

**Thomas P. Hansell
Philadelphia, PA
1815-1841**

There is nothing that directly says Thomas P. Hansell is a son of Thomas Hansell and Mary Steiner and a brother of James S. Hansell. Here are some clues that lend credence to the idea this young man belongs to this Hansell family.

- The birth of Thomas in 1815 fits him in nicely as the third child of Thomas and Mary, born between William F. Hansell 1812-1881 and Sarah A. Hansell 1817-1862.
- The 1820 census and 1830 census for the father Thomas Hansell enumerate a male child born circa 1815 and the 1840 census for James S. Hansell also has a male born circa 1815.
- Thomas P. Hansell died May 11, 1841. His funeral was held at the residence of James S. Hansell. His obituary was published in three newspapers: *Public Ledger*, *Daily Chronical* and *Daily Pennsylvanian*.

Died.

Fif h month, 11th, 1841, THOMAS P. HANSELL,
in the 27th year of his age.
His friends, and the friends of the family, are re-
spectfully invited to attend the funeral from the resi-
dence of James S. Hansell, in Lombard street, below
Thirteenth, on Ff.h day next, (Thursday,) 13th inst.,
at 3 o'clock, without farther notice. *

- Thomas was buried in the Friends Western Burial Ground located between 16th and 17th and Race and Cherry Streets. Mary Steiner Hansell was buried in the same cemetery.

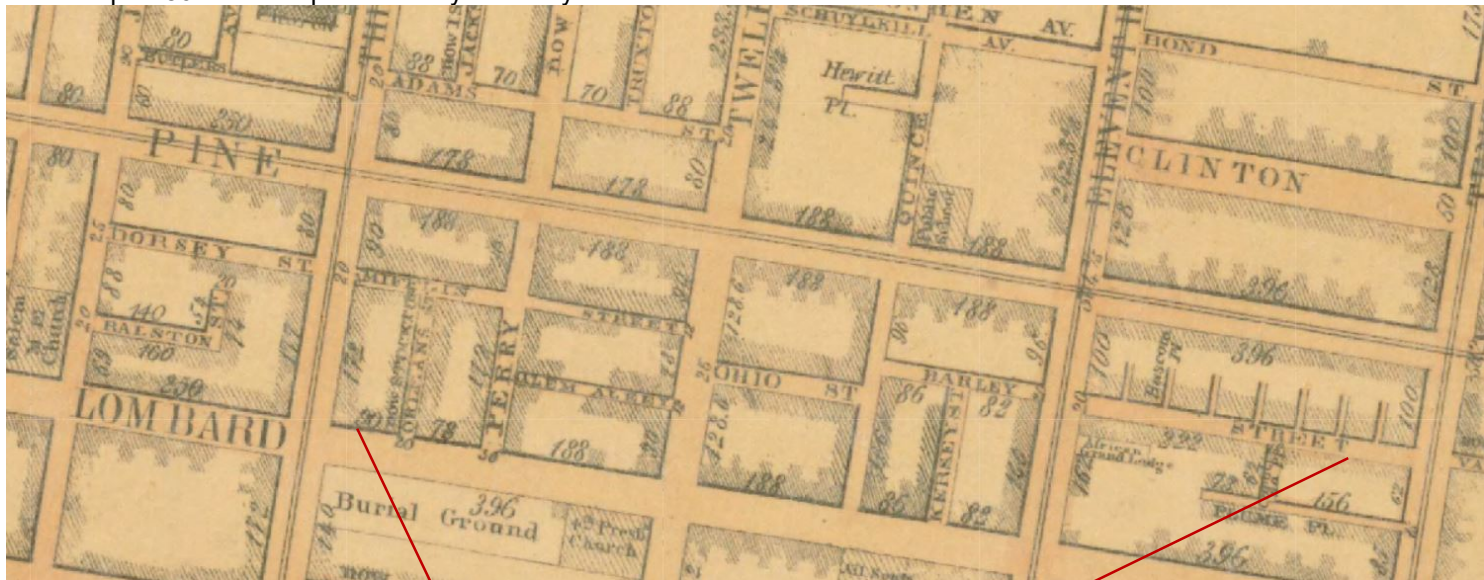
Philad^a May 11th 1841
Mr Thomas Hansell residing at No Lombard
Street, died this day of Ulceration of the Throat,
aged Twenty six Years of
H. M. Ticeum M.D.

