

**George Sinclair (1785-1864) and Margaret Rogers (1791-1860)
of Allentown, New Jersey**

**and Their Children
John, Nathaniel, Elizabeth, Enoch and Margaret**

I have written about Emmeline Hansell, her marriage to John Sinclair, their life in New York City and a bit about their children.

What about John Sinclair's parents and siblings? Who are they and what did they do. John Sinclair grew up in Allentown, New Jersey. John's father George Sinclair was pretty easy to find and his children are listed in his will. Folks in Allentown are interested in their fellow citizens, past and present. From early *Allentown Messenger* newspapers through current postings on the internet you can find bits and pieces about George Sinclair's family.

1790 through 1820 Federal census records for New Jersey do not exist

1830 Census, Upper Freehold, Monmouth, NJ

George Sinclair

- 1 M under 5 (Enoch)
- 1 M 5-9 (Nathaniel)
- 1M 15-19 (maybe John or an apprentice - perhaps 15 year old Samuel W. Fidler)
- 1 M 40-49 (George)
- 1 F 5-9 (Elizabeth)
- 1 F 15-19 (?)
- 1 F 30-39 (wife Margaret)

1840 Census, Upper Freehold, Monmouth Co, NJ

George Sinclair

- 1 M 10-14 (Enoch)
 - 1 M 20-29 (John or Nathaniel or, more likely, an apprentice)
 - 1 M 50-59 (George)
 - 1 F 5-9 (Margaret)
 - 1 F 15-19 (Elizabeth)
 - 1 F 40-49 (wife Margaret)
- Persons Employed in Manufacture and Trade: 2

1850 Census, Upper Freehold, Monmouth Co, NJ

- George Sinclair, 61, joiner, born New Jersey, \$1,200 RE
- Margaret Sinclair, 51, born New Jersey
- Margaret Sinclair, 18, born New Jersey
- Washington McKean, 15, joiner, born New Jersey
- Amelia Sinclair, 2, born New York (daughter of son John Sinclair visiting grandparents)

1855 State Census

George Sinclair

- 1 male, 1 female, 1 female child

1860 Census, Upper Freehold, Monmouth Co, NJ

- George Sinclair, 72, cabinet maker, \$1,500 RE, \$3,000 PP, born Burlington County
- Ellin Smith, 50, born Monmouth County

1903-1971 issues of the *Allentown Messenger* are available at Newspapers.com. The folks in Allentown keep tabs on their history! This newspaper abounds with historical sketches and great gossip columns, noting the comings and goings around town. Samuel W. Fidler (1815-1910) apprenticed with George Sinclair and later took over his business. Fidler's son, Charles H. Fidler (1842-1922), was interested in all things Allentown and contributed articles to the *Allentown Messenger*.

George Sinclair - Furniture Maker and Undertaker

9-12-1912 *Allentown Messenger*
Local History Sketches
Written by CHF (Charles H. Fidler)

An important industry established in Allentown in the early part of the last century was the making of household furniture. The pioneer in this business was George Sinclair, who purchased a lot on the site of the Farmers National Bank, on which, in connection with his brother William, a double dwelling was erected, the corner portion being taken for furniture making.

The business was carried on in this place until 1832, when Mr. Sinclair removed to his new building, erected just across Main Street on the site of the dwelling now occupied by Holmes Hankins. Here the business was continued until the retirement of the proprietor in 1863.

The making of furniture required the use of many kinds of wood, some of which were grown in local regions of the country, while others were imported, the most valuable of this kind being mahogany, which came from Central America. The market for mahogany used in this section was Philadelphia. At this place the wood was loaded on scows; these were then towed up the Delaware river and left at the different landings as required. Lumber coming to Allentown was left at the entrance to the Crosswicks creek, at Bordentown. From this point up to "Hog Back," near Yardville, the scows were poled, and the lumber was then unloaded at the dock there. A large amount of limestone was also brought up the creek by these boats, the stone being burned in the kilns there, and afterwards used by farmers for fertilizer. Some Allentown merchants in former times, before the railroad was built, had some of their goods shipped from Philadelphia by this route.

Allentown-made furniture seems to have borne a good reputation, as Mr. Sinclair used to get orders from points as far away as Freehold and Toms River. In addition to the regular line of household furniture, cases for the tall "Grandfather" clocks were also made at this establishment. Many of these old time-pieces still to be seen in this vicinity were no doubt made in Allentown, as an old daybook of the proprietor's, still preserved, shows several charges of clock cases made for parties hereabouts. The works for these were made by Peter L. Jacques, a watchmaker, also of this town. A relic of the old shop still to be seen is a "ten-plate" stove in which for a long period fire was started by the old-time method of using a steel, flint and tinder box, matches having not yet come into general use. Sometimes, on a cold winter morning, one of the apprentices would run across the street to Isaac Rogers' blacksmith shop for some hot coals that had been kept over night, and by which a fresh fire could be more quickly started in the shop stove. In the occasional dark afternoons of the short winter days, work was continued by lighting up with tallow candles, the tin holders being hung about against the walls.

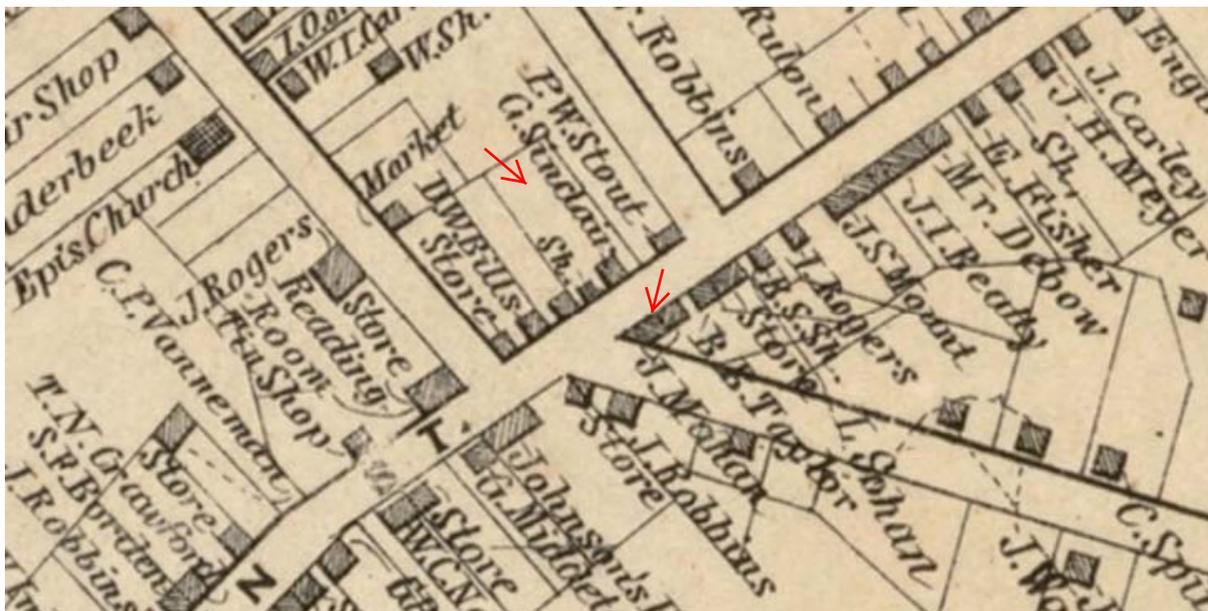
Mr. Sinclair was long a member of the Allentown Presbyterian Church, and he was elected a ruling elder thereof in 1827. In the old church in which there was no choir, he acted as precentor, standing in front of the pulpit and leading the singing. It was not until the completion of the new church building, in 1837, that a choir was formed or an instrument of music used. Brother Sinclair became a veteran in the service, as he continued till late in life to lead the singing in the Sunday-school and the mid-week meetings. As a successor to the elder's leadership in the singing, it might here be noted that the first instrument of music used in the Presbyterian choir was a bass viol. This, in after years, was followed by different melodeons and organs.

In the formation of the old Perseverance Fire Company in 1818, George Sinclair was one of the original fifty members. In 1841 he was elected its president, serving for four years; and again, from 1858, he held the office for five years. Among his predecessors in the office were some of Allentown's leading men of affairs, two of them being veterans of the Revolution.

After Mr. Sinclair's death, in 1864, his property, including his shop and adjoining dwelling, was sold, the purchasers being Miss Susan Debow and her sisters, Mrs. Margaret Buckley and Mrs. Mary Leavenworth. The old buildings were then removed by the new owners and a commodious mansion erected, which remained their home during their lifetime.

Mr. and Mrs. Sinclair left several sons and daughters, the only survivor of these being Mrs. Margaret Vanderbeek, now a resident of Allentown. The late Nathaniel R. Sinclair, of this town, was the last surviving son.

Enlarged section of Allentown, 1861 Beers Map of Monmouth County, NJ



George Sinclair Property
Main Street, Allentown
house and shop

Structure built by George and his brother
William in 1825. In 1861 occupied
by Auntie Mahan's candy shop (wife of
Joshua Mahan)

<https://www.digitalcommonwealth.org/search/commonwealth:4m90f463n>

George Sinclair's Apprentices

Abraham R. Hutchinson (1808-1889) trained as a cabinetmaker in George Sinclair's shop. Abraham settled down in Hamilton Square, Mercer County, where he was a cabinet maker and undertaker for 57 years.

Perhaps Abraham's greatest contribution was his son, Charles R. Hutchinson (1838-1927). Charles lived in Allentown, ran a general store and then went into the real estate and insurance business. On the side, and apparently without great fanfare, he wrote 20+ volumes on genealogy and local history which contain a wealth of information about the Allentown area. According to a 1981 newspaper clipping, 13 years after Charles R. Hutchinson died at age 90, a bureau filled with his notes, early documents and ledgers were found in a garage behind the house where he had lived. Family members turned them over to the state historical society in Newark.

In 1830, 15 year old **Samuel W. Fidler (1815-1910)** apprenticed under George Sinclair and eventually took over Sinclair's business. In future years, Samuel's son, Charles H. Fidler (1842-1922) would contribute to the "Historically Speaking" column of the *Allentown Messenger*.

This is a great coincidence - two apprentices of George Sinclair, each with a son who wrote about the people and history of Allentown!

HEMORRHAGE PROVES FATAL.
Old Resident of Allentown Died Last Week of Bronchial Hemorrhage.
Samuel W. Fidler, a resident of Allentown for several years, died on Tuesday of last week of bronchial hemorrhage. He was 95 years old and had been in failing health about two years. He is survived by a son, Charles H. Fidler of Allentown.
Mr. Fidler went to Allentown when he was fifteen years old and learned the trade of cabinet maker and undertaker with George Sinclair. In 1863 he became Mr. Sinclair's successor, and conducted the business until 1887 when he became associated with George B. Leming. He retired from business a few years later. He was a member of the Allentown Presbyterian church over seventy years. In 1841 he married Eliza L. Imlay of Allentown. She died in 1891.

left: 11-2-1910 *Red Bank Register*

We had a pleasant call a few days ago from Mr. Samuel W. Fidler, one of our oldest residents. Mr. Fidler is always full of interesting reminiscence. He was telling us of some apprenticeship days in the cabinet making and undertaking establishment of George Sinclair, father of Nathaniel Sinclair, with whom, by the way, he had often worked. Among other things spoken of was that he either made or helped make the cradle in which the late George H. Vanderbeek was rocked. In those times apprentice boys at this trade frequently dug the graves of deceased ones, and he remembered helping with this and making the coffins for the father and mother of Mrs. Elizabeth Coward, our oldest resident, now in her 104th year.

Right: In 1904, Samuel Fidler stopped in at the *Allentown Messenger* offices for a visit.

George H. Vanderbeek, born 1830, would grow up and marry George Sinclair's daughter Margaret.

2-1-1904 *Allentown Messenger*

Fifteen year old **Washington McKean (1835-1912)** is living with George Sinclair in the 1850 census and is identified as a joiner.

Washington McKean, of Millville, has been visiting his old home town for the last two weeks, staying with his niece, Mrs. Charles Spaulding. Mr. McKean left here a long while ago, on May 6, 1856, at the age of 21. Going from here to Toms River, he enlisted from that place in the Fourteenth New Jersey regiment, and was in the army nearly three years. At the battle of Cedar Creek he saw Sheridan as he galloped in from Winchester on his famous ride, and heard him shout "Come on, boys, let's go to the front!" Mr. McKean, as did his father before him, learned cabinet-making here in Allentown with George Sinclair. He has worked but little at his trade, however, since his apprenticeship, but has always been a worker in wood. Some of the finest work in the shipyards at Chester and Wilmington has called for his skill, and he has always commanded the best wages. The careful work done by the cabinet-makers of the years gone by is almost a thing of the past.

The *Allentown Messenger* got wind of Washington's visit to Allentown in 1904.

McKean's father, also an apprentice under George Sinclair, is **David McKean 1809-1837**. David was one of the original members of the fire department founded in 1818. He is buried in the Allentown Presbyterian Churchyard.

