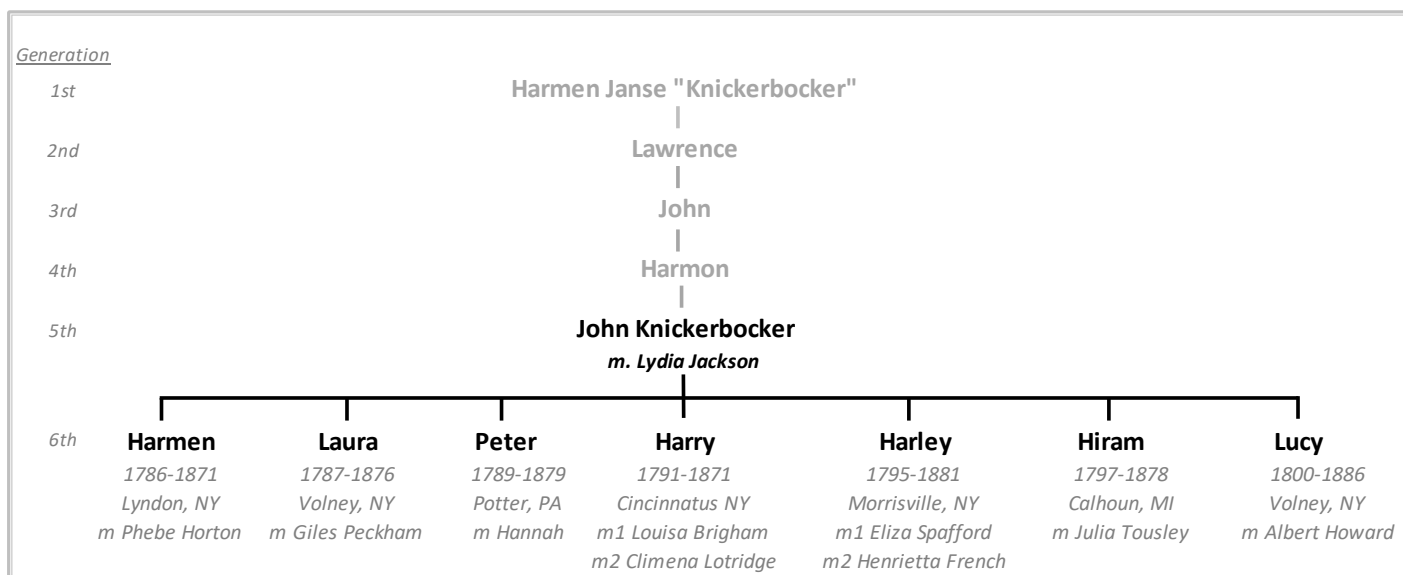


John Knickerbocker and Lydia Jackson

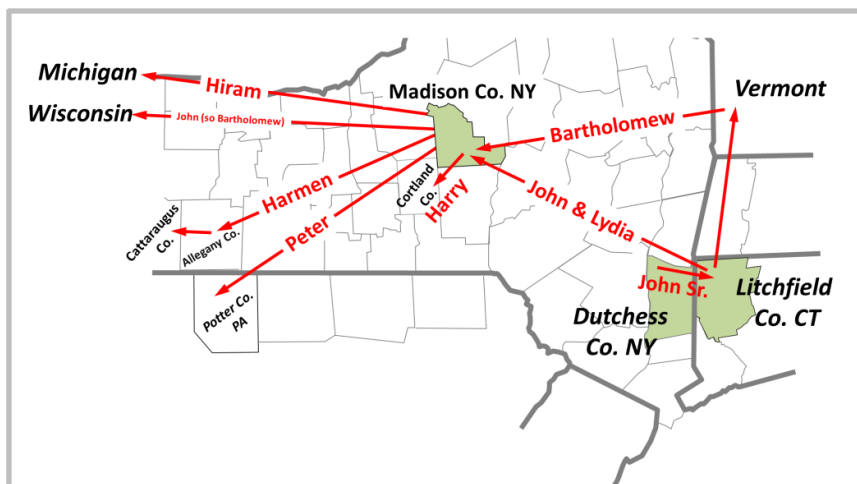
Bryan Knickerbocker
18 September 2017

This report discusses the John Knickerbocker who lived in Salisbury and Sharon, Connecticut, and Madison County, New York, and who died in Cincinnatus, Cortland County, New York. His wife Lydia Jackson is also discussed briefly.

John Knickerbocker and Lydia Jackson had seven children. The following chart lists the spouse of each child, and the location where they lived as adults, or where they died.



The following map illustrates key parts of the story.



Lawrence Knickerbocker lived in Dutchess Co., NY. His son John moved to Litchfield Co., CT.

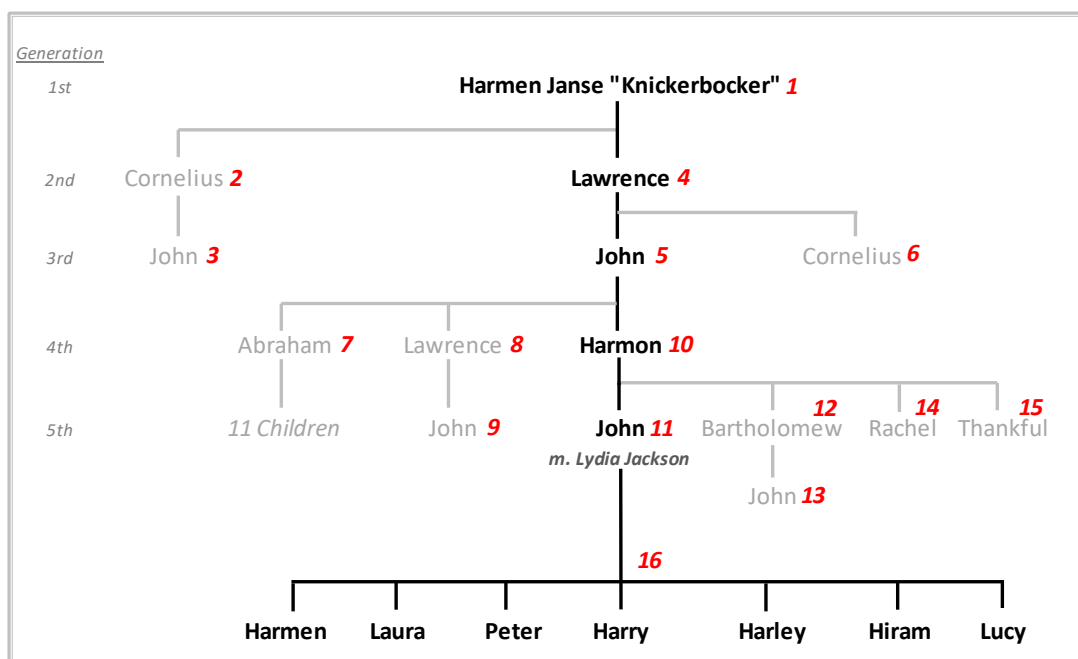
John's grandson, also named John, married Lydia Jackson and moved to Madison County. John's brother Bartholomew later joined him in Madison County. From there the families dispersed to western New York, Potter County PA, and beyond.

(Ancestry members can find more details and supporting documents in the tree called Knickerbockers of Central New York, under user bmknickerbocker.)

List of the key players

The key players in this report are:

1. Harmen Janse (1648-1714) was the first person ever to be called "Knickerbocker."
2. Cornelius (1692-1776), the son of Harmen Janse, is discussed as part of the Connecticut families.
3. John Knickerbocker (1731-1828), the son of Cornelius, is discussed as part of the Connecticut families, and the migration to Vermont.
4. Lawrence Knickerbocker (1684-1766) is discussed as part of the Connecticut migrations.
5. John Knickerbocker (1710-1786) was a major part of the Connecticut migrations.
6. Cornelius Knickerbocker (1708-1774), John's brother, is mentioned briefly.
7. Abraham Knickerbocker (1733-1809) and his eleven children are part of the Connecticut story.
8. Lawrence Knickerbocker (1739-), the son of John (1710-1786), was part of the Connecticut families.
9. John Knickerbocker (1766-) was one of the many John Knickerbockers in Connecticut.
10. Harmon Knickerbocker (1741-1777?) was the father of "Harmen's John."
11. John Knickerbocker (1766?-1860) was called "Harmen's John" in his grandfather's will, and is the main focus of this report. He married Lydia Jackson in 1785, and later moved to Madison County NY.
12. Bartholomew Knickerbocker (1774-1852) was part of the migration from Connecticut to Vermont, and later moved to Madison County NY.
13. John Knickerbocker (1801-1897) is yet another "John." He is part of the Vermont, and Madison County stories. John had a brother named Stephen who is also discussed here.
14. Rachel Knickerbocker (1773-) is part of the Connecticut and Vermont stories.
15. Thankful Knickerbocker (1773-) was Rachel's twin sister.
16. The children of John Knickerbocker and Lydia Jackson (Harmen, Laura, Peter, Harry, Harley, Hiram, and Lucy).



Readers who are not familiar with William Van Alstyne's "History of the Knickerbocker Family" are encouraged to get a copy.

This report will not replicate the basic information from Van Alstyne. Instead, we will focus on new information that was not included in that earlier study.

Harmen Knickerbocker in Dutchess County, New York

Harmen Janse was from Holland, but settled along the Hudson River in the 1680's.

Through a series of odd events, he adopted the last name "Knickerbocker." He was the first person to ever use this as a last name.

Harmen lived, for his last few years, in Dutchess County, in the area now called Tivoli, New York. Court records show that he died there in 1714.

Land records show that Harmen died and was buried on land later owned by Cornelius Knickerbocker. The area around his grave was later set aside as a quarter acre burial ground for Knickerbockers.

The approximate location of Harmen Janse' grave is indicated by the red star on this satellite photograph of the Tivoli shoreline.

Harmen's tombstone, and the burial ground, are long gone.



From Google Earth

Lawrence Knickerbocker in Dutchess County, New York

Lawrence Knickerbocker was the second son of Harmen Janse. Lawrence lived his adult life in Dutchess County, near Tivoli.

Lawrence served in the New York militia with or under a man named Johannes Dyckman, and married Johannes' daughter Maryke Dyckman.

Lawrence died in 1766, and was originally buried in the family burial ground, near his father. Lawrence's tombstone was later moved.

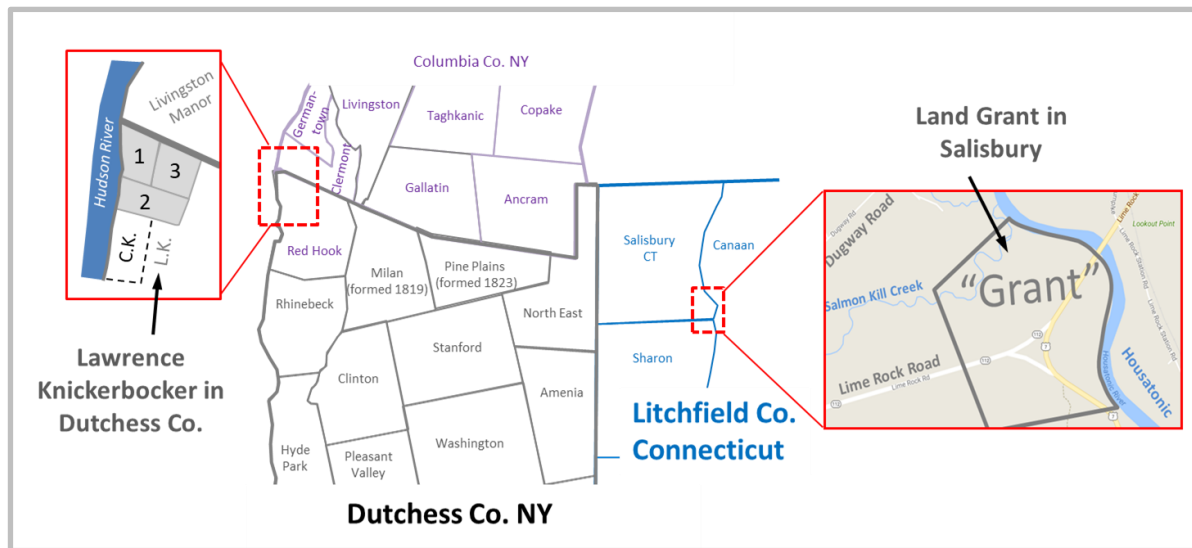
Lawrence's Land in Salisbury, Connecticut

During the early 1700's, residents of the Hudson River Valley began looking eastwards towards Connecticut.

The Housatonic River is the next major river valley east of the Hudson. Salisbury is the town along the western bank of the Housatonic. Large parts of Salisbury were settled by Dutchmen coming over from the Hudson Valley.

In the early 1720's, Lawrence Knickerbocker and Johannes Dyckman were among the Dutchmen who received land grants in Connecticut.

Lawrence purchased a 50 acre plot in the southeast quadrant of Salisbury. The plot was along what is now Lime Rock Road. This plot was called The Grant.

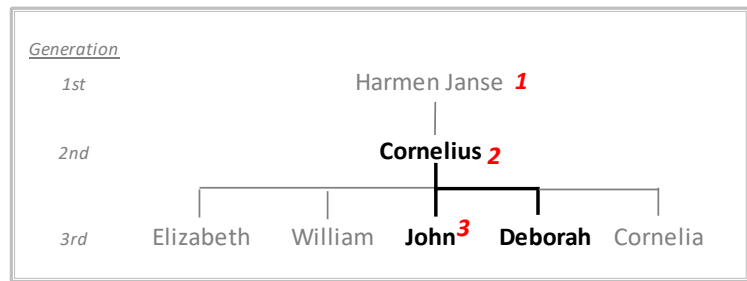


There is no evidence that Lawrence ever lived in Connecticut. His main residence was probably in the lot just west of his brother Cornelius (and just west of the burial ground that was mentioned earlier). Lawrence's lot was just south of Lot Number 2, which was created when Harmen Janse' land was subdivided.

Lawrence's son John was only about 12 when his father bought The Grant. As we will discuss, John later moved to Connecticut. The Grant became John's home.

Cornelius Knickerbocker, the Brother of Lawrence

Cornelius Knickerbocker was the third son of Harmen Janse.



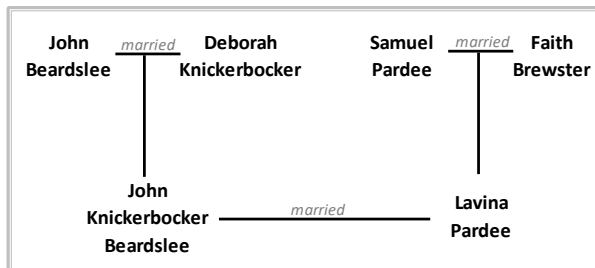
Cornelius is involved in our story in three ways:

1. He moved to Connecticut with his nephew. (The move is discussed later.)
2. He was the father of a man named John Knickerbocker. (John is discussed later.)
3. He was the father of Deborah Knickerbocker.

