Alvan Dinsmore Brock

One muses if John Brock, a Gloucester, Massachusetts fisherman who died a pauper in 1780, ever considered that his descendants would include a prolific writer, newspaperman, Civil War captain, inventor, real estate broker, entrepreneur, and political operative. Or, more fantastically, that they were all the same person.

Alvan Dinsmore Brock was born on 15 September 1830 in Buckfield, Oxford County, Maine, the eldest of seven children born to David Brock and his second wife, Livonia Coburn.² He had black hair, black eyes, and a ruddy complexion, but despite his dark features, Alvan was one of the more colorful characters in the family's ancestry.³

David Brock, Alvan's father, was born in Buckfield, Oxford County, Maine on 9 September 1804 to John and Susannah (Crandle) Brock.⁴ Little is known about David's early life, but by 1825 he had married Judith Farrar.⁵ Their only child, John, was born about 1827. Judith died shortly afterwards, leaving David alone to care for their young son.⁶ He did not remain a widower for long. Marriage banns for David Brock and Miss Livonia Coburn of Sumner, Maine were published on 26 November 26, 1829. Nathan Harlow, Justice of the Peace, married the couple on 10 January 1830.⁷

Early Life

In 1835, David Brock moved his young family, which now included John, Alvan, and Julia, to Lincoln, Penobscot County, Maine.⁸ The small town, named for Maine's sixth governor Enoch

¹ Gloucester Massachusetts, "Selectman Records," unpaginated, chronological entries, entry for John Brock, 15 Feb 1780; Gloucester City and Town Archives, Gloucester. An order was entered to pay 20 pounds for "making a coffin for John Brock one of ye town poor." Also, Alvan D. Brock's various careers and jobs are discussed and cited throughout this document.

^{2 &}quot;Marriages Solemnized in the City of Lowell, 1853," p.170, 9 May 1853, Alvin [sic] D. Brock-Martha R. Chenery; digitized, "Massachusetts, U.S. Town and Vital Records, 1620-1988," *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.com: last accessed 14 Mar 2021). Record identified Alvan's parents as David and Livonia Brock. Also, Alvan D. Brock, "Volunteer Enlistment," 21 Sep 1864; Alvan D. Brock personnel file, Department of Veterans Affairs, National Archives, Washington, D.C., copy held by Donna Brock [ADDRESS PRIVATIZED].

³ "U.S. National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers, 1866-1938," p.14043, record for Alvan D. Brock; digital, *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.com: last accessed 14 Mar 2021); citing NARA microfilm publication M 1749. Also, Brock, "Volunteer Enlistment," 21 Sep 1864; Alvan D. Brock personnel file.

⁴ "Vital Records, 1803-1898," database with images, *FamilySearch* (www.familysearch.org: last accessed 14 Mar 2021), Offspring of John and Susanna Brock, p. 18; citing Buckfield, Oxford County, ME, FHL microfilm 007595320, img. 18 of 475. David and Susannah's children were listed in birth order – Leonard, John, Samuel, Susanna, Polly, David, Otis, and Betsy. Also, "Maine, Oxford County, probate estate files: Collection Record 1805-1915," database with images, *FamilySearch* (www.familysearch.org: last accessed 14 Mar 2021) probate records of John Brock; citing Estate Files Drawer B5 Bachelder, Josiah to Butterfield, Moses, 1822-1824, FHL microfilm 007147810, Imgs. 663-675. John's will, dated 6 June 1824, named wife Susanna and children John Jr., Daniel, Samuel, Susanna, Polly, David, Otis, Betsy, Harry, and James. Son Leonard Brock was deceased; his daughter Almira Brock was named.

⁵ "Vital Records, 1803-1898," database with images, *FamilySearch* (www.familysearch.org: last accessed 14 Mar 2021), p. 268, David Brock-Judith Farrar; citing "*Records of Intentions of Marriage, 1803-1891*," Buckfield, Oxford County, Maine, FHL microfilm 007595320, img. 400 of 475. Judith's parents were not listed.

⁶ Marriages Solemnized in the City of Lowell, 1852" p. 116, image, John H. Brock- Mary P. Chenery; digitized, "Massachusetts, U.S. Town and Vital Records, 1620-1988," img. 5598 of 10971, *Ancestry* (<u>www.ancestry.com</u>; last accessed 12 Mar 2021) John Brock's age was given as 25 in 1852.

⁷ "Vital Records, 1803-1898," database with images, *FamilySearch* (www.familysearch.org: last accessed 14 Mar 2021) p. 276, David Brock-Livonia Coburn, 10 Jan 1830; citing Buckfield, Oxford County, ME, FHL microfilm 007595320, img. 404 of 475. Date of their marriage infers Julia's death date.

^{8 &}quot;Deeds 1814-1860; indexes 1814-1859 – Penobscot County (Maine)," database with images, FamilySearch (www.familysearch.org: accessed 14 Mar 2021), pps. 323-324, Frost to Brock, et.al; citing Penobscot County Land Records, Deed Book 90, FHL microfilm 008570353, img. 168-169 of 565. Lot 7 Range 9 was sold jointly to David Brock and John Tobin for \$600. Also, 1850 U.S. census, Penobscot, Maine, population schedule, p. 352 (stamped), dwelling 139, family 146, Julia A. Brock in the household of David Brock, image, Ancestry (www.ancestry.com: last accessed 14 Mar 2021); citing NARA microfilm publication M432, Roll 266.

Lincoln, was built around a water-powered sawmill on the Penobscot River and was central to the lumbering operations of the period. While in Lincoln, the Brock family grew. In 1840, the household included six children under the age of fourteen. 10 By 1850, David and Livonia had seven children, the eldest "Dinsmore," age 19, Julia, age 16, Wm. [William] H., age 13, David, age 10, Greenfield, age 9, Abby, age 4, and Ellen, age 1. John Brock, Alvan's older half brother, was still living with the family. 11

Alvan struck out on his own by 1852 and established himself in Adams, Berkshire County, Massachusetts. It was there that he made his first foray into the field of newspaper and print. His brother John left home at about the same time, and was living in Lowell, Massachusetts. John was employed as a teamster, boarding at the home of William Chenery. Alvan was either a frequent visitor or part-time resident of Lowell as he was also included in the 1853 City Directory as a printer. Alvan's draw to Lowell may not have been his brother, but his relationship with Martha R. Chenery, the daughter of William Chenery and his wife, Charlotte (Philbrick) Chenery.

