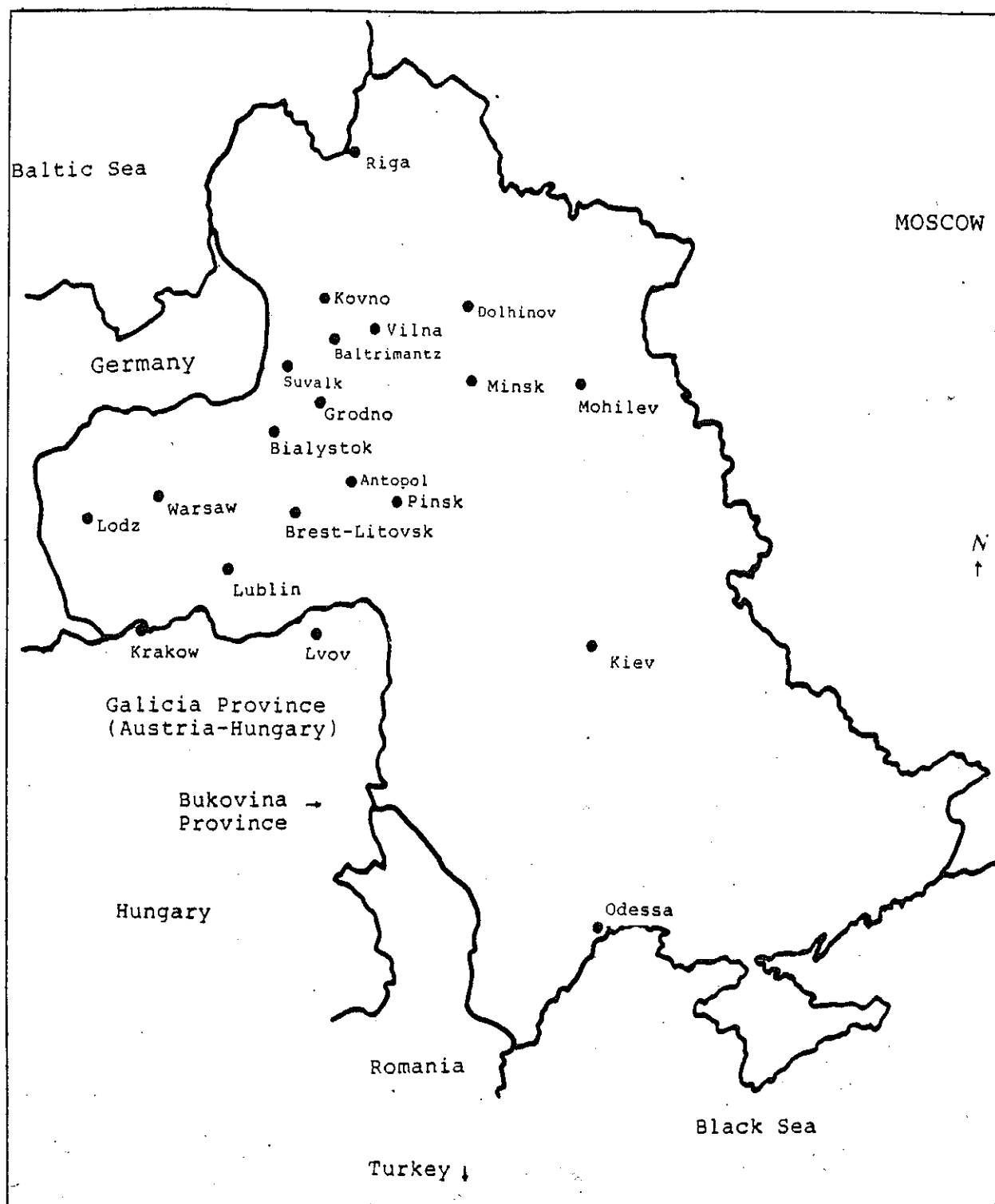


# OUT OF THE PALE

A GRAFMAN FAMILY HISTORY



BY STEPHEN W. GRAFMAN



#### IV. THE LIPNIACKI FAMILY

##### A. Historical Background

To appreciate the full significance of Reuben Grafman's marriage spanning the next 51 years (until death did they part), it is appropriate to consider the proud heritage, joined with the Grafman family, through his marriage on August 10, 1897 to this "fine young lady," who was Florence Amelia Lipnotsky.

While few details are known directly of the early years of the woman who was to become Reuben Grafman's wife, we do have the research of Simeon (Sam or Shep) Shabsai Levy, a cousin of Florence Amelia Lipnotsky, who undertook his work in the late 1940s or early 1950s.<sup>162/</sup> In addition, we also have had the more recent assistance of a professional researcher (Dr. Alexander E. Friedlander).

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<sup>162/</sup> The Simeon S. Levy Recollections (hereinafter "Levy Recollections") consist of several pages of early family history compiled by Sam Levy (1872-1955), a copy of which is in the Grafman Family Archives. One of Sam Levy's daughters, Helen, (later Helen Adler, then Livingston, Smith, and ultimately, Josephs, at the time of her death in 1988) was a longtime friend of the Grafman family. On numerous occasions she graciously provided information respecting the common history of our families, as did Helen's sister Ruth Levy Roburn. Helen, Ruth, and sister Florence's parents, Sam and Anna Levy (nee Anna Cohn), were bridal attendants at the wedding of my grandparents, with Sam serving as the Best Man. In addition, Sam's sister Charlotte (Lottie) was one of the bridal attendants, and Anna Cohn's brothers (Sam Levy's brothers-in-law to be) Isaac Cohn and Archibald Cohn were among the ushers. (See page 193, infra.)

It is known that the Lipnotsky family traces its origins to Suvalk (Yiddish pronunciation) or "Suwalki" (Polish pronunciation) gubernia, located in the northeastern portion of present day Poland.<sup>163/</sup> The family, according to Sam Levy, reportedly traces its roots to the 12th century (1209) and possibly earlier as descendants of a family known in its English translation as "The Family of the Golden Flag" (Gilderry Fawn or Goldene Fuen). Sam Levy also related that at one time there was a scroll in possession of the family "compiled chronologically back to King David." (Levy Recollections).

The name by which the family was actually known in Suvalk was Lipniacki.<sup>164/</sup> The name apparently varied somewhat over the years, depending upon various nationalistic influences of

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<sup>163/</sup> In the Appendix II (Geographic Index and Gazetteer compiled by Zachery M. Baker) to From a Ruined Garden, The Memorial Books of Polish Jewry, translated by Jack Kugelmass and Jonathan Boyarin, Schocken Books, New York, 1983, there appears at page 272 the following synopsis of Suvalk history:

Bialystok prov., 70 mi. N of Bialystok. Rail junction, trade center, mfg. (chairs, stamps, knitwear, hosiery, gloves), flour milling, brewing, tanning. Jewish settlement from late 18th century. Jews active in trade and crafts, including talis mfg. Jewish emigration to U.S. from 1860s. Jewish pop.: 1827: 1,209 (32%); 1857: 6,587 (62%); 1897: 7,165 (40%); 1921: 5,747 (34%); 1939: approx. 6,000. Entire Jewish community deported Nov. 1939 to four other Polish towns, sharing the fate of Jews in those places.

<sup>164/</sup> Letter from Dr. Alexander E. Friedlander to Stephen W. Grafman of March 21, 1989 ("Friedlander Letter").

Germanic, Polish, Russian, and Lithuanian origins.<sup>165/</sup> These influences impacted both spelling and pronunciation; for example, the Polish pronunciation apparently was Lipsky (or Lipski), the Russia nomenclature Lipnotsky (or Lipnowsky), and the Germanic incarnation, Lipman.<sup>166/</sup> Interestingly, Florence Amelia used the name Lipnotsky, her sister Shaina Leah apparently used Lipsky, while brother Wolf used Lipman.

Various family members apparently were relatively affluent and over the years lived in, among other places, Galacia, Lithuania, and Poland. Lipniak, in Suvalk gubernia, apparently was either named for family members believed to have been the largest land owners in that area, and is the townlet of the family's origin from which the family name seemingly is derived.<sup>167/</sup> Much of this area was land in which dense forests

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<sup>165/</sup> In 1807, Suvalk even came under French influence during Napoleon's reign for some eight years or so. See Yisker Bukh Suvalk (1961) at page 823 (English Forward). A copy of this memorial book can be found in, among other places, the Hebraic Section of the Library of Congress and the Jewish Division of the New York Public Library. Since most of this book is in Yiddish (only the Forward is in English), there may well be additional references of a historical family nature which to date have not been considered in connection with this present writing.