We will discuss Deborah Knickerbocker now.

In about 1758, Deborah married a man named John Beardslee. In about 1759, Deborah Knickerbocker and John Beardslee had a son.

They named their son John Knickerbocker Beardslee.



In 1795, John Knickerbocker Beardslee married Lavina Pardee.

Lavina was the daughter of Samuel and Faith Pardee. The marriage was in Sharon, Connecticut.

The life of John Beardslee and Lavina Pardee is well documented. Unfortunately, though, the Sharon Records show this wedding as follows:

John Kernickerbakker of New York State, m. Lovina Pardee of Sharon

This was a mistake by either by the Sharon town clerk or whoever transcribed the records later. The groom's full name was actually John Knickerbocker Beardslee.

This mistake has caused many questions regarding the various men who were named "John Knickerbocker."

In reality, Lavina Pardee had no role in the lives of the John Knickerbockers who lived in Connecticut.

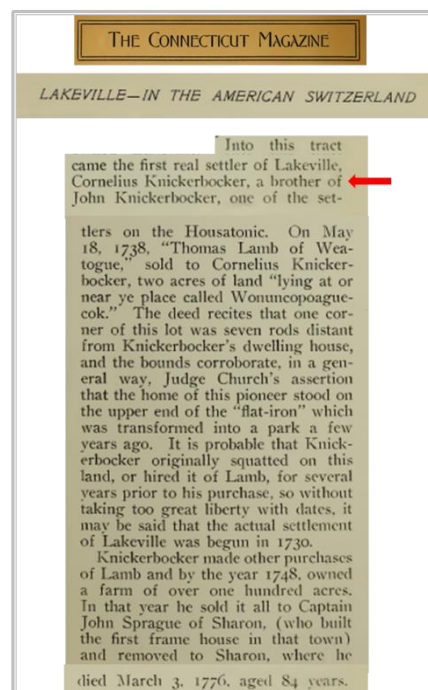
John and his Uncle move to Connecticut

The Knickerbocker lines in Connecticut were founded by John Knickerbocker (person 5) and Cornelius Knickerbocker (person 2).

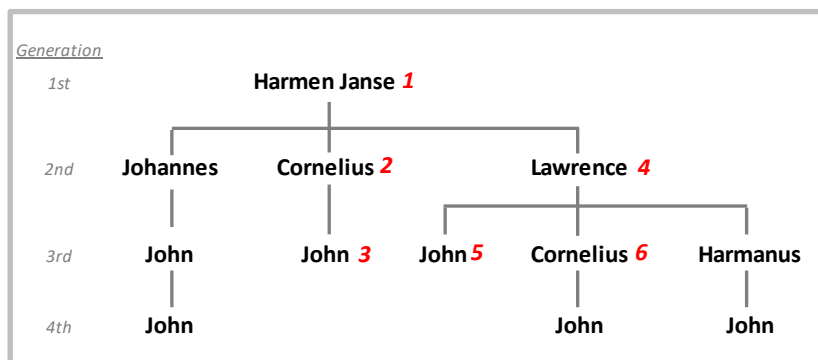
Cornelius was John's uncle.

Unfortunately, there have been multiple histories and family trees that have gotten this wrong.

For example, shown here is an excerpt from a Connecticut Magazine article in 1903. The article is a nice summary of Cornelius' life in Connecticut. However, the article claims that Cornelius and John were brothers. This is wrong.



This mistake is understandable. Without a family tree, it is hard to differentiate the early Knickerbockers. For example, consider the following group of Knickerbockers:



Cornelius (person 2) had a brother named Johannes. Cornelius (2) also had a son named John and two nephews named John.

John (5) had a brother named Cornelius (6) and two cousins named John.

Cornelius (6) had a brother named John, a son named John, two cousins named John, and a nephew named John.

There is no way to keep this straight without drawing a family tree and identifying each person.

Too Many John Knickerbockers

In the 1790, there were only 23 Knickerbocker households in the entire census. Eight of those households were headed by men named John Knickerbocker

Three of the eight John Knickerbocker households were in Connecticut. A fourth one, John Knickerbocker (Esquire) in Vermont, was headed by a man who had just left Connecticut.

1790 Census Results for Knickerbockers

<u>Head of Household</u>		Males > 16	Males\ U16	Females	Other free	Slaves	<u>Comment</u>
John Knickabocker	Litchfield, Litchfield, CT	1	2	2			<i>Discussed in this report</i>
John Knickabocker	Litchfield, Litchfield, CT	1	2	2			""
John Knickabacker	Litchfield, Litchfield, CT	1	1	3			""
John Knickerbacor, Esq	Burlington, Chittenden, VT	1	0	0			""
John Knickerbacker	Northeast, Dutchess, NY	3	2	5			so Cornelius (& gs of Lawrence)
John Knickerbacker	Washington, Dutchess, NY	1	2	3			so Harmanus (& gs of Lawrence)
John Knickerbacker	Schacticoke, Albany, NY	2	0	1		9	so of Johannes
John Knickerbacker Jr	Schacticoke, Albany, NY	2	1	6		9	gs of Johannes
Solomon Knickerbocker	Litchfield, Litchfield, CT	2	4	4			
Abraham Knickerbocker	Litchfield, Litchfield, CT	3	3	6			
Saml Knickerbocker	Litchfield, Litchfield, CT	2	2	3			
Isaac Knickabocker	Litchfield, Litchfield, CT	4	0	2			
Francis Snikerbacker	Chemung, Montgomery, NY	1	0	2			
Hermanus Knickerbacker 1 st	Amenia, Dutchess, NY	4	3	4			
Hermanus, Ye 2d Knickerbacker	Amenia, Dutchess, NY	1	1	1			
Hermanus, Ye 3d Knickerbacker	Amenia, Dutchess, NY	1	1	1			
Roeliff Knickerbacker	Amenia, Dutchess, NY	1	1	5			
Benjamin Knickerbacker	Northeast, Dutchess, NY	3	3	6			
Phillip Knickerbacker	Northeast, Dutchess, NY	5	2	6			
Lawrence Knickerbacker	Northeast, Dutchess, NY	1	3	2			
Margery Knickerbacker	Northeast, Dutchess, NY	3	3	7		1	
Herman I Knickerbacker	Rhinebeck, Dutchess, NY	1	2	7			
Abraham Knickebacker	NY City West Ward, NY, NY	1	0	4			

This report will discuss the first 4 John Knickerbockers on this list.

As we will discuss later, John Knickerbocker and Lydia Jackson had 2 sons and 1 daughter before 1790. Thus, John and Lydia are either the first or second "John Knickerbocker" on this list.

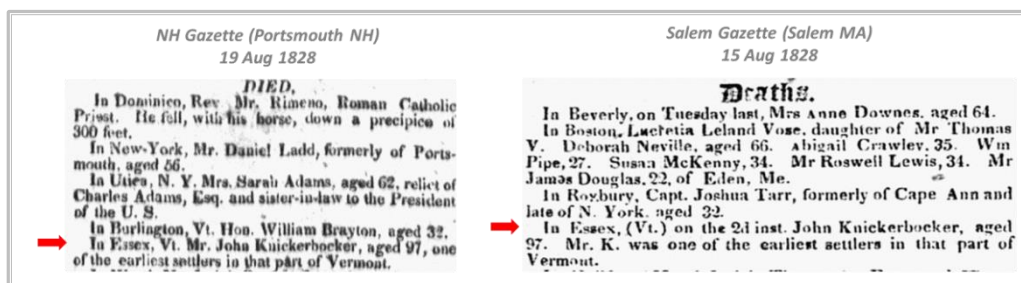
However, we will begin by discussing the fourth entry on this list – John Knickerbocker Esquire.

John Knickerbocker, the son of Cornelius

The John Knickerbocker who moved to Vermont was the son of Cornelius Knickerbocker (person 2).

This “John Knickerbocker” moved to Vermont by the 1780’s. The Vermont man didn’t have a role in the lives of John and Lydia Knickerbocker. However, the Vermont records have never been fully documented, and are worthy of some discussion.

Two newspapers reported the death of John Knickerbocker of Essex, Vermont, at age 97, in August of 1828. This could only be Cornelius’ son. (Van Alstyne’s *History of the Knickerbocker Family* reported that Corenlius’ son was baptized in May of 1731.)



Essex is in the northwest quadrant of Vermont. Other towns in that vicinity include Burlington, Highgate, and Grand Isle. There are various historic records that show that a man named John Knickerbocker served various civic roles in those towns from the 1780’s to about 1800.

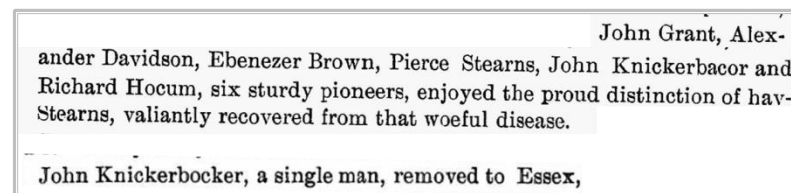
John Knickerbocker was a colleague of Ethan Allen and his brothers. Many early settlers of Vermont, including the Allen brothers, were natives of Litchfield County, Connecticut. Ethan Allen and his brothers were about the same age as John Knickerbocker.

The same Connecticut Magazine article that was mentioned earlier also comments on John Knickerbocker’s assistance in finalizing the constitution of Vermont.

Furthermore we learn from the account book of Ira Allen, state treasurer, that on November 20, 1777 he paid “John Knickerbocker for copying the constitution for the press” eighteen shillings, and on November 26 he charged his expense for three days “going from Salisbury to Hartford to get the constitution printed”. Thus it was that the original draft of the constitution under which the government of Vermont was administered for nearly sixty years, was prepared for the printer within a stone’s throw of Lake Wononscopomuc.

The only confusion around this John Knickerbocker is whether he was ever married. The records are odd.

John Knickerbocker was listed as being a selectman in Burlington, Vermont, in 1789, 1790, and 1791.



The *Proceedings and papers, Vermont Antiquarian Society* discusses the early settlers of Burlington, and describes John Knickerbocker as a single man who later moved to Essex.

The discussion in the Antiquarian Society write-up was based in part on the 1790 census, which showed John Knickerbocker as the only person in his household.



In 1790, John described himself as “Esquire,” showing that he claimed some knowledge of law. (At the time, law was a skilled trade, not a profession requiring a university degree.)

This is the same John Knickerbocker who moved to Essex, Chittenden County. Any doubts about this are removed by the following two descriptions of a minister’s ordainment in Essex in about 1800. In the first description, the ceremony was at the house of John Knickerbocker. In the second description, he is called Esquire Knickerbocker.

*History of Chittendon County,
Vermont (1886)*

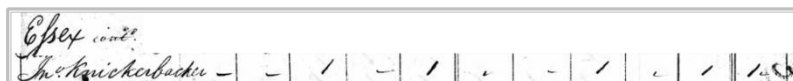
The Universalists had representatives among the earliest settlers of the town. John Knickerbocker, who settled on the farm occupied by Jason Hunt, was a leader among them. Their meetings were held at his house, and it was at this place that Joshua Babbitt, a minister of that persuasion, was ordained i

*Vermont Historical Gazetteer:
A Magazine (1867)*

Dea. Samuel Buell, Esquire Knickerbocker (at whose house a Universalist minister, Rev. Mr. Babbitt, was ordained), were the early settlers.

John’s family status appears to have changed sometime before 1800.

The 1800 census in Essex shows John Knickerbocker in a household has 1 white male 16-25, 1 white male over 45, 1 white female 16-25, 1 white female over 45, and 1 “other free person” who might have been a servant:



This “John Knickerbocker” was over the age of 45 in 1800. This also points to this being Cornelius’ son.

The table below compares John’s entries in 1800, 1810, and 1820. All three are consistent with the idea that John married a widow.

John Knickerbocker’s Census Entries in Vermont

		Males 16-25	Males ≥ 45	Females 16-25	Females 26-44	Females ≥45
1800	Essex	1	1	1	0	1
1810	“	0	1	1	0	1
1820	“	0	0	0	1	1

John Knickerbocker may have left a stepson and stepdaughter, both of whom were born sometime before about 1785. These Vermont records are worthy of more research and discussion.

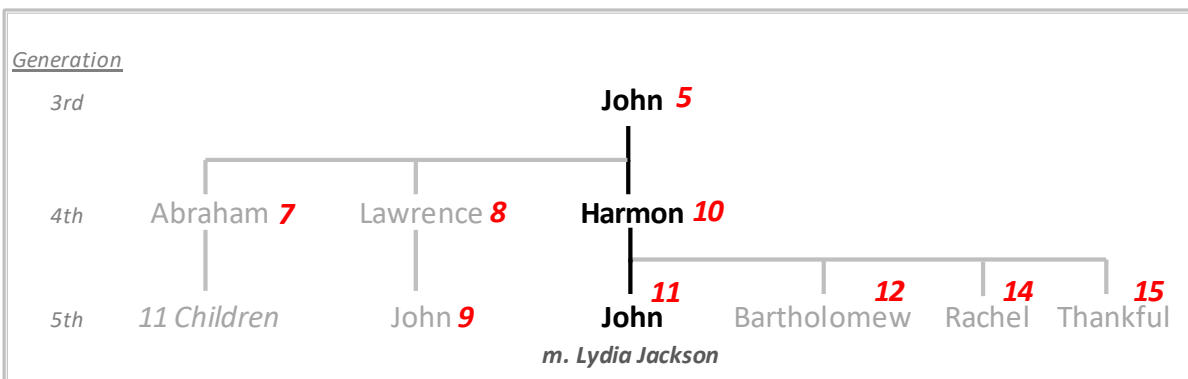
We will now return to the Connecticut families.

Connecticut

John Knickerbocker (1710-1786)

We now turn our focus to Lawrence's son John (person number 5) who was the main patriarch of the Connecticut families.

