

**William Morris Hansell, Dry Goods Merchant
Philadelphia, PA
1795 to 1846**

William Morris Hansell is the next to last child of William and Sarah Hansell. He was five years old when his father, William Hansell, died in 1800. Along with his mother and assorted siblings, he left rural Darby for downtown Philadelphia. In time, he married, had nine children, and prospered as a dry goods merchant.

William Morris Hansell and Eliza Ann Berrett were married on March 4, 1819 in Christ Church by Bishop William White.

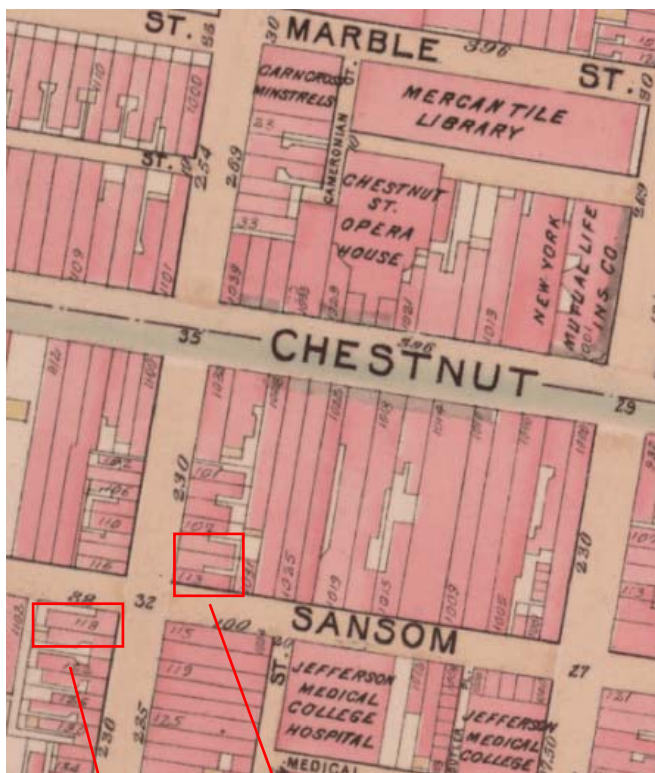
The couple first lived at 173 South 11th Street with Eliza's mother, Lydia Berrett.

After Eliza's maternal grandfather Burton Wallace died in 1824, the couple and their family moved into his house at 67 South 11th.

Eliza died in 1839. William and his six children, ages four to 19, moved across the street to 70 South 11th. William Morris died here in 1846.

The funeral of William's sister Anne (1785-1847) was held "at her late residence, SW corner of 11th & George" a/k/a 70 South 11th. The 1820 and 1840 census records for William Morris Hansell have listings for women of a certain age who could have been any one of William's three sisters.

1820 through 1840 census returns for William Morris Hansell list a free colored female. How intriguing is this and how lost to history is the young woman.



1895 Philadelphia Atlas
G.W. Bromley

70 S 11th St. 63-65-67 S 11th St.

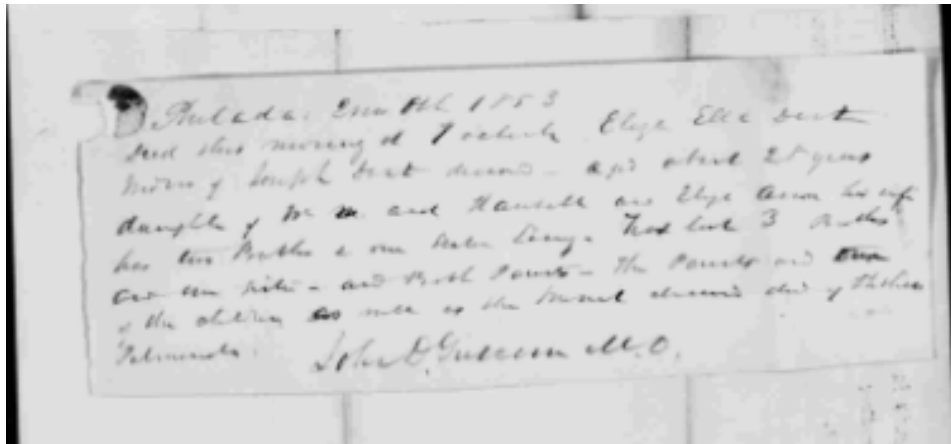
Variations in street addresses over time:

Before 1857:	63-65-67 South 11 th Street	70 South 11 th Street
After 1857:	109-111-113 South 11 th Street	118 South 11 th Street
After 1910:	111-113-115 South 11 th Street	122 South 11 th Street

Phthisis/Consumption/Tuberculosis

As I started going through this family, using the tree provided by Ed Bradford's Hansell Book, cross checking death certificates and newspaper death notices, it became clear that few in this family escaped from tuberculosis.

Most unusual is the death certificate for the third born child of William Morris Hansell and Eliza Ann Berrett, Eliza Ella Hansell Dent (1824-1853). A death certificate at this time was a bit of paper with one or two lines of writing which would include the deceased person's name and date of death, hopefully an address, generally the cause of death, and the signature of an attending person.



Eliza Dent's death certificate is akin to an epidemiological study. The first challenge was to decipher it.

Philada: Feb 8th 1853

Died this morning at 7 o'clock Eliza Ella Dent widow of Joseph Dent deceased - aged about 28 years daughter of ___ Hansell and Eliza Ann his wife, has two brothers and one sister living. Had lost three brothers and one sister - and both parents - the parents and three of the children as well as the husband deceased died of phthisis pulmonalis.

John D. Griscom, MD

Off to the library to find books on TB. *The White Death: A History of Tuberculosis* by Thomas Dormandy is entertaining in a fascinating/appalling sort of way. The author has a sense of humor and keeps the narrative moving! He presents quite a few case histories of artists and politicians who were afflicted by TB. For the purpose of this narrative, the grim statistics go like this.

The germ that causes TB was isolated in 1880. The discovery that certain antibiotics would kill the TB bacteria wouldn't happen until the mid 1940s.

This contagious disease is passed through air (coughing, talking, sneezing) or saliva. Mothers with TB pass the disease to their infants while nursing. By the late 1800s, 70% to 90% of the urban population of Europe and North America were infected with TB. About 80% of individuals who developed active TB died of it. As TB can impact most any part of the body, many deaths were wrongly attributed to causes other than TB.

