

Critical – Missing Documents

We're looking for George and Clarence Kelly, or Kelley, from Danville, Montour County, Pennsylvania. One of these two men is the father of Leonard Kelly Bigger.

- George Kelly, born 1864 to James Kelly and Elizabeth McFarren in Danville, Montour County, Pennsylvania. George lived with his parents in 1870 and 1880 in the Danville area. George cannot be located after 1880.
- Clarence Kelly to James Kelly and Elizabeth McFarren in Danville, Montour County, Pennsylvania. Clarence lived with his parents in 1870 and 1880 in the Danville area. Clarence cannot be located after 1880. It was reported that Clarence died in 1906.

<http://www.montourco.org/Pages/default.aspx>

Birth & Death Records

1893-1905

Marriage License

1885-To Present Date

Delayed Birth Registration

1883-1905

Naturalization Records

1850-1940

Office	Images	Telephone Number
Marriage License	No	(570) 271-3010
Orphans' Court	No	(570) 271-3010
Prothonotary	Yes	(570) 271-3010
Recorder of Deeds	Yes	(570) 271-3012
Register of Wills	Yes	(570) 271-3012

Introduction

This family begins with the marriage between Emma Rachel Smith and Henry Ward Bigger.

- Emma Rachel Smith was born August 29th 1870 to William Smith and Sarah Jane Long in Pine Top, Columbia County, Pennsylvania.
- The family oral history, Judy Ross; Emma was pregnant when she married Henry, and that Leonard's middle name, Kelley, was given to Leonard to honor his father's name.

In 1900 Henry and Emma Bigger lived near to Emma's mother, Sarah Smith and William Kelley, in Jordon Township, Lycoming County, Pennsylvania.

Then in 1910 Henry and Emma were living in the same home of 72-year-old William Kelley and 64-year-old Sarah J. Smith. Sarah indicated she had two children, but only one was still living. I believe this is Emma's mother.

- Also, Henry and Emma identified their children, which included a 20-year-old Lizzie Kelley, was identified as a daughter. Emma also indicated she was married to Henry for three years, 1897.
- And, in the 1900 census record, Emma indicated she had five children, but only four were still living. We account for these children.
 - Lizzie Kelley was born in 1890
 - Unknown Kelley child was born, and died prior to 1900
 - Unknown Kelley child was born, and was living in 1900.
 - Leonard Kelly (1897-1973). He married Marie DeJoice.
 - Wilbur Norman Bigger was born January 29th 1899.

All this supports the family oral history; Emma was previously married to Mr. Kelly, and that she and Mr. Kelly had four children, including Leonard.

Let's find out. We start with 1900 72-year-old William Kelley.

Indicators

In June 1890 during the Federal Special Schedule-Surviving Soldiers, Sailors, and Marines, and Widows census, William Kelley was living in Jordan Township, Lycoming County, Pennsylvania.

William enlisted into the Civil War as a private in Company G 1st Pennsylvania Volunteer Artillery, on August 24th 1861. He served for 3 years, and was discharged August 24th 1864. In the census William indicated that he had rheumatism. ¹

Then in 1900 61-year-old William Kelley owned his home in Jordan Township, Lycoming County, Pennsylvania. He was born January 1838 in Pennsylvania, as was his father and mother. William's marital status was single, and he worked as a stone mason.

Living with him was 54-year-old widower, Sarah J. Smith, who was born in January 1846. Also living with William and Sarah was a 10-year-old niece, Sarah E. Kelley, who was born March 1890.

By 1910 72-year-old William Kelley and 64-year-old Sarah J. Smith were still living in William's home in Jordan Township. Sarah indicated she had two children, but only one was still living.

- Living with them is Sarah's daughter Emma Bigger, and her husband Henry. And a 20-year-old daughter, Lizzie Kelly.
- Note: This makes it clear that Emma Smith had a daughter born in 1890 to a Mr. Kelly. It also points to William Kelly as a brother-in-law to Sarah J. Smith. Key elements:
 - In federal census records, relationships are related to, the head of the family.
 - 1900 William is the head of the family, and his 10-year-old niece, Sarah E. Kelley lives with him. Sarah Elizabeth (Lizzie) Kelley was born in Danville, Montour County, Pennsylvania.
 - In 1910 William is the head of the family, and Sarah Smith is a border. In the same house Henry Bigger is also the head of his family. Lizzie Kelly is identified under Henry's family as a daughter.
 - William Kelley's marital status in 1900 and 1910 is Single

William Kelley and Elizabeth Kelly are keys in identifying the 1st husband of Emma Smith, and the father of Leonard Kelly Bigger. Danville, Montour County, Pennsylvania is also key.