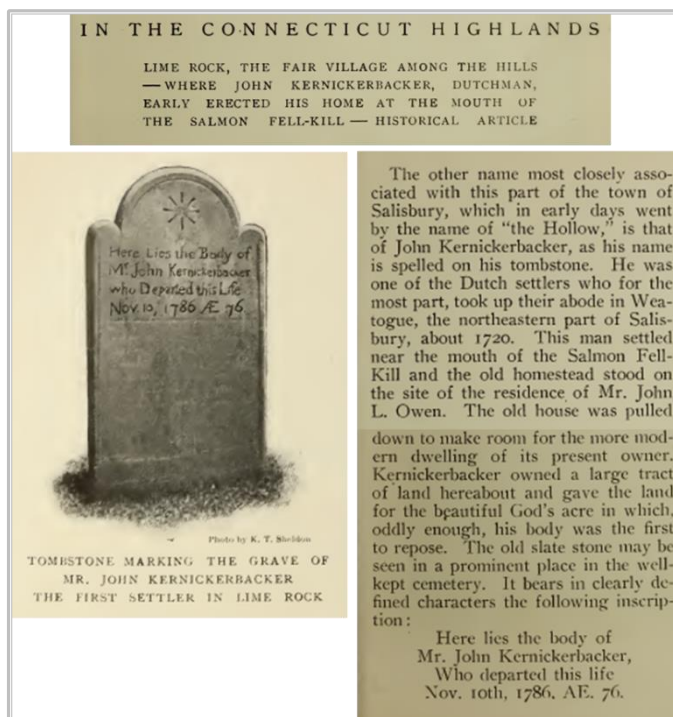
As we will discuss, John had a large family. We will mention all of his children, but our main focus is on the core shown here:



Basic information about John's life and family can be found in Van Alstyne's *History of the Knickerbocker Family*. We will not duplicate Van Alstyne's information here.

A superficial description of John Knickerbocker appeared in Connecticut Magazine in 1904.

One interesting feature of this article is its emphasis on the odd spelling on John's tombstone: Kernickerbacker.



John Knickerbocker was only about 12 years old when his father Lawrence purchased The Grant.

We do not know exactly when John moved to Connecticut, but it was probably between 1730 and 1740, when John was 20 to 30 years old.

Once John arrived in Connecticut, he began to accumulate some large tracts of land. This is shown in Connecticut land records.

(James Lloyd, who heads the Knickerbocker DNA team, did an extensive amount of work on the land records of Connecticut. We appreciate all of James' hard work.)

Lawrence Knickerbocker's 50 acre grant was along the Housatonic River, near the mouth of Salmon Kill Creek.

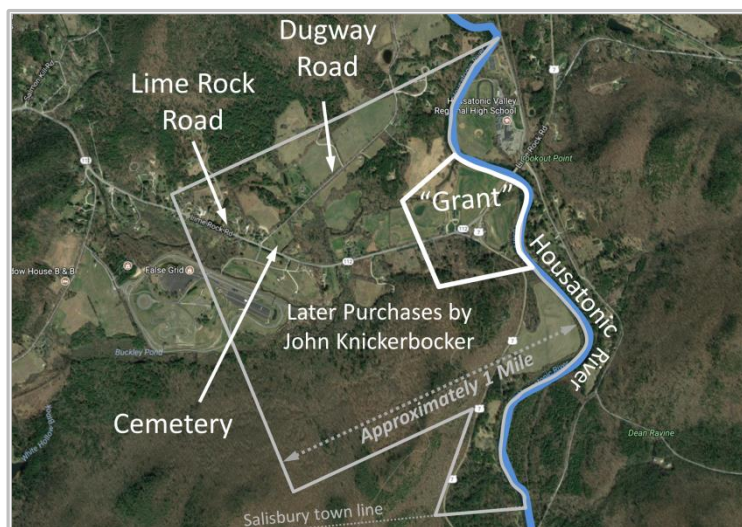
John quickly expanded his land holdings. The satellite photos shown here attempt to illustrate the scope of his land purchases in Salisbury.

The original Grant is labeled on both the flat view and the 3-dimension view.

The cemetery is labelled in the top photograph. John once owned this land, and apparently donated the land for use as a burial ground.

John's properties also included the plains east and north of the mountain.

John's property included part of the mountain. This land was probably less valuable. Today, the mountain is heavily forested, and is crossed by part of the Appalachian Trail.



John Knickerbocker also purchased land south of the Sharon town line, just off the bottom of these satellite photographs. The Sharon properties are important to our story, and will be discussed later.

The Will of John Knickerbocker

John Knickerbocker died in 1786 and left a will. The will named the 12 people shown in the table below. The table also shows how each person was described, and examples of what they inherited.

	<u>Name</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Example of Inheritance</u>
1	Jamime	Wife	Half of house & barn
2	Abram	Eldest son	Land
3	Lawrence	Second son	Land
4	Isaac	Fourth Son	Land
5	John	Harmon's John, so-called & my grandson ★	25 acres, the house his father built, & other land
6	Mary Hogaboome	Eldest daughter	Land
7	Jane Jackson	<i>no description was given</i>	Land
8	Sary Griffin	Daughter	Land
9	Solomon	Fifth son	Land (including The Grant)
10	Bartholomew	Harmon's three children not mentioned before in this will. Rachel and Thankful are called "twins"	1 pound 10 shillings
11	Rachel		1 pound
12	Thankful		1 pound

(There was another daughter, Eschie, who apparently died young and left no heirs.)

The Wealth of John Knickerbocker

When he died, John Knickerbocker was probably considered to be a wealthy man. We will discuss one example that illustrates his wealth.

After he died, John's executors appraised some of John's land holdings. The list shown here contains 19 properties.

There is a dwelling towards the bottom of the list that was appraised for 40 pounds. We don't know the size or condition of this dwelling, but this provides a benchmark for reviewing the rest of the list.

The total appraised value of these properties was about 1,200 pounds, or 30 times the value of the single dwelling.

The image shows a handwritten list of properties and their appraised values. The text is written in cursive and is somewhat faded. The list includes 19 items, each with a number, a description of the property (usually in acres), and an appraised value in pounds and shillings. The total value at the bottom is 1200 pounds.

Item	Description	Appraised Value
1	30 Acres of Land in Appraisal	63 1/2
2	10 Acres of Land	9
3	10 Acres of Land	10
4	15 Acres of Land	17 1/2
5	12 Acres of Land	16 1/2
6	3 Acres of Land	4
7	15 Acres of Land	16 1/2
8	25 Acres of Land	40
9	30 Acres of Land	75
10	23 1/2 Acres of Land	23 1/2
11	47 Acres of Land	63 1/2
12	25 Acres of Land	28 1/2
13	41 Acres of Land	48 1/2
14	8 1/2 Acres of Land	6 1/2
15	35 1/2 Acres of Land	78 1/2
16	76 Acres of Land	22 1/2
17	59 1/2 Acres of Land	79 1/2
18	106 Acres of Land	212 1/2
19	50 Acres of Land	173 1/2
	one Dwelling house	40
	Barn and Barnyard	10
	Total	1200

The list shown above does not represent all of John Knickerbocker's land holdings. For example, the dwelling above was not the home of John Knickerbocker. The probate records include a description of the house on The Grant. The house had three stories and a cellar.

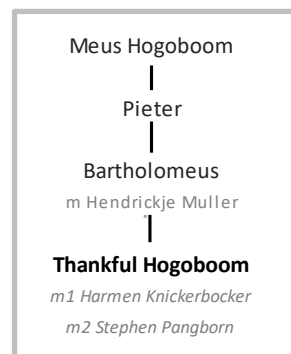
It is interesting to note that John Knickerbocker's will did not include cash inheritances for his children.

John's children were apparently not wealthy. Once the probate process was complete, John's children sold off their inheritances fairly quickly.

Thankful Hogoboom, the wife of Harmen Knickerbocker

Thankful Hogoboom was the daughter of Bartholomew Hogoboom and Hendrica Muller. She was mentioned in the probate records of both her father and her mother.

Bartholomew Hogoboom was the son of Pieter Hogoboom. In Pieter's will, Bartholomew is called "Bartholomeus." Pieter's father was probably the man known as Meus Hogoboom.



Bartholomew Hogoboom died before 1770 in Canaan, CT. His wife Hendrica died before 1785.

Neither Bartholomew or Hendrica left a will. Their probate files suggest that they had 10 children: Elizabeth, Hannah, Elinor, Thankful, Charity, Olive, Jeremiah, Jane, Rachel, and Mary.

It appears that Bartholomew had given land to some of his children during his lifetime. After he died, his widow bought back land from six of the children.

The probate file helps explain some of the land records. In 1771, land records show that Herman Knickerbocker and Thankful, of Canaan, sold 70 acres to Hendries Hogeboom, "our honored mother." The land was where "our honored father lived."

Henrickhe Hogoboom died before 1785. Her probate records mention Thankful Pangborn.

In 1785, land records show that Stephen Pangborn and his wife Thankful, of Salisbury, sold property to Jeremiah Hogoboom. The land was described as being "all of our lands" that were part of the estate of the widow Hendrica Hogoboom.

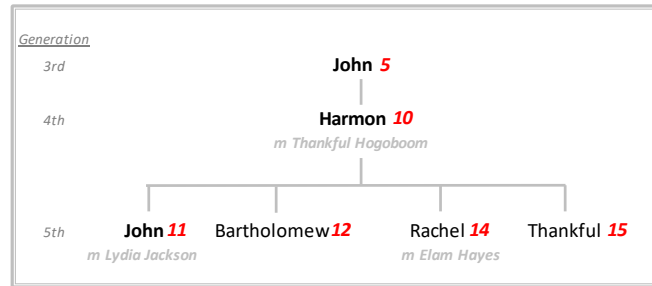
Thankful Hogoboom and her second husband, Stephen Pangborn, moved to Vermont sometime around 1785.

Their new home was in Addison, which is about 35 miles south of Essex. (As discussed earlier, Essex was the home of John Knickerbocker Esquire.)

The Four Children of Harmen Knickerbocker and Thankful Hogoboom

Harmen Knickerbocker and Thankful Hogoboom had four children: John, Bartholomew, Rachel, and Thankful.

The will of John Knickerbocker mentioned each of these four children, and the language in the will clearly shows that they were the only four.



Additional proof that there were four children comes from the probate process.

John (5) Knickerbocker's will neglected to mention many of his land holdings. These extra land holdings were considered to be intestate. The intestate properties were divided nine ways. For example, there is a deed showing that Isaac inherited one-ninth of the intestate lands.

The nine apparently represented John's widow Jamima, plus the eight children who had reached adulthood (Abraham, Lawrence, Harmen, Isaac, Solomon, Mary, Jane, and Sarah.)

Since Harmen had already died, his one-ninth share of the intestate properties was split four ways. There is a deed that shows that the twins, Rachel and Thankful, each received one fourth of one ninth of the intestate properties. Thus, John had exactly four children.

Van Alstyne's mistake regarding the children of Harmen

"In addition to the children mentioned in their grandfather's will, Abraham and Lawrence are called children and heirs of Harmen Knickerbocker"

Van Alstyne claimed that Harmen had six children. He was wrong.

The problem was apparently caused by a list of names in the probate records.

Consider the following list: "Abraham, Lawrence, the children and heirs of Harmen Knickerbocker, Isaac, and Solomon"

This list contains five items, corresponding to the sons of John Knickerbocker, in order of their birth. The five items in the list are 1. Abraham; 2. Lawrence; 3. The children and heirs of Harmen Knickerbocker; 4. Isaac, and 5. Solomon

Van Alstyne misinterpreted the probate files. Abraham and Lawrence were the older brothers of Harmen, not the heirs of Harmen.

May and June of 1785

May and June of 1785 were busy times in Salisbury.

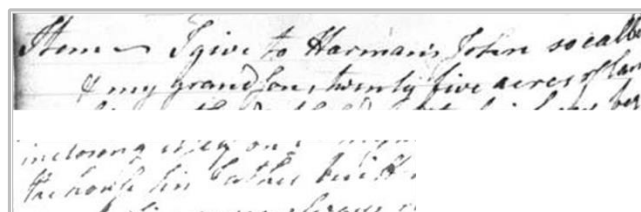
1785													
May							June						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7				1	2	3	4
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
29	30	31					26	27	28	29	30		

On May 7th, Thankful and her second husband sold the property that she inherited from her mother.

On June 5th, the elder John Knickerbocker signed his new will.

On June 9th, the younger John Knickerbocker got married.

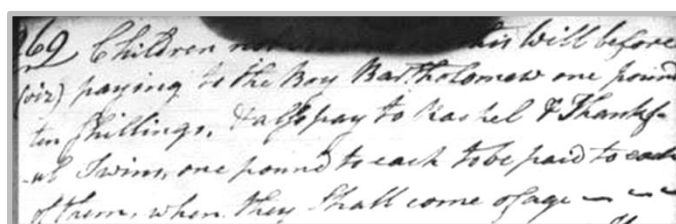
Harmon's oldest son must have been happy. The will of the elder John Knickerbocker was a nice wedding present. Harmon's John received two pieces of property, and the house that his father built.



Thankful and her second husband were probably happy to sell her inheritance, but their mood may have changed pretty quickly.

Thankful could not have been very happy when she found out that the elder John Knickerbocker was giving away the house that Harmon had built. If this happened today, she would hire a lawyer. It's unclear why this was legal. There are many examples in Knickerbocker genealogy where dower rights were a consideration with respect to wills and deeds. This is an exception. Perhaps her re-marriage was viewed as voiding her dower rights.

Harmon's three youngest children were probably least happy. Each of the three was to receive a only small amount of money when they came of age. (The caretaker for this money was Solomon Knickerbocker.)



Worse yet, for the three children, was the fact that their stepfather was about to take them to the far-off land of Vermont. (1784 was Stephen Pangborn's last year on Salisbury tax rolls. He didn't pay the local taxes in 1785, suggesting he was gone before the end of 1785.)

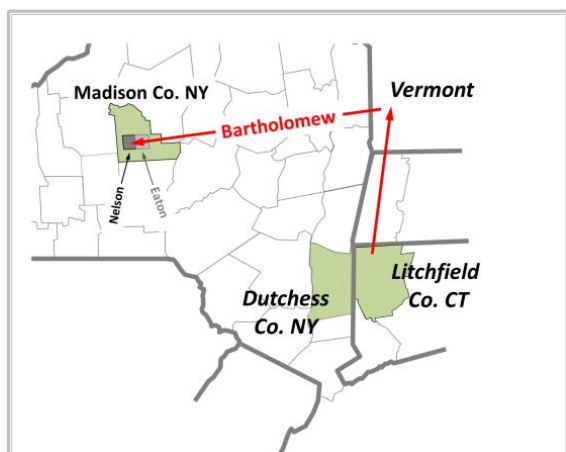
It would be interesting to know more about the interactions between Thankful and the Knickerbockers. John was a wealthy man, but gave Thankful and her three youngest children the short end of the stick.

It would also be interesting to know the interactions between Harmon's John and his stepfather Stephen Pangborn. For example, did John live with his stepfather, or was he a typical headstrong teenager who went off to live with another relative?

Bartholomew Knickerbocker, son of Harmen and Thankful

Bartholomew Knickerbocker made his first census appearance in 1800, in Addison, Vermont. He was living 3 households from his stepfather Stephen Pangborn. This is the only time that Bartholomew only shows up in the Vermont census.

