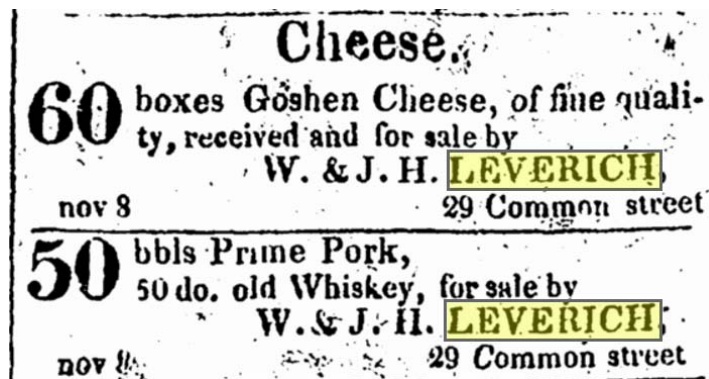


## Individual Narrative of William<sup>7</sup> Edward Leverich [137] Son of Edward<sup>6</sup> Leverich [60] and Elizabeth Palmer

William Edward Leverich<sup>1,2,3</sup> was born on 10 Jul 1797 at Newtown, Queens County, New York, the son of Edward Leverich Sr and Elizabeth Palmer.<sup>4,5,6</sup> William E. Leverich was baptized on 8 October 1797 at the Newtown Presbyterian Church.<sup>7</sup>

As early as 1819, William E. Leverich went to New Orleans, as the representative of the mercantile commission house of Peter Remsen & Co, then one of the most respectable and largest houses of New York.<sup>8</sup> By the year 1824, William E. Leverich had joined with his brother James H. Leverich in the wholesale grocery business. The 1824 New Orleans City Directory lists W. and J.H. Leverich, grocers at 29 Common Street, between Fulton and Front Streets (contemporary address 200 block of Common Street). William and James advertised their products frequently in the New Orleans State Gazette newspaper.<sup>9,10,11</sup>



1824 New Orleans City Directory published by John Adams Paxton  
Leverich, W. and J. H., grocers, 29 Common Street



**1824: 29 Common Street, New Orleans**  
**W. and J.H. Leverich, Groceries**  
*New Orleans 1873*  
*Appletons Handbook of Southern Travel*

William E. Leverich married Fanny Hampton Inskeep, daughter of Abraham Huling Inskeep and Marie Mcilvaine Giles, on 30 Nov 1833 at New Orleans, Orleans Parish, Louisiana.<sup>12,13,14</sup> Fanny Hampton Inskeep was born 20 September 1813 in New York. According to the 1813 New York City Directory, Fanny's father Abraham H. Inskeep ran a bookselling business with his brother John Inskeep Jr at 128 Broadway in Manhattan, New York County, New York, where Abraham and his family also took up residence.<sup>15,16,17</sup>



**7-137 William Edward Leverich**



**Fanny Hampton Inskeep  
Wife of 7-137 William E. Leverich**

The 1834 New Orleans City Directory lists the business of W. and J.H. Leverich, grocers, at 10 Old Levee (contemporary address 100 block of Decatur Street, between Canal and Iberville).<sup>18</sup>

About the year 1835, Henry and Charles Leverich, younger brothers of James and William E. Leverich, formed a partnership called Leverich & Co in New York. The brothers in New York and New Orleans worked closely together in building a commission and factor business.<sup>19</sup> Initially, Leverich & Co. dealt in the products that commission merchants regularly dealt in during the 19th century. These included household products such as tobacco, foodstuffs, spices, glass and glassware, and soap. Leverich & Co. also dealt in industrial products such as hemp, hides, and bulk chemicals, specifically brimstone, saltpeter and indigo. A large proportion of the firm's business in its early years entailed the import of wine and its reshipment to other ports in the U.S. In this early period, most of Leverich & Co.'s bulk trade in Southern produce was in sugar and sugar products, i.e. molasses and rum.

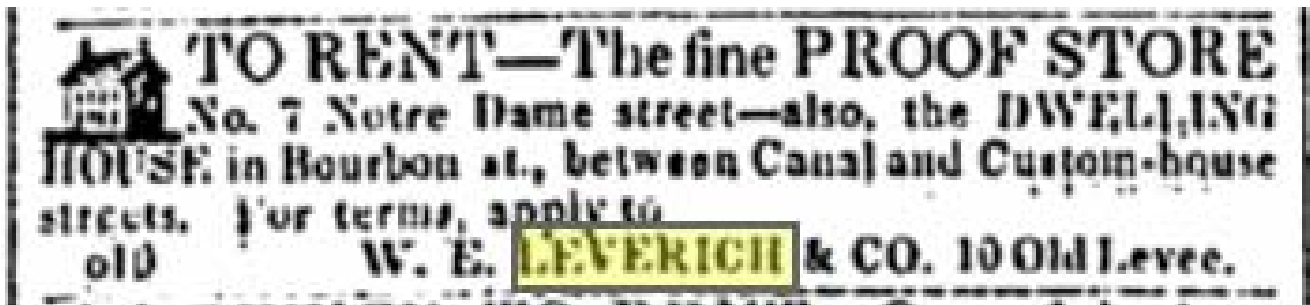
The firm's business had two distinct but related components; the first was its activity as commission merchants. In this capacity, the firm arranged the import and export of goods between the United States and Europe, and the shipment from New York of domestically produced goods to other ports within the United States. The second component was its activity as cotton factors. In this capacity, the firm arranged the shipment and sale of Southern agricultural products to purchasers in the Northern states and in Europe, and in turn acted as purchasing agent for its clientele of Southern planters, filling their orders for manufactured or luxury goods. Leverich & Co. is listed in city directories of the period under "cotton factors", but in practice the firm dealt in all the produce of Southern plantation agriculture, including cotton, sugar, molasses, rice, and occasionally tobacco. It purchased on order for its clients a variety of manufactured goods, from furniture to kid gloves to heavy machinery.<sup>20</sup>

