

**William Frederick Hansell, Wool and Silk Dyer  
Philadelphia, PA  
1812-1881**

William was the second child born to Thomas Hansell, turner 1786-1865 and Mary Steiner 1789-1829. William was the name of Thomas's father and Frederick the name of Mary Steiner's uncle? or father?--in any event, the Frederick Steiner, taylor, at 12 North Alley in Philadelphia with whom Thomas and Mary lived after their marriage and where Wm. F. Hansell made his first appearance into the world.

To recap, the children of Thomas and Mary Hansell are:

James Steiner Hansell, turner 1811-1881  
William Frederick Hansell, wool & silk 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, silk dyer 1828-1854

William's father, Thomas, and his brothers, James and Edwin, were turners. William learned the dyer's trade and likely passed his knowledge on to his younger brother Joseph.

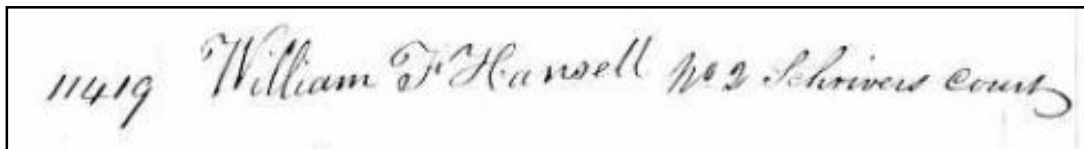
### **Where Wm. F. Hansell Lived**

Wm. F. Hansell grew up and lived in the heart of the Old City of Philadelphia. I plotted out his living places on the 1862 Smedley map.

1 – North Alley – When Wm. F. Hansell's parents, Thomas Hansell and Mary Steiner married, they lived at 12 North Alley, a long time address for Frederick Steiner. The Hansell family lived here from 1810 to about 1815. The street was renamed North Street and is among the nine Philadelphia city blocks razed to make way for the Independence National Historic Park.

2 –About 1815, the Thomas Hansell family moved to 2 Schriver's Court and Thomas worked a block away at 41 North 8th.

When he lived on Schriver's Court, 17-year-old Wm. F. opened an account at the Philadelphia Saving Fund Society on February 5, 1829.

A rectangular box containing a handwritten signature in cursive script. The text reads "11419 William F. Hansell No 2 Schriver's Court".

Shriver's Court was renamed Winfried Place or Winfield Place and is now called Appletree Street. Today this area is covered by the multi-story Convention Center parking garage and Appletree Street is mostly a parking lot.

3 – When Wm. F. Hansell married Elizabeth Wood in 1839, the couple lived with or near her mother at 14 Fayette Street. Fayette Street is located proximate to 266 Arch Street, site of the Warnock/Price confectionery which comes into play later. Today, the south half of Fayette Street is a parking garage and the north half is an alley.

4 – About 1840, Wm. F. Hansell, his wife Elizabeth Wood and her mother and her siblings moved to 24 Greenleaf's Court. I found the first advertisement for Wm. F.'s business at this address.

**W. F. Hansell, Silk and Woollen Dyer and  
Scourer, 24 Greenleaf's Court, S. Fourth St. [127-3n\*]**

This street was renamed Merchant Street in 1841 and in 1897 the name was changed to Ludlow Street. Today, Ludlow Street runs between the historic Philadelphia Bourse building (one of the first metal frame buildings in Philadelphia erected in 1895 to serve as the stock exchange, maritime exchange and grain trading center) and the National Museum of American Jewish History.

5 – On December 16, 1848, Wm. F. Hansell and his soon-to-be-neighbor William Brady attended the auction of Henry Ritter's estate. Henry Ritter, baker, had purchased 22 and 24 North Fifth in 1784. Henry died in 1798 leaving his widow Ann and seven or eight children.

The widow Ritter died in 1842 and the property went on the auction block in 1848. William Brady bought 22 North Fifth for \$3,500 (GWC 1/465) and William F. Hansell acquired 24 North Fifth for \$4,150 (AWM 88/378).

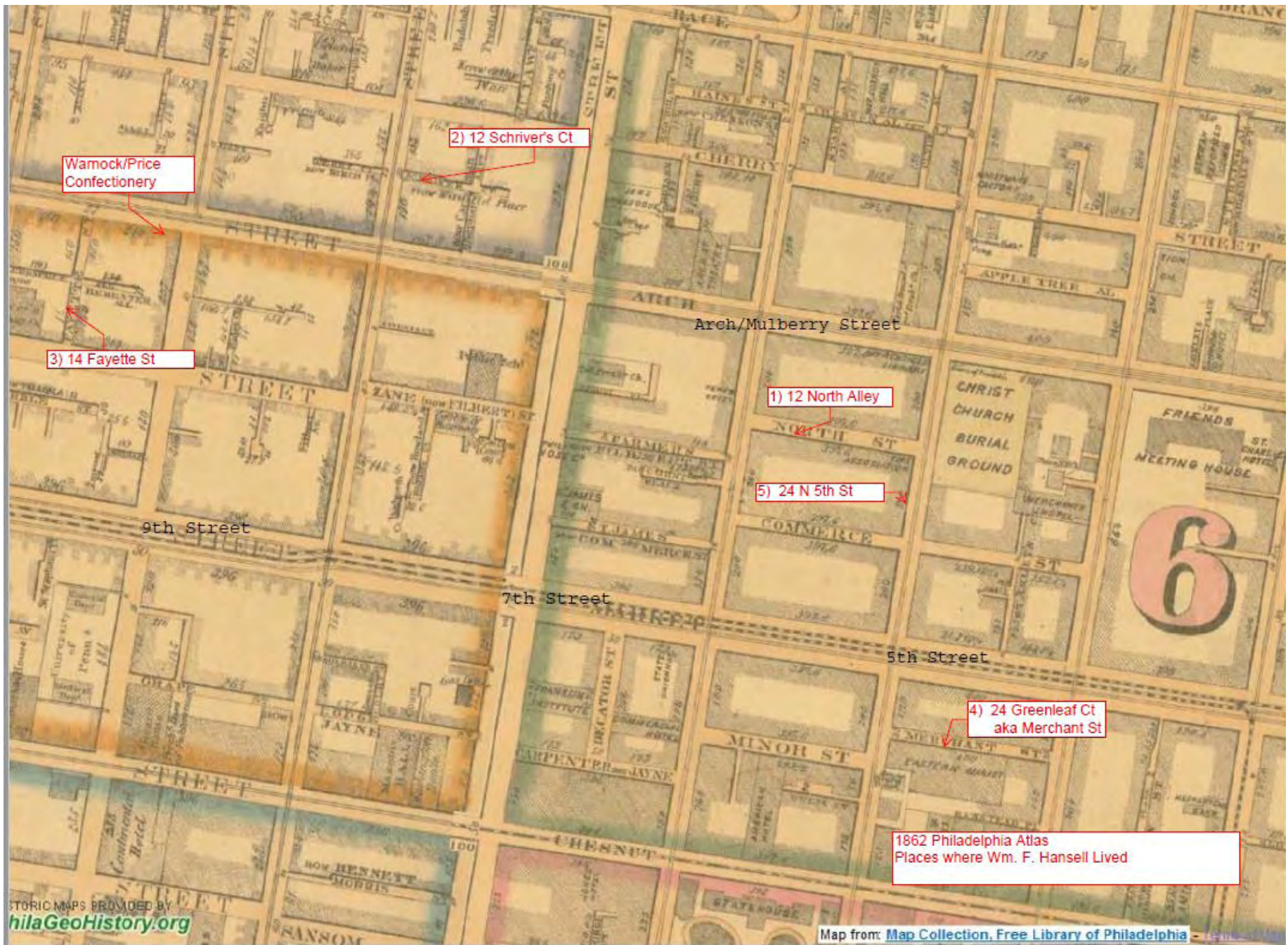
The deeds state the neighbors could share the joint privy located between their properties or make their own arrangements. History is mum on this detail.

Wm. F. Hansell and family lived/worked at 24 North Fifth Street until 1866 when Wm. F. sold the property to The Jefferson Fire Insurance Company (LRB 150/36) for \$10,000. This building is among the blocks razed to make way for the Independence National Historic Park.

\* \* \* \*

Wm. F.'s neighbors on North Fifth were an interesting mix of can-do Philadelphia widows: a quilter, a printer, a dyer/scourer, one landlady and an innkeeper. Read about these women in the End Notes starting on Page 29.

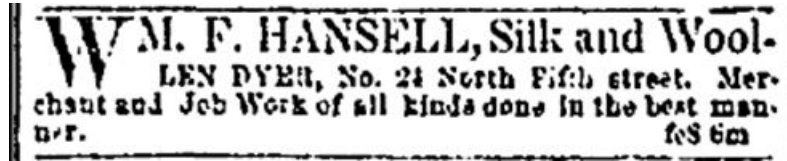
Starting at Page 36 is another diversion: Finding the Nichol Sisters: Margaret Nichol Simpson Galloway, Jane Nichol Warnock and Mary Nichol Murphy.



## Hansell's Dye House

When Wm. F. Hansell purchased 24 North 5th Street in 1848, the property included, besides the front three-story brick residence, "three-story back buildings, including a dining room, Bake House with large oven, &c." The Ritter family had operated a bakery here for the last 75 years. Wm. F. retrofitted the back buildings for his dye house.

1853 advert.



The 1850 and 1860 Manufacturing Schedules provide a small window into Wm. F.'s business.

1850 Manufacturing Schedule - High Street Ward (24 N 5th)

### Wm. F. Hansell, Silk & Woolen Dyer

Capital invested	\$1,000
Raw materials/value	Dyes and drugs/\$500. Coal/\$250.
Kind of motive power	Hand
Average no. of hands employed	5 males, 2 females
Average monthly cost of labor	\$125 for males, \$50 for females
Annual product/value	Dying of all kinds/\$4,000

1860 Manufacturing Schedule - 6th Ward (24 N 5th)

### Wm. F. Hansell, Dyer

Capital invested	\$2,500
Raw materials/value	--/\$350
Kind of motive power	Hand
Average no. of hands employed	1 male, 1 female
Average monthly cost of labor	\$30 for males, \$12 for females
Annual product/value	--/\$2,500

The 1850 census tells us one of his workers was his brother-in-law, George Wood. Wm. F. placed a few help-wanted advertisements.



1850



1855



1859



No. 34.

VIOLET.

A variety of shades of this colour may be dyed by first steeping the Silk in Alum, and then dyeing with a little Cudbear and Logwood, according to shade.

If a very blue shade is required, add a little Ammonia, and if a red shade is required, add a little Alum with the Cudbear. Clean cold water will blue this class of colours. The Violets are not all dyed in this manner: some are dyed in a Plum Vat.

No. 36.

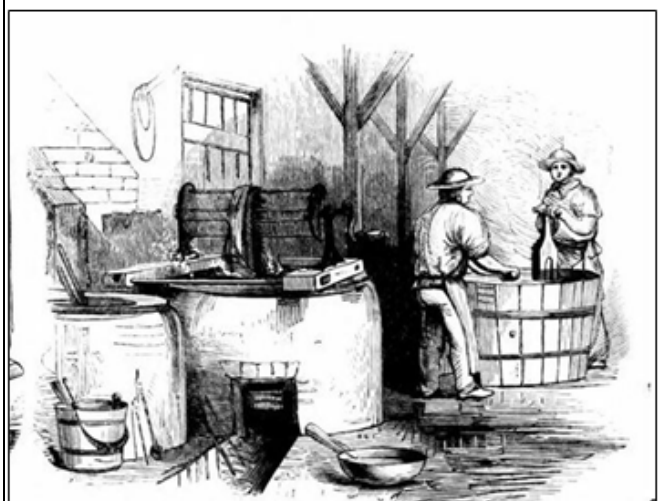
10 lbs. OF SILK.—LIGHT GREEN.

In a tub of cold water, add 6 lbs. of dissolved Alum, give the Silk a few turns, steep it in the same Liquor all night, and wash it out next morning. Boil up 10 lbs. of chipped Ebony Wood, put the clear Liquor into another tub of water, at 100°, give 6 turns, lift up, and add about 1 gill of Extract of Indigo, or more, according to shade required.

*The Dyer's Instructor*, by David Smith, published in 1850, contains 800 formulas for dyeing wool, cotton and silk. These two recipes illustrate the combination of drugs and dyes for achieving violet and light green.

When he needed to stock up on supplies, maybe Wm. F. consulted the pages of the *Philadelphia Commercial List* which published the current Philadelphia wholesale prices of drugs and dyes: alcohol, alum and annatto to salts, sarsaparilla and seammony.

And what did the inside of the dye house look like? Here are a photo and an illustration which may, or may not, bear resemblance to Wm. F. Hansell's operation.



## A Short Stint of Civic Engagement

In the early 1850s, William was a member of the Democratic Whig Citizens political party. This party elected him to represent the High Street Ward as a member of the Common Council, which ran the Philadelphia city government. He served as Chairman of the Legacies & Trusts Committee and was a member of the Visitation to Girard College contingent. By 1855, William was no longer involved with city politics and the Whig party had disbanded.

Wm. F. was a member of the Masons, particularly Lafayette Lodge No. 18 and Si-loan Encampment No. 17 IOOF (Independent Order of Odd Fellows).

## Wm. F. Hansell, Administrator and the Revelatory Deed

This notice in the 8-3-1865 *Daily Evening Bulletin* got me on the road to discovering the children of Thomas Hansell and Mary Stiner. Thomas Hansell died July 6, 1865 and Wm. F. served as administrator for his father's estate. One would think the role of administrator might go to the eldest son, but the eldest, James S. Hansell, had moved to New Jersey and was undoubtedly busy working his berry and cider businesses just outside of Rancocas.

**LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION** having been granted to the subscriber upon the Estate of THOMAS HANSELL, deceased, all persons indebted to the same will make payment, and those having claims present them to WILLIAM F. HANSELL, Administrator, 24 North Fifth street. Jy 27-1865

When I read this notice in the newspaper I was on a search for the children of Thomas Hansell and Mary Steiner. No one else had been there and done that. I knew only about the first child, James S. Hansell; but early census records indicated other siblings. This newspaper clipping got my brain percolating and it finally dawned on me to search Philadelphia deeds for grantor William F. Hansell, acting as administrator of his father's estate. Thomas Hansell had died intestate leaving real estate on Budden's Alley. This was a turning point in my Hansell research.