NAMES of Towns	NAMES of HEADS of FAMILIES.	FREE WHITE MALES.					FREE WHITE FEMALES.				
		Under 10 years of age.	10 to 16	16 to 26	26 to 45	45, &c.	Under 10 years of age.	10 to 16	16 to 26	26 to 45	45, &c.
	John Howard	1									
	Stephen Pangborn	1									
	Oliver Bennett	1									
	John Howard	1									
	Bartholomew Knickerbocker	3									



Bartholomew's next census appearance was in 1820 in the town of Nelson, Madison County, New York. He had one teenage boy, and two teenage girls, living with him.

By 1830, two of Bartholomew's sons, John and Stephen Knickerbocker, were both heads of households in Madison County. They were in adjacent households in Eaton Township.

Another son, Robert, was also living in Nelson, probably with Bartholomew. Town records show that Robert Knickerbocker "of Nelson" married Rachel Howard of Eaton on August 22, 1830.

Bartholomew's last census appearance was in 1850, living with his son John. Bartholomew's wife was already gone before 1850. We do not know the name of Bartholomew's wife.

John was definitely a son of Bartholomew, since they lived together in 1850. (Census records for John are inconsistent, showing VT, MA, and NY as birth places.) Robert was also a son of Bartholomew, based on being born in VT (according to both the 1850 and 1855 census) and later living in Nelson NY. Stephen was probably another son, based on being the neighbor of John in 1830. (We don't know where Stephen was born. He disappeared after the 1830 census.)

Bartholomew Knickerbocker was not a wealthy man. Bartholomew never shows up in land records. He might never have owned any property in Madison County or in Vermont.

Bartholomew's son John did eventually buy some property in Madison County. John sold this property in 1857, and moved to Appleton, Wisconsin.

Rachel Knickerbocker, daughter of Harmen and Thankful

In 1801, Rachel Knickerbocker married Elam Hayes in Addison, VT. The History of Jersey County, Illinois states that Elam and Rachel (Knickerbocker) Hayes had four children: Harman, Harvey, Emoretta, and Harley. (There is no trace of Rachel's twin sister, Thankful.)

Harmon's John, the son of Harmen and Thankful

As already mentioned, there were multiple men named John Knickerbocker in Litchfield County. One of them was called "Harmon's John" in the will of the elder John Knickerbocker.

This section will demonstrate how we can identify Harmon's John.

In the years after his grandfather died, Harmon's John made several real estate transactions. We will focus on two examples.

.25 Acre and 10 Acre Lots in Salisbury

In 1795, John Knickerbocker sold two plots of land in Salisbury: a 25 acre parcel with a small house and barn, and a 10 acre parcel. These were given to him by "my grandfather John Knickerbocker by his last will and testament."

This deed does not help us in figuring out which John Knickerbocker was "Harmon's John."

Three Lots in Sharon Totaling 36 Acres

The probate records for John Knickerbocker mention three intestate properties in Sharon. The first property was six acres on the mountain. The second was 20 acres adjoining the first property. The third was 10 acres in the northeast corner of Sharon.

The total of the three properties is 36 acres.

We the Subscribers being appointed by the Honorable Court of Probate for the District of Sharon to appraise three Pieces of Land lying in the Town of Sharon belonging to the Estate of John Knickerbocker late of Salisbury deceased have appraised the same as follows.

One Lot containing 6 Acres lying on the Mountain about half a Mile West of Copstown River a	16-0-0
One Lot containing 20 Acres adjoining to the above Lot a	16-0-0
One Lot containing 10 Acres lying in at the Northeast Corner of the Town of Sharon a	13-0-0
	<u>33-16-0</u>

Salisbury July 7, 1793

The land records for these three properties are confusing. The properties are mentioned in multiple deeds. It is clear that nobody had a clear title.

We will focus on five specific deeds.

Some of these deeds were called "quitclaims." The dictionary definition of quitclaim is:

A quitclaim deed is not a guarantee that the grantor has clear title to the property; rather it is a relinquishment of the grantor's rights, if any, in the property.

Listed below are four deeds that mention the intestate properties:

1. In 1787, Isaac Knickerbocker sold “lands lately belonging to my Hon'd Father John Kernickerbacker Deceased that lies in the Town of Sharon which was not disposed of by my Sd Father in his Last Will and Testamt my right to Sd Lands being one Ninth Part of Sd Lands unto him.”
 - This does not mention “quitclaim” but it served the same purpose.
2. In 1789, Lawrence Kernickerbacor “of Schodack Columbia County NY” [actually, Albany County] sold a quitclaim deed for “that part of the estate of John Kernickerbakor which lieth in Sharon which estate is intestate.”
3. In 1790, Jeremiah Hogoboom agreed to a deed for three pieces of land in Sharon which were the property of John Knickerbocker late of Salisbury and left by him intestate.
 - This deed omitted the word “quitclaim”, but served the same purpose.
 - Jeremiah Hogoboom was the husband of Mary Knickerbocker, and thus an heir-by-marriage
4. In 1792, Solomon Knickerbocker “of Salisbury” sold a quitclaim deed to a 10 acre pitch in Sharon owned by “my father John Knickerbacor” which he “did not bequeth in his last will.”

It appears that the heirs of John Knickerbocker were being asked, one at a time, to forego any claims to the intestate properties.

There is a fifth deed in this sequence. This is the most important for our purposes:

5. **In 1799, John Knickerbacker “of Sharon” sold a quitclaim to “a certain right of land lying in Sharon which right formerly belonged to John Knickerbacker late of Salisbury decd and which right was by sd Knickerbacker to be equally divided among his heirs sd right containing in the whole about thirty six acres”**

This proves that the John Knickerbocker who lived in Sharon in 1799 was an heir of John Knickerbocker (deceased) of Salisbury. There is no other feasible explanation for the wording of this quitclaim.

The John Knickerbocker in Sharon in 1799 was “Harmon’s John, so called.”

This is convenient timing, since there was a John Knickerbocker in the census in 1800.

John Knickerbocker in the 1800 census for Sharon, CT

Shown below is the census record for the John Knickerbocker who was in Sharon in 1800:

NAMES of <i>Towns</i>	NAMES of HEADS of FAMILIES.	FREE WHITE MALES.					FREE WHITE FEMALES.				
		Under ten years of age.	Of ten and under sixteen.	Of sixteen and under twenty-five, including heads of families.	Of twenty-five and under forty-five, including heads of families.	Of forty-five and upwards, including heads of families.	Under ten years of age.	Of ten and under sixteen.	Of sixteen and under twenty-five, including heads of families.	Of twenty-five and under forty-five, including heads of families.	Of forty-five and upwards, including heads of families.
<i>Sharon</i>		to 10	to 16	to 26	to 45	45, &c.	to 10	to 16	to 26	to 45	45, &c.
	<i>John Knickerbocker</i>	3	2		1		1	1		1	

The family had 3 males under 10, 2 males 10-15, and 1 male 26-44. There was 1 female under 10, 1 female 10-15, and 1 female 26-44.

This is the family of John Knickerbocker and his wife Lydia Jackson. We will discuss John and Lydia in more detail in later sections.

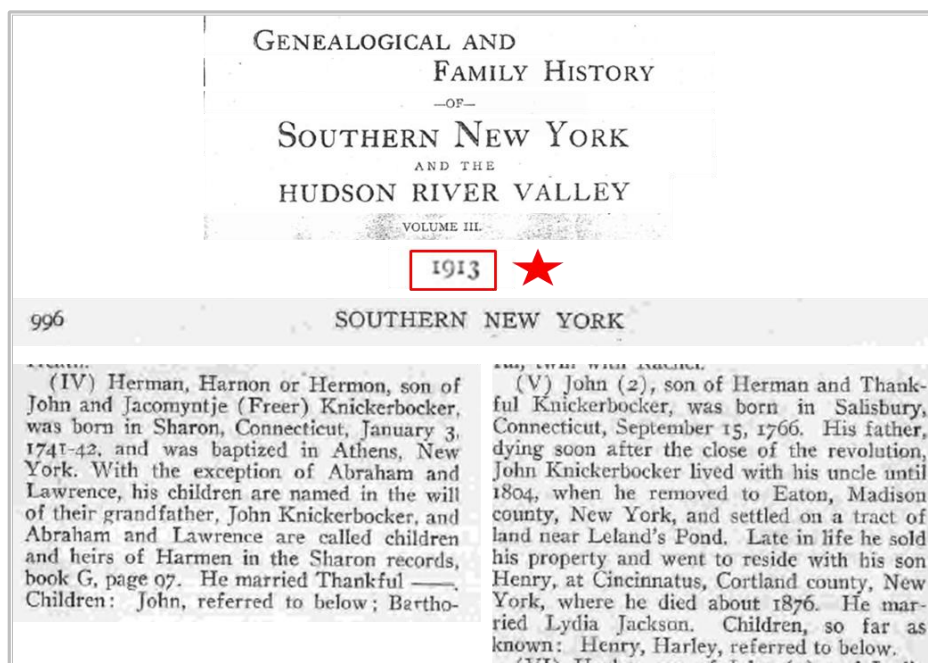
The seven children of John and Lydia fit perfectly with the 1800 census entry:

3 males under 10:	Harry (b 1791); Harley (b. 1795); Hiram (b. 1797)
2 males age 10-15:	Harmen (b 1786); Peter (b. 1789)
1 male age 26-44	John (b. abt 1763)
1 female under 10:	Lucy (b 1800)
1 female age 10-15:	Laura (b 1787)
1 female age 26-44	Lydia

We will pause to discuss how the search for John and Lydia got its start.

Shown here is an excerpt from a book published in 1913. This book stated that the John Knickerbocker who married Lydia Jackson was the son of Herman and Thankful:

This book was written by a genealogist named Cuyler Reynolds.



In parts of his book that are not shown here, Mr. Reynolds copied sections of Van Alstyne almost word-for-word. Mr. Reynolds also copied from a Madison County history that will be discussed later in this report. ("John lived with an uncle.")

However, Mr. Reynolds threw in new twists, such as Harmen Knickerbocker "dying soon after the close of the revolution." Unfortunately, Mr. Reynolds never documented any of his sources.

This book excerpt was one of the sparks that ultimately led to this report.

We need to offer three acknowledgements related to this Cuyler Reynolds book:

1. George F. Walker

- In 1997, George found this book in a library, and shared his findings on knic.com.
- George also noted that this text appeared only in the first edition of this book, from 1913. (When the book was re-issued in 1914, all references to the Knickerbockers were removed.)

2. Familysearch.org

- The 1913 edition of this book is not available via Google or other popular web sites. The 1913 edition is also not available at most libraries.
- Familysearch has the only digitized copy of Volume 3 of the 1913 edition.

3. Cuyler Reynolds

- Mr. Reynolds never documented his sources, and he sometimes made mistakes. In this case, though, he was on the right track.

Other John Knickerbockers in Connecticut

Before leaving Connecticut, we will briefly discuss the other John Knickerbockers who lived in Connecticut.

As already shown, there were 3 John Knickerbockers in Connecticut in 1790.

Harmon's John was one of the families that showed census entries of 1/2/2 in 1790. (1 male over 16: John. 2 males under 16: Harmon and Peter. 2 females: Laura and Lydia.) There has been some debate about whether the other John Knickerbocker who showed 1/2/2 in 1790 is a duplicate census entry. This seems very unlikely. It is very hard to argue that John Knickerbocker was counted twice when none of his neighbors were counted twice.

As shown below, there were 2 John Knickerbockers in 1800:

1800			Males					Females					
	Head of Household	Town	<10	11-16	17-26	26-45	>45	<10	11-16	17-26	26-45	>45	
A	John Knickerbacker	Sharon	3	2	0	1	0	1	1	0	1	0	Harmon's John
B	John Knickerbacker	Salisbury	0	1	0	1	0	4	1	0	1	0	Lawrence's John ?

Person "A" is Harmon's John.

We have labelled person "B" as Lawrence's John, with a question mark. There is a birth record in Connecticut showing that Lawrence (Harmon's older brother) and his wife Katherine had a son John, who was born on November 16, 1766. This "John" was person 9 in the family tree that was shown on page 2.

Lawrence and his son John were included in a 1974 study called *The Knickerbocker History and Genealogy*, which was done by Fred Chamberlain. Mr. Chamberlain provided no references in his study, and made numerous mistakes, but this is all we have. (Mr. Chamberlain's study is available on knic.com.)

We should note that family "B" in 1800 is not a perfect fit with any of the 1790 families. Family "B" would have shown 1/1/2 in 1790. Perhaps the 1790 family with 1/1/3 lost either a young daughter, or an elderly mother-in-law, sometime between 1790 and 1800.

The extra John Knickerbocker from 1790, with census entries of 1/2/2, disappeared completely after 1790, and is therefore very hard to trace.

The extra John might have been the son of Abraham. The size of the Abraham's family – a total of 11 children – comes from the obituary of Abraham Knickerbocker's granddaughter, Martha [Sears] Coolbaugh, who died in 1906. Her obituary states that her mother was Cynthia [Knickerbocker] Sears who was the youngest of 11 children of Abram Knickerbocker of Salisbury CT. We can only identify 6 of Abraham's children. There are 5 children unaccounted for. One of them could have been a "John."

More research is needed.

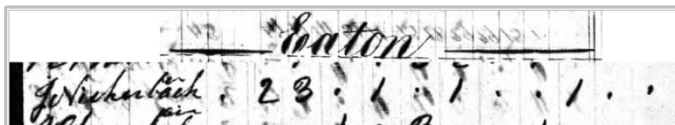
Madison County NY

John Knickerbocker moves to Madison County NY

In October, 1804, John Knickerbocker bought land in “Hamilton, Chenango County.” The original deed is available on Familysearch. The deed was later recorded in Madison County records, but John actually bought the land before Madison County was formed in 1806. Similarly, the purchase was before Eaton split off from Hamilton in 1807.

John was not the first Knickerbocker in the area. He was preceded by his cousin Jeremiah, the son of Isaac. Land records show that Jeremiah and his wife Mary [Smith] briefly owned land in Hamilton, Chenango Co. Jeremiah apparently then moved to Lacona, NY.

John was in the 1810 census for Eaton. (Ancestry mistakenly claims he was in Lebanon. This is due to a transcription error.)

