

Individual Narrative of Jane⁷ Palmer Leverich [141] Daughter of Edward⁶ Leverich [60] and Elizabeth Palmer

Jane Palmer Leverich was born in 1807 at Newtown, Queens Co, New York, the daughter of Edward Leverich and Elizabeth Palmer. The birth date is an estimate based upon Jane's baptism date, and her age at the time she died.^{1,2} Jane Palmer Leverich was baptized 27 September 1807 at the Newtown Presbyterian Church.³

Edward Leverich is recorded in the 1830 U.S. Census in Newtown, Queens Co, New York. The census tallies include 1 free white female age 20 to 29, which likely was his daughter Jane P. Leverich, who would have been 23 years old.⁴

Edward Leverich made a will dated 13 May 1835, which was proved at the Queens Co, Surrogate on 29 August 1835. One of the will's provisions granted the annual sum of one hundred fifty dollars to his five daughters, including Jane P. Leverich.⁵

Jane became a member of the Newtown Presbyterian Church in 1839.⁶

Jane P. Leverich is not found in the 1840 U.S. Census for New York or Queens County, nor the New York City Directory for 1840.^{7,8,9}

Jane wrote to her sister-in-law Matilda Leverich (wife of Charles P. Leverich) from Astoria in Queens Co, New York on 12 December 1845. Her handwriting is difficult to read, but the letter discusses various family news and events. This letter is part of the Leverich Family Papers collection at the Butler Library at Columbia University in New York City.¹⁰

Astoria Dec 12 1845

My dear Matilda

I have not yet heard from you
for the weather was here for two
days after you sailed. I think you must
have had a good voyage. I long to
know how Charles came in - you tell
me dear Charly too. what time he think
of the sea? has seen little fellows near
de home yet when back? - give
my love to him - and tell him
to learn his spelling arithmetic.

You had been gone but a few
days when we heard of the death
of the poor little boy. I was very sorry
to hear it. I expect you had a sad
visit in that case. Now I presume
you are in health - don't forget
to give us a description of the birds -
I think it must be near at
hand. Give my love to both
Mr & Mrs. M. - I hope
your sister Sarah will go the week
I am sure Dr. Duncan would be proud
to see his sister with three such lovely
daughters at his house. As flattery Tilly.

Jane P. Leverich is not found in the 1850 U.S. Census for New York or Queens County, the 1855 New York State Census, nor the New York City Directories for 1850 and 1855.^{11,12,13,14,15}

Jane P. Leverich is not found in the 1860 U.S. Census for New York or Queens County, the 1865 New York State Census, nor the New York City Directories for 1860 and 1865.^{16,17,18,19,20}

Jane P. Leverich died, unmarried, age 60, on 15 March 1868. Her death notice in the New York Times says she was living at 49 East 18th Street in Manhattan (where her brother Henry S. Leverich was living in 1870), whereas her probate records say she was living at Newtown at the time she died. Jane was buried at the Newtown Presbyterian Church.^{21,22}

Jane P. Leverich did not leave a will. Letters of Administration on her estate were granted to her brother Charles P. Leverich on 14 July 1868 at the Queens County Surrogate Court.²³ In 1880, Henry Stanton Leverich, petitioned the surrogate court to replace brother Charles P. Leverich, who died 10 Jan 1876, as administrator of the estate of Jane P. Leverich, some aspects of which had not yet been administered. Letters of Administration were granted 29 November 1880.

The petition named the following heirs:

- Henry S. Leverich, brother of Newtown
- William E. Leverich, brother of New Orleans
- Anna L. Peck, sister, wife of J. Milnor Peck of Flushing

Children of deceased brother Charles P.

- Charles D. Leverich of Newtown
- S. Duncan Leverich of Newtown
- James H. Leverich of NYC
- Matilda Bradford, wife of Theodore D. Bradford of NYC

Children of deceased sister Eliza F. Goldsmith

- Sarah D. Goldsmith

Children of deceased sister Sarah F. Gorsline

- Anna Gorsline
- Margaret Gorsline

Children of deceased brother James H. Leverich

- William H. Leverich, address unknown, possibly New Orleans
- Anna M. Leverich of Newtown
- Eliza Jane Leverich of Newtown
- Sarah Cox, wife of Samuel Cox of Newtown.²⁴

The Leverich Family Papers collection at Columbia University includes an undated poem written by Jane P. Leverich. "... how sweet to think there still is one whose bosom beats for me; who closer clings as others slack, who'll never never flee."²⁵

The hurricane soon may sink it down -
 Beneath the misty ocean,
 But long on heaven's arch, his form
 Who clings his light retains
 My heart is with its early dawn -
 Yet there are moments still,
 When like a pulse within my soul
 I feel joy's transient thrill.

 In noise can I hear, unmoved,
 The words of friendship spoken -
 The blast that scatters the world's willows
 May leave one string unbroken.