487

William F. Hansell  
to  
Joseph B. Byers

This Indenture made the sixteenth day of April in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty eight Between William F. Hansell Administrator of the estate of Thomas Hansell late of the City of Philadelphia deceased of the one part and Joseph B. Byers of the said City Gentleman of the other part

Deed JTO 112/437 records the sale of the Budden's Alley property, sold at auction on April 16, 1868, for \$7,100.

As far as old deeds go, I was in luck. The deed was not deteriorated, mold had not obliterated the page numbers, the writing was not faded, the clerk had OK

handwriting, and the deed provided the names of Thomas Hansell's heirs--four living children (James, William F., Emmeline, Edwin) and grandchildren (of the deceased Sarah, Caroline and Joseph) that needed just a bit of sorting out.

## Census Data – Wm. F. Hansell

<b>1840 - Chestnut Ward Transcribed Wm. G Hansell. (24 Greenleaf/Merchant is in the Chestnut Ward)</b>			
<b>This is probably Wm. F. Hansell though the child Penina Wood is missing.</b>			
1 M 5-9		George Wood	
1 M 20-29		Wm. F. Hansell	
1 F 20-29		Elizabeth Wood Hansell	
1 F 30-39		Sarah Wood	
1 F 50-59		unknown	
			1 person employed in commerce
<b>1850 - High Street Ward 24 North Fifth St</b>			
Wm. F. Hansell	40	Dyer	\$4,000 RE
Anna Hansell	20		
Thomas Hansell	9		
Wm. F Hansell	3/12		
Sarah Wood	50		
George Wood	18	Dyer	
Penina Wood	22		
<b>1860 - Ward 6, Div. 1 24 North Fifth St</b>			
Wm. F. Hansell	47	Dyer	\$4,000 RE/\$2,000 PP
MA Hansell	28		
Thos Hansell	19	Clerk	
Wm. Hansell	10		
Jane Taggert	49	Domestic	
<b>1870 - Ward 24, Dist 78 3414 Haverford St, WP</b>			
Wm. Hansell	57	Retired wool dyer	\$3,000 RE/\$16,000 PP
William	20	Printer	
Annie	18	Keeping House	Married in May
Jane Taggert	58		
<b>1880 - Dist 488 3414 Haverford St, WP</b>			
Wm. F. Hansell	67	Retired dyer	
Wm. Hansell	30	Son, Composer	
Sarah A. Hansell	28	Daughter-in-law, Keeping House	
Fred. C. Hansell	8	Grandson, at school	
Emina Hansell	5	Granddaughter, at school	
Jane Taggert	70	Servant/Servant	

## The Two Wives of Wm. F. Hansell - Elizabeth Wood and Margaret Ann Price

**Elizabeth Wood** 1819-1843 is the daughter of George Wood and Sarah 1800-1868. My best guess about George is he may be the George Wood listed in the 1830 Philadelphia City Directory "paper stainer, rear 25 Prospect Alley." In any event, George apparently died in the 1830s. The mother Sarah and her children lived with Wm. F. Hansell from the time of Elizabeth's marriage into the 1850s, probably until Penina married.

The known Wood children are:

Elizabeth Wood 1819-1843 +William F. Hansell  
Penina Wood 1830-1897 +John S. Glisson  
George Wood 1832-unknown

Elizabeth was 20 when she married 27 year old Wm. F. on September 23, 1839 by Rev. John Chambers. The marriage is recorded in the First Independent Church records.

The typesetter had a little trouble getting the W into place for the newspaper announcement.

**Married,**  
**On the 23d ult., by the Rev. John Chambers, Mr.**  
**Wm. F. Hansell, to Miss Elizabeth Wood, both of**  
**is city.**

10-17-1839 *Public Ledger*

Elizabeth's child Thomas Hansell was born in 1840. Elizabeth died from diabetes on October 20, 1843.

*Elizabeth Hansell, wife of Wm. F. Hansell in the 24th year of her age. The friends of the family are respectfully invited to attend her funeral, from the residence of William F. Hansell, in Merchant Street, below 5th, tomorrow afternoon, 2 o'clock. To proceed to Monument Cemetery.*

10-21-1843 *Public Ledger*

---

Rev. John Chambers was a prominent Presbyterian pastor who served continuously for 50 years at the Broad Street Independent Church at the northeast corner of Broad and Sansom Streets. Reportedly he was six feet tall, had a commanding presence and wonderful oratory.



**Margaret Ann Price** 1829-1865 is a daughter of Thomas Price and Margaretta Warnock 1811-1842. On February 24, 1848, 36 year old widower William F. Hansell married 20 year old Margaret Ann Price (apparently known as M.A.). When the bride arrived at Fifth Street, she joined a family consisting of seven year old Thomas Hansell, Sarah Wood, the mother of Wm. F. Hansell's deceased first wife, and Sarah's two grown children, Penina and George.



A will and bible records connect Margaret Ann Hansell to her birth family. In 1864, one year before Margaret Hansell's death, the widow Jane Warnock 1789-1871 executed her will and left \$100 to her "granddaughter Margaret Ann Hansell" (Will Book 73, 1871, Pg. 80, #663). Bible records of Joseph Warnock and Jane Nichol include the marriage of Margaret Ann and William F. Hansell. The Nichols and Warnocks are interesting, so here goes.

\* \* \*

On November 8, 1810, Jane Nichol 1790-1871 married Joseph Warnock 1779-1819. Joseph and John Warnock 1779-1844 (likely they are brothers) were Philadelphia nail manufacturers. Business-wise, the brothers kept a pretty low profile. They do have a small claim to fame--supplying nails and spikes for construction of the Fairmount Water Works. The Warnock shops were located on North 9th or 10th Streets near the intersection with Market.

We know Joseph Warnock prospered enough to buy a residence in 1815, located on the aptly-named Prosperous Alley (MR 93/355, 357). But, in 1819 he died of a fever, leaving his wife Jane and four children ranging in age from a few months to nine years. See the Nichol Sisters partial descendant tree in the End Notes. The Warnock children:

- Margaretta 1811-1842 (+Thomas Price)
- Robert 1813-1862 (+Matilda Bower)
- Jane 1815-1816
- Mary 1817-1880 (+Samuel Price)
- William 1819-1900 (+Eliza Harrison Porter)

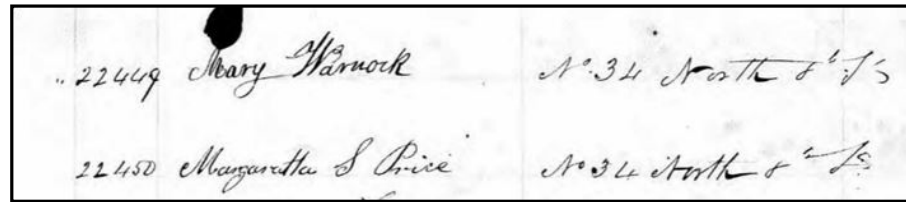
By 1821, the property at Prosperous Alley was sold to settle a debt incurred by Joseph (Sheriff's Deed C/485) and Jane moved to North Eighth Street, just above Market, where she is identified as a shopkeeper or grocer in the Philadelphia City Directories.

Jane Warnock was one of those can-do widows of Philadelphia. After her husband's early death, she raised four children, started a confectionery business, and purchased a building at 266 Arch Street.

---

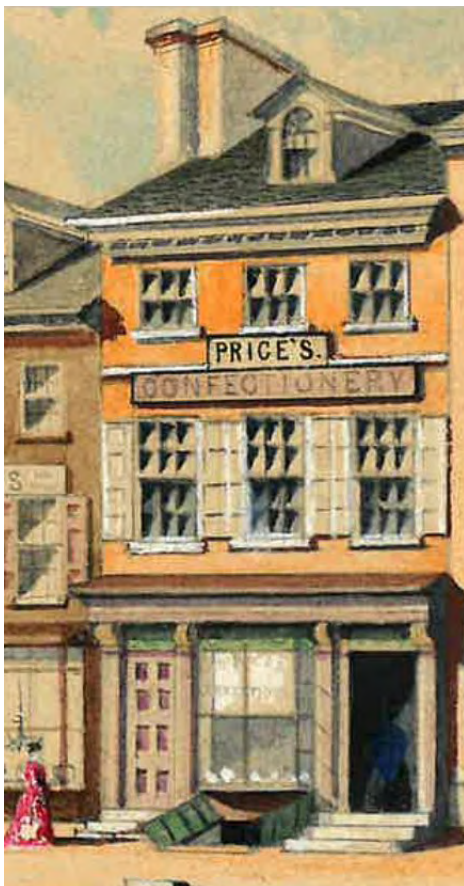
For the source of the Warnock bible records and an exploration of the Nichol family (including a partial descendant tree), read *Finding the Nichol Sisters* in the End Notes.

Jane and her children opened accounts at The Philadelphia Saving Fund Society (incorporated in 1816). The bank took in deposits on Mondays and paid out money on Thursdays. Here are the sisters, Margaretta, age 22 and married, and Mary, 16, of 34 North 8th Street, on a Monday, May 13, 1833, making deposits. In 1841, the Warnock sons would purchase 34 North 8th Street (GS 29/89).



At some point in the early 1830s, Jane and her son-in-law Thomas Price entered into a partnership as confectioners.

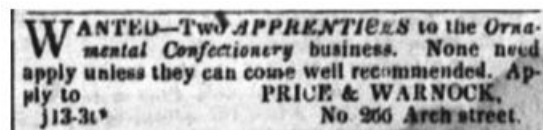
On June 20, 1835, Jane Warnock and Thomas Price, confectioners, purchased a lot on the west side of Jacoby Street (SHF 13/365). On June 5, 1837, Jane Warnock and Thomas and Margaretta Price (husband and wife), confectioners, sold the Jacoby Street property (which now included a two-story frame house - SHF 13/366).



Perhaps the sale of the Jacoby Street property helped fund the March 15, 1837 purchase of property at 266 Arch Street (SHF 16/498). Jane Warnock and Thomas Price paid \$4,000 and assumed a mortgage of \$6,000. The property included brick and frame buildings on two contiguous lots.

Fortunately, the building caught the attention of Philadelphia watercolorist David J. Kennedy. The shop and living quarters faced Arch Street. A bakery building was at the back of the lot abutting Prospect Alley.

July 1838



Warnock and Price dissolved their partnership January 1, 1839. Jane bought out the half share owned by Thomas and Margaretta for \$2,500 (SHF 31/359) and duly informed the public she was still in business.

Detail of Price's Ice Cream & Confectionery in 1843  
266 Arch/Mulberry Street, between 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> Streets (now 926 Arch)  
View the watercolor in the digital archives of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania  
<https://digitallibrary.hsp.org/index.php/Detail/objects/2981>

January 28, 1839 *Public Ledger*

*Jane Warnock, of the late firm of Price & Warnock, Confectioners and Cake Bakers, No. 266 Arch Street, near Tenth, begs leave to inform the customers of the late firm and the public in general, that she intends continuing the business in all its branches, at the above place, and hopes, by a strict attention to business, and employing the same workmen as formerly employed to merit a continuance of the custom extended to the late firm.*

*N. B. Candy Ornaments, Ice Cream, Jellies, Blanch Mange, Marischino Water, Ices, &c. made in the best manner and at the shortest notice.*

Jane's daughter (and mother of Margaret who will marry Wm. F. Hansell) Margaretta S. Price died on November 24, 1842. Her funeral was held at her mother's residence, 266 Arch Street. The November 26, 1842 *Philadelphia Inquirer* reported:

*On Thursday evening, 24<sup>th</sup>, inst. After a lingering illness, which she bore with Christian firmness, Mrs. Margaretta S. Price, in the 32d year of her age, eldest daughter of the late Joseph Warnock. Her friends and those of the family are respectfully invited to attend her funeral, from her mother's residence, No. 266 Arch Street, near Tenth, on Sunday afternoon at 1 o'clock.*

I don't know where Margaretta's husband Thomas Price came from or where he ended up. And I don't know if he is related to the Samuel Price who married Margaretta's sister Mary in the late 1830s. Mary and her husband Samuel Price operated Jane Warnock's business and it was known as Price's Ice Cream & Confectionery.

Margaretta's children can be deduced from two wills.

- In her 1864 will, Jane Warnock left money to granddaughters Margaret Ann Hansell (\$100) and Emma Matilda Snyder (\$100).
- 1857 probate records for the will of Jane's sister, Margaret Nichol Simpson Galloway, show bequests to the grandchildren of Jane Warnock (Greene Co., Ohio, Estate Files, File Box, No 17-20). A cryptic list includes the children of Margaretta Warnock Price: *J.W., M.A. & E.M. Price.*

M.A. is Margaret Ann Price who married Wm. F. Hansell.

J.W. is Joseph Warnock Price 1834-1889. Joseph learned the dry goods business with his uncles Robert and William Warnock. He married Mary Ann Henry 1833-1885 and they had two children.

E.M. is Emma Matilda Price 1835-1907. Emma is listed living with Jane Warnock and Mary and Samuel Price at 266 Arch Street in the 1850 census. Emma married Lewis Snyder in 1858. Emma is not a daughter of Mary Warnock Price as Mary's will (Wills, No. 413, Year 1880) lists only her three sons. Uncle William Warnock's will provided a legacy of \$100 for his "niece Emma Matilda Snyder."

---

An inventory of Mary Price's estate lists the interesting personal property associated with the confectionery business, such as cake pans, rolling pins, candy stone, copper sauce pans, ice cream freezers, walnut pedestal tables and chairs, plate glass counters, and one cuckoo clock.

After Jane Warnock's death, Mary and Samuel Price continued on with the confectionery and eventually Mary and Samuel's kids worked in the family business. Jane Warnock's will provided for Arch Street to be held in trust for the benefit of Mary and her children. After Mary Warnock Price's death, her children, Samuel, William and Howard, sold the building out of the family in 1883.

And what of Jane's sons? Hard work and real estate investments earned Robert and William an entry in the anonymously published 1846 publication *Memoirs and Autobiography of Some of the Wealthy Citizens of Philadelphia, with a Fair Estimate of Their Estates*. The entry reads: "Made their money in the retail dry goods business, within a few years, by close attention, and constant industry" and their estimated worth: \$50,000.