William's father, Edward Leverich Sr, died 14 June 1835 at Newtown, Queens Co, New York. Edward left a will, proved 29 August 1835, which named as executors William E. Leverich as well as his brothers James H., Henry S., and Charles P.<sup>21</sup>

In 1837, William E. Leverich accepted the position of Cashier at the Bank of Louisiana, and according to his obituary narrative, was instrumental in rescuing that institution from its financial troubles.<sup>22</sup> The 1838 New Orleans City Directory lists William Leverich, cashier Bank of Louisiana, residing at 31 Bourbon Street (contemporary location 200 block of Bourbon St at Iberville).<sup>23</sup>

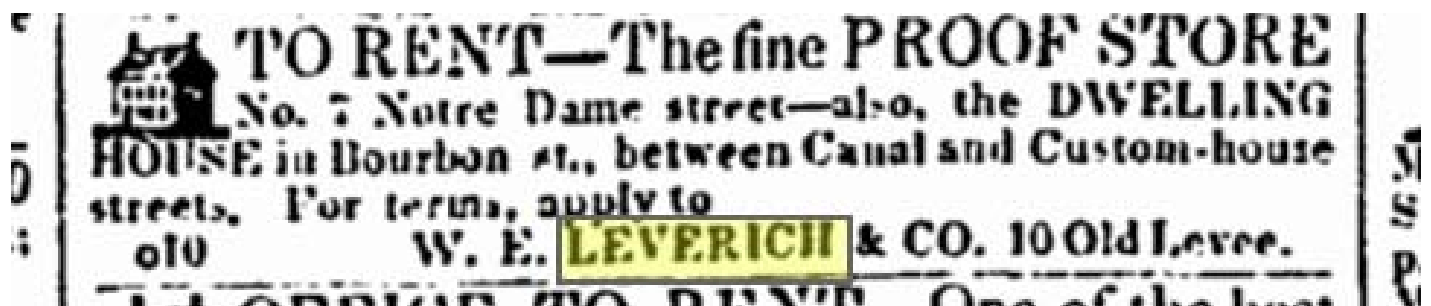
William E. Leverich is recorded as a head of household in the 1840 U.S. Census, New Orleans Ward 1, Orleans Parish, Louisiana. The census tallies include 4 free white males age 5 and under (sons Charles, Abram, William, and James), 1 free white male age 40 to 49 (William E. Leverich); 1 free white female age 30 to 39 (wife Fanny); and 5 slaves.<sup>24</sup> The 1841 New Orleans City Directory lists W. E. Leverich, cashier Bank of Louisiana; dwelling at the corner of Customhouse and Bourbon Street.<sup>25</sup>

James H. Leverich, brother of William E. Leverich, died at New Orleans 17 June 1844. About this time, William left his position as Cashier at the Bank of Louisiana, in order to concentrate his energies on the administration of James' estate, which was sizeable in value.<sup>26,27</sup> As early as October 1844, William had formed his own business, W.E. Leverich & Co operating at 20 Old Levee, as per advertisements in the New Orleans Commercial Bulletin.<sup>28</sup>



**TO RENT—The fine PROOF STORE**  
No. 7 Notre Dame street—also, the DWELLING  
HOUSE in Bourbon st., between Canal and Custom-house  
streets. For terms, apply to  
old **W. E. LEVERICH & CO. 10 Old Levee.**

New Orleans Commercial Bulletin, 19 October 1844



**TO RENT—The fine PROOF STORE**  
No. 7 Notre Dame street—also, the DWELLING  
HOUSE in Bourbon st., between Canal and Custom-house  
streets. For terms, apply to  
old **W. E. LEVERICH & CO. 10 Old Levee.**

New Orleans Commercial Bulletin, 12 December 1844

On 3 June 1845, William wrote from New Orleans to his brother Charles in New York. As was their habit, the letter relates both business matters as well as family affairs. Their youngest sister Sarah had apparently been visiting with William in New Orleans, and was now returning to New York via ship. William comments that "we are all well, and send much love to sister Sarah and her children as I hope they will be with you about the time you receive this."<sup>29</sup>

Chas P Church Esq  
New York

New Orleans 3 June 1845.

