me to Uncle John Py & family My daughter Sally takes good care of Mee I remain I remain your mourning father-in-law and friend till death

Alexander Whaley no Cross

A note on the back of this letter from Rachel Whaley is as follows: "Father Whaley's letter to me in '32 - your great old '76 man and grandfather to you. bless him a good man he mourns for his lost son Thomas Whaley (Sr) well he may with me his daughter-in-law Rachel Whaley of England. Daughter of Thomas Pye of N.Y. I write in Brooklyn 1872 - Feb 5. R. Whaley. And send this to my son Thos. Whaley in San Diego."<sup>29</sup>

Alexander Whaley made a will dated 12 July 1832. In his will, he mentions his grandchildren, children of deceased son Thomas Whaley: John T, Henry H, Thomas, and Rachel Harriet.<sup>30</sup>

The 1833 and 1834 New York City Directories record Rachel Whaley, widow of Thomas, locksmith, 46 and 48 Mott St.<sup>31,32</sup>

On 6 December 1834, Rachel Whaley and John Pye, executors of the estate of Thomas Whaley late of New York City locksmith sold land in Ward 11 (formerly Ward 10) lot 42 on 4th Street (aka Albion Place) for \$3300.00 (Land) and \$5300.00 (house) to Joseph Fletcher of New York City, builder.<sup>33</sup>

The 1835 and 1836 New York City Directories record Rachel Whaley, widow of Thomas, locksmith, home 7 Second St.<sup>34,35</sup>

Rachel Whaley is not found in either the 1840 New York City Directory or the 1840 U.S. Census as a head of household. It is likely that she was living in the household of a relative.<sup>36,37</sup>

On 1 March 1848, Rachel Whaley, widow of Thomas of New York City, purchased land in Ward 18 of Manhattan, Lot 61, 27th St and Madison Avenue, for \$1700 from Thomas J. Stevens gentleman of New York City.<sup>38</sup>

In the 1850 U.S. Census, Aquackanonk, Passaic Co, New Jersey, Rachel Whaley, age 59, and Harriet Whaley, age 24, are recorded living in the household of Simeon Pye.<sup>39</sup>

On 15 May 1852, Rachel Whaley late of New York City, now Brooklyn, sold land in Manhattan, Ward 18, Lot 61, 27th St and Madison Ave, for \$3500.00 to Cornelius McCoon of New York City.<sup>40</sup>

In the 1860 U.S. Census of Brooklyn, Ward 7, District 2, Kings Co, New York, Rachel Whaley, age 60 (error, actually age 68) is recorded living in the household of Joseph Brooks and his wife Frances. Rachel is described as possessing real estate of a value of \$20,000.<sup>41</sup>

In the 1865 New York State Census of Brooklyn Ward 7, Kings County, Rachel Whaley, age 60 (error, actual age 73) is recorded living in the household of her son J. Thomas Whaley.<sup>42</sup>

In the 1875 New York State Census of Brooklyn, ward 23, enumeration district 02, Kings Co, Rachel Whaley, age 83, is recorded living in the household of her daughter Rachel Heiss and her husband William H. Heiss.<sup>43</sup>

In the 1880 U.S. Census of Brooklyn, Kings Co, Rachel Whaley, age 88, is recorded living in the household of her daughter Rachel Heiss and her husband William H. Heiss at 428 Gates Avenue.<sup>44</sup>

Rachel Pye Whaley died at Brooklyn 13 April 1881, and was buried at Green-wood Cemetery. Rachel's grave stone includes the inscription "My Leader Calls Me."<sup>45,46</sup>

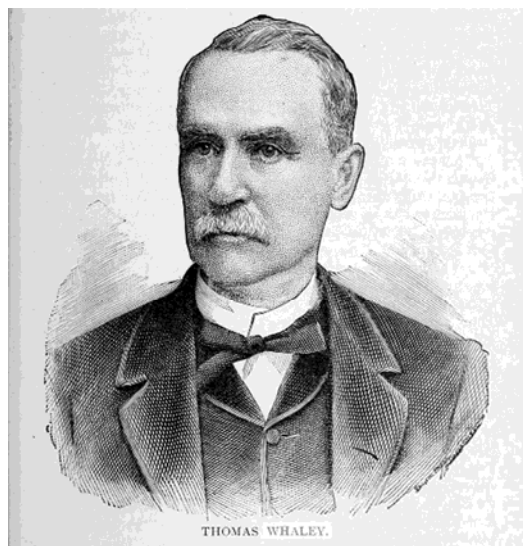
Thomas and Rachel Whaley had nine children, five of whom died as children and are buried at Green-wood Cemetery. These children were named Henry Hurst Whaley, Harriet Pye Whaley, Amerlia Pye Whaley, Araminta Amelia Whaley, and Frederick Alexander Whaley. Their grave stone inscription says "Fear Not Little Flock". Four additional children survived to adulthood.<sup>47,48</sup>

