

e-mail from Jean Grandy 2/2/2012
jgrandy mcttelecom.com [jgrandy@mcttelecom.com]

I was glad to see the article about Laporte Hubbell, American Clockmaker. Even though they traveled in different directions, you did mention Chauncey Jerome and the Jerome Manufacturing Company. Chauncey was a relative of my father-in-law, Winfred Grandy. Winfred's father was Leonard, and his grandfather was Lewis B who was a brother to Elizabeth Grandy who married Luther Jerome. Luther was the son of Chauncey. I have information about Chauncey from The Old Clock Book by N. Hudson Moore. Also some from (maybe) the Bristol, CT history, or from a history of the Jerome Company--the source is not given. And the text from the Grove Street Cemetery self guided tour. I do not have any reference to a Hubbell, so did not know of the connection until I read your article. Another trade that has succumbed to machinery.

I have attached (I hope--I'm not good at this newfangled machine) the info on Chauncy & his genealogy for your information.

Thanks
Jean Grandy
(My father's mother was a Hubbell)

Jerome Genealogy

Timothy Jerome was born in the Isle of Wight, England, in the year 1688. He came to America in 1710. He located and lived at Wallingford (in the colony of New Haven). His wife was Abigail _____ (last name not known.)

Children: Timothy, Sr. b 1713

Zerababel, b 1715

Abigail

William b 1717

Elizabeth

Samuel b 1728

Isabel

The Jeromes were an old family in the Isle of Wight (but practically extinct now). Their wills are recorded there, back as far as 1503 according to the book of "American Ancestry". volume 5, page 15, the family had a "Coat of Arms".

Two of the sons, William and Zerababel moved to what is now Bristol, then part of Farmington, about 1745. Timothy, Sr went to Waterbury, which then included Plymouth. Samuel went to Stockbridge, Berksin [Berkshire] Co, Mass, and a few years later to Omanbaga [?Onondaga] Co, New York.

Timothy Sr, b 1713,
was the father of Andrew, b 1740
who was the father of Lyman b 1765,
who was the father of Chauncey Jerome b 1793,
who was the father of Abigail Celistia, Helen
and the rest.

Samuel b 1728,
was the father of Aaron
who was the father of Isaac,
who was the father of Leonard,
who was the father of Lady Randolph Churchill.

The last named on both sides being fifth cousins.

Abigail Celistia last named on her mothers side, was a descendant from Thomas Hooker, the leader of the company who traveled through the woods from Massachusetts Colony to Hartford in 1635, where they settled

Copied from a paper found in the papers of Winfred M Grandy: a cousin of Luther Jerome, b 1841, Bristol, CT, s/o Chauncey, b 1793 in Canaan, CT. Luther m Elizabeth Grandy, a sister of Lewis Boyd Grandy & d/o Lewis Grandy & Elizabeth Osgood, great grandparents of Winfred.

Grove Street Cemetery, New Haven, CT

487 Jerome, Jr. Chauncey	08/17/1869	48 Sycamore
488 Jerome Abigail Celistia	07/07/1824	48 Sycamore
489 Jerome Augustus S.	10/13/1877 10/15/1877	48 Sycamore

490	Jerome	Chauncey	10/25/1853	48	Sycamore
491	Jerome	Kate H.B.	07/26/1856	48	Sycamore
492	Jerome	Chauncey	04/20/1868	48	Sycamore
493	Jerome	Samuel B.	07/18/1905	07/20/1905	48 Sycamore
494	Jerome	Salome	03/06/1854	48	Sycamore
495	Jerome	Maria M.	05/04/1876	05/06/1876	48 Sycamore
496	Jerome	Luther E.	03/13/1904	03/15/1904	48 Sycamore
497	Jerome	Jennie E.	11/29/1911	48	Sycamore
498	Jerome	Herbert L.	02/23/1873	48	Sycamore
499	Jerome	Helen A.	04/02/1902	04/05/1902	48 Sycamore
500	Jerome	Frances C.	03/19/1882	03/22/1882	48 Sycamore
501	Jerome	Frank Colt	12/17/1941	12/29/1941	48 Sycamore
502	Jerome	Elizabeth G.	05/24/1923	05/26/1923	48 Sycamore
503	Jerome	Eddie	05/01/1886	48	Sycamore
504	Jerome, Jr.	Chauncey	07/28/1853	48	Sycamore
505	Jerome	Luther H.	01/03/1839	48	Sycamore
726	Rushworth	Natalie J.	11/22/1945	11/24/1945	48 Sycamore
727	Rushworth	Frank	06/27/1951	07/03/1951	48 Sycamore

Descendants of Stephen Jerome

Generation No. 1

1. STEPHEN¹ JEROME

Child of STEPHEN JEROME is:

2. i. TIMOTHY CHAUNCY² JEROME, b. 1688, Isle of Wight, England; d. 1753, Wallingford, CT.