\* \* \*

So, the new bride, Margaret Hansell, probably made the trek from North Fifth Street up to Tenth to visit her relatives, grandmother Jane Warnock and aunt Mary Warnock Price at the confectionery at 266 Arch Street. She could stop in to see her uncles Robert and William Warnock at their very successful dry goods store on North Eighth Street, as well as visit her siblings Joseph Warnock Price and Emma Matilda Price.

Back on North Fifth Street, Margaret and William F. Hansell's first child, William, Jr., was born in 1850. Their second child, Emina, was born in 1854 and died two years later.

Margaret Ann Price Hansell died May 17, 1865, at home on North Fifth Street, from "disease of the heart." She was buried in the Hansell plot A-475 at Monument Cemetery. Out-lived by her grandmother Jane Warnock, Margaret never realized her \$100 legacy, but surely she received the \$100 left by her great aunt Margaret Nichol Galloway.

**HANSELL—Suddenly, on the 17th instant, Mrs. M. A. wife of Wm. F. Hansell. The relatives and friends of the family are invited to attend the funeral, this day, at 3 o'clock, from her husband's residence, No. 24 N. Fifth street.**

*Philadelphia Inquirer* 5-20-1865

---

When Monument Cemetery was destroyed for a parking lot, the Hansell plot was, in theory, moved to Lawnview Memorial Park in Rockledge, PA.

The Warnocks made a concerted effort to keep their family together after death. It looks as though Jane Warnock was reunited with her husband Joseph, daughter Margaretta and brother-in-law William Simpson on the day she was buried in The Woodlands Cemetery.

There are clues that suggest Joseph Warnock 1779-1819 and his daughter Margaretta S. Warnock Price 1811-1842 were originally interred in the Associate Church Burial Ground (Presbyterian) located on 13<sup>th</sup> Street just below Spruce. William Simpson was buried there in 1829. In 1853, the three were reinterred in one grave in Section A, Lot 833 of the Monument Cemetery. They rested there just short of 20 years until the day Jane Warnock died in December 1871. Once again, Joseph, Margaretta and William Simpson were gathered up and buried on the same day as Jane Warnock at The Woodlands, Section H, Lot 20.

Mary S. Warnock and her husband Samuel Price also gathered in their children who died young for permanent burial at The Woodlands.

## The Housekeeper - Jane Taggart

Another member of the Wm. F. Hansell family was Jane Taggart 1811-1888. She is identified on the census as a domestic or servant.

Jane was born in Pennsylvania about 1811. Her father was Irish. Her parents may have been John and Juliana Taggart. She could have been related to the Wood family in some way. In other words, a single woman who has slipped through the cracks of genealogy.

Jane was a constant presence in the Hansell family from at least 1860 through 1880.



**Widows' Asylum, 3615 Chestnut Street, West Philadelphia**  
Jane Taggart's last home.

On January 30, 1883, Jane took up residence in the Widow's Asylum, an old ladies home run by The Indigent Widows and Single Woman's Society. She first lived in their original facility at 18th and Cherry Streets in Philadelphia.

In the 1880 census, the Asylum had about 77 women boarders, most in their 70s and 80s, single or widowed. The census reports the women were "self-supporting and not indigent. Inmates pay for their own board and furnish their own rooms." Admittance to the residence required satisfactory references, a \$150 entrance fee and the women were to assign their property, if any, to the Asylum.

In 1887, the residents moved into a new building at 3615 Chestnut Street, West Philadelphia. Here Jane died at the age of 76 on January 4, 1888, of dementia and old age.

**TAGGERT,—On the 4th inst., JANE TAGGERT, in the 76th year of her age. Funeral services at the Widows' Asylum, Thirty-sixth and Chestnut streets, this (Friday) afternoon, 5th inst., at 2 o'clock precisely. Interment at Ronaldson's Cemetery.**

1-6-1888 *Philadelphia Inquirer*

At Jane's death, her worldly possessions were listed in the records of the Widows Asylum: 2 aprons, 2 shawls, 4 handkerchiefs, 3 night-gowns, 3 pairs of drawers, 3 shirts, 3 dresses, 1 bonnet and a purse containing 54 cents.



## Wm. F. Hansell Retires to 3414 Haverford Avenue, West Philadelphia

Amazingly, this wood frame house, built in 1853, lasted until 2021.



Twin house - 3412 and 3414 Haverford Ave.  
Google Earth street scene Oct 2018

William's second wife, Margaret Ann Price, died in May of 1865. William purchased a dwelling in West Philadelphia (Deed LRB 102/271) in June, downsized via a moving sale in October, and crossed the Schuylkill River to become a retired gentlemen living at 3414 Haverford Street, West Philadelphia.

The wood frame twin house was built about 1853. The property line runs through the center of the house--3412 is to the left and 3414 to the right. The twin house was added to the Philadelphia Register of Historic Places in 2020. Unfortunately, it was demolished by the end of 2021.

Residents of 3414 Haverford in 1865 were Wm. F., his son William, age 15, and the housekeeper Jane Taggart. In time, William, Jr. married Annie Clear and their children Frederick and Emina grew up in this house.

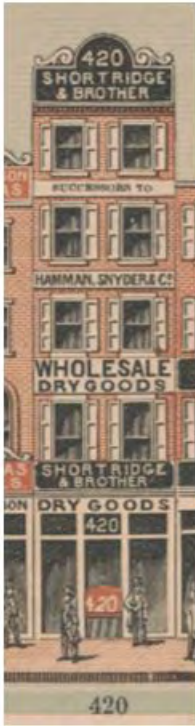
---

Here is the application submitted by The University City Historical Society (Philadelphia, PA) to have 3414 Haverford placed on the Register of Historic Places.

<https://www.phila.gov/media/20210115110433/3414-Haverford-Ave-nomination.pdf>

## Wm. F. Hansell's Children

**Thomas Hansell 1841-1863.** This child's mother was Elizabeth Wood, Wm. F. Hansell's first wife. Thomas was two when his mother died.



The 1860 census lists Thomas's occupation as a clerk. He was a salesman for Shortridge & Brother at 420 Market Street. The firm dealt in the wholesale dry goods business. Thomas worked along side John S. Glisson, husband of his aunt Penina Wood.

In 1862, Thomas and his cousin Amos Hansell 1837-1890 (son of James S. Hansell) were in partnership as A&T Hansell, Retail Druggists, on the northwest corner of 9th and Noble Streets. Cousin Amos was an 1858 graduate of the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy and Thomas must have been familiar with the drugs and dyes used in his father's business.

After the partnership dissolved, Thomas continued on with the business at the same address, calling himself an apothecary.

Shortridge & Brother, 420 Market St (between 4th and 5th, south side)  
Thomas Hansell clerked here along side John S. Glisson who married Tom's aunt Penina Wood.

At the start of the Civil War, Thomas and his cousin Amos Hansell were among the first Philadelphians to sign up when the call went out for volunteers. The two young men enlisted for a three-month term in Company A of the 23rd PA Volunteers on April 21, 1861 and were discharged on July 31, 1861.

After Company A reached Havre de Grace, Maryland, and set up Camp Reilly on the north bank of the Susquehanna River, Amos wrote a letter to his 12 year old brother Wilmot. Thomas Hansell is mentioned.

*One of the boys is asleep, two are reading the newspaper, and Tom and another Soldier are talking about swimming. George is out on Guard. Our candle is stuck in the end of the bayonet, and the point of the bayonet is stuck into the floor, that is, into the ground. Aint that a pretty candlestick? We sleep five in one row and one across the foot, we take turns sleeping at the foot so that each fellow can have a chance to have toes stuck into his ears and bread basket all night. The tents ought only to have five in them. We never take off our pantaloons to sleep, warm nights we take off our shoes, but keep our stockings on....*

---

Time-line for the three-month 23rd PA Volunteers and a link to Amos Hansell's letter. The letter was passed down through Wilmot Hansell's descendants.

<https://www.angelfire.com/pa5/gettysburgpa/23rdpatimeline.html>

The July 24, 1861 *Philadelphia Inquirer* tells of the home coming of the 23rd PA Volunteers. The article remarks on the men's sunburned faces. In his letter to Wilmot, Amos Hansell wrote: *I am getting so sunburnt that I look like the rind side of smoked ham.*

<p><b>LOCAL INTELLIGENCE.</b></p> <p><b>RETURN OF COL. DARE'S REGIMENT.</b>—Yesterday afternoon, the Twenty-third Pennsylvania Regiment, Col. DARE, reached the city about five P. M. An announcement had been made, and it was generally understood that the regiment would arrive about two o'clock. The depot of the Philadelphia and Baltimore Railroad was accordingly besieged at this early hour by the friends and relations of the returning volunteers. The crowd was composed mostly of females, who clustered anxiously around the building, some jubilant in the anticipation of soon seeing sons, others awaiting the return of brothers, and all discussing the stirring events taking place at the seat of war. It was an interesting and amusing scene to notice with what zeal and earnestness the female portion of the assemblage criticised the great battle at Bull's run. Some would have it that our army had no Generals fit to command such worthy boys as we had sent forth; others believed that the loss on the Federal side was owing to the fact that everybody was allowed to witness the fight, and thereby confuse the soldiers. Of course, the views of all were ventilated pretty well, as a sufficient time for that purpose elapsed before the arrival of the regiment. About 5 o'clock the locomotive sent forth its shrill cry, and all were on the alert. The arrival of the train was greeted with much cheering. The crowd which had gathered around was so great that it</p>	<p>was extremely difficult for the soldiers to get out of the cars. Every volunteer seemed to have at least a dozen friends, who shook hands as though parted for years. Every one inquired about the "great battle," but the Twenty-third could give no information, as they had not been in the engagement. It was long before the soldiers could be mustered into anything like proper order, so great was the pushing of the crowd. At length the men got in line and commenced to move up Broad street, headed by Col. DARE and Lieutenant-Colonel BIRNEY. A platoon of policemen kept the passage way clear along the route. The men bore the appearance of having passed through severe ordeals. Their faces and hands were completely sunburned, and their clothing was in a very bad condition. The hats of the Regiment were not even all of a like pattern. The shoes of most of the men were as though falling to pieces. The officers' uniforms were thick with dust, and their faces hardly discernable by their own friends, so great a change had three months' service produced.</p> <p>The men marched up Broad to Christian, down Christian to Third, up Third to Chesnut, up Chesnut to Fifteenth, up Fifteenth to Filbert and then towards the Arsenal. Here the men halted and afterwards proceeded to the second story, where they stacked arms, and were dismissed to meet at the same place at noon to-day.</p> <p>It was rather unfortunate that the regiment should have arrived yesterday. The people had not recovered from the shock with which they heard of the retreat of the Federal Army from Bull's Run. Of course, no reception appropriate to the merit of the men was given. When pass-</p>	<p>ing the houses of the Marion Hose, Niagara Hose, Southwark Hose, and Warren Hose Companies, the bells pealed out merrily. It is understood that about two-thirds of the men will reenlist. General PATTERSON paid them a visit on Sunday morning, and, taking leave of them, complimented them highly upon their proficiency. They left Sandy Hook, one mile below Harper's Ferry, on Monday morning, and arrived in Baltimore at two o'clock on Tuesday morning.</p>
--	--	--

Thomas has the sad distinction of having his wedding and death notices appear on the same page of the newspaper. On January 29, 1863, Thomas married Johanna M. Taylor. On the 30th, Thomas died of consumption at his father-in-law's home. He is buried in the Taylor plot at Laurel Hill Cemetery in Philadelphia (Section 7, Lot 209).

<p><b>MARRIED.</b></p> <p><b>HANSELL.—TAYLOR.</b>—On the evening of the 29th January, by the Rev. R. G. Chase, Mr. Thomas Hansell to Miss Johanna M. Taylor, only daughter of Joseph H. Taylor, Esq., all of this city.</p> <p><b>MASON.—BATEMEN.</b>—On the 29th ult., by Rev. Wesley Kenney, Mr. Philip S. Mason to Miss Sallie S. Batemen.</p> <p><b>DIED.</b></p> <p><b>HANSELL.</b>—On the evening of the 30th ult., Thomas Hansell, in the 23d year of his age.</p> <p>The relatives and friends are respectfully invited to attend the funeral, from the residence of his father-in-law, Joseph H. Taylor, No. 1816 Wallace street, this (Monday) afternoon, February 2, at two o'clock, without further notice.</p>
---

2-2-1863 Press (Philadelphia. PA)

This awful coincidence of marriage and death did not escape the attention of a reporter for the *North American and United States Gazette*. The following item was placed prominently on the first page, in the City Affairs column, of the February 3, 1863 issue.

*From the Marriage Bed to the Tomb.*

*In the morning papers of yesterday appeared two notices. The one was included in the list of marriages, and the other swelled the catalogue of deaths. The subject of both notices was the same person.*

(Marriage and death notices reproduced.)

*Of the scriptural admonition, "in the midst of life we are in death," no illustration could be more apt than this. The young man whose lifeless clay was yesterday laid beneath the sod of the cemetery was a bridegroom for the brief space of four and twenty hours. In the corresponding hour in the night succeeding that of his nuptials he was learning the awful mysteries of another world. He was married at nine o'clock on Thursday evening, at the residence of the father of his bride. The house was filled with a joyous party of happy youth. Through the heavy silken curtains the light barely shed a ray upon the street outside. There was no care nor sorrow amid the assemblage, and the family pastor pronounced the ceremony that made the pair of one flesh amid the fervent prayers of parents and friends, that their union might be long and happy.*

*The afternoon of the next day removed the thin veil before the eyes of the young husband that opened to him the view of eternity. He was seized with a hemorrhage of the lungs,*

*and at the corresponding hour of his marriage on the night previous. At nine o'clock on Thursday night the clergyman was pronouncing the impressive form of marriage according to the ritual of the Episcopal Church. On Friday at the same moment he was offering up the sublime service for the dying. Yesterday afternoon he said over the cold clay the office for the dead, committing it dust to dust and ashes to ashes. The young bride of the few hours before followed to the grave in the weeds of earliest widowhood the Remains of her dead husband. The funeral was a very large one. The sympathies of the entire neighborhood were with the afflicted family. There were few dry eyes while the pastor was offering the solemn prayer...If there ever was a time when the divine question, "What is your life?" could be fittingly answered, it was yesterday afternoon, as over the coffin of the young husband above referred to the tears of the bride-widow were dropping. The man who could behold such a scene without a heart-ache, can have little sympathy in his composition. It is a hard lesson to say "He doeth all things well," but the heart that can feel it is safely anchored beyond the reach of all earthly trouble.*

Life did not go well for the widow Johanna Taylor Hansell. Her mother had died in 1856. Her husband of one day died in 1863. Her father died in 1865. Two months later she married Samuel A. Waterbury. In 1866, Johanna's brother Thomas died. In 1871, while residing in New York City, Johanna died from an overdose of poison. She is buried in the Taylor family plot as Josie M. Waterbury, age 30.

