

## Individual Narrative of Deborah<sup>7</sup> Leverich [181] Daughter of Gabriel<sup>6</sup> Leverich [67] and Hannah Thorpe

Deborah Leverich was born on 1 Nov 1779 at Fairfield County, Connecticut, according to the records of the Greenfield Hill Congregational Church. Deborah was baptized at the Church 14 August 1780. However, two other sources (Leverich Family Burial Ground transcription by James Riker Jr., and the Newtown Presbyterian Church records) both state that Deborah was age 50 years, 1 month, and 19 days when she died on 19 January 1831, which would calculate her birthday as 30 November 1780. The Greenfield Hill Church record is likely the more reliable source being a primary record reference. Deborah's parents were married on 2 April 1779. Therefore, either Deborah was born prematurely at seven months of age, or her mother was already pregnant at the time of her marriage.<sup>1,2,3,4,5</sup>

Following the Revolutionary War battle of Long Island on August 27, 1776, at which time the British occupied New York City and Long Island for the duration of the war, Deborah's father Gabriel became a refugee in Connecticut. In April 1777, Gabriel enrolled as a Sergeant in Captain Jonathan Brown's Company, the regiment commanded by Col. John Lamb, also known as the 2nd Regiment of Artillery of the Continental Army. This regiment was recruited in Connecticut, and consisted primarily of men native to New York State. Gabriel served in this unit until sometime in 1781, at which time he transferred to an Infantry Company commanded by Capt Cliff, Regiment of Col. Thomas Grovner, Line of the State of Connecticut, where he served until the end of the war in 1783.<sup>6,7</sup>

Deborah Leverich was never married. Deborah's father, Gabriel Leverich, lived at Newtown, Queens Co, New York from some time about 1785 (birth of fourth child Hannah) until he died in 1828. It is likely, although not proven, that Deborah lived with her parents during this period of time.

Her younger brother Gabriel Leverich Jr. appears in the Brooklyn City Directory in 1824 living at 18 Hicks Street (became 22 Hicks Street in 1829), which he purchased in 1823. Gabriel Jr died in 1839, at which time his sister Sarah appears in the Brooklyn City Directory living at 22 Hicks Street, relocating to Adams Street near Tillary in 1841/1842. It is possible that Deborah moved to Brooklyn sometime during this period of time, 1824-1831, sharing a residence with her brother Gabriel Jr.<sup>8,9,10,11,12,13,14</sup>

Deborah Leverich died on 19 Jan 1831 at Brooklyn, Kings, New York, at age 50 years, 1 month, and 19 days. Deborah is recorded as buried at both the Leverich Family Burying Ground and the Newtown Presbyterian Church. It is assumed that she was buried first in the former location, and later reinterred in the latter location.<sup>15,16</sup>

Deborah Leverich made a will dated 17 January 1831 at Brooklyn, Kings Co, New York; and proved at the Kings Co Surrogate Court on 28 February 1831. Deborah signed the will with her mark, which implies that she did not read or write. The will provided that her estate be divided between her two sisters Sarah and Ann Leverich. The executors named included her brother Samuel Leverich, Assistant Superintendent of New York City Hospital; and brother Gabriel Leverich, harness maker in the village of Brooklyn. The estate included wages due from Mr. Alexander Whaley. Alexander was the husband of Deborah's cousin Abigail<sup>6</sup> Leverich [55] who died in 1794. Alexander had married a second time, his second wife dying in 1830. Alexander lived at Bushwick, Kings Co, New York and apparently hired Deborah Leverich at some point in time, likely as a housekeeper, perhaps after the death of his second wife.<sup>17</sup>

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- 1823 August 1 Deed Kings County, New York: Charles Lockwood to Gabriel Leverich; City Register, Kings County; 210 Joralemon Street, Brooklyn, Kings, New York 11201.
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## Endnotes

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- <sup>1</sup>Mary Kingsbury Talcott, "Green Hill Church Records Fairfield Co CT," 1915-1916, Transcription, Published in the New England Historical and Genealogical Record Volume 69 (1915), page 44. Hereinafter cited as "Green Hill Church Records Fairfield Co CT."
- <sup>2</sup>Donald Lines Jacobus, editor, *History and Genealogy of the Families of Old Fairfield* (New Haven, Connecticut: The Tuttle Morehouse & Taylor Co, 1930-1932), page 580. Hereinafter cited as *Families of Old Fairfield, Connecticut*.
- <sup>3</sup>James Riker Jr, *Annals of Newtown in Queens County, New York: Containing Its History from its first Settlement* (New York: D. Fanshaw, 1852), pages 352-353. Hereinafter cited as *Annals of Newtown*.
- <sup>4</sup>*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 9, Notebook 2, page 87. Hereinafter cited as *James Riker Papers*.
- <sup>5</sup>William F Wyckoff, compiler, *Long Island Cemetery Inscriptions* (Brooklyn, New York: Josephine C. Frost, Typescript, March 1912), Volume 4, Part 2, page 72. Hereinafter cited as *Long Island Cemetery Inscriptions*.
- <sup>6</sup>Gabriel Leverich file; S42,851; *Revolutionary War Pension and Bounty-Land Warrant Application Files*; NARA, M804, Roll 1553 (Washington, D.C.: National Archives), Declaration dated 19 June 1820.
- <sup>7</sup>U.S. Revolutionary War Rolls 1775-1783; Publication M246, 138 Rolls, Record Group 93; (Washington, D.C.: National Archives), Gabriel Leverich, New York.
- <sup>8</sup>Deborah Leverich Probate (1831), Liber 5, page 69; Kings County, New York Surrogate, 2 Johnson Street, Brooklyn, New York 11201. Hereinafter cited as 1831 Probate Deborah Leverich.
- <sup>9</sup>1850 U.S. Census New York, Kings County. Ancestry.com, Provo, Utah. NARA, M432, Roll 519, Brooklyn, page 377A.
- <sup>10</sup>New York Tax Assessment Rolls of Real and Personal Estates, 1799-1804. New York State Archives, Albany, New York; Series B0950. Ancestry.com, 360 West 4800 North, Provo, Utah 84604, Reel No. 17, Box 39, Folder 5. Hereinafter cited as New York Tax Assessment Rolls 1799-1804.
- <sup>11</sup>1810 U.S. Census New York, Queens Co. Ancestry.com, Provo, Utah. NARA, M252, Roll 34, Town of Newtown, page 275.
- <sup>12</sup>1820 U.S. Census New York, Queens Co. Ancestry.com, Provo, Utah. NARA, M33, Role 78, Town of Newtown, page 50A.
- <sup>13</sup>1823 August 1 Deed Kings County, New York: Charles Lockwood to Gabriel Leverich; City Register, Kings County; 210 Joralemon Street, Brooklyn, Kings, New York 11201; Liber 13, page 505. Hereinafter cited as 1823 August 1 Deed Kings County, New York.
- <sup>14</sup>*Brooklyn NY City Directory 1824* (Brooklyn, New York: Spooners, 1824), Gabriel Leverich. Hereinafter cited as *Brooklyn NY City Directory 1824*.
- <sup>15</sup>*James Riker Papers*, Box 9, Notebook 2, page 87.
- <sup>16</sup>Wyckoff, *Long Island Cemetery Inscriptions*, Volume 4, Part 2, page 72.
- <sup>17</sup>1831 Probate Deborah Leverich, Kings County, New York Surrogate, Liber 5, page 69.