<sup>166/</sup> Levy Recollections.

<sup>167/</sup> Friedlander Letter. Sam Levy makes references to a town of Lipno as the specific town of family origin. Levy Recollections. The National Geographic Atlas of the World, 5th Edition, 1981, on its map of "Poland and Czechoslovakia" at pages 158-159, however, shows Lipno to be west of Warsaw in a fairly central portion of Poland (at H-14), a substantial distance from Suvalk (at E-18). Accordingly, it appears Sam Levy may be mistaken in this regard. Other Polish towns (which may or may not be of family significance) are Lipsk (at F-19) and Lipsko (at L-17).

abounded, providing a natural source for a thriving family business in the timber/lumber trade.<sup>168/</sup>

Other accounts differ as to the source of the family's affluence. It has been suggested, for instance, that the Lipsky family was known in Russia and Poland to be brewers and distillers; while in Germany, Lipmans were said to be distillers of a liquor known as Koenigsberg.<sup>169/</sup> Yet another recollection is that the family business was leather tanning.<sup>170/</sup>

In the English Forward to Yisker Bukh Suvalk, the following historical information provided concerning the Suvalk community in which family members resided. At page 823 it is stated:

Although Suwalk itself [as opposed to Suwalk gubernia] was not open to Jewish settlement until Napoleon's time [circa 1807], there is considerable evidence to support the view that Jews were permitted to settle in the surrounding countryside for centuries. There already was a Synagogue in the adjacent town of Wilkowsk as early as 1623. In 1815, Suwalk became a part of the Tzar's empire and remained Russian until the end of World War I where Suwalk once again reverted to Poland.

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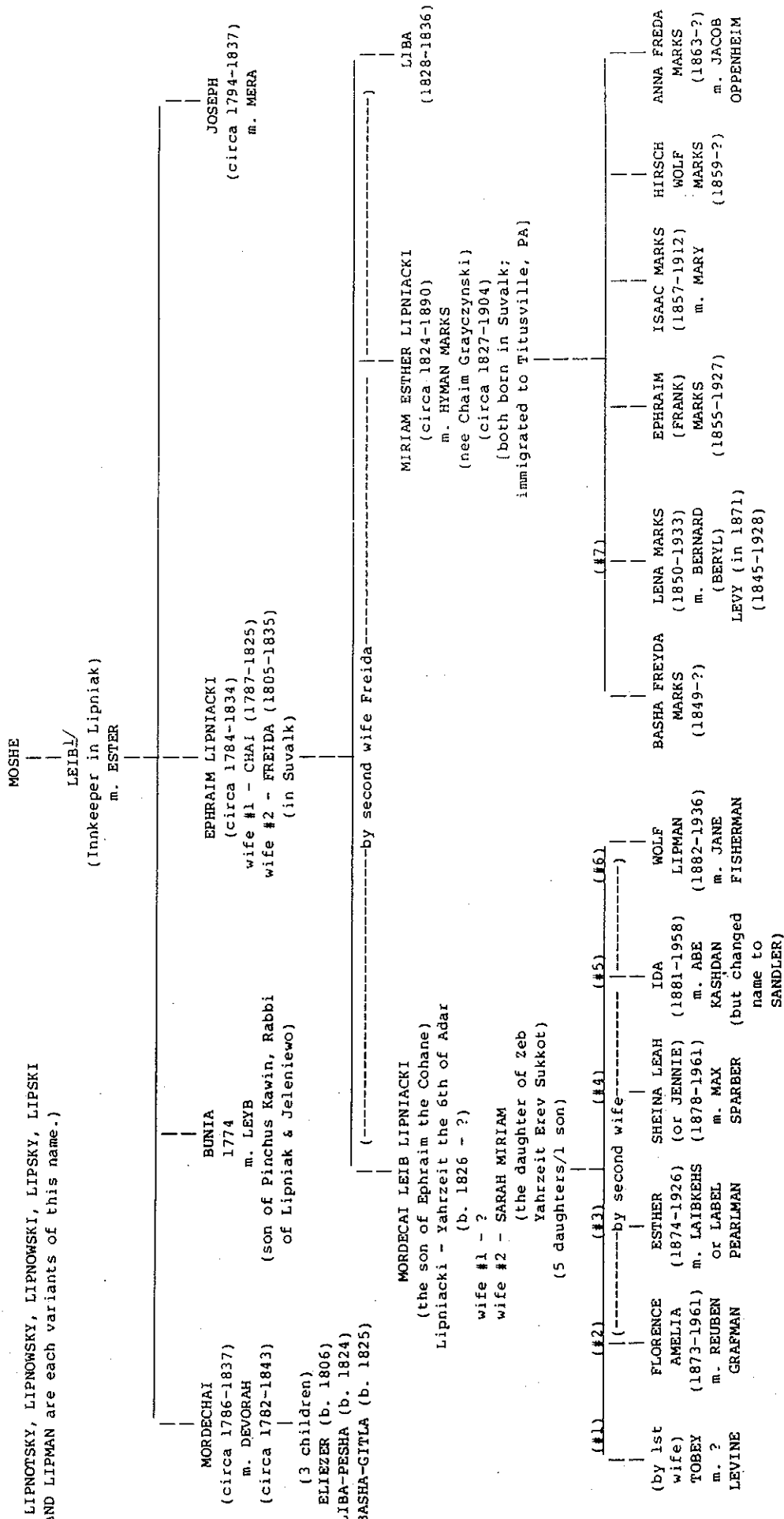
<sup>168/</sup> Levy Recollections.

<sup>169/</sup> See letter from Herman (Hy) Sparber to Stephen W. Grafman of June 1988, in Grafman Family Archives.

<sup>170/</sup> See letter from Helen Josephs (nee Levy) to Stephen W. Grafman of May 6, 1987, in the Grafman Family Archives.

# LIPNIACKI FAMILY OF SUWALK GUBERNE

LIPNOTSKY, LIPNOWSKY, LIPNOWSKI, LIPSKY, LIPSKI  
AND LIPMAN are each variants of this name.)



1/ As to Leib's three sons, MORDECHAI, JOSEPH, and EPHRAIM (EPHRAIM), this chart does NOT show all of the descendants of MORDECHAI and JOSEPH; nor does it show descendants of EPHRAIM's first wife CHAI.

WHEN (#s) USED IN CONJUNCTION WITH APPENDIX G, ONE CAN TRACE THE FAMILY TREE FORWARD AS FAR AS PRESENTLY KNOWN.





GEOLOGICAL RESEARCH BY  
 ALEX. E. FREELANDER

BROOKLYN, N. Y. 3/21/89  
rev. 10/12/89

(an witness  
in KALETHIK  
rec-als)

LEIB innkeeper in LIPNIK, born 1742  
m. ESTER dau. of EFRIM

1879 • = record of event in 1879  
1859 -64 = record of 1859 event in 1864  
1811 -K = record of event in 1811 in KALENIK

$$Y = \{e \in E \mid e \in Y\}$$

1782-9137.  
MORDEKAI  
BONIA (BANIA)  
1774

m. DEVORAH dnv. of JACOB (YANKEL)  
1752-1.18.43.

EFKOIM (EPHRAIM)  
1784 or 1792-9.1834.  
m. CHAI dau. of  
YISHAI  
1787-2.1835.  
2nd m. FREIDA dau. of  
MORDECHAI  
1805-4.1835.  
JOSEPH  
1794 or 1797-9.1837.  
m. MERA

LEYZER CHIENKA ENKA  
(ELIEZER) 3.1807-K 2.1811-K  
1806 -1811-K  
in EYGL-Kocha dau. Leib

12-A - PESHWA SHEKHAR-FAYGA BASHA-GITIA  
1824 1819 1825-10.1877.  
- 2.134. m. (S. 1839. RG) HARSHAN m. AGRANAM son of LE  
OF 1843 KOTEROZEN \* EPELBAUM  
OF RAIGROD 1851

SORA  
1813  
m. HIRSCH and Yudel  
ZVIMAN of Lusane  
1811-1849.