In the early 1800s, the cause of TB was anybody's guess. Samuel George Morton, Philadelphia physician, in his 1834 book *Illustrations of Pulmonary Consumption: Its Ana-*

tomical Characters, Causes, Symptoms and Treatment. With Twelve Plates, Drawn and Coloured from Nature, put forth the following causes of TB: bronchitis, pneumonia, hereditary disposition, age (18 to 35), tight lacing (cramps the lungs) and sedentary occupations.

Treatment, while having evolved from the more archaic use of boa-constrictor excreta (half a teaspoon in a gallon of water), still ranged from useless to harmful in the 1800s. The Hansells and Berretts could have been subjected to any one of the following: bleeding; cupping; internal remedies using digitalis, iodine, prussic acid, opium, spirits of turpentine; inhalation of vapors from simmering tar and potash; rest; change of climate.

In the William Morris Hansell family, of the two parents and nine children, only three children survived to an older age. This gives an 80%± early death rate for this family, most of which, as far as I can tell, was attributable to TB.

Returning to Eliza Dent's death certificate:

- Dr. Griscom is short one sister
- Joseph Dent, the deceased husband, did die of TB
- the living brothers and sister are Edmund Morris Hansell, Lydia Ann Hansell Lloyd and Henry Johnson Hansell

As will be seen, Eliza's maternal ancestors were also stricken by TB.

The Dry Goods Business

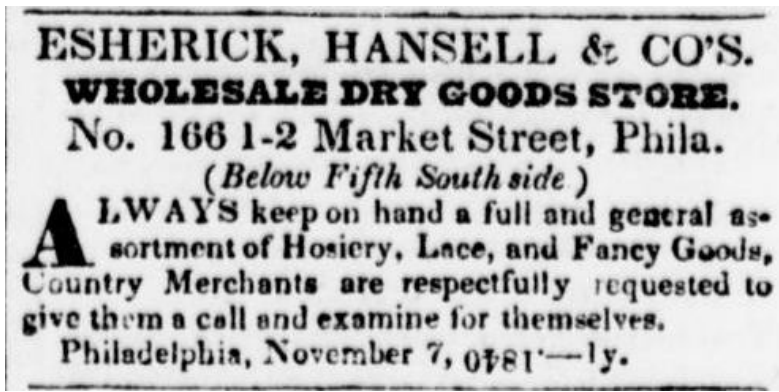
William Morris Hansell's first entry in a Philadelphia city directory is 1819 (he would be 23 years old and newly married), at 15 North 6th, dry goods store. The location was just up 6th Street from the store of his brother James (watch and clockmaker) and across the street from his aunt Sarah Mensgrave Hansell (shopkeeper), widow of Barnett. William could cut through St. James Alley and shortly arrive at 49½ North 7th where his mother and sisters lived. Then walking west one block via Zane/Filbert Street he could visit his brother Thomas's shop (turner) at 41 North 8th. William's brother Morris (hatter) was in Virginia, pursuing hats and marriage.

William's brothers had more hands-on occupations--turner, watch and clockmaker, hatter--which required long apprenticeships. William probably clerked in a store to learn the business before going out on his own.

William's fellow tenants at 15 North 6th were two shoemakers, Richard Marley and John Rogers, and a sawmaker, Benjamin Brumer.

In 1822 William moved his dry goods business, family and mother-in-law to 237 High Street. (High Street was commonly called Market Street). There is a city directory listing for Hansell & West, dry goods, 237 High. I don't know who Mr. West is. In 1825, William moved his business to 298 High Street.

In 1839 William entered into a partnership with the brothers George and Joseph Esherrick under the name Esherrick, Hansell & Co., located at 166½ Market Street.

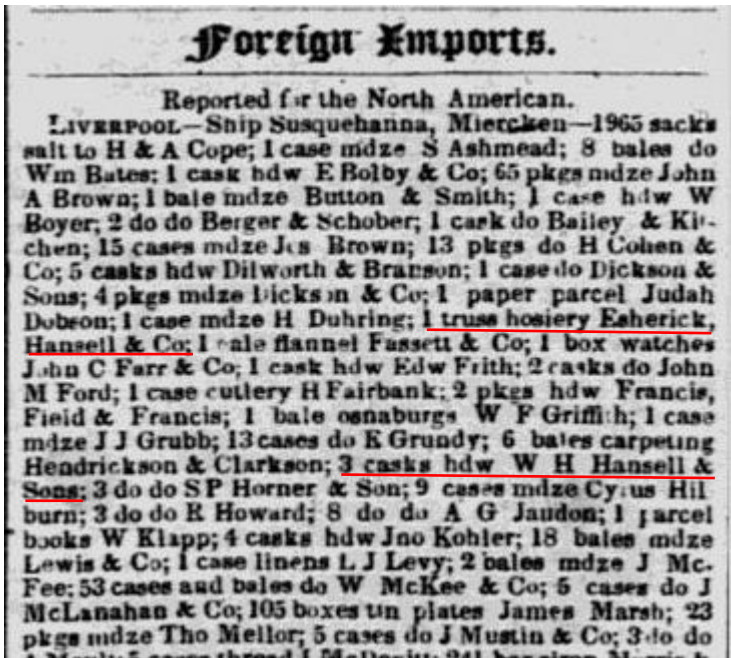


“Fancy Goods” includes items like gloves, hosiery, corsets, laces, handkerchiefs, jewelry, ribbons, cuffs and other sundries for ladies.

The Esherick/Hansell venture was a wholesale operation. At this time in history, a large majority of the wholesale dry goods concerns were importers. Many of their customers were peddlers who travelled about the country side. The above advertisement appeared in the *Sunbury American and Shamokin Journal*. Sunbury is located along the east bank of the Susquehanna River in central Pennsylvania, 170 miles from Philadelphia.

Another customer for a wholesaler would be a “jobber,” a middleman who would purchase at auctions or from wholesale importers, break down the merchandise into smaller lots and sell to local retailers and country storekeepers.

Entries for Esherick, Hansell & Co. are found in the Importations columns in the newspapers.



1839 - 7 cases, 6 bales merchandise
 1840 - 9 cases, 3 bales of merchandise
 1848 - 2 cases merchandise

In this 1841 advertisement, Esherick & Hansell has received 1 truss of hosiery

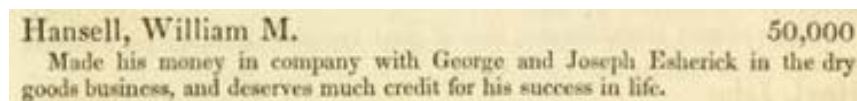
WH Hansell & Sons must be cousin (son of Barnett Hansell) William S. Hansell of harness and saddlery fame.

