

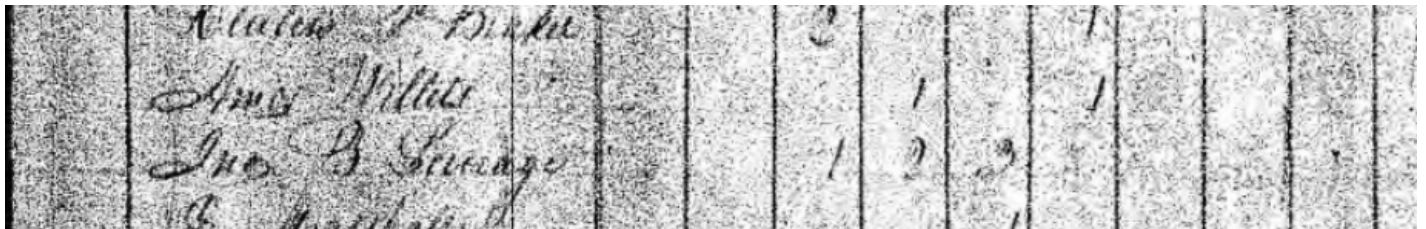
**Individual Narrative of Elizabeth⁷ Sackett Leverich [193]
Daughter of William⁶ Leverich [68] and Aletta (unidentified)
Wife of John Nicholson Millis Jr.**

Elizabeth Sackett Leverich was born circa 1805 at Newtown, Queens Co, New York, the daughter of William and Aletta Leverich. The year 1805 is based upon the fact that Elizabeth Sackett Leverich, daughter of William Leverich, was baptized 29 December 1805 at the Newtown Presbyterian Church.¹

Elizabeth was married to John Nicholson Millis Jr on 29 Oct 1820 at Manhattan, New York Co, New York, by a Methodist clergyman.²

Based upon his age in census records John Nicholson Millis Jr was born about 1795, either in Virginia (Census 1850, 1860, 1875, 1880) or North Carolina (Census 1855, 1865, 1870). He was the son of John Nicholson Millis Sr and his wife Rachel Hignit. He generally went by the name Nicholson, or a variant i.e. Nickerson, Nickison, Nichoson, or Nicholas.^{3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11}

The 1830 U.S. Census records Nicholson Millis in Manhattan, Ward 10, New York Co, New York. Although the census tallies do not coincide with known family members at the time, the entry is adjacent to his brother-in-law John B. Leverich. The name as written by the census enumerator is not clearly legible, and could also be interpreted as "Amos Willits."¹²



The 1830 New York City Directory lists Nicholson Millis, Shoemaker, 262 North Street. The 1831 New York City Directory lists Nicholson Millis, Shoemaker, 140 First Street. Both addresses are in Ward 10. John B. Leverich, brother-in-law, is listed in the 1830 New York City Directory as a shoemaker located at 70 Chrystie (near corner of Hester), which appears to be a business address for the Leverich Shoe Store, also located in Ward 10. A home address is not given for John B. Leverich.^{13,14}

On 21 March 1831, a patent was granted to Nicholson Millis, City of New York, for a Machine for manufacturing boots or shoes with nails or pegs. This machine has a frame with two uprights, between which uprights there is a sliding piece, operating as a ram or driver, to strike upon a moveable piece below it; under this is placed the leather or shoe to be acted upon. A shaft turned by a crank carries wipers which lift the sliding piece, and allow it to fall. The soles are to be cut out by a steel knife bent in the form required for that purpose. The holes are all to be punched at once by means of a circular rim, having points instead of cutting edges. The nails, or pegs, after being placed in the holes, are also all driven home together, the bottom of the last being covered with iron, or other hard metal, to turn or clench their points. There is no claim made to the machine, but to the privilege of substituting cog wheels for band wheels; of constructing the machine of wood, iron or any other suitable metal. The cutting and punching apparatus have been long used, although not operated upon by a machine exactly like that here described.¹⁵