- i. John Thomas Whaley was born 27 January 1816 in Manhattan, New York County, New York. He occasionally used the given name Thomas in lieu of John, although he had a brother Thomas. John married for the first time Martha Herbert 30 October 1841 in the District of Columbia. John married for a second time Elizabeth Dove 9 October 1845 also in the District of Columbia. John T. Whaley is listed in the 1850 U.S. Census in Harpers Ferry, Jefferson Co, Virginia. John is listed in the 1855 and 1865 New York State Census and the 1860 and 1870 U.S. Census in Brooklyn, Kings Co, New York. John is listed in the 1880 U.S. Census and the 1895 New Jersey State Census in Bergen Co, New Jersey. John died 26 March 1898 in Ridgewood, Bergen Co, New Jersey.<sup>49,50,51,52,53,54,55,56,57,58,59,60</sup>

- ii. Henry Hurst Whaley was born 4 August 1820 in Manhattan, New York County, New York. Henry married Anna Mcdebet (?McDevitt?) c 1845, possibly in the District of Columbia or Northern Virginia. Henry is listed in the 1850 U.S. Census in Ward 2, District of Columbia. Henry is listed in the 1860, 1870, and 1880 U.S. Census in San Bernardino, San Bernardino Co, California. Henry was registered to vote in 1892 in San Bernardino. Henry died 6 May 1894 in San Bernardino and was buried in the Pioneer Memorial Cemetery.<sup>61,62,63,64,65,66,67,68,69,70</sup>
- iii. Thomas Whaley Jr. was born 5 October 1823 in Manhattan, New York County, New York. Thomas is listed in the 1852 California State Census in San Diego, San Diego Co, California. Thomas married 14 August 1853 Anna DeLaunay (?Lannay, Lanney?) at the Church of Annunciation in Manhattan, New York Co, New York. Thomas is listed in the 1860 U.S. Census in San Francisco, California. Thomas is listed in the 1870 and 1880 U.S. Census in San Diego, California. Thomas died 14 December 1890 in San Diego, and was buried at Mount Hope Cemetery.<sup>71,72,73,74,75,76,77,78,79,80</sup>



**Thomas Whaley Jr Family**  
www.findagrave.com



**Grandson Alexander Whaley and Abigail Leverich**  
Son of Thomas Whaley and Rachel Pye

- iv. Rachel Harriet Whaley was born 11 July 1825 in Manhattan, New York County, New York. "Harriet" is listed in the 1850 U.S. Census living with her mother Rachel Whaley in the household of Simeon Pye in Newark, Essex Co, New Jersey. Rachel married William H. Heiss of Philadelphia 21 January 1851 in Newark, New Jersey. Rachel is listed in the 1860, 1870, and 1880 U.S. Census; and the 1865 and 1875 New York State Census, in Brooklyn, Kings County, New York. Rachel died 13 June 1898 in Sioux Falls, Minnehaha Co, South Dakota, and was buried in the Mt. Pleasant Cemetery. Rachel's widower William H. Heiss is listed in the 1900 U.S. Census in Sioux Falls Ward 1, and died there in 1908.<sup>81,82,83,84,85,86,87,88,89,90,91,92,93</sup>

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 Prepared by:  
 Tom Leverich  
 28 Saratoga Drive  
 West Windsor, New Jersey 08550  
 tomaug12@aol.com  
 609-275-1239  
 www.leverichgenealogy.org

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<sup>6</sup>*DAR Ancestor Search Alexander Whaley*, Descendents Database, Ancestor No. 123631. Hereinafter cited as *DAR Ancestor Search Alexander Whaley.*