Kelly Family
(Kelley is also used)

James Kelly (b. 1814)

James Kelly was born about 184 in Pennsylvania.

James Kelly 1st married Hester McFerren (McFannen) on December 14th 1837 in Bloomsburg, Columbia County, Pennsylvania. Hester was born about 1820 in Pennsylvania.

- There's no record for marriage.
- Son Wm death cert - Hestor Mcferren (McFannen)

Hester died prior to 1850, and was laid to rest in the Danville area of Montour County, Pennsylvania.

James then married Hester's sister, Elizabeth about 1850 in Danville, Montour County, Pennsylvania. Elizabeth was born in 1825. ²

- Daughter Margaret's death cert - Elizabeth McFarren
- Daughter Sarah Ellen Marshall - McJern

In 1850 36-year-old (b. 1814) James worked as a blacksmith. He was married to 25-year-old (b. 1825) Elizabeth, and they lived in Danville, Montour County, Pennsylvania. Living with them are:

- William Kelly, 13 years old, born 1837
- Sarah E. Kelly, 9 years old, born 1841
- Samuel Kelly, 5 years old, born 1845
- Benj Kelly, 3 years old, born 1847
- Amanda McFannen (McFerren), 16 years old, born 1844 in Pennsylvania
 - Most likely a sister of Hester and Elizabeth

Living in the next home was 28-year-old (b. 1822) William Smith and his wife 26-year-old (b. 1824) Harriet. Living with them were two daughters. (*Maybe related to Smith Family*)

- Matilda Smith, 10 years old, born 1840
- Mary C. Smith, 4 years old, born 1846

In 1860 46-year-old (b. 1814) James Kelley and his wife 36-year-old (b. 1824), Elizabeth, were living with his family in Danville, Montour County, Pennsylvania. James worked as a soap boiler. Their children were:

- William Kelley, 21 years old, born 1839
- Sarah Kelley, 18 years old, born 1842
- Samuel Kelley, 16 years old, born 1844
- Benjamin Kelley, 13 years old, born 1847
- Emma Kelley, 7 years old, born 1853
- Margaret Kelley, 1 year old, born 1859

In 1870 54 years old (b.1816) and 45-year-old (b. 1825) Elizabeth the family continued to live in Danville. James is now working as a blacksmith.

- Emma Kelly, 16 years old, born. 1854
- Alverna Kelly, 11 years old, born 1859, married 1896
- George Kelly, 5 years old, born 1865
- Clarence Kelly, 3 years old, born 1867

By 1880 64 years old (b. 1816) and 57-year-old (b. 1823) and family were still living in Danville. James was still a blacksmith.

- Alvina Kelly, 21 years old, born 1859
- George Kelly, 16 years old, born 1864
- Clarence Kelly, 13, born 1867

James B. Kelly died January 30th 1883 in Danville, Montour County, Pennsylvania.

James and Elizabeth Kelly children included

- i. William Kelly was born January 9th 1839 to James Kelly and Hester McFerren in Danville, Montour County, Pennsylvania. William never married, and lived and worked as a stone mason, in the area of Jordon Township, Lycoming County, Pennsylvania.³

William lived with his sister-in-law, Sarah Smith-Kelly, and his niece Elizabeth Kelly in 1900 and 1910.

William was 72 years old when he died from Inflammatory Rheumatism on March 12th 1911. He was laid to rest in the Lungerville Cemetery, Lycoming County, Pennsylvania. His niece, Elizabeth Kelly of Unityville, was the informant on his death certificate.

FAG#:62461417 ⁱ

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.

- ii. Sarah Ellen Kelly was born November 18th 1841 to James Kelly and Hester McFerren ⁴ in Danville, Montour County, Pennsylvania.

Sarah married John Marshall of Danville. The family lived at 200 West Market Street in Danville, Pennsylvania.

Sarah's spouse and children survive: ⁵

- Son – George A Marshall of Baltimore
- Daughter – Mrs. John Cloud, this place

Surviving Siblings:

- Samuel Kelley Mooresburg, Liberty Township, Montour County, Pennsylvania.
- William Kelley Unityville, Lycoming County, Pennsylvania.
- B.F. Kelley this place...Danville
- Half-sister Ms Alverna Kline of Benton, Columbia County, Pennsylvania.

Sarah was 64 years old when she died from stomach cancer on February 28th 1906 in Danville. She was laid to rest March 3rd at the Lutheran Cemetery, Mahoning Township, Montour County, Pennsylvania. Her husband, John, was the informant on her death certificate. FAG#:185653131 ⁱⁱ

- iii. Samuel Kelley was born May 13th 1845 to James Kelly in Danville, Montour County, Pennsylvania. ⁶ Samuel served as a private in Company K of the 13th Pennsylvania Volunteer Regiment.