Martha R. Chenery was the youngest of William Chenery's four children. The eldest, Hannah and Sarah, were daughters of William and his first wife, Hannah (Davis) Chenery. William married Charlotte Philbrick by June 1824, and their daughters, Mary and Martha, were born in quick succession. John Brock had married Martha's sister Mary and likely introduced his brother to the youngest Chenery daughter. Alvan and Martha's long-distance courtship was short; they married on 9 May 1853.

Alvan and his new bride returned to Adams, Massachusetts where he had assumed editorship of the *Greylock Sentinel* the year before. ¹⁷ It was in Adams that their first child, a son they named Alvan, was born. ¹⁸

⁹ Dana Willis Fellows, *History of the Town of Lincoln, Penobscot, County Maine, 1822-1898*, (Lewiston, ME:Dingley Press, 1929) pps. 18, 46-47, 52-53; digital, *University of Maine Digital Commons* (www.digitalcommons.usm.main.edu/me_collection/68/: last accessed 20 Mar 2021).

¹⁰ 1840 U.S. census, Penobscot County, Maine, p. 223 (penned) household of David Brock, image, *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.com: last accessed 14 Mar 2021); citing NARA microfilm publication M704, Roll 149.

¹¹ 1850 U.S. census, Penobscot Co., Maine, pop. sch., Lincoln, p. 352 (stamped), dwell. 139, fam. 146, household of David Brock. Alvan was enumerated using his middle name, Dinsmore.

¹² Willis F. Spear, *History of North Adams, Mass., 1748-1855*, (North Adams, MA: Hoosic Valley North Print House, 1885), p. 114; digital, *Google Books* (www.books.google.com: last accessed 17 Mar 2021).

¹³ "Marriages Solemnized in the City of Lowell, 1852" p. 116, image, John H. Brock- Mary P. Chenery; digitized, "Massachusetts, U.S. Town and Vital Records, 1620-1988," img. 5598 of 10971, *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.com; last accessed 12 Mar 2021) John Brock and Mary P. Chenery were married on 13 Mar 1852.

¹⁴ Lowell, Massachusetts, City Directory, 1853, (no title page), p.59, entry for Alvan D. Brock; digitized, "U.S. City Directories, 1822-1995," *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.com: last accessed 17 Mar 2021). John Brock was listed immediately below Alvan on the same page. Also, p.72, entry for William Chenery; John Brock was living at the home of his father-in-law, William Chenery. Also, Barbara Jean Evans, *The New A to Zax*, (Champagne, IL: self-published, 1990) p.269, held by Donna Brock (ADDRESS PRIVATIZED). A teamster was defined as a driver of two or more horses pulling a vehicle.

¹⁵ Ira Thompson Monroe, *History of Livermore, Androscoggin County, Maine*, (Livermore, ME: Lewiston Journal Print Shop, 1932), p.96, digital, *Google Books* (www.books.google.com: last accessed 20 Mar 2021). Also, "Marriages," article, *Hallowell (Maine) Gazette*, 30 June 1824, p.3, col. 3; digital, *GenealogyBank* (www.genealogybank.com: last accessed 20 Mar 2021). William Chenery Jr -Charlotte Philbrick. Based on the date of their marriage, it is assumed that Hannah was deceased. Also, 1850 U.S. census, Middlesex, MA, population schedule, Lowell, p. 368 (stamped), dwelling 1688, family 2114, household of Wm. Chenery, image, *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.com: last accessed 20 Mar 2021); citing NARA microfilm publication M432, Roll 327. Daughters Hannah (married), Mary, and Martha were in the household. Sarah married Archibald McMaster on 9 Mar 1848.

¹⁶ "Marriages Registered in the City of Lowell, 1853," p. 138, image, Alvan D. Brock-Martha R. Chenery, May 9, 1853; digitized "Massachusetts, U.S., Marriage Records, 1840-1915," img. 440 of 906, *Ancestry* (<u>www.ancestry.com</u>; last accessed 12 Mar 2021).

¹⁷ Willis F. Spear, *History of North Adams, Mass., 1748-1855*, (North Adams, MA: Hoosic Valley North Print House, 1885), p. 114; digital, *Google Books* (www.books.google.com: last accessed 17 Mar 2021). Spear, *History of North Adams, Mass., 1748-1855*, 114.

¹⁸ List of the Militia of the Town of Adams furnished by the Asessors [sic] for the year 1854, p. 384, entry for Alvin [sic] D. Brock; digital, *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.com; last accessed 17 Mar 2021) citing *Journal of Records, 1832-1854*, Book 2, (penned). Also, "Births Registered in the Town of Adams, 1854," image for Brock, 20 March; digitized, "Massachusetts, U.S. Birth records, 1840-1915," img. 51 of 1032, *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.com: last accessed 26 Mar 2021. Also, 1855 MA state census, unpaginated, dwelling 5, family 6, household of A.D. Brock; digital, *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.com: last accessed 17 Mar 2021) citing 1855-1865 Massachusetts State Census [microform] New England Historic Genealogical Society, Boston, MA.

Alvan Brock served bravely in the military, was an inventor, and dabbled in real estate, but his passion, first and foremost, was the business of the written word. He began working at his craft in his youth, and his obituary heralded him as an "original and forceful writer".19

Alvan's newspaper career began in earnest at the *Greylock Sentinel*, a weekly publication in Adams, Berkshire County, Massachusetts. A.J. Aiken established the paper in 1851 but retired the following year. Brock followed as publisher and ran the paper through 1855.²⁰ He returned to Gardiner, Kennebec, Maine in 1858 and took the reins of the Maine Rural [Intelligencer], a merger of