Dear Brother

Enclosed I send Bill of lading  
for 64. Packages - Furniture and sundries for Miss Tarso - and for Miss of  
the same - and of H. Jones for Wabash - You will please insure the  
same - The Ship Yares sailed on Saturday Evening about 9 O'clock and  
Capt. Mc Bray promises to take good care of sister Sarah and her  
Children - they have had a good wind since Sunday Morning  
and I have no doubt they will make a short passage - I  
had intended giving sister Sarah a little Book which I had  
prepared containing an Invoice of the Furniture as annexed, but  
it will be handed it to her on board the Ship - please let  
Henry make out a Copy and which will govern them  
in receiving and opening the Furniture - and also to  
attend to getting the Boxes with the Silver - and the Clock when  
they land or make some arrangement with Capt. Mc Bray to have  
it locked up - so that you can send for it the next day  
We are all well, and send much love to sister Sarah and  
her Children and hope they will be with you about the time you  
receive this

Yours truly  
Wm Church

On 14 October 1846, William wrote from New Orleans to his brother Charles in New York. After commenting briefly on some financial business, William sadly informs Charles that William's daughter Maria Elizabeth who had been born in 1843, was very ill and not expected to live. In fact, she died the same day as William wrote this letter.<sup>30</sup>

New Orleans 14<sup>th</sup> Octbr 1846

Chas. P. Swain Esq  
New York.

Dear Brother,

I wrote you on the 10<sup>th</sup> instants  
advising payment of P. Gunning, note \$106.<sup>00</sup> on the 1<sup>st</sup> inst and  
which I have to Swain & Co for you on the 10<sup>th</sup>, -

I have now to acknowledge receipt of your favor of the 5<sup>th</sup> inst  
and am much obliged to Sister Elizabeth & you for the Box of Peckly  
and the Box of Presbury, which she has been kind enough to send us.

I am sorry to say to you that there is no hope of our little  
daughter Maria Elizabeth, (nowing), she is sinking rapidly from debility  
and the effect of the salivations - we have tried every thing but she  
does not show enough to keep her up and to bring about  
a reaction - the Doct: has given up all hope this morning  
she may last a day or so longer - It is a hard case, please  
communicate this to Sister Sarah, and the rest of the  
family.

Yours truly  
Wm Swain

a letter of P. Gunning to W. S.

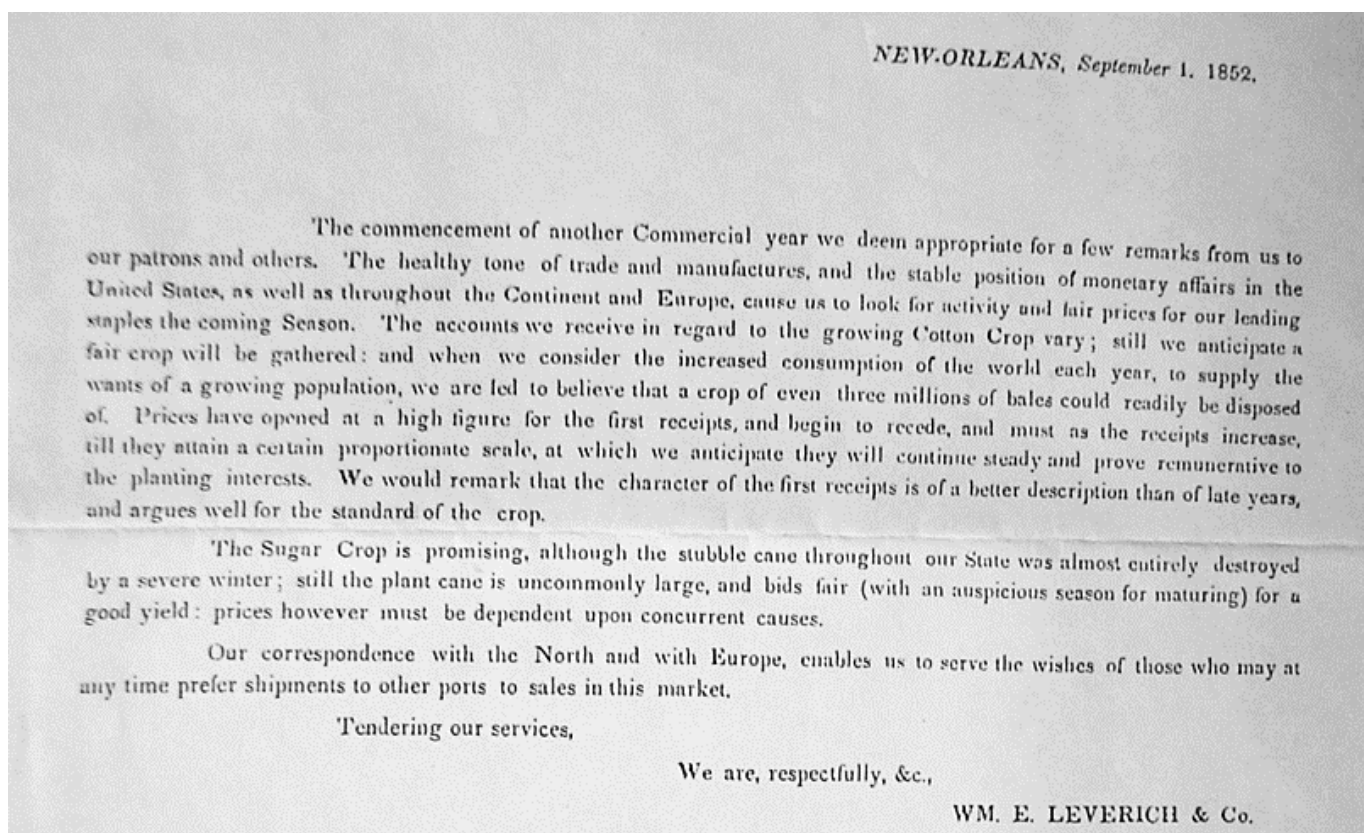
The 1846 New Orleans City Directory lists W.E. Leverich of Leverich and Co, residing at 186 Carondelet.<sup>31</sup>