Samuel was married, worked as a blacksmith like his brother Benjamin, and lived with his brother Benjamin and his wife at 1818 North 21st Street in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. When his sister died in 1906 Samuel lived in Mooresburg, Liberty Township, Montour County, Pennsylvania.

Samuel was 82 years old when he died December 12th 1927 in Liberty Township, Montour Township, Pennsylvania. Samuel was laid to rest at the German Lutheran Cemetery, Mahoning Township, Montour County, Pennsylvania. Samuel Kelly Jr of Mooresburg was the informant on the death certificate. ⁷ FAG#: 157222956 ⁱⁱⁱ

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

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

- iv. Margaret Alrerua Kelly was born May 7th 1859 to James Kelly and Elizabeth McFarren in Danville, Montour County, Pennsylvania. ⁸

Margaret married Mr. Kline.

Margaret was 63 years old when she died March 17th 1923. She was laid to rest in the Benton Cemetery, Benton, Columbia County, Pennsylvania. Mrs. Ralph Smith of Benton was the informant on Margaret's death certificate. ⁹ FAG#:8248632 ^{iv}

- v. Benjamin Franklin Kelly was born February 22nd 1847 in Danville, Montour County, Pennsylvania. He was married, worked as a blacksmith, and lived with his wife, and his brother Samuel and his wife, at 1818 North 21st Street in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. ¹⁰

Ben was 72 years old when he died January 21st 1920 at 1818 North 21st Street in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. He was laid to rest in the Mount Vernon Cemetery, Philadelphia, Philadelphia County, Pennsylvania. The name and address of the informant was illegible on Benjamin's death certificate. ¹¹ FAG#:176294619 ^v

- vi. George Kelly, born 1864 to James Kelly and Elizabeth McFarren in Danville, Montour County, Pennsylvania. George lived with his parents in 1870 and 1880 in the Danville area. George can not be located after 1880.
- vii. Clarence Kelly was born 1867 to James Kelly and Elizabeth McFarren in Danville, Montour County, Pennsylvania. Clarence lived with his parents in 1870 and 1880 in the Danville area. Clarence can not be located after 1880. It was reported that Clarence died before 1906.

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

^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.

George Kelly

Leonard Kelley-Bigger Father

It is currently believed that George Kelly is the father of Leonard Bigger.

- *See Bigger Family Research Paper*

Private George B Kelley
in the U.S., Spanish American War Volunteers Index to Compiled Military Service Records,
1898

Name: Private George B Kelley
Military Year:
1898
State: Pennsylvania
Unit: 14 Pennsylvania Infantry
Company: K

1930

Name: Sarah J Smith
Birth Year: abt 1846
Gender: Female
Race: White
Age in 1930: 84
Birthplace: Pennsylvania
Marital Status: Widowed
Relation to Head of House: Grandmother
[Grandmother, Grandma (Grandmother)]
Home in 1930: Dawson, Fayette, Pennsylvania, USA
Map of Home: Dawson, Fayette, Pennsylvania
Dwelling Number: 130
Family Number: 131
Attended School: No
Able to Read and Write: No
Father's Birthplace: Pennsylvania
Mother's Birthplace: Pennsylvania

Household Members	Age	Relationship
William Keller		
39	Head	
Elizabeth Keller		
40	Wife	

Edna R Keller
7 Daughter
Frances Keller
4 Daughter
Sarah J Smith 84 Grandmother

1940

Name: Edna Ruth Keller
Age: 17
Estimated Birth Year: abt 1923
Gender: Female
Race: White
Birthplace: Pennsylvania
Marital Status: Single
Relation to Head of House: Daughter
Home in 1940: Dawson, Fayette, Pennsylvania
Map of Home in 1940: Dawson, Fayette, Pennsylvania
Inferred Residence in 1935: Dawson, Fayette, Pennsylvania
Residence in 1935: Dawson
Sheet Number: 4B
Attended School or College: Yes
Highest Grade Completed: High School, 4th year
Weeks Worked in 1939: 0
Income: 0
Income Other Sources: No
Neighbors: [View others on page](#)
Household Members

Age	Relationship
William U Keller	
49	Head
Elizabeth Keller	
50	Wife
Edna Ruth Keller	17 Daughter
Frances S Keller	
14	Daughter
Jean U Keller	
6	Daughter

DetailSource

Name: Elizabeth Kelly
Gender: Female
Spouse:
Willam U. Keller
Child:
Edna Ruth Keller
Film Number: 001877821