Image 1: Masthead, Maine Rural, 20 Aug 1859

BROCK, BARKER & CO., FUBLISHERS AND FROFFIEFOR. CAUCHTE-MAKE. ALL KINDS OF JOB AND FANCY PRINTING DIOTAL RESIDENT OUT. STRICE ON. NATER & SHAME STRIKE, AMBURE, MA	And he unver know consider or pages agains— the tried is freeger, but all in van, The bleed he had been spilling. For enary a day, when the body was found, They searched the country round and stond; And array a hunter cycle the guessia. To day ones trusting piles bing.	a pair of Shiottic Goods and on Shiatta Han- milyel. The smooth wides, Gen. Wellington fit with it the Battle of AV sterley? Whom is six feet long, not broad in proportion. An choirmoon Stattle-Ual Sankelon regular whop- per; and the tunkes of E. Hippepotoness, the per; and the tunkes of E. Hippepotones, or Gankin Sound; proportion of 'en' reserves."	passengors on hoard a ferry bost near Quèbes were pitracted by the singular appearance of a woman who occupied a rather scoluded position, and who seemed to be under the care of some persons who acted as if anxious to shield near the care of the second persons who acted as if anxious to shield near the second person who acted as if anxious to shield near the second person who acted as if any other than the second person who are the second person who acted the second person which was completely covered and hidden from slight, was observed, to sway incossnity backward and forevers, beneath the foliat of backward and forevers, beneath the foliat of backward and forevers, beneath the foliat of the second person which was a second person of the second person which was a second person when the second person was a second person when the	The circumstance is thus narrated by Abbout in his "life of Boneparte" ""Though th Austrias were some fifteen thousand strong bridge, the march of Nepsleon was tearle sourcely an hour. Napoleon was tearle sourcely an hour. Napoleon was that de sourcely an hour. Napoleon was that the side, suffering from a violent headache. Has sing crossed the river, and concerted all highest for the passait of the flying commy, he plans for the passait of the flying commy, he
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R.B. Caldwell's Saturday Evening Transcript and his newly purchased *Drew's Rural* Intelligencer.21 Shortly after his tenure began, Brock partnered with William Henry Chaney. The Brock-Chaney partnership changed the paper's form from folio to quarto (12" x 16" in size), and for a short time in 1859, published as a daily.²² The paper was produced in the Maxcy building; the machinery that

operated the press ran by water and according to accounts, "there was no trouble telling when it went to press."23

After Chaney abandoned the partnership in 1859 to take on editorship of the Spiritual Age in Boston, Massachusetts, Alvan partnered with Fenelon Greeley Barker.²⁴ The Great Fire of 1860, which broke out in Gardiner on the night of April 25, destroyed the building, the partnership, and the publication, leaving nothing but debt.²⁵

The three men went their separate ways. In 1861, Fenelon Greely Barker enlisted as a musician in Maine's Third Infantry Regiment, Company Band. He died in Colorado on April 20, 1918.26 Chaney would live a life of notoriety, traversing the country prophesizing spiritualism and

¹⁹ Untitled, The National Tribune (Washington, D.C.), March 22, 1900, p.5, col. 4; digital image, Newspapers (www.newspapers.com; last accessed 17 Mar 2021).

²⁰ Spear, History of North Adams, Mass., 1748-1855, 114.

Also, The Massachusetts Register. No 88 (Boston:1854), "Newspapers," p. 176, listing for Alvah [sic] D. Brock; digital image, HathiTrust (https://babel.hathitrust.org/cgi/pt?id=nyp.33433016875696&view=1up&seq=9: last accessed 17 Mar 2021). Alvah [sic[D. Brock was listed as publisher of the Greylock Sentinel, North Adams, MA. Also, The Massachusetts Register. No 89 (Boston:1855), "Newspapers," p. 170, listing for Alvah [sic] D. Brock; digital, HathiTrust (https://babel.hathitrust.org/cgi/pt?id=nyp.33433016875688&view=1up&seq=184&q1=Brock: last accessed 17 Mar 2021).

Alvah [sic] D. Brock was listed as publisher of the Greylock Sentinel, North Adams, MA.

²¹ The Thirty-Sixth Annual Report of the Maine Press Association, pps. 52-54, (Portland, ME: Maine Coast Cottager Office, 1899); digital, GoogleBooks (https://books.google.com/books: last accessed 20 Mar 2021). Also, United States Census Office, Census Reports Tenth Census: The Newspaper and Periodical Press, "Maine," p. 378 (U.S. Government Printing Office, 1884); digital, GoogleBooks (www.loc.gov: last accessed 20 Mar 2021).

²² Biographies of Jack London and His Family, "William H. Chaney," Sonoma State University (http://london.sonoma.edu/biographies/william-chaney: last accessed 20 Mar 2021). Also, The Thirty-Sixth Annual Report of the Maine Press Association, pps 52-54.

²³ The Thirty-Sixth Annual Report of the Maine Press Association, pps 52-54.

²⁴ "Valedictory," Maine (Gardiner) Rural, 20 August 1859, pg. 4, col. 1; digital, GenealogyBank (www. genealogybank.com: last accessed 20 Mar 2021). The 20 August 1859 edition was the first to feature "Brock, Barker & Co" in the masthead.

²⁵ The Thirty-Sixth Annual Report of the Maine Press Association, pps 52-54. Also, "Ruins of the Great Fire Which Occurred at Gardiner, ME. on the Night of the 25th of April," Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper, 26 May 1860, WorthPoint (https://www.worthpoint.com/worthopedia/orig-1860-gardiner-kennebec-county-1806441980). Description of original newspaper for sale included the first few paragraphs of the article on the Gardiner fire.

²⁶ Cemetery Works, "Evergreen Cemetery American Civil War Veterans, Surnames A-G," listing for Fenelon Greeley Barker, http://www.cemeteryworks.com/ldvl/ldvlvbiec.html.



Image 2: Capt. A.D. Brock c. 1864

astrology. While in San Francisco, he met the much younger Flora Wellman and spent the remainder of his life denying the paternity of author Jack London.²⁷

Alvan was, as always, undeterred. He returned to Portland, Maine as Editor of the *Bangor Daily Whig & Courier*, a 4-page weekly newspaper with a decidedly Whig and subsequently Republican bias, an indication of Brock's political leanings.²⁸

Maine in the Civil War

The Civil War erupted in April 1861, forever changing the lives of hundreds of thousands of Americans, including Alvan Brock. His brothers David and Greenleaf were among the first from Maine to enlist.²⁹ Over the course of the war, more than 73,000 Maine men would serve in the Union army, the highest percentage of service in proportion to population of any northern state. ³⁰

Alvan enlisted in the Maine Infantry on 21 September 1864, was commissioned Captain on 1 October, and assigned to command volunteer Company L on October 4, 1864.³¹ The regiment was attached to Second Brigade, Second Division, Ninth

Army Corps, Army of the Potomac. Alvan and his men departed Bangor, Maine on 11 October 1864 and headed towards Washington D.C.³² The regiment and others of the Ninth Corps engaged at the battles of Boydton Plank Road, an attack on Confederate works at Hawks and Dabney's Mill, and the sudden, desperate, and costly Confederate attack on Fort Stedman by Major-General Gordon. More than 1500 prisoners were captured, and Gordon was forced to retreat.

