

**Individual Narrative of Mary⁷ Leverich [219]
Daughter of John⁶ Leverich [102] and Mary Brundage
Wife of Gabriel Knapp**

Mary Leverich was born on 29 April 1797 at North Castle, Westchester County, New York, the daughter of John Leverich and Mary Brundage. John Leverich was living in the Town of North Castle in the 1790 and 1800 U.S. Census.^{1,2,3}

On 2 March 1829 Gabriel Knapp of Yorktown, Westchester County, New York purchased from Deborah, Joshua, and Lydia Sherwood 11 acres of land in Cortlandt, Westchester County bordering the farm of John Leverich. On 26 March 1829 Gabriel Knapp of Yorktown purchased from Nicholas and Jane Summerbell of Yorktown 6 acres of land in Cortlandt also near the farm of John Leverich. Gabriel sold these 17 acres of land on 28 November 1831 to David Powell.⁴

In the 1830 U.S. Census of Cortlandt, Westchester County, New York the household of John Leverich included among other tallies 1 free white female age 30 to 39. This was likely Mary Leverich who was age 33 in 1830.⁵

Mary Leverich married Gabriel Knapp circa 1833 probably at Cortlandt, Westchester County, New York. Mary and Gabriel's first child was born in 1835. Mary's father John Leverich was living in Cortlandt Township in the 1830 and 1840 U.S. Census.^{6,7,8,9}

Gabriel Knapp was born 13 September 1800 probably in Westchester County, New York. Gabriel was the son of Gabriel Knapp Sr and Phebe Vail.^{10,11}

In 1835 Mary Knapp is listed as a member of the Shrub Oak Methodist Church in Yorktown, Westchester County, New York. Gabriel Knapp is mentioned as a member of the church in 1841. On 18 May 1869 Gabriel and Mary were removed from the church by certificate, having relocated to Peekskill, Westchester County.¹²

On 1 April 1836 Walter Carpenter of Yorktown sold 34 acres of land at Yorktown to Gabriel Knapp, in consideration of \$2100. The tract was located at the north side of the road Red Mills to Peekskill Landing, the west side of the road to Fowlers Mill, and bordered a brook and the land of William Williams. The deed was witnessed by John W. Carpenter and Lewis White, and recorded on 14 May 1836. On 1 June 1860 Gabriel Knapp and his wife Mary sold this tract of land to Charlotte F. Abbott in consideration of \$5200. Both Gabriel and Mary signed the deed, indicating that they both could read and write. This deed was witnessed by David K. Conklin and recorded on 9 June 1860, Charlotte financed the purchase with a mortgage. On 13 October 1865, James Martens of Yorktown assumed the mortgage and took possession of the property.¹³

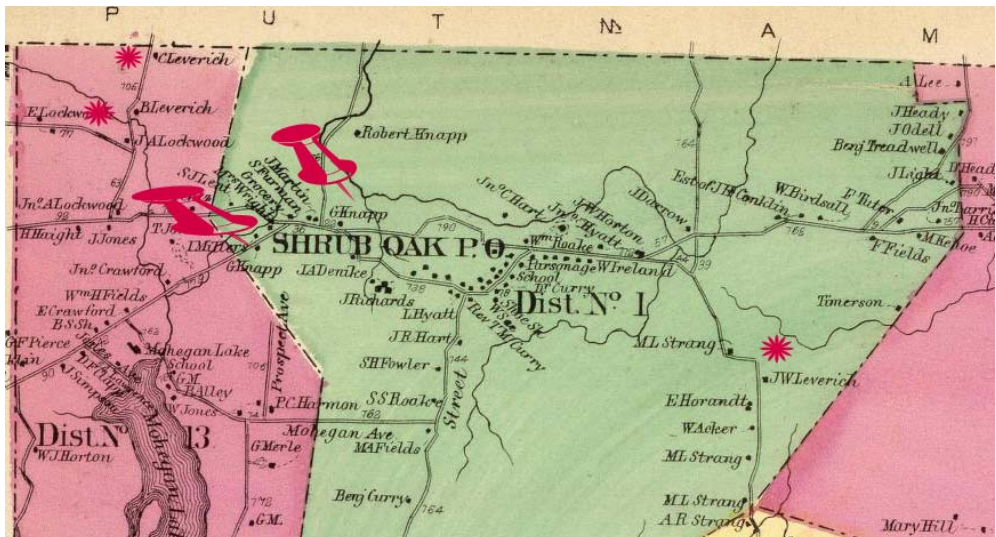
Gabriel Knapp was recorded in the 1840 U.S. Census of Yorktown, Westchester County, New York. The census tallies included 2 free white males under the age of 5 (sons John L. and Caleb); 1 free white male age 10 to 14 (unidentified); 1 free white male age 30 to 39 (head of household Gabriel Knapp, actually age 40); 1 free white female age 30 to 39 (wife Mary, actually age 43). There is no tally for daughter Mary Elizabeth who was not born until 1842. One person is noted as employed in agriculture, implying that Gabriel was a farmer. However, Gabriel also operated a general store in Yorktown for an undetermined period of time, according to the 1918 obituary of his son John L. Knapp.^{14,15}