Wm. F. Hansell and his second wife, Margaret Ann Price, had two children.

**Emina Hansell 1854-1856.** Little Emina died in February of 1856. Her funeral was held at 24 North Fifth and she was buried in the Hansell lot at Monument Cemetery.

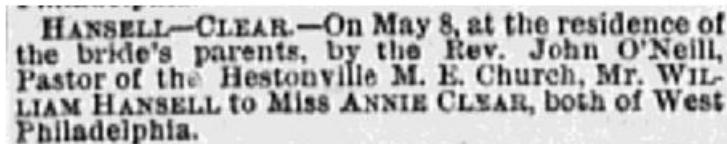
*On the 23d instant, of inflammation of the bowels, Emina, only daughter of Wm. F. and M.A. Hansell, aged 2 years and 2 months. The relatives and friends of the family are respectfully invited to attend the funeral, from the residence of her parents, 24 North Fifth St, this (Monday) afternoon, at 2 o'clock.*

2-25-1856 Public Ledger

**William F. Hansell, Jr. 1850-1900.** William was born March 24, 1850 at 24 North Fifth Street. As an adult, his occupations, listed in census records and directories, were compositor, printer and bookkeeper.

William grew up next door to Lydia Bailey's printing operation on Fifth Street. At the least, he may have peeked through the windows of the printing press building and decided this was a better way to go than work in his father's dye factory. Lydia Baily retired in 1861, so it's not likely William apprenticed in her shop; but she may have been an influence.

Just after William, Jr.'s mother died in 1865, the Hansells moved from downtown out to West Philadelphia. In 1870, William, Jr. married Annie Clear, daughter of Uriah Clear and Mary Page. Mr. Clear was a dyer in Hestonville, West Philadelphia (he called himself a "madder dyer" in his will). Mr. Clear probably worked for John and James Hunter of the Hestonville Print Works.



5-14-1870 Philadelphia Inquirer

William and Annie married just in time to appear in the 1870 census, living at 3414 Haverford Street with William's father, now retired, and long-time domestic Jane Taggart. Here their two children were born, Frederick Clear Hansell and Emina Hansell.

Annie Clear Hansell died of tuberculosis: *On the evening of July 1 (1883), Annie, wife of William Hansell, and eldest daughter of Uriah and Ann Clear, aged thirty-two years...funeral from her husband's residence, No. 3414 Haverford Street, West Philadelphia. To proceed to Fernwood Cemetery.*

7-4-1883 Philadelphia Inquirer

---

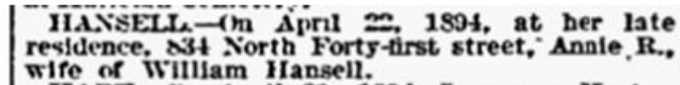
Research into the Clear family led to the discovery of the 1884 short-lived marriage of Annie Clear's sister Bertha and Josiah Benjamin Garrison, the Living Skeleton on display at the Dime Museum on Arch Street in Philadelphia. In 1888, when Bertha was accused of murdering her second husband, George Diggle, William, Jr. travelled with Bertha's brother Samuel Clear to the scene of the trial in Clarion, Iowa. Read about Bertha's life here: <http://ancestorsandothers.net/Clear.htm>



Annie Clear's death left William, Jr. with two kids, ages 9 and 12, who needed a step mother.

On October 16, 1884, William, Jr. married Annie R. Henderson 1857-1894, daughter of David Henderson 182?-187? and Mary A. Faust 1821-1896. In 1884, Annie and her four sisters were living with their widowed mother. The eldest sister was a teacher, Annie and her sister Elizabeth worked in a carpet mill, and the two youngest were attending school.

Annie filled the role of mother to the Hansell family while Fred and Emina grew up. Ten years after her marriage to William, Jr., Annie died, age 36, of tuberculosis. Annie was buried at Fernwood in William, Jr.'s plot.



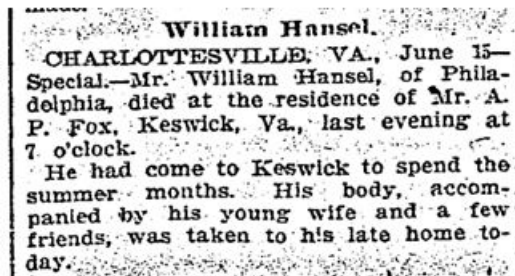
HANSELL.—On April 22, 1894, at her late residence, 834 North Forty-first street, Annie R., wife of William Hansell.

4-24-1894 *Philadelphia Inquirer*

William, Jr.'s third wife was Mary A. Eaton 1872-1937, daughter of Frank H. Eaton 1845-1887 and Adaline Dixon 1842-1922. There is a Philadelphia marriage license dated January 4, 1899 for William Hansell and Mary A. Eaton.

William and Mary moved to Berkley, Norfolk County, Virginia, where they turn up in the 1900 census. The couple had been married one year, William was a bookkeeper and he had been unemployed for four months. The 1900 Berkley city directory lists William Hansell, clerk at the Pocahontas Lumber Company.


This newspaper article reports William's death. Keswick is about 150 miles northwest of Berkley. Mr. Alexander P. Fox, a wealthy, retired dry goods merchant, owned a large country estate he called Fruitland. (Today the estate is known as Ben Coolyn.)



**William Hansell.**  
CHARLOTTESVILLE, VA., June 15—Special.—Mr. William Hansell, of Philadelphia, died at the residence of Mr. A. P. Fox, Keswick, Va., last evening at 7 o'clock.  
He had come to Keswick to spend the summer months. His body, accompanied by his young wife and a few friends, was taken to his late home today.

6-16-1900 *The Times* (Richmond, VA)

The train brought William, Jr. back to Philadelphia. His funeral was held at his mother-in-law's home and William, Jr. was buried in his plot at Fernwood with his two Annies.



HANSELL.—On June 14, 1900, at Keswick, Va., William Hansell, aged 50 years. Funeral services on Sunday afternoon, at 3 o'clock, at the residence of his mother-in-law, Mrs. A. H. Eaton, 3924 Aspen street. Interment private.

6-17-1900 *Philadelphia Inquirer*

Mary Eaton Hansell died in 1937 at the Norristown State Hospital, where she had been listed as a patient in the 1910, 1920 and 1930 census records. She is buried with her family in the Mt. Moriah Cemetery. Mary A. Hansell shares a headstone with her sister Frances H. Eaton.

### **Wm. F. Hansell's Grandchildren**

Wm. F. Hansell's only grandchildren are the off spring of his son William, Jr. and Annie Clear.

Frederick Clear Hansell 1871-1951 married Anne Elizabeth Dumont 1867-1949; they had no children. Frederick worked in a bank as clerk/cashier/teller.

In 1896, Emina Hansell 1874-1946 married Albert E. Borst 1870-1949. Albert worked for 50 years in the insurance field. They had six children, two of whom were given Hansell names--William Frederick Borst and James Hansell Borst. The Borst children are the only descendants to carry on the genes of Wm. F. Hansell, silk and wool dyer.

### **Wm. F. Hansell's Will**

William F. Hansell signed his will (Will Book 101/175) on April 9, 1881 and died at 7:30 am on April 18th of pneumonia (Philadelphia Death Certificate). He placed his property in a trust for the use of his son William, Jr. and his family.

The inventory of Wm. F.'s personal property (Wills Case 412 1881) shows a healthy stock portfolio and a comfortably furnished house. Big ticket items were a gold watch \$50; a what-not with ornaments and books \$20; walnut bedstead \$20; mahogany sideboard \$15; china and glassware \$12. Noted were sixteen engravings and paintings and an iron safe.

After William, Jr.'s death in 1901, Haverford Street was transferred to his children (JV 254/121). The deed states "William Hansell the son departed this life June 14, 1900, leaving no widow but two children, Emina H. Borst and Frederick C. Hansell." Here's a little mystery. On the face of things, William, Jr. was married to Mary Eaton at his death.

Frederick C. Hansell bought out his sister's share for \$2,500. Frederick held the property for about eight years. On February 6, 1909, Frederick and his wife Anna transferred Haverford Street to John Diamond, Philadelphia manufacturer (WSV 1023/546).

## William Frederick Hansell Descendant Tree

1 Thomas Hansell 1786-1854 & Mary Steiner 1789-1829

..... 2 William Frederick Hansell b: 1812 in Philadelphia, PA d: Apr 18, 1881 at 3414 Haverford St., Philadelphia, PA Age at death: 69 est. Burial: Monument Cemetery A-475, Philadelphia, PA

..... +Elizabeth Wood b: Abt. 1819 m: Sep 23, 1839 by Rev. John Chambers, Philadelphia d: Oct 20, 1843 at Merchant St below 5th, Philadelphia, PA Age at death: 24 est. Burial: Monument Cemetery A-475, Philadelphia, PA

..... **3 Thomas Hansell** b: 1841 in Philadelphia, PA d: Jan 31, 1863 at 1816 Wallace St., Philadelphia, PA Age at death: 22 est. Burial: Sect 7, Lot 209, Laurel Hill Cemetery, Philadelphia, PA (Taylor Plot)

..... +Johanna M. Taylor m: Jan 29, 1863 by Rev. R. G. Chase, Philadelphia, PA

..... \*2nd Wife of William Frederick Hansell:

..... +Margaret Anna Price b: 1829 m: Feb 24, 1848 by Rev. A.D. Gillette d: May 17, 1865 at 24 N. 5th St., Philadelphia, PA Age at death: 36 est. Burial: Monument Cemetery A-475, Philadelphia, PA

..... **3 William F. Hansell, Jr.** b: Mar 24, 1850 d: Jun 14, 1900 in Keswick, Virginia Age at death: 50 Burial: Fernwood Cemetery, Philadelphia, PA

..... +Sarah (Annie) Clear b: 1852 m: May 8, 1870 d: Jul 1, 1883 at 3414 Haverford St., Philadelphia, PA Age at death: 31 est. Burial: Fernwood Cemetery, Philadelphia, PA

..... 4 Frederick Clear Hansell b: Jul 20, 1871 d: Jun 10, 1951 at 11 S 51st St, Philadelphia, PA Age at death: 79 Burial: Easton Cemetery, Easton, PA

..... +Anna E. Dumont b: Apr 9, 1867 m: Sep 1, 1892 in Easton, PA d: Dec 17, 1949 Age at death: 82 Burial: Easton Cemetery, Easton, PA

..... 4 Emina Hansell b: Jul 22, 1874 d: Jul 17, 1946 in Upper Providence, Delaware Co, PA Age at death: 71

..... +Albert E. Borst b: Jul 21, 1870 in England m: Abt. Sep 1896 d: Sep 9, 1949 Age at death: 79

..... 5 Marceline Borst b: 1897 d: 1965 Age at death: 68 est.

..... +Benjamin F. Sauerman

..... \*2nd Husband of Marceline Borst:

..... +Abraham F. Quay

..... 5 Millicent Borst b: 1900 d: 1984 Age at death: 84 est.

..... +William H. Van Wart

..... 5 William Frederick Borst b: 1902 d: 1953 Age at death: 51 est.

..... +Ethel M. Peters

..... 5 Albert E. Borst, Jr. b: 1905 d: 1984 Age at death: 79 est.

..... 5 Elsa Borst b: 1908 d: 1968 Age at death: 60 est.  
..... +William C. Livermore  
..... \*2nd Husband of Elsa Borst:  
..... +William H. Engelman

..... 5 James Hansell Borst b: 1911 d: 1985 Age at death: 74 est. 2  
..... +Marjorie C. Price

..... \*2nd Wife of William F. Hansell, Jr.:  
..... +Annie R. Henderson b: Jun 30, 1857 m: Oct 16, 1884 in Philadelphia  
d: Apr 22, 1894 at 834 N 41st St, Philadelphia Age at death: 36  
Burial: Fernwood Cemetery, Philadelphia, PA

..... \*3rd Wife of William F. Hansell, Jr.:  
..... +Mary A. Eaton b: 1872 in South Carolina m: Jan 4, 1899 Philadelphia marriage  
license d: Feb 1937 in Norristown State Hospital, Norristown, PA Age at death:  
65 est. Burial: Sect.144, Lot 220, Mt. Moriah Cemetery, Philadelphia, PA

..... **3 Emina Hansell** b: 1854 d: Feb 23, 1856 at 24 N. 5th St., Philadelphia, PA  
Age at death: 2 yrs 2 mos. Burial: Monument Cemetery A-475, Philadelphia, PA

**Monument Cemetery, Philadelphia, PA**  
**Section A, Lot 475, William F. Hansell**

Monument Cemetery was founded in 1837. Located on North Broad Street, across from Temple University, the cemetery was obliterated in 1956 to make way for parking lots and athletic fields for Temple. Many of the monuments were dumped into the Delaware River. In theory, the remains of Lot 475 now rest in graves or a mass grave at Lawnview Memorial Park in Rockledge, PA.