The 1850 New Orleans City Directory lists William E. Leverich, living at Carondelet Row between Hevia (contemporary Lafayette) and Girod.<sup>32</sup>

The 1850 U.S. Census lists W. E. Leverich, age 53 born New York, as a head of family in Representative District 3, Orleans Parish, Louisiana. Also included in the census record is wife Fanny, age 37 born New York. Also listed are children Charles E., age 16; Abraham J., age 14; Fanny H, age 4; Henry, age 2; and William E., age under 1 year. The 1850 U.S. Federal Census Slave Schedules record that William E. Leverich owned 8 slaves, 7 black and 1 mulatto, ages ranging from 1 month to 41 years.<sup>33,34</sup>

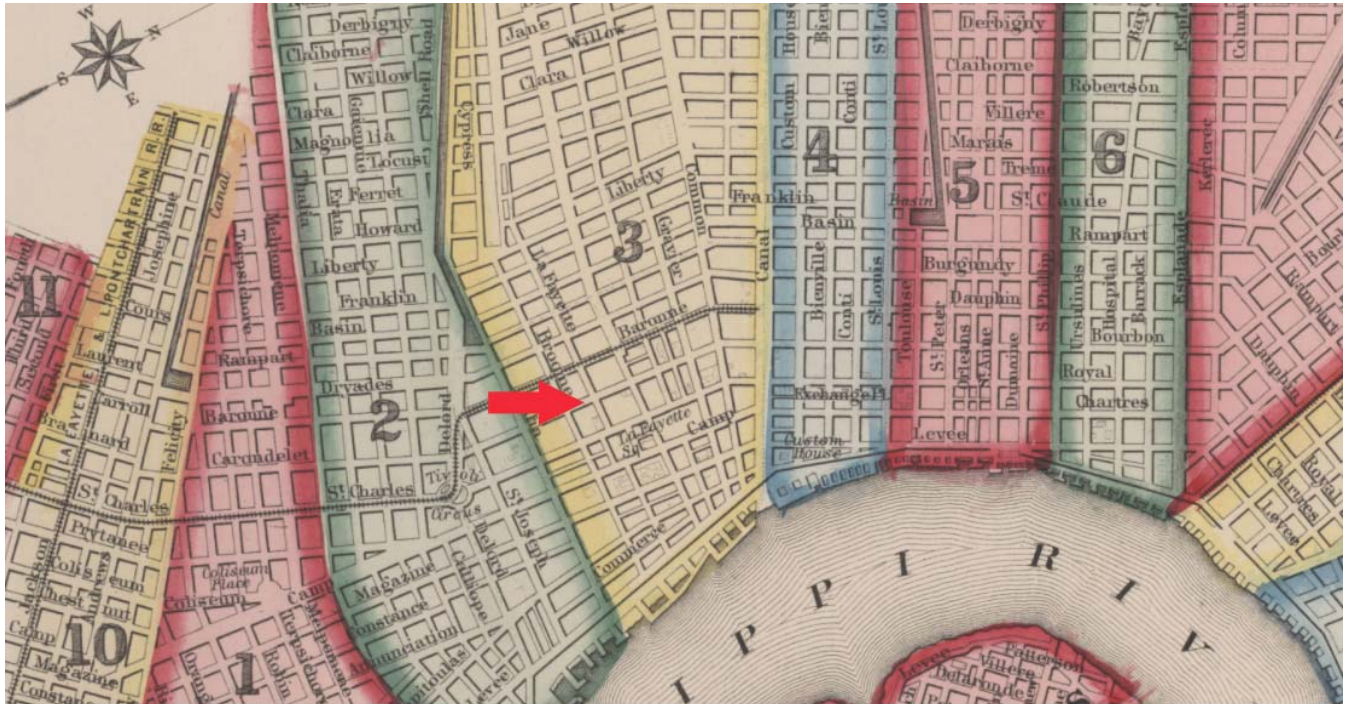
On 7 July 1851 William E. Leverich published a notice in the New Orleans Commercial Bulletin announcing that "Mr. William Henry Leverich becomes a partner with me from this date. The subscribers will continue the Cotton Factorage and Commission Business under the firm of Wm. E. Leverich & Co. William Henry Leverich was a nephew of William E. Leverich, the son of his brother James H. Leverich."<sup>35</sup>