By 1843, Esherick, Hansell & Co. was located at 112 Market Street. Like most spots in downtown Philadelphia, this move placed the partners in a historically significant location. Today the address is 322 Market Street which is part of the restored structures that contain exhibits of Ben Franklin’s life. 322 Market Street is a replica of the office of the *Aurora Gen-*

eral Advertiser, a newspaper started by Ben Franklin's grandson, Benjamin Franklin Bache, which had its office at 112 Market Street through 1824. A few doors to the east an archway provides access to Franklin Court where Ben Franklin lived.

When Esherick and Hansell were located here in the 1840s, Ben Franklin's home was long gone, razed in 1812, and Franklin Court was called Hudson's Alley.

Apparently there was money to be made in the dry goods importing business. The Esherick brothers and William are included in *Memoirs and Auto-Biography of Some of the Wealthy Citizens of Philadelphia*. This odd offering was published by an anonymous merchant who, from anonymous sources, computed the dollar worth of Philadelphians in 1846. If you were perceived to be worth at least \$50,000 you earned a place in this book! The Esherick brothers are listed with slightly higher values. Cousin John Eisenbrey, Jr. is in the book, too.



Hansell, William M. 50,000
Made his money in company with George and Joseph Esherick in the dry goods business, and deserves much credit for his success in life.

William's retirement from Esherick, Hansell & Co. was announced in the January 1, 1845 *North American*. He would die of TB in October of 1846.

William Morris Hansell is noted in the Dec. 31, 1842 *North American* as chairman of a committee of the Mercantile Library Company (just up the street from his house). Other newspaper references find him active in South Ward politics.

The Children of William Morris Hansell and Eliza Ann Berrett

Eliza and William Morris Hansell had nine children.

Three of the children, **Lydia Ann, Eliza B. and Alfred**, died at ages two months to six years.

The first born child, **William Wallace Hansell (1820-1848)**, has a tragic story. On January 17, 1846 he married Margaret A. Crombarger. Margaret died two months later from peritonitis. Two years later William died of "mania a potu" which today is called delirium tremens. They were buried in the same grave at the Ninth Presbyterian Burial Ground at 19th and Race. In 1865 and 1915 the graves were moved to Mt. Moriah.

William Wallace Hansell did have the presence of mind to make a will dated December 7, 1846 in which he left all his property to his sister Lydia Ann Hansell and his brother Henry Johnson Hansell.



Edmund Morris Hansell (1822-1911) married Catherine Jarden. He had occupations as a tax collector, lumber merchant and a sash and door manufacturer in Philadelphia. His death certificate says he was a retired bookkeeper.

Edmund and Catherine and some other family members turn up in Paradise, Kansas (which is truly in the middle of nowhere and surely there is a story behind this move) in the 1880 census. They soon moved 250 miles east to Kansas City where Catherine died.

Edmund moved back to New Jersey, but their connection is memorialized on Catherine's gravestone located in Oak Grove Cemetery, Kansas City, Kansas.

The last two lines read: Buried in Woodlands, Phila., Pa.

Eliza Ella Hansell (1824-1853) married Joseph Dent, gold beater/jeweler. This family was decimated by TB. Both Eliza and Joseph died from TB as would their only surviving child, Joseph Dent (1849-1879).

Robert Berrett Hansell (1826-1848) died at 22 of TB.

Lydia Ann Hansell (1833-1899 second child with this name) was 13 when her father died, leaving Lydia and her younger brother Henry orphans. Lydia went to live with her sister Eliza Ella Dent. Both the Dents died of TB and Eliza brought her three year old nephew Joseph Dent to her marriage with Samuel Lloyd, master brick maker.

As noted, **Henry Johnson Hansell (1835-1913)** was orphaned at age 11. He lived with his older brother Edmund and his wife Catherine Jarden. Henry was in the lumber and sash and door business with his brother Edmund. Later he worked as a bookkeeper.

For photos of the lovely Catherine Jarden and others in this branch of the family, see Jones, Aikin, Hansell, Hunt Family Tree at ancestry.com maintained by Mary Oberg, descendent of Henry Johnson Hansell (Henry has an impressive set of pork chop side burns).

The Distaff Side of the Hansell/Berrett Family

I came across an instrument in the Philadelphia on-line historic deeds which includes a chronological listing of the deaths of Eliza Ann Berrett's family, starting with her grandfather Burton Wallace. What more could a researcher ask for?

Grandfather Burton Wallace

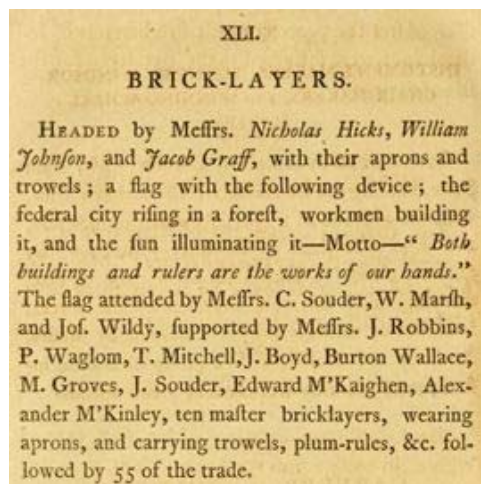
Grandpa Wallace laid a foundation (literally) for the Hansell/Berrett family. Eliza Ann Berrett Hansell and her children eventually inherited what ever money and real estate was left from his estate; and the cemetery lot at St. James Church in Kingsessing (Lot 19, Section B), last resting place for most of the Hansell/Berrett family, was purchased by Burton Wallace.

This is what I can piece together about Burton Wallace. To keep the cast of characters straight, an abbreviated family tree is in the End Notes.

Burton Wallace was born in 1743 in probably England and married Lydia Ann (maybe Harford). The couple had, at least, two daughters, Elizabeth Lydia (1771-1799) and Lydia Harford (1775-1825). Wallace was a bricklayer/mason.

In 1769 Burton Wallace and his wife, along with 13 other people, formed the nucleus of St. George's Methodist Episcopal Church. The group initially met in Samuel Croft's sail loft on Dock Street. Wallace served on the Board of Trustees for the next 30 years. His two daughters married at St. George's.