Generation No. 2

2. TIMOTHY CHAUNCY² JEROME (*STEPHEN¹*) was born 1688 in Isle of Wight, England, and died 1753 in Wallingford, CT. He married ABIGAIL RICH 1709, daughter of NICHOLAS RICH and ABIGAIL GREEN. She was born 1687 in Wenham, MA, and died 1771 in Bristol, CT.

Notes for TIMOTHY CHAUNCY JEROME:

Came from the Isle of Wight, England, to America in 1710 & settled in Wallingford, CT

Children of TIMOTHY JEROME and ABIGAIL RICH are:

3. i. ISABEL³ JEROME, b. 1710, Wallingford, CT; m. LAZARUS IVES; b. 1703, Wallingford, CT.
- ii. TIMOTHY JEROME II, b. 1713, Windham, CT.
- iii. ZERABABEL JEROME, b. 1715, Wallingford, CT; m. PHEBE COOK.
- iv. WILLIAM JEROME, b. 1717, Wallingford, CT; m. ELIZABETH HART; b. 1716, Wallingford, CT.
- v. ABIGAIL JEROME, b. 1719, Wallingford, CT; m. JOSEPH STONE.
- vi. ELIZABETH JEROME, b. 1722, Wallingford, CT; m. JOHN ADKINS; b. 1717, Middletown, CT.
- vii. SAMUEL JEROME, b. 1728, Wallingford, CT; m. LUCY FOSTER; b. 1732, Wallingford, CT.

Generation No. 3

3. TIMOTHY³ JEROME II (*TIMOTHY CHAUNCY², STEPHEN¹*) was born 1713 in Windham, CT. He married ANN NORTON 1736, daughter of THOMAS NORTON and REBECCA NEIL. She was born 1714 in Saybrook, CT.

Children of TIMOTHY JEROME and ANN NORTON are:

4. i. ISABEL⁴ JEROME.
- ii. TIMOTHY JEROME III, b. 1738, Meriden, CT.
- iii. LYDIA JEROME, b. 1739.
- iv. ANDREW JEROME, b. 1740, Meriden, CT; d. 1778, Springfield, MA.

Generation No. 4

4. ANDREW⁴ JEROME (*TIMOTHY³, TIMOTHY CHAUNCY², STEPHEN¹*) was born 1740 in Meriden, CT, and died 1778 in Springfield, MA. He married CHLOE SAGE.

Children of ANDREW JEROME and CHLOE SAGE are:

- i. CHLOE⁵ JEROME, b. 1768, Farmington, CT; m. BENJAH CAMP.
- ii. ANDREW JEROME, JR., b. 1770, Farmington, CT; m. HANNAH ROWE.
- iii. LUCY JEROME, b. 1773, Farmington, CT; m. (1) EBEN HART; m. (2) ANDREW STEELE.
- iv. ROXANA JEROME, b. 1775, Farmington, CT.
5. v. LYMAN JEROME, b. 1765, Farmington, CT; d. 1804, Plymouth, CT.

Generation No. 5

5. LYMAN⁵ JEROME (*ANDREW⁴, TIMOTHY³, TIMOTHY CHAUNCY², STEPHEN¹*) was born 1765 in Farmington, CT, and died 1804 in Plymouth, CT. He married SARAH NOBLE 1786, daughter of CONSTANTINE NOBLE.

Children of LYMAN JEROME and SARAH NOBLE are:

- i. BETSY⁶ JEROME, b. 1787.
- ii. LYMAN JEROME, JR., b. 1789.
- iii. JEANETTE JEROME, b. 1791.
6. iv. CHAUNCEY JEROME, b. 1793, Canaan, CT; d. 1868, New Haven, CT.
- v. ANDREW JEROME, b. 1795.
- vi. NOBLE JEROME, b. 1800.

Generation No. 6

6. CHAUNCEY⁶ JEROME (*LYMAN⁵, ANDREW⁴, TIMOTHY³, TIMOTHY CHAUNCY², STEPHEN¹*) was born 1793 in Canaan, CT, and died 1868 in New Haven, CT. He married (1) SALOME SMITH 1814, daughter of THEOPHILUS SMITH and SALOME SMITH. She was born 1794 in Milford, CT, and died 1854 in New Haven, CT. He married (2) SOPHIA 1855. She was born 1807, and died 1884.

Notes for CHAUNCEY JEROME:

Mayor of New Haven, clock maker. Grove St. Cemetery records

World's Largest Clock Maker, Jerome & Co. See notes on next page.

Children of CHAUNCEY JEROME and SALOME SMITH are:

- i. AUGUSTUS⁷ JEROME, b. 1815, Plymouth, CT.
- ii. ABIGAIL JEROME, b. 1819, Plymouth, CT.
- iii. CHAUNCEY JEROME, JR., b. 1821, Bristol, CT.
- iv. SAMUEL JEROME, b. 1824, Bristol, CT.
- v. CELISTIA JEROME, b. 1826, Bristol, CT.
- vi. EDWARD JEROME, b. 1826, Bristol, CT.
- vii. HELEN JEROME, b. 1831, Bristol, CT.
- viii. LUTHER HART JEROME, b. 1835, Bristol, CT; d. 1839.
7. ix. LUTHER ELLIOTT JEROME, b. 1841, Bristol, CT; d. 1904, New Haven, CT.