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- <sup>34</sup> *New York NY City Directory 1835* (New York, New York: Longworth, 1835). Hereinafter cited as *New York NY City Directory 1835*.
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- <sup>36</sup> 1840 U.S. Census New York, New York Co. Ancestry.com, Provo, Utah. NARA, M704, Roll 301, No page citation.
- <sup>37</sup> *New York NY City Directory 1840* (New York, New York: Thomas Longworth, 1840). Hereinafter cited as *New York NY City Directory 1840*.
- <sup>38</sup> 1848 March 1 Deed New York County, New York: Thomas J. Stevens to Rachel Whaley; City Register, New York County; 66 John Street, Manhattan, New York, New York; Liber 500, page 147. Hereinafter cited as 1848 March 1 Deed New York County, New York.
- <sup>39</sup> 1850 U.S. Census New Jersey, Passaic Co, Ancestry.com, Town of Aquackanonk, page 341A.
- <sup>40</sup> 1852 May 15 Deed New York County, New York: Rachel Whaley to Cornelius McCoon; City Register, New York County; 66 John Street, Manhattan, New York, New York; Liber 610, page 87. Hereinafter cited as 1852 May 15 Deed New York County, New York.
- <sup>41</sup> 1860 U.S. Census New York, Kings Co. Ancestry.com, Provo, Utah. NARA, M653, Roll 774, Brooklyn Ward 7 District 2, page 285.
- <sup>42</sup> 1865 New York State Census, Kings County. Ancestry.com, Provo, Utah. NY State Archives, Brooklyn Ward 7, page 20.
- <sup>43</sup> 1875 NY State Census, Kings Co. Ancestry.com, Provo, Utah. NY State Archives, Brooklyn, Ward 23, enumeration district 02, household number 388.
- <sup>44</sup> 1880 U.S. Census New York, Kings Co. Ancestry.com, Provo, Utah. NARA, T9, Roll 857, Brooklyn, page 323B, household number 142-181.
- <sup>45</sup> Burial Record, Green-wood Cemetery, 500 25th Street, Brooklyn, Kings, New York 11232, Lot 9494, Section 13.
- <sup>46</sup> Find A Grave, online [www.findagrave.com](http://www.findagrave.com), Memorial No. 57228141.
- <sup>47</sup> *Ibid.*, Memorial No. 57228137.
- <sup>48</sup> Burial Record, Green-wood Cemetery, 500 25th Street, Brooklyn, Kings, New York 11232, Lot 9494, Section 13.
- <sup>49</sup> 1833 Probate Alexander Whaley, Kings County, New York Surrogate, Volume 4, pages 265-269.
- <sup>50</sup> Ancestry.com Family Trees, online [www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com).
- <sup>51</sup> New York, New York City Marriages, 1829-1940, Database Family Search, online <https://familysearch.org/search/collection/2143225>, Municipal Archives City of New York, 1829-1940, Reference 1052, FHL Film No. 1543855.
- <sup>52</sup> District of Columbia Marriages, 1811-1950, Database Family Search, online <https://familysearch.org/search/catalog/1803979>, DC Clerk of the Superior Court, 1811-1950, Image Numbers 01014 & 01597; LDS Film No. 2079172.
- <sup>53</sup> 1850 U.S. Census Virginia, Jefferson Co. Ancestry.com, Provo, Utah. NARA, M432, Roll 953, Town of Harpers Ferry, page 417B.
- <sup>54</sup> 1855 1855 NY State Census, Kings Co. Ancestry.com, Provo, Utah. NY State Archives, Brooklyn Ward 18, household number 220.