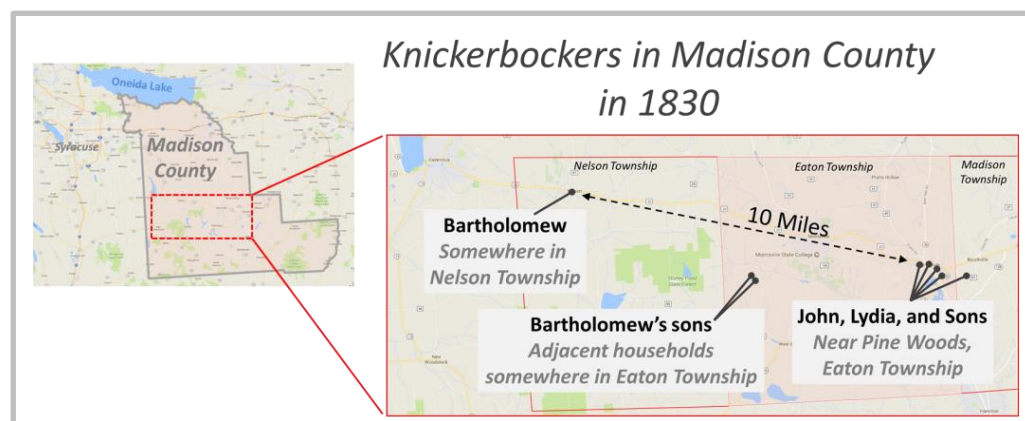


The family had 2 males age 10-15 [Hiram, Harley], 3 males 16-25 [Harry, Peter, Harmon], and 1 male over 45 [John]. There was 1 female 10-15 [Lucy], and 1 female 45 and over [Lydia].

The oldest daughter, Laura, was not in the Knickerbocker household in 1810. She had already married Giles Peckham. The household of Giles Peckham was nearby, in Madison Township.

In the 1820 census, John was in Eaton, on the same census page with his sons Harmon, Peter, and Henry. Each son will be discussed later.

As already discussed, Bartholomew Knickerbocker moved to Nelson, Madison County before 1820, and two of Bartholomew's sons moved to Eaton before 1830.



In 1830, Bartholomew, John, and their sons were clustered in the central section of Madison County.

We know that John and Lydia and their sons were somewhere near Leland's Pond and Pine Woods.

We don't know exactly where Bartholomew lived. On the map above, we have arbitrarily placed his dot towards the western edge of Nelson Township. Even there, Bartholomew was within about 10 miles of John and Lydia.

Bartholomew's sons were in Eaton Township, and thus within about 5 miles of John and Lydia.

In 1830, Madison County was second only to Dutchess County, in terms of the number of Knickerbocker households. Dutchess County had 10 Knickerbocker households. Madison County had 8.

Counties with Knickerbocker Households in 1830

Dutchess Co., NY	10	Steuben Co., NY	3	New York Co., NY	1
Madison Co., NY	8	Cattaraugus Co., NY	2	Onondaga Co., NY	1
Columbia Co., NY	7	Litchfield Co., CT	2	Orleans Co., NY	1
Ontario Co., NY	6	Niagara Co., NY	1	Schoharie Co., NY	1
Monroe Co., NY	5	Berkshire Co., MA	1	Ulster Co., NY	1
Rensselaer Co., NY	5	Crawford Co., PA	1	Washington Co., NY	1
Chenango Co., NY	3	Delaware Co., NY	1	Yates Co., NY	<u>1</u>
Genesee Co., NY	3	Jefferson Co., NY	1	Total	71
Saratoga Co., NY	3	Livingston Co., NY	1		

The Madison County households are listed below.

Knickerbockers in Madison County in 1830

	<u>Head of Household</u>	<u>Comment</u>
Eaton Township	John	Son of Harmen & Thankful, and Husband of Lydia.
	Harry	Son of John and Lydia
	Hiram	Son of John and Lydia
	Harley	Son of John and Lydia
	John	Son of Bartholomew
	Stephen	Son of Bartholomew
Nelson Township	Bartholomew	Son of Harmen & Thankful
Madison Township	Harmon	Son of John and Lydia

(In 1830, the township of Eaton had six Knickerbocker families. The county of Rensselaer had only five.)

John Knickerbocker headed a household in Eaton in 1810, 1820, and 1830. John was still in Eaton in 1840, living with Harley. (Harley was recorded as "H Knickerbocker." The elderly man in his household had to be John, because Harley's father in law was already dead.)

Lydia Knickerbocker was gone before 1840. Her grave has never been found.

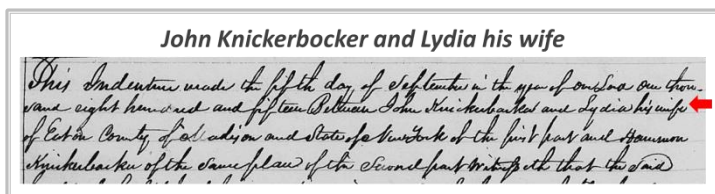
John left Eaton sometime before 1850, when he was living with his daughter Lucy in Volney. By 1855, John was in Cincinnati, in a boarding house near his son Harry.

More details of the census records will be discussed later.

Identifying John Knickerbocker's Wife

This report hasn't yet shown any evidence that John Knickerbocker's wife was named Lydia Jackson.

Land records prove that the first name of John's wife was Lydia. This can be seen, for example, in an 1815 deed when Harmon bought land from "John Knickerbocker and Lydia, his wife."



If we go back to Connecticut records, we see:

KERNICKERBECKER, John, Jr. of Salisbury, m. Lydia Jackson, of Sharon, June 9, 1785

"Junior" simply meant that the John who got married was not the oldest John Knickerbocker in town. (For example, John Knickerbocker Esquire, the son of Cornelius, was called "Junior" in Salisbury tax records.)

"Kernickkerbeckker" is an odd spelling of the last name, but recall that his grandfather's tombstone says "Kernickerbacker."

As we will show later, a Madison County history also states that Lydia's maiden name was Jackson.

Unfortunately we have not been able to identify the parents of Lydia Jackson. There were many Jackson families in the Salisbury area. We don't know which one Lydia came from.

Identifying the Sons and Daughters of John and Lydia

John Knickerbocker died in 1860. It's clear that John didn't own any property when he died. Thus, it's not surprising that John did not leave a will.

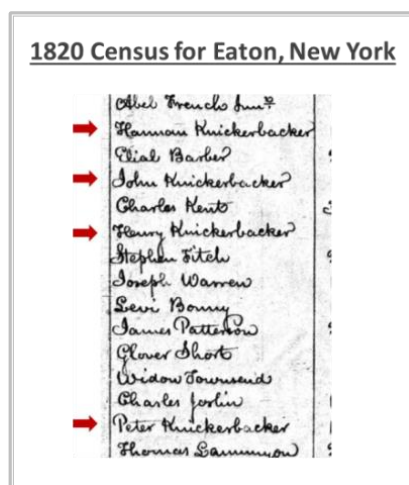
Even without a will, it is easy to identify John's children.

Harry is the most obvious son. John is buried next to Harry in Cincinnatus.

Daughter Lucy is also obvious. John lived with her in 1850.

Land records are useful in identifying John's other sons. For example, Eaton records show the following sequence of deeds:

- In 1810, John Knickerbocker sold land to Harmon and Peter.
- In 1815, John sold land to Harmon.
- In 1817, Harmon sold land to Henry.
- In 1822, Harmon sold land to Hiram.
- In 1829, John sold land to Hiram.



Early census records are also useful for the sons.

For example, in 1820 we see John and three of his sons on the same page of the Eaton census.

This is consistent with the sequence of land records already discussed.

Later census records are also useful. For example, consider the 1870 census, the last one for which all seven children were still living. The 1870 census sheets for all seven children show Connecticut as the birth location.

Birth Locations as Reported in the 1870 Census

<u>Name</u>	<u>Location in 1870</u>	<u>Birth Location</u>
Harmon	Lyndon, Cattaraugus Co, NY	Connecticut
Laura Peckham	Volney, Oswego Co, NY	Connecticut
Peter	Stewardson, Potter Co, PA	Connecticut
Harry	Cincinnati, Cortland Co, NY	Connecticut
Harley	Eaton, Madison Co, NY	Conn.
Hiram	Athens, Calhoun Co, MI	Conn.
Lucy Howard	Volney, Oswego Co, NY	Connecticut

The seven children are discussed later.

When and Where was John Knickerbocker Born?

We do not know exactly where or when John Knickerbocker was born.

The uncertainty starts with census records.

John Knickerbocker in Census Records

Census	Location	Age	Birthplace	Comment
1790	Litchfield, Litchfield Co, CT	16 and over	--	
1800	Sharon, Litchfield Co, CT	26 through 44	--	
1810	Eaton, Madison Co, NY	45 and over	--	
1820	"	45 and over	--	
1830	"	60 thru 69	--	
1840	"	70 thru 79	--	Living with son Harley ("H")
1850	Volney, Oswego Co, NY	89	CT	Living with daughter Lucy
1855 (NY State)	Cincinnati, Cortland Co, NY	94	MA	Living near son Harry

John's birthplace is unclear. In 1850, he apparently told the census-taker Connecticut. In 1855, for the New York State census, his answer was Massachusetts.

Years later, in 1880, a new question was added to the census: Where was your father born?

In 1880, Lucy Howard, apparently said that her father was born in Massachusetts. This was indicated by a set of ditto marks, which are below the word "Massachusetts" (but are adjacent to the word Connecticut).

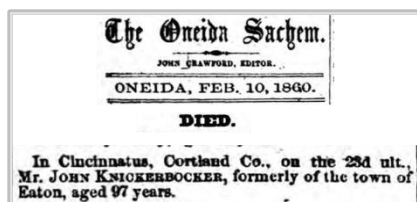
1880
Volney, Oswego Co, NY

Place of Birth of this person, naming State or Territory of United States, or the Country, if of foreign birth.	Place of Birth of the Father of this person, naming the State or Territory of United States, or the Country, if of foreign birth.	Place of Birth of the Mother of this person, naming the State or Territory of United States, or the Country, if of foreign birth.
Howard, Lucy 20 N 11	Massachusetts, Mass.	Connecticut

A red arrow points to the word "Connecticut" in the third column.

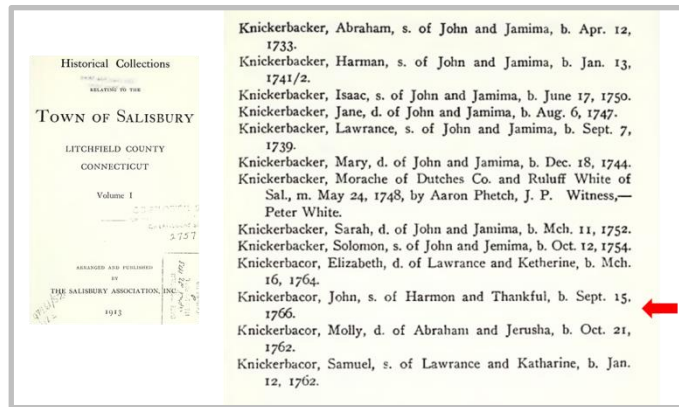
Thus, John was born in either Connecticut or Massachusetts. This is feasible. We know that Harmon lived in both Salisbury and Canaan, both of which border the Massachusetts state line.

As shown above, John's ages in the various census records suggest that he was born about 1761.



This brief obituary says that John was 97 in 1860, suggesting his birth was in 1762 or 1763.

Despite all of the above, John might have been born in Salisbury in 1766. This is based on records that were documented by the Salisbury Historical Society.



More research is needed.

*The Descendants of
John and Lydia*

Harmon Knickerbocker, the 1st Son of John and Lydia

Harmen Knickerbocker (17867-1871) was the oldest son of John and Lydia.

As already shown, there was a Harmon Knickerbocker in Madison County in 1820. It is easy to connect him to Rawson, Cattaraugus County, where he was buried.

For example, after his death, Harmon's wife Phebe applied for a military pension, based on Harmon's service in the war of 1812. The Harmon Knickerbocker who died in Rawson had enlisted in the military when he lived in Eaton, Madison County, New York.

In addition, the obituary of Harmon and Phoebe's daughter, Emeline Perry, stated that she was born in Eaton, Madison County.

Harmen moved first to Allegany County. A local history says that meetings were held at his house in Rushford in 1836. Years later, his son George told a newspaper that Harmen and George ran the Massasoit Hotel in 1851. The hotel story was confirmed in a local history.

By 1854, Harmon was listed as the postmaster for the tiny crossroads of Rawson NY. Census records show him in the township of Lyndon.

Harmon died on May 29, 1871, in Rawson.

A history of the cemetery gives Phebe's maiden name as Horton. The death certificate of son George B. Knickerbocker gives her maiden name as Haughton.

Harmon and Phebe had four children that we can identify.

1. **Emeline (1819-1894)** married Josiah Quincy Perry. They lived in Rawson near her parents. They had two sons, Egbert (1844-1900) and Addis (1848-1926).
2. **Charlotte (1822-1899)** was briefly married to a man named Zelus H. Nettleton. Zelus disappeared shortly after their daughter was born. Their daughter, Isabella (1844-1878) may have had some medical issues.
3. **George B. (1824-1902)** became a well-known dry goods salesman who was mentioned in many local newspaper stories. He was based primarily in New York City, but he travelled often to Western New York. He married Ellen Watson (1837-1898) and had a son Edwin Watson Knickerbocker (1858-1921). Edwin was a dentist in New York City. There are living descendants of this Knickerbocker line.
4. **Mary (1830-)** married Tower Jackson Gile. Her husband was a colorful person. Mary and Tower appear to have divorced. Their oldest son was Charles Henry Gile (1858-1935), who moved to Wisconsin, South Dakota, and Texas. Their second son was Elwin Gile (1862-1863).

Census records suggest that there may have been two older children.

Harley Knickerbocker, the 4th Son of John and Lydia

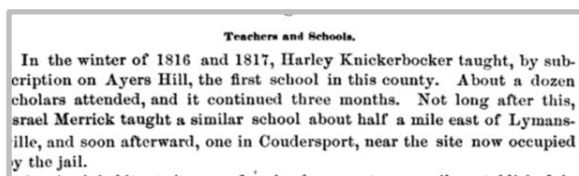
We will discuss Harley (the 4th son of John and Lydia) next, because it will lead into the discussion for Peter (the 2nd son of John and Lydia).

The life of Harley Knickerbocker (1795-1881) was well documented. So are his descendants. Harley did not leave a will, but a very detailed list of next-of-kin was published as part of the probate process.

Like all of his siblings, Harley was born in Connecticut, but later moved to Madison County with John and Lydia.

Harley moved to Potter County, Pennsylvania in about 1816.

Harley was the first schoolteacher in Potter County, in the winter of 1816 / 1817.

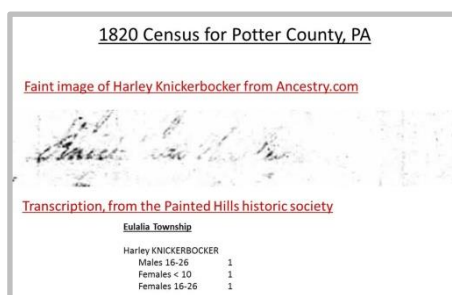


Report of the Superintendent of Public Instruction of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, for the Year Ending June 1, 1877.

Harley was single when he moved to Potter County. He married Eliza Spafford, the step-daughter of Isaac Lyman.