Gabriel Knapp, age 49, farmer, is recorded as head of household in the 1850 U.S. Census of Yorktown, Westchester County, New York. The household also included his wife Mary, age 53, and children John L age 14, Caleb age 13, and Mary E age 8.¹⁶

On 27 June 1860 Gabriel Knapp age 59, a farmer, is recorded as head of household in the 1860 U.S. Census of Yorktown, Westchester County, New York. The household also included wife Mary age 61, and children John L age 24, Caleb age 22, and Mary E., age 18.¹⁷

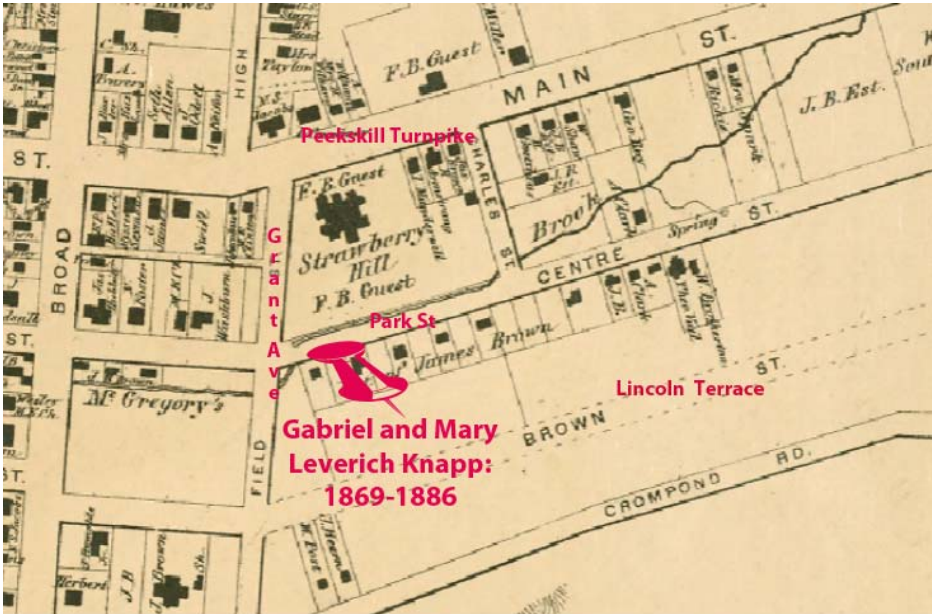
On 27 August 1860 the Sherriff of Westchester County New York sold at auction to Gabriel Knapp a 90 acre farm at Yorktown, in consideration of \$6275. The tract of land was located at the head of the five year turnpike from Peekskill to Shrub Oak Plains, and bordered land formerly owned by Peter Gerstiner, Elisha Serrine, John Collett, Robert Knapp; also the Mill Road, the Turnpike Road, the land of Augustus Field and the land formerly owned by Lawrence Ferris. This was

the same tract previously conveyed in 1854 by Ezekiel Hoag and Ezekiel C. Hoag to Stephen Pugesley. The deed was recorded on 8 May 1861. On 1 April 1868 Gabriel Knapp and his wife Mary sold two lots of land at Yorktown, 68 acres and 25 acres, to William Jones of Yorktown in consideration of \$9000. This was probably the same tract purchased by Gabriel in 1860. This transaction was witnessed by David K. Conklin and recorded on 4 May 1858.¹⁸