Early in the morning on 2 April 1864, Company L was one of three assigned to the initial storming party for the assault on Fort Mahone. Named for Confederate General William Mahone, Fort Desperation as the men called it, it was one of the primary defenses outside of Petersburg, Virginia. The Thirty-First Maine suffered heavy losses in the attack: 10 killed, 68 wounded, and 5 missing. In his report, Brigadier General S.G. Griffin recommended Brock and two of his comrades be recognized for bravery.³³

²⁷ Jack London Online, "William H. Chaney," *Sonoma State University* (http://www.london.sonoma.edu/biographies/william-chaney: last accessed 20 Mar 2021).

²⁸ 1860 U.S. census, Portland, Cumberland, Maine, p. 31 (penned), dwelling 187, family 42, household of William E. Stevens, image, *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.com: last accessed 20 Mar 2021); citing NARA microfilm publication M653. Alvin [sic] D. Brock, a 28-year old editor was a boarder in the Stevens household. Martha and his sons were not enumerated with him. Numerous searches have been made to find her, including the households of her father William Chenery and her sister Mary (Chenery) Brock. Martha's whereabouts remain unknown.

²⁹ "Roll of Second Maine Regiment of Volunteers," article, *Bangor Whig and Courier*, 20 May 1861; digital image, *Newspapers* (www.newspapers.com: last accessed 20 Mar 2021). David Brock was a musician with Company C. G.C. Brock was a private with Company A.

³⁰ "1850-1870: The Civil War," Maine History Online (<u>www.mainemenory.net</u>: last accessed 20 Mar 2021).

³¹ Alvan D. Brock, photograph, c. 1863. Copy held by Donna Brock [ADDRESS PRIVATIZED]. The photo was part of an album of CDV photos held by a granddaughter of Gen. Harrison Otis. At the bottom of the photo, the subject was identified as A.D. Brock, Capt. Co "L" 31st Me. Also, Alvan D. Brock, "Volunteer Enlistment," 21 Sep 1864; Alvan D. Brock personnel file, copy in personal possession of Donna Brock, [ADDRESS PRIVATIZED]. Also, "Military," *Daily Eastern Argus*, 7 Oct 1864, p. 2; digital, *GenealogyBank* (www.genealogybank.com: last accessed 15 Mar 2021).

³² "Military Items," article, *Maine (Augusta) Farmer*, 20 Oct 1864, p. 2, col. 4; digital, *GenealogyBank* (www.genealogybank.com: last accessed 20 Mar 2021).

³³ The Civil War, "Union Maine Volunteers, 31st Regiment Maine Infantry," NPS (www.nps.gov: last accessed 20 Mar 2021). Also, Henry C. Houston, The Thirty-Second Maine Regiment of Infantry Volunteers, (Portland, ME: Press of Southworth Brothers, 1903), pps. 443-454; image, Archive (www.archive.org: last accessed 20 Mar 2021). Also, The Hon. Daniel S. Lamont, Secretary of War, The War of the Rebellion: A Compilation of Official Records of the Union and Confederate Armies, Series I, Vol.XLVI, (Washington: Government Printing Office, 1894) pps. 1053-1060; image, HathiTrust (www.catalog.=hathitrust.org/Record/000625514: last accessed 20 Mar 2021).

The Thirty-First Maine spent the duration of the war in Petersburg, Virginia, gathering up prisoners and escorting them to the rear. The regiment participated in the Grand Review of the Armies in Washington, D.C., and was mustered out [discharged] of service on 15 July 1865 near Alexandria, Virginia. Captain Brock, now a war hero, returned to his family.

Entrepreneur and Inventor

After his military discharge, Alvan and his family headed south, living for a time in Baltimore, Maryland.³⁴ The family had grown to include sons John Horace, named for Alvan's older brother, and Fenelon Barker, named for his one-time business partner, Fenelon Greely Barker. Both boys were born in Portland, Maine.³⁵ Tenure in Baltimore, however, was short-lived. Publisher Daniel Carpenter "DC" Forney invited Alvan to edit his paper, the *Washington Weekly Chronicle*, and he accepted. By 1868, Brock and his family had settled in Washington, D.C. ³⁶

While in Washington, D.C., in addition to his editor duties, Brock served as a clerk and examiner in the patent office.³⁷ He also puttered with inventions, and on November 21, 1871, was issued a patent for "Improvement in Steam Generator." A second followed two years later for a "new and valuable Improvement in Water-Elevators".³⁸ Two additional patents followed, in 1883 and in 1887, for the "Manufacture of Coiled Metallic Pipes," and a steam boiler.³⁹

Years later, Alvan's passion for writing and science collided again, and he authored several articles for the *Overland Monthly and Out West Magazine* including "The Supplanting of Steam" (1889) and "The Whispering Telephone" (1890).⁴⁰

The years spent in Washington D.C. were the longest uninterrupted stretch of time that the Brock family lived together. Then, on February 19, 1875, 42-year old Martha (Chenery) Brock died from phthisis pulmonalis, better known today as tuberculosis. She was buried in Plot 105, Section 9

³⁴ Woods' Baltimore City Directory, 1867-1868, (Baltimore: John W. Woods), p. 172, Alvan D. Brock; digitized, "U.S., City Directories, 1822-1995," Ancestry (www.ancestry.com: last accessed 21 Mar 2021). Brock was listed as a printer living at 275 N. Eutaw.

^{35 &}quot;Maine, U.S. Birth Records, 1715-1922," B 1856, John Brock, Portland, 28 April 1856; digital image, *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.com: last accessed 20 Mar 2021). Form R1 copy of an old record. Also, "Maine, U.S. Birth Records, 1715-1922," B 1858, Fenelon Brock, Portland, 7 Aug 1858; digital, *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.com: last accessed 20 Mar 2021). Form R1 copy of an old record. No additional information on Alvan and Martha's eldest son, Alvan. It is assumed he died prior to the family's move to Baltimore and may have died much earlier.

³⁶ Boyd's Directory of Washington and Georgetown, 1868, p. 169, Alvan D. Brock, digitized, "U.S. City Directory, 1822-1995," Ancestry (www.ancestry.com: last accessed 21 Mar 2021). Brock was a printer living at 512 K. N. Also, 1870 U.S. census, Washington, D.C., population schedule, 5th Ward, p. 85 (penned), dwelling 668, family 688, household of Alban [sic] D. Brock, image, Ancestry (www.ancestry.com: last accessed 20 Mar 2021); citing NARA microfilm publication M593, Roll 125. Fenelon Brock was listed n the next page. The Washington Weekly Chronicle was absorbed by the Washington Chronicle in 1874.