Generation No. 7

7. LUTHER ELLIOTT⁷ JEROME (*CHAUNCEY⁶, LYMAN⁵, ANDREW⁴, TIMOTHY³, TIMOTHY CHAUNCY², STEPHEN¹*) was born 1841 in Bristol, CT, and died 1904 in New Haven, CT. He married ELIZABETH GRANDY 1872, daughter of LUIS/LEWIS GRANDY and ELIZABETH OSGOOD. She was born 1842 in New Jersey, and died 1923 in New Haven, CT.

Child of LUTHER JEROME and ELIZABETH GRANDY is:

Chauncey Jerome was perhaps the most imminent character associated with the American Clock business during the mid-nineteenth century. He spent all his adult life in the clock business achieving success as a promoter. As an apprenticed joiner he began making tall case clocks in 1811. In 1816, he produced shelf clock cases for Eli Terry in Plymouth [CT]. In the winter of 1816, he claimed he had produced the first Terry pillar and scroll clock case. He came to Bristol in 1821, and at first, made and sold clock cases. He exchanged some of his cases for wood movements and then he could sell a finished clock. Chauncey claimed he invented the bronze looking-glass clock in 1825, which revolutionized the whole clock business. The bronze looking-glass clock could be made for one dollar less and sold for two dollars more than the patent case. They were very showy and a little longer. While at Bristol, Chauncey Jerome was a partner in the following firms:

Jerome, Thompson & Co. 1826-27

Jerome & Darrow 1828-33

C. & N. Jerome 1834-39

[Chauncey & Noble--brothers]

Jerome, Gilbert & Grant 1839-40

Jerome & Co. 1840-45

In April 1845, his Bristol, CT factories were completely destroyed by fire and Chauncey Jerome moved to New Haven, CT and started a case shop and continued there under the name of Jerome & Co. In 1850, the name was changed to Jerome Manufacturing Co. In 1842 Jerome & Co. exported large quantities of one-day brass shelf clocks with lantern pinions and a friction plate count wheel, to England. Many of these were re-shipped to other parts of the British Empire and to many foreign countries. The clocks were invoiced at a value of a dollar and a half apiece. 20 % duty had to be paid on their arrival. They retailed in England for twenty dollars each. Soon it became economical to produce clocks with steel springs in place of weights. By the late 1840s "Lever" movements with balance escapements in place of pendulums became practical. Jerome Manufacturing Co. underwent financial failure. The factories were taken over by the New Haven Clock Co. in Feb. 1853. After the company failed Jerome moved to Waterbury and for about a year, made cases for Benedict & Burnham. In 1857, he moved to Ansonia staying about two years. He returned to New Haven and became a superintendent in the U.S. Clock Manufacturing Co. He moved with the company to Austin, IL in 1866. Chauncey later returned to New Haven where he died on April 20, 1868 at the age of 74. His obituary lists, besides his clock-making, Mayor of New Haven (1854-55), state legislator in 1834, and a Presidential elector in 1852.

From the cemetery tour, Grove Street Cemetery, New Haven, CT

We move slightly south to Number 48 Sycamore Avenue, which is the site for Chauncey Jerome. Note that here Number 48 is south of Number 46, contrary to what might be expected. The grave of Jerome is marked by a gray stone obelisk.

Jerome (1793-1868) was the son of a blacksmith in very poor circumstances. He was taught how to make nails at age 9. After his father died when he was 11, he had to work for neighbors as a carpenter. During the winter months he made dials for grandfather clocks. After serving in the War of 1812, he returned to work for clock maker Eli Terry. Soon he was able to start his own company, first assembling clocks from parts made by others, and later making his own parts. His "bronze looking-glass clock" became a popular item. By 1837, his company was making more clocks than any other in Connecticut.

Jerome invented a brass clock movement that would run for one day, and could be made more cheaply than clocks with wood movements. This was a major achievement. He moved to New Haven and started what became a very successful Jerome Clock Company. He had one line of clocks that sold wholesale for seventy five cents each. His factory was so mechanized that in one day three men could make all the wheels needed for 500 clock movements. In 1855 his company attempted to buy a Bridgeport clock company controlled by P.T. Barnum. This led to litigation, with the result that the Jerome company was forced into bankruptcy. All this occurred at the time he was mayor of New Haven. The final outcome was that he spent the last decade of his life in relative obscurity. He admitted that he was a much better inventor than business man.

The New Haven Clock Company, an outgrowth of the Jerome company, shortly after World War I became the largest clock company in Connecticut and one of the largest in the world. It, too, was forced to close soon after World War II.