The Elizabeth and Nicholson Millis family, and the family of her brother John B. Leverich, relocated from New York City to Oswego, Oswego Co, New York about 1837-1840. The Patriot War was a conflict along the Canada-United States border where bands of raiders attacked the British Colony of Upper Canada more than a dozen times between December 1837 and December 1838. Participants in the conflict were members of a secret association known as the "Hunter's Lodge" formed in the United States in sympathy with the 1837 Rebellions in Upper and Lower Canada. Its headquarters in Oswego were at the shoe store of Millis & Leverich. Tremendous secrets were hatched in Oswego in 1838. The conspirators used to tell their families at the tea table that "Business" would keep them out late, and dropped into the shoe

store singly, so as not to attract attention. Here at midnight the Patriots ran bullets and concocted plans for the overthrow of the British government in Canada.^{16,17}

On 17 January 1840, Zina D. and Althea M. Stevens granted land in the village of west Oswego, in consideration of \$800, subject to a \$175 mortgage executed by Zina D. Stevens, to Nicholson Millis and John B. Leverich. The property was described as land in the Village of West Oswego to be taken off the west end of lot number 84, block 43, being 55 feet on Virgo or Mohawk Street and 66 feet on Third Street. The deed was recorded 17 January 1840.¹⁸



West Mohawk and West 3rd Street, Village of West Oswego, 1840

Nicholson Millis was recorded in the 1840 U.S. Census in West Oswego, Oswego Co, New York. The total family size was 14. It is likely that the household also included the family of John B. Leverich, with a family size of 4, Nicholson's household having a family size of 10. The census tallies are consistent with the known family members and ages of John and Nicholson at the time. There is no separate listing for John in the 1840 Census. The shoe store operated by John and Nicholson may also have been situated at the census record location.¹⁹

On 25 September 1846, John B. Leverich sold land in Oswego, New York to Nicholson Millis for \$1,109.²⁰

Nicholson Millis, age 54, farmer, is recorded in the 1850 U.S. Census of Oswego, Oswego Co, New York. The household also included his wife Elizabeth, age 44; and their children Elizabeth, age 20; Ellison, age 19; Lysander, age 16; Horace, age 14; Louisa, age 12; Joseph, age 10; and Charles, age 6.²¹

Nicholson Millis, age 58, shoemaker, is recorded in the 1855 New York State Census of Oswego, Oswego County, New York. The household included his wife Elizabeth, age 48; and their children E. D., age 23; Lysander T., age 20; H.T., age 18; Louisa, age 15; Joseph J., age 13; and C.D. age 11.²²

The 1856 Oswego City Directory lists Nicholson Millis at 80 West Schuyler. Also recorded at that address are his sons Lysander, salesman; Ellison D, carpenter; and Horace T, Car Inspector. William Millis is listed at 47 West First Street.²³

Nicholson Millis, age 65, shoemaker, is recorded in the 1860 U.S. Census of Oswego, Ward 3, Oswego Co, New York. The household includes his wife Elizabeth, age 55; and their children Lysandr, age 25, clerk; Horace, age 22, carpenter; Joseph, age 19, clerk; Charles, age 16, clerk; Louisa, age 21; Ellison, age 28, carpenter; and William, age 31, box maker.²⁴

Nicholson Millis, age 70, shoemaker, is recorded in the 1865 New York State Census of Oswego, Oswego Co, New York. The household included his wife Elizabeth, age 60; and children Charles D. age 21, clerk; and Caroline L. (aka Louisa), age 24.²⁵

Nicholson Millis, is listed in the 1866 Oswego City Directory, health commissioner, living at 89 West Eighth Street; his son Chas D., clerk is at the same address. At 82 West Schuyler are Horace T, millwright and Ellison D., carpenter. Lysander T., wood merchant at East 2nd and Seneca, resided at East 7th Street near Albany. Joseph J., salesman, was boarding at 15 West Third.²⁶

Nicholson Millis, age 75, boat inspector, is recorded in the 1870 U.S. Census of Oswego, Oswego Co, New York, accompanied by his wife Elizabeth, age 65. Also included in the household is their daughter Louisa, age 26, and her husband Spellman Fonda.²⁷