*History of Potter County
Pennsylvania by Victor L. Beebe.
(1934)*

Patience Mann was born in Vermont in 1774. She married Bradstreet Spafford, by whom she had six children: Orlean, born 1796; Ansel, born 1798; Lorenzo D. born 1800; Lucretia, born 1802, married Jonathan Edcomb; Eliza, born 1805, married Harley Knickerbocker; Marietta, born March 7, 1807, married William Earl. Mr. Spafford thinks all these children were born in Vermont. Bradstreet Spafford and his wife separated, and she came to Tioga County, Pa., and married Major Isaac Lyman, March 3, 1809.



Harley was the first "Knickerbocker" to ever show up in the Potter County census. This is often overlooked because his name is partially obscured, apparently by piece of tape holding the census forms together.

Fortunately, the folks at the Painted Hills Historical Society have transcribed the image.

The fate of Eliza Spafford is unknown. She either died, or was divorced from Harley.

Harley and Eliza had a daughter, Cordelia, who was born in Potter County. Harley and daughter Cordelia returned to Madison County in about 1821. Harley's second wife was Henrietta French, who was from Madison County. Their first child together was Julia Ann Knickerbocker, who was born in about 1822.

Harley purchased land in Eaton in May, 1827. He later sold this property and moved into the town of Morrisville, where he died in 1881. He is buried in the local cemetery.

This Indenture Made the thirty first day of May in the Year of Our Lord One thousand Eight hundred and Twenty Seven Between Caroline Merrick & Benjamin Merrick Children & heirs at law of Benjamin Merrick deceased of the first part and Harley Knickerbocker of the second part Witnesseth that the said part of the first part for and in consideration of the sum of Three hundred & Ninety four Dollars & eight cents Money of account of the United States to them see & pay

Harley had a total of 8 children, and many grandchildren and great grandchildren. However, there apparently are no “Knickerbockers” surviving from Harley’s line.

Edwin Knickerbocker (1824-1896) was the oldest son of Harley. Edwin married Mary Curtis Stafford and had one son, Curtis Edwin Knickerbocker (1867-1942). Curtis went to Princeton University and became a civil engineer. He worked in the railroad business and was quite successful. He married Jennie Wilkinson. They had one son, Kenneth Edwin Knickerbocker (1894-), who apparently remained single. Curtis and Jennie also apparently adopted a daughter who called herself “Flora Van Knickerbocker.” Flora considered herself to be an artist and an expert in Knickerbocker history. Some of her wild claims can still be found in a file at the Madison County Historical Society. Curtis Edwin Knickerbocker died in New York City. His body was brought back to Morrisville for burial.

Andrew Jackson Knickerbocker 1833-1906) was the second son of Harley. Andrew married Mary Reed. They had two daughters. The first daughter was Effie May Knickerbocker (1867-1905), who married George Todd. The second daughter was Nina Belle Knickerbocker (1869-1959), who married Fred Burton.

Harley Knickerbocker had seven daughters:

1. **Cordelia (1819-1876)**, who was the first wife of Mark Holroyd the 2nd. Cordelia lived much of her adult life in Illinois.
2. **Julia Ann (1822-1891)** married James H. Browne of Morrisville. She remained in the Morrisville area.
3. **Maria (1826-1869)** married Seth Whitmore and moved to Rathbone, Steuben County, NY.
4. **Jeanette (1827-1874)** married Albert Howard. She also move to Rathbone, Steuben County.
5. **Sophia (1831-1905)** married Zira Todd. They moved to Oswego County, NY.
6. **Susan Knickerbocker (1834-1906)** was unmarried for many years. She then became the second wife of Mark Holroyd the 2nd.

Knickerbocker Biographies in Madison County History

The 1894 book "Leading Citizens of Madison County" included profiles of both of Harley Knickerbocker's sons. These profiles are useful for basic information about Andrew and Edwin Knickerbocker. However, each biography also contains erroneous information.

BIOGRAPHICAL REVIEW

THE LEADING CITIZENS OF MADISON COUNTY

1894

ANDREW JACKSON KNICKERBOCKER, a successful agriculturist and representative of a distinguished pioneer family of the county of Madison, was born December 3, 1833, in the town of Eaton, on the farm he now owns and occupies. His father was Harley Knickerbocker, and his grandfather was John Knickerbocker. The latter was born in Connecticut, and removed to Madison County, locating in the town of Eaton in 1803. To describe the changes that have been made since then in this county in the habits, customs, and mode of living would require a volume of considerable size. When he arrived here, the face of the country was covered with timber, and Indians still lived in their native haunts. There was also plenty of wild game, which was by no means a detriment to the early pioneer. In politics John Knickerbocker was a Democrat. Both he and his wife were members of the Congregational church. Mr. Knickerbocker spent his last days in Cincinnatus, Chenango County, N.Y., dying there when he was one hundred years old.

Harley Knickerbocker was also a farmer of the town of Eaton, and a successful man. He was born in Connecticut, and came to this town when he was eight years old. He died in Morrisville, in his eighty-seventh year. His farm contained one hundred and thirty acres, and upon it he carried on general farming. He and his wife, who was a Miss Henrietta French, reared a family of eight children, namely: Edwin resides in Morrisville, and his biographical sketch appears elsewhere in this volume; Sophia; Susan is the wife of Mark Holroyd; Andrew Jackson; Maria, who married Seth Whitmore, of Rathboneville, N.Y., is deceased, as is also her husband; Jannett and her husband, Albert Howard, of Rathboneville, are both deceased; Juliann was the wife of James Brown, of Eaton, and both she and her husband are now dead; Cordelia became the wife of Mark Holroyd, of Wyand, Ill., and is now deceased.

Andrew Jackson Knickerbocker was educated in

EDWIN KNICKERBOCKER, a resident of Morrisville, has for many years been a representative citizen of Madison County. Agriculture, the first and most necessary occupation of man, long received his attention; and education, the mainspring of civilization, the force that sets in motion and regulates the complicated machinery of human action in all its various spheres of labor and lines of development, has ever found in him a friend and champion. Mr. Knickerbocker was born in the town of Eaton, Madison County, January 5, 1824, and is a son of Harley Knickerbocker, a native of Connecticut. John Knickerbocker, the father of Harley, was born in the suburbs of New York City, of ancestry which, several generations previously, came from Holland. The father of John Knickerbocker fought on the side of the colonists in the Revolutionary War, and in the cause of freedom surrendered his life. Soon after his death his son John went to live with an uncle in Connecticut, residing in that State until 1804, when he emigrated to the State of New York, making the journey with a team. Settling in what is now the town of Eaton, he purchased a tract of land covered with timber, near Leland's Pond, built a log house, and began the hard and serious labor of clearing a farm. At that early day there were neither railroads nor canals, even in New York State, which was one of the first States in the Union to give attention to internal improvements; nor were there any kind of manufactures except those rude and simple ones carried on in the domestic circle. For many years after settling in this new country he was obliged to travel one hundred miles to Albany to find a market for his surplus products, and a place where he could purchase such supplies as were needed in the household and upon the farm. A full week was required to make the round trip, and upon his return he was accustomed to bring back with him various kinds of supplies required by the merchants in their stores. With the assistance of his sons, he cleared about one hundred and fifty acres of his land, and continued to reside upon his first purchase for a number of years, after which he sold his possessions, and made his home with his son Henry at Cincinnatus, Cortland County. He lived to the remarkable age of one hundred years. The maiden name of his wife was Lydia Jackson.

Harley Knickerbocker, the father of our subject, was eight years old when the family removed to this State. He was reared upon his father's farm, and was first married, in Potter County, Pennsylvania, to a Miss Stannard, who was born in the Keystone State. After their union they settled on a farm in Potter County, where, after a married life of less than two years, she died, leaving one daughter, Cordelia, who grew to womanhood, married, and reared quite a large family, she herself dying in Chicago, Ill. Soon after the death of his first wife Mr. Knickerbocker removed to Madison County, and later (in the town of Eaton) was married for the second time. Purchasing a portion of the old homestead near Leland's Pond, he moved into the frame house already erected thereon, and began the life of a farmer on his own account, possessing better advantages than his father had formerly enjoyed, one of which was a market at Utica, only thirty miles distant. After residing a few years on this farm, he sold it, and bought another near the present site of Morrisville Station,

In the early days of Internet genealogy, the biography of Edwin Knickerbocker was widely circulated. This is because of its claim that the father of John Knickerbocker had "died in the cause of freedom."

These biographies must be treated with some skepticism. The scorecard below illustrates why.

Scorecard: How Accurate Were the Madison County Biographies?

	Biography of Andrew Jackson Knickerbocker	Biography of Edwin Knickerbocker	Reality
First wife of Harley	Ignored	"Miss Stannard"	Eliza Spafford
Birthplace of John	Connecticut	"Suburbs of NYC"	CT or MA
Name of John's wife	Ignored	Lydia Jackson	Lydia Jackson
John's home in 1850	Ignored	Ignored	With daughter Lucy
Size of John's family	Ignored	Ignored	5 boys, 2 girls
Fate of John's father	Not mentioned	"Died in the cause of freedom"	Died around 1777
John and his uncle	Not mentioned	John moved to Connecticut and lived with his uncle	John's grandfather, also named John, moved to Connecticut with his uncle, Cornelius

Both biographies get a major red flag related to Eliza Spafford. Edwin and Andrew grew up with their half-sister Cordelia, yet the boys didn't know the name of Cordelia's mother. If nothing else, this proves that neither Andrew or Edwin had access to an old family bible.

Another red flag is that Edwin claimed that John was born in the suburbs of New York City. The editor of the book also deserves a red flag. Andrew and Edwin claimed different birthplaces for John, and yet both answers were printed in the same book.

We have also red-flagged both biographies with respect to John's movements in 1850, when he went to live with his daughter Lucy, and for not mentioning John's large family.

Edwin gets a yellow flag for the claim that John's father had died "in the cause of freedom." There is no record of Harmen serving during the Revolutionary War.

The last yellow flag involves Edwin's claim that John moved to Connecticut to live with an uncle. It appears that Edwin was confusing two of his ancestors, both named John Knickerbocker.

Edwin's great-great-grandfather, John Knickerbocker, was born somewhere along the Hudson River, and later moved to Connecticut with his uncle.

Edwin's grandfather, also named John Knickerbocker, is the one whose father died sometime around 1777.

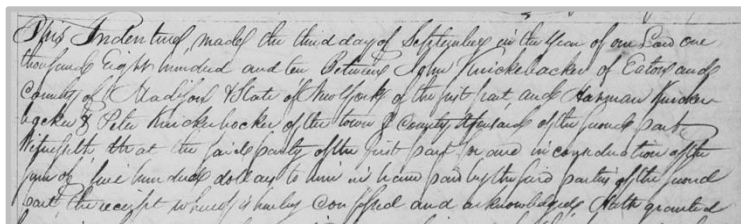
As mentioned earlier, it would be interesting to know where Harmon's John lived in the years immediately after his father's death. Many teenage stepsons live with other relatives instead of living with a stepfather. Edwin Knickerbocker might be partly right about his grandfather. Maybe John really did live with an uncle.

Peter Knickerbocker – the 2nd Son of John and Lydia

Peter Knickerbocker (1789 – about 1879) was the second son of John Knickerbocker and Lydia Jackson.

This is the Peter Knickerbocker who lived most of his life in Potter County, Pennsylvania.

Like all of his siblings, Peter was born in Connecticut. This is proven by census entries that will be shown later.



Peter's first land purchase was in Madison County in 1810, when he and his brother Harmon bought land from their father John.

Peter's first census entry was in 1820, in Eaton, Madison County, New York. He was on the same page as his father John, and his brothers Harmon and Henry. (His youngest brother, Hiram, was still living at home with John and Lydia. The other brother, Harley, was living in Potter County, PA, in 1820.)

1820 Census for Eaton,
Madison County, NY


Harmon Knickerbocker	1					1		1	1					1
Abel Barber	2	2				1		1	3		1			1
John Knickerbocker				1		1				1				2
Charles Kent	3	1				1		2	1		1			1
Henry Knickerbocker						1		1			1			1
Stephen Fitch	2	1				1		4	3		1			1
Joseph Warren	1	2				1		3		1	1			1
Levi Bonny	1	2	1	1		1		2	1	1	1			3
James Patterson	2					1		2			1			1
Glover Short		1			2	1		2	2	2		1		3
Widow Townsend		1			1						2			1
Charles Forlin	1	1			1			1	1		1			1
Peter Knickerbocker	1				1			1			1			1

The census marks for Peter show 1 male under 10, 1 male 26-44, 1 female under 10, and 1 female 26-44. The young male is Henry, who was born in 1819 or 1820. The young female is either Lucy or Melissa; it is unclear which daughter was actually born first.

Peter was married sometime before 1820. We do not know the date of his marriage.

Peter's wife in later census records is named Hannah. There is no record showing her maiden name. (Every popular internet site claims that her maiden name was Bailey, but there doesn't seem to be any factual basis for this claim.)

The death certificate of Melissa Allen confirms that her father was Peter Knickerbocker. The death certificate lists her birth place as New York State.

Name:	Melissa Allen
Birth Date:	Nov 1819
Birth Place:	Madison County, New York 
Source:	RLDS Deceased Files/ Early Reorganization Minutes, 1872-1905, Book E/ Decatur, Nebraska, RLDS Branch Records/ Logan, Iowa, RLDS Branch Records
Notes:	Melissa Allen was baptized and confirmed a member of the Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints on 10 March 1861 at Montrose, Lee, Iowa, by John Shippy. She attended the Decatur, Nebraska Branch and the Logan, Iowa Branch

Melissa Allen's LDS baptism record confirms that she was born in Madison County, NY.

In July of 1814, Peter purchased a small piece of property in Potter County.

Jacob B. Tammale 1877. **This Indenture made.**
 This day of July in the year of our Lord
 one thousand, eight hundred and fourteen between Jacob B. Tammale and
Edley located of Calalia Township in the county of Potter and Commonwealth
 of Pennsylvania of the one part and John Springhouse of the town county
 and state aforesaid of the other part Witnesseth that the said parties
 of the first part for and consideration of the sum of twenty dollars to them in
 full paid by and before the sealing and delivery of these presents the said

Peter made more land deals in 1817. One of the deeds described him as “Peter Knickerbocker, late of Potter County.” As we said, his movements during this time are unknown.

In about 1822, the government offered a series of contracts to clear lands in Potter County. The contract was described slightly differently in two local histories.

The 1949 publication *Early History of Coudersport*, from the Potter County Historical Society, said that Peter Knickerbocker had the contract in 1824.

In 1822 John Dingman and John Lyman contracted to clear the public square. In April, 1823, Isaac Lyman was granted \$27 for clearing land at Coudersport and in June, \$10 for clearing the town plot. Peter Knickerbocker continued the clearing in 1824.

