

Mary Oliver (1842-1874)

Mary Oliver was born February 8th 1842¹ to Fredrick Oliver and Catherine Smith² in East Pennsboro Township, Cumberland County, Pennsylvania.³

On August 9th 1850 Fredrick Oliver lived with his wife Catherine in East Pennsboro Township, Cumberland County, Pennsylvania. Oliver was a laborer, 50 years old (b. 1800), and Catherine was 28 years oldⁱ (b. 1822).

Living with them were two daughters.

- i. Mary E. Oliver was 9 years old, born about 1841
- ii. Ann E. Oliver was 9 months old, born around December 1849

Mary was 16 years old when she married William Graham about 1858, which is about the time their first son, William, was conceived.

- Their son: William Albert Graham was born in 1859 and was baptizedⁱⁱ May 14th 1859⁴ at the Middle Spring Church,ⁱⁱⁱ in Southampton Franklin County Shippensburg Pennsylvania post office area.

By June 12th 1860 28-year-old William and 18-year-old Mary Graham, and their two-year-old son William, were living in the Shippensburg post office area of Southampton Township, Cumberland County. They lived next door to Fredrick Oliver, age 59 (b. 1801) and Catherine Oliver, age 39 (b. 1821), and their daughter Ann E. age 10, born 1850.

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.

ⁱ The 1850 census indicated Catherine's age as 38 years old, and in the 1860 census she was still 38 years old. I believe the 1850 census is an error, and her real age was 28 years old.

ⁱⁱ Middle Springs Church, William Albert Graham, May 14th 1859, Baptism Parent, William.

ⁱⁱⁱ Middle Springs is in Southampton Township, Post Office Shippensburg, correlating to the 1860 census for that area, which listed Wm. A. Graham, son of William and Mary.

- Some of this reasoning is related to my great grandfather's birth, and name being William.
- Also supporting this is my great grandfather's father, William's parents, who was John Graham and Lydia Devore. They named their first-born son, William who married Mary, and they named their second born son James. James is the name of Lydia's father, James Devore.^{iv} This may help us located William's paternal grandfather, who would have been named William.

Mary's father may have died, because her mother, Catherine, married Leonard Thrush on January 4th 1870.⁵ By August 4th 1870 they lived on the Thrush farm in the Orrstown post office area of Southampton Township, Franklin County. "On the 4th inst. (meaning this month), by the same. Mr. Leonard Thrush to Mrs. Catherine Oliver, both of Franklin County."

On September 12th 1873⁶ Mary gave birth to William Henry Graham in Shippensburg.

- Naming my great grandfather, William, helps in reasoning that the name William was important to William and Mary. Also, that William and Mary's first-born son, William Albert, probably did die after their second son, Harry, died in 1866.

Mary Oliver died August 24th 1874, age 32 years, 6 months 16 days.⁷ 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^v

- Died, Graham^{vi} – In Shippensburg Township, August 24th 1874, Mrs. Mary, wife of Wm. Graham, age 32 years, 6 months 16 days.⁸

By June 21st 1880 13-year-old Henry Graham was a servant in the home of Leonard and Catherine Thrush⁹ in Southampton Township, Franklin County, Pennsylvania. In 1880 William would actually be 7 years old. Catherine was my great grandfather's grandmother, Catherine Oliver.

^{iv} English naming traditions include the first-born son is named after the paternal grandfather, and the 2nd born is named after the maternal grandfather.

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

^{vi} Before online research capabilities, I spent days at e the Shippensburg Historical Society, and went through there large microfilm collection of very old Chambersburg, Shippensburg, and Carlisle newspapers. In 2020, that same paper is now online.

Bibliography

1. 1850 Frederick Oliver and William Graham Census: Pennsboro, Cumberland, Pennsylvania; Seventh Census of the United States, 1850; Microfilm Publication M432, 1009 rolls, Record Group 29; National Archives and Records Administration, 700 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW. Washington, DC 20408-0001.
2. 1860 F. and Cath Oliver, and William Graham Census: Southampton, Franklin, Pennsylvania; 1860 U.S. census, population schedule, microfilm publication M653, 1,438 rolls; National Archives and Records Administration, 700 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW. Washington, DC 20408-0001.
3. 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.
4. 1870 Leonard Thrush Census: Southampton, Franklin, Pennsylvania; 1870 U.S. censuses, population schedules. microfilm publication M593, 1,761 rolls, National Archives and Records Administration, 700 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW. Washington, DC 20408-0001.
5. 1880 Leonard Thrush, Henry Graham Census: Southampton, Franklin, 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.
6. 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.

End Notes

- ¹ Mary Oliver Date of Birth: The information came from a birthdate calculator, using her 1874 obituary, to calculate a birthday, using age at death, and date of death. Mary would have been born Tuesday, February 8th 1842, in East Pennsboro Township, Cumberland County, Pennsylvania.
- ² Catherine Smith Research Paper, Taylor-Graham Library, 479 County Line Rd, York Springs Pennsylvania, 17372.
- ³ Mary E. Oliver Name and Place of Birth: The information came from the 1850 Frederick Oliver Census: Pennsboro, Cumberland, Pennsylvania; Seventh Census of the United States, 1850; Microfilm Publication M432, 1009 rolls, Record Group 29; National Archives and Records Administration, 700 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW. Washington, DC 20408-0001.
- ⁴ William Albert Graham Name, Father's Name, and Baptism: The information came from the Middle Springs Presbyterian Church Cumberland County: Middle Springs Presbyterian Church Records, page 130, baptisms performed by Reverend I. N. Hays, Cumberland County Historical Society, 21 Pitt Street Carlisle Pennsylvania, 17013.
- ⁵ Catherine Oliver Marriage to Leonard Thrush: The information came from Married, Thrush-Oliver, Page 2, Saturday, January 8th 1870, The Star and Enterprise, Newville, Pennsylvania, Ancestry, Newspapers.com, 1300 West Traverse Parkway, Lehi, Utah, 84043.
- ⁶ William Graham's Birth: William's funeral memorial booklet record, dated June 15th 1948, from the M. Garfield Barbour Funeral Home, Shippensburg Pennsylvania. William's birth is recorded as September 12th 1873 in R.R. Shippensburg; Taylor ~ Graham Library, 4709 County Line Road York Springs Pennsylvania 17372. Shippensburg Township comes from the 1870 Federal census record for William and Mary Graham, Bibliography.
- ⁷ Mary Graham's Date of Death, and Age at Time of Death: The information came from her obituary, Died, Graham, Page 5, Tuesday, September 1st 1874, The Star and Enterprise, Newville, Pennsylvania, Ancestry, Newspapers.com, 1300 West Traverse Parkway, Lehi, Utah, 84043.
- ⁸ 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.
- ⁹ Lenard Thrush: The information came from the Thrush Family History, David Thrush, 610 Willow Bank Street, Bellefonte, Pennsylvania 16823; Lenard Thrush Estate Records: Prothonotary Office, Clerk of Courts, Courthouse Annex, 157 Lincoln Way East, Chambersburg, Pennsylvania 17201.