

John Harry Graham (1866-1897)

John Harry Graham ¹ was born 1866 to William Graham (1833-1908) ² and Mary Oliver ³ or Mary Ablewalt ⁴ in Shippensburg Pennsylvania. John went by the name Harry.

- Harry's descendants believe his name is Harry Albert Graham, which is based on two sources of the time, where the information would have been provided by Harry's wife, Dessie. I believe Harry Albert is not his correct name.

On the August 27th 1870 census record, William and Mary Graham, had moved with their children Annie, Harry and Cora, to the post office area of Shippensburg, Shippensburg Township area of Cumberland County, Pennsylvania.

- William and Mary's son, William, cannot be located, and he may have died after their son John Harry was born in 1866. I reason this because, if the son, William, died before Harry was born, William and Mary may have named him William as well. Instead they named their 2nd son John, after William's father.

Harry's mother, Mary Graham, died August 24th 1874, age 32 years, 6 months 16 days. ⁵ Mary died eleven months after the birth of my great grandfather was born. Mary was laid to rest in the Spring Hill Cemetery, Section 4.2, Shippensburg, Cumberland County. FAG#: 131154158 ⁱ

- Died, Graham – In Shippensburg Township, August 24th 1874, Mrs. Mary, wife of Wm. Graham, age 32 years, 6 months 16 days. ⁶

Harry married Adessa Rebecca (Dessie) Reath ⁷ April 30th 1891 in the village of Scotland, Franklin County Pennsylvania. ⁸ She was known as Dessie, and she was born December 28th 1866 to William Reath and Nancy Eversole (Ebersole) in Scotland Franklin County Pennsylvania. ⁹

Dessie's parents were William F. Reath who was born April 1833 in Maryland, and her mother died before April 1891. Her sister was Rosetta S. Reath, who was born September 1874 in Scotland area Franklin County Pennsylvania.

ⁱ Find-A-Grave, FAG, is a web site for cemetery memorials managed by Ancestry, Find-A-Grave, 1300 West Traverse Parkway, Lehi, Utah, 84043.

Harry and Dessie had three children, by 1900 only one was still living.

Harry died March 25th 1897, and was laid to rest in the Spring Hill Cemetery Section 2.3, Shippensburg Pennsylvania. ¹⁰ FAG#131184314 ⁱⁱ

On February 28th 1908, 41 year old Dessie was coming home from her job to 46 Penn Street in Shippensburg, when she went to the cellar for a bucket of coal, and suffered a heart attack. She died in the evening of February 28th 1908. ¹¹ She was laid to rest next to her husband in the Spring Hill Cemetery Section 2.3 Shippensburg. ¹² FAG#131184601 ⁱⁱⁱ

Harry and Dessie Graham had one child.

- i. Harry A. Graham was born December 1894. ¹³

ⁱⁱ Find-A-Grave, FAG, is a web site for cemetery memorials, <http://www.findagrave.com>

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Bibliography

1. 1870 Williams Graham Census: Shippensburg, Cumberland, Pennsylvania; 1870 U.S. census, population schedules; microfilm publication M593, 1,761 rolls National Archives and Records Administration, 700 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW. Washington, DC 20408-0001.
2. 1880 William Graham Census: Shippensburg, Cumberland, Pennsylvania; Tenth Census of the United States, 1880; microfilm publication T9, 1,454 rolls, Record Group 29; National Archives and Records Administration, 700 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW. Washington, DC 20408-0001.
3. 1880 Annie and Edward Agle Census: Shippensburg, Cumberland, Pennsylvania; Tenth Census of the United States, 1880; microfilm publication T9, 1,454 rolls; Record Group 29; National Archives and Records Administration, 700 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW. Washington, DC 20408-0001.
4. 1880 Mary and William Wennell Census: Harrisburg, Dauphin, Pennsylvania; Tenth Census of the United States, 1880; microfilm publication T9, 1,454 rolls; Record Group 29; National Archives and Records Administration, 700 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW. Washington, DC 20408-0001.
5. 1900 Hadessah Reath-Graham Census: Shippensburg, Cumberland, Pennsylvania; Twelfth Census of the United States, 1900; T623, 1854 rolls, National Archives and Records Administration, 700 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW. Washington, DC 20408-0001.
6. 1920 Harry A. Graham Census: Waynesboro, Franklin, Pennsylvania; Fifteenth Census of the United States, 1930; T626, 2,667 rolls, National Archives and Records Administration, 700 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW. Washington, DC 20408-0001.