- In 1847, Anne Hansell 1785-1847 (sister of the father Thomas Hansell) wrote her will. Anne never married and left her possessions to her female relatives: two sisters, a sister-in-law, 15 nieces, a nephew's wife and one grand-niece. Anne provided identification for each woman. James S. Hansell acted as executor and his brother William F. Hansell was a witness. The bequest to Anne's niece Emmeline Hansell reads:

Emeline Hansell, daughter of Thomas Hansell, half dozen new silver teaspoons, white counterpane, unfinished bureau cover, worked by Thos. Hansell deceased.

I think all the clues lead to a reasonable conclusion that Thomas P. Hansell is a child of Thomas Hansell and Mary Steiner.

Map - 1862 Philadelphia Atlas by Smedley



Lombard below 13th
Home of James S. Hansell

Barley above 10th
Workshop of James S. Hansell

Thomas's funeral was held at the home of James S. Hansell on Lombard, below 13th. Others in the household were James' wife Hannah Heaton and their first two children Amos and Milton. At age 86, Mary Steiner's father (or her uncle?), Frederick Steiner, was the eldest in the household.

Nine blocks north, straight up 13th Street, would take you to Budden's Alley, home of the father Thomas Hansell and his second wife Anne Pearson.

Perhaps Thomas P. Hansell was working with his brother James who had launched a successful career as a turner. The shop was located a short distance from Lombard on Barley above 10th.

Thomas's attending physician, Dr. Mark M. Reeve, also signed the death certificate of Frederick Steiner who died of old age on September 3, 1842, age 87, at James S. Hansell's house and of James S. Hansell's two year old daughter Mary S. Hansell who died November 7, 1844 of the croup. This child was interred in the Friends Western Burial Ground.

What happened to the unfinished bureau cover made by Thomas, lovingly kept by his Aunt Anne, and passed on to his sister Emmeline? Emmeline married in 1847 and moved to New York City and then to New Jersey. Did she take this piece of family memorabilia along with her when she moved into her new life?

End Notes

The children of Thomas Hansell 1786-1865 and Mary Steiner 1789-1829

James Steiner Hansell, turner 1811-1881
William Frederick Hansell, dyer 1812-1881
Thomas P. Hansell 1815-1841
Sarah A. Hansell (Eckfeldt) 1817-1863
Emmeline Hansell (Sinclair) 1820-1905
Caroline Hansell (Eckfeldt) 1822-1849
Edwin S. Hansell, turner 1824-1908
Joseph M. Hansell, dyer 1828-1854

Read about the Hansells here

<http://ancestorsandothers.net/index.htm>



Burial records for Thomas P. Hansell, his mother Mary Steiner Hansell and his niece Mary S. Hansell are recorded in US Quaker Meeting Records 1681-1935 viewed at Ancestry.com.

Philadelphia artist David J. Kennedy painted a watercolor of the Friends Western Burial Ground. <https://digitallibrary.hsp.org/index.php/Detail/objects/965>

The watercolor is dated 2-22-1864. The text at the bottom edge of the picture, written on 16th Street, reads: *1000 Cavalry have just passed.* Mr. Kennedy lived across the street and painted the picture from the second story of his house.

Anne Hansell's Will

Pennsylvania, Wills and Probate Records, 1683-1990, Anne Hansell, Wills, No. 50-99, 1847, viewed at ancestry.com. I transcribed the will here:

<http://ancestorsandothers.net/PDF/hcarolinesarah.pdf>

Mark M. Reeve, MD

Dr. Reeve was a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania Medical School, Class of 1832. I have run into him before. On July 19, 1836, Dr. Reeve was among the group of people who witnessed the astonishing ascent of the locomotive *George Washington* as it made its way, **under its own power**, up the Belmont Inclined Plane in West Philadelphia. George Hansell, Jr. (cousin of the father Thomas Hansell) owned the tavern at the top of the Inclined Plane. Maybe the Hansell family went out there to witness this historic event. Read about the Inclined Plane here: <http://ancestorsandothers.net/PDF/Inclined.pdf>