475

*William F. Hansell - Residence* ✓ *Exempt*

Registry No.	NAME	Age	Date of Interment	Location of Grave in Lot	Date of Removal	Removed to	REMARKS
1362	Elizabeth Hansell	24	1843 7 <sup>th</sup> Oct 22	4 North			Best Stone Rep. 1902 \$1.60
4076	Caroline Eckfeldt	27 <sup>th</sup>	July 20/67	1 "			
7470	Emilia Hansell	27 <sup>th</sup>	Feb 25/66	1 "			
7839	John S. Glisson's male infant		Oct 7/66	4 "			
9201	Mrs J.S. Glisson's child		Sept 24/69	1 " front			
10799	Sarah A. Eckfeldt	46 <sup>th</sup>	Apr 2/63	2 North			
11405	Margaret A. Hansell	37 <sup>th</sup>	May 23/63	3 "			
13006	Sarah Wood	69 <sup>th</sup>	June 27/65	4 "			
13665	Lydia Glisson	2 <sup>nd</sup>	July 27/67	3 "			
17870	William F. Hansell	49 <sup>th</sup>	Apr 21/61	3 "			

544

**IN-ACTIVE**

REMOVED TO LAWNVIEW  
 LABR. 88  
 SEC. 88  
 REMOVED 2-21-86  
 New Title Issued

• Elizabeth Hansell	Elizabeth Wood, Wm. F. Hansell's first wife
• Caroline Eckfeldt	Wm. F. Hansell's sister
• Emilia Hansell	child of Wm. F. Hansell and Margaret Ann Price
• John S. Glisson's male infant	stillborn child of Penina Wood who married John S. Glisson
• Mrs. J.S. Glisson's child	child of Penina Wood Glisson
• Sarah A. Eckfeldt	Wm. F. Hansell's sister
• Margaret A. Hansell	Margaret Ann Price, Wm. F. Hansell's second wife
• Sarah Wood	mother of Elizabeth Wood Hansell & Penina Wood Glisson
• Lydia Glisson	child of Penina Wood Glisson
• William F. Hansell	Wm. F. himself



**Fernwood Cemetery, Lansdowne, PA**  
**Lot Cards for Section 32, Lot 27 & Section 32, Lot 30**

<p>cut 3 times 1928 4.50 4.50 - '29</p> <p>160 sq. ft. <b>27</b></p> <p>Uriah Clear Uriah E. Clear</p> <p>Front 1/2 } Back 1/2 }</p> <p>2 marble headstones in bad condition buried 11/11/65</p> <p>Clear Uriah June 30/85 N.W. cor. Clear Eliza 84 1/4 Jan 18-1907 Centre front 7 corp. Theodor 6 1/4 Apr. July 1-1913 N.E. cor.</p>	<p><b>Lot 27</b></p> <p>Uriah Clear and his son Uriah E., known as Edgar, purchased Lot 27.</p> <p>The two marble headstones for Uriah Clear 1820-1885 and Ann Eliza (nee Page) Clear 1822-1907 were buried in 1965.</p>
<p>cut 3 times 1928 4.50 4.50 - '29</p> <p>160 sq. ft. <b>30</b></p> <p>William Hansell James M. Bates</p> <p>Front 1/2 } Back 1/2 }</p> <p>See foundation letter in files</p> <p>12/7/36 Grades in bad condition. Buried side of 4 hollow, leaving headstone.</p> <p>Bates L.V. 6. Oct 1/82 S.W. cor. Hansell Sarah A. July 7/83 S.E. cor. Bates Susie G. July 20/85 S.W. cor. 2nd Bates (S.B.) Dec 30/88 S.W. cor. Hansell Ann R. Apr 20/94 N.E. cor. 5 1/2 Hansell Emma June 17-1900 Centre front Barber Emma 68 1/4 Jan 13-1906 " " 3 1/2 Metal Vault Bates Mary J. 81 and June 13, 1939 Centre Back? Junior Concrete Bates James M. (91 yrs.) Sept. 9-1944 N.W. cor. 9'</p>	<p><b>Lot 30</b></p> <p>William Hansell, Jr. and James Bates split Lot 30.</p>

Here is a list of the five Clear children. Names in bold are buried in Fernwood.

- Samuel A. Clear 1848-1904 + Susan Abrams, buried St. Paul's Lutheran Cemetery in Ardmore, PA
- **Sarah Ann "Annie" Clear 1852-1883 + William F. Hansell 1850-1900.** William F. Hansell's second wife **Annie R. Hansell** (nee Henderson) 1857-1894
- Edgar Clear 1856-1913 + Elizabeth, buried Westminster Cemetery, Sect Bartram/Lot 727, Bala Cynwd, PA
- **Mary Lizzie Clear 1858-1939 + James Monroe Bates 1853-1944.** Their children who died young **LV Clear Bates, Susie G. Bates & a stillborn child.**
- Bertha Clear 1862-1917 +1 Josiah Benjamin Garrison, +2 George Diggle, +3 Landis M. Wanbaugh (stage name Lewis McCord), Harrisburg Cemetery, Harrisburg, PA

## End Notes

The Widows of North Fifth Street - Page 29

Finding the Nichol Sisters - Page 36

Ancestors & Others.net - Hansell Family and others - <http://ancestorsandothers.net/index.htm>

Newspapers at GenealogyBank.com and Newspapers.com

FamilySearch.com

Ancestry.com

Find-a-Grave.com

Archive.org

Hathi Trust Digital Library

Jstor.org

Maps and Philadelphia City Directories

Greater Philadelphia GeoHistory Network <http://www.philageohistory.org/geohistory/>

Philadelphia County Deed Indexes and Deeds

Plats - phillyhistory.org

Deed and Plat Indexes and Deeds - <http://phila-records.com/historic-records/web/> (\$)

Philadelphia Saving Fund Society

View at Ancestry.com in the Pennsylvania and New Jersey, US, Church and Town Records.

I've gotten a lot of mileage out of this index of depositors: original signatures, addresses, occupations.

Manufacturing Schedules

William F. Hansell appears in Philip Scranton's *Proprietary Capitalism: The Textile Manufacture at Philadelphia 1800-1885*, 2003. This sparked interest in the Manufacturing Schedules.

I ran into the following project which has downloadable data. I found Wm. F. and, with a little work, parsed out the details of his shop.

<https://www.icpsr.umich.edu/web/ICPSR/series/229>

Inter-University Consortium for Political and Social Research

ICPSR 34967 - Philadelphia Social History Project: Manufacturing Data 1850, 1860, 1870, 1880. Theodore Hershberg, University of Pennsylvania.

The original Manufacturing Schedules are available at FamilySearch. They aren't indexed but you can use the ICPSR data to help locate the person you're looking for. Following are the manufacturing schedule sheets for Wm. F. Hansell. 1850/image 341. 1860/image 345.

Historical Society of Pennsylvania, David J. Kennedy Watercolor Collection #V61, Wood's Confectionary File #K:1-98.1A. In this file is a tribute, written by Mr. Kennedy, to Mrs. Warnock and her daughter, titled *Price's Confectionery*:

*In the year 1834, Mrs. Warnock, a very amiable countrywoman of mine, opened, at No. 926 Arch Street, a fancy cake and ornamental confectionery store which has been celebrated ever since. She did a lucrative business, bought the property, and retired in 1845, in favour of her daughter, Mrs. S. Price, who remained there until 1856, when she opened another in Germantown, and resided there until 1858, when she returned again to Arch Street. In 1865, she demolished the old building and erected the present handsome one in the same year.*

*Mrs. Warnock died Dec. 4th, 1871, much respected and full of years. Mrs. E. S. Price died May 15th, 1880, much respected.*

**SCHEDULE 5.—Products of Industry in High Street Ward in the County of Philadelphia State of Pennsylvania during the Year ending June 1, 1850, as enumerated by me, Arch. J. Baroux Ass't Marshal.**

Name of Corporation, Company, or Individual, producing Articles to the Annual Value of \$500.	Name of Business, Manufacture, or Product.	Capital Invested in Real and Personal Estate in the Business.	Raw Material used, including Fuel.			Kind of motive power, machinery, structure, or instrument.	Average number of hands employed.		Wages.		Annual Product.		
			Quantities.	Kind.	Value.		Males.	Females.	Average monthly cost of wages.	Average monthly cost of board & fuel.	Quantities.	Kind.	Value.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
1	Jackson's Morris	Shut Down	5000	Shut		Hand	4	112			Shoes		
	Worries			Green	4000						Shoes		
2				Shin							Shoes		
				& Copper	3000						Shoes		
3	Chas. H. Mearns	Brush	6000	Muslin		Hand	11	10	632.00		Shoes		
	Shaker			& French							Shoes		
4				Brush	5000						Shoes		
	Litch Shaw & Co	Lamp	11000	Brass		Steam	20	140			Lamps		
5		Manufacture		Copper		Hand					Lamps		
				& Zinc	2500						Lamps		
6	J. C. Hagert	Brush	10000	Brass		Hand	10	4	200.50	7500	Shoes		
	Manufacture			to Bristles	3000						Shoes		
7				Shut out	3500						Shoes		
8	C. D. Knight	Manufacture	500	Shoes		Hand	5	100			Shoes		
	of Leather			& Other							Shoes		
9		Patent Soap		Article	2000						Shoes		
10	Geo. Doll	Wagoner	500	Leather		Hand	2	20			Shoes		
	Wagon			Wood	500						Shoes		
11	J. M. Dotts	Black	500	Shin		Hand	3	112			Shoes		
	Leather			& Hat	1500						Shoes		
12	D. M. Loring	Shin	2000	Shin	2000	Steam	8	256			Shoes		
	Leather			Shin	200	Hand					Shoes		
13	Gannings & Myers	Leather	400	Leather		Hand	2	120			Shoes		
	Glass			Other							Shoes		
14		Frame		Article	1000						Shoes		
	Shakers										Shoes		
15	German & Co	Leather	2000	Leather		Steam	5	160			Shoes		
	Wagon			Wood	1000						Shoes		
16	Christie & Bankley	Wagon	2000	Leather		Hand	2	98			Shoes		
	Shaker			Leather							Shoes		
17				Shut out	500						Shoes		
18	Wm. Hollander	Shin	1000	Dyes		Hand	5	2	125.50		Shoes		
	Dyes			& Drugs	500						Shoes		
19				Leather	250						Shoes		
20	Coates & Berry	Shin	500	Shin		Hand	5	50			Shoes		
	Shin			Leather	500						Shoes		
21	John Street & Co	Patent	500	Shin		Hand	2	112			Shoes		
	Balance			Shin	300						Shoes		
22				Leather	100						Shoes		
23	L. H. Koon	Shin	1500	Leather		Hand	8	3	160.10		Shoes		
	Shin			Shin							Shoes		
				Shin	2000						Shoes		

15

43 400

32 450

100

15

220

230

111 500

SCHEDULE 5.—Products of Industry in the 6<sup>th</sup> Ward in the County of Philadelphia State of Pennsylvania during the Year ending June 1, 1860, as enumerated by me, \_\_\_\_\_ Ass't Marshal.  
Post Office \_\_\_\_\_

1	2	3	RAW MATERIAL USED, INCLUDING FUEL.			7	AVERAGE NUMBER OF HANDS EMPLOYED.		11	ANNUAL PRODUCT.		
			Quantities.	Kind.	Value.		Male.	Female.		Quantities.	Kind.	Value.
1	Butt Wood	Cracker Boxes 20,000		None Sold	33,000		15				Hand Boxes & Cracks	50,000
2	E. H. Kishell	Caricatures 9,000			2,000		7	25				6,500
3	H. H. Grove	Veiling Machines 2,500			800		8	700				8,000
4	A. Bruntzberg	Mayon Shops 300			100		1	50				500
5	Simons & Pro	Oil Moulds 25,000		Lathe & Oil	55,000		6	150		2500	Rolls of paper & Oil	80,000
6	G. W. Pomroy	Oil Boxes 5,000			6,200		2	60		300	Rolls of paper & Oil	9,000
7	A. M. Hollister	Cards 2,000			4,000		8	4	100	45	Printing Cards	14,000
8	<del>H. H. Kishell</del>	<del>Caricatures 10,000</del>		<del>Lathe &amp; Oil</del>	<del>4,000</del>		<del>5</del>	<del>2</del>	<del>100</del>	<del>20</del>		<del>2,000</del>
9	P. Schmitt	Paper Boxes 1,000			500		3	10	75	120		5,500
10	M. Barnes	Oil 500			600		2	3	60	16		3,500
11	R. Knapp	Oil 500			500		2	2	60	24		3,000
12	Phineas Dow	Grain Mill 5,000			1,800		4	160				5,000
13	R. Murphy	Printed Titles 1,000			200		2	80				1,500
14	Brian J. Pettus	Hats 10,000			7,000		15	6	60	72		20,000
15	Atwood, S. & Co.	Carpets 35,000			20,000		35	20	100	240		48,000
16	W. J. H. H. W.	Coats 2,500			350		1	1	80	12		2,500
17	W. M. Smith	Blank Paper 3,000			500		2	1	60	12		3,000
18	Robert M. Butler	Boots & Shoes 10,000			9,000		25	15	70	180		30,000
19	J. H. Thompson	Boots & Shoes										
20	J. Goldthorp	Silk & Paper 1,000			1,500		2	2	60	24		5,000
			142,500		146,000		145	65				

#### William F. Hansell - Witness to Aunt Anna Hansell's Will

Wm. F. Hansell played a part in the only documents that identify his siblings. In addition to the revelatory deed listing descendants of Thomas Hansell, Wm. F. was on hand to witness the will of his aunt Anne Hansell 1785-1847. Aunt Anne never married and left her possessions to her two sisters, a sister-in-law, 15 nieces, a nephew's wife and one grand-niece and, moreover, provided identification for each woman. This women-only will is truly a genealogical gem and provides the names of Thomas Hansell's daughters: Sarah, Emmeline and Caroline. Read the will and find its source here:

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

#### Dye House Illustration

The drawing comes from *An Illustrated Vocabulary for the Use of the Deaf and Dumb* viewed at Archive.org. The book is rich with illustrations of the trades and the tools used circa 1857.

#### Frederick Clear Hansell



[slbeatty1](#) posted this photo of Frederick Clear Hansell and his wife Annie Dumont in the Beatty Family Tree at Ancestry.com. One of Annie Dumont's sisters married a Beatty.

#### The Borst Family

When Emina Hansell married Albert E. Borst, the young couple lived with the Borst family in Powelton, at 3600 Hamilton Street. This house stands today.

<http://old.poweltonvillage.org/interactivemap/files/3600hamilton.htm>

George E. Saurman 1926-2022 recalls visiting his grandparents Albert and Emina Borst in *Revisiting the Memories of Yesterday: Looking Back*, 2017.

#### Jane Taggert - The Housekeeper

Historical Society of Pennsylvania, Collection #3099, Indigent Widows' and Single Women's Society/Ralston House Records.



For a period of time, Wm. F. Hansell's neighbors were all widow ladies. That caught my attention!