³⁷ Boyd's Directory of Washington and Georgetown, 1874, (Washington, D.C., 1874), p. 106, A.D. Brock; digitized, "U.S., City Directories, 1822-1995," Ancestry (www.ancestry.com: last accessed 21 Mar 2021). The abbreviation Pat. O. was used for workers in the patent office. Alvan Brock's listing identified him as "clk pat o."

³⁸ United States Patent Office, *Specifications and Drawing of Patents Issued from the United States Patent Office for the week Ending November 21, 1871,* "Improvement in Steam Generator," (Government Printing Office, Washington:1871), Patent No. 121,079, issued to Alvan D. Brock; image copy, *Google Books* (www.books.google.com: last accessed 20 Mar 2021). Unpaginated. Patents in book are alphabetical by inventor. Also, United States Patent Office, *Specifications and Drawing of Patents Issued from the United States Patent Office for the week Ending November 21, 1871, "Improvement in Steam Water Elevators,"* (Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1873), pps 349-350, Patent No. 135,765, issued to Alvan D. Brock; image copy, *GoogleBooks* (www.books.google.com: last accessed 20 Mar 2021).

³⁹ "Manufacture of a Coiled Metallic Pipe," United States Patent Office, Patent No. 276,763, 1 May 1883, issued to A.D. Brock; digital image, *Google Patents* (https://patents.google.com/patent/US276763: last accessed 20 Mar 2021). Alvan's son, Fenelon B. Brock, a Washington D.C. patent attorney, was a witness to the patent. Also, United States Patent Office, Patent No. 370,723, patented 27 Sept 1887, issued to Alvan D. Brock; digital image, (https://patentimages.storage.googleapis.com/c6/2e/6a/a06e5a1dacacf9/US370723.pdf: last accessed 20 Mar 2021).

⁴⁰ Alvan Brock, "The Supplanting of Steam," *Overland Monthly & Out West Magazine*, vol. 14, issue 82, pps. 369-409 (Oct 1889), and "The Whispering Telephone," vol. 16, issue 92, pps. 122-126 (Aug 1890), image copy, *Making of America Journals* (www.quod.lib.umich.edu/m/moajrnl/) last accessed 21 Mar 2021).

of the Washington (Congressional) Cemetery in Washington, D.C.⁴¹ Alvan and his sons remained in the Capital for a short time longer, but by 1880, John returned to Massachusetts, and Alvan was on the move again.⁴²

Topolobampo

After the death of his wife, Alvan remained in Washington D.C. until wanderlust reared its head again.⁴³ He headed west to California by way of Chicago and joined Albert Kimsey "A.K." Owen as a partner and Financial Director of the Credit Foncier Company of Sinaloa, the company behind the Topolobampo Colony.

Topolobampo was a social experiment and cooperative colony at Topolobampo Bay near Los Mochis, Sinaloa, Mexico. Colonel Albert Kimsey Owen, a former railroad surveyor and city planner, was the driving force behind the colonization effort.⁴⁴ Kimsey's dream was to establish and govern a utopian colony of workers, artisans, and intellectuals. He envisioned Topolobampo as a center for Pacific trade, supplied by a U.S. railroad line through Texas to the Bay of Topolobampo.⁴⁵ It's unclear how Alvan Brock became acquainted with Owen. Was he fully involved in the planning of Topolobampo, or did he simply seize another business opportunity?

Investors who purchased stock in Credit Foncier Company were encouraged to join the colony, which was to be run communally and without the use of money. Individual accumulation of wealth was prohibited. Work was assigned according to ability, and credits awarded for labor. Eight hours of work, eight hours of sleep, and eight hours of culture or entertainment structured the daily routine. Colonists would build, own, and operate the railroad, telegraphs, banks, and water supply. Capital gained would be reinvested in the colony's infrastructure.⁴⁶

The first colonists began to arrive in December 1886.⁴⁷ Malaria, a smallpox epidemic, and the inability to obtain a year-round source of water forced Owen to move the colony inland. Illness and crop disasters left the colony in dire straits, and deserters began to chronicle the "grand experiment's" failure in letters and American newspapers.⁴⁸ Alvan Brock was one of them. He called Topolobampo a prison house of horrors and complained that life there could never be made endurable. In a 27 March 1887 letter to the Editor of the *Los Angeles Times*, he denounced Owen as a fraud, the promoter of a gigantic and baseless swindle, and asked forgiveness for his long

⁴¹ Return of Grave Sites, Washington Congressional Cemetery, 9 Feb 1875, listing for A.D. Brock, Location 5,6, Section 9; copy in personal possession of Donna Brock [ADDRESS PRIVATIZED]. Also, Interment Record, Washington Congressional Cemetery, Feb '75 [sic], interment of Martha Brock; copy in personal possession of Donna Brock [ADDRESS PRIVATIZED].

^{42 1880} U.S. census, Tewksbury, Massachusetts, population schedule, Enumeration District 378, p. 14B (penned), dwelling 145, family 153, John H. Brock in the household of John H. Brock, image, *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.com; last accessed 24 Mar 2021); citing NARA microfilm publication T9, roll 539. John H. Brock, 24, was the nephew of head of household, John H. Brock. Also, 1880 U.S. census, Washington, D.C. population schedule, Enumeration District 65, p. 32 (penned), dwelling 220, family 242, Alvin [sic] D. Brock and Fenelon B. Brock in the household of Manning Lepreux, image, *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.com: last accessed 20 Mar 2021) citing NARA publication T9, Roll 123. Also 1880 U.S. census, Washington, D.C., population schedule, Enumeration District 32, p.205B (penned), dwelling 49, family 58, Alvin [sic] D. Brock in the household of William H. Brock, image, *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.com: last accessed 20 Mar 2021) citing NARA microfilm publication T9, Roll 122. Alvan was enumerated in his brother's household on June 2 and with Fenelon in the Lepreux household on June 9.

⁴³ "Personal News," *The Los Angeles (California) Times*, 12 Jan 1887, p. 8, col. 2; digital image, *Newspapers* (www.newspapers.com: last accessed 20 Mar 2021).

⁴⁴ Leonard Katscher, "Owen's Topolobampo Colony, Mexico," *The American Journal of Sociology*, Vol. XII, Number 2, September 1906, p. 145-175, *JSTOR* (www.jstor.org/stable/2762382: last accessed 20 Mar 2021).