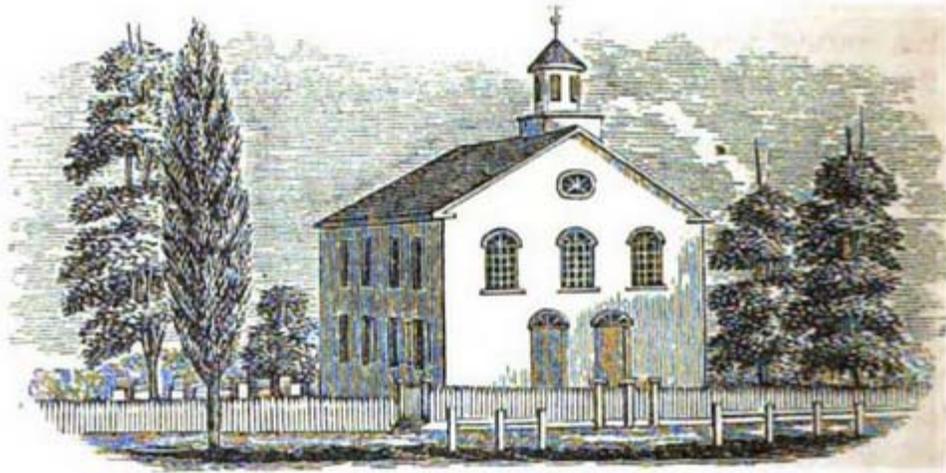
2-4-1904 *Allentown Messenger*

* * * * *

George Sinclair and The Sober Society

The Allentown Sober Society, one of the first temperance groups in the country, was founded in 1805. It was organized by Maria Cornell, wife of the Presbyterian minister. She reeled in about 65 Allentown men and George Sinclair's name is among the founding members. George was 20 years old at this time; he vowed to eschew distilled spirituous liquors (except if prescribed by a doctor).

George Sinclair - Allentown Presbyterian Church



View of the Presbyterian Church, Allentown.

The following is verbatim from the *History of Allentown Presbyterian Church, Allentown, NJ 1720-1970* by F. Dean Storms.



The first musical leader about whom we have any knowledge in the Church records was George Sinclair. Mr. Sinclair joined the Church in 1820, although he was a pew renter as early as 1811 and a George Sinclair, probably his father, was on the rolls as early as 1784. He served as a Trustee from 1832 until 1862, and as an Elder from 1827 until his death in 1864, 37 years later.

He was a prominent businessman in the village following the trade of cabinetmaker and undertaker. His undertaking business survives to this day as the Pepler Funeral Home.

It was he who introduced the first musical instrument into the Church, a bass violin which he carried to service every Sunday. This caused considerable consternation among some of the women of the Church, one remarking that she "did not know what the world was coming to." A bass viol was related to the fiddle and the fiddle was associated with the devil and dancing, and had no place in the Church.

1824 bass viol

<http://vintage-instruments.com/navigate/catidx6.htm>

However, the “newer element” prevailed and soon Mr. Sinclair exchanged his bass viol for a small melodian which he also carried to Church every Sunday. He also taught the singing school in the old Academy next to the Church during the week. He organized a small choir which sat in the gallery, on the west side, about in the middle. They sang from a new edition of Psalms and Hymns, the Session having purchased six copies for their use in 1836. At that time the section of the gallery used by the choir was carpeted and a large melodian installed.

Mr. Sinclair’s long term as leader and choirmaster is noteworthy, because it covered that period in our Church history which shows the greatest change. When he joined the Church in 1820 at the age of 34, its membership was but 79, the old meeting house was still in use, unheated, uncarpeted and lighted with candles, and the music was still the unaccompanied hymns and psalms. When he retired at the age of 72 the membership had grown to 240; the new Church had been erected and a regular organized choir sang every Sunday accompanied by an acceptable instrument.



This is an example of a portable melodian that George Sinclair lugged to church. It weighed about 60 pounds. The legs fold up for transportation.

It was he who laid the foundation upon which our later choirs and Church music were built. Ill health and advancing years caused his retirement in 1858. He passed away on December 3, 1864 at the age of 79 a true pioneer in Church Music and is buried in our Church Cemetery.



Photo added by Leigh Miller



Photo added by Leigh Miller

The Family of Margaret Rogers

George Sinclair married Margaret Rogers in about 1816/1817 based on the birth of their first child John in 1818. Luckily, back in 1911, Charles H. Fidler worked up a history for Margaret's branch of the Rogers family and published it in the *Allentown Messenger*.

7-6-1911 *Allentown Messenger*
by Charles H. Fidler

Some Rogers Family History

The name Rogers is an old one in the annals of Monmouth county, where it is shown that William Rogers conveyed a tract of land at Navesink as early as 1667. In Mercer county the name of John Rogers, of Hamilton township, appears in a tax list in 1695. It is also one of the oldest names in and about Allentown, as shown on a tombstone in the old Episcopal Cemetery here [on Lakeview Dr.]. This stone is to the memory of James Rogers, who died January 2, 1734, and is the oldest inscribed grave stone in our town.

Several branches of this family are located in Burlington county. The family generally have been agriculturists, and most of them have been members of the Society of Friends. Many of them also belonged to the "New Jersey Society for Promoting the Abolition of Slavery."

This family is of English origin, one of whom, Joseph Rogers, came to this country in the latter part of the 17th century and located on a tract of land on Crosswicks creek near the hamlet of Extonville. In his religious belief he was a Quaker, as were many of his posterity, some of whom are interred in the old burying ground of the Friends at Crosswicks.

In the laborious operations of hewing timber to build his pioneer home, Joseph was assisted by some friendly Indians then living about Crosswicks. It has long been a tradition in the family that Joseph wooed and won the heart of a handsome Indian maiden, the daughter of a chief of one of the Lenape tribes then inhabiting the State. She is said to have been a woman of queenly manners and of superior intelligence for one of her race. She was doubtless one of those who used to listen to the preaching of David Brainerd, the famous Indian missionary who frequently gathered the red men about him on the meadows at Crosswicks. From this union has sprung a long line of posterity who have lived in this vicinity and elsewhere.

The old homestead founded by Joseph Rogers, and which included several hundred acres of land, was occupied in turn by several of his descendants. One of these was Asa Rogers, whose wife was Rebecca Field of South Jersey. He was a son of Joseph (3d) and father of Mrs. George R. Buzby, of Allentown, who was born and spent many years of her early life on this farm.

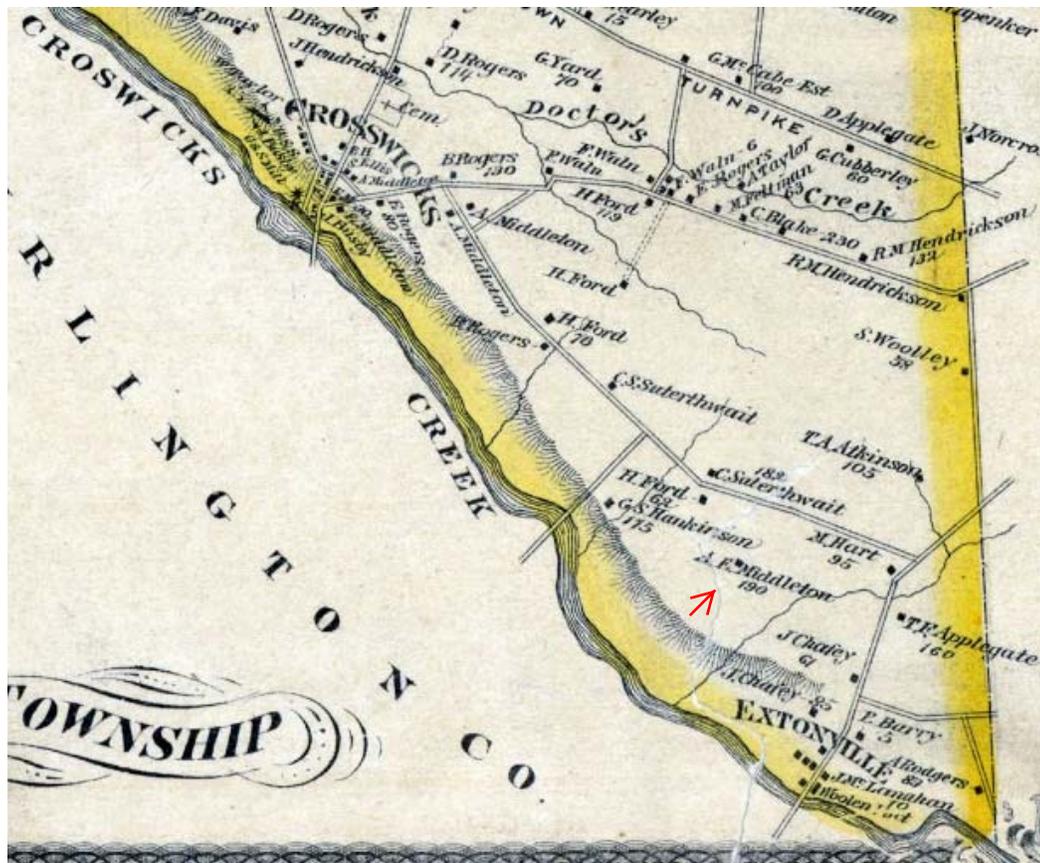
As was the custom in former times, Mr. Rogers devoted a portion of his land to the cultivation of flax after being gathered was prepared and spun in his own home. Among the members of his household for many years was Mrs. Susan Sprague, the grandmother of our townsman, Sterne P. Sprague. "Aunt" Susan was known about the neighborhood as expert spinner both of flax and wool, and Mrs. Buzby now has in her possession several fine linen bed sheets which were woven with thread which Mrs. Sprague had spun.

Other children of Joseph Rogers (3d) were Joel, Enoch, Ann, Amy and Margaret, the latter of whom married George Sinclair, and they were the parents of Mrs. Margaret Vanderbeek, now residing in Allentown. Other children of Mr. and Mrs. Sinclair were John, of New York, Enoch of Philadelphia, Nathaniel, of Allentown, and Elizabeth (Mrs. Richard Conover), of New Egypt, all of whom are now deceased.

The said Asa Rogers afterward removed to another farm in the near neighborhood, where he spent the remainder of his days. He was succeeded in the occupancy of his former place by his brother John, who was the last in the family line to occupy the old homestead. John married Hannah Hance, of Burlington county. His children were Benjamin, Joseph, David, Mary Ann, Emma, Margaret, Sarah, Caroline and Susan, the latter two being twins.

The next purchaser of the Rogers estate was Lawrence Jones, who in turn disposed of it to Amos Middleton, both of near Crosswicks. About thirty-four years ago the place passed into the possession of Aaron Robbins. The old home that had sheltered so many of the family of Rogers was then torn down and near the same site Mr. Robbins erected a fine large modern dwelling for his own home and where he still continues to reside.

1875 map - Hamilton Township, Mercer County, NJ
Amos E. Middleton, current owner of the Rogers farm, homeplace of Margaret Rogers Sinclair



<http://www.historicmapworks.com/Map/US/20053/Hamilton+Township/Mercer+County+1875/New+Jersey/>

This history provided the clues to Margaret Rogers Sinclair's parents and siblings. The brothers farmed and the sisters married well.

Siblings of Margaret Rogers Sinclair:

- Joel Rogers 1786-1878, married Matilda Allen, buried Crosswicks Methodist Cemetery
- Ann Rogers 1790-1868, married Henry Allen, buried Evergreen Cemetery (Camden)
- Margaret Rogers 1791-1860, married John Sinclair, buried Allentown Presbyterian Church Cemetery
- John Rogers 1795-1871, married Hannah Hance, buried Crosswicks Methodist Cemetery
- Enoch Rogers 1797-1876, buried Crosswicks Methodist Cemetery
- Asa Rogers 1806-1876 married Rebecca Field, buried Crosswicks Methodist Cemetery
- Amy Rogers ?-died between 1829 &1835. A few clues suggest Amy Rogers married Benjamin Bower 1/2/1828 in Monmouth County. Their one child Elizabeth Bower born 10/30/1828 married Benjamin Davis. Elizabeth and Benjamin are buried in Crosswicks Methodist Cemetery along with a one year old daughter named Amy H. Davis 1862-1863.

New Jersey death indexes for the children Margaret and John and a family tree for Ann report parents: father - Joseph Rogers; mother - Ruth.

Asa's will was witnessed by Emmeline (Hansell) Sinclair and Margaret and George H. Vanderbeek. (Note: Asa Roger's death index lists parents, father Asa and mother Margaret; probably this is a mistake.)

Enoch's will, written in 1865, divided his estate between his siblings and nieces and nephews: brothers Asa, Joel, and John; sister Ann Allen wife of Henry Allen; the heirs of his deceased sister Margaret Sinclair; and his niece Elizabeth Davis, wife of Benjamin Davis. Enoch's friend George H. Vanderbeek was an executor.

The Children of George Sinclair and Margaret Rogers

John Sinclair 1818-1894
Nathaniel R. Sinclair 1821-1910
Elizabeth Sinclair (Conover) 1823-1900
Enoch R. Sinclair 1826-1906
Margaret Sinclair (Vanderbeek) 1832-1914

See the attached tree for the vital statistics of the children. John's children are shown in a separate tree.