Wallace next turns up on April 17, 1776 in *the Names of Persons Who Took the Oath of Allegiance to the State of Pennsylvania*.



The magnificent Grand Federal Procession of 1788: In Philadelphia the 4th of July 1788 (with 10 states so far having ratified the Constitution) dawned to an unprecedented display of political street theater. Orchestrated by Frances Hopkinson (well known judge and signer of the Declaration of Independence), the parade included 5,000 participants and was viewed by about 17,000 spectators. The bells at Christ Church pealed and ships at the Delaware wharf were dressed. Of the 88 contingents, the first 13 portrayed the events of the Revolutionary War. The next 19 celebrated the new government. The float that stole the show was a 33 foot long, 20 gun model of a frigate, the “Federal Ship Union,” propelled by a team of 10 horses. The 25 crewmen aboard set sail as they moved into the parade. The sails were trimmed as the frigate tacked around street corners. The lead was thrown out and the anchor dropped when the ship came into port at Union Green. The third section of the parade belonged to the trades and professions. The blacksmiths operated a fully functional manufactory, turning swords into plow irons and sickles. I looked in vain for Hansells. Surely Jacob and Barnett marched with the blacksmiths and taylor; undoubtedly the rest of the Hansell family made the trip into Philadelphia for this grand occasion. Burton Wallace is listed with the bricklayers. The 74th contingent: “*Stay-makers were represented by Mr. Francis Serre, with his first journeyman carrying an elegant pair of lady’s stays.*”

In 1790, Burton Wallace is given credit for work on the Morris house which would be rented by President George Washington.

Fortunately for posterity, there were problems with the additions and alterations to the President's House, and a couple of changes in plan, all documented by Tobias Lear in a series of twice-weekly letters written to Washington at Mount Vernon between September and November 1790.

The most dramatic addition ordered by Washington was the construction of a large, two-story bow on the western half of the south façade of the main house. Built by or under the supervision of "Master Mason, Mr. Wallace," the exterior of the bow was constructed of brick with stonework over the second-story windows, and it had an iron roof....The bow of the President's House in Philadelphia is considered the progenitor of the oval rooms at the center of The White House.

Grand Federal Procession,
As taken on the spot on that glorious and memorable day the fourth of July, 1788—the figures are nearly as large as life, are seen passing, and extends near thirteen hundred feet in length—the public are respectfully informed that this is no imposition, and has been got up at a very great expence—the above subject is not only brought forward to please but also to give information to a rising generation who have heard their parents mention that glorious night so much has been said by persons who have offered spurious exhibitions (under the above title) as perhaps to give many an unfavorable opinion as to its merit—the Proprietors assure the public they have endeavoured to deserve their approbation.
BOX 1 dollar—PIT 75 cents—GALLERY 50 cents—Doors to open at half past 6 o'clock; Curtain to rise precisely at half past 7.
••• Tickets to be had at the front of the Theatre from 10 till 4.
••• Gentlemen are informed that on no account will they be permitted to smoke Cigars

In June of 1811, a moving panorama of the Federal Procession of 1788 was presented at the Apollo Street Theatre in Southwark. It would run for the next six months.

The "film" was a 1,300 foot long by 6 or 8 foot high painted mural, cranked from one spool to another. The mural passed behind a façade with a cut-out so the film was visible and the spools hidden from view. A speaker provided a narrative, hopefully dramatic, as this new marvel delighted the audience.

Burton Wallace was still alive in 1811; perhaps he attended the show and saw a facsimile of himself passing by.

6-14-1811 Poulson's Daily Advertiser

Wallace died on August 30, 1824 at the advanced age of 82 and is buried in Christ Church graveyard (according to his death certificate) along with the likes of Benjamin Franklin and other illustrious architects of the new United States (as well as my favorite sailor, Capt. Richard Budden of the ship Myrtilla). Burton Wallace's daughter Elizabeth Lydia Wallace Crozier is also buried at Christ Church.

As noted, Burton Wallace and his wife were among the founders of Old St. George's Methodist Episcopal Church in Philadelphia in 1769. Until 1800, Wallace served on the Board of Trustees.

In 1800, St. George's was beset by "trouble" and great upheaval, the details of which are not clear. The church separated into two factions: "the wealthy and respectable and the

poor and ignorant.” No compromise could be met and 83 members withdrew from the church. Burton Wallace’s name ceases to appear in St. George’s records post 1800.

Wallace had a short tenure at the Union Methodist Episcopal Church (1802-1803) and then moved on to Old St. Paul’s Episcopal Church. His daughter’s three children were baptized at St. Paul’s. Burton Wallace’s will stated that if he had no heirs when he died the income from his property be distributed among the poor of St. Paul’s Church in Philadelphia. This might be a clue as to Wallace’s position regarding the “trouble” at St. George’s.

Burton Wallace’s wife died in 1781 and is buried at St. James Church cemetery in Kingsessing. It intrigues me why Burton Wallace would purchase a cemetery lot seven miles out of Philadelphia, when he had strong ties with downtown Philadelphia churches. Well, for whatever reason (war, pestilence, proximity) we’re glad he did because it preserves a record of the Hansell/Berrett family.

Purchasing property and making a will were two other useful things Burton Wallace did for future genealogists. Newspaper articles and deeds give the impression Wallace was a bit of a real estate entrepreneur, buying lots, building houses, holding on to ground rents.

Burton Wallace’s will was written in 1819:

BURTON WALLACE of Philadelphia, late bricklayer; dated April 27, 1819; only surviving daughter Lydia Harford and her three children, William Hartford Berret, Robert Crozier Berret and Eliza Ann Berret; mentioned poor of the congregation of St. Paul’s church, Philadelphia; executors Alphonso Ireland and John Morris, gentlemen; witnesses, Robert Ross, William White and Joseph Conover; administration to Lydia H. Berrett and William Berrett; September 24, 1824. N, p. 6.

Before I get on to Wallace’s real estate, there are two other arcane, useless bits of minutia to report.

Burton Wallace placed a lost cow advertisement in the July 29, 1779 *Pennsylvania Packet*. A cow had turned up at Mount Pleasant plantation in the Northern Liberties and calved the same day. The owner was advised to show up and pay charges. In March 1779, one Benedict Arnold purchased an estate called Mount Pleasant in the Northern Liberties as a present for his new bride. Hmmmm...