On 1 September 1852, Wm. E. Leverich & Co published and distributed a circular providing an optimistic outlook on that years cotton and sugar crops.<sup>36</sup>



The 1860 U.S. Census lists W. E. Leverich, age 62 born New York, as a head of family in Ward 3, Orleans Parish, Louisiana. Also included in the census record is wife Fanny, age 47 born New York. Also listed are children Charles E., age 26; Abraham, age 22; Fanny, age 13; Henry, age 12; William E., age 11; and Eliza, age 7. The 1860 U.S. Federal Census Slave Schedules record that William E. Leverich owned 6 slaves, all black, ages ranging from 12 to 65 years.<sup>37,38</sup>

The 1861 New Orleans City Directory lists William E. Leverich, cotton and sugar factor at 34 Levee, residing at 148 Carondelet St. No editions of the New Orleans City Directory were published during the years of the Civil War 1862-1865.<sup>39</sup>



**William E. Leverich, 148 Carondelet Street, New Orleans, LA  
Between Lafayette and Broome (contemporary Lafayette and Girod)  
Mitchell’s New General Atlas 1860**

From the period 1835 to 1860, Leverich & Co prospered. However, the Civil War broke out 12 April 1861. Since the firm dealt extensively in southern products, the Civil War significantly affected its business. The New York brothers Charles and Henry were firm union supporters, and many of their southern planter clients, were union sympathizers. The elder brother William of New Orleans, like many of the Leverichs' slave holding planter-clients, was frustrated by a perceived hard line taken by northerners when it came to southern economic interests, but unlike these clients, William Leverich was willing to sacrifice the Union to maintain the interests of his adoptive region. Although the Leverich family itself was divided on their allegiances during the Civil War, William E. Leverich continued to work as closely with his Unionist brothers in the York as the restrictions of business in war time allowed. And beyond the immediate Leverich family, the network generally agreed to consider themselves Americans rather than northerners or southerners. While the nation was falling apart, the network, for better or for worse, stood firm.

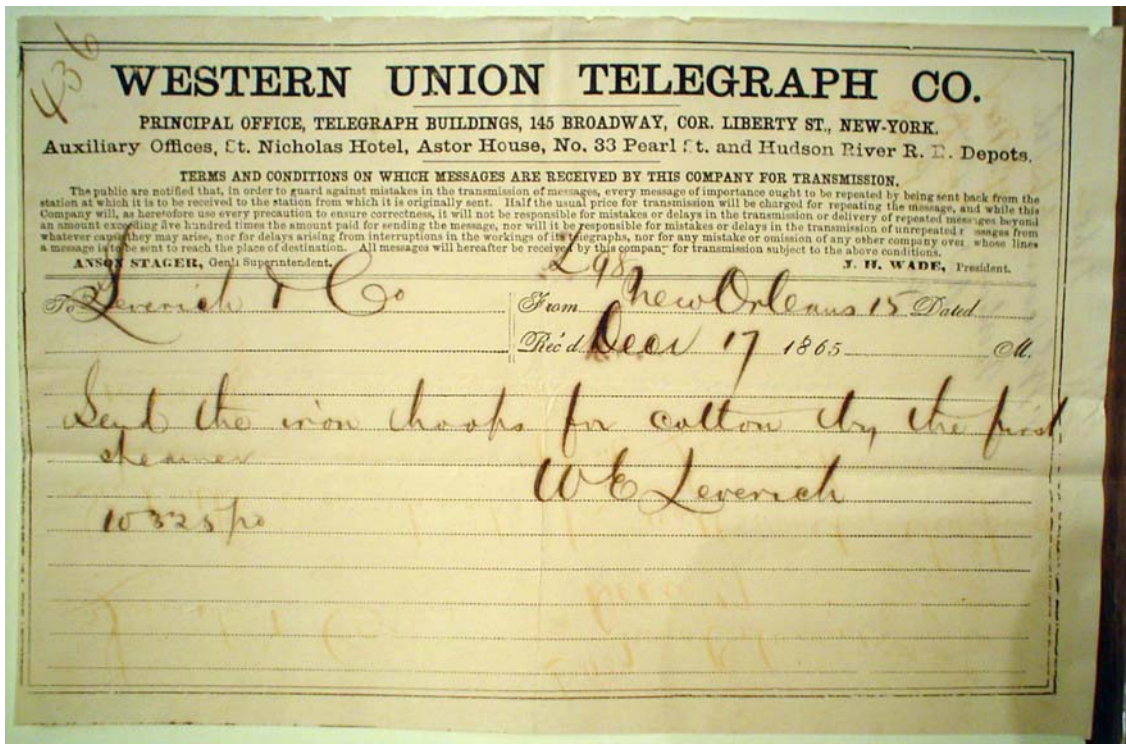
In letters to his brother Charles 30 April 1861 and 29 May 1861, William Leverich swore that he would do anything in the world for his brothers Charles and Henry to protect their interests, but ultimately William was the most pro-confederate of the family, believing that the interference of northern policies in southern business was unforgiveable and to the detriment of the country as a whole. Though correspondence to the Leverich's during the war was extremely scarce, accounts indicate that the network itself continued to function, producing and selling what crops were possible, and continuing to profit from other investments.<sup>40,41,42</sup>