John Sinclair (1818-1894)

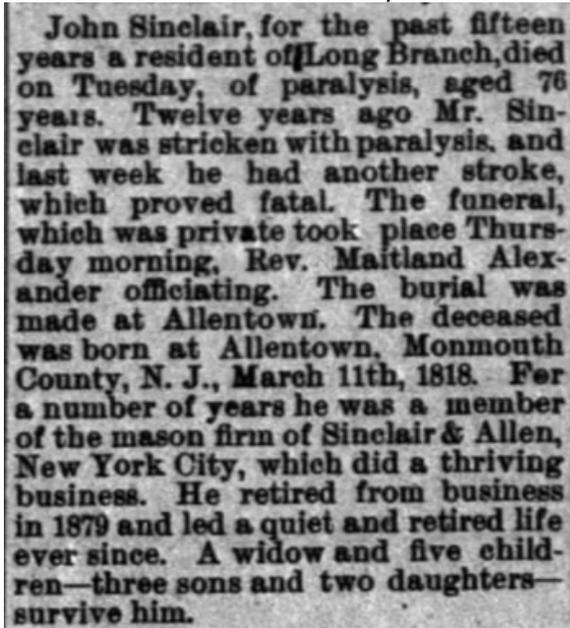
John married Emmeline Hansell of Philadelphia, conducted a successful masonry contracting business in New York City, and retired to Long Branch, New Jersey. See the narrative about Emmeline Hansell and John Sinclair.

John Sinclair started in business with his brother Nathaniel Sinclair and one Charles Allen, born 1818 in New Jersey. Early on, Nathaniel withdrew from the company. I looked for a connection between John Sinclair and Charles Allen which might account for their long-lasting partnership, but so far I can't tell if this Allen is an Allen of Allentown.

For a period of time in the late 1860s, John and Emmeline lived in Allentown and John commuted to New York City.

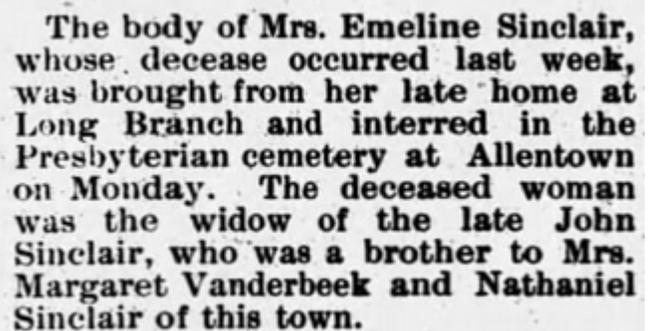
Both John and Emmeline are buried in the Allentown Presbyterian Churchyard. When Emmeline's body was brought to Allentown for burial, the *Allentown Messenger* made the local connections.

12-13-1894 *The Monmouth Inquirer*



John Sinclair, for the past fifteen years a resident of Long Branch, died on Tuesday, of paralysis, aged 76 years. Twelve years ago Mr. Sinclair was stricken with paralysis, and last week he had another stroke, which proved fatal. The funeral, which was private took place Thursday morning, Rev. Maitland Alexander officiating. The burial was made at Allentown. The deceased was born at Allentown, Monmouth County, N. J., March 11th, 1818. For a number of years he was a member of the mason firm of Sinclair & Allen, New York City, which did a thriving business. He retired from business in 1879 and led a quiet and retired life ever since. A widow and five children—three sons and two daughters—survive him.

12-14-1905 *Allentown Messenger*



The body of Mrs. Emeline Sinclair, whose decease occurred last week, was brought from her late home at Long Branch and interred in the Presbyterian cemetery at Allentown on Monday. The deceased woman was the widow of the late John Sinclair, who was a brother to Mrs. Margaret Vanderbeek and Nathaniel Sinclair of this town.

Nathaniel R. Sinclair (1821-1910)

Death of Nathaniel Sinclair.
Nathaniel R. Sinclair, one of Allentown's aged citizens, died suddenly of heart trouble early on Wednesday morning, June 22, 1910, in the 90th year of his age. It was but a few days ago that he had removed from his old home on the hill to board with Miss Margaret Borden on Hamilton street, where his decease occurred.
Mr. Sinclair had seen considerable of life, having been one of the early pioneers to California during the gold fever of '49. After returning East and remaining for a while, he again started for the Western wilds, this time traveling with an emigrant train

on its way to Oregon. During the trip several fights were had with Indians, and the journey was one of hardship and danger.
The deceased is survived by a wife and two daughters now residing in a distant town, but the family have not been living together for many years. A sister, Mrs. Margaret Vanderbeek, of Allentown, is also living.
Mr. Sinclair's father, George Sinclair, was for a long time in the cabinet making and undertaking business in this town during the early and middle years of the last century.

6-23-1910 *Allentown Messenger*

When Nathaniel died, he left \$300 to each child, Hannah S. Cook and Kate S. Pearce. The remainder went to Maggie Borden for taking care of him.

1931 *Allentown Messenger*
"25 Years Ago"

Nathaniel Sinclair was vice president and a director of the Allentown Dairy Association and in twenty-three years had missed but one meeting of the board.

The gossip column of the *Allentown Messenger* September 1907

Friends of Nathaniel R. Sinclair will be very sorry to learn that he can no longer secure glasses with which to read, and that this pleasant pastime will henceforth be denied to him. "Uncle Nat" was a great reader, and has always made his morning trip to the post office for his papers. Lately he has used a large magnifying glass, but even that is not now serviceable.

Findagrave has memorials for Nathaniel's parents and all of his siblings, buried in the Allentown Presbyterian Churchyard. Nathaniel's death certificate reports he was buried in Allentown. If he is buried in the Presbyterian Churchyard, perhaps he does not have a headstone or his grave was overlooked?

*He Was a "Forty-niner"
Crossed the Plains During the Gold Excitement*

"I don't suppose you know that I was one of the "forty niners" who crossed the plains to California at the time of the great gold excitement," said Nathaniel Sinclair in going over some of his experiences of past years. "I had been working at my trade of bricklaying in St. Louis, and concluded to join a party who were going to make the overland trip to California, although a rough and dangerous trip, you know, at that time.

"The caravan was made up of thirty four-mule teams, including six lumber wagons for carrying the baggage and camp fixings. Did we see any Indians? Plenty of them, and sometimes too many to make us feel comfortable when night came on; but they didn't trouble us, for they always knew when it was safe to attack an overland party. We arrived in California minus some of our animals which had dropped on the way, and of course had to abandon a few wagons.

"When I came back it was by the ocean route, and by way of the Isthmus, but the railroad across it was not yet built."

Mr. Sinclair speaks of the number of disappointed men on the dock at San Francisco when he left, anxious to leave for home, but no means left to pay for their passage.

This was the first of two trips made by him across the continent before the days of railroads and telegraphs which now connect the two oceans.

In 1861 Mr. Sinclair was again in the West, being located on a farm in Colorado, twenty miles from the nearest post office. He mentions about a valuable letter sent him which he never received, as it was in the mail coach which was captured and destroyed by the Indians, the mail service at that time being much hampered by their depredations.

The year 1863 found him in Portland, Oregon, to which place he had traveled by ox teams from Idaho. On this trip the red skins hovered around them, but did not make any attack, although another party traveling not far from them were not too fortunate, and afterward joined them for protections. At Portland he again worked at his trade for some time.

Two years later the return trip to the East was begun and in the latter part of 1865 he was once more in his native New Jersey. Since that time Mr. Sinclair has led a more quiet sort of life, devoting much of it to agricultural pursuits. His fund of anecdote and reminiscence connected with his wanderings are interesting and often amusing, and so far as these refer to the extreme West make one realize the great change that has since taken place in that portion of the United States.

In the above picture Mr. Sinclair is wearing his famous crownless straw hat. His hat blew off one day and when he recovered it it was minus the crown. Friend Sinclair nevertheless persisted in wearing it the summer through.

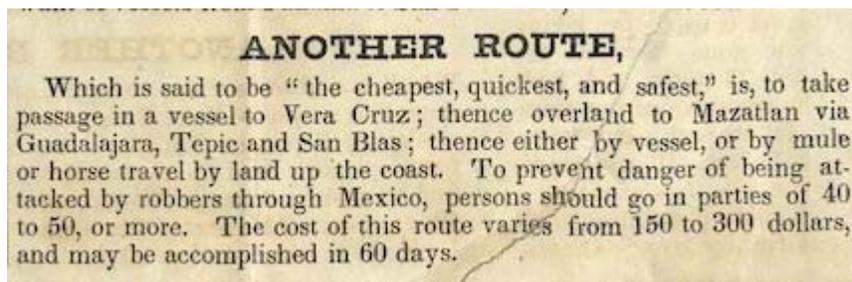
Mr. Sinclair is a familiar figure on Allentown Streets, and he rarely misses his visit to the post office for the opening of the morning mail.

Unfortunately the photograph in the newspaper did not reproduce well and it's too dark to see Nathaniel or his crownless straw hat.

* * * * *

Following Nathaniel's paper trail gives another version of his first trip to California in the early days of the gold rush. I think the passage of time between Nathaniel's 1849/1850 gold digging days and his visit to the *Allentown Messenger* offices in 1905 had blurred the edges of the story and perhaps mixed events of his two trips out west. Fact checking Nathaniel's reminiscences turns up a good adventure story that may reflect the experiences of Allentown's homegrown Argonaut.

The discovery of gold in California electrified the world. Groups of men formed associations to share travel costs, outfitted themselves for prospecting, planned their routes, and off they went in a frenzy. Getting to California took some work. In their urgency to get there fast at the start of 1849, Nathaniel's group, the Manhattan-California Overland Association, planned to sail to the east coast of Mexico, journey overland to the west coast and then sail up to San Francisco, or walk if they couldn't find a boat.



From an 1849 Map of the Gold Regions of California, Showing the Routes via Chagres and Panama, Cape Horn, &c. at davidrumsey.com

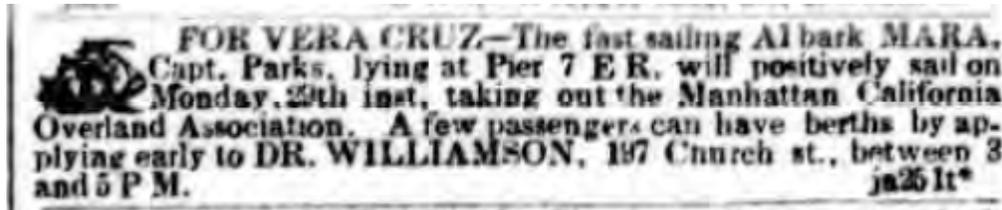
I expect Nathaniel was working in New York City with his brother John Sinclair and so was on hand when one Dr. Williamson organized the Manhattan-California Overland Association. The bark *Mara* was chartered, fit-up and stocked with food and water for the trip to Vera Cruz, Mexico. Dr. Williamson was said to have had experience traveling in Mexico. Oddly he never boarded the ship in New York. Andrew C. Ferris took his place as leader of the association. (Ferris would write about this adventure in 1891.)

A copy of the By-Laws of the Manhattan California Overland Association is archived in the Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library at Yale University. The by-laws provided a structure for the association, which would be dissolved when the group reached San Francisco. The members were to be divided into divisions, each with a director and treasurer. Spirituous liquors were prohibited and disorderly or riotous conduct would be grounds for expulsion. The members pledged to care for each other in case of sickness or death. If a member died, his personal property would be returned to a named heir.

Passports were required for passage through Mexico. Nathaniel's was issued in New York City on January 24, 1849. His vital statistics: born 1/8/1821 in Monmouth County, New Jersey. 28 years old. 5' 7", blue eyes, large nose, small mouth, round chin, brown hair, dark complexion, full face, two scars on forehead. (Ancestry.com, US Passport Application 1795-1925).

On the passport, Nathan A. Rogers attested that he was personally acquainted with Nathaniel. Nathan Allen Rogers (1807-1885) is Nathaniel Sinclair's cousin, son of his mother's brother Joel Rogers. Nathan was a shoe and boot dealer in New York City.

1849 *New York Morning Call*



As the *Mara* left the dock on the East River in New York City, the intrepid explorers sang a rousing chorus of "Oh Susannah, don't you cry for me, I'm bound for California with my tin pan on my knee." The 2-3-1849 *New York Herald* listed the members of the Manhattan-California Overland Association and N.R. Sinclair is among them.

The first night was spent in a gale and everyone was seasick. Soon life on board the ship sorted itself out. If the passengers got too boisterous, Captain Park ordered the ship "laid to" which put everyone back on good behavior as speed to the gold fields was of paramount importance. After 24 days the *Mara* reached Vera Cruz, Mexico around February 24, 1849.

2-9-1849 *Newark Daily Advertiser* - At Sea - 200 Miles Out

 A letter from JOHN R. CLARK, who sailed with several other Newarkers in the bark *Mara* for Vera Cruz on the 31st ult., has been received here, dated "At Sea, 200 miles out,"—all well, but most of the party have been sea-sick.

The war with Mexico has just ended and Yankees were not held in high regard by the Mexicans, to say the least. The group was warned that travel across Mexico would be perilous. Murder and robbery were certain. At this point, 50 of the company sailed back to New York.

The first night in Mexico was spent in a roadside inn. The company bunked down on the second floor with the resident fleas. The first floor housed 200 hungry, braying mules. Ferris likened the night to a scene from Dante's *Inferno*.

Ferris painted a vivid picture of the morning after the first night camping on the ground in Santa Fe.

