Individual Narrative of James⁷ Riker [171] Son of Daniel Riker and Deborah⁶ Leverich [64] Husband of Elizabeth Van Alst Husband of Hannah (Unidentified)

James Riker was born on 25 Dec 1791 at Newtown, Queens Co, New York, the son of Daniel Riker and Deborah Leverich.^{1,2,3,4} Jacobus (James) Riker, son of Daniel Riker, was baptized 29 January 1792 at the Dutch Reformed Church in Newtown, Queens Co, New York. His grandparents, Jacobus Riker and Caterina Rapelye, were his sponsors.⁵

James Riker, the eldest son of Daniel Riker, entered upon a clerkship in Manhattan, New York Co, New York in 1806, and in 1813 began business in Pearl Street as a grocer.⁶

James Riker married Elizabeth Van Arsdale, daughter of John Van Arsdale and Mary Crawford, on 29 Dec 1814 at Manhattan, New York Co, New York, at the Dutch Reformed Church in New York.^{7,8,9} Elizabeth Van Arsdale was born 10 April 1791 in Manhattan.¹⁰

The 1815 New York City Directory lists James Riker, grocer, 167 Fly Market.¹¹

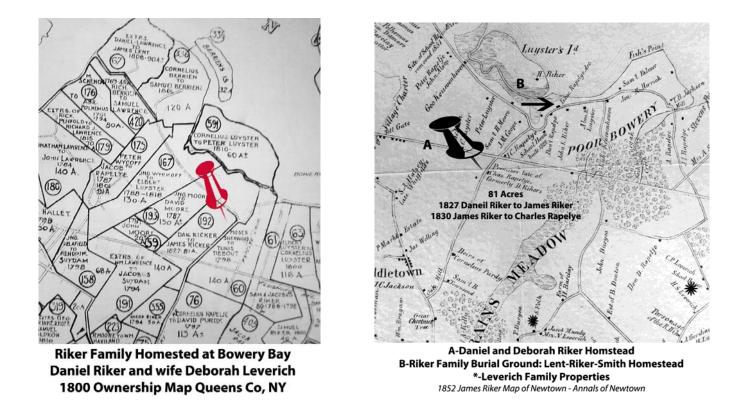
The 1820 New York City Directory lists D. & J. (presumably Daniel and James) Riker, grocers, 184 Division. A relevant Daniel and James are not found in the 1820 U.S. Census, Manhattan, New York Co, New York. There is a record for Jas Riker in Ward 5 and a Daniel Riker in Ward 9. However the census tallies for this James and this Daniel are not consistent with the known family members of the James and Daniel Riker described in this narrative. And 184 Division Street is located in Ward 7, one block west of the intersection of Pump St (now an extension of Canal St), according to the 1807 Bridges Map of Manhattan.^{12,13,14,15}

On 8 May 1821 James Riker, trader of New York City, purchased land in Manhattan near the corner of Delancey St and Suffolk St in Ward 7 from Morgan Lewis and his wife Gertrude of New York City, in consideration of \$1440. The deed does not name James' wife.¹⁶

The 1825 New York City Directory lists James Riker, grocer, Delancey St corner of Suffolk Street.¹⁷

On 16 January 1827 Daniel Ricker (note spelling) of Newtown, Queens Co, New York sold the family farm to his son James Ricker grocer of the City of New York, in consideration of \$1,500.00. The property is described as follows: farm, dwelling house, barn, outhouses, and orchards in Newtown; beginning at the road from Poor Bowery to Hellsgate at the juncture of said road with the new road leading towards Middletown and bounded as follows: Northeastwardly by the said road leading from Poor Bowery; then southeastwardly and eastwardly and southeastwardly again by the land of Isaac Rapelye to the land of the heirs of Daniel Purdy deceased; then southwesterly, southeastwardly, and southwesterly again by the land and woodland of the heirs of James Suydam deceased; then northwestwardly by the woodland of the said heirs of James Suydam deceased; then northwesterly by the said is proceeded at the orchard; then southerly by the woodland of the said Abraham Polhemus Jr and the said heirs of the said James Suydam deceased to a stone set in the middle of the woods; then northwesterly by the woodland of Nathaniel Moore and James Lent to a stone set in the middle of the woods; then northerly by the woodland of the said James Lent and land of Thomas Moore; and then northwesterly by the land of the said Thomas Moore to the place of beginning; containing 81 acres of ground more or less; also an island of salt meadow five acres. The deed was witnessed by John L. Riker and Jacob Wyckoff, and recorded 23 January 1827.