[illegible]

**20 North Fifth**  
**Widow Rebecca Savery, quilter**

## 20 North Fifth Street: Widow Rebecca Savery

Rebecca Scattergood (1770-1855) married Thomas Savery in 1791 and the couple set up housekeeping at 20 North Fifth Street. Thomas had purchased the property on July 19, 1784 (D 13/428). Rebecca lived here until her death in 1855.

When Thomas married Rebecca, he was a well-established carpenter/house builder in Philadelphia. At his death in 1819, he was remembered for his selfless acts during the 1793 yellow fever epidemic. He was an elder of the Arch Street Meeting. In 1798, Thomas was an executor for the will of his next door neighbor, the baker Henry Ritter.

At Thomas's death, the five Savery children were in their mid-teens to mid-twenties. Financially, Thomas left a good estate including the house at 20 N 5th and a summer home in Blockley. Rebecca received income from her own real estate investments and inherited property, which she managed along with her daughter Elizabeth.

Rebecca's lasting legacy are the starburst and signature quilts associated with her name. The signature quilts caught my attention. I put research into Wm. F. Hansell on hold for a year or so and delved into identifying the names on the three Savery signature quilts. <http://ancestorsandothers.net/PDF/Savery.pdf>



The Friendship Quilt at the American Folk Art Museum is a celebration of the Cresson and Savery families. A Savery son married a Cresson daughter and the two families are gathered together on this 1844 quilt.



The Star Quilt at the International Quilt Museum is a descendant tree in disguise. The quilt focuses on the descendants of Rebecca Scattergood Savery and her brother John Head Scattergood as they were in 1844.



The Medallion Quilt at the International Quilt Museum was made about 1849 and includes a few family members inadvertently left off of the 1844 Star Quilt. But overall, this quilt can be viewed as a memorial quilt--it includes the names of children who died early and the deceased Savery and Scattergood patriarchs.

## 22 North Fifth Street: Widow Susan Brady

Susan Engles (1819-1912) married William Brady in 1840. Brady was a goldbeater by trade.

William Brady and William F. Hansell might have gone together down to the Philadelphia Exchange on the night of December 16, 1848 to attend the auction of Henry Ritter's estate. Henry Ritter, baker, had purchased 22 and 24 North Fifth in 1784. Henry died around 1798 leaving his widow Ann and seven or eight children.

The Widow Ritter died in 1842 and the property went on the auction block in 1848. William Brady bought 22 North Fifth for \$3,500 (GWC 1/465) and William F. Hansell acquired 24 North Fifth (Hansell's parcel included the bake oven). The deeds state the neighbors could share the joint privy located between their properties or make their own arrangements. History is mum on this detail.

There was a large back building on the lot which Brady fit-up as his Gold Leaf and Dentist Foil Manufactory. He put a notice in the newspaper with his new address and the family settled in. On February 10, 1850, 36 year old William died of consumption. Susan's fourth child was born three months later.

Susan's first order of business was to sell William's tools: "moulds, blocks, presses, hammers, gold tools, one very superior Rolling Mill and other tools, fixtures etc. of a Gold Beating Establishment." Then she proceeded to let out the back building to various businesses (a few goldbeaters, then a Singer sewing machine distributor) and take in boarders. In the 1860 census, Susan's occupation is listed as seamstress and two other family units reside at 22 N 5th.

Susan Brady sold the property in 1866 to the Jefferson Fire Company for \$6,700. By the perseverance of the Widow Brady, her four children received an inheritance to give them a start in life. Susan died in 1912, age 93 years, 2 months, 5 days.



**TO RENT—A large BUILDING, back of No. 22 North Fifth street, lately occupied for a Gold Leaf Manufactory. Rent very low. Apply to JOHN YARD, Jr. & SON, No 607 BACE Street. aug-31-1861**

8-16-1861 *Public Ledger*

---

Nathan Starkey (1807-1864) was the administrator of William Brady's estate. Circumstantial information suggests Starkey was Brady's brother-in-law (married to a woman named Eliza who could have been Brady's sister). Starkey's expertly crafted medicine chests and portable desks are collector's items today.

## 26 North Fifth Street: Widow Lydia Bailey

Lydia Steele (1779-1869) married the printer Robert Bailey in 1797. The couple moved from Lancaster to 84 Crown Street in the Northern Liberties by 1806. In 1808, 34 year old Robert died of "hepatic obstruction."

Lydia didn't miss a beat. She packed up the furniture, the printing press, 1,353 pounds of type, her four children, ages four months through nine years, and moved a few blocks south to 10 North Alley. Lydia kept the printing presses going for the next 50 years.

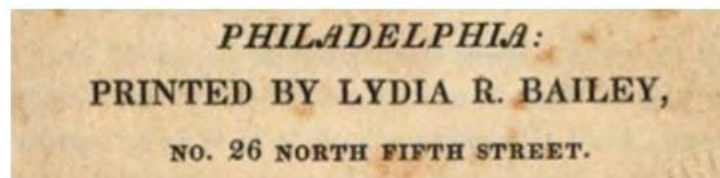
Coincidentally, Lydia's new next door neighbor at 12 North Alley was Thomas Hansell and his wife Mary, living with Mary's father Frederick Steiner. Lydia probably heard William F. Hansell's first squalls when he arrived in the world in 1812.

In 1832, Lydia purchased 26 North Fifth Street for \$9,000 (AM 22/458). Located just around the corner and down Fifth Street from North Alley, the dwelling housed the Bailey family, boarders and apprentices. At the rear of the lot was a 20' x 20', three story structure which presumably housed Lydia's printing presses.

Was Lydia surprised to see the grown-up William F. Hansell when he purchased the property next door at 24 North Fifth in 1849?

26 North Fifth and 28 North Fifth (purchased by Lydia's daughter Ellen in 1847), provided income for Lydia's descendants until the properties were sold in 1917 (JMH 177/441).

Karen Nipps has produced a labor of love in *Lydia Bailey: A Checklist of her Imprints* which tells what is known of Lydia's printing career in Philadelphia. A claim to fame for Lydia is her 30 year tenure as the official printer for the City of Philadelphia. In the years William F. Hansell represented his district in the Common Council, I'm sure he voted yea to keep Lydia at this post. Lydia retired around 1860 and died in 1869 at 91. Her death certificate includes an exclamation point after her age!



---

In 1791, William F. Hansell's grandfather Frederick Steiner had his tailor shop at 26 N 5<sup>th</sup>.

An account book of Lydia Bailey is archived in the Historical Society of Pennsylvania. Lydia paid Wm. F. Hansell's father Thomas Hansell for repair of a table, a bread tray, map rollers, 65 feet of boards and labor. There are numerous payments to the widow Ann Ritter for bread and baking.

A noteworthy occupant of 26 North Fifth Street during the years 1819 to 1830 is the architect John Haviland (1792-1852). His wife, the widow Mary Sonntag Wells, purchased the building in 1816 after the death of her first husband. When Mary married John Haviland, 26 N 5th was put into a trust for her Wells children and John used the structure as his architectural office. Among other Philadelphia projects, Haviland designed the Eastern State Penitentiary, the Franklin Institute building (now the Atwater Kent Museum) and Saint Andrew's Episcopal Church.

## 28 North Fifth Street: Widow Ellen Smith

Ellen Matthews (1824-1870) married the dyer/scourer Walter William Cumberland Smith in September of 1850. The couple rented the property at 28 North Fifth and here 32 year old Walter died May 9, 1852 of "metastasis of rheumatism to the heart and lungs." The couple's first child was born a few days earlier.

In 1847, Lydia Bailey's daughter Ellen purchased 28 N 5th from the estate of Coleman Sellers (AWM 29/469). Ellen insured the property and the policies are in the digital archives of The Philadelphia Contributionship insurance company. In addition to the dwelling, Ellen separately insured the back building which was "occupied as a dye house." The structure was three stories, 20' x 22', one room on each story, and had a hoist serving doors on each level. The dye house had been occupied for a long time by John Jones, Silk Dyer and Scourer, who apparently sold his business to Mr. Smith.

Just days after her husband's death, Ellen placed this notice in the newspaper:

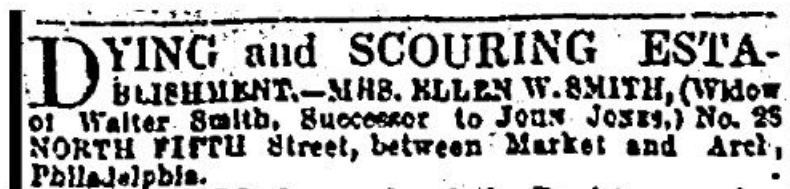
*Dyeing Establishment, No. 28 N. Fifth street. - Mrs. SMITH, widow of the late Walter Smith, begs leave respectfully to inform the friends of her late husband and the public generally, that she intends to carry on the business as formerly, and hopes by attention and punctuality, that the patronage and support so liberally bestowed upon the establishment will be still continued to herself promising to spare no pains to give satisfaction to all who may continue their patronage. She will have the assistance of the former foreman of the establishment, as well as the best workmen in each department of the business she undertakes.*

*Public Ledger 5-18-1852*

The 1860 Manufacturer's census reports E. W. Smith, steam dyer, had a capital investment of \$3,000, employed two males and one female and had an estimated annual product value of \$3,000.

Ellen's shop was a forerunner of the modern dry cleaner. Dying and scouring was offered: *Piece goods dyed to any color. Ladies wearing apparel dyed and finished. Merino, Cashmere and Crape Shawls, Table and Piano Covers, Carpets, Rugs. etc. scoured. Pongree and silk dresses re-dyed. Gentlemen's clothes cleaned or dyed on reasonable terms.*

Ellen married again. Her husband William C. Mollerus had other interests and Ellen kept the dye shop at 28 N 5th up to her death in 1870.

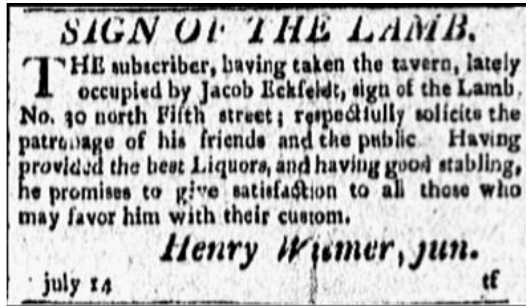


Ellen advertised often in the *Philadelphia Inquirer*



### 30-32 North Fifth Street: Widow Elizabeth Witmer

Elizabeth Eckfeldt Witmer (1794-1869) was the granddaughter of the famous blacksmith Jacob Eckfeldt (1733-1818) who lived, worked and operated an inn/tavern, known as the Sign of the Lamb, at 30-32 North Fifth (two lots, two 3-story buildings, assorted back buildings). Jacob and his descendants are well known for their long association with the United States Mint.



On June 7, 1808, in Lancaster, PA, Henry Witmer, Jr. (abt 1780-1840) married Mary Hay (1784-1817). They each came from families experienced in running inns and taverns. By July, the young couple moved to Philadelphia and took up management of Jacob Eckfeldt's inn at 30 N 5th. Mary died in 1817, preceded by their four children.

7-15-1808 *Poulson's American Daily Advertiser*

Jacob Eckfeldt died in 1818 and his will (6/553) provided for selling all his real estate. Henry Witmer gave up running the Sign of the Lamb. It's not known what Henry did for the next two years, but on July 1, 1820, he married Eliza Eckfeldt, daughter of Jacob Eckfeldt's son, the equally-famous Adam Eckfeldt (1769-1852). The newly-weds opened Witmer's Hotel at 244 Market Street, between 7th and 8th.

The December 1, 1821 *Aurora General Advertiser* gave Witmer's Hotel a good review: *Mr. Witmer has opened an extensive and spacious house in Market Street...and fitted it up in a style of extraordinary neatness. Its location is in the very heart of the western country business, and from his well established character as an obliging and indefatigable host, it is to be presume his house will be favored with a considerable share of the custom of his former friends, from the westward and southward, as well as of the citizens in general.*

Grandpa Eckfeldt's real estate was auctioned off at the Merchants Coffee House on April 24, 1822. One Michael Fox purchased the North Fifth Street property (AM 10/303) and the next day deeded it back to the Eckfeldt family (AM 10/307). In no time at all, Henry resumed management of the Sign of the Lamb, with the landlord's daughter at his side.

Starting with the 1835 Philadelphia city directory, only Eliza is listed at 30 N 5th. It appears that Henry moved to Washington County, Maryland, where his relatives lived. Into the 1840s, city directories list Eliza Witmer as an innkeeper, then boarding house.

Witmer Mrs, innkeeper 30 N 5th

Adam Eckfeldt died in 1852. When his estate was settled, Elizabeth Witmer's one-seventh share of the inheritance from her father was valued at \$20,598.02, which included the two properties on Fifth Street. Elizabeth Witmer, widow, sold 30-32 North Fifth Street on February 7, 1865 to Isabella B. Thomas (LRB 79/236) for \$14,000.

Eliza and Henry's three children:

Elizabeth Sarah Witmer 1821-1848 (+Francis D. Way 1809-1857)  
Margaretta Witmer 1822-1889 (+George M. McComas 1816-1894)  
Maria Eckfeldt Witmer 1825-1881



The Eckfeldt/Witmer story took a bit of digging. Here are the sources.

Two of Wm. F. Hansell's sisters married Jacob Senfitt Eckfeldt, Elizabeth Eckfeldt Witmer's cousin. Read about Caroline Hansell (1822-1849) and Sarah Ann Hansell (1817-1863)

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

Eckfeldt estate papers:

Jacob Eckfeldt: Ancestry.com Pennsylvania, U.S., Wills and Probate Records, 1683-1993/Philadelphia/Orphans' Court Estate Papers, Vol 32 (P.292-343), 1831, images 562-571 (Includes payment by Henry Witmer of \$350 for six months' rent. \$4.00 payment to Lydia Bailey for printing funeral notices.)