At this first camp we divided into "messes," bought and distributed a Mexican beef, and cooked our first meals. We made our first start for a day's march on the morning of the 28th day of February. The first camp-fires, the cooking, the saddling-up, the loading of baggage and equipments on the vicious, kicking, biting mustangs and donkeys, and the final mount and start were altogether beyond description. Besides the rider, they had to carry two blankets, his mining tools, coffee-pot, camp-kettle, and frying-pan laid on or hanging from his saddle, and his bag of tin cups, spoons, and tin plates, and his gun, rifle, or carbine slung on his back, and a variety of other articles supposed to be essential. Don Quixote and Sancho Panza joined to Falstaff's regiment would not have presented half so motley a group. The

Mules, horses and wagons were acquired; the company divided into four groups; and the would-be gold miners began their 60 day journey across Mexico.

- Pacific Rangers, started on February 26th in wagons, 30 men
- New Jersey, started on February 27th on horseback (contingent of about 32 men from the Newark, New Jersey area)
- Enterprise, started on February 27th on horseback
- Island City, started on February 28th in wagons (members of the Island City Mining Association, about 20 men)

On-the-spot reports were mailed to New Jersey by James B. Boylan, acting as correspondent to the *Newark Daily News*. Clearly Boylan (of the New Jersey group) was having second thoughts, but he persevered to the end.

Excerpt from March 12, 1849 Mexico City Correspondence

To-morrow we start for San Blas, whence we will take a vessel—as to go by land up the coast would require over two months, and very dangerous at that.— We have all of us found our baggage too heavy for us, and have sold all the clothing we had except enough to carry us through. The country here is full of golden reports about California, but there are not so many going from this country as from the U. S.—as here the people know the difficulties of the way. I would advise no one to come by this route. If people cannot be persuaded to stay at home, they had better go round the Horn, as by that route they will get to California just as soon and much more safely. For my part, if I was going again—I would stay at home! But being thus far, make the best of it, and will go through. I will endeavor to keep you advised of our progress from time to time.

Yours, &c.,

J. B. B.

Read the tales told by Andrew Ferris for details of the journey. The groups moved through Mexico, scrounging for food, withstanding all sorts of weather, avoiding hostile crowds, and confronting guerrillas. One young man committed suicide.

The travelers arrived on the west coast of Mexico at Tepic. Here fate pointed the parties one way or another. Ferris and a majority of the association traveled 30 miles to the seaport of San Blas. Here, by great good luck, the brig *Cayuga* was plying the waters looking for gold-hunters to transport to California. The *Cayuga* was fit-up to accommodate the men and provisioned with inedible hardtack and beef jerky that had to be trailed along in the water behind the brig in an attempt to tenderize it to an almost edible consistency.

Correspondent Boylan reported that 20 of the New Jersey division went aboard the *Cayuga* for a "boisterous passage of 29 days." On May 14, 1849, the *Cayuga* entered the bay at San Francisco. One hundred and fourteen days after leaving New York City, most of the Manhattan-California Overland Association has reached the promised land.

At Tepic, fate pointed a small portion of the group (mostly the remainder of the guys from the New Jersey division) to the seaport of Matalzan, 170 miles north, setting them up for the stuff of legends.

The schooner *Dolphin* started off from Panama. When the not-so-seaworthy boat put into Mazatlan, her passengers abandoned ship for surer passage. Soon after, our anxious, future gold miners arrived in Mazatlan. Influenced by a certain amount of misdirection, they, along with some others (notably a group from Philadelphia), purchased the *Dolphin*. With 68 people aboard, the *Dolphin* headed for California on April 23, 1849. The captain was deemed "not fit to command an oyster boat." After 28 days, and having made very little headway, the water supply was down to critical levels. The crew and passengers were manning the pumps 24 hours a day to keep the vessel afloat. A short mutiny later, the boat was turned around and pointed to Lower California (the Baja Peninsula). Here 43 passengers left the *Dolphin* and started walking north on May 29th. It was a classic case of suffering in the wilderness: burning sun, no water, tossing aside all extra baggage along the way. Food was scarce and the trekkers made do with rattlesnake stew, cactus and a broken-down horse found by the way side. At one point they ran into the *Dolphin* which took on 10 of the hikers as well as a young man from New Jersey (Robert J. Melville) who had fallen sick (probably from the horse meat) and would die. The rest of the group staggered on until they reached San Diego on June 24, 1849.

There was one more sighting of the *Dolphin*. Louis Henry Bonestell, a member of the Manhattan-California Overland Association, worked in San Diego for two months to recuperate and replenish his funds. On the day he was at the port to catch a boat to San Francisco "a strange vessel came into the harbor...she had no riggings left...still on she came, and did not stop to drop anchor, but ran straight on to the beach." This was the *Dolphin*, sailed down from San Francisco with her broken bows secured with chain and sail.

Another group of our would-be miners purchased the schooner *San Blasena* and boarded her in Mazatlan on May 2, 1849. One of the group, H. Austin, was put in command. Upon the discovery that there was no quadrant, it was back to shore and Isaac S. Van Winkle found one in a junk shop in Mazatlan. By May 7th, they were running out of water so it was back to shore where the boat capsized but all were saved. On the 17th a gale ripped off the sails and almost swamped the boat. The *San Blasena* was oared into an anchorage at Cape Saint Lucas on the Baja Peninsula where half the people left the schooner. Some found passage on another boat, but a few intrepid explorers of the Manhattan-California

Overland Association walked north to California, suffering the same deprivations as the *Dolphin* trekkers.



1849 Map of Mexico & Guatemala by S.A. Mitchell, viewed at David Rumsey Historical Collection. Shows the route from Vera Cruz on the east coast to Tepic on the west coast.

Which group Nathaniel traveled with and where he went and what he did after reaching California is unknown. Correspondent Boylan sent back a report dated 8-13-1849 Sacramento City. He was mining at North Fork, engaged in the hardest work he had ever done. Here is an excerpt.

A man's life here is very uncertain. If he avoids the Indians, there is the grisly bear, the tiger, wolf, and wild cat, and rattle-snakes in great numbers: if you escape them, there is the scurvy, which is making great ravages among the miners, and the chills and fever—the cholera has not arrived. All things are much different from what we expected; hundreds daily arrive, and after a view of the mines, leave again for the States.— There are said to be 20,000 people on the route between here and Independence.

We have been engaged during the last 2 weeks damming the river, but it is impossible to make much, as provisions are so dear, that it takes half we can earn to buy them. The diggings are all worked out, and people out of the mines know nothing about them except what has been told of last year's diggings, which were good then. I have come down here from the North Fork to see if could get in another business; but there appears to be none but gambling, which is carried on upon a large scale, and I therefore will return to the mines. There is as great a rush to go back now as there was to come, and passages are engaged two months ahead.

Yours, &c.

J. B. B.

In his remembrance for the *Allentown Messenger*, Nathaniel remarked *of the number of disappointed men on the dock at San Francisco when he left, anxious to leave for home, but no means left to pay for their passage.*

Though we don't know if Nathaniel struck it rich, he at least had the wherewithal to fund his trip back home after being in California for more than a year.

The next sighting of Nathaniel Sinclair is December 20, 1850, when the steamship *Cherokee* arrived in New York City. The *Cherokee* sailed from Chagres, Isthmus of Panama and via Kingston, Jamaica. On the passenger list is Mr. N. R. Sinclair, age 28, bricklayer. (Ancestry.com, NY Passenger & Crew Lists 1820-1957).

Newspapers report the steamer *Cherokee* carried 361 passengers and \$1,680,107 in gold dust, hopefully some of it belonging to Nathaniel. Nathaniel's homeward journey started in San Francisco on November 15, 1850 when he embarked on the steamship *Tennessee* which arrived in Panama on December 2nd.

The trip through the Isthmus had its own adventures. When Andrew C. Ferris returned to New York City in January 1850, he traveled through the Isthmus and would write a story about it. I expect his experience was the same as Nathaniel's.

Ferris, too, found thousands at the docks in San Francisco waiting for passage home. He booked a spot on the steamship *Unicorn* which sailed December 1, 1849. Twenty-eight days later the ship anchored off the city of Panama. From there he traveled first by mule for 25 miles and then 75 miles by canoe, reaching Chagres in three days. The way was rough, the weather vacillated between downpours and broiling sun and there was little to eat. Sheer luck kept you from contracting a deadly disease. At Chagres, Ferris boarded the *Chesapeake* and arrived in New York City on the 14th of January, 1850. Ferris arrived in New York City in tatters and his first stop was a clothing store.

So, Nathaniel landed in New York City on December 20, 1850. Perhaps he went to his brother John's home on East 28th Street and spent Christmas with John and his wife Emmeline and their two little girls Amelia and Caroline, regaling them with stories of gold mining in California. Maybe he went to see his cousin Nathan Rogers for a new pair of shoes!

An Early Adventure of Nathaniel R. Sinclair

3-22-1908 *Trenton Evening News*

One of the trio of very old persons of Allentown, Abel Cafferty, is dead, aged nearly 95. The other two, Nathaniel Sinclair and Samuel Fidler, who when young men, walked to Newtown to see the first train go through, still survive.

The back-story of this news clipping is told in the 3-9-1905 *Allentown Messenger*. New Jersey's first railroad company, the Camden & Amboy, was incorporated about 1831. In 1832, a new-fangled steam locomotive, the *John Bull*, was imported from England. The locomotive did not start regular runs until the autumn of 1833 when the tracks were complete. Before then, railway cars were pulled by horses.

In the summer of 1833 there must have been great excitement in Allentown when the rumor arrived that the *John Bull* would pull a train of cars over the railroad for the first time. Nathaniel (age 12), Abel Cafferty (age 20) and Samuel Fidler (age 18) hoofed it five miles up the road to Newtown (near Robbinsville) to witness this great event. Alas, when the train came into sight, it was pulled by horses.

Today you can see the *John Bull* at the Smithsonian.

Elizabeth Sinclair (Conover) 1823-1900

Elizabeth's death was announced in the 9-14-1900 *Freehold Transcript*.

There are a few errors in this obit: Elizabeth's mother is Margaret and she married in 1842. Garret and Alice Conover (Covenhoven) are Richard's grandparents.

Elizabeth and Richard had one child, a daughter Alice, who died at age 6. She and her father (with the last name spelled Covenhoven) are buried in the Yellow Meeting House Cemetery located in Upper Freehold Township. Elizabeth is buried with her parents in the Allentown Presbyterian Cemetery.

Mrs. Elizabeth H. Conover,
widow of the late Richard H. Conover, died at the home of her sister, Mrs. George H. Vanderbeek, at Allentown September 6, 1900, aged 78 years. Death was caused by peritonitis, after an illness of five days. Mrs. Conover was the daughter of George and Martha Sinclair. In 1841 she married Richard H. Conover, son of Garret and Alice Conover. For 49 years she lived at New Egypt, and 29 years at Allentown. She had been a member of the Methodist church from childhood, was very kind hearted and had many friends. The funeral was held Monday conducted by Rev. John Warthman, assisted by James R. Swain, with interment in Allentown Presbyterian cemetery. Besides her sister, Mrs. Margaret S. Vanderbeek, two brothers, Nathaniel R. Sinclair of Allentown, and Enoch R. Sinclair of Philadelphia, Pa., survive.

Obituary.
Judge Richard H. Conover.
A dispatch from New Egypt, yesterday informed us of the death of Judge Conover. He had been in poor health for a long time, and had not been able to attend the last two terms of Court; and the news of his death was not unexpected. He was 74 years of age.
Judge Conover was a life-long resident of New Egypt and vicinity; and for many years was in the mercantile business there in the employ of Thomas Ivins. Later he purchased a farm on the outskirts of the village, where he spent the last years of his life. Always a staunch Democrat, he was appointed Lay Judge of the county in 1878. His third term would have expired next year.
He was a man liked, honored and respected the county over. Gouial, kind-hearted, clear-headed—he will be greatly missed. The entire public join with the sorrowing friends over their bereavement.

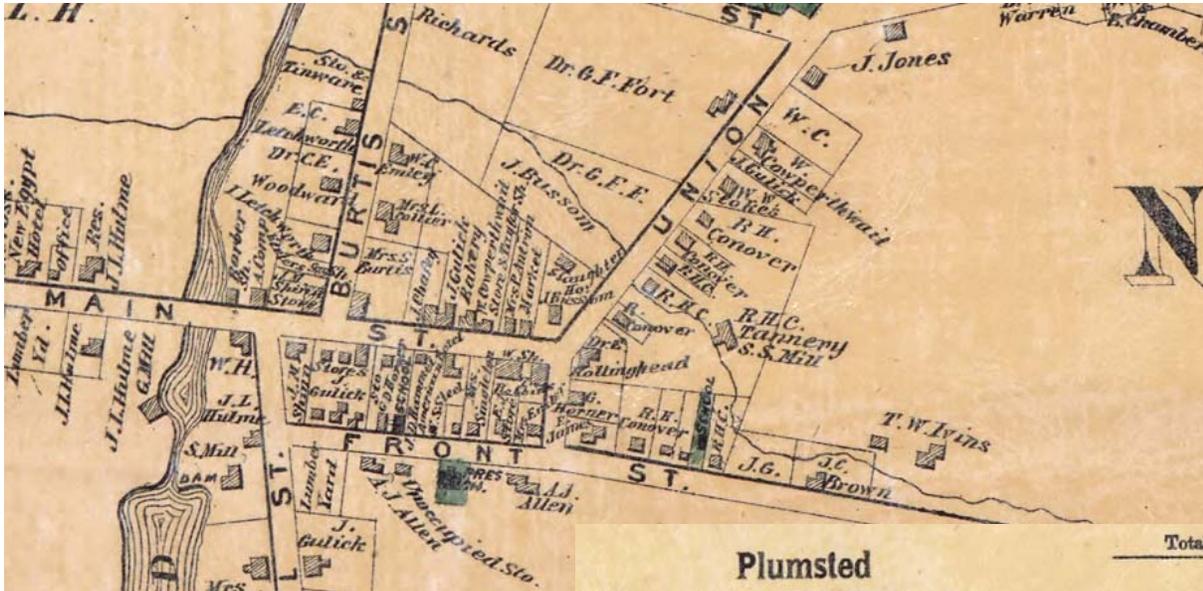
Richard H. Conover (1819-1892) is the son of Jacob Covenhoven and Rebecca Horseful. His siblings are Garret W. Conover (1826-1890) and Caroline (1822-1891) who married George H. Imlay. The father Jacob died when the children were young and Rebecca married Samuel Bunting and had children.