Wallace must have had a subscription to *The Gentleman’s Magazine*, a London, England publication which had a 200 year run from 1731 to 1922. The magazine was a monthly digest of news and commentary covering a wide range of subjects and included material from other books and periodicals. It is here, thanks to Google which has scanned numerous editions of the magazine, I found the verses Burton Wallace used on the tombstones of his wife and daughter.

The last three stanzas on the tombstone of Elizabeth Lydia Wallace Crozier were originally found on a gravestone in a country church yard in Ireland “on the Death of an affectionate parent” in 1772. It looks as though a few lines were, in turn, borrowed from a 1744 Dirge written by William Collins, an English lyrical poet died 1759.

The verses on Lydia Ann Wallace’s tombstone at St. James Cemetery in Kingsessing were originally written to the memory of Elizabeth Rowe, an eminent English poet and novelist (1674-1737).

The House that Burton Wallace Built

A building constructed by Wallace at 63-65-67 South 11th Street (on the NE corner of Samson [formerly George] and South 11th) stayed in the family for over a 100 years. Burton Wallace purchased the land in the 1780s and built a three-story, three-unit tenement. Wallace lived in one unit and rented the other two. The structure would be inhabited and inherited by his heirs, which ended up being the children of William Morris Hansell and Eliza Ann Berrett.

An indenture dated November 12, 1872 (JAH Book 282, Page 406) lays out the names of Burton Wallace's heirs and their death dates and consolidates ownership in the four heirs living in 1872:

- Edmund M. Hansell, sash and door manufacturer, and his wife Catherine
- Samuel Lloyd, brick maker, and Lydia Ann Berrett Lloyd his wife
- Henry Johnson Hansell, sash and door manufacturer, and wife Emma
- Joseph Dent, salesman, and Mary his wife (this is the son of Joseph Dent and Eliza Hansell)

In 1874 these four heirs sold the northern-most unit, now known as 111 South 11th Street, to William Idler (tenant and famous numismatist, Google him) for \$9,500.

The percentage of ownership of the other two units ebbed and waned as surviving heirs died or married. Walter S. Lloyd, Henry Johnson Hansell, Mary Dent and her children, William H. Lloyd, Ella Lloyd Irving, Albert R. Lloyd, Esther and John Falck, and Charles and Emma Tomlinson appear on deeds. In 1921 the two units were sold from Samuel and Ethel Irving to the Robin brothers (born in Russia and on their way to being real estate entrepreneurs). The two units were razed and replaced by a brick store building.

This 1965 photo shows the store at the corner of South 11th and Sansom, now numbered 113-115. To the left is 111 South 11th Street which looks like the original construction by Burton Wallace.



Besides Burton Wallace, the only other family members who actually resided in the units were the families of William Morris Hansell and his son Edmund Morris Hansell.

William lived at 67 S 11th for about 10 years followed by Edmund at 65 S 11th for a further 10 years. I expect the property provided income to the family when they were not in residence.

Today the whole block is encompassed by a building

of the Thomas Jefferson University Hospital.

Elizabeth Lydia Wallace Crozier - daughter of Burton Wallace

Elizabeth was born in 1771. She married Matthew Crozier in 1794 and died at Duck Creek Crossroads (today named Smyrna), Kent County, Delaware. Six years of marriage, three stillborn children and death at 28, possibly from TB: "She saw disease prey on her vital breath."

Her tombstone at Christ Church is something of a tourist attraction, but it certainly tells a story.



Sacred to the memory of
ELIZABETH LYDIA CROZIER
and of her three stillborn infants,
wife of M^r Matthew Crozier
and daughter of Burton Wallace
who departed this life on the 9th of
November Anno 1799 in the 28th year
of her age after a painful illness which
she bore with patience and resignation.

As a daughter, sister and wife she was dutiful
and affectionate, highly esteemed by her friends
who much lament her loss.

Her disconsolate parent with the consent of her husband
has erected this tomb to perpetuate her memory.

Her much lamented mother departed this life
during the Revolutionary war
and was interred beneath a tomb in the burial ground
of the church in Kingsessing, Philadelphia County.

She saw disease prey on her vital breath:
She bore with resignation every pain;
She saw with fortitude her coming death,
And changed a sinful world for heavenly gain.

Remembrance oft shall her restore,
For her the tear be duly shed;
Beloved till life can charm no more,
And mourned till pity's self be dead.

But hark! I hear her dear Redeemer say,
The dead who sweetly die in Christ are blest;
She's gone where blooms a bright eternal day;
She has gone to inherit everlasting rest.

There are a few Crozier families in Philadelphia in the late 1700s. Elizabeth's husband is probably Matthew Crozier, house carpenter. In 1792 he built a house at 119 S 5th and married Elizabeth in 1794.

Why Elizabeth died at Duck Creek Crossroads is unknown. There is a Crozier family in Kent County in this time period.

In 1799 the house on 5th Street was sold at a sheriff's sale. Matthew may have died by 1805 or moved from Philadelphia.

Lydia Harford Wallace Berrett - daughter of Burton Wallace



The gal with the snazzy hat is Burton Wallace's second daughter, Lydia Harford Wallace, mother of Eliza Ann Berrett Hansell.

Lydia married Robert Berrett in 1794. In July of 1796, Robert Berrett opened an insurance office. By August he had teamed up with Jacob Shoemaker. They advertised as marine insurance brokers, located at 29 North Water Street (address of Clifford's Wharf, now run by the young Clifford boys after the death of their father, Thomas Clifford).

The Shoemaker & Berrett partnership ran from 1796 to 1804 which coincided with the quasi-war with France. Nothing like a little risk to rev up your insurance business. During the summers of 1797 and 1798, the office was moved out to Germantown to escape yellow fever outbreaks. In 1802 the office moved from 29 North Water Street to the corner of 11th and Chestnut "for the present calamity" (probably yellow fever).

Insurance policies issued by Shoemaker & Berrett are currently located at the Historical Society of Pennsylvania. Newspapers and law case books record the various legal wranglings that evolved from the insurance business. I leave it to someone else to figure out if this marine insurance venture made or broke the partners.

By 1804, Robert Berrett moved on to a dry goods and hardware store business in partnership with Andrew C. Smith at 151 Market Street. Something went amiss with the financing of this venture due to a poorly worded contract. A lawsuit entitled Wallace vs. Baker evolved. James and John Baker were the fellows from whom Berrett and Smith bought their store inventory and Wallace is the father-in-law who actually owned the building at 11th & Chestnut Street which was to be sold to cover the purchase price of the inventory.