ESTER  
1821 or 1823  
m. (3.1848.)  
CHAIR sent  
ARON

NISIEL-F. KUCH 1831/33  
m. TAMARA daughter of ABRAHAM  
(10.1849 - 31 HILPERN (ELPIRN)  
in SEYNEY) of SEYNEY born  
11.1849 - 31

YODEL REYZA ESTIER- MACDOCHIAI  
-LEIB 1840-86 DEVORAH 11.18.51-  
1.1846. 1847-1866 -m. (1874-)  
ROCHA ESTER  
dau. of Jacob-Hersch

LIBA	EFFRIM	MICHLA	MOKOCHAI
1833.	6.1836.	1839.	- JOSEPH
1833.	m. YENTA	-1841.	1842.
	and of Isaac		m. (1842.)
	Levinowski		

GRAYCZYNSKI  
(penn. GRAISHINSKI)  
born 1828 or 1829  
#12570 in

ISAAC- ESTER- BENKO- CHAJNA CHAJA- MEKICHENI SOKA ISAAC- ELIA NERAM-  
SHOLOMI BEYLA LIEB- LILBA FELDA 8, 1112- -RNA -JACOE 18/11/79 SULLIVAN  
1855- 1857- 1859- 1859- 1864- 1866- 1878-79  
-1857- -1859- -1862- -1860- -1867- -1867- 1878-79

HASCHE - SORA RASHKA YUDEISA  
 ISAAC 1861- 1863-1864/1865-1866-1867-1868-1869-1870-1871-1872-1873-1874-1875-1876-1877-1878-1879-1880-1881-1882-1883-1884-1885-1886-1887-1888-1889-1890-1891-1892-1893-1894-1895-1896-1897-1898-1899-1900-1901-1902-1903-1904-1905-1906-1907-1908-1909-1910-1911-1912-1913-1914-1915-1916-1917-1918-1919-1920-1921-1922-1923-1924-1925-1926-1927-1928-1929-1930-1931-1932-1933-1934-1935-1936-1937-1938-1939-1940-1941-1942-1943-1944-1945-1946-1947-1948-1949-1950-1951-1952-1953-1954-1955-1956-1957-1958-1959-1960-1961-1962-1963-1964-1965-1966-1967-1968-1969-1970-1971-1972-1973-1974-1975-1976-1977-1978-1979-1980-1981-1982-1983-1984-1985-1986-1987-1988-1989-1990-1991-1992-1993-1994-1995-1996-1997-1998-1999-2000-2001-2002-2003-2004-2005-2006-2007-2008-2009-2010-2011-2012-2013-2014-2015-2016-2017-2018-2019-2020-2021-2022-2023-2024-2025-2026-2027-2028-2029-2030-2031-2032-2033-2034-2035-2036-2037-2038-2039-2040-2041-2042-2043-2044-2045-2046-2047-2048-2049-2050-2051-2052-2053-2054-2055-2056-2057-2058-2059-2060-2061-2062-2063-2064-2065-2066-2067-2068-2069-2070-2071-2072-2073-2074-2075-2076-2077-2078-2079-2080-2081-2082-2083-2084-2085-2086-2087-2088-2089-2090-2091-2092-2093-2094-2095-2096-2097-2098-2099-2100-2101-2102-2103-2104-2105-2106-2107-2108-2109-2110-2111-2112-2113-2114-2115-2116-2117-2118-2119-2120-2121-2122-2123-2124-2125-2126-2127-2128-2129-2130-2131-2132-2133-2134-2135-2136-2137-2138-2139-2140-2141-2142-2143-2144-2145-2146-2147-2148-2149-2150-2151-2152-2153-2154-2155-2156-2157-2158-2159-2160-2161-2162-2163-2164-2165-2166-2167-2168-2169-2170-2171-2172-2173-2174-2175-2176-2177-2178-2179-2180-2181-2182-2183-2184-2185-2186-2187-2188-2189-2190-2191-2192-2193-2194-2195-2196-2197-2198-2199-2200-2201-2202-2203-2204-2205-2206-2207-2208-2209-2210-2211-2212-2213-2214-2215-2216-2217-2218-2219-2220-2221-2222-2223-2224-2225-2226-2227-2228-2229-2230-2231-2232-2233-2234-2235-2236-2237-2238-2239-2240-2241-2242-2243-2244-2245-2246-2247-2248-2249-2250-2251-2252-2253-2254-2255-2256-2257-2258-2259-2260-2261-2262-2263-2264-2265-2266-2267-2268-2269-2270-2271-2272-2273-2274-2275-2276-2277-2278-2279-2280-2281-2282-2283-2284-2285-2286-2287-2288-2289-2290-2291-2292-2293-2294-2295-2296-2297-2298-2299-2300-2301-2302-2303-2304-2305-2306-2307-2308-2309-2310-2311-2312-2313-2314-2315-2316-2317-2318-2319-2320-2321-2322-2323-2324-2325-2326-2327-2328-2329-2330-2331-2332-2333-2334-2335-2336-2337-2338-2339-2340-2341-2342-2343-2344-2345-2346-2347-2348-2349-2350-2351-2352-2353-2354-2355-2356-2357-2358-2359-2360-2361-2362-2363-2364-2365-2366-2367-2368-2369-2370-2371-2372-2373-2374-2375-2376-2377-2378-2379-2380-2381-2382-2383-2384-2385-2386-2387-2388-2389-2390-2391-2392-2393-2394-2395-2396-2397-2398-2399-2400-2401-2402-2403-2404-2405-2406-2407-2408-2409-2410-2411-2412-2413-2414-2415-2416-2417-2418-2419-2420-2421-2422-2423-2424-2425-2426-2427-2428-2429-2430-2431-2432-2433-2434-2435-2436-2437-2438-2439-2440-2441-2442-2443-2444-2445-2446-2447-2448-2449-2450-2451-2452-2453-2454-2455-2456-2457-2458-2459-2460-2461-2462-2463-2464-2465-2466-2467-2468-2469-2470-2471-2472-2473-2474-2475-2476-2477-2478-2479-2480-2481-2482-2483-2484-2485-2486-2487-2488-2489-2490-2491-2492-2493-2494-2495-2496-2497-2498-2499-2500-2501-2502-2503-2504-2505-2506-2507-2508-2509-2510-2511-2512-2513-2514-2515-2516-2517-2518-2519-2520-2521-2522-2523-2524-2525-2526-2527-2528-2529-2530-2531-2532-2533-2534-2535-2536-2537-2538-2539-2540-2541-2542-2543-2544-2545-2546-2547-2548-2549-2550-2551-2552-2553-2554-2555-2556-2557-2558-2559-2560-2561-2562-2563-2564-2565-2566-2567-2568-2569-2570-2571-2572-2573-2574-2575-2576-2577-2578-2579-2580-2581-2582-2583-2584-2585-2586-2587-2588-2589-2590-2591-2592-2593-2594-2595-2596-2597-2598-2599-2600-2601-2602-2603-2604-2605-2606-2607-2608-2609-2610-2611-2612-2613-2614-2615-2616-2617-2618-2619-2620-2621-2622-2623-2624-2625-2626-2627-2628-2629-2630-2631-2632-2633-2634-2635-2636-2637-2638-2639-2640-2641-2642-2643-2644-2645-2646-2647-2648-2649-2650-2651-2652-2653-2654-2655-2656-2657-2658-2659-2660-2661-2662-2663-2664-2665-2666-2667-2668-2669-2670-2671-2672-2673-2674-2675-26

CHINA  
SOKA  
1865.

✓ UDEL  
7-1850-SY

\* ABRAHAM - MOSHE EPELBAUM'S MOTHER KEYZA  
was the daughter of the LAZDAY TSADOK

BASHA SHEINA FROM ISAAC H/KSCH 4/18/53-  
-FREYDA -LEAH 1.1853. 1857. -WOLF 4.1863-  
1859. 4.1850. 7.1859-cc



Lipsky/Lipnotsky/Lipman family members in Czarist Russia were thought to be among the relatively few Jews privileged to travel outside the Pale. Moscow and St. Petersburg, as well as various universities, were said to be open to family members. And because of such privileges, the family was thought to be a sort of lesser nobility -- educated and quite worldly.<sup>171/</sup>

#### B. Moshe and the Lipniacki Descendants

The patriarch of the Lipniacki family (pronounced as if "Lipniatzky") was Moshe the father of Leib, an innkeeper in Lipniak. Through Moshe, a family connection to Lipniak is established as early as the mid-1750s or so. Moshe's son, Leib, in turn, was the father of Ephraim Lipniacki who lived from about 1784-1834. Ephraim married twice, first to Chai and then to Freida; and it is through the Ephraim/Freida union that our lineage is traced. Three children were born of that marriage: Mordecai Leib, Miriam Esther, and Liba, though Liba apparently only survived to about age eight.<sup>172/</sup>

According to Sam Levy's research, Ephraim and his wife lost their lives in warfare that raged from time to time in Suvalk. Their children, Mordecai Leib and Miriam Esther, were quite young

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<sup>171/</sup> See letter from Herman (Hy) Sparber to Stephen W. Grafman of June 1988 in Grafman Family Archives.

