

**Individual Narrative of William⁸ James Leverich Duryee [319]
Son of Cornelia⁷ Leverich [155] and Joseph Woodward Duryee
Husband of Phebe J. Miller**

William James Leverich Duryee was born on 5 January 1821 at Manhattan, New York County, New York.¹

William James Leverich Duryee married Phebe J. Miller on 20 June 1848 at Newark, Essex County, New Jersey.² Phebe J. Miller was the daughter of Benjamin G. (or C.) Miller. Her dates and places of birth, date, and burial have not been determined.³

William J. L. Duryee is listed in the 1848-1849 Doggett New York City Director: wool, 8 Broad Street, home Newark, New Jersey.⁴

A "Phebe J. Miller", age 20, is recorded in the 1850 U.S. Census of Newark, Essex County, New Jersey. She is living in the household of her parents B. C. and Sarah Miller. There is no record of a husband living in the household.⁵

"W. L. Duryee", age 34, is recorded in the 1852 California State Census living in Sacramento. No wife is listed with him.⁶

It is possible that he was one of many who went to California 1849-1850 to build a fortune in the newly discovered gold mines.⁷

William James Leverich Duryee died on 9 March 1859 at San Francisco, California, at age 38.⁸ According to his death notice in the Sacramento Bee and his death record, William J. L. Duryee was identified as an "MD". This would appear to indicate that William was a medical doctor. However, no indication of when and where he attended medical school has been found.^{9,10} Another source indicates that William J. L. Duryee died at Knights Ferry, a small community located in Stanislaus County, east of San Francisco.¹¹

Phebe J. Miller apparently married second Peter D. Vansickle. The 1860 U.S. Census of Newark, Essex County, New Jersey records the following household: Benjamin C. Miller, age 54; Sarah Miller; Phebe J. Vansickle, age 29; Peter D. Vansickle, age 30; Benjamin Vansickle, age 2.¹²

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Endnotes

¹Harold T Duryee, *The Charles Duryee Family* (Canfield, Ohio: Self Published, 1955), page 44. Hereinafter cited as *Duryee, Duryee Family*.

²*Christian Intelligencer of the Reformed Dutch Church*, New York, New York, 1830-1920. 29 June 1848.

³*Ibid.*

⁴*U.S. City & Business Directories, ca. 1749- ca.1990* (Salt Lake City, Utah: Family Search), Doggett 1848-1849 New York City Directory.

⁵1850 U.S. Census New Jersey, Essex Co. Ancestry.com, Provo, Utah. NARA, M432, Roll 447, page 132.

⁶1852 State Census California. Ancestry.com, Provo, Utah.

⁷*Duryee, Duryee Family*, page 44.

⁸Marriage, and Death Records 1849-1980 California Co Birth, Ancestry.com.

⁹*Ibid.*

¹⁰*Sacramento Bee*, Sacramento, California, 1857-date. 14 March 1859.

¹¹San Joaquin Co, California Public Library Obituary Index 1850-1991; FamilySearch.org, online <https://www.familysearch.org/search/collection/1929846?collectionNameFilter=false>, (Stockton, California), SJR 12 March 1859.

¹²1860 U.S. Census New Jersey, Essex Co. Ancestry.com, Provo, Utah. NARA, M653, Roll 688, Newark, page 101.