About 1813 Robert Berrett, merchant, drops off the Philadelphia city directories. Next is his death notice in the January 21, 1817 issue of *Poulson's*.

DIED, suddenly, of an apoplexy, on Sunday evening last, Mr. ROBERT BERRETT, formerly a respectable Merchant of this city

The phrasing of this notice is ambiguous: does formerly refer to respectable merchant or does formerly refer to Philadelphia? Going with the latter, it may indicate he died out of state. His wife Lydia's death in 1825 is recorded in a New Jersey death index.

Back to Lydia of the snazzy hat. Paintings of Lydia and her husband are in the collection of the Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art in Kansas City, Missouri. The portraits are oil on canvas, date around 1800 and the artist is Raphaelle Peale.

Edmund M. Hansell (son of William Morris Hansell and Lydia Ann Berrett) and various family members turn up in the 1880 census in Paradise, Kansas and then in Kansas City, Kansas and Missouri city directories. The paintings eventually descended to Edmund Jr. and his wife Josephine Mildred Hockett. Josephine contributed the paintings to the Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art in 1949.



Raphaelle Peale ,
American , 1774-1825
*Lydia Hartford Wallace
Berrett, ca. 1800*
49-80



Raphaelle Peale ,
American , 1774-1825
Robert Berrett, ca. 1800
51-59

Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art, Kansas City, Missouri

A painting of Lydia Berrett's two male children, William Harford Berrett and Robert Crozier Berrett, also by Peale circa 1800, was last owned by Joseph L. Walton, Esq., probably the Joseph Levi Walton b. 1890 found in family trees. I don't know where the painting is currently located. (Joseph Levi Walton's father's brother married my husband's grandmother's sister. Practically one of the family!)

Lydia Berrett's death notice appeared in the August 23, 1825 *National Gazette*. She either died or was buried in New Jersey.

On Sunday evening, in the 50th year of her age, after a painful illness, Mrs LYDIA H. BERRETT, relict of the late Mr Robert Berrett, and only surviving daughter Burton Wallace, Esq. deceased.

The Children of Lydia Harford Wallace and Robert Berrett

William Harford Berrett (1796-1847) was born in Philadelphia. The year 1822 finds him in Charleston, South Carolina. By 1828 he was operating a book and stationery store at Broad and State Streets in Charleston. Newspapers have various advertisements for the books he sold. He belonged to the Franklin Library Society. He did not marry.



In
Memory of
**WILLIAM HARFORD
BERRETT**
a native of Philadelphia
but for many years
a Resident of this City
who departed this life
on the 30th. day of June 1847.
in the 52nd. year of his age.

[F. S.]
W. H. B.
[D. 5.]

Sudden Death.

Mr. Wm. H. Berrett, who for many years past has been a highly esteemed bookseller in this city dropped down dead in his store in Broad street, about 11 o'clock this morning. Mr. Berrett was, we understand, affected with a disease of the lungs, to which this sudden termination of his life is to be attributed.

An inquest was held upon the body to-day, when it appeared in evidence that he had been long in a state of ill health, and that this morning after a severe fit of coughing, followed by vomiting, he had fallen back, and immediately expired. The jury returned a verdict of "died suddenly by the visitation of God."

The June 30, 1847 *Southern Patriot* (Charleston, SC) newspaper reported his death from TB. His death notice also appeared in a Philadelphia paper which identified him as the brother-in-law of the late William Morris Hansell.

William Berrett's Philadelphia roots are acknowledged on his gravestone in St. Michael's Church Cemetery, Charleston, SC.

Robert Crozier Berrett (1798-1830) was born, kept a low profile for 42 years, and died of TB. He did not marry. That is all I know about him.

Eliza Ann Berrett (1800-1839) is the last recorded child of Lydia Wallace and Robert Berrett and she married William Morris Hansell. Most probably she died from TB.

End Notes

I have not provided footnotes. This is not intended for publication. On the other hand, I haven't plucked this information from thin air; there is a source for all this material. My interpretations and attributions may be incorrect. If anyone wants to know where specific information came from, just let me know!

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Census Records - Philadelphia, PA - ancestry.com

1820 - Locust Ward William M. Hansell	address is 173 S. 11 th St.	1820 U S Census; Census Place: Philadelphia Locust Ward, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; Page: 56; NARA Roll: M33 108; Image: 67
2 males under 10	William Wallace Hansell, ?	
3 males 16-25	William Morris Hansell ??	the other 2 males could be Robert Crozier Berrett and William Harford Berrett
1 female 16-25	Eliza Ann Hansell	
1 female 26-44	?	possibly one of William Morris Hansell's sisters
1 female 45 and over	Lydia H. Berrett	Lydia H. Berrett has her own blank line in the census; her data may be included on the preceding entry for William M. Hansell
1 free colored female under 14	?	
1830 - South Ward William M. Hansell (indexed on McHansell)	address is 67 S 11 th St.	1830 US Census; Census Place: Philadelphia South Ward, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; Page: 377; NARA Series: M19; Roll Number: 159; Family History Film: 0020633.
1 male under 5	Robert Berrett Hansell	
2 males 5-9	William Wallace Hansell Edmund Morris Hansell	
2 males 30-39	William Morris Hansell, ?	possibly Robert Crozier Berrett
1 female 5-9	Eliza Ella Hansell	
1 female 30-39	Eliza Ann Hansell	
1 free colored female 10-13	?	
1840 - South Ward Wm. M. Hansell	address is 70 S 11 th St	Year: 1840; Census Place: Philadelphia South Ward, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; Roll: 483; Page: 12; Image: 617; Family History Library Film: 0020554.
1 male 5-9	Henry Johnson Hansell	
1 male 10-14	Robert Berrett Hansell	
1 male 15-19	Edmund Morris Hansell	
1 male 20-29	William Wallace Hansell	
1 male 20-49	William Morris Hansell	
1 female 5-9	Lydia Ann Hansell	
2 females 15-19	Eliza Ella Hansell, ?	could be niece Elizabeth Matthews
1 female 30-39	?	could be sister Sarah Morris Hansell Matthews
1 female 40-49	?	sister Anne Hansell would be 55
1 free colored female 24-35	?	