Nicholson Millis, age 80, boot and shoemaker, is recorded in the 1875 New York State Census of Oswego, Oswego Co, New York, accompanied by his wife Elizabeth, age 70. Also included in the household is their daughter Louisa, age 25; her husband Spellman Fonda; and their children Charles, age 8; and Robert, age 5.²⁸

On 31 August 1877, the *Oswego Daily Times* reported: "Old Settler's Sociable -- yesterday, on an invitation issued by a gentleman in the town of Oswego, a large number of the "old settlers" of that and adjoining towns, assembled in Agricultural Hall for the purpose of a social visit, renewal of old times, etc. ... Nicholson Millis, aged 83, was born in Virginia and raised in North Carolina, has been a resident of Oswego fifty years. Mr. Millis sang a comic song which used to be sung in the circus sixty years ago, commencing "Four and twenty smokers, all in row". He wound up saying he had not sang that song in forty years, and would never attempt it again. His singing called forth much applause."²⁹

Nicholson Millis, age 85, shoemaker and his wife Elizabeth, age 75, were recorded in the 1880 U.S. Census of Oswego, Oswego Co, New York, residing at 10 West Second Street. Also included in the household is their daughter Louisa Fonda, age 31, widow, and her children Charles, age 13; and Robert, age 8.³⁰

The 1882 Oswego City Directory lists Nicholson and Elizabeth S. Millis residing at 25 Lavery's Lane.³¹

It is related that when the late Nicholson Millis was dying, in Oswego, he called his wife to his bed side and asked for her mother's given name. He was ... stretching forth his arms toward the foot of the bed, his eyes lighted up as he exclaimed "She is here now to guide me across the river", and fell back dead. Mr. Millis was a firm believer in spiritualism. The city editor of the *Otisco Observer*, who has recently been married, read over this pretty entry, and excitedly remarks "This is a new phase in the occupation of mothers-in-law. Will all of them guide their sons-in-law over the river."³²

Nicholson Millis died 2 December 1882 at Oswego, Oswego Co, New York. He was buried at the Rural Cemetery in Oswego Township.³³

Elizabeth Leverich Millis died on 10 Oct 1895 at Oswego, Oswego Co, New York. She was buried in Riverside Cemetery, Oswego. At the time she died, Elizabeth was living with her son Lysander Millis at 49 West Van Buren Street. Her obituary states that she was the relict of "Nickerson N. Millis", and had 10 children, seven of whom survived her. Elizabeth had been a member of the First Methodist Church.^{34,35}

Elizabeth Sackett Leverich and John Nicholson Millis Jr. had ten children, born either in Manhattan, New York Co, New York; or Oswego, Oswego Co, New York.^{36,37}

- i. Mary Ann Millis was born in Manhattan, New York Co, New York on 26 June 1821. She married for the first time 4 May 1841 John Jacob Mang Alvord at Oswego, Oswego Co, New York. She married for the second time 18 January 1875 Benjamain Treat, probably at New Milford, Litchfield Co, Connecticut. Mary Ann Treat died 23 October 1903 at Detroit, Wayne Co, Michigan.^{38,39,40}
- ii. John L. Millis was born in Manhattan, New York County, New York about 1825, as per census records. He married for the first time 22 August 1848 Elizabeth Smalley at Oswego, Oswego Co, New York. He married for the second time 17 June 1879 Mary Elizabeth Trowbridge at Milwaukee, Milwaukee Co, Wisconsin. John died 1 March 1903 at Los Angeles, Los Angeles Co, California.^{41,42,43,44,45}
- iii. William Millis (aka Nickerson W. Millis) was born in Manhattan, New York Co, New York about 1827 as per census records. He married about 1847 Elizabeth Lieb at Oswego as per the 1900 U.S. Census. William died 29 August 1862 at Oswego.^{46,47,48,49,50}