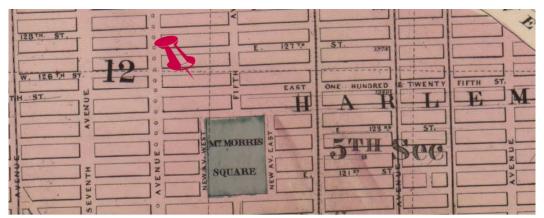
On 28 December 1830 James Riker sold the property to Charles Rapelye in consideration of \$4,000, excluding a small tract sold for a schoolhouse to John L. Riker, Peter Luyster, and George Kowenhoven, trustees for Newtown School District 8. The deed was witnessed by James Hutchings Jr and recorded on 30 December 1830.^{18,19}



The 1830 New York City Directory lists James Riker, grocer, Delancey St corner Suffolk St; and Riker & Hutchings, grocers, 148 Delancey St, corner of Suffolk St. A relevant James is not found in the 1830 U.S. Census, Manhattan, New York Co, New York. There is a record for James Riker in Ward 5. However the census tallies for this James are not consistent with the known family members of the James described in this narrative. And Delancey Street corner of Suffolk St is located in Ward 7, not Ward 5.^{20,21}

James Riker, Senior, was an assistant New York City Alderman in 1832.²²

On 15 February 1833 Garrit S. Duryea, grocer of New York City, sold to James Riker, grocer of New York City, in consideration of \$700, six lots located between 125th and 126th Streets, and 5th and 6th Avenues, in Harlem, Manhattan Ward 12.²³



Six lots between 125th and 126th Streets, 5th and 6th Avenues <1867 Drips Map Manhattan, New York Co, New York

Elizabeth Van Arsdale Riker, wife of James Riker Sr, died in Manhattan, New York Co, New York on 10 October 1834, at the age of 43 years and six months. Elizabeth was buried at the Riker Family Burial Ground located adjacent to the Riker family farm in Queens Co, New York. Her gravestone inscription reads "Her eminent virtue endeared her to all her friends. She lived beloved and died deeply lamented.^{24,25}"

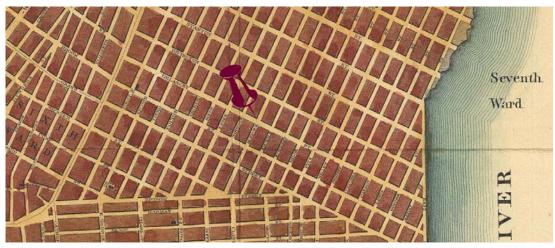
On 3 December 1834 James C. Roosevelt, executor of the estate of Abraham Duryea, of New York City, sold additional land located near Delancey St and Suffolk St to James Riker, grocer of New York City, in consideration of \$2000.²⁶

The 1835 New York City Directory lists James Riker, grocer, 148 Delancey Street, corner of Suffolk Street.²⁷

On 30 December 1839, James Riker and his wife Hannah sold property to Daniel Riker, marshal of New York City and father of James, in consideration of \$2200, the same lot sold to James Riker by James C. Roosevelt, on 3 December 1834, Volume 321, page 188. The deed was recorded 5 March 1851.²⁸

James Riker Sr. married for a second time Hannah (Unidentified) between 1834 and 1839 at Manhattan, New York, New York. Elizabeth, first wife of James Riker, died in 1834. Hannah, second wife of James Riker, appears for the first time in an 1839 deed. Hannah might have been a cousin of James Riker, born about 1799, the daughter of Abraham Riker and Hannah Pierson.^{29,30,31,32}

The 1840 New York City Directory lists James Riker, grocer, 148 Delancey St corner Suffolk St; and Riker & Hutchings, grocers, 148 Delancey St, corner of Suffolk St, John Hutchings residing 150 Delancey Street. A relevant James is not found in the 1840 U.S. Census, Manhattan, New York Co, New York. There is a record for James Riker in Ward 5. However the census tallies for this James are not consistent with the known family members of the James described in this narrative. And Delancey Street corner of Suffolks St is located in Ward 7, not Ward 5.