 Miss. Jane P. Leverich.

How sweet to think there still is one,
 Whose bosom beats for me,
 Who close clings as others shun,
 Who'll never nurse a foe -

 The faithful bird that cleaves the air,
 Though tempests round it flit -
 But still one thought - its hope is there
 To cheer him through the sky.

Perhaps he, who hit a tender heart,
 Bound & lovin' by the earliest ties I love
 Gave from him by his own right, & die
 Because it had no hindrance, was pursued
 Even in the earnest press, Life soon folds
 And with its bow & sheen it once has faded
 There is now after bloom, he said of King -

 My heart is with its early dawn -
 It can not turn away -
 To seek again the happy earth
 And mingle with the gay,
 The dew mused flower, that lifts its bow
 Beneath the shade of night
 And withers when the sunbeams shed
 Its too brief, tender light.

 My heart is with its early dawn -
 And only love soft breeze
 May seek to charm that heart anew
 In an unguarded hour -
 I would not that some goddess
 Should have seen my frequent sigh
 The deer that hears its death hour, too
 In loneliness & die - (Linné)

 My heart is with its early dawn -
 I cannot now forget
 The phantasm whose faded light
 Gleams o'er my spirit yet.

The Briscoe Center for American History at the University of Texas at Austin includes a manuscript collection entitled the Charles P. and Henry S. Leverich Papers 1794-1897. Included in the inventory of this collection are the following: Accounts, Jane P. Leverich (sister), investment accounts with Charles P. Leverich; Financial records, Jane P. Leverich, 1835-1866.²⁶

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Endnotes

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- ¹James Riker Jr, *Annals of Newtown in Queens County, New York: Containing Its History from its first Settlement* (New York: D. Fanshaw, 1852), page 353-354. Hereinafter cited as *Annals of Newtown*.
- ²Arthur White, "Newtown Presbyterian Church Records," 1922, Transcription, New York Public Library, Stephen A. Schwarzman Building, Irma and Paul Milstein Division of U.S. History, Local History and Genealogy, 5th Avenue and 42nd Street, Manhattan, New York, New York 10018, Baptisms, 1807; deaths, 1880. Hereinafter cited as "Newtown Presbyterian Records."
- ³*Ibid.*, Baptisms, 1807.
- ⁴1830 U.S. Census New York, Queens Co. Ancestry.com, Provo, Utah. NARA, M19, Roll 104, Town of Newtown, page 18.
- ⁵Edward Leverich will (1835), Volume 1, page 123; Queens County, New York Surrogate, 88-11 Sutphin Boulevard, Jamaica, New York 11435. Hereinafter cited as 1835 Probate Edward Leverich.
- ⁶*Ibid.*, Members, 1839.
- ⁷1840 U.S. Census New York, New York Co. Ancestry.com, Provo, Utah. NARA, M704, Roll 301, No page citation.
- ⁸1840 U.S. Census New York, Queens Co. Ancestry.com, Provo, Utah. NARA, M704, Roll 330, No page citation.
- ⁹*New York NY City Directory 1840* (New York, New York: Thomas Longworth, 1840). Hereinafter cited as *New York NY City Directory 1840*.
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- ¹⁷1860 U.S. Census New York, Queens Co. Ancestry.com, Provo, Utah. NARA, M653, Roll 843, no page citation.
- ¹⁸1865 1865 New York State Census. Ancestry.com, Provo, Utah. , no page citation.
- ¹⁹*New York NY City Directory 1860* (New York, New York: John F. Trow, 1860). Hereinafter cited as *New York NY City Directory 1860*.
- ²⁰*New York NY City Directory 1865* (New York, New York: H. Wilson, 1865). Hereinafter cited as *New York NY City Directory 1865*.
- ²¹Newtown Presbyterian Records, Deaths, 1868.
- ²²*New York Times*, Manhattan, New York Co, New York, 1851-Date, 18 March 1868, page 5. Hereinafter cited as *New York Times*.
- ²³Jane P. Leverich Administration (14 July 1868), Liber L, page 241; Queens County, New York Surrogate, 88-11 Sutphin Boulevard, Jamaica, New York 11435. Hereinafter cited as 1868 Administration Jane P. Leverich.
- ²⁴Jane P. Leverich Petition Administration (29 November 1880), Proceedings Liber 26, page 121; Letters Adm Liber P, page 123; Queens County, New York Surrogate, 88-11 Sutphin Boulevard, Jamaica, New York 11435. Hereinafter cited as 1880 Administration Petition Jane P. Leverich.
- ²⁵Jane P. Leverich, Leverich Family Papers, Poetry, Undated, Columbia University Rare Book & Manuscript Library, Columbia University Rare Book & Manuscript Library, 6th Floor East Butler Library, 535 West 114th St, New York, New York 10027.
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