- iv. Elizabeth Millis was born about 1830 in Manhattan, New York Co, New York, as per the 1850 U.S. Census. The 1895 obituary of her mother, Elizabeth Sackett Leverich Millis, names as a surviving child Mrs. E. White of Long Branch, Monmouth County, New Jersey. A given name for her husband, a date and place of marriage has not been determined. A date and place of death for Elizabeth has not been determined, but she would have died after 1895, perhaps in New Jersey. Elizabeth Millis White is not found in the U.S. Census for 1880, 1900, or 1910.^{51,52}
- v. Ellison D. Millis was born in Manhattan, New York Co, New York 31 May 1832. He married 14 June 1860 Mary Elizabeth Mooney probably in Oswego, Oswego Co, New York. Ellison died 5 February 1916 at LaCrosse, Rush Co, Kansas.^{53,54}
- vi. Lysander T. Millis was born in Manhattan, New York Co, New York in January 1835, as per the 1900 Census. He married 8 August 1863 Martha Ford in Oswego, Oswego Co, New York. Lysander died 12 March 1926 in Oswego.^{55,56,57}
- vii. Horace T. Millis was born in Manhattan, New York County, New York circa May 1836, as per the 1900 U.S. Census. He married c 1863 (married 37 years as per 1900 census) Amelia Aurelia probably in Oswego, Oswego Co, New York. Horace died after 1920, perhaps in Cedar, Carroll Co, Arkansas.^{58,59,60}
- viii. Louisa C. Millis was born in Oswego, Oswego Co, New York circa 1838, as per U.S. Census records. She was married circa 1866 at Oswego to Charles Spellman Fonda, as per the census record age of her eldest child. Louisa died 3 October 1891 at Oswego.^{61,62,63,64,65,66,67}
- ix. Joseph J. Millis was born in Oswego, Oswego Co, New York circa 1841, as per Joseph's age at the time he died, and census records. Joseph was married at Oswego between 1860 and 1870 to Agnes Robinson as per census records. Joseph died 17 February 1887 at Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.^{68,69,70,71}
- x. Charles D. Millis was born in Oswego, Oswego Co, New York on 14 December 1843. He married circa 1868 Harriet Stroud probably at Oswego. Charles died 4 Jun 1931 at Chicago, Cook Co, Illinois.^{72,73,74,75}

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- ⁶⁰Ancestry.com Family Trees, online www.ancestry.com.
- ⁶¹1850 U.S. Census New York, Oswego Co, Ancestry.com, Oswego, page 80A.
- ⁶²1860 U.S. Census New York, Oswego Co, Ancestry.com, Oswego, Ward 3, page 116.
- ⁶³1880 U.S. Census New York, Oswego Co, Ancestry.com, Oswego, enumeration district 253, page 451.
- ⁶⁴1870 U.S. Census New York, Oswego Co. Ancestry.com, Provo, Utah. NARA, M593, Roll 1074, Oswego, Ward 1, page 91A.

⁶⁵Ancestry.com Family Trees, online www.ancestry.com.

⁶⁶*Oswego Daily Times*, 10 October 1895.

⁶⁷New York Death Index 1852-1956, New York Department of Health (Albany, New York), certificate number 41207.

⁶⁸*Oswego Palladium*, 17 February 1887.

⁶⁹1870 U.S. Census New York, Oswego Co, Ancestry.com, Oswego, Ward 1, page 91A.

⁷⁰1860 U.S. Census New York, Oswego Co, Ancestry.com, Oswego, Ward 3, page 115.

⁷¹Ancestry.com Family Trees, online www.ancestry.com.

⁷²*Illinois, Deaths and Stillbirths Index, 1916-1947*, Family Search Index, online <https://familysearch.org>), FHL Film No. 1893066.

⁷³1910 U.S. Census Illinois, Cook Co. Ancestry.com, Provo, Utah. NARA, T624, Roll 255, Chicago, Ward 25, enumeration district 1053, page 4.

⁷⁴1930 U.S. Census Illinois, Cook Co. Ancestry.com, Provo, Utah. NARA, T626,, Chicago, enumeration district 1810, page 23B.

⁷⁵Ancestry.com Family Trees, online www.ancestry.com.