The 1934 publication *History of Potter County Pennsylvania* described the contract having gone to Harley or Peter Knickerbocker.

An act of the legislature in 1822 authorized them to clear the county court sites of timber and brush, the land cleared not to exceed 30 acres in area. John Dingman, Leonard Taggart, and either Harley or Peter Knickerbocker took a job of clearing this land, becoming security for each other. They chopped it and burned it, fencing it with logs.

Isaac Lyman was mentioned in the first history shown above. Isaac was the stepfather of Harley's wife, Eliza Spafford.


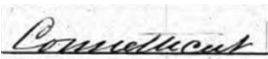
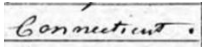
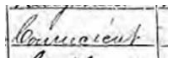
If the land clearing contract really was in 1824, it must have gone to Peter. By 1824, we believe that Harley had already returned permanently to Madison County.

Peter Knickerbocker was not a head of household, anywhere, in the 1830 census. Multiple people have searched the census sheets in all of the obvious areas. Either Peter was living with someone else, or his family was missed by the census takers.

In 1840, Peter started making consistent appearances in the census.

Peter shows up in four census records after 1850, when they began recording birthplace. Peter Knickerbocker's birthplace was consistent: he was born in Connecticut.

Census Entries for Peter Knickerbocker

	<u>Location</u>	<u>Birthplace</u>	<u>Comment</u>
1820	Eaton, Madison Co, NY	not recorded	Same page as his father & brothers
1840	Pike, Potter Co, PA	not recorded	1 st appearance in Potter Co census
1850	Pike, Potter Co, PA		Peter, Hannah, & Peter Jr.
1860	Stewardson, Potter Co, PA		Peter & Hannah
1870	Stewardson, Potter CO, PA		Living with son Oliver
1875	Portville, Cattaraugus Co, NY		Living with daughter Lucy Robins & granddaughter Adeline Pilon

Peter Knickerbocker and his wife Hannah had 7 children:

1. **Lucy (1818-1916)** was a daughter of Peter and Hannah. Lucy's obituary says she was the oldest, but it's not clear whether Lucy or Melissa was the older of the two.

Lucy m1 John Robins. Their children were Lydia Lodema (1839-1940), Hiram Peter (1842-1934), Lucinda (1844-1928), Mary Edaline (1848-1930), and Sarah (1852-).

Lucy m2 Levi Holcomb (1808-1902).

Lucy lived out her adult life in Potter County and the nearby town of Portville NY.

2. **Melissa (1819-1910)** married Harvey Allen (1805-).

Melissa and Harvey had several children, including Hanna (1839-), Norman (1841-1942), Lucy (1846-1932), George (1849-1928), John (1851-), and William (1853-).

Melissa and husband Harvey left Potter County and moved west. Melissa died in Ainsworth, Brown County, Nebraska.

Melissa joined the Church of Latter Day Saints. Her LDS baptism record was shown earlier.

3. **Henry (1820-1870)** married Mary Prouty.

Henry and Mary had a large family, including Chester (1841-1864), Kellock Elijah (1843-1914), Charles Henry (1844-1925), Marium Esther (1847-1910), Sarah Elinor (1849-), Sena Ann (1851-), Delight (1854-), Hiram (1857-), and Hannah (1860-).

Sometime before 1870, Henry moved to Clayton County, Iowa, with his son Kellock. Henry apparently died in Iowa, around the time of the 1870 census.

Henry's son Charles Henry Knickerbocker (1844-1925) had a son named William Edwin Knickerbocker (1870-1958). William moved to Big Bear Valley in San Bernardino, California and founded the Knickerbocker Mansion Inn on Big Bear Lake. The website of the Inn explains the history.



(The fact that Henry had a son named Charles Henry may have contributed to confusion of Henry's fate. There is a man named "Charles Knickerbocker" who is buried in Ayers Hill in Potter County PA. The Charles Knickerbocker in Ayers Hill Cemetery had wives named Louisa and Samanthta. He is from a different line of Knickerbockers.)

4. Amacy (1821-1902) married Matilda Ives.

The children of Amacy and Matilda included John (1846-1911), Diana (1848-1928), Rowena (1851-1930), Amasa (1853-1872), Hannah (1855-1940), and Susan (1859-).

Amacy moved to Iowa prior to 1870.

5. Hiram (1826-1903) married Lucy Ann Johnson.

The children of Hiram and Lucy included Eugene (1849–1931), Clarrisa (1851–1926), Cinda Aurilla (1853–1944), William (1857–), Peter (1859–1862), Isaac (1865–1933), Anjaline (1867–), and Betsey Jane (1868–1956)

6. Oliver P. (1827-1905) married first Sally Ann Whetmore.

Oliver and Sally's children included Melissa (1847–1873), Harley (1850–), Cornelia (1851–) And John O. (1855–1920).

Oliver's second wife was Elizabeth Sherwood Dingman.

Oliver and Sally's children were Perry (1868–), Peter Winfield (1870–1942), William Frank (1871–1953), Elmer (1874–1952), Edger (1876–), Arthur (1878–1962), Flora Edith (1882–1955), Charles Henry (1884–1962), Miles Otis (1887–1967), and Jesse (1894–1956).

7. Peter Junior (1833-1918) married Mary Hannah Gabriel.

Peter and Mary's children included H. Burt (1872–1931), Myrtle Gertrude (1874–1958), Barnett (1878–1959), Burr Amassa (1880–1954), John Frank (1883–1966), Minnie (1885–), and Harvey Allen (1887-1997).

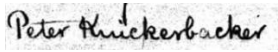
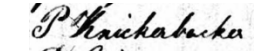
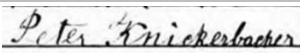


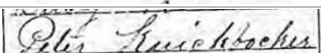
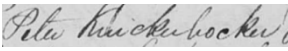
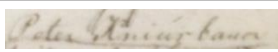
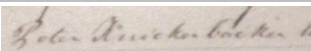
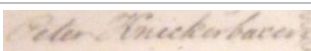
We will pause to discuss the middle initial of Peter Knickerbocker.

Middle initials were frequently used by many early Knickerbockers. This was especially true for Knickerbockers from Dutchess County, where there were multiple Knickerbockers with the same first name.

Peter Knickerbocker of Potter County, PA was an exception. Peter Knickerbocker of Potter County never used a middle initial.

Shown below are twelve examples of how Peter Knickerbocker's name was recorded by various census takers, county clerks, and historians:

**Various Records for Peter Knickerbocker
in Madison County and Potter County**

		<u>Name that was recorded</u>
Census Records	1820, Madison Co, NY	
	1840, Potter Co, PA	
	1850, Potter Co, PA	
	1860, Potter Co, PA	
	1870, Potter Co, PA	
	1875 NY Census, Portville NY	
Deeds	1810, Madison Co, NY	
	1814, Potter Co, PA	
	1817, Potter Co, PA	
	1824, Potter Co, PA	
Local Histories	History of Potter Co (1934)	Harley or Peter Knickerbocker
	History of Coudersport (1949)	Peter Knickerbocker

We don't know what Peter's middle initial was, and we don't particularly care. The important thing is that Peter was consistent in not using his middle initial. In every single record, and every single local history, he is simply "Peter Knickerbocker."


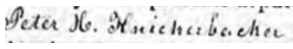

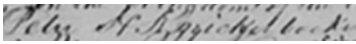
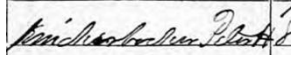
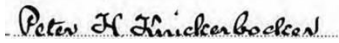

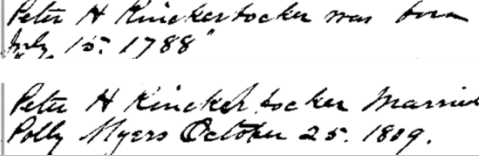

This helps differentiate him from Peter H. Knickerbocker, Peter D. Knickerbocker, Peter B. Knickerbocker, Peter J. Knickerbocker, and others who used middle initials.

For example, consider Peter H. Knickerbocker of Elba NY.

Peter H. Knickerbocker's middle initial shows up in census records, land records, probate records, and his own family bible.

Shown below are ten examples of how this man's name was recorded by census takers, and county clerks, and in his own family bible:

**Various Records for Peter H. Knickerbocker
in Dutchess County and Genesee County**

<u>Event</u>	<u>Name that was recorded</u>
1820 Census, Dutchess Co.	
1829 Probate of brother John Knickerbocker	
1830 Census, Elba NY	
1832 Land Purchase in Elba NY	
1870 Census, Elba NY	
1876 Probate after Peter's death	
1876 pension application of his widow Polly	
Family bible	
History of Genesee Co (1890)	

As described in a separate report, Peter H. Knickerbocker (born July 15, 1788) was the son of Hugh Knickerbocker and Rachel Schram.

Harry Knickerbocker, the 3rd Son of John and Lydia

Harry Knickerbocker was the founder of a long line of Knickerbockers in Cincinnatus, Cortland County, New York.

Harry's given name was Henry.

Harry first married Louisa Brigham (1797-1860). After Louisa died, Harry married Climena Lotridge (1828-1914).

Louisa Brigham was the daughter of Phineas Brigham (1757-1813), who served in the Revolutionary War, and his wife Susannah Howe (1764-1845).

Both the Brigham and Howe families were well known in New England. There are several published genealogies that document these families.

An excerpt from *The History of the Brigham Family: A record of several thousand descendants of Thomas Brigham, the emigrant* is shown here. It mentions Louisa and Harry.

149 PHINEAS⁵, son of George⁴ and Mary (Bragg) Brigham; born in Marlboro, Mass., 7 Oct., 1757; removed to Eaton, N. Y., 1810, from Southboro; died there, 17 March, 1813; married, 1785, Susanna, daughter of Phineas Howe of Hopkinton, Mass., born 19 Feb., 1767.

Children, born in Southboro, except the 2 elder born in Marlboro:

349 i Timothy⁴, b. 8 Feb., 1786.

350 ii Phineas, b. 31 Dec., 1787.

iii Susanna, b. 16 Dec., 1789; d. 1809, æ. 19 yrs., 11 mos.; m. Ebenezer Damon. Ch. (Damon):

1 Susan Brigham⁵, b. 31 Oct., 1809; d. 17 Oct., 1885; m. Rev. Chancellor Hartshorn. Ch. (Hartshorn): i Emma M.⁶, b. 3 Dec., 1829; d. 24 Dec., 1872; m. Alonzo M. Poe; 2 ch.; ii John D. b. 22 May., 1832; res. Mexico, N. Y.; 3 ch.; iii Frances Mary, b. 24 Nov., 1835; m. Prof. DeV. Wood, Stevens Inst., Hoboken, N. J.; res. Boonton, N. J.; 4 ch.

351 iv Sophia, b. 5 May, 1792.

v Louisa, b. 19 May, 1794; d. 11 Nov., 1796.

vi George, b. 30 May, 1796; d. æ. 16 days.

vii Louisa, b. 6 June, 1797; d. 14 Feb., 1860; m. 27 Nov., 1817, Harry Knickerbocker. Ch. (Knickerbocker):

1 Amelia⁶, b. 22 Aug., 1819; m. Rev. William Holroyd; res. Cincinnatus and Wyanette, N. Y. Ch. (Holroyd): i Amelia⁷; ii Cordelia; iii Mary; iv William; v Daniel; vi Zira.

2 Louisa, b. 25 April, 1822; d. 6 Jan., 1854; m. Zira Parce, of No. Pitcher, N. Y. Ch. (Parce): i Judson⁶, d.; ii Frank.

3 Franklin, b. 25 March, 1826; m. Huldah Eldredge; res. Holley, N. Y. Ch.: i Adelbert⁶; ii Frank.

4 Henry, b. 29 Nov., 1833; m. 24 Dec., 1861, Helen M. Bourne; res. Cincinnatus. Ch.: i Irving B.⁶; ii Elbert.

352 viii George Howe, b. 14 Dec., 1799.

ix Fitch, b. 11 Jan., 1803; d. unm., Madison, N. Y., æ. 41.

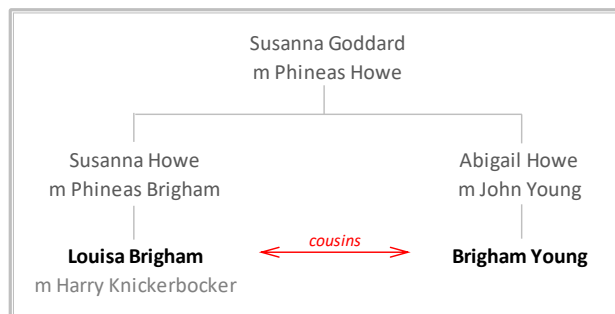
353 x Salmon, b. 15 July, 1805.

Louisa Brigham had a very famous cousin, Brigham Young, the second President of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

--20-- Went to Eaton, and visited Cousins Fitch and Salmon Brigham, and on Saturday to Hamilton, and called on Phinehas Brigham. While at Cousin Phinehas Brigham's, he had many inquiries to make about the Prophet. I preached the gospel to him so plainly that he could not make any reply, but had to acknowledge that what I taught was scriptural and reasonable, and he could not gainsay it; but being a very staunch Baptist and a deacon too, he regretted very much his son was not there, who was educated for a Baptist priest. He thought if his son was there he might be able to enlighten my mind and point out my errors, although he was not able to do it himself.

Brigham Young's memoirs include a story about his visit to Eaton, New York, where he tried to convert his cousins to the LDS faith. The people that Mr. Young mentions are the siblings of Louisa Brigham Knickerbocker. (This visit happened on December 20, 1839, which is after Louisa Brigham and Harry Knickerbocker had moved to Cincinnatus.)

Manuscript History of Brigham Young, 1801-1844, ed. Elden Jay Watson



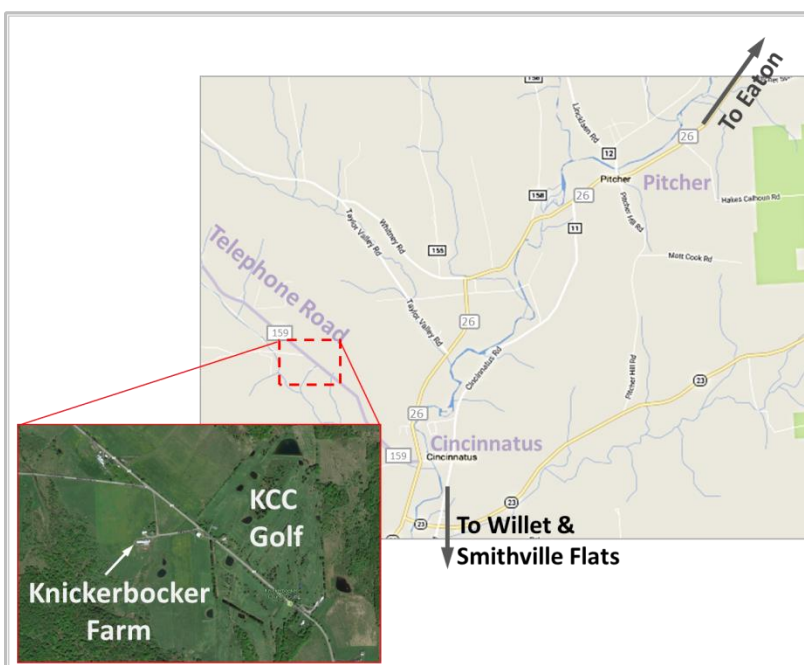
The link between Louisa Brigham and Brigham Young was through her mother Susanna Howe. Susanna's sister Abigail married John Young. According to Brigham Family legends, Brigham young was named after Phineas Brigham.