James Riker Sr, Grocer, 148 Delancey corner Suffolk, Ward 7, Manhattan, NY County, NY New York City Directory 1825-1845 1807 William Bridges Map 1871 Update

The 1845 New York City Directory lists James Riker, grocer, 148 Delancey, home 78 Suffolk St; and John Hutchings grocer, 148 Delancey, home 150 Delancey.³⁵ The 1846 and 1847 New York City Directories list James Riker, late (i.e. former) grocer, 78 Suffolk. This likely means that James had retired. By 1848, James had moved to a house on 125th Street in Harlem, between 5th and 6th Avenues.^{36,37,38}

The 1850 U.S. Census records James Riker, Gentleman, personal estate \$15,000, born c 1791 in New York. The remaining household members include his second wife Hannah, born c 1800 in Connecticut; and his children Mary Jane, born c 1820; James Jr., teacher, born c 1822; and Charles B., clerk, born c 1833, each born in New York. The household is located in Ward 12 of Manhattan, known then as Harlem.³⁹

James Riker Sr died on 4 Apr 1852 at Manhattan, New York, New York, at age 60.^{40,41} James Riker Sr made a will dated 3 April 1852. On 10 April 1852 James Riker Jr made application to the New York County surrogate to prove the will. The will was proved on 5 May 1852. The will names his wife Hanah, and his children James Riker Jr., Mary Jane Riker, John L. Riker, Daniel James Riker, Charles Bodle Riker, and Ann Catherine Riker. James Jr, John L, and Daniel J Riker were name executors of the estate.⁴²

James Riker Sr and Elizabeth Van Arsdale had seven children, six of whom survived to adulthood. 43,44,45

- i. Mary Jane Riker was born in Manhattan, New York Co, New York about 1816. The birth year is an estimate based upon census records and Mary Jane's age at the time she married. Mary Jane was baptized 24 November 1822, probably at the New York Dutch Reformed Church. Mary Jane married John Van Arsdale 4 January 1865 in Manhattan. Mary Jane Riker Van Arsdale died 14 April 1887 at Montclair, Essex Co, New Jersey. John and Jane Van Arsdale were recorded in the 1850 U.S. Census, 1855 New York State Census, and 1860 U.S. Census in Manhattan, New York Co, New York. They were recorded in the 1870 U.S. Census in Marathon, Cortlandt Co, New York and the 1885 New Jersey State Census in Montclair, Essex Co, New Jersey.
- ii. Ellen Riker died as an infant and was buried at the Riker Family Burial Ground. Both the Josephine Frost and Charles Powell transcriptions record two entries for Ellen. Ellen Rapelye Riker, daughter of James and Elizabeth Riker, died 27 February 1822, age 1 year 11 months, hence born about March 1820. Ellen Elizabeth Riker, parents not identified, died 27 July 1835, age 1 year 9 months, hence born about November 1833. It is not certain if there were one Ellen or two Ellen's. The Frost transcription implies two Ellen's, whereas the Powell transcription implies one Ellen.
- iii. Ann Catherine Riker was born about December 1817 in Manhattan, New York Co, New York. The birth date is a calculated estimate based upon Ann's age at the time of death, as well as census records. Ann married William W. Bodle 6 November 1839 at the Seventh Presbyterian Church in Manhattan. Ann died at Montclair, Essex Co, New Jersey on 19 October 1892 at the age of 74 years 10 months, and was buried at Rosedale Cemetery in Orange, Essex Co, New Jersey. Ann and William were recorded in the U.S. Census 1850, 1860, and 1870 in Goshen, Orange Co, New York; and in 1880 at Caldwell, Essex Co, New Jersey.
- iv. James Riker Jr. was born in Manhattan, New York Co, New York on 11 May 1822. James married for the first time Vashti W. Bodle, widow Horton, 11 May 1852, daughter of Charles Bodle of Bloomingburgh, New York. James married for the second time Anna C. Clute of Herkimer, New York on 13 February 1867. James died 3 July 1889 at Waverly, Tioga Co, New York. James Riker Jr was a local historian and the author of the Annals of Newtown and the History of Harlem. James was recorded in the 1850 and 1860 U.S. Census, and the 1855 New York State Census, at Manhattan, Ward 12 (aka Harlem), New York Co, New York; also the 1870 and 1880 U.S. Census in the town of Barton, Tioga Co, New York.
- v. John Lafayette Riker was born in Manhattan, New York Co, New York on 15 August 1824. John was baptized 25 March 1836, probably at the Dutch Reformed Church New York. John married Ann Eliza Elder 15 April 1847 at the Greenwich Church in Manhattan. John and Ann Eliza were first cousins. John L. Riker was the son of James Riker Sr and Elizabeth Van Arsdale, and the grandson of Daniel Riker and Deborah Leverich. Ann Eliza Elder and Hannah Elizabeth Riker, and the granddaughter of Daniel Riker and Deborah Leverich. John L. Riker enlisted in the civil war and was made Colonel of the 62nd New York Infantry Regiment. John was killed in action on 31 May 1862 at the Battle of Fair Oaks, Fairfax Co, Virginia. John L. Riker was recorded in the 1850 U.S. Census in Manhattan, Ward 13, New York Co, New York; in the 1855 New York State Census and the 1860 U.S. Census in Ward 12, New York Co, New York.^{77,78,79,80,81,82,83,84,85,86,87,88,89}
- vi. Daniel J. Riker was born in Manhattan, New York Co, New York on 27 January 1829, as per his passport application made at Paris, France on 21 June 1906. Daniel was married between June 1863 and December 1867, but the name of his wife has not been identified. Daniel was unmarried in June 1863 when he registered for the civil war draft in Wisconsin. Daniel's daughter Anna Elizabeth Riker (married 1892 Robert McCurdy Lord II) was born 13 August 1868 in Chicago, Illinois according to her passport application made in Geneva, Switzerland on 26 March 1904. Daniel was a civil/mechanical engineer according to census records. Daniel died at the St. John's Home in Smithtown, Suffolk Co, New York on 24 August 1912. Daniel J. Riker was recorded in the 1850 U.S. Census in Manhattan, Ward 13; the 1855 New York State Census and the 1860 U.S.