Richard died without a will. Consequently his heirs were his widow Elizabeth and four Bunting half sisters. In the bizarre coincidence category, one of the half sisters was Sarah L. Bunting Sinclair, long-time estranged or divorced wife of Elizabeth's brother Nathaniel. I wonder how this went over?

But not to worry about Elizabeth's finances. Richard's brother Garret provided for her in his will. From at least 1875 to his death in 1890, Garret W. Conover was the owner of the "Lower Tavern" on South Main Street in Allentown (which stands today and is occupied by Woody's Towne Café). Garret died a widower and apparently did not have children. He left bequests to his sister Caroline

Imlay and children of his half sister Hannah Bunting Bills. On behalf of his sister-in-law Elizabeth Conover, he set aside a sum of \$5,000 to earn interest, the whole amount to be paid to Elizabeth if she became a widow, which she did two years after Garret died.

After Richard's death, Elizabeth moved to Allentown and lived with her sister Margaret Vanderbeek. Elizabeth had the foresight to make a will, and left all her assets to her sister Margaret.



1872 - New Egypt, Ocean County, NJ
<https://library.princeton.edu/njmaps/counties/ocean.html>

Total 18

Plumsted Business Notices

<p>Allen A. J. Farmer and Civil Engineer, New Egypt Buckalew John. Farmer, near Collier's Mills Conover G. W. Manufr of all descriptions of Harness, Jobbing attended to with neatness and dispatch, New Egypt Cross Danl. Propr New Egypt Hotel and Billiard Room Cottrell Walter. Carriage Manufr, House, Sign, Carriage and Ornamental Painter, New Egypt Collier C. S. Genl Country Store, New Egypt Conover B. H. Dealer in all kinds of Fertilizers, Phosphates, Guano, Lime Coal, &c, New Egypt Emley John W. Farmer and Market Gardener, New Egypt Emley W. C. Farmer, New Egypt Fort Dr. Geo. F. Physician and Writer, New Egypt Gaskill F. S. Farmer Hulme J. L. Manufr and Dealer in all kinds of Lumber, Flour, Feed, &c, New Egypt Hollingshead E., M. D. Physician and Surgeon, New Egypt Horner G. D. Principal Select School, New Egypt Horner O. F. Surveyor and Conveyancer, New Egypt Horner S. H. Farmer, New Egypt Horner Wesley. Dealer in Charcoal, New Egypt Hammell J. D. Propr American Hotel. Horse Dealer, New Egypt Ivins T. W. Resident, New Egypt Joles T. B. Farmer Jameson H. I. Farmer, New Egypt Lovett E. H. Manufr and Dealer in Lumber, Flour and Feed, New Egypt</p>	<p>Robbins Theo. Manufr of all descriptions of Wagons, Buggies, &c. Jobbing and Genl Blacksmithing, New Egypt Stokes W. W. Drugs, Medicines, Hardware and Building Materials, and Agricultural Implements, New Egypt Shinn J. Miller. Genl Country Store, New Egypt Warren D. A. Physician and Dentist, New Egypt Woodward C. E., M. D. Physician and Surgeon, New Egypt</p>
--	--

This 1872 map shows the extent of Richard Conover's activities in New Egypt. Besides his fertilizer business, he was involved with a tannery and sawmill.

In existing 1860 assessment lists, Richard is taxed on harness leather, upper leather and calf skins. G.W. Conover, manufacturer of harnesses, is probably a cousin of some sort but is not closely related to Richard (I think).

<https://library.princeton.edu/njmaps/counties/ocean.html>

Enoch R. Sinclair 1826-1906

9-27-1906 *Allentown Messenger*

Enoch R. Sinclair, aged 80 years, died of heart trouble at his late home in Philadelphia, on Sunday, September 23, 1906. The deceased was born in Allentown, and was a son of George and Margaret Sinclair, and a brother of Mrs. Margaret Vanderbeek and Nathaniel R. Sinclair, of this town. When a young man he went to Philadelphia, where he learned the trade of carpenter. He afterwards secured a position in the well-known Disston saw works of that city, and for several years prior to his decease was the possessor of a large interest in the establishment. The deceased leaves a widow and one son. His funeral took place on Wednesday, the interment being in the Presbyterian cemetery at Allentown.

Enoch was married to Rebecca Roberts in 1847 in Philadelphia by the same minister who, two weeks previously, had married his brother John and Emmeline Hansell. John and Emmeline headed for New York City; Enoch made a life for himself in Philadelphia.

Enoch was a carpenter by trade and would work for Henry Disston. The story of Henry Disston (1819-1878) and his hard work and determination that culminated in the Keystone Saw Works, the largest saw manufacturing business in the world, would take pages to do it justice so check out this link <http://www.disstonianinstitute.com/index.html>

In the 1870 census, Enoch's occupation is listed as saw handle maker. A source identified Enoch as being a foreman in the Disston saw factory. Enoch apparently was close to the Disston family. During the Civil War, Enoch served in the militia with Henry Disston's brother Thomas S. Disston (1833-1897). Enoch was a pall bearer at two Disston family funerals. Henry Disston's son Albert H. Disston died in 1883 and Henry's wife Mary died in 1895.

In 1851 Enoch purchased a home at 1441 Franklin Street just south of Jefferson Street in Philadelphia. Enoch and Rebecca raised their four children on Franklin Street. The house was sold out of the family in 1911 after Enoch and Rebecca died.

From 1881 to 1894, Enoch Sinclair owned a 3 story brick dwelling at 4097 Longshore Street situated in the Disston complex in Tacony. Perhaps this dwelling is the "large interest" referred to in Enoch's obituary.

What interested me the most was Enoch's Civil War experience. In May of 1861, Enoch and thousands of other young men heeded the call from the Mayor of Philadelphia to join a militia group to protect the city in the uncertain times of the Civil War. Companies sprouted up all over the city. By the first week in June, Enoch joined the Girard Home Guard, composed of 140 men living in the Twentieth Ward. The group was equipped with muskets and trained in military procedures. Meetings were held at the armory on the southwest corner of Girard Avenue and Sixth Street. The Girard Home Guard's leader was Captain William W. Binder, architect/carpenter/builder.

The Militia in Maryland

[Correspondence of The Press.]

FROM COL. NEWKUMET'S HOME GUARD REGIMENT.

CAMP WETHERILL,

IN CAMP McCLEURE, NEAR CHAMBERSBURG,

September 23, 1862.

Here we are in the midst of our Philadelphia boys, glad to find them all comfortable and happy. This camp, which forms part of Camp McClure, and which has been named "Camp Wetherill," in compliment to Mr. J. Price Wetherill, of the City Defence Committee, is one of the most picturesque it is possible to conceive. Apart from the stacks of bristling bayonets, which meet you at every turn, you would suppose that you had fallen upon any other than a military encampment. The camp is laid out in regular streets, which, as is customary with soldiers, are named after the favorite avenues of their own city. There are no tents in the camp, the shelter for the troops being constructed of fence-rails and corn-stalks, which do really present a most comfortable appearance. These huts are built in a wood, which affords fine protection from the sun. Ever since the encampment has been formed, the weather has been remarkably fine, so that there has really been no privation and very little sickness. A few cases of diarrhoea have occurred, but only a few, and they of a very mild character. The camps are remarkably clean, and the men soldierly looking. Col. John Newkumet has command, with W. W. Binder as lieutenant colonel, and Leonard Myers, Esq., as major.

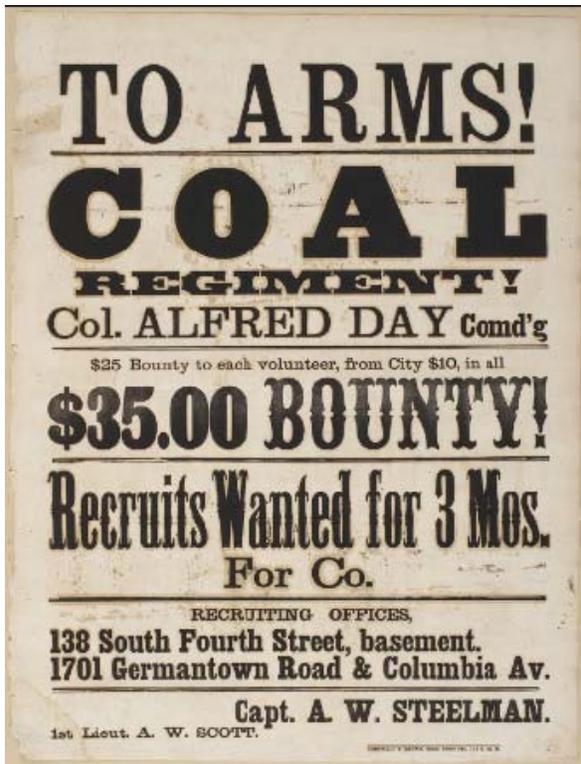
The Pennsylvania Governor's first call to action to defend the state's borders was in September 1862. Philadelphia city militia were mustered into service and Sergeant Enoch Sinclair served in the Ninth Regiment Pennsylvania Militia, Company D, Colonel John Newkumet and Lieutenant Colonel William W. Binder.

Enoch and the Ninth Regiment set out for the southern Pennsylvania border. By the time they reached Chambersburg, the southern troops had retreated after the battle at Antietam on September 17th.

9-26-1862 *The Press* (Philadelphia)

On the 26th of June, 1863, the Governor of Pennsylvania, fearing southern troops were again nearing the borders of the state, issued a call for 60,000 men to serve 90 days to ensure the safety of the state. On the 29th, members of the Philadelphia Coal Trade (companies involved with coal shipping and mining) organized a regiment within 24 hours. Sergeant Enoch Sinclair joined Company E of the 40th Regiment Militia Infantry, popularly known as the First Coal Regiment. This time Enoch's regiment made it all the way to the Potomac in Maryland. The August 21, 1863 issue of *The Daily Age* (Philadelphia) published a full report of the activities of The First Coal Regiment.

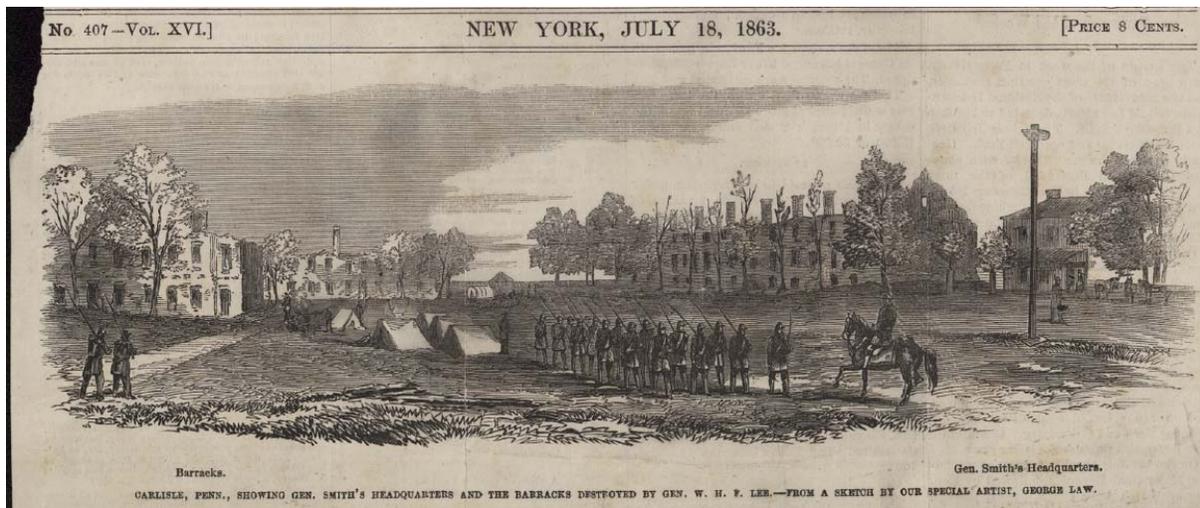
James Fuller Queen (1820-1886), noted Philadelphia lithographer, was a member of the Southwark Wetherill Guard. He served in both the 1862 and 1863 militia actions on their marches to the southern part of the state and he brought along his sketch pad.