Adam Eckfeldt: Ancestry.com: Pennsylvania, U.S., Wills and Probate Records, 1683-1993/Philadelphia/Orphans' Court Estate Papers, Vol 45 (P.167-201), 1854, images 753-772

Elizabeth Eckfeldt Witmer: Ancestry.com: Pennsylvania, U.S., Wills and Probate Records, 1683-1993/Philadelphia/Wills, No 157-197, 1869, images 321-344 (Will 64/320)

An early work about the Witmer family

Phillip E. Bedient, "Descendants of Benjamin Witmer of Lampeter Township, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, Part 2," *Pennsylvania Mennonite Heritage*, July 1991, Pages 18-33

Henry Witmer's Marriages:

*Lancaster Intelligencer* (Lancaster, PA) 6-10, 1808: "Married, On Tuesday evening last, by the Rev. Mr. Hoffmeyer, Mr. Henry Witmer, Jr. to Miss Mary Hay, all of this borough.

*American Daily Advertiser* (Philadelphia, PA) 7-1-1820: "Married, on Thursday evening, by the Rev. Philip F. Mayer, Mr. Henry Witmer to Miss Eliza Eckfeldt, daughter of Adam Eckfeldt, Esq. of this city," The *Lancaster Intelligencer* also published this wedding announcement.

Henry Witmer's Demise:

A Witmer Family Bible has the following entry: *Henry Witmer d. Feb 16, 1840 aged 60*. Presumably this is the Henry Witmer who married Mary Hay and Eliza Eckfeldt. *Bible Records of Washington County, Maryland: From copies, notes and in some cases, the Bibles themselves – on file at the Washington County Historical Society*, compiled by F. Edward Wright, 1992, page 69.

Findagrave Memorial, Beaver Creek Church of the Brethren Cemetery, Beaver Creek, Washington County, Maryland: <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/18410368/henry-witmer>

On January 21, 1841, three Philadelphia newspapers carried this death announcement: *On the 13<sup>th</sup> inst, at his brother's residence, in Washington County, Md., Mr. Henry Witmer, formerly of this city.*

Are the Henrys who died in 1840 and 1841 one and the same? Maybe. I asked the Washington County Public Library to search their newspaper indexes for a death notice for each Henry. Nothing turned up, so I'm left to ponder the Philadelphia newspaper obits.

Henry did have a brother living in Washington County (John Witmer 1773-1858). Henry Witmer lived in Philadelphia for 27 years and must have been well known. The Sign of the Lamb was the political meeting place for the North Ward. Various organizations held meetings at the inn, most notably [the First Troop Philadelphia City Cavalry](#). Henry joined this organization in 1814 and resigned in 1833 or 1835.

## The Nichol Sisters of Philadelphia, PA - Partial Descendant Tree

1 Robert Nichol?

.. +Margaret? or Ann?

..... 2 **Margaret Nichol** b: 1785 d: Oct 7, 1850 in Greene Co, Ohio Age at death: 65 est. Burial: Stevenson Cem, Wilberforce, Ohio

..... +William Simpson b: 1785 d: Jan 16, 1829 Age at death: 44 est. Burial: Eventually in Woodlands Cem H-20, Philadelphia, PA

..... \*2nd Husband of Margaret Nichol

..... +George Galloway b: 1771 m: Sep 19, 1832 in Ohio d: Nov 3, 1865 in Ohio Age at death: 94 est. Burial: Stevenson Cem, Wilberforce, Ohio

..... 2 **Jane Nichol** b: Oct 26, 1790 in Market St abv 8th, Philadelphia, PA d: Dec 4, 1871 in Philadelphia, PA Age at death: 81 Burial: Woodlands Cem H-20, Philadelphia, PA

..... +Joseph Warnock b: 1779 m: Nov 8, 1810 by Rev. W.C. Brownlee of First United Presbyterian d: Aug 7, 1819 in Philadelphia, PA Age at death: 40 est. Burial: Eventually in Woodlands Cem H-20, Philadelphia, PA

..... 3 Margaretta Simpson Warnock b: Aug 4, 1811 d: Nov 24, 1842, funeral at 266 Arch St, Philadelphia Age at death: 31 Burial: Eventually in Woodlands Cem H-20, Philadelphia, PA

..... +Thomas Price m: Aug 13, 1829

..... 4 Margaret Anna Price b: 1829 d: May 17, 1865 in 24 N. 5th St., Philadelphia, PA Age at death: 36 est. Burial: Monument Cem A-475, Philadelphia, PA

..... +William Frederick Hansell b: 1812 in Philadelphia, PA m: Feb 24, 1848 by Rev. A.D. Gillette d: Apr 18, 1881 in 3414 Haverford St., Philadelphia, PA Age at death: 69 est. Burial: Monument Cem A-475, Philadelphia, PA

..... 4 Joseph Warnock Price b: 1834 d: Sep 21, 1889 Age at death: 55 est. Burial: Mt. Peace Cem, Philadelphia, PA

..... +Mary Ann Henry b: 1833 m: Abt. 1857 d: Jun 12, 1885 Age at death: 52 est. Burial: Mt. Peace Cem, Philadelphia, PA

..... 4 Emma Matilda Price b: Dec 25, 1835 d: Jan 27, 1907 Age at death: 71 Burial: Woodlands Cem H-215, Philadelphia, PA

..... +Lewis S. Snyder b: 1826 m: Jun 1, 1858 by Rev. D.B. Cheney d: Nov 24, 1898 Age at death: 72 est. Burial: Woodlands Cem H-215, Philadelphia, PA

..... 3 Robert Warnock b: May 13, 1813 d: Aug 11, 1862 Age at death: 49 Burial: Monument Cem A-867, Philadelphia, PA

..... +Matilda Bower b: 1817 m: Jan 6, 1836 d: Dec 21, 1883 Age at death: 66 est. Burial: Monument Cem A-867, Philadelphia, PA

..... 4 Children: Joseph, Samuel, Robert, Albert, Julia

..... 3 Jane Warnock b: Mar 24, 1815 d: Sep 1, 1816 Age at death: 1

..... 3 Mary Paterson Simpson Warnock b: Feb 19, 1817 d: May 16, 1880, Age at death: 63 est.  
Burial: Woodlands Cem D-143, Philadelphia, PA

..... +Samuel Price b: 1816 m: May 24, 1838 d: Feb 26, 1895 Age at death: 79 est. Burial:  
Woodlands Cem D-143, Philadelphia, PA

..... 4 Margaretta Price b: 1837 d: Sep 25, 1853, funeral at 266 Arch near 10th Age at  
death: 16 est. Burial: Odd Fellows/Woodlands Cem D-143, Philadelphia, PA

..... 4 Jane Warnock Price b: 1841 d: Jun 4, 1844 at 7 Fayette St. Age at death:  
2 yrs 4 days. Burial: Associate Church Burial Ground/Odd Fellows/Woodlands  
Cem D-143, Philadelphia, PA

..... 4 Samuel L. Price b: 1845 d: 1910 Age at death: 65 est. Burial: Woodlands Cem D-143,  
Philadelphia, PA

..... 4 Mary Steele Price b: 1849 d: Aug 1, 1849 in funeral at 266 Arch St, Age at death:  
3 months. Burial: Odd Fellows/Woodlands Cem D-143, Philadelphia, PA

..... 4 William S. Price b: 1850 d: 1883 Age at death: 33 est. Burial: Woodlands Cem E-76,  
Philadelphia, PA

..... 4 Howard D. Price b: 1855 d: 1932 Age at death: 77 est. Burial: Holy Cross Cem,  
Yeadon, PA

..... 3 William Warnock b: Mar 27, 1819 d: Aug 7, 1900 Age at death: 81 Burial: Woodlands Cem  
H-20, Philadelphia, PA

..... +Eliza Harrison Porter b: 1823 in South Carolina m: Sep 15, 1841 by Rev. T.H. Stockton,  
Philadelphia, PA d: Mar 23, 1898 Age at death: 75 est. Burial: Woodlands Cem H-20,  
Philadelphia, PA

..... 4 Children: William, Charles, Emily, Clara, Rebecca

..... 2 **Mary Nichol** b: 1792 d: Mar 29, 1836 Age at death: 44 est. Burial: Philadelphia Cem/Cedar Hill  
Cem, Philadelphia, PA

..... +Daniel Murphy b: 1792 in Ireland m: May 20, 1817 d: May 29, 1874 Age at death: 82 est.  
Burial: Cedar Hill Cem, Philadelphia, P

..... 4 Children: James, Margaretta, John, John, Matilda, Mary Jane, Emily

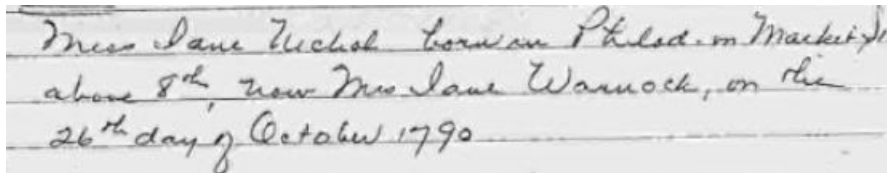
---

Perhaps a child of Mary Warnock and Samuel Price: Robert Price reinterred 5-11-1854 Woodlands  
Cem D-143, Philadelphia, PA

## Finding the Nichol Sisters

### Joseph Warnock and Jane Nickle Bible Records

*Bible records of family names from Truxtun to Washburn*, Historical Society of Pennsylvania. View at FamilySearch.org - <https://www.familysearch.org/search/catalog/2720959> start at image 315



Miss Jane Nichol born in Philadelphia in Market St. above 8th, now Mrs. Jane Warnock, on the 26th day of October 1790.

Warnock births, marriages and deaths are recorded, including:

- William Simpson, died January 16, 1829
- Mary Murphy, wife of Daniel Murphy, died March 29, 1836
- Margaret Galloway, died October 7, 1850

Three sisters:

- Margaret Nichol married 1st William Simpson and 2nd George Galloway
- Jane Nichol married Joseph Warnock
- Mary Nichol married Daniel Murphy

### Margaret Nichol Simpson Galloway

Margaret wrote her will in 1850 (Greene County, Ohio, Estate Files, File Box, No 17-20). She left money to her "sister, Mrs. Jane Warnock" and Jane's grandchildren. Margaret made a bequest to Matilda Murphy, presumably the child of her sister Mary. (Matilda Murphy 1826-1916. Matilda's death certificate lists her parents--Daniel Murphy and Mary Nichol.) The will also tells us Margaret had lent Jane \$1,000. Perhaps this helped get the confectionery business off the ground.

The 1832 marriage of Margaret Simpson and George Galloway is recorded in Greene County, Ohio Marriages. About George Galloway: *Our Pioneer Ancestors : The Genealogy of the Scott and Galloway Families* by Ruth Hendricks DeVerter

My first sighting of Margaret's first husband, William Simpson, is in 1813, when he bought property on the east side of 17th Street between High and Chestnut (MR 3/398).

Here he ran a grocery store. William and Margaret sold the property (GWR 2/523) in 1822. They eventually took up residence at 34 North 8th Street.

William Simpson died at age 44 on January 16, 1829 (Philadelphia burial certificate and obit in the 1-17-1829 *Daily Chronicle*). His funeral was held at 34 North 8th and he was buried in the Associates Cemetery on 13th Street.

The widow Margaret Simpson went into the cake making business at 34 North 8th. Her sister Jane Warnock ran a grocery store across the street at 19 North 8th. In a few years, Jane Warnock's sons will buy the building at 34 N 8th. By 1832 Margaret somehow hooked up with George Galloway and off to Ohio she went.

Margaret and George Galloway lived outside of Xenia, Greene County. In the 1840s, Margaret invested in parcels of public land in Ohio. Sale of these properties after her death provided funds for her bequests to family and friends. There is no evidence Margaret had children.

### **Jane Nichol Warnock**

Jane wrote her will in 1864 (Philadelphia Will Book 73, 1871, Pg. 80, #663). Jane appointed her "nephew, James Murphy" co executor. James Murphy is the first child of Jane's sister Mary and her husband Daniel Murphy.

Read about Jane's life in this document starting at Page 9.

Jane Nichol Warnock was widowed in 1819. Likely her sister Margaret and William Simpson provided help. Jane honored the Simpsons by giving her two girls the middle name of Simpson and moving William Simpson's remains from cemetery to cemetery to keep him with the family.

---

Here's an identification problem. Most likely Margaret Nichol's husband William Simpson is the fellow who died 1-16-1829 at age 44 as noted in the Warnock Family Bible, obituary and burial certificate. That leaves the problem of William Simpson died 1837 at age 54, recorded in Monument Cemetery burial records for Sect. A, Lot 833, who was moved from Associates Cemetery to Monument Cemetery to Woodlands Cemetery with Joseph Warnock and Margaretta Price? Is the Monument Cemetery info incorrect? That is the most likely explanation.

## Mary Nichol Murphy

Murphy Family Tree user name: Stephen Murphy

<https://www.ancestry.com/family-tree/person/tree/86469623/person/170092339759/facts>

Page 1 - Mary Nichol born 1792 in Philadelphia and died March 29, 1836. Married Daniel Murphy May 20, 1817. Jane Nichol, sister.

murphy Family

Daniel Murphy was born near the Grants Causeway, County Armagh, Ireland, in 1792. He received his U. S. Naturalization paper September 11, 1813. The document states that his residence in the United States dated from June 18, 1798. He married Mary Nichol, May 20, 1817. He died May 29, 1874, and is buried in Cedar Hill Cemetery, near Frankford, Phila. He was a ruling elder in the Associate Church (Presbyterian) for 50 years, being first elected to that office in the first or Walnut St. Associate Church, built A. D. 1790, and taken down in 1854. He was for many years Treasurer of the Associate Synod. Jane Nichol, sister of Mary Nichol, was the first baby baptised in the above church. His business was dry goods Merchant.