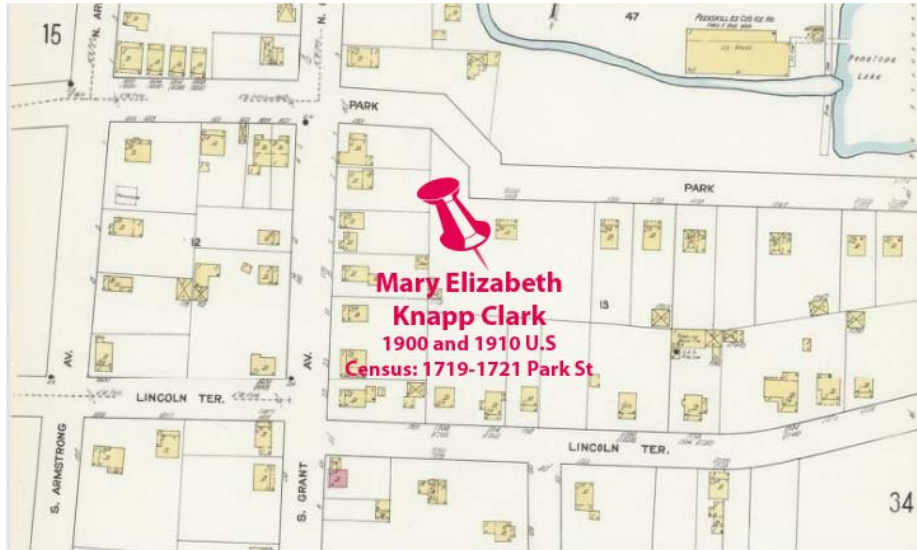


Gabriel and Mary Leverich Knapp: Yorktown, Westchester Co, New York
 1868 Atlas Westchester Co, NY: F. W. Beers and A. B. Prindle

Gabriel and Mary Knapp moved to the Village of Peekskill, Westchester County, New York circa 1869. Between 1869 and 1874 Gabriel and Mary purchased four contiguous lots from Stephen Brown of Peekskill, later Manhattan, New York County, New York. In contemporary terms, the combined tract was located east of Grant Avenue (Field Street in 1868), south of Park Street (Centre Street in 1868), and north of Lincoln Terrace (Brown Street in 1868). Their daughter Mary Elizabeth Knapp Clark subsequently lived on the property, designated as 1719 (1900 U.S. Census) and 1721 (U.S. Census 1910) Park Street.^{19,20,21}



1868 Atlas Peekskill, Westchester County, New York
 F.W. Beers and A. B. Prindle: Plate 60 NYPL Digital Collections



**Sanborn Map Company: July 1911
Library of Congress**

Gabriel Knapp age 70, farmer, is recorded as head of household in the 1870 U.S. Census of Cortlandtown (Shrub Oak Post Office which is in Town of Yorktown), Westchester County, New York. The household also included his wife Mary, age 73, identified as "Polly" in this record.²²

Gabriel Knapp age 80, farmer, is recorded as head of household in the 1880 U.S. Census of Peekskill, Westchester County, New York. The household also included his wife Mary age 83.²³

Mary Leverich Knapp died on 18 Mar 1882 at Peekskill, Westchester Co, New York, at age 84. Mary was buried at the Shrub Oak Methodist Church Cemetery in the town of Yorktown, Westchester County.^{24,25}

Gabriel Knapp died 9 July 1886 at Peekskill, Westchester County, New York age 85 years, 9 months, and 21 days. Gabriel was buried at the Shrub Oak Methodist Church cemetery in Yorktown, Westchester County, along side his wife Mary Leverich Knapp.^{26,27}