<sup>172/</sup> See Friedlander Letter and related chart.

when their parents died. As a result, the children of Ephraim were raised, at least for a time, according to Sam Levy's research, by an uncle, Eliezer Lipniacki.<sup>173/</sup>

1. Mordecai Leib Lipniacki

Mordecai Leib was born about 1826, but was not to enjoy the good fortune of other family members. One account relates that at about age eight (circa 1834), Mordecai Leib was kidnapped by a Naval press gang and forced into the Czar's military service.<sup>174/</sup> His absence, which reportedly took him to many far away ports, was of such duration that his patrimony was divided among family

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<sup>173/</sup> Levy Recollections. More recent research has refined somewhat this understanding. According to Dr. Friedlander "Efroim's brother Mordechai had a son Eliezer who would have been 28 years old and married when Efroim died. This Eliezer must be the 'uncle' whom Simeon Levy refers to as having raised Mordechai Leib and Ester Miriam after their parents' death." Friedlander Letter and chart attached.

<sup>174/</sup> Such actions were not uncommon during this period as explained in, among other places, a publication entitled Image Before My Eyes, by Dobroszycki & Kirshenblatt - Ginblett, Schocken Books, New York, 1977, wherein at page 107 it is stated:

"Until 1827, Jews were not allowed to serve in the Russian army. After this date, Jewish men and boys were inducted into military units - the boys to serve for twenty-five years . . . far from their families and communities . . . . Occasionally Jewish khapers ("snatchers") were employed to kidnap children to fill the quotas."

members; and for a time, Mordecai Leib apparently was an all but forgotten member of the Lipniacki family.<sup>175/</sup>

But this was a resilient man! At some point, Mordecai Leib married, and was known to have at least one daughter of his first marriage, named Tobey. The name of Mordecai Leib's first wife, however, presently is unknown; we do know that daughter Tobey immigrated to England, where she spent most, if not all, of her adult life in the Manchester area.<sup>176/</sup>

We do not know what became of Mordecai Leib's first wife; but by the conclusion of twenty-five years or so of military service, including the Crimean War (circa 1853-1856), Mordecai Leib apparently was widowed. Returning to Suvalk, he married for a second, and still later perhaps a third time as well.<sup>177/</sup>

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<sup>175/</sup> Letter from Herman (Hy) Sparber to Stephen W. Grafman of June 1988.

<sup>176/</sup> See discussion at 163, et seq., infra.

<sup>177/</sup> It is Hy Sparber's recollection based upon conversations with his mother Shaina Leah (a daughter of Mordecai Leib) that Mordecai Leib was married three times -- once while in the Navy and twice after his return to Suvalk. As recollected by Hy Sparber the first family was lost in a pogrom somewhere near the Black Sea. See Hy Sparber letter to Stephen W. Grafman of July 1989, as well as earlier correspondence. (Note though that the pogroms, at least as they are thought of today, did not commence until circa 1881 (see p. 146, et seq., infra), after 1873 and following when Florence Amelia and other siblings from Mordecai Leib's subsequent marriage were born. The "pogrom" referenced in Hy Sparber's letter, of course, may simply refer to an earlier period of unrest and persecution of Russia's populace.)

Miriam Sarah, the daughter of Zeb,<sup>178/</sup> became the second wife of Mordecai Leib and she and Mordecai Leib became the parents of Florence Amelia Lipnotsky (1873), Shaina Leah Lipsky, Esther, Ida, and then Wolf Lipman (1882), apparently the baby of the family.

Mordecai Leib reportedly was a burly, bearded redhead. The only extant picture confirms this description at least in part, albeit the black and white photograph surely does not do justice to his red or auburn beard.<sup>179/</sup> It is believed that Mordecai Leib ultimately lived out his years on a military pension of some sort, plus whatever he could retrieve of his patrimony. One of his grandchildren, Sadie Eventhal, recalls being told by her father (Wolf Lipman) that her grandfather became the owner of a

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<sup>178/</sup> Another entry in the "Family Tree," as set forth in my baby book, indicates that Miriam Sarah or Sarah Miriam was the daughter of "Wolf" and "Debra" (see Appendix A); however, an entry in the Reuben Grafman family Bible indicates she was the daughter of Zeb and that her yahrzeit is Erev Sukkot with no year of death indicated. It is Hy Sparber's recollection from conversations with his mother that Miriam Sarah's maiden name was Grunim which when translated meant brook. Hy Sparber letter to Stephen W. Grafman of July 1989.

<sup>179/</sup> See cover sheet to this Chapter IV. According to Dr. Friedlander, Mordecai Leib's red hair is a "telling signal" that Sam Levy's assertion about the Lipniacki family being descended from the family of the Golden Flag and to King David descendants may well be valid. Dr. Friedlander states that "that hair color marked a group of families in Suvalki guborne who were related in their descent from this line." Dr. Friedlander letter to Stephen W. Grafman of February 19, 1989.

building in Suvalk from which he derived income by renting it to the local police authorities.<sup>180/</sup>

We do not know the year of Mordecai Leib's death. Our family Bible in the handwriting of Reuben Grafman does contain in Yiddish the following entry translated to English as follows:  
"Mordecai Leib, the son of Ephraim the Cohane Lipnotsky.  
Yahrzeit is the 6th day of Adar."

2. Miriam Esther Lipniacki Marks  
and the Marks/Levy Descendants

a. Suvalk to Titusville, Pennsylvania

The second of the known children of Ephraim Lipniacki was Estera, or Miriam Esther. Available information is conflicting as to her date of birth. At one point in the Levy Recollections it is indicated that she was born in 1824 (which would make her two years older than Mordecai Leib), and at another place in 1827 (which would make her a year younger). Other research suggests her date of birth as 1821 or 1823.<sup>181/</sup>

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<sup>180/</sup> Videotaped interview of Sadie Lipman Eventhal on August 7, 1988 in Manchester, England.

<sup>181/</sup> Research of Dr. Alexander E. Friedlander as set forth in his family tree chart enclosed with his letter of March 21, 1989 to Stephen W. Grafman.

Little is known of Miriam Esther's childhood. We do know that about 1848 she married Hyman Marks (1827-1904);<sup>182/</sup> subsequently they were to have six children, Basha Freyda (circa 1849), Sheina Leah (circa 1850), Efraim (circa 1853), Isaac (circa 1857), Hirsch Wolf (circa 1859) and Chana-Freyda (circa 1863). Sometime after mid-century (circa the 1860's or so), the Marks family immigrated from Suvalk to the United States where they made their home in Titusville, Pennsylvania (a community located in the northwestern portion of the state), at about the time oil was discovered in this general area.<sup>183/</sup>

Some limited information as to the Marks descendants is known. For example, Efraim, or Frank Marks, operated a shoe store for many years in Bradford, Pennsylvania. He married, and although we do not know his wife's name, we do know, that they

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<sup>182/</sup>In Suvalk Hyman's name was Chaim, and he was the son of Aron Grayczynski (pronounced Graishinski). Hyman was born in Olszanka, circa 1829. See chart attached to Friedlander Letter.

<sup>183/</sup> See, Feldman, The Jewish Experience in Western Pennsylvania, The Historical Society of Western Pennsylvania, 1986 at pp. 58-67 re: "The Oil Region." See also, Clark, Titusville, An Illustrated History, Western Publishing Company, Cambridge, MD 1976, and Giddens, Early Days of Oil, A Pictorial History of the Industry in Pennsylvania, Princeton University Press, Princeton, N.J. 1948. Among the oldest pictures in the Grafman Family Archives are pictures of Hyman and Esther Marks (shown on the next page) taken in Titusville by John A. Mather (1829-1915), a then well-known photographer whose photographs contributed to the history of Titusville's oil industry through pictures he took over a forty year period chronicled in the Clark book mentioned above at pages 52 and 53 and in the referenced Giddens book at page 41. Mather came to Titusville in 1860, and opened a picture gallery (i.e., a studio) apparently under the name of "Mather Photo," which is the name that appears on the back of these photos of Hyman and Esther Marks.