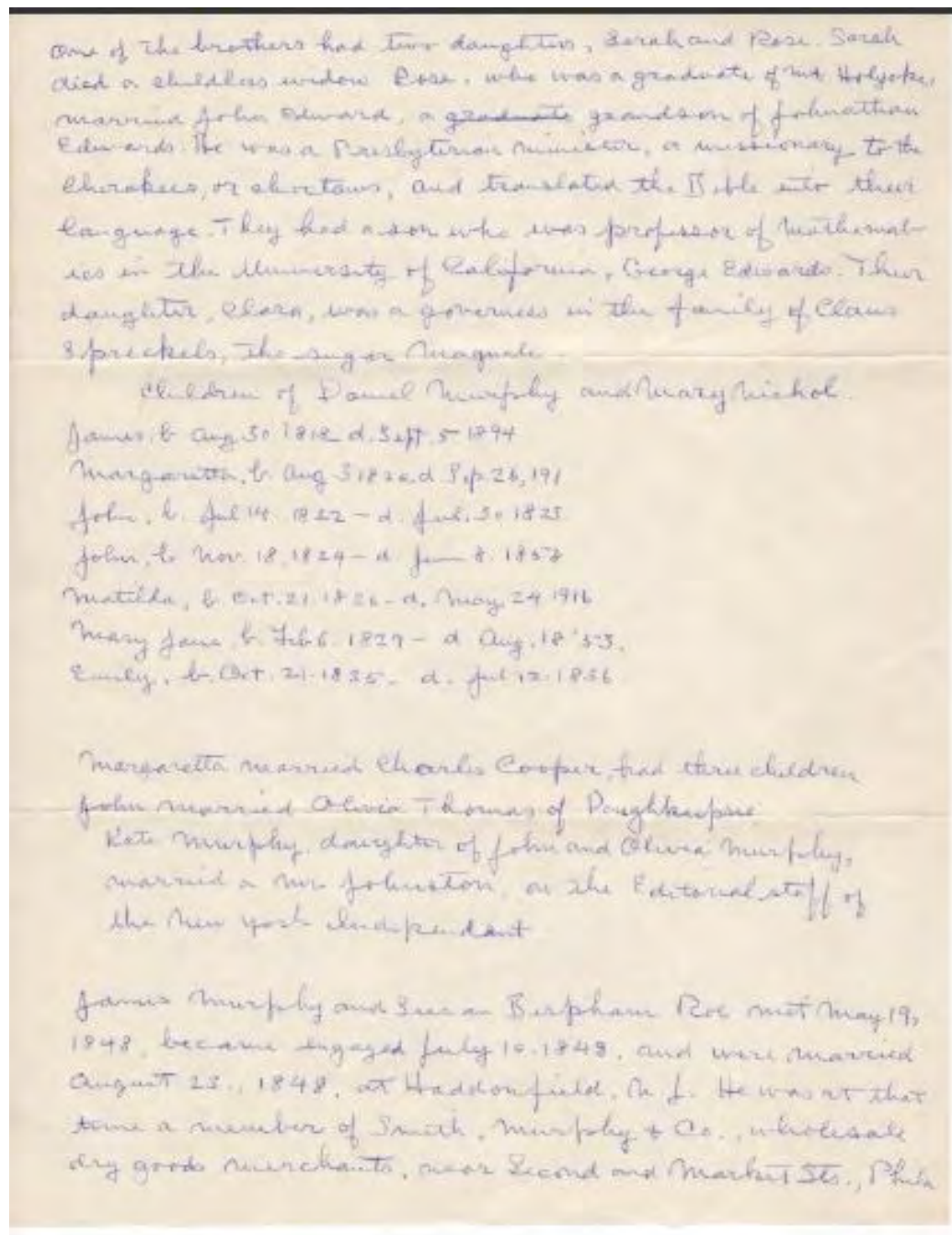
Mary Nichol, wife of Daniel Murphy, was born in Philadelphia in 1792, and died March 29, 1836.

Data as to previous history of the Murphy family were lost accidentally with the paper they were written on in 1898.

a sister, Mrs. Bell, and two brothers came to America with Daniel Murphy. Mrs. Bell was a very small and animated old lady, as I (Helen, Walter Murphy's sister) remember her, went in the '60s, to live in Ohio with a son or daughter. She lived to the age of 100 years and was reported to have walked 10 miles one day in her hundredth year.



The first child, James Murphy, was appointed co-executor in Jane Nichol Warnock's will. Matilda Murphy is mentioned in Margaret Nichol Galloway's will.



More about Mr. Murphy

*The Evangelical Repository and United Presbyterian Worker*, Volume 51, 1874. Pgs 64-65.  
[https://www.google.com/books/edition/The Evangelical Repository and United Pr/jzA16M\\_ywDNAC?hl=en&gbpv=0](https://www.google.com/books/edition/The_Evangelical_Repository_and_United_Pr/jzA16M_ywDNAC?hl=en&gbpv=0)

## Who are the Parents of the Nichol sisters?

The Warnock Bible record includes a clue that may open a very small window of information about Robert Nichol, who might be the father of the Nichol sisters. Around 1796 the Nichol family moved from Market Street into the Southwark district of Philadelphia. In quick succession, Robert purchased a lot on the corner of 4th and Plumb Streets, built a house, and then died. His wife Ann kept the shop going for a while, then married John Regan, MD. Probate papers list three minor children, Jane, Lucy and Margaret. I can't find out anything about Ann and Dr. Regan after 1799.

### The Clue in the Warnock Bible

*Miss Jane Nichol born in Philadelphia in **Market St. above 8th**,  
now Mrs. Jane Warnock, on the 26th day of October 1790.*

If this bit of family lore is correct, the 1790 census and the 1791 Philadelphia City Directory point to Robert Nihal/Nihell/Nichol/Nicholl/Nichols, woodworker/grocer/shopkeeper, who lived on Market Street (commonly known as High Street) between 8th and 9th Streets.

### 1790 Federal Census

Water Street East Side District (North Ward)

Robert Nichols, shopkeeper, 315 Market Street

1 male over 16

1 male under 16

5 females

### Tax Records & Philadelphia City Directories

<https://www.philageohistory.org/geohistory/>

- 1787 Robert Nihal (North Ward)
- 1788 Robert Nihal, chairm(aker) (North Ward)+
- 1789 Robert Nihell, carver (North Ward)+
- 1791 Robert Nichols, shopkeeper, 315 High Street (North Ward)
- 1793 --
- 1794 Robert Nichol, coachmaker, High between 10th and 11th \*
- 1795 --
- 1796 Robert Nichols, grocer, bet 421 and 435 So. Front St.
- 1797 Robert Nicholl, grocer, corner 3rd and Plumb
- 1798 Ann Nicolls, grocer, between Plumb & German in South 3rd St.
- 1799 John Regan MD, corner 4th & Plumb

The 1787-1789 tax records align with the 1790 census--North Ward, same neighbors. The 1795 directory lists people by street address and shows that 315 High/Market Street is located between 8th and 9th.

---

+Rented a dwelling on a lot and a vacant lot

\*There are several men named Robert Nichols in Philadelphia around 1800. The coachmaker Robert Nichol who lived on High/Market between 10th and 11th probably died 1796.

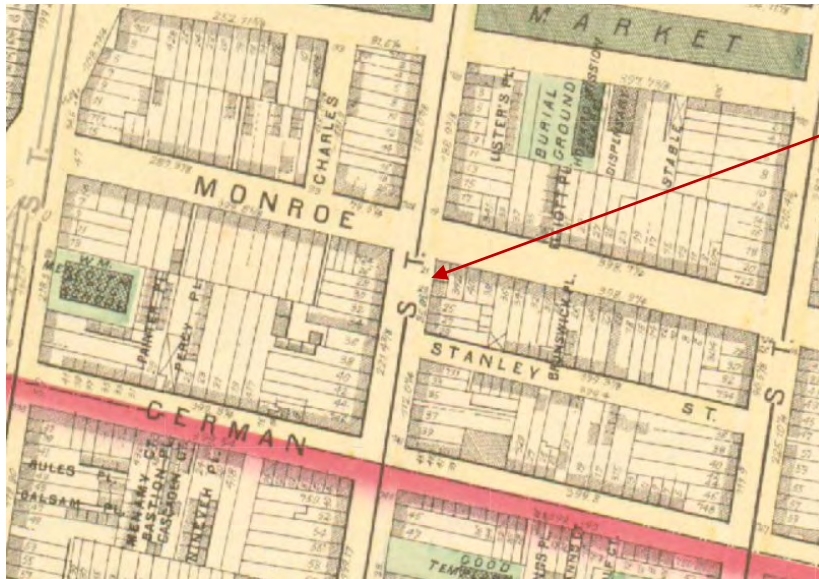
On February 3, 1797, Robert Nicholls, storekeeper of Southwark, purchased two contiguous vacant lots on the southeast corner of South 4th Street and Plumb (now known as Monroe Street) in the Southwark section of Philadelphia.

**Philadelphia Deed D 77/102 (Roll 62A, 671.tif)**

Dated: February 3, 1797; recorded May 23, 1799

William Reed of Southwark, porter, to Robert Nicholls, of Southwark, storekeeper

Two vacant lots on SE corner of S 4th and Plumb.



SE corner S 4th & Plumb

1875 Philadelphia Atlas  
GM Hopkins

Probate records tell us Robert died in the year 1797, probably by August. His widow, Ann Nichols, then married John Regan, physician.

On March 12, 1799, Letters Testamentary were filed in the Probate Court for the Estate of Robert Nichols. An inventory was filed (barrels of gin, rum, sugar, barley; feather beds and other household items; a frame house). Mentioned in the estate papers are:

Ann Nichols, widow of Robert Nichols deceased  
John Regan of Southwark Physician  
Henry McEwen of Southwark bottler  
Three minor children: Jane, Lucy, Margaret

Ann and John Regan petitioned the court for permission to sell the house which had been built on South 4th and Plumb Streets.

**Probate Records**

Administration Files

1799, Case 132 Robert Nichols H 369

Files 116-193, 1799, image 80

Orphans Court Estate Papers

Robert Nicolls, Book 18, Page 117, April 1799

Vol. 18-Vol. 19, 1799-1800, image 110

In 1798, John Ragan is taxed on the house on Plumb Street.

1798 Direct Tax - John Ragan

1798	John Ragan	John Ragan	Plumb between 3 <sup>d</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> Sts S. W. Ragan 160						
------	------------	------------	---	--	--	--	--	--	--

Ann and John Regan sell the property at 4th and Plumb on April 30, 1799.

**On Monday, the 29th instant,**  
At 3 o'clock, on the Premises,  
*Will be Sold by Public Auction,*  
By virtue of an order from the Orphans' Court,  
**A two-story Frame Tenement**  
**and Lot of Ground,**  
**SITUATE** on the south east corner of Plumb  
and Fourth-streets, containing on Plumb-street  
20 feet, and on Fourth-street 17 feet, with a 3 feet  
alley; and a yard of 20 feet by 10, whereon is an  
excellent necessary.—The House is well calculated  
for the Grocery Business, is new and in excellent  
repair; subject to a ground rent of 43½ dollars per  
annum.  
Conditions of sale Cash.  
**Benfon & Yorke,**  
April 18 Auctioneers.

**Philadelphia Deed D 78/65 (Roll  
62B, 283.tif)**

April 30, 1799. \$459.

John Regan MD and his wife late Ann  
Nicholls widow and administratrix of  
Robert Nicholls deceased to Matthias  
Corless of Philadelphia, grocer.

"John Regan of Southwark, doctor of  
medicine, and Ann his wife late Ann  
Nichols widow and administratrix of  
Robert Nicholls late of Southwark  
storekeeper deceased."

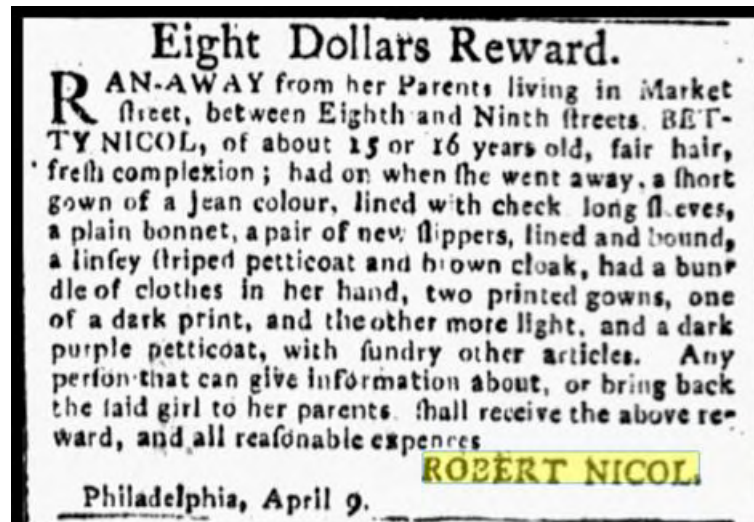
"Robert Nicholls having erected a two  
story frame house on the said prem-  
ises died seized thereof intestate leav-  
ing the said Ann his widow and three  
children all in their minority.

4-18-1799 - *The Philadelphia Gazette*

## Nichol Odds and Ends

*The Pennsylvania Packet, and Daily Advertiser*  
Saturday, Apr 11, 1789

Betty would have been born in 1774.



US Presbyterian Church Records 1701-1971

Scots Presbyterian Church Records

All Nichol entries

- Margaret Niccol, daughter of Robt & Margaret was born Feb. \_\_\_\_ & baptized Sep. 3, 1785
- James, son to Robert Nicol born \_\_\_\_ & baptized June 1790
- Mary Nicol, daughter to Robert and \_\_\_\_ born Sep. \_\_\_\_ and baptized Oct 1, 1792
- Burial: Robt Nicol Esqr. Sept. 1796
- Burial: Betsy Nichols child, a boy, burial Oct. 3, 1792 (Associates Burial Ground)

---

Of the Nichol sisters, the eldest was named Margaret; likely she did not have children. The other two sisters, Jane and Mary, named their first born girls Margareta. It makes you think that a Margaret could be the mother of the Nichol sisters and the Ann of the probate records a step mother.

The Robert Nicol Esqr. died Sept. 1796 is probably the coachmaker who lived between 10th and 11th. There are estate papers for him in the Administration Files. Also in 1786, Robert Nicol from Scotland, coachmaker, resident here near two years, took the oath of allegiance.



## Nichol Odds and Ends

1797 Will of James Patterson - mentions two orphans, Jane and Margaret Nikol.

Detail	Source
Name:	Jane Nickol
Role:	Heir
Will Date:	5 Aug 1797
Will Proved Date:	2 Nov 1797
Comments:	James Patterson. Southwark. Co. of Phila. Yeoman. Aug 5, 1797. Nov 2, 1797. X.650. Wife: Mary. To Jane and Margaret Nickol, Orphans living with me. To Children of James Brown and George Vallances, living in Scotland. To John Bramber of Phila. To John Kirkwood, in Scotland, and his Wife and Children. Exec: Peter Stewart, John McAllister.
Page:	X:650
<u>Household Members (Name)</u>	