The Union Army occupied New Orleans on 1 May 1861, and the city remained under Union control for the duration of the war. Three of William's sons, Charles, Abram, and Henry, enlisted in the Confederate Army, specifically the 2nd or 5th company of the Washington Artillery organized in New Orleans.<sup>43,44</sup>

According to an account by William John Mears, William E. Leverich took his wife and younger members of the family to refuge in Alabama. However, according to a diary kept by Charles E. Leverich, son of William, Charles visited August 6-16, 1863 with his parents in Berzelia, Columbia Co, Georgia, while Charles was traveling from Richmond Virginia to Knoxville Tennessee where he had been promoted and reassigned as a battery officer under General Simon Bolivar Buckner under General Braxton Bragg during the campaign near Chattanooga, Tennessee. According to Charles' account, Berzelia at the time hosted a significant number of confederate civilian refugees from New Orleans and elsewhere. What attracted the refugees to Berzelia is unknown, but the contemporary location is now an unincorporated "populated place", i.e. a cross roads, about 20 miles southwest of the city of Augusta, Georgia. At the time of the civil war, Berzelia was a stop on the railroad, and a staging area for dispatching newly recruited confederate troops.

Henry Leverich, son of William E. Leverich, enlisted at the age of 17 in the Confederate Army, right at the end of the war, two days prior to General Lee's surrender at Appomattox, Virginia. Henry enlisted at Eutaw, Alabama, county seat for Greene Co, and 35 miles southwest of Tuscaloosa. This suggests the possibility that the Leverich family had been living in refuge in this area at the end of the war.<sup>45,46,47,48</sup>

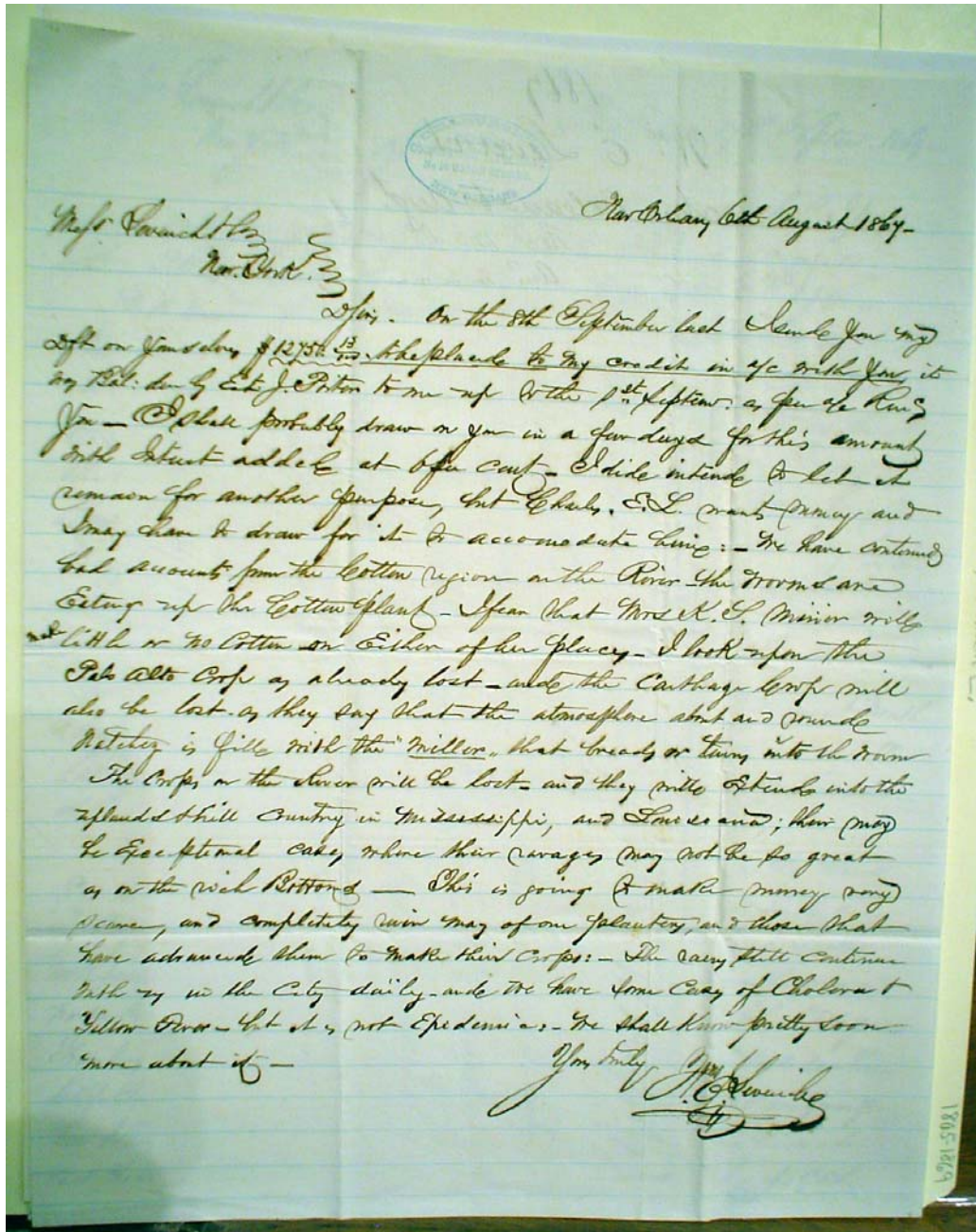
After the end of the War, William E. Leverich returned to New Orleans, and the Leverich brothers of New Orleans and New York picked up their business where they left off prior to the war. On 17 December 1865, William E. Leverich sent a telegram from New Orleans to Leverich & Co in New York stating "Send the iron hooks for cotton by the first steamer."<sup>49</sup>