8-21-1863 - *The Daily Age* (Philadelphia)

The First Coal Regiment. The 1st Coal Regiment (40th P.M.) Col. Day, was mustered out of services on Tuesday, and the men paid off. Below is given a sketch of the performances of the regiment during its absence from the city. The regiment, which was raised in 23 working hours, left for **Harrisburg** on Saturday, July 4 and arrived early in the morning of the 5th. Unable to find a dry spot in the locality to which it was assigned, was forced to pitch camp in the mud. During the two days of hurried preparation, which were spent at the State Capital, the rain steadily and obdurately fell upon tent and blanket, forcing itself, by all manner of curious devices and unexpected rills into the tents and knapsacks of the men, until they at last presented the appearance of so many well-soaked mops. It was, however, all taken in good part, and was generally looked upon as part of the programme, until some of the old soldiers scattered

throughout the regiment took the matter in hand and showed the greenhorns that it was possible to make an effectual shelter out of the tents d' arbri with which they were furnished.



Leslie Magazine - Ruins of Carlisle Barracks destroyed by General Lee 1863

The men were just beginning to feel some degree of comfort in their arrangements, when orders arrived to move for **Carlisle**, which place they reached about 2 o'clock on the morning of the 8th, the rain pouring down in perfect torrents. The march to the ruined barracks, recently destroyed by the rebels and the comfortless bivouac in sight of the black and toppling walls, will long be remembered by the men and officers of the 40th as one of the most dismal nights of their lives.

Scarcely had they succeeded by dint of great labor and perseverance in making themselves comfortable, when they again received the route, this time for **Shippensburg**. The extreme heat, the great scarcity of water in the district through which they were marching in conjunction with the inexperience and thoughtless imprudence of many of them, made this a most severe and exhausting march. The majority of these men were entirely unaccustomed to such exposure and wearing fatigue and it is no wonder that some fell in the road sun-struck and that others dropped in their tracks from sheer exhausting when the column was halted. A day's rest, and then on Sunday morning they might have been seen but hurrying forward before the sun came up.



At **Chambersburg** the First Coal Regiment was joined to the 3rd Brigade, Colonel Emlin Franklin of Lancaster commanding of the 2nd Division, PVM.

James F. Queen - Sleeping in a Church in Chambersburg

On the morning of the 14th with the rest of the division, the First Coal Regiment took up the line of march for **Greencastle**. This was their first experience as a regiment of the truth of the old saw concerning the slow motion of large bodies. Men who had spent years in the service swore that they could remember but few marches more tedious or fatiguing. Through some mistake the baggage wagons, which by the way were but very few in number, each regiment being allowed but a single team, were permitted to enter the main body of the column, each marching in whatever position changed to accord best with the notions of the



James F. Queen - On the Road to Greencastle

teamsters. The confusion and innumerable delays which arose from this arrangement can readily be imagined. They bivouacked that night upon the summit of a high hill, about a half mile distant from **Greencastle** which was reached long after dark and wearied, dinnerless, supperless, many threw themselves upon the ground utterly exhausted, scarcely caring ever to rise again. To complete their misery, a heavy storm burst over their heads during the night, beating down upon them, until blankets and clothing were drenched.

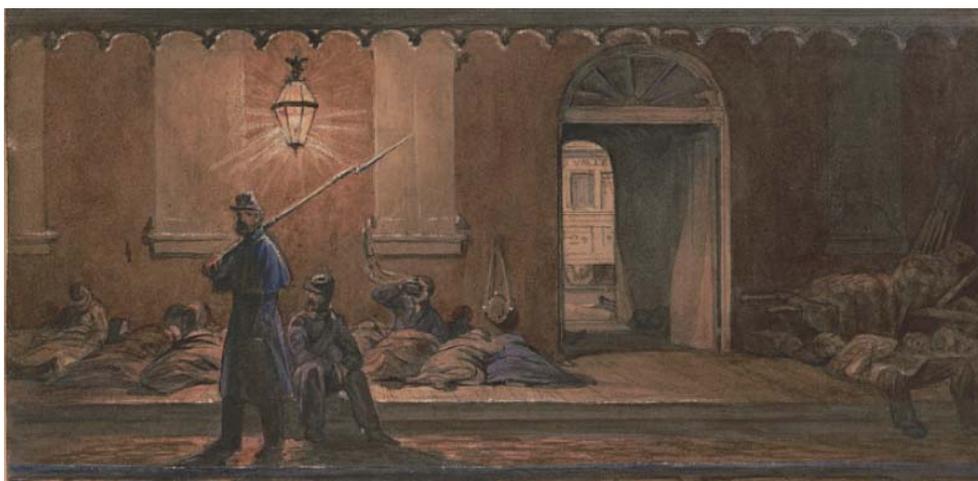
After a day of rest and much needed sunshine, the regiment received orders to move. The state line into Maryland was accordingly crossed on the day following in the gayest possible manner, the head of the column marching into the New State to the tune of "Maryland, my Maryland" as sung by the entire strength of the leading column.



Arriving at **Williamsport**, they were kept guarding the town and the ford across the Potomac to prevent any Rebel incursions into Pennsylvania until August 8th. The 40th first camped in a muddy potato field near the river, then moved camp to an apple orchard on the outskirts of town.

James F. Queen - Picket Duty

Relieved of duty, the First Coal Regiment marched back to Chambersburg. After several days, they took the train for Harrisburg and then headed for Philadelphia on the 17th. Enoch Sinclair and his fellow militiamen were greeted by their friends and citizens as their regiment marched through the city.



James F. Queen - Train Station in Harrisburg

Margaret Sinclair (Vanderbeek) 1832-1914

11-19-1914 *Allentown Messenger*

Mrs. Margaret Sinclair Vanderbeek, widow of the late George H. Vanderbeek, died on Saturday afternoon last at the home of Mrs. Caroline Coward, where she had lived for several years past. She was stricken with paralysis only the Wednesday before her decease. Mrs. Vanderbeek was the daughter of the late George and Margaret Sinclair and was born February 19, 1832, in Allentown. For many years she had been a member of the Presbyterian Church. Nathaniel Sinclair, who died a few years ago, was a brother. Rev. C. K. Newell, of the Baptist Church, conducted the funeral services on Tuesday, the 17th. Interment was in the Presbyterian Cemetery.

Margaret married George H. Vanderbeek in 1855. Their only child Amos died at three years in 1860.

Margaret made the gossip column of the *Allentown Messenger* for her visits to and from relatives in New York City, Long Branch and Philadelphia.



4-8-1904 *Freehold Transcript and the Monmouth Inquirer*

George H. Vanderbeek, one of the best known and most useful men of Allentown died at his home Thursday, March 31st, as reported in the last issue of The Transcript. The deceased was born at Imlaystown in February, 1831. While young he came with his parents to Allentown and was for some years a shoemaker. He married Margaret Sinclair, daughter of George Sinclair and Margaret Rogers, February 1855. One son Amos F. who died at the age of three years, was the only offspring and Mr. Vanderbeek was the last of his line. He was Dutch descent and was the son of Peter Vanderbeek and Elizabeth Thors.

He began farming while young. He purchased the farm owned by Charles F. Forsyth and erected the present house. This farm he sold to the present owner during the winter of 1887 and came to Allentown (where he had built the home in which he died), March 8, 1888. He was a man of great enterprises and ever willing to use his influence in any good cause. He was liberal in his views and generous with his purse. As a business man he was usually consulted on any important event of the community and his judgment was always good. He was the promoter and father of the Farmers' National Bank and was the president of that institution from its foundations until the first of this year when he resigned. To him much credit is due for the flourishing condition now maintained by the bank. He was assessor for the township of Upper Freehold several years but was not bound in any way to politics. He was beloved by his family and truly a host of friends who lament his loss and the sad end of his life. For the past three years he had not enjoyed good health and had suffered several strokes of paralysis, the first of which was nearly fatal.

The funeral services were private and were held at his late home Monday, April 4, 1904 at 2 p.m., conducted by Rev. George Swais, D.D. He was a member of the Presbyterian church for many years. The sympathies of the entire community go out to his widow. The pall bear-

ers were Robert V. Spaulding, Enoch Wilson, E.C. Spaulding, George V. Taylor, Marvin A. Spaulding and George R. Waln. The interment was made in the Presbyterian cemetery.

4-8-1904 *The Daily Standard* (Red Bank, NJ) reported the startling details behind George's death.

OBITUARY.
GEORGE H. VANDERBEEK,

for many years closely identified with the business interests of Allentown, died at his home in this place on Thursday afternoon, March 31, 1904, at 4 o'clock. He is said to have remarked to a friend a few months ago that he would not live to see April 1. About 2 o'clock on Thursday afternoon he quietly announced that he had taken a dose of strychnine. So cool was he that this could hardly be taken seriously. Exhibiting no special pain, he sat in a chair talking to his nephews, Charles and Robert Spaulding, who had been summoned, and refused to have a physician called. In all this was the iron will of the man asserted, which was so characteristic of him throughout his life.

Mr. Vanderbeek was 73 years old last February. For most of his life he had been a farmer. In 1888 he removed to Allentown. For nearly eighteen years, ever since its organization in June, 1886, until a short time ago, he had been the president of the Farmers National Bank.

George H. Vanderbeek came from good old Holland Dutch stock, and was a member of the famous Holland Society of New York, as is President Roosevelt and other distinguished men. For many years, as township assessor and in the settling of many estates in this neighborhood, he had been a trusted and most competent business man.

A few years ago Mr. Vanderbeek was stricken with apoplexy. This attack was a very severe one, and he lay unconscious for weeks, his life being despaired of. Since then, while his has been the same familiar figure as he rode daily to the bank, and while he exhibited the same imperturbable and withal cheerful disposition, yet he had never been the same man. So closely intertwined is the moral with the physical being that it is only justice to the memory of so prominent a man to thus account for the unfortunate ending of his life.

The funeral was held from his late home on Monday, the 4th inst., and the interment took place in the Presbyterian Cemetery.

Margaret was the last sibling to die, widowed and without children. Margaret's will is dated February 12, 1903, prior to her husband's death. Margaret died in 1914. Her executor was directed to sell all real estate and personal property and convert it into cash. Her bequests were many as reported in the 12-17-1914 *Allentown Messenger*.

Henry A. Ford	\$2.00
W. H. Rorer	\$4.70
administrators of Augustus Cafferty estate	\$4.00
William R. Savidge	\$0.26
Mary Emma Gordon, trustee under the will of Mary A. Fisk	\$100
Susan Waln	\$14.37
H. E. Gulick	\$12.60
Elizabeth V. Spaulding	\$43.00
Kate T. Imlay	\$23.00
Kittie A. Imlay (now Mrs. Samuel Pennington)	\$23.00
Alice C. Imlay	\$23.00
Mary Leach	\$23.00
Nieces Mrs. Kate Pierce and Hanna Cook	\$100 each
Elizabeth V. Spaulding	bed, bureau, washstand, lounge, carpet, chairs
Margaretta Ellis of Philadelphia, great niece	3/10 of residuary estate
Elizabeth V. Spaulding of Allentown	3/10 of residuary estate
Alice C. Imlay of Princeton	2/10 of residuary estate
Mrs. Annie Cook, widow of Scudder Cook	2/10 of residuary estate

This will is a who's who of Allentown and provides family connections. Henry A. Ford purchased Abel Cafferty's mill. He was also a director of the Farmer's National Bank. W.H. Rorer, the long-time tinwear/hardware dealer. Does the 26 cent bequest go to William R. Savidge, the long-time Allentown harness maker? Augustus Cafferty was an Allentown blacksmith. Horatio E. Gulick was an Allentown mason and coal merchant and possessor of a signature quilt (more about the quilt later).

Mary A. Fisk was the granddaughter of John Imlay of the Imlay Mansion at 28 South Main Street in Allentown. Mary Fisk lived in the mansion. Mary left a detailed will and appointed her friend George H. Vanderbeek as an executor. Mary Emma Gordon, some sort of a relation to Mary Fisk, would also live in the Imlay Mansion.

Nieces Kate Pierce and Hanna Cook are the children of Margaret's brother Nathaniel R. Sinclair.

Great niece Margaretta Ellis of Philadelphia descends from Margaret's brother Enoch. Margaretta is a child of Enoch's daughter Emma.

Annie Cook, widow of Scudder Cook, is the mother of Hanna Sinclair Cook's husband.

Margaret's husband's sister Mary Vanderbeek married Benjamin C. Spaulding. The Spaulding sons Charles (a director of the Farmers National Bank) and Robert attended to George H. Vanderbeek in his last hours. A daughter Elizabeth V. Spaulding is the beneficiary in this will. Susan Waln is also a Spaulding daughter.

Alice C. Imlay is the daughter of George H. Imlay and Caroline Covenhoven, Caroline being the sister of Richard H. Conover, husband of Margaret's sister Elizabeth. Kate T. Imlay is the daughter of Edward D. Imlay, brother of George H. Imlay and Jane Stagg. Lastly, Kittie A. Imlay Pennington has escaped detection.

ENDNOTES

Nancy Ettensperger, Underhill, Vermont
<http://ancestorsandothers.net/index.htm>

George Sinclair's will can be found at Ancestry.com, New Jersey Wills and Probate Records, Wills Vol G-H, 1857-1866, date 11/5/1863, Township of Upper Freehold.

George Sinclair left each child a one-fifth part of his estate:

- 1) John Sinclair
- 2) Nathaniel R. Sinclair
- 3) Enoch R. Sinclair
- 4) Elizabeth wife of Richard H. Conover
- 5) Margaret wife of George H. Vanderbeek.