Hansell Family Book by Ed Bradford – includes Ann Hansell Lane Scollay Compilation. See this work for all known descendants of Peter David Hansell (<http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~edbradford/ed/books/hansell.pdf>)

Newspapers at GenealogyBank.com, ChroniclingAmerica.loc.gov, Accessible-Archives.com

Hathi Trust Digital Library
FamilySearch.com
Ancestry.com
Archive.org
find-a-grave.com
billiongraves.com (Catherine Jarden Hansell's headstone)

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

Philadelphia County Deed Indexes and Deeds
Plats (<http://www.phillyhistory.org/PhotoArchive/>) - photo of 113-115 South 11th Street
Deed and Plat Indexes (<http://philadox.phila.gov/phillyhistoricalindex/>)
Deeds (<http://phila-records.com/historic-records/web/>) This site also has the WPA Index to Registration of Deaths-Philadelphia 1803-1860.

The White Death, A History of Tuberculosis by Thomas Dourmandy, New York University Press, 1999

Bargaining for Life: A Social History of Tuberculosis, 1876-1938 by Barbara Bates, University of Pennsylvania Press, 1992

Illustrations of Pulmonary Consumption: Its Anatomical Characters, Causes, Symptoms and Treatment. With Twelve Plates, Drawn and Coloured from Nature by Samuel George Morton, Key and Biddle, 1834. Morton is better known for his work on craniology.

Dry Goods Economist, 11-19-1921, 75th year anniversary issue

The Visible Hand: The Managerial Revolution in American Business by Alfred Dupont Chandler, Harvard University Press, 1977

Memoirs and Auto-Biography of Some of the Wealthy Citizens of Philadelphia by Anonymous, Page 29 - William Morris Hansell

Jones, Aikin, Hansell, Hunt Family Tree at ancestry.com created by Mary Oberg

More about the Dent Family: Douglas Ewbank blogs about the Powelton section of West Philadelphia: <http://poweltonhistoryblog.blogspot.com/2012/03/families-and-neighbors-ties-that-bind.html>

The Ancient Landmark of American Methodism of Historic Old St. George's by Francis Harrison Tees, Message Publishing Co., 1951

The Miscellaneous Essays and Occasional Writings of Francis Hopkinson, Esq., Vol. 2, page 349, 1788 Federal Grand Procession. Francis Hopkinson was the chairman of the arrangement committee for this parade.

Celebrating the Fourth: Independence Day & the Rites of Nationalism in the Early Republic by Len Travers, University of Massachusetts Press, 1997

The President's House in Philadelphia found at <http://www.ushistory.org/presidentshouse/plans/pmhb/ph1.htm> - "Master Mason, Mr. Wallace"

The History of the Discovery of Cinematography by Paul Burns, Chapter 7, 1810-1880's The Moving Panorama, <http://www.precinemahistory.net/1800.htm>

Publication of the Genealogical Society of Pennsylvania, Vol 5, page 289 – abstract of Burton Wallace's will

Gentleman's & London Magazine, Vol. 42, page 668 - verses on the tombstone of Elizabeth Lydia Wallace Crozier

The Gentleman's Magazine, Vol. 9, Page 152, March 1739 - verse on Lydia Ann Wallace's tombstone at St. James Cemetery in Kingsessing.

*Here Lyeth the Remains of
Mrs. Lydia Ann the wife of
Mr. Burton Wallace
who departed this Life
The 11th of September A.D. 1781
In the 36th year of her Age.*

*Faithful to her God, she from the World retir'd
Tho by that World distinguish'd and admir'd
In solitude she past the circling Days
Fearless of Censure, negligent of Praise
In contemplation all her Hours were spent
Her Thoughts on heav'nly objects ever bent
Till by the Hand of Death from hence remov'd
Whose Dart she met in the Retreat She lov'd.*

St. James of Kingsessing Tombstone Inscriptions, Historical Society of Pennsylvania, call Ph22E

Inscriptions on the Tablets and Gravestones in St. Michael's Church and Churchyard, Charleston, SC by Clare Jervey, 1906

A record of the inscriptions on the tablets and gravestones in the burial-grounds of Christ Church, Philadelphia, compiled and arranged at the request of vestry, by Edward L. Clark, 1864

Smithsonian Institution, Collections Search Center, Art Inventories Catalog, Smithsonian American Art Museums

Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art, Kansas City, Missouri (<http://www.nelson-atkins.org/>)

And Not to Leave Out the Berrett Family

The following are Berrett/Barrett references. Timothy and Mary Berrett may be the parents of Robert Berrett who married Lydia Wallace. I did not follow up this data.

Christ Church (Philadelphia) Baptisms database - children of Timothy and Mary Barrett
Mary Barrett, born. 2/21/1769, baptized 3/8/1769 by Rev. Richard Peters
Robert Barrett, born. 9/30/1770, baptized 10/25/1770 by Rev. Richard Peters

Christ Church Gravestones, by Edward L. Clark, 1864
Timothy Berrett, d. 5/2/1783, age 41, Sect. P, Plot XC (indicates birth in 1742)
Elizabeth Anna Berrett, d. 9/16/1782, age 16, daughter of Timothy and Mary, Sect P., Plot XCI (indicates birth in 1766)

6-21-1802 *Philadelphia Gazette and Daily Advertiser*:

DIED on the 16th inst, aged 71, Mrs. Mary Berrett (relict of Mr. Timothy Berrett) a native of Great Britain; but long an esteemed and respectable inhabitant of this City. (indicates a birth date of 1731)

Betsy Ross and the Making of America by Maria R. Miller, MacMillan, 2010

Material in this book about William Berrett (ca. 1770-1850) Philadelphia ornamental painter and Betsy's collaborator in the flag business. William's parents are cited as Mary and Timothy Berrett. Book has information about Timothy Berrett. Mentions a daughter of William Berrett: Anna M. Berrett born abt 1798. No mention of Robert Berrett.

In fact, Timothy Berrett pops up quite a bit when searching with Google.