MIRIAM ESTHER MARKS  
(nee Lipniacki)  
(c.1824-1890)



HYMAN MARKS  
(1827-1904)



had two children, Sarah and Joe. Frank Marks died in 1927 and is buried in Titusville. Apparently neither of his two children had children, and there are no known living lineal descendants.

Isaac, or Ike, Marks was a bachelor for many years, but eventually did marry. His wife was Mary, also known as Mame Marks, and she was from Utica, New York. No children were born to Ike and Mary Marks. Ike Marks died in Utica on June 1, 1912,<sup>184/</sup> and was interred in Titusville, Pennsylvania.

Chana-Freyda, or Annie Marks as she was known, married Jacob S. Oppenheim, and they lived for many years in Buffalo, New York. They had several children including a son, Aaron, and a daughter, Miriam. Aaron died in the 1960s and left no lineal heirs. Miriam Esther, named for her grandmother Miriam Esther Lipniacki Marks, was married to Samuel Schaer in 1920. Sam, who died in 1957, and Miriam, who died in 1955, had three children, Sidney, born May 9, 1921; Howard, born February 10, 1926; and Leonard, born March 5, 1931.

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<sup>184/</sup> Ultimately, a dispute between Isaac Marks' wife, Mary, and Ike's siblings, Frank Marks, Anna Oppenheim, and Lena Levy, ensued after his death, relating to expenses of the Estate. This proceeding, a matter of record in the Surrogate's Court, Oneida County at Utica, New York, ultimately was apparently amicably resolved prior to the closing of the estate. Abram, or Abe Levy (see p. 155, *infra*) was a co-executor of the estate with Mary Marks.

As respects the three Schaer children: Howard, who died in 1962, was married and had a son, Marshall. Sidney, a surgeon, resides in Kenmore, New York, a suburb of Buffalo; he and his wife, the former Ida DeBruin, were married in 1954; they have four children, Miriam Elise,<sup>185/</sup> a graphic illustrator in New York; Jonathan, a cameraman/editor for CNN News<sup>186/</sup> in Atlanta; David, a mechanical engineer with McDonnell Douglas in Mesa, Arizona; and Susan, a supervisor with a wholesale produce firm in Buffalo. Leonard Schaer, as his brother, is also a doctor; he resides in Walnut Creek, California with his wife Eleanore (Lynne). They have three sons: Stephen, who is with a retail firm in El Cerrito, California; Alan, a systems engineer in San Francisco; and Lawrence, a student as of this writing at Rochester Institute of Technology in Rochester, New York.

We have no information respecting Basha Freyda, another of the Marks children. And respecting Hirsch or Harris Wolf Marks, we know only that he was born in Suvalk, lived in Bradford, Pennsylvania, and is buried in Titusville.

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<sup>185/</sup> Miriam is named for her grandmother Miriam Esther Oppenheim Schaer, who as noted previously, was named for her grandmother Miriam Esther Lipniacki Marks. (See p. 142, supra, and chart of "Lipniacki Family of Suvalk Guberne" supra.)

<sup>186/</sup> Jonathan's work has received particular recognition; in the summer of 1989 he photographed the solitary Chinese man in Beijing standing in the street trying to stop a column of tanks during the uprisings at that time. Since then, he has, among other things, covered the drug war in Bogota, Columbia.



ANNA MARKS OPPENHEIM

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As to the other Marks child, Sheina Leah, also known as Lena Jennie in the United States, there is substantial additional information. Lena was born in Suvalk on August 11, 1852. She and her husband were to play a significant role in the life of my paternal grandmother, Florence Amelia Lipnotsky.

In 1869, Barnard (sometimes shown as Bernard) Levy, and known also as Beryl or B. Levy, arrived in Titusville.<sup>187/</sup> He had been born in Suvalk<sup>188/</sup> on February 24, 1845. After arrival

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<sup>187/</sup> Interestingly, the B. Levy's Will, executed on September 25, 1924, on file in the Crawford County, Pennsylvania Courthouse indicates his name to be "Barney Levy." The various variations of B. Levy's first name may be indicative of the fact that his name at birth was of Yiddish or Hebrew origin, and thus Americanized variations may not have been of any particular significance to him. See, e.g., November 5, 1989 letter from Alan B. Levy to Stephen W. Grafman in the Grafman Family Archives.

<sup>188/</sup> Beryl Levy, whose family name in the Pale was Chernuschek, was from Kalvaria, a shtetl in Suvalk Gubernia, located near the Polish-Lithuanian border. Today this area is a part of Soviet Russia and is known as Kalvarija. Beryl Levy's parents, Moses and Mollie (Oppenstein) Levy, settled in New York where they resided on the Lower East Side at Catherine Street; they were affiliated with the so-called Kalvarier Schul, founded in 1853 and later located at 15 Pike Street where it came to be known as the Congregation Sons of Israel Kalvarie, and informally as the Pike Street Synagogue. Most of the congregants, like the Levys, were from Kalvaria. (See Wolfe, The Synagogues of New York's Lower East Side, Washington Mews Books/A Division of New York University Press, New York 1978 at pp. 89-91.) For a time Chazzan Yisroel Cooper, a famous cantor from Vilna under whose tutelage Saul Grafman had studied in Vilna (see, supra, at 42), served this synagogue. See Slobin, Chosen Voices, supra, at p. 56. Ruth Levy Roburn, a granddaughter of Beryl Levy, has her grandparents' deed for two seats at the Pike Street Synagogue. While Beryl Levy's parents remained in New York, Beryl went "West" in the aftermath of the Pennsylvania oil discovery to Titusville.

in Titusville, B. Levy established a mercantile business known as "Yankee Peddler's Supply." In this business he catered to the horse-drawn merchants who bought pots, pans, and notions for backwoods oil personnel.

Beryl Levy met, and in December 1871 married Lena Marks. Not long thereafter, he became involved in the oil field supply business, and as time went on, in various oil field related endeavors, including pipelines for the new "black gold" industry.<sup>189/</sup>

B. Levy's entry into the oil supply business was chronicled by his grandson, Howard Levy, in an article written at the request of The Titusville Herald "to tell the story [almost 100 years later] of the company that his [Howard's] grandfather, his father, and then he himself had operated so successfully until it was sold in 1970."<sup>190/</sup> As related by Howard Levy:

[B. Levy's] first reported experience with oilfield material was when he found out that a drilling company had dropped a string of two-inch new tubing into their well. The tubing, some 700 feet of it lay corkscrewed upon the ground . . . .

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<sup>189/</sup> See Levy Recollections; see also, The Titusville Herald, June 14, 1965 edition concerning the 100th Anniversary of Jewish immigration to Titusville.

<sup>190/</sup> The Titusville Herald, December 14, 1973 article entitled "Spaghettied Pipe, Trolley Tracks, Etc.; Long-tired Oilwell Supply Houses Tale" by Howard M. Levy (hereafter cited "Titusville Herald - 12/14/73").





LENA MARKS LEVY  
(1852-1933)



B. LEVY  
(1845-1928)

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[Levy] devised a straightening tool . . . . Taking a piece of the corkscrewed tubing in his hand, he gradually put it in the straightener, putting pressure on the long end and using his muscles which were strong after his many years of hard back packing work . . . . His feat of accomplishment came when he sold the entire string back to the original owners . . . at a price slightly less than the new material would cost."

This enterprise launched B. Levy into the oil supply business, which he ran from the backdoor of his home on Titusville's South Martin Street. This business became a profitable endeavor, and as evidence of the family's relative affluence, the B. Levy home was one of the first, if not the very first in Titusville, to have indoor plumbing.

b. Florence Amelia Lipniacki Arrives in Titusville

While the Miriam Esther Lipniacki Marks branch of the family became established in Pennsylvania, the Mordecai Leib branch remained in Suvalk. The year 1881 marked the beginning of the Russian pogroms, and life became still more difficult for those remaining in the Pale. On March 1, 1881, Czar Alexander II was assassinated, and the limited reforms of his regime that had made life somewhat more palatable for the Jews of the Pale, came to a rather abrupt end.<sup>191/</sup> As a result, 1881 also marked the

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<sup>191/</sup> This is not meant to suggest that there were no problems during the reign of Alexander II. For example, it is reported in the Encyclopedia Judaica under the "Suvalk" listing (at vol. 15, (footnote continued)

beginning of what was to become a mass Jewish exodus from the Pale of Settlement.<sup>192/</sup>

Florence Amelia Lipniacki, the oldest child of Mordecai Leib's second family, was among these relatively early immigrants. She was born in the later part of 1873.<sup>193/</sup> About 1885 Amelia's aunt, Miriam Esther Lipniacki Marks, and other family members, were responsible for bringing Amelia from Suvalk to live with her now established American relatives in Pennsylvania. At that time, Amelia was approximately 11 or 12 years of age; her immigration apparently followed the death of her mother, which may have been the result of a pogrom. Amelia's transit to America was accomplished with the assistance

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(footnote continued from previous page)  
page 539) that:

"During the Polish uprising in 1863 many Jews in Suwalki and the surrounding area took an active part in the struggle against the Russian army. Two of them, Leib Lipman and Leib Lejbman, were executed by the czarist authorities."