Name: Edna E Keller
[Pipkorn Keller]
Age: 87
Birth Date: Abt 1922
Death Date: Abt 2009
Publication Date: 25 Jan 2009
Publication Place: USA
Tombstone: 0

1920

Name: William U Keller
[William W Kelle]
[Willian V Kellas]
Age: 28
Birth Year: abt 1892
Birthplace: Pennsylvania
Home in 1920:Dawson, Fayette, Pennsylvania
Residence Date: 1920
Race: White
Gender: Male
Relation to Head of House: Boarder
Marital Status: Single
Father's Birthplace: Pennsylvania
Mother's Birthplace: Pennsylvania
Able to Speak English: Yes
Occupation: Teacher
Industry: Dunbor Top

Employment Field: Wage or Salary

Able to read: Yes

Able to Write: Yes

Neighbors: View others on page

Elizabeth K Keller

BIRTH 1890

DEATH 13 Aug 1945 (aged 54–55)

BURIAL

Salem Cemetery

Unityville, Lycoming County, Pennsylvania, USA

MEMORIAL ID 45101392 · View Source

Name: Elizabeth Killer

[Elizabeth Keller]

Gender: Female

Race: White

Death Age: 55

Birth Date: 1 Mar 1890

Birth Place: Danville, Pennsylvania Montour County, Pennsylvania

Death Date: 13 Aug 1945

Death Place: Connellsville, Fayette, Pennsylvania, USA

Mother: Emma Smith

Spouse: William W Keller

Certificate Number: 68390

Name: William Unger Keller

Gender: Male

Race: White

Death Age: 64

Birth Date: 24 Feb 1891

Birth Place: Opps, Pennsylvania

Death Date: 2 Jul 1955

Death Place: Dawson, Fayette, Pennsylvania, USA

Father: Russell Keller
Mother: Margaret Unger
Certificate Number: 60594

Name: William Unger Keller
Gender: Male
Birth Date: 24 Feb 1891
Birth Place: Lycoming, Pennsylvania, USA
Residence Place: Fayette, Pennsylvania, USA
Military Draft Date: 1942
Relationship to Draftee: Head

William Unger Keller
BIRTH 1891
DEATH 2 Jul 1955 (aged 63–64)
BURIAL
Salem Cemetery
Unityville, Lycoming County, Pennsylvania, USA
MEMORIAL ID 45101396 · View Source

End Notes

¹ William Kelly Civil War Service: The information came from the June 1890 Federal Special Schedule-Surviving Soldiers, Sailors, and Marines, and Widows Census; National Archives and Records Administration, 700 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW. Washington, DC 20408-0001.

² Sarah Ellen Marshall Name and Surviving Relatives: The information came from the web site, Ancestry, Find-A-Grave, FAG#:185653131, 1300 West Traverse Parkway, Lehi, Utah, 84043.

³ William Kelly Name, Birth Date, Place of Birth, Parent's Names, Occupation, Residence, Date of Death, Place of Death, and Burial: The information came from his Pennsylvania Death Certificate #:48082, 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.

⁴ Sarah Ellen Marshall Name, Birth Date, Place of Birth, Parent's Names, Occupation, Residence, Date of Death, Place of Death, and Burial: The information came from her Pennsylvania Death Certificate #:11530, 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 Sarah Ellen Marshall Name and Surviving Relatives: The information came from the web site, Ancestry, Find-A-Grave, FAG#:185653131, 1300 West Traverse Parkway, Lehi, Utah, 84043.

⁶ Samuel Kelley Name, Birth Date, Place of Birth, and Father's Name, Mother's Name is Not Known: The information came from his Pennsylvania Death Certificate #:114405, 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.

⁷ Samuel Kelley Name, Occupation, Residence, Date of Death, Place of Death, and Burial: The information came from his Pennsylvania Death Certificate #:114405, 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.

⁸ Margaret Alverna Kelly Name, Birth Date, Place of Birth, Parent's Names, Occupation, Residence, Date of Death, Place of Death, and Burial: The information came from her Pennsylvania Death Certificate #:32648, 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.

⁹ Margaret Alverna Kline Name, Birth Date, Place of Birth, Parent's Names, Occupation, Residence, Date of Death, Place of Death, and Burial: The information came from her Pennsylvania Death Certificate #:32648, 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 Benjamin Franklin Kelly Name, Birth Date, Place of Birth, and Parent's Names, Marriage, Occupation, and Residence: The information came from his Pennsylvania Death Certificate #:2126-1742, 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.

¹¹ Benjamin Franklin Kelly Name, Date of Death, Place of Death, and Burial: The information came from his Pennsylvania Death Certificate #:2126-1742, 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.