End Notes

¹ John Harry Graham Name: The name John is assumed, based on English Naming Traditions, J. Harry Graham Obituary, Deaths, Friday Evening, April 2nd 1997 Ancestry, Newspapers.com, 1300 West Traverse Parkway, Lehi, Utah, 84043.

² William Graham (1833-1908) Research Paper, Taylor-Graham Library, c/o Bob Graham, 479 County Line Road, York Springs Pennsylvania 17372.

³ William Graham's First Wife, Mary Oliver, Her Parents and Place of Residence: The information came from William's obituary from The Shippensburg Chronicle, Thursday, August 6th 1908; Shippensburg Historical Society Obituary Collection, Shippensburg Historical Society, 52 West King Street Shippensburg, Pennsylvania, 17257.

⁴ William Graham's Other Wife, Mary Allewelt (Abelwalt) Name: The name of Abelwalt was derived from the death certificates of two daughters, Annie Angle (Allewett) Death Certificate #507502, and Cora Geistwhite (Allewelt) Pennsylvania Death Certificate # 507502; Pennsylvania, Death Certificates, 1906-1944 and 1906-1963; Series 11.90 (1,905 cartons); Records of the Pennsylvania Department of Health, Record Group 11; Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, 300 North Street, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17120.

⁵ Mary Graham Obituary: The information came from the Shippensburg Historical Society Microfilm Newspaper Collection, The Shippensburg News, Saturday August 29th 1874; Shippensburg Historical Society, 52 West King Street Shippensburg, Pennsylvania, 17257.

⁶ Mary Graham's Obituary: The information came from Died, Graham, Page 5, Tuesday, September 1st 1874, The Star and Enterprise, Newville, Pennsylvania, Ancestry, Newspapers.com, 1300 West Traverse Parkway, Lehi, Utah, 84043.

⁷ Adessa Rebecca (Dessie) Reath: The name came from family records, Steve Graham, 17513 Harbaugh Valley Rd., Sabillasville, MD 21780

⁸ Harry Graham and Dessie Reath Marriage: Marriage Record 161, Franklin County Archives, Courthouse Annex, 157 Lincoln Way East, Chambersburg, PA 17201.

⁹ Hadassah (Dessie) Reath Birth Date, Place of Birth, and Parent's Names: The information came from her Pennsylvania Death Certificate #18552, Pennsylvania, Death Certificates, 1906-1944 and 1906-1963; Series 11.90 (1,905 cartons); Records of the Pennsylvania Department of Health, Record Group 11; Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, 300 North Street, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17120.

¹⁰ Harry Graham Death: From Dessie Graham Obituary, Shippensburg Historical Society Obituary Collection, Carlisle Sentinel, February 29th 1908; Shippensburg Historical Society, 52 West King Street Shippensburg, Pennsylvania, 17257.

¹¹ Hadassah (Dessie) Reath Birth Date, Place of Birth, and Parent's Names: The information came from her Pennsylvania Death Certificate #18552, Pennsylvania, Death Certificates, 1906-1944 and 1906-1963; Series 11.90 (1,905 cartons); Records of the Pennsylvania Department of Health, Record Group 11; Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, 300 North Street, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17120.

¹² Dessie Graham Death: Shippensburg Historical Society Obituary Collection, Carlisle Sentinel, February 29th 1908; The Shippensburg Chronicle, Tuesday, August 24th 1944; Shippensburg Historical Society, 52 West King Street Shippensburg, Pennsylvania, 17257.

¹³ Harry Graham Birth: 1894-1896 Birth Records, Volume 1, Record 1740, Cumberland County Orphans' Court, Register of Wills and Clerk of Orphans' Court, 1 Courthouse Square, Room 102, Carlisle, Pennsylvania 17013.