Harry Knickerbocker and Louisa [Brigham] Knickerbocker left Eaton in about 1832. They moved about 30 miles south along the Otselic River, to Cincinnatus. There might have stopped first just outside of Cincinnatus, in Pitcher, Chenango County. Harry eventually bought a farm up on the hill above Cincinnatus. The original land owner was a Revolutionary War veteran who had received the land as part of the Bounty Lands program.

The Knickerbocker farm is still owned by the Knickerbockers, just across the road from the Knickerbocker Country Club.

The Country Club was founded by Henry Knickerbocker and his wife Pat Glezen.

(Henry was the great-great-great-grandson of Harry and Louisa.)



Louisa Brigham's brother, Phineas Brigham, also moved to Cincinnatus, but he only stayed about 4 years before returning to Madison County. (This was mentioned in the obituary of Reverend George H. Brigham, who eventually settled in Cortland. It was also mentioned in a newspaper story discussing George's visit to Cincinnatus in the 1890's.)

Harry and Louisa were active members of the Baptist Church in Lower Cincinnatus. They are buried in the old cemetery behind the church. Harry's father John is in the grave next to Harry.

Harry Knickerbocker did not have any children with his second wife, Climena Lotridge.

Harry Knickerbocker and his first wife, Louisa Brigham had four children:

1. **Amelia Knickerbocker (1818-1900)** married William Holroyd, who was a pastor in Cincinnatus and in Pitcher. Amelia and William moved to Wyanet, Illinois.

The children of Amelia and William were:

- Amelia Holroyd (1839–1917) married Samuel W. Jackson (1834–1919). They lived in Bureau County, Illinois, and Howard County, Nebraska. The children of Amelia Holroyd and Samuel Jackson included:
 - Leo Holroyd Jackson (1862–1946)
 - Darcas L. Jackson (1866-)
 - Eddie T. Jackson (1870–)
 - Claudie C. Jackson (1879-1887)
 - Maud Jackson (1880-).
- Sarah Cordelia Holroyd (1840–1916) married William Root (1833-). They lived in Bureau County, Illinois and then in Orleans County, NY. The children of Sarah and William included:
 - Mila A. Root (1863-)
 - Zira Root (1874-)
 - Amos Root (1879-)
- Mary Holroyd (1842–1920)
- Louisa S. Holroyd (1844–1845) died young.
- William Holroyd (1846–1924) married Ann Carter (1853-). They lived in Illinois and Iowa. Their children included:
 - Harry E. Holroyd (1872-1944)
 - Adelbert Dewan Holroyd (1874-1935)
 - Eva Maude Holroyd (1879-1921)
- Daniel Holroyd (1847–1927) might never have married. He lived in Bureau County, Illinois. Newspaper stories show that he visited the Knickerbockers in Cincinnatus, NY in 1902. This is the last known visit between the Holroyds and their relatives in Cincinnatus.
- Zira Holroyd (1855–1943)

2. **Louisa Knickerbocker (1822-1854)** married Zira Smith Parce of Chenango County, NY. She died at the age of 32, after which time Zira married Marietta Card and moved to Kansas.

The children of Louisa Knickerbocker and Zira Parce lived in Chenango County, NY. They were:

- Judson Eugene Parce (1842-1884) married Francis Abigail Mead. They apparently did not have children. Judson served in the Civil War, and had his leg shattered at Second Bull Run in 1862. He tried to re-enlist, but the army refused because his leg never fully healed.
- Franklin Duane Parce (1847-1908) married Adelia Celestia Wells. They apparently did not have children. Franklin was a business man in Norwich.

3. **Franklin Fitch “FF” Knickerbocker (1826-1905)** married first Huldah Eldridge (1830-1854), the daughter of Ephriam Perry Eldridge and Martha Freeman of Pitcher, Chenango County. Franklin and Huldah lived in Cincinnatus. Franklin and Huldah had two sons, Adelbert and Frank, who are described below.

After Huldah died, Franklin married second Mary Connover of Oxford, Chenango County. Franklin and Mary adopted a daughter, Kate.

Franklin, Mary, and the three children moved to Orleans County, NY.

The three children of Franklin Fitch Knickerbocker were:

- Adelbert Brigham Knickerbocker (1852-1916) married Charity Fowler (1867-1942). They lived in Orleans County and Monroe County. Their children were:
 - Edward Fowler Knickerbocker (1877-1943)
 - Rosa May Knickerbocker (1883-1957)
 - Leland Adelbert Knickerbocker (1893-1939).
- Frank Eldridge “FE” Knickerbocker (1854-1922) married first Ellen Augusta Stearns. They lived in Orleans County and had four children, Adelbert, Fred, Frank, and Myron.

Frank married second Anna Baldwin (1857-1916). They lived in Onondaga County NY, then Dallas Texas, and then Genesee County NY. They had three children, Avis, Hays, and Nellie

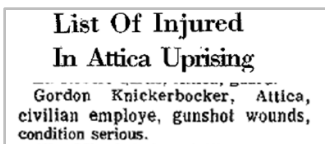
The children of Frank “FE” Knickerbocker were:

- Adelbert Cullen Knickerbocker (1874-1936)
- Fred Wilber Knickerbocker (1876-1937)
- Frank Peter Knickerbocker (1877-1929)
- Myron Stearns Knickerbocker (1879-1962)
- Avis H. Knickerbocker (1884-1970) married Lavilla Passage. Avis and Lavilla had a son, Gordon Eldridge Knickerbocker. Gordon, a prison guard, was shot and taken hostage during the 1971 Attica prison riot. He survived.
- Hays Eldridge Knickerbocker (1892-1979).
- Nellie Knickerbocker (1899-1979)

- Katherine Hinesman Knickerbocker (1857-1941) was the adopted daughter of FE Knickerbocker. She was born in Coventry, Chenango County, NY. She married Francis M. Bishop (1851-1935). They lived in Orleans County and Monroe County.

The children of Katherine and Francis Bishop were:

- Irene Bishop (1881-1958)
- Oscar Hinesman Bishop (1885-1938)
- Frank H. Bishop (1892-1938)
- John H. Bishop (1897-1959)



4. **Henry Knickerbocker (1833-1907)** married Helen Bourne, the daughter of Roswell K. Bourne (1812-1866) and Maria Carpenter (1815-1901). Henry and Helen lived their entire lives on the hill overlooking Cincinnatus.

Henry and Helen had two children:

- Irving B. Knickerbocker (1864-1954) became an attorney and moved to the state of Washington. He was one of the founders of Auburn, King County, Washington. He married Olivia Pauley in Auburn. They had four children:
 - Helen Elizabeth Knickerbocker (1894-1975)
 - Irving S. Knickerbocker (1898-1930), who was a well-known cartoonist whose work was published in newspapers across the U.S. He was known as "Knick."
 - Rose M. Knickerbocker (1902-1979)
 - Henry B. Knickerbocker (1908-1999).
- Henry Elbert Knickerbocker (1871-1939) married Iva Bryan (1871-1948) and remained in Cincinnatus. They lived on the family farm until about 1919, when they bought a house on Taylor Avenue in downtown Cincinnatus. In her later days, Iva was known to everyone in Cincinnatus as Grandma Knick.

Henry and Iva had two children:

- Edwin Bryan Knickerbocker (1895-1986) married Helen Murray, the daughter of John Murray and Jenny Hoag. They remained in Cincinnatus.
- Carrie A. Knickerbocker (1898-1973) married first Charles H. Newman and lived in Haverstraw, Rockland County, New York, and later in New York City. Carrie returned to Cincinnatus in about 1944, and later lived in Binghamton. She probably then married Clyde Lewis (1898-1970) and died in Binghamton in 1973.

*Cartoon by Irving S. Knickerbocker
Son of Irving Knickerbocker
& Olivia Pauley*



Hiram Knickerbocker, the 5th Son of John and Lydia

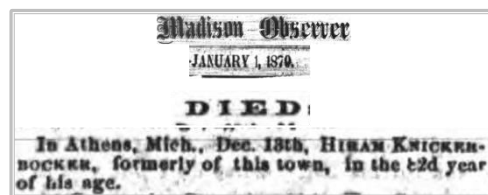
Hiram (1797-1878) was the youngest son of John and Lydia.

Hiram married Julia Ann Tousley.

Their children included:

1. **William (1824–1869)** was probably from this family. He married a woman named Hannah. Their son William died young. Hannah W. Knickerbocker died at the age of 39, in Madison County. William apparently then moved to Calhoun County, Michigan, where he died at the age of 45.
2. **Charlotte (1827–1889)** married Thompson Tucker. They had four children: Leroy, Georgeanna, William, and Frederick. The family moved to Saginaw, Michigan.
3. **Wesley (1829–1909)** lived in Eaton until about 1860, and then moved to Michigan and enlisted. In 1871, he married Amelia Carlton in Saginaw, Michigan. She was 12 years younger than Wesley. This might have been Wesley's second wife, but there is no record of a first wife. Wesley and Amelia had a daughter, Nellie.
4. **Sarah Ann (1832–1867)** married Richard Rodenhurst, Junior. They had two children, Fred Rodenhurst and De Witt Clinton Rodenhurst. The Rodenhursts apparently lived in Jefferson County, New York. However, Sarah's obituary says that she died in East Saginaw, Michigan. Her body was returned to Oneida for burial.
5. **Warren (1842–1913)** married first Clara L. Belknap. The wedding was in Athens, Michigan in 1870. Warren and Clara had a daughter, Florence. Warren and Clara apparently moved to Clay County Kansas, and later divorced. (His census status switched to single, and they both later remarried.) Warren's second wife was Caroline Maurer. They didn't have children together. Warren died in Clay County, Kansas.

Hiram died in 1878 in Athens, Calhoun County, Michigan.



Although Hiram had three sons, it appears that there are no Knickerbockers remaining from this line.

Laura Knickerbocker, the 1st Daughter of John and Lydia

Laura Knickerbocker married Giles Peckham. They lived in Volney, Oswego County, NY.

Laura and Giles had the following children:

1. **Harriet Peckham (1809–)** married George B. Sherman (1801-1869). They lived in Oswego County. Their children were George (b 1839), Emily (b 1841), and Frederick (b 1854).
2. **Electa Peckham (1812–)** married first Alfred Raymond (1781-1862). They lived in Oswego County. She was his second wife. They had a daughter, Emma Raymond (1854-1857). Electa married second Philip Delano (1799-1884.)
3. **Lucy Peckham (1814–1890)** married Stephen Harris (1809-1882). They lived in Oswego County. Their children were Levi E Harris (1831–1861), Mary E Harris (1835–), Stephen S Harris (1840--1840), Hiram D Harris (1841–1842), Seth O Harris (1845–1846), Charles Harris (1846–1846), Charles H. Harris (1848–1908), and George Harris 1853–).
4. **Eliza Ann Peckham (1817–)**. Her father's probate notice in 1856 described her as Eliza Ann Peckham of Oswego.
5. **Lydia Peckham (1824–1894)** married Dewitt Clark. They lived in Oswego, Onondaga, and Madison Counties. Their children were Melissa J. Clark (1843-1932), Henry Clark (1847-), Josephine Clark (1852-), and Cora Clark (1861-).
6. **Priola or Princela Peckham (1824–)** may have remained single. In 1875, she was living with her brother Giles in Volney.
7. **Mary Peckham (1826–)** married Isaac Frost. They had a son, Giles Frost (1853-1921), and lived in Volney.
8. **Laura Peckham (1828–)** married Henry Bayard or Baird. In 1856 they lived in Canada, according to her father Giles' probate notice. They returned to Oswego. Laura later lived in Dunn Co, Wisconsin with a daughter. Laura and Henry had three children: Laura Marie Bayard (1855-1938), Samuel Henry Bayard (1858-1934), and Mary Bayard (1860-).
9. **Giles Peckham Jr (1830–1879)** lived in Volney, and apparently never married.
10. **George Peckham (1832–1907)** married Eliza Ann Vanderpool, and lived in Volney. They had four children: Hattie Agnes Peckham (1857-1926), Jennie Peckham (1866-1950), George Rowe Peckham (1871-1953), and Shubal Peckham (1877-1931).

Lucy Knickerbocker, the 2nd Daughter of John and Lydia

Lucy Albert married Albert Howard (1800–1880). They lived in Volney.

Their children were:

1. **Lucy Howard (1828–1912)** married Job McCarthy (1822-1898). They lived in Volney. Their children were: James E McCarthy (1852–1936), Ida Mae McCarthy (1854–1943), Theda McCarthy (1857–1934), Frank H. McCarthy (1859–1896), Harriet McCarthy (1861–1910), Eugene McCarthy (1864–1936), and Albert H. McCarthy (1866–1929)
2. **Mary Ann Howard (1830–1887)** married Edward Fredenburg (1826-1896). They lived in Oswego County. Their children were Edward Fredenburg (1826-1896), George A. Fredenburg (1850-1928), and Josephine Elizabeth Fredenburg (1852-).
3. **Harley Jackson Howard (1832–1899)** married Eunice Van Buren (1836-1929). They lived in Volney. Their son was Seth Howard (1869-1936).
4. **Cyrus John Howard (1834–1901)** married Caroline Helen Calkins. They lived in Volney. Their children were: Lana Alouisa Howard (1859–1875), Erminnie Lillian Howard (1863–1898), Bernard Lamont Howard (1865–1945), George Edwin Howard (1868–1951), Carrie Sophronia Howard (1870–1957), and Eva Inez Howard (1872–1945).
5. **Melissa Howard (1835–1838)** died young.
6. **Louisa M. Howard (1837–1838)** died young
7. **Lydia Elizabeth Howard (1837–1912)** married Henry O. Van Buren (1834–1901). They lived in Oswego County. Their children were: Ella Van Buren (1855–), Emma Van Buren (1857–1922), Howard Van Buren (1860–1932), David Van Buren (1865–1918), and William Van Buren (1878–1941).
8. **Isabel Louisa Howard (1845–1912)** married John Parker (1842-1883). They lived in Oswego County. They had a daughter, Emery Alexander (1850-).

End