⁴⁵ Albert Kimsey Owen, Letters and documents, 1885-1909, *ArchiveGrid* (https://researchworks.oclc.org/archivegrid/data/122383164: last accessed 20 Mar 2021). Description of collection. Physically located at the Huntington (CA) Library as part of their manuscript collection.

⁴⁶ Leonard Katscher, "Owen's Topolobampo Colony, Mexico," *The American Journal of Sociology*, pps. 145-175. Also, "Topolobampo. An Impractical Dream of Visionary Men," article, *The Los Angeles (California) Times*, 4 Dec 1886, p. 2, col. 3; image copy, *Newspapers* (www.newspapers.com:last accessed 20 Mar 2021).

⁴⁷ "Sinaloa Colonists," *Los Angeles (California) Herald,* 11 Dec 1886, p. 1 col. 2; digital image, *Newspapers* (www.newspapers.com: last accessed 20 Mar 2021).

⁴⁸ "Topolobampo. Its Horrors Described by More Returning Colonists," article, *The Los Angeles (California) Times*, 7 Mar 1887, p. 5, col. 3; digital image, *Newspapers* (www.newspapers.com: last accessed 20 Mar 2021).

California Goes Boom

Alvan spent the next few years leveraging his literary prowess to lobby against the Topolobampo colony while simultaneously operating as a land speculator during California's great land boom.⁵⁰ He was so involved in the local real estate community that he was infamous, arriving on the scene, one source said, "as a meteor."⁵¹ Brock's personal life was just as explosive. He could be righteous, indignant, and litigious when he felt he had been wronged, attacked, or treated unjustly.⁵²

Brock became a mainstay in California newspapers, not as an editor, but as a result of his wheelings, dealings, and "schemes too numerous to mention.⁵³ The papers reported his arrest for threatening the life of L. N. Hawkins. His ongoing legal battles surrounding Topolobampo made frequent headlines. Stories about his numerous lawsuits with J.K. Tuffree, who insisted Brock contracted over 700 acres of land for himself rather than as Tuffree's agent, were printed for years.⁵⁴

Alvan's altercation with one Miss Sarah Jane Warren left permanent scars. According to Sarah, she and Alvan became acquainted in Washington, D.C. and he persuaded her to join him in California. He offered money for her train fare, put her up in the Pico House, and paid her expenses. Alvan also persuaded Miss Amanda Perham, another Washington D.C. acquaintance, to join them in their California adventure. To Miss Warren's great surprise, shortly after her arrival, Alvan married Miss Perham on 9 August 1887. Spurned, Sarah stormed into Alvan's office on 15 August 1887 and in full view of his colleagues, proceeded to strike him on the face with a cat-o'-nine-tails. The police were called, arrests made, and litigation ensued, but on 3 September 1887, perhaps at the urging of his new wife, Alvan dropped the charges against Miss Warren.

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⁴⁹ Ralph Shafer, *Letters from the People, Los Angeles Times 1881-1889*, (Los Angeles, CA: The Endangered History Project, 1999) pps. 676-682, *Archive* (www.archive.org: last accessed 20 Mar 2021). Also, "The Cooperative Colony: A Statement by Directors of the Organization," article, *The Los Angeles (California) Times*, 23 Jun 1887, p. 4, col. 3; image copy, *Newspapers* (www.newspapers.com: last accessed 22 Mar 2021).

⁵⁰ Advertisement, *The Los Angeles (California) Times*, 10 Jun 1887, p. 4, col. 6; image copy, *Newspapers* (www.newspapers.com: last accessed 22 Mar 2021). Brock advertised properties for sale daily.

⁵¹ Los Angeles City Directory, 1887, (Los Angeles, CA: W.H.L. Corran), p. 117, Alvin [sic] D. Brock; digitized as "U.S. City Directories, 1822-1995," Ancestry (www.ancestry.com: last accessed 20 Mar 2021) Img 57 of 358. Listed as President of the California Land and Investment Association, 29-32 Newell Block. Also, "Alvan D. Brock: A Reminiscence of his Boom Day Operations," article, Los Angeles (California) Herald, 10 Oct 1890, p. 3, col. 1; image copy, Newspapers (www.newspapers.com: last accessed 20 Mar 2021). Brock was described as "always conspicuous in the streets during the boom days."

⁵² Alvan D. Brock "Director Brock: He Fires Another Broadside at Owen, Et.Al.," *Los Angeles (California) Times*, 30 April 1887, p. 10, col. 1; image copy, *Newspapers* (www.newspapers.com: last accessed 20 Mar 2021).

⁵³ "Miss Warren 's Whip," article, *The Los Angeles (California) Times*, 16 Aug 1887, p. 3, col. 1; image copy, *Newspapers* (www.newspapers.com: last accessed 22 Mar 2021).

⁵⁴ "Capt. Brock's Threats," *Los Angeles (California) Herald*, 23 Aug 1887, p. 9, col. 2; image copy, *Newspapers* (www.newspapers.comm: last accessed 20 Mar 2021). Also, "Alvan D. Brock: A Reminiscence of his Boom Day Operations," *Los Angeles (California) Herald*, 10 Oct 1890, p. 3, col. 1; digital image, *Newspapers* (www.newspapers.com: last accessed 20 Mar 2021). Also, "A Celebrated Local Case is Revived," *Oakland (California) Tribune*, 5 Mar 1898, p. 2, col. 2; image copy, *Newspapers* (www.newspapers.com: last accessed 20 Mar 2021.)

^{55 &}quot;Brock has his Nemesis Arrested: Miss Warren to be Arrested," article, San Francisco (California) Chronicle, 19 Aug 1887, p. 8; image copy, Newspapers (www.newspapers.com: last accessed 20 Mar 2021). Also, "Miss Warren's Whip," The Los Angeles (California) Times, 16 Aug 1887. Also, "Marriage Licenses," The Los Angeles (California) Times, 9 Aug 1887, p.9, col. 2; image copy, Newspapers (www.newspapers.com: last accessed 21 Mar 2021).

⁵⁶ "Miss Warren's Whip," *The Los Angeles Times*, 16 Aug 1887.

⁵⁷ Br'er Brock: He girds up his loins and sallies forth," article, *The Los Angeles (California) Times*, 20 Aug 1887, p. 8; image copy, *Newspapers* (www.newspapers.com: last accessed 20 Mar 2021). Also, "Dismissed: Capt. Brock Will Not Prosecute Miss Warren," *The Los Angeles (California) Times*, 03 Sept 1887, p. 6; image copy, *Newspapers* (www.newspapers.com: last accessed 20 Mar 2021).