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- <sup>55</sup>1860 U.S. Census New York, Kings Co, Ancestry.com, Brooklyn Ward 7, page 194.
- <sup>56</sup>1865 New York State Census, Kings County, Ancestry.com, Brooklyn Ward 7, page 20.
- <sup>57</sup>1870 U.S. Census New York, Kings Co. Ancestry.com, Provo, Utah. NARA, M593, Roll 963, Brooklyn Ward 7, page 465A.
- <sup>58</sup>1880 U.S. Census New Jersey, Bergen Co. Ancestry.com, Provo, Utah. NARA, T9, Roll 771, Town of Washington, page 611D.
- <sup>59</sup>1895 New Jersey State Census, Bergen Co. Ancestry.com, Provo, Utah. NJ State Archives, Town of Ridgewood; Roll V227\_55, page 14.
- <sup>60</sup>*New Jersey Deaths and Burials 1798-1971*, Family Search Index, online <https://familysearch.org>), FHL Film Number 59810.
- <sup>61</sup>1833 Probate Alexander Whaley, Kings County, New York Surrogate, Volume 4, pages 265-269.
- <sup>62</sup>Find A Grave, online [www.findagrave.com](http://www.findagrave.com), Memorial No. 22952416.
- <sup>63</sup>Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia, online <<http://en.wikipedia.org>>, Henry H. Whaley. Hereinafter cited as Wikipedia.
- <sup>64</sup>Henry Hurst Whaley, Managed by Paul Frere Hart, online <https://www.geni.com/people/Henry-Whaley/6000000019934765091>, Geni.com. Owned by MyHeritage.com.
- <sup>65</sup>CA, County Birth and Death Records, 1800-1994, Database Family Search, online <https://familysearch.org/search/collection/2001287>, California County Archives, 1800-1994, Reference ID 376, FHL Film No. 1832157; the 1925 death certificate of John T. Whaley names his parents as Henry Whaley and Anna Mcdebet.
- <sup>66</sup>1850 U.S. Census District of Columbia. Ancestry.com, Provo, Utah. NARA, M432, Roll 56, Ward 2, page 98B; the household includes Patrick and Kate McDevitt.
- <sup>67</sup>1860 U.S. Census California, San Bernardino Co. Ancestry.com, Provo, Utah. NARA, M653, Roll 64, Town of San Bernardino, page 623.
- <sup>68</sup>1870 U.S. Census California, San Bernardino Co. Ancestry.com, Provo, Utah. NARA, M593, Roll 78, Town of San Bernardino, page 415B.
- <sup>69</sup>1880 U.S. Census California, San Bernardino Co. Ancestry.com, Provo, Utah. NARA, T9, Roll 72, Town of San Bernardino, page 506B.
- <sup>70</sup>CA Voter Registers, 1866-1898, Ancestry.com, Collection No. 4-2A, CSL Roll No. 38, History Section CA State Library, Henry Hurst Whaley, San Bernardino, 1892.
- <sup>71</sup>1833 Probate Alexander Whaley, Kings County, New York Surrogate, Volume 4, pages 265-269.
- <sup>72</sup>Whaley Family, online <http://whaleyhouse.org/whaleyfamily.htm>, "The Whaley Family."
- <sup>73</sup>Theodore Strong VanDyke, editor, *The City and County of San Diego, Illustrated, and Containing Biographical Sketches of Prominent Men and Pioneers* (San Diego, California: Leberthon & Taylor, 1888), pages 96-101. Hereinafter cited as *The City and County of San Diego*.
- <sup>74</sup>Find A Grave, online [www.findagrave.com](http://www.findagrave.com), Memorial No. 6096125.
- <sup>75</sup>1852 California State Census, San Diego Co. Ancestry.com, Provo, Utah. California State Library, Roll #3; Repository Collection #:C144:3, page 4.
- <sup>76</sup>*New-York Evening Post*, New York, New York, 1832-1920. Hereinafter cited as *New-York Evening Post*, 16 August 1853.
- <sup>77</sup>1860 U.S. Census California, San Francisco Co. Ancestry.com, Provo, Utah. NARA, M563, Roll 68, San Francisco District 9, page 994.
- <sup>78</sup>1870 U.S. Census California, San Diego Co. Ancestry.com, Provo, Utah. NARA, M593, Roll 78, San Diego, page 487A.
- <sup>79</sup>1880 U.S. Census California, San Diego Co. Ancestry.com, Provo, Utah. NARA, T9, Roll 72, San Diego, page 560A.
- <sup>80</sup>*San Diego Union*, San Diego, California, 1868-1924. Hereinafter cited as *San Diego Union*, 15 December 1890, page 5.
- <sup>81</sup>1833 Probate Alexander Whaley, Kings County, New York Surrogate, Volume 4, pages 265-269.
- <sup>82</sup>*Heiss, Harold R. - Correspondent* (Maywood, New Jersey 07607: 842 Grant Avenue, 1977.) Hereinafter cited as *Heiss, Harold R.*
- <sup>83</sup>Ancestry.com Family Trees, online [www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com).
- <sup>84</sup>*National Intelligencer*, Washington, D.C., 1810-1869. Hereinafter cited as *National Intelligencer*, 28 January 1851, page 4.
- <sup>85</sup>1850 U.S. Census New Jersey, Passaic Co, Ancestry.com, Town of Aquackanonk, page 341A.
- <sup>86</sup>James P. Maher, *Index to Marriages and Deaths in the New York Herald 1835-1855 Volume 1* (Baltimore, Maryland: Genealogical Publishing Co, 1987), page 264. Hereinafter cited as *New York Herald Index Marriages Deaths Vol 1*.
- <sup>87</sup>1860 U.S. Census New York, Kings Co, Ancestry.com, Brooklyn Ward 7 District 2, page 213.
- <sup>88</sup>1865 New York State Census, Kings County, Ancestry.com, Brooklyn, page 35.

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<sup>89</sup>1870 U.S. Census New York, Kings Co, Ancestry.com, Brooklyn Ward 21, page 472B.

<sup>90</sup>1875 NY State Census, Kings Co, Ancestry.com, Brooklyn Ward 23, sheet number 44.

<sup>91</sup>1880 U.S. Census New York, Kings Co, Ancestry.com, Brooklyn, page 323B.

<sup>92</sup>1900 U.S. Census South Dakota, Minnehaha Co. Ancestry.com, Provo, Utah. NARA, T623, Roll 1553, Sioux Falls Ward 1, page 16B.

<sup>93</sup>Find A Grave, online [www.findagrave.com](http://www.findagrave.com), Memorial No. 51308774.