Census in Manhattan, Ward 12. Daniel is not found in the 1870 or 1880 U.S. Census. Daniel is recorded in the 1900 U.S. Census living with his daughter Anna's family at Bayonne, Ward 1, Hudson Co, New Jersey. Daniel is recorded in the 1910 U.S. Census at the St. John's home, Smithtown, Suffolk Co, New York. Anna Riker McCurdy Lord, Daniel's daughter, died 2 January 1930 in Bois-Calombes, Seine, France. However, although her death record identifies her children, it does not identify her parents.^{90,91,92,93,94,95,96,97,98,99}

vii. Charles Bodle Riker was born in Manhattan, New York Co, New York in August 1834. Charles B. Riker never married. Charles was a druggist according to census records. Charles died 13 July 1902 at Jersey City, Hudson Co, New Jersey, and was buried at Green-wood Cemetery, Brooklyn, Kings Co, New York. Charles was recorded in the 1850 and 1860 U.S. Census, and the 1855 New York State Census, in Ward 12, Manhattan, New York Co, New York. Charles is listed in the 1870 New York City Directory, supplies, 84 John St, home Tremont. Charles is listed in the 1878 New York City Directory, secretary, Washington Avenue corner 169th St. Charles removed to Jersey City, Hudson Co, New Jersey about 1889 when he became a member of the Wayne Street Church. Charles is listed in the 1890 New York City Directory, secretary 67 Park Place, home 134 Mercer St Jersey City. Charles is listed in the 1891 Jersey City Directory at 134 Mercer Street. Charles is listed in the 1895 Jersey City Directory living at 307 Montgomery St, as was Frank Griswold, auditor. Charles B. Riker is recorded in the 1900 U.S. Census as a boarder in the same household as Frank and Harrison Griswold in Jersey City, Ward 4, Hudson Co, New Jersey. Charles made a will in 1902 leaving his entire estate to Harrison Griswold, 316 Montgomery St, Jersey estate.^{100,101,102,103,104,105,106,107,108,109,110,111} City. Harrison was also name executor of the

