

**Individual Narrative of Sarah<sup>8</sup> Devoe Goldsmith [300]  
Daughter of Eliza<sup>7</sup> Fish Leverich and Rev. John Goldsmith  
Wife of John Howard Prall**

Sarah Devoe Goldsmith was born on 26 April 1844 at Newtown, Queens County, New York.<sup>1</sup>

Sarah D. Goldsmith was baptized 23 June 1844 at the Newtown Presbyterian Church.<sup>2</sup>

Sarah D. Goldsmith, age 6, was recorded in the 1850 U.S. Census of Newtown, Queens Co, New York. Her household included her parents John and Eliza Goldsmith, ages 56 and 48 respectively; also half-sisters Goldsmith, i.e. Eliza, Maria, and Adeline.<sup>3</sup>

About 1854 Sarah's mother began the erection of a house on what would become known as the South Terrace on Grand Street, where as soon as it was completed, the family moved and where Sarah lived until her death.<sup>4,5</sup>

Sarah D. Goldsmith is not found in the 1860 U.S. Census of Queens County, New York. There is a record of a family group which included her mother (her father died in 1854) and the same half siblings as in 1850, but no Sarah.<sup>6</sup>

Sarah D. Goldsmith, age 30, was found in the 1870 U.S. Census of Newtown, Queens County, New York. The household again included her mother and half sisters, plus Sarah.<sup>7</sup>

Sarah D. Goldsmith, age 34, was included in the 1880 U.S. Census of Newtown, Queens County, New York. Her household included her mother Eliza Goldsmith, age 78, and half sister Adeline Goldsmith, age 40.<sup>8</sup>

Sarah D. Goldsmith married John H. Prall on 13 October 1881 at Newtown, Queens County, New York.<sup>9,10</sup>

John Howard Prall was born 26 October 1855 in New York City. He was the son of John P. Prall and Elizabeth M. Wheaton. He acquired his education at the Flushing Institute. John H. Prall became a member of the New York Stock Exchange in 1882, and a year later formed the company of J.H. Prall and Co. The firm later joined with the firm Webb & Co and was then known as Webb & Prall. They conducted a banking and brokerage business, and occupied a prominent position in New York financial circles. John was one of the governors of the New York Stock Exchange.<sup>11,12</sup>

About 1890, Sarah Prall was examining an old trunk which had been owned by her grandfather Col. Edward Leverich. She discovered a secret compartment the contents of which proved very interesting. They included revolutionary war currency, several leaden bullets of revolutionary vintage, and several historical documents, including one pertaining to Corporal Edward Leverich during the Revolution.<sup>13</sup>

Sarah D. Prall, age 56, was recorded in the 1900 U.S. Census of Ward 2, Queens County, New York. Her household included her husband John H. Prall and her son John G. Prall, age 16.<sup>14</sup>

Though possessed of ample means, Sarah always lived a very retired and extremely quiet life, her chief objects of interest being her home and her church. Sarah was a Sunday school teacher at the Newtown Presbyterian Church for many years. She was a leader in all its activities, and was depended upon for her advice and counsel by her fellow church members.<sup>15</sup>

Sarah D. Prall, age 59, was recorded in the 1910 U.S. Census of Ward 2, Queens County, New York. Her household included her husband John H. Prall, age 63.<sup>16</sup>

John Howard Prall died 13 March 1918 in Elmhurst (Newtown), Queens County, New York. He was buried at Greenwood Cemetery in Brooklyn, Kings County, New York.<sup>17,18</sup>

Sarah D. Goldsmith Prall died on 21 August 1918 at Elmhurst, Queens, New York, at age 74. She was buried at Greenwood Cemetery in Brooklyn, Kings County, New York.<sup>19,20,21</sup>

Sarah D. Prall made a will dated 14 March 1918 plus 3 codicils. The will was proven 27 February 1919 at the Queens County, New York Surrogate.<sup>22</sup>

Sarah Devoe Goldsmith and John Howard Prall had one child, a son. John Goldsmith Prall was born 29 October 1882 and died 22 April 1907, both at Newtown, in his 25th year. He was unmarried. He was buried at the Greenwood Cemetery in Brooklyn, Kings County, New York.<sup>23</sup>

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## Endnotes

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- <sup>1</sup>Find A Grave, online <[www.findagrave.com](http://www.findagrave.com)>, Memorial Number 11074756. Hereinafter cited as Find A Grave.
- <sup>2</sup>Arthur 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 1844. Hereinafter cited as "Newtown Presbyterian Records."
- <sup>3</sup>1850 U.S. Census New York, Queens Co. Ancestry.com, Provo, Utah. NARA, M432, Roll 583, Newtown, page 113B.
- <sup>4</sup>*Newtown Register*, Newtown, Queens Co, New York, 1873-1935. Hereinafter cited as Newtown Register, 22 August 1918, page 5.
- <sup>5</sup>*Brooklyn Daily Star*, Brooklyn, New York, 189?-1933. Hereinafter cited as Brooklyn Daily Star, 14 March 1918, page 1.
- <sup>6</sup>1860 U.S. Census New York, Queens Co. Ancestry.com, Provo, Utah. NARA, M653, Roll 843, Newtown, page 36.
- <sup>7</sup>1870 U.S. Census New York, Queens Co. Ancestry.com, Provo, Utah. NARA, M593, Roll 1081, Newtown, page 271.
- <sup>8</sup>1880 U.S. Census New York, Queens Co. Ancestry.com, Provo, Utah. NARA, T9, Roll 919, Newtown, ED 257, page 215D.
- <sup>9</sup>Newtown Presbyterian Records, Marriages 1881.
- <sup>10</sup>*Newtown Register*, 3 November 1881, page 3.
- <sup>11</sup>Peter Ross, *History of Long Island - Ross* (New York, New York: Lewis Historical Publishing Co, 1902), pages 134-135. Hereinafter cited as *History of Long Island - Ross*.
- <sup>12</sup>Find A Grave, online [www.findagrave.com](http://www.findagrave.com), Memorial Number 11074574.
- <sup>13</sup>*Newtown Register*, 25 September 1890, page 4.
- <sup>14</sup>1900 U.S. Census New York, Queens Co. Ancestry.com, Provo, Utah. NARA, T623, Roll 1148, Ward 2 Queens County, ED 644, page 290A.
- <sup>15</sup>*Newtown Register*, 22 August 1918, page 5.
- <sup>16</sup>1910 U.S. Census New York, Queens Co. Ancestry.com, Provo, Utah. NARA, T624, Roll 1066, Ward 2 Queens County, ED 1192, page 35A, Sheet 15A.
- <sup>17</sup>*Brooklyn Daily Star*, 14 March 1918, page 1.
- <sup>18</sup>Find A Grave, online [www.findagrave.com](http://www.findagrave.com), Memorial Number 11074574.
- <sup>19</sup>*New York Times*, Manhattan, New York Co, New York, 1851-Date, 22 August 1918. Hereinafter cited as New York Times.
- <sup>20</sup>*Newtown Register*, 22 August 1918, page 5.
- <sup>21</sup>Find A Grave, online [www.findagrave.com](http://www.findagrave.com), Memorial Number 11074756.
- <sup>22</sup>1659-1999 New York Wills and Probate Records, online Ancestry.com, Index and Records (unknown location), Queens County, NY Surrogate, Case Number 447-1918.
- <sup>23</sup>Find A Grave, online [www.findagrave.com](http://www.findagrave.com), Memorial Number 11074559.