The 1866 New Orleans City Directory listed William E. Leverich, cotton and sugar factor at 34 Old Levee, living at 148 Carondelet Street. William's sons Charles E. and William E. are also listed living at 148 Carondelet. The 1867 New Orleans City Directory listed William E. Leverich living at 148 Carondelet. There was also a listing for Leverich & Co, William E. and Charles Leverich, cotton and sugar factors at 16 Union Street.<sup>50,51</sup>



On 6 August 1867 William E. Leverich wrote a business letter from New Orleans to Messers Leverich at Leverich & Co in New York. The letter discussed the status of southern crops which were not having a good season. Mention is also made to the prevalence of cholera and yellow fever in New Orleans, while commenting that these diseases had not yet become epidemic.<sup>52</sup>



The 1870 U.S. Census lists William E. Leverich, age 71 born New York, as a head of family in Ward 3, Orleans Parish, Louisiana. William is named as a Cotton Commission Merchant. Also included in the census record is his wife Fanny H, age 55, born NY, and his children: William, age 17; Elizabeth, age 16; and Fanny H, age 23. The household also included four female domestic servants, all born in Ireland.<sup>53</sup> The 1870-1871 New Orleans City Directory listed William E. Leverich 41 Carondelet, residence 148 Carondelet.<sup>54</sup>

The 1875 New Orleans City directory lists William E. Leverich, Commercial Merchant 41 Carondelet, residence 148 Carondelet.<sup>55</sup>

The 1879 New Orleans City Directory listed William E. Leverich, Agent Cotton Factor and Commercial Merchant, residence 148 Carondelet.<sup>56</sup> The 1880 New Orleans City Directory listed William E. Leverich, Agent Cotton and Sugar Factor and Commercial Merchant at 28 Union, residence 148 Carondelet.<sup>57</sup>

The 1880 U.S. Census lists W. E. Leverich, age 83, agent, born New York, as a head of family living at 148 Carondelet, New Orleans, Orleans Parish, Louisiana. Also included in the census record is his wife Fanny H, age 67, born New York; and children: Abraham Leverich, age 44; W.E. Leverich, age 30; and Elizabeth Leverich, age 28. The household also included one female domestic servant who had been born in Ireland.<sup>58</sup>

William Edward Leverich died on 13 Jun 1881 at New Orleans, Orleans Parish, Louisiana, at age 83. He was buried at Metairie Cemetery, New Orleans.<sup>59,60,61</sup>

The 1885 and 1890 New Orleans City Directories list Fannie H. Leverich, widow of William E. Leverich, residing at 148 Carondelet St.<sup>62,63</sup>

The 1895 New Orleans City Directory lists Fannie H. Leverich, widow of William E. Leverich, residing at 620 Carondelet St. Fanny was living in the same house, which had been renumbered to 620.<sup>64</sup> Fanny Hampton Inskip Leverich died 13 March 1895 at New Orleans. She was buried at Metairie Cemetery in New Orleans.<sup>65,66</sup>

## Leverich Tomb Metairie Cemetery, New Orleans, Louisiana



William Edward Leverich and Fanny Hampton Inskeep had eleven children, six of whom survived to adulthood.<sup>67,68</sup>