On 10 March 1853, William M. Jeens, clothier of New York City, and his wife Matilda E. sold property in Manhattan, New York Co, New York to Hannah Riker, widow of New York City, in consideration of \$3250. The property was located on 8th Avenue between 49th and 50th Streets, and was described as follows: Beginning at a joint on the northerly line of 50^{th} St 225 ft distant from the south easterly corner of the 8^{th} Ave & 50^{th} St; running thence southerly along the easterly line of lot 71 100 ft 5 in to the line of the center of the block between 49^{th} and 50^{th} streets; thence easterly along the said centre line it being the rear of lot 53 25 ft to the southwesterly corner of lot 73; thence running northerly along the westerly line of said lot 73 105 ft 5 in to the southerly line of 50^{th} St aforesaid; thence westerly in front along the said southerly line of 50th St aforesaid; thence westerly in front along the said lot being 25 ft for the south east of 100 ft 5 in.¹¹²

W. 54 T.M	ST.	753			E
52 N.D ST.	679				
STLUKE'S HOSPITAL	<u>W. 50 т.н</u> 645	ST. 721		853	
	487/" ST. 613	689		823	
				799	
W. 467.H	ST. 585	355			
44TH ST. 541	553	825	•	747	E

50th St and 8th Ave: Hannah Riker, Widow from William M. Jeans, 10 March 1853 <1867 Dripps Map Manhattan, New York Co, NY>

In a deed dated 18 April 1853, Hannah Riker widow of James Riker sold property in Manhattan, New York Co, New York to her step children in consideration of \$1500: James Riker Jr. John L. Riker, Daniel J. Riker, Mary Jane Riker, Catherine A. Bodle, and Charles B. Riker. The property so sold included multiple lots at the corner of Delancey and Suffolk Streets, as well as six lots in Harlem, Ward 12, located between 125th and 126th St, and 5th and 6th Avenues.¹¹³

A date and place of death and burial has not specifically been identified for the widow Hannah Riker. It could be a Hannah Riker, died 1857, and buried in the Riker Family Burial Ground, but further identifying information is not found in the burial record. The 1857 burial is found in the Josephine Frost transcription, but not the Charles Powell transcription.^{114,115}

No listings are found for widow Hannah Riker in the New York City Directories 1854 to 1860; nor the 1860 U.S. Census of Manhattan, New York Co, New York.^{116,117,118}

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1827 Jan 16 Deed Queens County, New York: Daniel Riker to James Riker; City Register, Queens County; 144-06 94th Avenue, First Floor, Jamaica, Queens, New York 11435.

1830 Dec 28 Deed Queens County, New York: James Riker to Charles Rapelye; City Register, Queens County; 144-06 94th Avenue, First Floor, Jamaica, Queens, New York 11435.

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1834 December 3 Deed New York County, New York: Jamees & Hannah Riker to Daniel Riker; City Register, New York County; 66 John Street, Manhattan, New York, New York.

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²⁵Powell - Compiler and Meigs - Editor, *Description Private and Family Cemeteries Queens*, page 20.

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⁴⁸1870 U.S. Census New York, Cortland Co. Ancestry.com, Provo, Utah. NARA, M593, Roll 922, Town of Marathon, page 824B.

⁴⁹New York Births and Christenings 1640-1962, Family Search Index, online https://familysearch.org,), LDS film number 503633.

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⁵³1850 U.S. Census New York, New York Co, Ancestry.com, Manhattan, Ward 12, page 7A.

⁵⁴1860 U.S. Census New York, New York Co. Ancestry.com, Provo, Utah. NARA, M653, Roll 819, Manhattan, Ward 12, page 893.

⁵⁵1885 NJ State Census, Essex County. Ancestry.com, Provo, Utah. New Jersey State Archives, City of Montclair, page 135.

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⁵⁸Find A Grave, online <www.findagrave.com>, Memorial Number 156565745. Hereinafter cited as Find A Grave.
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⁶⁴1870 U.S. Census New York, Orange Co. Ancestry.com, Provo, Utah. NARA, M593, Roll 1067, Town of Goshen, page 485B.

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⁶⁷Presbyterian Church Records U.S., 1701-1970, Ancestry.com.

⁶⁸New York Death Index 1880-1956, New York Department of Health (Albany, New York), Certificate number 22551. ⁶⁹Riker Jr, *Annals of Newtown*, title page.