John Fabiano, Allentown Historian, has posted numerous articles at the Allentown Library website. Some are from the local history columns of the *Allentown Messenger*.

<http://www.allentownlibrary.org/archives.html>

John Fabiano also contributed to the Allentown *Messenger-Press* transcribed works of Charles R. Hutchinson pertaining to "Allentown - Its Rise and Progress." Available at Newspapers.com, Part I appears in the Nov. 13, 2003 *Messenger-Press* and the series concludes at Part 53 in the Sept. 27, 2007 issue.

Drawing of the Allentown Presbyterian Church from *Historical Collections of New Jersey, 1868* by John W. Barber, p. 370

<https://catalog.hathitrust.org/Record/008652283>

FamilySearch/Family History Library has a viewable copy of F. Dean Storm's *History of Allentown Presbyterian Church, Allentown, N. J., 1720-1970*

Philadelphia in the Civil War 1861-1865 by Frank H. Taylor can be viewed here

<https://archive.org/details/cu31924028861842>

To Arms! Coal Regiment poster

<https://digital.librarycompany.org/islandora/object/Islandora%3A6654>

Civil War sketches by James Fuller Queen

<https://www.loc.gov/search/?dates=1860/1869&fa=contributor:queen,+james+fuller,821>

Photo of George H. Vanderbeek lifted from the Arcadia publication *Allentown and Upper Freehold Township* by Randall Gabrielan

In general histories about the gold rush, not much is mentioned about the Mexico route. Fortunately, seven members of the Manhattan-California Overland Association left behind written material, probably due to the extreme adventures aboard the *Dolphin* and *San Blasena* and the journey up the Baja Peninsula.

Andrew C. Ferris (1818-1902) His post gold rush notable claim-to-fame is the refinement of kerosene to make it usable for lighting. In 1891, Ferris wrote about the journey in "Gold Hunters of California: To California in 1849 Through Mexico" published in *The Century Magazine* 42, No. 5 (September 1891), pages 666-679 <https://babel.hathitrust.org/cgi/pt?id=mdp.39015007006300;view=1up;seq=7>

Read about Ferris traveling through the Isthmus here: "Hardships of the Isthmus in 49" published in *The Century Magazine*, v. 41, April 1891, pages 929-931 <https://babel.hathitrust.org/cgi/pt?id=mdp.39015011929570;view=1up;seq=5>

Louis H. Bonestell (1827-1919) Bonestell's biography is archived at the Society of California Pioneers and can be viewed here: <https://calisphere.org/item/ark:/13030/kt7g50234p/>

James B. Boylan (1825-1901) *Newark Daily Advertiser* correspondent: April 6, 1849 "Incidents of a Journey from Vera Cruz." Aug. 15, 1849 extracts of a letter of a Newarker at San Francisco. Oct. 15, 1849 correspondence from the gold mines. Boylan returned to Newark and went into the clothing business. During the Civil War he was contracted by the Government to supply uniforms.

John R. Clark (1812-?) Sept 14, 1849 *Newark Daily Advertiser* "The Schooner Dolphin - A Perilous Voyage." Dec. 12, 1849 *Newark Daily Advertiser* "Experience in the Diggings." John's brother Louis Henry Clark (1817-1864) traveled with him to California.

Samuel P. Crane (1825-after 1880) Sept. 26, 1849 *Newark Daily Advertiser* "Diary of a Journey to California - Privations, etc."

John W. Griffith (1816-1884) Griffith's diary and reminiscences are archived at the California Historical Society. Extracts can be viewed here: <http://sandiegohistory.org/journal/1963/july/gold-2/>

Isaac S. Van Winkle (1825-1881) Van Winkle's adventures were written by a descendant. Extracts can be viewed here: <https://archive.org/stream/dehalvemaen2127holl#page/n103/>

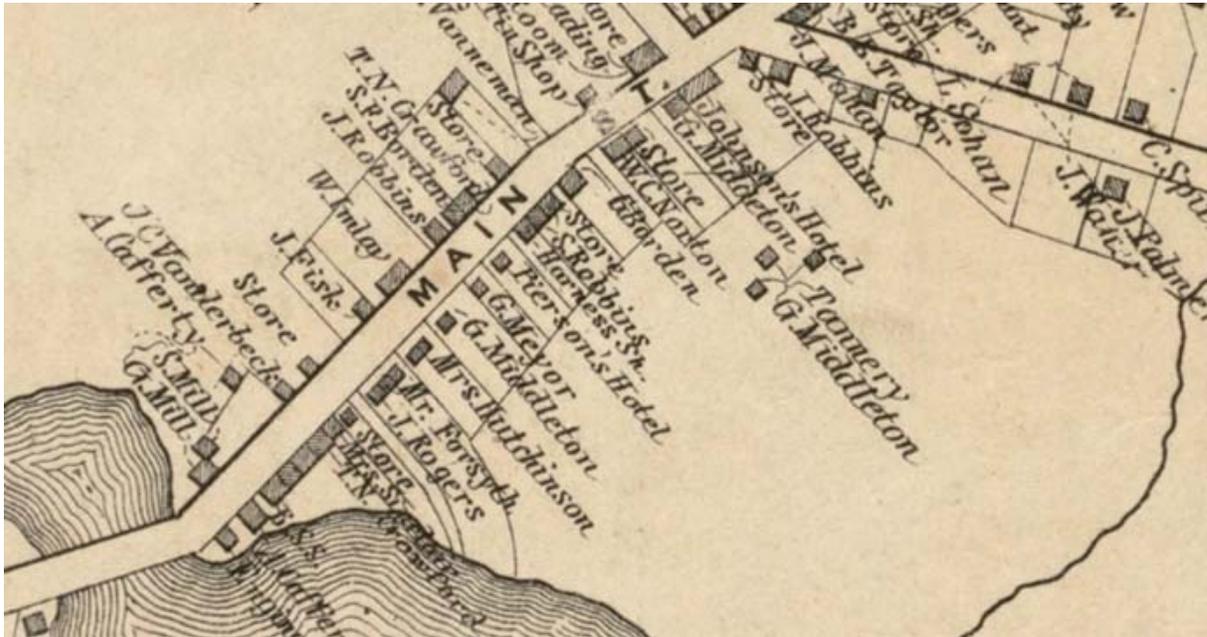
* * * * *

"The Cruise of the San Blasena" follows the adventures of some of the men who had the misfortune of boarding the San Blasena. "Cruise of the San Blasena" by F.D.B. Stillman, *Overland Monthly and Out West Magazine*, Volume 15, page 241 <https://books.google.com/books?id=f5UXAQAAMAAJ&dq=>

Stillman also wrote about the *Dolphin* in *Seeking the Golden Fleece* "An Account of the Sufferings of a Party of Argonauts who were Compelled to Abandon their Vessel *The Dolphin* on the Peninsula of Lower California, and Seek their way on Foot to San Diego." The writings of John Griffith and Samuel Crane informed Stillman about this voyage.

<https://archive.org/details/seekinggoldenfl00stilgoog/page/n342>

1861 Beers Map of Monmouth County - Pierson's Hotel



<https://www.digitalcommonwealth.org/search/commonwealth:4m90f463n>

Federal Census 1860 - Upper Freehold

Thomas S. Person, 55 (1805), tavern keeper
Rebecca Person, 60
Rebecca Hughes

Findagrave Memorial <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/40096553/thomas-s.-pearson>

Thomas S. Pearson
born 1805, death Jan 20, 1867
First Presbyterian Churchyard, Hamilton Square, Mercer Co., NJ

Thomas was born about 1805 based on his age at death (he died in his 62nd year). In the 1850 Census, he was listed as "Steward of the Poor," that is, he managed the local poor house.

Genealogist and local historian Charles R. Hutchinson, whose papers are held by New Jersey Historical Society, Newark, and are available on FHL microfilm, reports the following regarding Thomas (see Hutchinson's 1917/19 manuscript Pearson genealogy, p. 87):

"It is said that the last descendant of Thomas Pearson (9) [son of [Robert Pearson Jr.](#)] in the male line was Thomas S. Pearson, who in early life lived on the farm which Robert Pearson (2) bought of James and Edward Draper, and which has since been until recently the Hamilton Township Poor House Farm. I think he inherited this farm. He removed from it to Allentown, where for some years he kept the lower tavern, also owning a farm on the Imlaystown road (now Valentine Rosiak), where he operated a cider press and distillery. He married Rebecca Cubberley [sic; she was apparently a Hughes], but had no children. He died January 20, 1867, aged 61 years."

Note: His surname is given as Pierson in various records.

1873 Beers Atlas of Monmouth County - N.W. Bird Hotel



<http://www.historicmapworks.com/Map/US/177404/Allentown++lmlaystown++Charlston+Spring++Ellisdale++Hornerstown/>

Federal Census 1870 - Upper Freehold

Nicholas Bird, innkeeper, \$7,000 RE, \$1,000 PP
Elizabeth Bird
Children: Charles, Mary, John, Nimrod, Florence

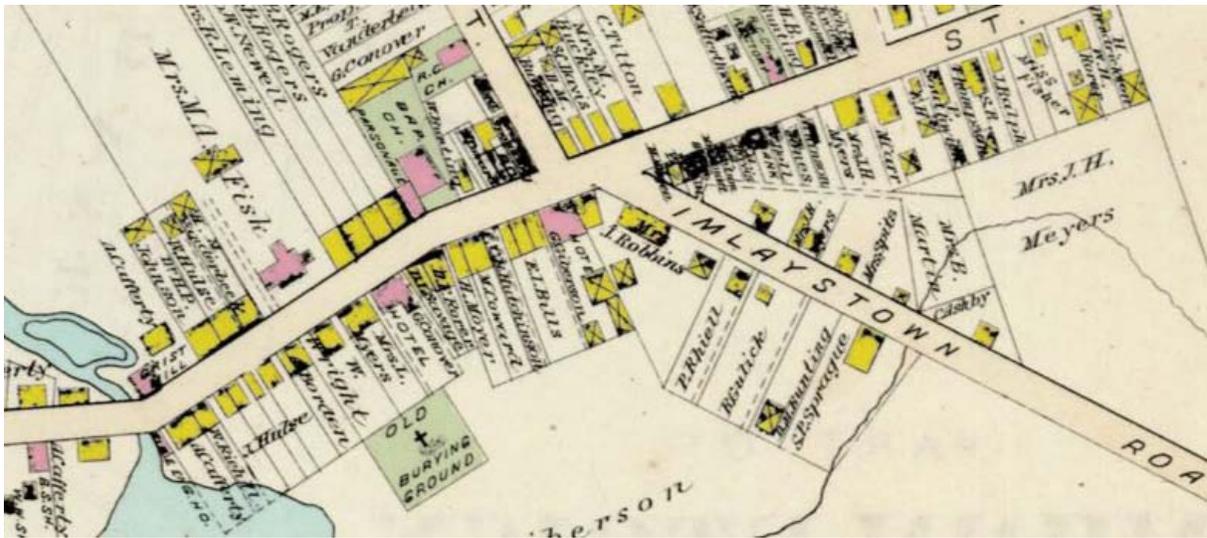
Findagrave - Allentown Presbyterian Church

Nicholas Bird (1811-1912) and his wife are buried in the Allentown Presbyterian Church Cemetery. <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/34715196>

1875 - Auction at the public house of Nicholas W. Bird

ADMINISTRATOR'S SALE. --By virtue of an order of the Orphans' Court of Monmouth county, the subscriber, Administrator of Leah Cox, deceased, will expose at Public Sale, and sell to the highest bidder,
ON SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 13TH, 1875,
At 2 o'clock, P. M., at the public house of Nicholas W. Bird, in Allentown, Monmouth county, New Jersey, the undivided one-half interest in the Real Estate of said Leah Cox, deceased, consisting of--

1889 Wolverton's Atlas of Monmouth County - G. Conover Hotel



<http://www.historicmapworks.com/Map/US/36302/Englishtown++Shrewsbury++Allentown++Farmingdale/Monmouth+County+1889/New+Jersey/>

Federal Census 1880 - Upper Freehold
Garrett Conover, 55 (1825), hotel keeper
Jenny Conover, 38 (1842)

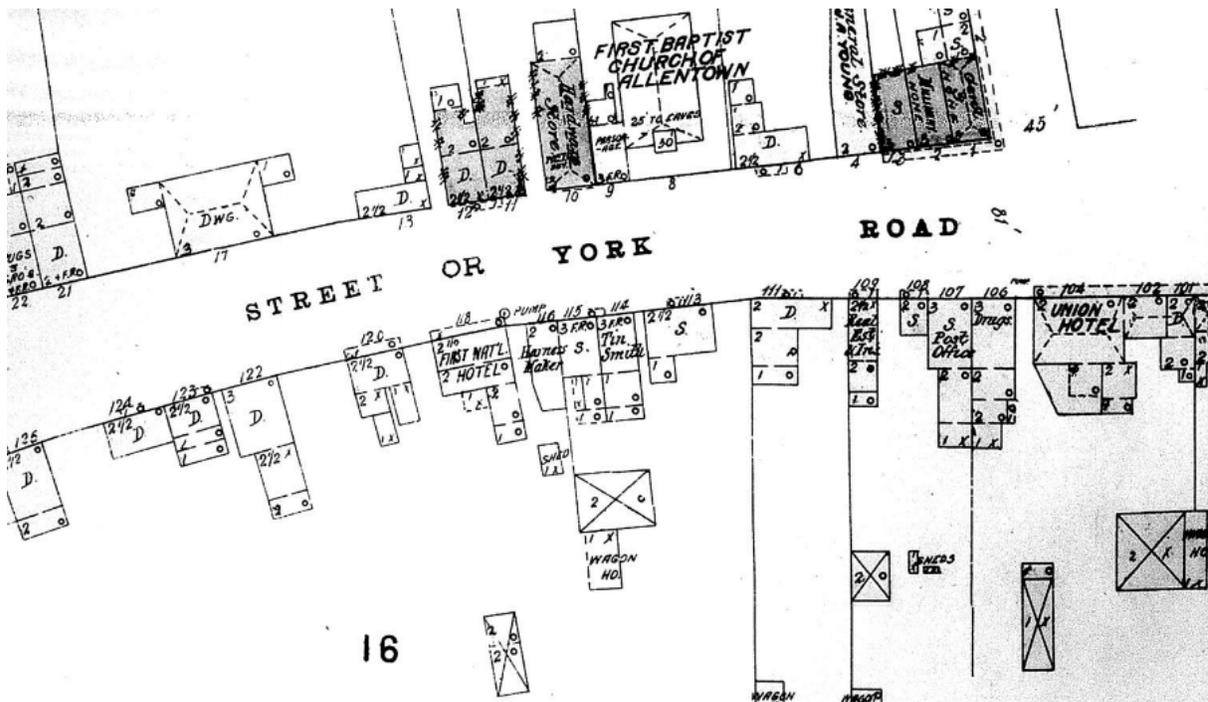
State Census 1885 - Upper Freehold
Garrett Conover, 2-60
Jennie Conover 20-60
Annie E. Zeltz, over 60

Garret Conover died October 27, 1890.