May 7, 1772 *The Pennsylvania Gazette*

Just imported in the ship Betsey, Capt. Hood, and to be sold by TIMOTHY BERRETT, In Arch street, between Second and Third streets, A Large and neat assortment of HARD-WARE, viz. Set stone shoe, knee and stock buckles, broaches, earrings, hair pins of different patterns, Boulton and Fothergill best plated candlesticks of the newest patterns, plated spurs, plated shoe and knee buckles, Prince metal and brass candlesticks, Pinchbeck shoe and knee buckles, gilt buttons, men and womens steel watch chains, seals and keys. Also, an assortment of watchmaker tools, consisting of main springs, best inside chains, square nose watch pliers, round nose ditto, pendulum ditto, slip tongs, vize chops, cutting nippers, spring dividers, hand vizes, tail vizes, round noses, screw plates of different sizes, cock saws, saws with nuts, flat faced hammers, gravers, scorpion knives, bench vizes, tools, &c. A variety of the most fashionable japanned ware, consisting of square and round waters, from 9 to 24 inches, square and 8 square bread baskets, quadrill pools, bottle stands, paper boxes, and sundry articles, too tedious to insert.

Descendants of Burton Wallace

- 1 Burton Wallace b: 1743 d: Aug 30, 1824 Age at death: 81 est. Burial: Christ Church Burial Ground, Philadelphia
- .. +Lydia Ann (maybe Harford) b: 1745 m: Unknown d: Sep 11, 1781 Age at death: 36 est. Burial: Sect B, Lot 19, St. James Church, Kingsessing
- 2 Elizabeth Lydia Wallace b: 1771 d: Nov 9, 1799 in Duck Creek Crossroads (Smyrna), Kent Co., Delaware Age at death: 28 est. Burial: Christ Church Burial Ground, Philadelphia
- +Matthew Crozier b: Unknown m: Aug 9, 1794 in St. George ME Church by Thomas Morrell, Philadelphia d: Unknown Age at death: ?
- 2 Lydia Harford Wallace b: 1775 d: Aug 21, 1825 in NJ Deaths & Burial Index Age at death: 50 est. Burial: unknown
- +Robert Berrett b: Abt. 1770 m: Jul 19, 1794 in St. George ME Church by Thomas Morrell, Philadelphia d: Jan 19, 1817 in maybe New Jersey Age at death: 47 est. Burial: unknown
- 3 William Harford Berrett b: Jan 19, 1796 in Philadelphia d: Jun 30, 1847 in Charleston, SC Age at death: 51 Burial: St. Michael's Church Cemetery, Charleston, SC
- 3 Robert Crozier Berrett b: Feb 20, 1798 in Philadelphia d: Apr 9, 1839 Age at death: 41 Burial: unknown
- 3 Eliza Ann Berrett b: Jul 27, 1800 in Philadelphia d: Jun 7, 1839 in Philadelphia Age at death: 38 Burial: Sect B, Lot 19, St. James Church, Kingsessing
- +William Morris Hansell b: 1795 in Darby, PA m: Mar 4, 1819 in Christ Church by Right Rev. Bishop William White, Philadelphia d: Oct 9, 1846 in Philadelphia Age at death: 51 est. Burial: Sect B, Lot 19, St. James Church, Kingsessing
- 4 William Wallace Hansell b: 1820 in Philadelphia d: Nov 1, 1848 Age at death: 28 est. Burial: 9th Presbyterian Burial Ground, Philadelphia
- +Margaret A. Crombarger b: 1822 m: Jan 27, 1846 in First Independent Church by Rev. John Chambers, Philadelphia d: Apr 7, 1846 Age at death: 24 est. Burial: 9th Presbyterian Burial Ground, Philadelphia
- 4 Edmund Morris Hansell b: 1822 in Philadelphia d: Sep 3, 1911 in Marleton, NJ Age at death: 89 est. Burial: Lot 613-614 Woodlands Cemetery, Philadelphia
- +Catherine Jarden b: 1826 m: Sep 27, 1845 in First Presbyterian Church by Rev. Albert Barnes, Philadelphia d: 1884 in Kansas Age at death: 58 est. Burial: Oak Grove Cemetery, Kansas City, Wyandotte Co., Kansas
- 4 Eliza Ella Hansell b: 1824 in Philadelphia d: Feb 8, 1853 Age at death: 29 est. Burial: Sect B, Lot 19, St. James Church, Kingsessing
- +Joseph W. Dent b: 1819 m: Dec 24, 1846 in Philadelphia d: Mar 16, 1852 Age at death: 33 est. Burial: Sect B, Lot 19, St. James Church, Kingsessing
- 5 William Thomas Dent b: Feb 16, 1848 d: Jun 29, 1848 Age at death: 0 Burial: Sect B, Lot 19, St. James Church, Kingsessing
- 5 Joseph H. Dent b: 1849 d: Feb 13, 1879 Age at death: 30 est. Burial: Mount Vernon Cemetery, Philadelphia
- +Mary Butler
- 5 Mary Ella Dent b: 1852 d: Mar 5, 1853 Age at death: 1 est. Burial: Sect B, Lot 19, St. James Church, Kingsessing
- 4 Robert Berrett Hansell b: 1826 in Philadelphia d: Jul 10, 1848 Age at death: 22 est. Burial: Sect B, Lot 19, St. James Church, Kingsessing

- 4 Lydia Ann Berrett Hansell b: Nov 13, 1830 d: Aug 13, 1832 Age at death: 1 Burial: Sect B,
Lot 19, St. James Church, Kingsessing
- 4 Eliza B. Hansell b: Jun 17, 1831 in Philadelphia d: Apr 24, 1837 Age at death: 5 Burial: Sect
B, Lot 19, St. James Church, Kingsessing
- 4 Lydia Ann B. Hansell b: May 2, 1833 in Philadelphia d: Jul 13, 1899 Age at death: 66 Burial:
Plot 622, Woodlands Cemetery, Philadelphia
- +Samuel Lloyd b: Sep 3, 1825 m: Dec 16, 1851 in Friends Ceremony before the Mayor,
Philadelphia d: Aug 1, 1901 Age at death: 75 Burial: Plot 622, Woodlands Cemetery,
Philadelphia
- 4 Henry Johnson Hansell b: May 24, 1835 in Philadelphia d: Jun 18, 1913 Age at death: 78
Burial: Lot 345, Woodlands Cemetery, Philadelphia
- +Emma Wallace Hunt b: 1839 m: May 7, 1861 in Friends Ceremony, Philadelphia d: 1890
Age at death: 51 est. Burial: Lot 345, Woodlands Cemetery, Philadelphia
- 4 Alfred Hansell b: Apr 14, 1839 in Philadelphia d: Jun 27, 1839 Age at death: 0 Burial: Sect B,
Lot 19, St. James Church, Kingsessing