⁷⁰James Riker Jr, *Revised History of Harlem* (New York, New York: New Harlem Publishing Company, 1904), title page. Hereinafter cited as *Revised History of Harlem*.

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⁷²1855 New York State Census, New York Co, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, Manhattan, enumeration district 3, household number 447.

⁷³1860 U.S. Census New York, New York Co, Ancestry.com, Manhattan, Ward 12, page 893.

⁷⁴1870 U.S. Census New York, Tioga Co. Ancestry.com, Provo, Utah. NARA, M593, Roll 1103, Town of Barton, district 4, page 33A.
⁷⁵1880 U.S. Census New York, Tioga Co. Ancestry.com, Provo, Utah. NARA, T9, Roll 937, Town of Barton, page 42D.

⁷⁵1880 U.S. Census New York, Tioga Co. Ancestry.com, Provo, Utah. NARA, T9, Roll 937, Town of Barton, page 42D.
⁷⁶Pelletreau, "James Riker the Historian", pages 1152-1153.

⁷⁷ James Riker Papers 1660-1989, Historical Research Notes, Donated to NY Public Library 1918 by Title Guarantee and Trust Company, File W94-a231. New York Public Library, Stephen A. Schwarzman Building, Manuscripts and Archives Division, 5th Avenue and 42nd Street, Manhattan, New York, New York, Box 19, Folders 7-12; Box 20, Folders 1-17; Box 21, Folder 4. Hereinafter cited as *James Riker Papers*.

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⁷⁹Pelletreau, "James Riker the Historian", page 1153.

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⁸¹The Holland Society of New York, *Dutch Reformed Church Records NY and NJ*, page 166.

⁸²New-York Evening Post, 7 June 1862.

⁸³New York Daily Tribune, New York, New York, 1842-1866. Hereinafter cited as New York Daily Tribune, 10 June 1862. ⁸⁴1850 U.S. Census New York, New York Co, Ancestry.com, Manhattan, Ward 13, page 366B.

⁸⁵1855 New York State Census, New York Co, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, Manhattan, Ward 12, enumeration district 3, household number 448.

⁸⁶1860 U.S. Census New York, New York Co, Ancestry.com, Manhattan, Ward 12, District 3, page 893.

⁸⁷Civil War Soldier Records and Profiles , 1861-1865; Historical Data Systems, (Duxbury, Massachusetts), 2009, enlisted 19 April 1861, Saltersville, New Jersey.

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⁸⁹Find A Grave, online www.findagrave.com, Memorial Number 8283748.

⁹⁰Passport Application Daniel J. Riker; France (Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Center), Volume 061, number 867.

⁹¹Passport Application Anna Riker Lord; Switzerland (Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Center), Volume 109, Roll 55, number 243.

⁹²Civil War Draft Registration Records, 1863-1865; Provost Marshall General's Bureau NARA, (Washington, D. C.), 2010, enumerated June 1863, Hazel Green, Grant Co, Wisconsin.

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⁹⁶1860 U.S. Census New York, New York Co, Ancestry.com, Manhattan, Ward 12, District 3, page 893.

⁹⁷1900 U.S. Census New Jersey, Hudson Co. Ancestry.com, Provo, Utah. NARA, T623, Bayonne Ward 1, enumeration district 2, page 6.

⁹⁸1910 U.S. Census New York, Suffolk Co. Ancestry.com, Provo, Utah. NARA, T624, Roll 1082, St. John's Home, Smithtown, page 1B.

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¹⁰¹1850 U.S. Census New York, New York Co, Ancestry.com, Manhattan, Ward 12, page 7A.

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¹⁰⁸The Holland Society of New York, *Dutch Reformed Church Records NY and NJ*, Wayne St Church, Jersey City, Hudson Co, New Jersey.

¹⁰⁹ Jersey City New Jersey City Directory 1891 (Washington, D.C.: W. Andrew Boyd, 1891). Hereinafter cited as Jersey *City New Jersey City Directory 1891.*¹¹⁰ *Jersey City NJ City Directory 1895* (Washington, D.C.: W. Andrew Boyd, 1895). Hereinafter cited as *Jersey City NJ*

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¹¹⁶New York NY City Directory 1854 (New York, New York: Charles R. Rode, 1854). Hereinafter cited as New York NY City Directory 1854.

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