Whether Leib Lipman or Leib Lejbman were family relatives is unknown, but it is fascinating to speculate that they might have been.

<sup>192/</sup> See, e.g., Sanders, Shores of Refugees, Henry Holt and Company, New York 1988 at xii, et seq.

<sup>193/</sup> The only documentation of Amelia's birth date located as of this writing is a reference on the August 2, 1897 marriage license application of Reuben Grafman and Amelia Lipnotsky (on file with the McKean County, Pennsylvania Orphans' Court) where in Reuben Grafman's handwriting his bride-to-be is listed as having been born "on the 15 day of Nov 1873." This is in contrast to the December 15, 1873 date indicated on her tombstone.

(presumably financial and otherwise) of her aunt, Esther Marks, and Esther's son-in-law and daughter, Beryl and Lena Marks Levy (Amelia's cousins). A very interesting 1885 photograph, taken in Titusville and reproduced in this chapter, shows Florence Amelia with the five children of Beryl and Lena Levy, apparently not long after Amelia's arrival in Titusville. As this photograph so graphically reveals, Amelia was in some respects raised as though she were a sibling in the Beryl and Lena Levy household.<sup>194/</sup>

Amelia lived with the Marks/Levy family for some time, and eventually in the home of her cousin, Isaac Marks, in nearby Bradford, Pennsylvania. The Lipniacki name, pronounced in the Pale as though it were "Lipniatzky," seemingly was anglicized in

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<sup>194/</sup> A rather harrowing experience involving the B. Levy family reportedly occurred in Titusville in June 1892. As recollected by Howard Levy in his Titusville Herald newspaper account of December 14, 1973 (see footnote 190, supra):

After a month of steady rain, the [1892] flood and fire became the worst disaster in Titusville's history. The evening before, B. Levy had taken his children up Martin Street to the house of the Goldsteins, on higher ground. When he returned to stay with his house and business, the water kept rising. As he and his wife, Lena, started to abandon the house, she was walking ahead of him, then was swept away by the strong current. He grabbed her by the arm and started to pull her toward him when he was struck on the chest by a log which was floating by. He lost his hold on his wife, then reached for her long hair, and literally pulling her by her hair, walked up Martin Street to higher ground. As best the writer [Howard Levy, a grandson of B. and Lena Levy] can recall, some 63 persons lost their lives in this flood, all of them living in the area around South Martin Street.

America to "Lipnotsky," and thus as Amelia grew to adulthood, she was known as Florence Amelia Lipnotsky.

While living in the Marks household, Amelia was introduced to Reuben Grafman who had arrived in Bradford, Pennsylvania, as the newly selected chazzan of the Kennedy Street Synagogue. Reuben had heard that "[e]verybody in town talked about a Miss Marks; what a fine person she was."<sup>195/</sup> And it was at this point that B. Levy played yet a further significant role in Amelia's life. As recalled by Reuben Grafman, "[h]er [Amelia's] cousin, Mr. Levi [sic], from Titusville, whom I knew, acted as matchmaker and I was married August 10 [1897] in the Bradford [Kennedy Street] Synagogue."<sup>196/</sup>

An exchange of correspondence between Reuben Grafman and Florence Amelia Lipnotsky relates at least in part to the period prior to their marriage. Additional research hopefully will include, among other things, further reference to this correspondence, a portion of which apparently relates to whether Reuben and Amelia (or Robert and Millie as they came to call each other over the years) felt they could maintain themselves financially when married.

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<sup>195/</sup> Memoirs at 19. Because Amelia was living in the Marks' household, she apparently was known (albeit mistakenly) to at least some by the name Marks instead of Lipnotsky.

<sup>196/</sup> Memoirs at 19.



ISAAC (IKE) MARKS  
(1857-1912)

(Photo taken at Goetchus Photography Studios,  
W. Spring Street, Titusville, Pennsylvania)

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CHILDREN OF BERYL AND LENA MARKS LEVY  
WITH COUSIN FLORENCE AMELIA LIPNOTSKY  
1885



1st Row (L-R) Anna Amelia (Millie) Levy, age 4;  
Lessor Levy, age 2; Florence Amelia Lipnotsky (seated), age 11;  
2nd Row (L-R) Sara Lotta (Charlotte or Lottie) Levy, age 11;  
Abe Levy, age 7; Sam Levy, age 13



1. The first part of the document is a list of references. The references are listed in a standard format, with the author's name, the title of the work, and the publication information. The references are as follows:

1. [1] J. K. Knowlton, "The effect of the environment on the development of the human brain," *Psychological Review*, vol. 1, no. 1, pp. 1-10, 1954.

2. [2] J. K. Knowlton, "The effect of the environment on the development of the human brain," *Psychological Review*, vol. 1, no. 1, pp. 1-10, 1954.

3. [3] J. K. Knowlton, "The effect of the environment on the development of the human brain," *Psychological Review*, vol. 1, no. 1, pp. 1-10, 1954.

4. [4] J. K. Knowlton, "The effect of the environment on the development of the human brain," *Psychological Review*, vol. 1, no. 1, pp. 1-10, 1954.

5. [5] J. K. Knowlton, "The effect of the environment on the development of the human brain," *Psychological Review*, vol. 1, no. 1, pp. 1-10, 1954.

6. [6] J. K. Knowlton, "The effect of the environment on the development of the human brain," *Psychological Review*, vol. 1, no. 1, pp. 1-10, 1954.

7. [7] J. K. Knowlton, "The effect of the environment on the development of the human brain," *Psychological Review*, vol. 1, no. 1, pp. 1-10, 1954.

8. [8] J. K. Knowlton, "The effect of the environment on the development of the human brain," *Psychological Review*, vol. 1, no. 1, pp. 1-10, 1954.

9. [9] J. K. Knowlton, "The effect of the environment on the development of the human brain," *Psychological Review*, vol. 1, no. 1, pp. 1-10, 1954.

10. [10] J. K. Knowlton, "The effect of the environment on the development of the human brain," *Psychological Review*, vol. 1, no. 1, pp. 1-10, 1954.

c. The Children of Lena Marks and B. Levy

B. Levy died on December 28, 1928, from complications (pneumonia) resulting after an automobile accident earlier that year. Lena Levy died some four years later in 1932. Sam Levy, to whom we are indebted for memorializing much early family history, was the oldest of their five children, having been born in 1872. The other four siblings were Sara Lotta (Charlotte or Lottie) born in 1874, Abraham David, born in 1878, Anna Amelia, born in 1881, and Lessor (or Eliezer) Levy, born in 1882. All five of the Levy children were born in Titusville.

(1) Simeon Shabsai (Shep) Levy

Simeon Shabsai (Shep) Levy, or Sam Levy as he was often known, was married to Anna Cohn Levy, and they in turn had three daughters: Helen Miriam, born March 1, 1903 in Bradford, Pennsylvania; Ruth Freda, born August 16, 1904 in Titusville; and Florence Regina born May 11, 1906 in Cleveland. Sam was involved in various endeavors over the years including the tanning business and later the chemical and cosmetic field. While living in Cleveland, Sam reportedly was associated for a time with a young man named Revson, who later was to found Revlon Cosmetics.<sup>197/</sup> Sam was interested for many years in family

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<sup>197/</sup> Titusville Herald 12/14/73, supra, footnote 190.

genealogy. His wife, Anna, died in 1935, and Sam died some twenty years later in 1955.

Concerning second generation descendants of Sam and Anna Cohn Levy, daughter Helen had one child, Edward Adler, who was the son of Helen and her first husband, Jerome Adler. Ed lives in Trumbull, Connecticut, and he and his first wife had two children: Steven Adler of Trumbull, and Karon Adler Green of Potomac, Maryland, who is married to Micah Green. Ed was divorced for some years and now remarried.