Gabriel Knapp made a will dated 18 January 1881, which was proved 2 October 1886. He left his estate to his son John L. Knapp, whom he named executor, with instructions to direct the net proceeds of his estate to his wife Mary. Gabriel also directed that a legacy of \$400 be provided to his daughter Mary Elizabeth and his grandson John G. Knapp. He further directed that after his wife Mary died, the estate was to be equally divided between his son John L. Knapp and his daughter Mary Elizabeth Clark. Mary Elizabeth initially contested the probate of the will on the grounds that her brother had exercised undue influence on their father. Subsequently Mary Elizabeth and her brother John agreed that John would transfer title to Gabriel's Peekskill property to Mary Elizabeth in exchange for Mary Elizabeth paying the estate debts.²⁸

On 26 November 1887 John L. Knapp of Sing Sing, Westchester Co, New York, as executor of the estate of Gabriel Knapp, granted the original four parcels of Gabriel's Peekskill house and land to his sister Mary Elizabeth Clark in consideration of \$576.99, which amount represented the total debts due to be paid from the estate. Mary Elizabeth became a widow in 1893, and is living at the Peekskill property in the 1900 and 1910 U.S. Census.^{29,30,31,32}

Mary Leverich and Gabriel Knapp had three children.^{33,34}

- i. John L. Knapp was born 22 November 1835 in Yorktown, Westchester County, New York. John married Sarah F. Townsend circa 1860-1862 probably in Westchester County. Their first child was born in 1863. John died 11 December 1918 in Ossining, Westchester County. John was buried at the Dale Cemetery in Ossining.^{35,36,37,38}
- ii. Caleb Knapp was born 19 November 1837 in Yorktown, Westchester County, New York. Caleb died unmarried on 14 February 1866, age 28 years, 2 months, and 26 days. Caleb was buried at the Shrub Oak Methodist Church Cemetery in Yorktown.^{39,40,41}
- iii. Mary Elizabeth Knapp was born in October 1842 in Yorktown, Westchester County, New York. Mary Elizabeth married first J. J. (?Jacob?) Riegle 19 July 1866 in Brooklyn, Kings County, New York. Mary Elizabeth married second John Clark 6 October 1870 in Manhattan, New York County, New York. Mary Elizabeth Clark died 28 June 1927 in Peekskill, Westchester County. A place of burial has not been located for Mary Elizabeth.^{42,43,44}

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Prepared by:

Tom Leverich

28 Saratoga Drive

West Windsor, New Jersey 08550

tomaug12@aol.com

609-275-1239

www.leverichgenealogy.org

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Endnotes

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- ¹Find A Grave, online <www.findagrave.com>, Memorial Number 68672869. Hereinafter cited as Find A Grave.
- ²1790 U.S. Census New York, Westchester Co. Ancestry.com, Provo, Utah. NARA, M637, Roll 6, North Castle, page 172.
- ³1800 U.S. Census New York, Westchester Co. Ancestry.com, Provo, Utah. NARA, M32, Roll 27, North Castle, page 4.
- ⁴Westchester County, New York Deeds: Westchester County Archives: 2199 Saw Mill River Road, Elmsford, New York; Liber 36, page 275; Liber 36, page 366; Liber 44, page 215.
- ⁵1830 U.S. Census New York Westchester Co. Ancestry.com, Provo, Utah. NARA, M19, Roll 112, Cortlandt, page 55.
- ⁶Find A Grave, online www.findagrave.com, Memorial Number 197609721, John L. Knapp.
- ⁷1830 U.S. Census New York Westchester Co, Ancestry.com, Cortlandt, page 55.
- ⁸1840 U.S. Census New York, Westchester Co. Ancestry.com, Provo, Utah. NARA, M704, Roll 353, Cortlandt, page 184.
- ⁹1850 U.S. Census New York, Westchester Co. Ancestry.com, Provo, Utah. NARA, M432, Roll 615, Yorktown, page 260A: Gabriel and Mary Knapp and children.
- ¹⁰Find A Grave, online www.findagrave.com, Memorial Number 68672724.
- ¹¹William Penn Vail, *Moses Vail of Huntington, L.I. Showing his Descent from Joseph (2) Vail, Son of Thomas Vail at Salem, Massachusetts 1640* (Blairstown, New Jersey: Privately Printer by Author, 1847), page 190. Hereinafter cited as *Moses Vail of Huntington, L.I.*
- ¹²Shrub Oak Methodist Church Records, (1841-1869). 1176 East Main Street, Yorktown Township, New York 10588. Hereinafter cited as Shrub Oak Methodist Church Records.
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- ¹⁴1840 U.S. Census New York, Westchester Co, Ancestry.com, Yorktown, page 210.
- ¹⁵*The Highland Democrat*, Peekskill, Westchester Co, New York, 1858-1942. Hereinafter cited as *The Highland Democrat*, 14 December 1918.
- ¹⁶1850 U.S. Census New York, Westchester Co, Ancestry.com, Town of Yorktown, page 260A.
- ¹⁷1860 U.S. Census New York, Westchester Co. Ancestry.com, Provo, Utah. NARA, M653, Roll 880, Town of Yorktown, page 722.
- ¹⁸Westchester County, New York Deeds, Westchester County Archives; Liber 458, page 350; Liber 674, page 190.
- ¹⁹*Ibid.*, Liber 718, page 418: 3 June 1869; Liber 728, page 279: 20 October 1869; Liber 764, page 057: 22 February 1871; Liber 883, page 011: 1 September 1874.
- ²⁰1900 U.S. Census New York, Westchester Co. Ancestry.com, Provo, Utah. NARA, T623, Roll 1178, Cortlandt, ED0062, page 20.
- ²¹1910 U.S. Census New York, Westchester Co. Ancestry.com, Provo, Utah. NARA, T624, Roll 1089, Cortlandt, ED0010, page 19A.
- ²²1870 U.S. Census New York, Westchester Co. Ancestry.com, Provo, Utah. NARA, M593, Roll 1118, Cortlandtown, page 152B.
- ²³1880 U.S. Census New York, Westchester Co. Ancestry.com, Provo, Utah. NARA, T9, Roll 945, Village of Peekskill, page 94B.
- ²⁴*The Highland Democrat*, 25 March 1882, page 3.
- ²⁵Find A Grave, online www.findagrave.com, Memorial Number 68672869.
- ²⁶*The Highland Democrat*, 17 July 1886, page 3.
- ²⁷Find A Grave, online www.findagrave.com, Memorial Number 68672724.
- ²⁸Gabriel Knapp will and estate (2 October 1886), Will Liber 103, page 78; Estate File 1886-213; Westchester County, New York Archives, 2199 Saw Mill River Road, Elmsford, Westchester, New York 10523. Hereinafter cited as 1886 Will and Estate Gabriel Knapp.
- ²⁹1887 November 26 Deed Westchester County, New York: Executor Estate of Gabriel Knapp, to Mary Elizabeth Knapp Clark John L. Knapp; Westchester County, New York Archives; 2199 Saw Mill River Road, Elmsford, Westchester, New York 10523; Liber 1124, page 257. Hereinafter cited as 1887 November 26 Deed Westchester County, New York.
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- ³¹1900 U.S. Census New York, Westchester Co, Ancestry.com, Cortlandt, ED0062, page 20.
- ³²1910 U.S. Census New York, Westchester Co, Ancestry.com, Cortlandt, ED0010, page 19A.

³³1860 U.S. Census New York, Westchester Co, Ancestry.com, Yorktown, page 722.

³⁴1886 Will and Estate Gabriel Knapp, Westchester County, New York Archives, Will Liber 103, page 78; Estate File 1886-213.

³⁵Find A Grave, online www.findagrave.com, Memorial Number 197609721.

³⁶*The Highland Democrat*, 14 December 1918.

³⁷1870 U.S. Census New York, Westchester Co, Ancestry.com, Cortlandt, page 160A.

³⁸1900 U.S. Census New York, Westchester Co, Ancestry.com, Ossining, ED102, page 16B.

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⁴⁰1850 U.S. Census New York, Westchester Co, Ancestry.com, Yorktown, page 260A.

⁴¹1860 U.S. Census New York, Westchester Co, Ancestry.com, Yorktown, page 722.

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⁴⁴*The Highland Democrat*, 27 May 1893; 2 July 1927, page 7.