After nearly ten years in California, his calamitous involvement in Topolobampo, a stint as a director of the newly formed Griffinville and New Main Street Railway Company, publicized personal problems and a number of suspicious real estate dealings, Alvan and his wife Amanda returned to Washington, D.C.⁵⁸

Alvan resumed work at the Government Printing Office (GPO) as foreman of the specification and job rooms. The GPO provided printing and binding services for Congress and the federal government. While there, he championed the fight for an eight-hour workday.

Two years after his return to Washington, D.C., Alvan's days as a forceful crusader came to a close. Brock suffered from cataracts in both eyes, and on 16 May 1899, was admitted into the National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers in Phoebus, Virginia.⁵⁹

A Soldier Returns

Phoebus, Virginia is located on the banks of the Chesapeake Bay where, in 1607, the ships *Susan Constant, Godspeed*, and *Discovery* brought the first English-speaking colonists to the New World. It is also home to Fort Monroe, the largest stone fort in America and the only one surrounded by a moat.⁶⁰

Over the course of the Civil War, the fort was a Union stronghold. Generals Butler and Schofield each used the facility as their headquarters. More than 10,000 escaped slaves sought refuge within the walls of the imposing stone structure. When the war ended and veterans began to return home, many with debilitating injuries, citizens and charitable organizations determined they needed longer-term care than their families could provide. On 28 February 1865, legislation to establish the National Asylum of Disabled Volunteer Soldiers was introduced to Congress. The bill passed quickly in both Houses; President Lincoln signed the bill a month before his assassination. Three branches were built the first year and a network of eleven branches was developed across the country. Each home contained barracks, a dining hall, recreational facilities, a hospital, and a cemetery. Any soldier who could prove his disability was service-related was eligible to apply, but by 1884, membership was expanded to include to honorably discharged soldiers or sailors who were disabled and unable to support themselves.⁶¹

The Southern Branch of the National Asylum of Disabled Volunteer Soldiers was established in Phoebus, Virginia in October 1870. It was a short walk to Phoebus' diverse assortment of saloons and bordellos, complete with red lights on the porches. Townspeople quipped there was a bar on every corner and one in the middle of every street. A trolley stop on South Mallory Street outside the gates of the Soldiers Home provided these aging former warriors easy access to interests outside the grounds of the home.⁶²

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^{58 &}quot;Incorporated," article, Los Angeles (California) Herald, 13 Aug 1887, p.2, col.2" digital image, Newspapers (www.newspapers.com: last accessed 20 Mar 2021). Also, U.S., Register of Civil, Military, and Naval Service, 1863-1959, Vol. 1, p. 931, listing for Alvan D. Brock in the Government Printing Office; digital image, Ancestry (www.ancestry.com: last accessed 20 Mar 2021). The book was a government-ordered record of all federal employees. The collection included 77 volumes. Also, U.S. City Directories, 1822-1995, Washington, District of Columbia, 1897, p. 243, listing for Alvan D. Brock; digital image: Ancestry (www.ancestry.com: last accessed 20 Mar 2021). Alvan's son, Fenelon, was listed on the same page of the directory that year. Fenelon's home was listed at 229 Mass Ave NE. Alvan was living at the same address.

⁵⁹ U.S. National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers, 1866-1938, p.14043, Record for Alvan D. Brock, image, *Ancestry* (<u>www.ancestry.com</u>: last accessed 14 Mar 2021); citing NARA microfilm publication M 1749, Record Group 15, National Archives, Washington, D.C. Records noted that Alvan's wife Amanda was living at 905 Westminster, Washington, D.C.

⁶⁰ "The History of Fort Monroe," NPS, (http://www.nps.gov/fomr/learn/historyculture/index.htm: last accessed 20 Mar 2021).

⁶¹ "History of the National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers," NPS (http://www.nps.gov/articles/history-of-disabled-volunteer-soldiers.htm: last accessed 20 Mar 2021).

⁶² Parke Rouse, "Old Soldiers Lived it Up in Sinful Phoebus," 7 Feb 1993, *Daily Press* (https://www.dailypress.com/news/dp-xpm-19930207-1993-02-07-9302070247-story.html: last accessed *19 Mar 2021*).

Alvan Dinsmore Brock died at 10:30 pm on February 20, 1900 in Phoebus, Virginia. The cause of death was noted as "Run over by electric car. Accidental".⁶³ Darkness of night, complicated by his cataracts, likely obstructed his vision and he failed to see the oncoming trolley car in time to avoid it.

Brock's obituary, published in *National Tribune* on 22 March 1900 recognized him as a lifelong newspaperman, a forceful writer, and an influential citizen. Alvan was one of the original members of the Soldiers and Sailors union, and his gallantry during the attack on Fort Mahone was noted. The tribute acknowledged his contributions to politics and government: delegate at the national convention to nominate U.S. Grant for President, friend of James G. Blaine, and a man whose influence and steadfast support helped pass the eight-hour work day law for workers at the Government Printing office.⁶⁴ Alvan Dinsmore Brock, by all accounts, lived his life with drive, pride, and passion.

Alvan was buried in Hampton National Cemetery. ⁶⁵ Two years later, he and his first wife, Martha, were reinterred in Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington, Virginia. ⁶⁶ Amanda (Perham) Brock never remarried. When she died in 1920, Amanda was buried in Arlington as well. ⁶⁷

Generation One

1. **ALVAN DINSMORE BROCK**, was born in Buckfield, Oxford, Maine on 15 September 1830 and died on February 1900 in Phoebus, Virginia.⁶⁸ His parents were David Brock and Livonia Coburn. On 9 May 1853 he married **MARTHA R. CHENERY**, daughter of William Chenery and Charlotte Philbrick.⁶⁹ Martha was born c. 1832 in Livermore, Androscoggin, Maine and died on 19 Feb 1875 in Washington, D.C.⁷⁰

Alvan and Martha had three children.