Daughter Ruth Freda Levy Roburn (or Rosenberg), now in her 80s, has lived in New York for many years at 640 West End Avenue, Apt. 8B, the Levy family residence there. Ruth was married to Jesse N. Rosenberg in 1925 and they had one daughter, Joan (pronounced "Joanne"). Joan was born on September 4, 1927, and died in 1977. She was married to Sidney Warren Green and they had an adopted daughter, Amy Ann Green. Amy, 24 as of this writing, lives in Brooklyn. Amy was 12 at the time of her mother's death. Ruth and Jesse divorced in 1940, and at some point thereafter Ruth opted to go by the name of Roburn in lieu of Rosenberg.

Daughter Florence Regina Levy was married to Albert White; and in later years they became residents of Naples, Florida. Albert White died in October 1989. The Whites had two daughters,

Victoria (now Victoria Cruickshank) married to Dr. Michael Cruickshank, and Ann who married Larry Lewin. Victoria (or Vicki), who was previously married, has two children; and Ann and Larry Lewin had a son, Daniel (Danny) Shepherd Lewin, whose middle name is for Ann's grandfather, Shep.

Ann Lewin, now divorced from Larry, is the founder of the Washington Children's Museum which she has nurtured from its birth in 1977 to what today is a well-respected museum facility in the Nation's Capital. Her son Danny is in theatre work; currently, he is stage manager for a production of "Driving Miss Daisy."

Vicki Cruickshank and family as of this writing are in the process of relocating to Hawaii where her husband Michael, a Ph.D. in marine biology, has accepted a new position.

Of the Sam Levy descendants, Helen is the one with whom the Grafman family was in closest contact over the years. Helen was active in the work market well before it was commonplace for women to hold such positions. Her second marriage to Joseph Livingston had ended in divorce, and Helen in her midyears held an executive position in New York City in the public relations field with the National Association of Manufacturers, or NAM as it is sometimes known. Later she was with CARE, also in New York City.

A most interesting facet of Helen's life was her marriage to Leon Josephs in 1982 after the death of her third husband, Sam Smith. Helen and Leon were cousins (their maternal grandmothers were sisters), and prior to the time each had married for the first time, Helen and Leon contemplated marriage to each other. Helen's father, however, opposed such a marriage because of the family relationship; accordingly, Helen and Leon each pursued separate marriages and each had one child. Then at or near age eighty when both were widowed (Leon after a marriage of some 53 years), their relationship was renewed, leading to their marriage on October 10, 1982.<sup>198/</sup> This "December" marriage of some five

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<sup>198/</sup> At the time of their wedding, Helen was six months from her 80th birthday and Leon was 81. In a December 21, 1982 letter to my parents, Ida and Milton Grafman, Helen related the following:

Leon Joseph's grandmother and my grandmother Esther Cohn (my mother's mother) were sisters. His mother Jennie and my mother [Anna Cohn Levy] were first cousins, the same ages and lived in Bradford, Pa. until my mother married and with my father, settled in Cleveland. However, our two families have always kept in close communication throughout the years.

When Leon proposed marriage and I accepted, we decided to marry soon after as my lease on the apartment [in Alexandria, Virginia where she was then living] expired in October [1982]. Consequently there was little time for the formalities of announcements and only the immediate family members, Leon's daughter [Barbara Herzberg] and her husband who live in Princeton [New Jersey], my son [Edward] and his children [Steven and Karon], my sisters Ruth and Florence and her husband [Albert] and their two daughters [Victoria and Ann] and their families, were present at the ceremony performed by Rabbi Laszlo Berkowits at Temple Rodef Shalom in Falls Church [Virginia].

and a half years duration was a happy one for both of them. Helen lived out her remaining years with Leon in Cincinnati (his home since 1929). In a telephone conversation with Leon Josephs several months after Helen's March 25, 1988 death,<sup>199/</sup> and not long before his own death, Leon constantly referred to "my Helen." Leon passed away on August 31, 1988 only five months after Helen.<sup>200/</sup>

(2) Sara Lotta (Lottie) or Charlotte Levy Moll

Lottie or Charlotte Levy, the second oldest child of Beryl and Lena Marks Levy, was married in 1909 to Harry Moll, the brother of Helen Moll (Mrs. Lessor Levy).<sup>201/</sup> Lottie, who was remembered in her latter years "as a sweet lady,"<sup>202/</sup> lived as an adult in Rochester, New York. She and her husband, Harry, had a

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<sup>199/</sup> In a final effort to help others, Helen left her remains to the University of Cincinnati Medical School.

<sup>200/</sup> A 1923 graduate of Penn State University, Leon was in the securities business, first in Cleveland, and then for most of his career in Cincinnati. As a hobby, Leon enjoyed writing satirical pieces, such as the one he mentioned not long before his death about a jail that goes condominium, and of the problems this created for one of the inmates who could not afford to purchase his cell.

<sup>201/</sup> Harry and Helen Moll were among the children of Rabbi Max Moll, of Rochester, New York. Rabbi Moll was one of the early Reform Rabbis in this country, and is recalled as a scholarly man. Originally from Berlin, Rabbi Moll wrote and published a textbook of German grammar for English use. Letter from Alan B. Levy to Stephen W. Grafman of August 12, 1989.

<sup>202/</sup> Letter from Alan B. Levy to Stephen W. Grafman of August 12, 1989.

son, Harold Moll, and a daughter, Margaret. Harold and his wife Ann had a daughter Eleanore. Margaret Moll was married to Morey Lisson and they have two children, Carol and Judy.

Carol is married to Herbert Steron, and they live in Rochester, New York with their two teenage children Susan and Scott. Judy Lisson is married to Gary Kreifeldt and they reside in East Amherst, New York.

(3) Abraham (Abe) David Levy

Abe Levy was born in 1878 and died in 1956. He and his wife Blanche had two children, Lester and Jack. For many years the Abe Levy family lived in McKees Rock, Pennsylvania. Abe Levy was known to have invented a switch, later known as the "Square 'D' switch."203/

Abe and Blanche Levy's son, Jack, when a student at Carnegie Tech in Pittsburgh, tragically was a drowning victim at age 17 while canoeing on the Allegheny River. Sadly, their older son, Lester, also died prematurely when his ship went down during a World War II military service. Lester had been married only a short time previously.

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203/ Titusville Herald 12/14/73, supra, footnote 190.



(4) Anna Amelia (Millie) Levy Engle

Anna Amelia, or Millie as she was known, was born in 1881. She was married to Sam Engle. They lived for a time in Oil City, Pennsylvania, and later in Rochester, New York. Millie and Sam had a son, Liebel Engle, an aerial photographer, who was killed in the war. Sam Engle ran a dry cleaning store for some years. At some point, Sam and Millie were separated and ultimately were divorced.

(5) Lessor E. Levy

Lessor E. Levy, the youngest child of Beryl and Lena Levy, was born February 6, 1882. He was the only Levy child who remained in Titusville as an adult. Lessor attended the Welch Business College in Oil City, Pennsylvania. He worked for a number of years for the American Oil Works in Titusville, after which in 1919 he joined his father's business in 1919. Upon B. Levy's in 1929, Lessor assumed the operational control of the business, although because of some concern as to possible litigation and/or other indebtedness, Lessor did not receive the legal ownership of the business, which instead was placed in a trust.204/

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204/ The Will of "Barney Levy" filed on January 7, 1929 with the Register of Wills of Crawford County, Pennsylvania (which includes Titusville) provided without further explanation:

(footnote continued)

Among his professional accomplishments, Lessor developed a process for cleansing kerosene which prevented a lantern wick from becoming fouled by oil sediment. Lessor, or Less as he was known to some, is remembered by his grandson, Alan Levy, as "a sweet man, just a real caring person whom everyone was fond of." 205/

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(footnote continued from previous page)

I give, devise and bequeath unto Helen M. Levy [B. Levy's granddaughter] of Titusville, Pennsylvania, under the name of B. Levy, in Trust nevertheless, to carry on said business and to pay over the net income from time to time unto my said son Lessor for and during the full term of his natural life, free and clear of his debts, contracts, engagements, alienations and anticipations, and free and clear of all levies, attachments, executions and sequestrations, and at his death, the said trust to determine and said business to be vested in the children of the said Lessor E. Levy, legally begotten.

In a later paragraph of the Will, B. Levy's wife Lena and Lessor Levy were named as co-executors of the Will.