- i. Charles Edward Leverich was born 31 May 1834 at New Orleans. Charles married Mary Amelia Babcock 16 May 1866 at New Orleans. Charles died 24 May 1880 at New Orleans and was buried at St. Louis Cemetery Number One.<sup>69,70,71,72,73,74,75</sup>
- ii. Abram Inskeep Leverich was born 21 May 1836 at New Orleans. Abram died unmarried at New Orleans 14 December 1896 and was buried at Metairie Cemetery.<sup>76,77,78,79,80</sup>
- iii. William Leverich was born 26 September 1837 at New Orleans, and died as a child at New Orleans 31 August 1840. William was buried at Metairie Cemetery.<sup>81,82</sup>
- iv. James Giles Leverich was born 19 January 1839 at New Orleans, and died as a child 28 July 1840 at New Orleans. James was buried at Metairie Cemetery.<sup>83,84,85</sup>
- v. Maria Elizabeth Leverich was born 19 January 1843 at New Orleans, and died as a child 14 October 1846 at New Orleans. Maria was buried at Metairie Cemetery.<sup>86,87,88</sup>
- vi. William Leverich was born 11 October 1844 at New Orleans, and died as a child 12 November 1845 at New Orleans. William was buried at Metairie Cemetery.<sup>89,90,91</sup>
- vii. Fanny Hampton Leverich was born 19 July 1846 at New Orleans. Fanny married Benjamin Franklin Eshleman 22 December 1868 at New Orleans. Fanny died at New Orleans 8 September 1926 and was buried at Metairie Cemetery.<sup>92,93,94,95,96</sup>
- viii. Henry Leverich was born 14 July 1848 at New Orleans. Henry married Margaret Priestly Richardson 24 March 1870 at New Orleans. Henry died at New Orleans 8 March 1895 and was buried at Metairie Cemetery.<sup>97,98,99,100,101</sup>
- ix. William Edward Leverich Jr. was born 22 February 1850 at New Orleans. William married Rosina T. Phillips 21 December 1882 at New Orleans. William died at New Orleans 4 January 1891 and was buried at Metairie Cemetery.<sup>102,103,104,105,106,107</sup>
- x. Elise Leverich was born 30 September 1851 at New Orleans. Elise died unmarried at New Orleans 23 May 1912, and was buried at Metairie Cemetery.<sup>108,109,110</sup>
- xi. Augusta Leverich was born 28 July 1853 at New Orleans, and died as a child 21 June 1856 at New Orleans. Augusta was buried at Metairie Cemetery.<sup>111,112</sup>

The four Leverich brothers, William E. and James H. in New Orleans, Henry S. and Charles P. in New York, corresponded extensively for both business and personal family matters. Some of this correspondence appears in the private market and turns up on Ebay.com periodically. Additional correspondence is preserved in multiple academic manuscript collections.

➤ “Charles P. and Henry S. Leverich Papers, 1794-1987”

Center for American History, **University of Texas, Austin**, Texas, 78712  
<http://www.lib.utexas.edu/taro/utcah/00176/00176-P.html>

➤ “Leverich, Charles P. Business Letters, 1833-1851”

Woodson Research Center, Fondren Library, **Rice University**, 6100 Main Street, Houston, Texas, 77005  
<http://alexandria.rice.edu/uhtbin/cgiirsi/x/FONDREN/0/5?&searchdata1=1375848>

➤ “Leverich (Charles P.) Papers, 1836-1854”

**Mississippi Department of Archives and History**, 200 North Street, Jackson, Mississippi 39201  
[http://zed.mdah.state.ms.us/cgi-bin/koha/opac-detail.pl?biblionumber=64582&query\\_desc=kw%2Cwrdl%3A%20Leverich](http://zed.mdah.state.ms.us/cgi-bin/koha/opac-detail.pl?biblionumber=64582&query_desc=kw%2Cwrdl%3A%20Leverich)

➤ “Leverich Family: Correspondence, 1820-1870”

**Columbia University** Rare Book and Manuscript Library  
6th Floor East Butler Library, 535 West 114th St., New York, NY 10027  
<https://clio.columbia.edu/catalog/4079023>

➤ “Leverich Papers”, 1817-1937 (Bulk 1820-1890)”

**New York Historical Society**, New York, New York  
170 Central Park West, New York, NY 10024  
<http://dlib.nyu.edu/findingaids/html/nyhs/leverich/dscref13.html>

➤ "Southern Historical Collection"

#3739, Miscellaneous Southern Business Letters, Unit 6: Ten letters to Charles P. Leverich of New York Manuscripts Department, Library of the **University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill**, 27999  
[http://www.lexisnexis.com/documents/academic/upa\\_cis/2444\\_AnteBellSouthPlanSerJPt7.pdf](http://www.lexisnexis.com/documents/academic/upa_cis/2444_AnteBellSouthPlanSerJPt7.pdf)

➤ "Craig, Fanny Leverich Eshleman Papers" The Louisiana Research Collection

**Tulane University**, Howard-Tilton Memorial Library, Jones Hall Room 202, New Orleans, LA 70118  
104 items, 1765-1958; Collection No. 225 (0.2 cubic feet); Mainly correspondence documenting the Inskeep, Leverich, Hampton families and surveys and legal documents concerning land in Ascension Parish (Louisiana)  
<https://specialcollections.tulane.edu/archon/?p=collections/findingaid&id=462&q=&rootcontentid=90113>

➤ "Minor, Catherine S. Papers" Women in History Project

William L. Clements Library; Papers, 1859 September 3 - 1869 July 28, Natchez District, Mississippi, 35 items  
The **University of Michigan**, 909 S. University Ave, Ann Arbor, MI. 48109  
<http://clements.umich.edu/manuscripts.php>.<sup>113</sup>

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[www.leverichgenealogy.org](http://www.leverichgenealogy.org)

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