Generation Two

- i. ALVAN DINSMORE BROCK, born 20 March 1854, in Adams, Berkshire, Massachusetts.⁷¹ No additional information.
- ii. JOHN HORACE BROCK, born 28 April 1856 in Portland, Cumberland, Maine and died in 1917 in Chelmsford, Middlesex, Massachusetts.⁷² He married MARY J. SMITH, daughter

⁶³ U.S. National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers, 1866-1938, p.14043, record for Alvan D. Brock. Also, "Killed by an Electric Car. Tragic Death of Former Washingtonian at Hampton, Va," article, *Evening (Washington D.C.) Star*, 23 Feb 1900, p. 10, col. 3; image copy, *Newspapers* (www.newspapers.com: last accessed 20 Mar 2021).

⁶⁴ Untitled, *The National Tribune* (Washington, D.C.), March 22, 1900.

⁶⁵ Record Book of Interments in the National Cemetery at Hampton, VA, p. 10, record for Alvan D. Brock; digitized, "U.S., Burial Records, Military Posts and National Cemeteries, 1862-1960," Virginia, Hampton National Cemetery, img 809 of 1056, Ancestry (www.ancestry.com: last accessed 31 Mar 2021). A penned note on the record page states body was disinterred at the request of relatives and sent to Arlington, Va.

⁶⁶ U.S., National Cemetery Interment Control Forms, 1928-1962, Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington, VA, entry for Alvin [sic] D. Brock; digital image, *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.com: last accessed 20 Mar 2021). Date of death is incorrect. Alvan died in 1900, not 1902. He was reinterred in October 1902.

⁶⁷ Headstone, Amanda M. Perham Brock, Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington, VA, Find a Grave Memorial 57185881, *Find a Grave* (www.findagrave.com: last accessed 21 Mar 2021). Headstone photo by John Evans.

⁶⁸ Birth: "Marriages Solemnized in the City of Lowell, 1853,"p.170, Alvin [sic] D. Brock and Martha R. Chenery. Also, Alvan D. Brock, "Volunteer Enlistment," 21 Sep 1864; Alvan D. Brock personnel file. Death: U.S. National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers, 1866-1938, p.14043, record for Alvan D. Brock.

⁶⁹ "Marriages Solemnized in the City of Lowell, 1853," p.170, Alvin [sic] D. Brock and Martha R. Chenery.

⁷⁰ Birth: IBID. Death: Interment Record, Washington Congressional Cemetery, Feb '75 [sic], interment of Martha Brock; copy in personal possession of Donna Brock [ADDRESS FOR PRIVATE USE].

⁷¹ "Births Registered in the Town of Adams, 1854," image, Brock, 20 March 1854.

⁷² Birth: Maine, U.S. Birth Records, 1715-1922, "B 1856," John Brock, Portland, 28 April 1856. Death: *Massachusetts Vital Records Index to Deaths 1916-1920, Aaldo-Cammarotte*, vol. 66, (Boston, MA: New England Historic Genealogical Society, undated) image for John Brock, p. 432; digitized, "Massachusetts, Death Index, 1901-1980," img 423 of 560, *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.com: last accessed 20 Mar 2021).

- of Christopher Smith and Mary (Unknown) on 31 May 1888 in Lowell, Massachusetts.⁷³ No issue.
- iii. FENELON BARKER BROCK, born 15 August 1858 in Portland, Cumberland, Maine and died 4 September 1933 in Takoma Park, Maryland.⁷⁴ He married LILIAN BURRITT, the daughter of Samuel Burritt and Amanda Nichols, on 27 October 1884 in Uniondale, Adams, Pennsylvania.⁷⁵ Lilian died on 20 August 1931 in Washington, D.C.⁷⁶

Alvan married second **AMANDA MELVINA PERHAM** on 9 August 1887. She was born 25 December 1843 and died 3 March 1920.⁷⁷ No issue.

Narrative Proof

Who were the parents of Fenelon Barker Brock who married Lilian Burritt in Pennsylvania in 1884?

The birth record of Fenelon Barker Brock provides direct evidence of his parentage. The record named Alvan D. Brock and Martha as his parents.⁷⁸

Additional Evidence

- Alvan D. Brock married Martha R. Chenery on 9 May 1853 in Lowell, Massachusetts.
- \bullet In 1870, Fenelon, age 11, Martha, age 36, and John, age 14, were enumerated in the household of Alban [sic] D. Brock. 80
- "Fenelon B. Brock of Washington," was named as Alvan D. Brock's son in his 23 February 1900 obituary. The obituary also reported Martha Chenery was Alvan's first wife.⁸¹

There are no facts in conflict. Name variations are reasonably interpreted, ages are in alignment, family members are consistent. The evidence supports the hypothesis of the research question.

⁷³ Index to Marriages in Massachusetts, 1886-1890, vol. 31, p. 136, John H. Brock-Mary J. Smith, 31 May 1888; digitized, "Massachusetts, U.S., Town and Vital Records, 1620-1988," *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.com: last accessed 20 Mar 2021).

⁷⁴ Birth: Maine, U.S. Birth Records, 1715-1922, "B 1858," Fenelon Brock, Portland, 7 Aug 1858; image, *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.com: last accessed 20 Mar 2021). Form R1 copy of an old record. Death: "District of Columbia Deaths, 1874-1961," database with images, *FamilySearch* (www.familysearch.org: last accessed 20 Mar 2021), Film 004548825, Image 2648, certificate image, Fenelon Brock, 4 Sep 1933, no. 27006.

⁷⁵ "Married," *The (Washington D.C.) Critic*, 28 Oct 1884, p. 3, col.4; digital image; *Newspapers* (www.newspapers.com: last accessed 20 Mar 2021).

⁷⁶ "District of Columbia Deaths, 1874-1961," database with images, *FamilySearch* (www.familysearch.org : last accessed 20 Mar 2021), Film 004548825, Image 1260, certificate image, Lillian Brock, 20 Aug 1931, no. 337518.

⁷⁷ Headstone, Amanda M. Perham Brock, Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington, VA, Find a Grave Memorial 57185881.

⁷⁸ Birth: Maine, U.S. Birth Records, 1715-1922, "B 1858," Fenelon Brock, Portland, 7 Aug 1858.

⁷⁹ "Marriages Solemnized in the City of Lowell, 1853," p. 138, Alvan D. Brock-Martha R. Chenery.

⁸⁰ 1870 U.S. census, Washington, D.C., pop. sch., 5th Ward, p. 85 (penned), dwell. 668, fam. 688, household of Alban [sic] D. Brock. Fenelon was listed on the next page.

⁸¹ "Killed by an Electric Car. Tragic Death of Former Washingtonian at Hampton, Va," article, *Evening (Washington D.C.)* Star, 23 Feb 1900, p. 10, col. 3.