Another interesting provision of the Will stated the following:

I direct that my executors buy a home in Jerusalem at a cost of not more than One Thousand (\$1000.00) Dollars, said home to be known as the Barney and Lena Levy Home, and to be devoted to religious or charitable purposes.

We lack any specific information as to what became of this bequest, although the final accounting on file with the Crawford County Court shows payment of various "draft[s] for Jerusalem."

205/ Letter from Alan B. Levy to Stephen W. Grafman of August 12, 1989.

Lessor was married to Helen Moll on February 25, 1908, and they had two children, Howard Milton, born March 29, 1909, and Beatrice Evelyn, born in 1912. Lessor was an active community leader in Titusville, and at one time was President of the Titusville Chamber of Commerce. He was actively involved in various efforts to aid the Titusville economy as the local oil industry over time began to dwindle toward a halt.

Lessor Levy's daughter, Beatrice, was married in 1937 to Richard Fink of New York City, who along with his father and sister owned Fink Bakery. The bakery has supplied many of the restaurants and delis of New York with the slogan "Fink Means Good Bread." Beatrice and Richard Fink<sup>206/</sup> had three sons, Rick, Stephen (now president of Fink Bakery), and youngest son, Jimmy, a popular disc-jockey for K-ROCK in New York City. The oldest son, Rick, is now retired and living in the Virgin Islands. Rick and his wife Fran had several children, one of whom, Eric, is now in medical school. Steve has a son, Jon.

Howard Levy, the second child of Lessor and Helen Moll Levy, is recalled by his son, Alan, as a "most charismatic man" who was quite bright, and also rather mischievous in his younger days. Among Howard's childhood recollections was making alcoholic

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<sup>206/</sup> Richard Fink died in the 1960s. Beatrice subsequently was remarried to Harry Joseph, a psychoanalyst with offices on Park Avenue in New York, and still later, to Milton Schulman, also of New York. Bea died in the late 1970s.

beverages during prohibition in his high school science lab. In 1929 during the Depression, Howard dropped out of the University of Pittsburgh in his junior year to join his father (Lessor Levy) in the family business.

At age 27, Howard was married on February 21, 1937 to Joan Goldman of Oil City (a town downstream, so-to-speak, from Titusville).<sup>207/</sup> Howard and Joan Goldman Levy have three children, Alan Bernard (named for his great grandfather), born February 17, 1938; Leslie Elaine, born August 7, 1941, and Jon Albert, born March 31, 1948.

Howard, like his father Lessor Levy, also served as president of the Titusville Chamber of Commerce, and among other civic activities, spearheaded the building of a local recreation park and swimming pool. He was a popular public speaker on the subject of Jewish history, an avid Dixieland piano player, an oil painter, a woodworker, and fisherman.<sup>208/</sup> After his sale of the family business, Howard Levy retired to Belleair, Florida where he was living at the time of his death in 1975. Howard's wife, Joan, currently resides in a nursing home in Denver near her son

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<sup>207/</sup> A small tributary, Oil Creek, runs some 15 miles downstream where it joins the Allegheny River at Oil City. The Levy house on South Martin Street in Titusville was on the north bank of Oil Creek just two miles south of where Drake in 1859 had drilled the first oil well on the shores of Oil Creek.

<sup>208/</sup> From his summer home on Chautauqua Lake in western New York, Howard Levy wrote a book entitled Man Against Musky, published by The Stackpole Company in 1962.

Alan. During her years in Florida, she was active in local community affairs, and even ran in a mayoral campaign there.

Alan Levy, the oldest child of Howard and Joan Levy, is a psychiatrist in private practice in Denver; in addition, he serves as the medical director of two psychiatric units at St. Anthony Hospital. His wife, Mary Ann, also is a psychiatrist. They have two sons, Evan Randall, born January 4, 1971, a sophomore as of this writing at the University of Texas at Austin, and Glenn Mitchell, born November 20, 1973, now a sophomore in high school.

Leslie Elaine Levy, who lives on Long Island, is the second child of Howard and Joan Levy. She was married to Donald Emanuel Wachs, and they have three children, Andrea, Susan, and Jennifer. Andrea is a Rutgers graduate and is married to Paul Sanicore. Jennifer is a recent high school graduate as of this time and plans to attend college in New York State at Geneseo.

The youngest son of Howard and Joan Levy is Jon Albert Levy. He is married to Abby Maret. They live in Carmel, California where Jon runs the Albert Company which produces and contracts for celebrity television advertising. Jon, who is known professionally by the name Jon Albert, and his wife have two young daughters, Danielle and Nicole.

d. End of an Era: The B. Levy Estate

The nineteenth century oil supply business founded by B. Levy was almost synonymous with the Titusville oilfields. The oil industry that began in Titusville with the discovery of oil, drilled at 69 1/2 feet in 1859, for all practical purposes by the mid twentieth century, had virtually become a thing of the past. The heart of American domestic oil production had moved much further west. As times changed, so did the family business which came to include the manufacture of water well casings, and the sale of buildings and industrial supplies, among other items.

But given the extant circumstances, it was inevitable that the oilfield supply business started by B. Levy, and continued by his son (Lessor) and his grandson (Howard) under the name of "The B. Levy Estate"<sup>209/</sup> from the backyard of the B. Levy home on

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<sup>209/</sup> B. Levy's Will provided that certain of his holdings could not be sold so long as his wife, Lena, was still living. Lena Levy died in 1932, one of the worst years of the depression. In trying to settle the B. Levy estate (which had included various real estate properties in Titusville) sale of such assets during the Depression fell short of the sum that would allow the executors to pay all bequests in the Will including those to various of B. Levy's children and grandchildren. Even the business itself operated as "The B. Levy Estate" was in jeopardy; however, the estate (which over time became synonymous with the business) was continued by its somewhat unusual name, and was so registered in Pennsylvania under that state's fictitious name act. Lessor Levy functioned for the business as accountant, banker, and scout, buying up used pipe and tubing and old oil leases, and buying and selling oil property; while Lessor's son, Howard, functioned as purchasing agent, office manager, salesman and troubleshooter. See Titusville Herald 12/14/73, supra, footnote 190, and Alan B. Levy letter to Stephen W. Grafman of August 12, 1989.

South Martin Street, would come to an end just as did Titusville's oil production. The end came in 1970 when Howard Levy (who over time had acquired the interests of all other family members), sold out in 1970.<sup>210/</sup> Subsequently, in about 1973, the buildings that comprised the Levy home and the B. Levy Estate were torn down as part of Titusville's "Better Days" or "Golden Days" redevelopment project.<sup>211/</sup>

e. Levy/Marks Relationship to Grafman Family

It is interesting to note that the Levy family and the Grafman family maintained their ties for many years after the death of Beryl and Lena Levy. A Pittsburgh newspaper article recounted the 50th wedding anniversary party of Reuben and Amelia Grafman (a copy of this article is in the Grafman Family Archives), and reported:

Mr. and Mrs. Lessor Levy of Titusville and Mr. and Mrs. Abe Levy [of McKees Rock, PA] attended the celebration which was held at the Darlington Road [Pittsburgh] home of Mr. and Mrs. Irving H. Wolfson [i.e., Miriam Grafman Wolfson, the oldest child of Reuben and Amelia] on July 29 [1947].

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<sup>210/</sup> Upon the death of Lessor Levy, ownership had passed to Lessor Levy's wife, Helen, and children Howard Levy and Beatrice Fink. On January 18, 1964, Howard Levy and his wife Joan bought out the other interests and continued the business until it was finally sold in 1970.

<sup>211/</sup> Titusville Herald 12/14/73, supra, footnote 190.

f. Final Resting Place

Finally, as respects the Levy family, it should be noted that the B'nai Gemilut Chesed Cemetery in Titusville is the place of interment of many Levy/Marks family members, including but not limited to: Miriam Esther Lipnotsky Marks (November 1890); Hyman Marks (August 1904); B. Levy (December 1928); and Lena Marks Levy (January 1933).

C. The Sisters and Brother of Florence Amelia

Before discussing in more detail the fifty year plus marriage of Reuben and Amelia Grafman (or Robert and Millie as they referred to each other), it is appropriate to also consider the interesting family history of Amelia's siblings.

1. Tobey Levine

We do not know a great deal about Tobey, the oldest known daughter of Mordecai Leib, who was the half sister of Amelia and of Amelia's other sisters and brother. We do know that Tobey was the daughter of Mordecai Leib from an earlier marriage. Tobey's birthdate is unknown, though we can establish she was born at a point in time prior to 1873 since Amelia was born that year.