2-19-1891 *Monmouth Inquirer* - sale of Garrett Conover Hotel

SALE OF REAL ESTATE.
The subscriber, Executor of the estate of
Garret Conover, deceased, will sell at Public Sale,
On Thursday, February 26th, 1891,
at 2 o'clock P. M., Rain or Shine, all of that well-
known Hotel Property, situated on Main street,
in the village of Allentown, N. J., known as the
Garrett Conover Hotel.
Anyone wishing to view the above property
prior to the day of sale will be shown the same by
calling on Enoch Cafferty, in Allentown, or the
Executor.
Conditions make known on day of sale.
JOSIAH GORDON,
Executor.
jan28-18

1890 Atlas of Mercer County - First National Hotel



<http://www.historicmapworks.com/Map/US/173385/Plate+096A+++Allentown/>

This map is plate 96A in an atlas for Mercer County, published by Scarlet & Scarlet in 1890. Seemingly, the Garret Conover Hotel was also known as the National Hotel.

The Very Short Tenure of one Joseph Page

12-26-1890 *Freehold Transcript and Monmouth Inquirer* - Joseph Page buys Conover hotel property

The Garret Conover hotel property at Allentown has been bought by Joseph Page of Bordentown.

1-2-1891 *Freehold Transcript and Monmouth Inquirer* - Allentown Notes - Joseph Page goes insane

It is reported that Joseph Page, of Bordentown, who recently bought the National Hotel at Allentown, has become insane.

By February the hotel was again up for sale.

John F. Crawford, Proprietor, National Hotel

John F. Crawford ran the National Hotel from 1894 to about 1900.

NATIONAL HOTEL,
John F. Crawford, Proprietor.

Without doubt the leading hotel of Allentown is that so ably conducted by Mr. J. F. Crawford, and which is known throughout Monmouth and Burlington counties as the National. It is eligibly situated in the very center of the village and is fitted up with every facility for making the traveller comfortable. It contains a number of large, elegantly furnished sleeping apartments, a parlor, sitting room and a dining room that will comfortably seat thirty guests, while the table is supplied with the best the markets afford. In the rear of the house are large stables with accommodations for at least twenty head of horses and sheds for as many more. The bar is well supplied with liquors, wines, ales, cigars and the celebrated Pilsner beer (Lion Brewery) is on draught at all times. The National presents as nice an appearance as any house in the county and is liberally patronized. Mr. Crawford came here two years ago and has conducted the house in a most commendable manner and succeeded in gaining the confidence and respect of all who know him. He is a native of Freehold and prior to his advent here, was in the wholesale liquor business there for fifteen years and was regarded as one of the most successful business men of that place. Personally he is a thorough business man and any venture with which he chooses to identify himself, will continue, as it has in the past, to increase in volume and importance. M. F. Schlotman, who is also connected with the house, was at one time in business in Freehold and is an agreeable gentleman who has a host of friends and acquaintances throughout the county.

The July 17, 1896 *Freehold Transcript* ran an extensive article highlighting various businesses in its circulation area.

In Allentown, we find some familiar names: two beneficiaries of Margaret Sinclair Vanderbeek's will: W.H. Rorer, tin and sheet iron work, and William Savidge, harness maker. Margaret's husband's sister's child Charles H. Spaulding of the company Forsyth & Spaulding, general merchandise, is profiled as is G.V. Leming, undertaker, who was basically a successor to George Sinclair's undertaking business.

Here is the very flattering write-up for John F. Crawford of the National Hotel in Allentown.

6-2-1899 Allentown News

While one of our young Allentown men was enroute for home at 3 a. m. Sunday morning he discovered a large snapping turtle in front of the residence of Garret Breece. After a tussle the animal was captured, and the turtle was presented to Breece. It weighed 29½ pounds, and is to be seen at the National hotel.

Charles Hutchinson ends his study of the Tavern House in 1900 "when, in the deed to Albert Nelson, a clause was inserted prohibiting the sale of intoxicating liquors on the premises at any time thereafter." The tavern/hotel use of the property had run its course.

10-11-1900

The National Hotel has been vacated by John F. Crawford, and its owner Forman Gordon, will probably convert it into a dwelling.

1-11-1901

Mrs. George Wilbur of Hightstown, has been spending several days with her husband who is employed at the Nelson & Co. hardware store. Mr. and Mrs. Wilbur will commence housekeeping in the spring in the old National hotel which has been converted into a handsome double dwelling house.

3-1-1901

Joseph Sears and family removed Friday from the John W. Burtis house to the Albert Nelson house known as the National Hotel property.

Descendants of George Sinclair and Margaret Rogers

- 1 George Sinclair b: 1785 NJ age at mrg: 32 est. d: December 3, 1864 Allentown, NJ age at d: 79 est. Burial: Allentown Presbyterian Church Cem, Allentown, NJ
- .. +Margaret Rogers b: 1791 NJ m: Abt. 1817 age at mrg: 26 est. d: March 14, 1860 Allentown, NJ age at d: 69 est. Burial: Allentown Presbyterian Church Cem, Allentown, NJ
- 2 John Sinclair b: March 11, 1818 NJ age at mrg: 28 d: December 4, 1894 Long Branch, NJ age at d: 76 Burial: Allentown Presbyterian Church Cem, Allentown, NJ
- +Emmeline Hansell b: January 30, 1820 Philadelphia, PA m: January 19, 1847 by Rev. John L. Grant, 11th Presbyterian Church, Philadelphia, PA age at mrg: 26 d: December 8, 1905 Long Branch, NJ age at d: 85 Burial: Allentown Presbyterian Church Cem, Allentown, NJ SEE EMMELINE HANSELL & JOHN SINCLAIR TREE
- 2 Nathaniel R. Sinclair b: January 8, 1821 NJ age at mrg: 31 d: June 22, 1910 Allentown, NJ age at d: 89 Burial: Allentown, NJ
- +Sarah L. Bunting b: 1832 NJ m: February 13, 1852 NJ (separated or divorced by 1860) age at mrg: 20 est. d: July 25, 1913 Bordentown, NJ age at d: 81 est. Burial: Bordentown Cem, Bordentown, NJ
- 3 Kate Sinclair b: 1853 NY age at mrg: 17 est. d: September 23, 1930 3 Farnsworth Ave, Bordentown, NJ age at d: 77 est. Burial: Bordentown Cem, Bordentown, NJ
- +Charles Pearce b: October 28, 1843 NJ m: Bet. 1870 - 1880 age at mrg: 27 est. d: January 10, 1885 Philadelphia, PA age at d: 41 Burial: West Laurel Hill Cem, Bala Cynwyd, PA
- 3 Hannah Sinclair b: May 3, 1859 age at mrg: 26 est. d: May 22, 1932 3 Farnsworth Ave, Bordentown, NJ age at d: 73 Burial: Bordentown Cem, Bordentown, NJ
- +William H. Cook b: 1859 NJ m: 1885 age at mrg: 26 est. d: November 17, 1921 3 Farnsworth Ave, Bordentown, NJ age at d: 62 est. Burial: Bordentown Cem, Bordentown, NJ
- 2 Elizabeth H. Sinclair b: September 5, 1823 NJ age at mrg: 18 d: September 6, 1900 Allentown, NJ age at d: 77 Burial: Allentown Presbyterian Church Cem, Allentown, NJ
- +Richard H. Conover b: July 16, 1819 NJ m: August 14, 1842 age at mrg: 23 d: October 8, 1892 New Egypt, NJ age at d: 73 Burial: Richard H. Covenhoven, Yellow Meeting House Cem, Upper Freehold, NJ
- 3 Alice H. Conover b: March 4, 1843 NJ d: February 27, 1850 NJ age at d: 6 Burial: Alice H. Covenhoven, Yellow Meeting House Cem, Upper Freehold, NJ
- 2 Enoch R. Sinclair b: February 16, 1826 NJ age at mrg: 20 d: September 23, 1906 at 1441 Franklin St, Philadelphia, PA age at d: 80 Burial: Allentown Presbyterian Church Cem, Allentown, NJ
- +Rebecca Roberts b: April 16, 1825 PA m: February 4, 1847 by Rev John L. Grant, 11th Presbyterian Church, Philadelphia, PA age at mrg: 21 d: August 1, 1910 at 1441 Franklin St, Philadelphia, PA age at d: 85 Burial: Allentown Presbyterian Church Cem, Allentown, NJ
- 3 Margaret Rogers Sinclair b: 1848 PA d: July 11, 1849 Philadelphia, PA age at d: 1 est. Burial: American Mechanics Cem, Philadelphia, PA
- 3 Emma Sinclair b: 1849 PA age at mrg: 20 est. d: March 14, 1903 1545 North Lehigh Ave, Philadelphia, PA age at d: 54 est. Burial: Magnolia Cem, Philadelphia, PA

Descendants of George Sinclair and Margaret Rogers

- +Thomas L. Ellis b: 1848 PA m: Abt. 1869 age at mrg: 21 est. d: December 14, 1941 age at d: 93 est. Burial: Magnolia Cem, Philadelphia, PA
- 4 Richard Ellis b: 1871 d: December 7, 1925 Philadelphia, PA age at d: 54 est. Burial: Westminster Cem, Bala Cynwyd, Montgomery Co, PA
- +Margaretta unknown b: 1885 PA d: June 1932 Philadelphia, PA age at d: 47 est. Burial: Westminster Cem, Bala Cynwyd, Montgomery Co, PA
- 4 Margaretta S. Ellis b: 1873 PA d: October 19, 1958 1900 Park Ave, Philadelphia, PA age at d: 85 est. Burial: Magnolia Cem, Philadelphia, PA
- 4 Enoch Roger Ellis b: July 6, 1877 age at mrg: 29 d: 1962 age at d: 85 est. Burial: Hillside Cem, Roslyn, Montgomery Co, PA
- +Gertrude Widmayer b: 1879 m: July 23, 1906 age at mrg: 27 est. d: March 11, 1946 age at d: 67 est. Burial: Hillside Cem, Roslyn, Montgomery Co, PA
- 4 George S. Ellis b: April 14, 1885 PA d: January 17, 1962 7471 N 21st St, Philadelphia, PA age at d: 76 Burial: Holy Sepulchre Cem, Cheltenham, PA
- +Margaret Walsh b: October 22, 1886 d: April 25, 1968 age at d: 81 Burial: Holy Sepulchre Cem, Cheltenham, PA
- 3 Elizabeth Sinclair b: 1855 PA d: July 6, 1875 PA age at d: 20 est. Burial: Allentown, NJ
- 3 George Sinclair b: November 19, 1862 PA age at mrg: 36 est. d: November 7, 1925 age at d: 62 Burial: Laurel Hill Cem, Philadelphia, PA
- +Minnie Brisbane b: 1870 m: Abt. 1898 age at mrg: 28 est. d: 1945 age at d: 75 est. Burial: Laurel Hill Cem, Philadelphia, PA
- **2 Margaret Sinclair** b: February 19, 1832 NJ age at mrg: 22 d: November 14, 1914 Allentown, PA age at d: 82 Burial: Allentown Presbyterian Church Cem, Allentown, NJ
- +George H. Vanderbeek b: 1831 NJ m: February 15, 1855 age at mrg: 24 est. d: March 31, 1904 Allentown, NJ age at d: 73 est. Burial: Allentown Presbyterian Church Cem, Allentown, NJ
- 3 Amos F. Vanderbeek b: September 4, 1857 d: March 7, 1861 age at d: 3

Nancy Ettensperger