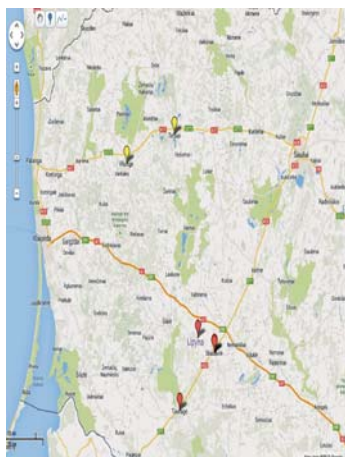


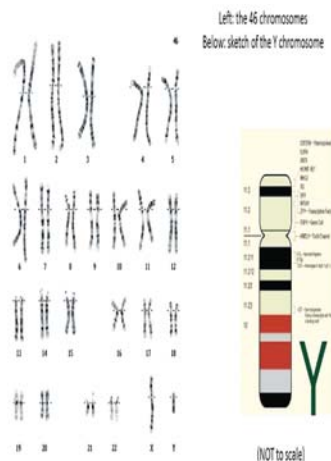
# ONCE AGAIN, A BER (OR BEAR) IS TO BE FOUND AMONG THE DESCENDANTS OF YOSEL ROLNIK OF UPYNA.

Yosel Rolnik's great great great great grandson (Yosel begat Wolf who begat Lily who begat Zena who begat Ida who begat Philip who begat the newest Ber), called by the name Bear,

Solomon Bear Mervyn Kreniske was born at 4:12 am 12<sup>th</sup> September 2014. He is 21.25 inches long and weighed in at 7.0 lbs. And we already love him so much!



and now

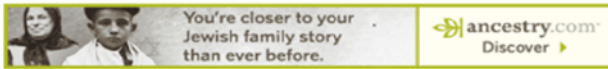


# LEWIS ROLNICK, CONGO JOE'S YOUNGER BROTHER

In the chapter on Congo Joe in the Rolnick book (page 3) I noted that Joseph had a younger half-brother called, in the birth record, Itsyk Leiba, born on 17 February 1885 in the town of Babtai. Babtai is not far from Upyna and Skaudville, where the brothers of his father Meer (or Meier) were living at the time. The only other information that I had on this Itsyk Leiba was from the annotation of the burial records of Yitzchak Leib Rolnick and his daughter Libbie, buried close

[JewishGen Online Worldwide Burial Registry - USA - New York](#)

## Burial Record



Run on Wed, 22 Feb 2017 06:49:30 -0700

Name (Other Surnames)	Place of Birth	Date of Birth	Hebrew Name	Age
	Place of Death	Date of Death	Hebrew Date	Burial Date
ROLNICK, J. Louis			Yitzchak <u>Leib</u> b. Meir	29
		24-Sep-1913		
ROLNICK, <u>Libbie</u>		15-Oct-1912	<u>Libe</u> b. Yitzchak <u>Leib</u>	
		26-Feb-1920		

Mt. Zion Cemetery / Cong. Nachal Itzchok Dorshe Tov Bobt Kovna / Path 8 Left, Gate 8

by in New York. We note from these burial records that Yitzchak Leib, almost certainly our Itsyk Leiba, was the son of Meir and had been born in 1884. This date is surely close enough to the birth record's February 1885 for the record to be describing the same person, but now called J. Louis Rolnick:

I spent many hours during the writing of the Rolnick book fruitlessly searching for more information on our Itsyk Leib.

The genealogical family tree program that I use, Ancestry.com, has a wonderful algorithm which, when you click on a person's name in the tree, if it has found recent information on that person it will offer you a hint, marked with a little green laurel leaf. When I happened to click on Itsyk Leib during the preparation of this supplement I was suddenly alerted to a hint. I followed up the hint. It was the death

certificate of a Louis Rolnick, born in 1884, son of Mayer Rolnick and Lena Stiver. Louis had died in Hazleton, Pennsylvania on 24 September 1913 :

2. FULL NAME *Louis Rolnick* (give in NAME space of most and middle.)

PERSONAL AND STATISTICAL PARTICULARS

1. SEX *Male* 4. COLOR OR RACE *White* 5. SINGLE, MARRIED, WIDOWED OR DIVORCED *Married*

6. DATE OF BIRTH *July 17 1884*

7. AGE *29* yrs. 2 mos. 7 ds. (If LESS than 1 day how many... etc. or... mths.)

8. OCCUPATION a) Trade, profession, or particular kind of work *Workshop* b) General nature of industry, mines, or establishment in which employed (or employer)

9. BIRTHPLACE (State or Country) *Russia*

10. NAME OF FATHER *Mayer Rolnick*

11. BIRTHPLACE OF FATHER (State or Country) *Russia*

12. MAIDEN NAME OF MOTHER *Lena Stiver*

MEDICAL CERTIFICATE OF DEATH

16. DATE OF DEATH *Sept. 24<sup>th</sup> 1913*

17. I HEREBY CERTIFY, That I attended deceased from *July 28<sup>th</sup> 1913* to *Sept 24<sup>th</sup> 1913* that I last saw him alive on *Sept 22<sup>nd</sup> 1913* and that death occurred, on the date stated above, at *2:30 P.M.* The CAUSE OF DEATH was as follows: *Fibroid Phthisis*

Contributory (Secondary): *Emphysema & Bronchitis*

Duration: 6 yrs. mos. ds. (Secondary): 2 yrs. mos. ds.

Signed: *E. P. Doolittle* M. D. *Sept 24 1913* Address: *Hazleton*

18. LENGTH OF RESIDENCE (For Hospitals, Institutions, Taverns)

If we can take Lena's family name, here written as Stiver, as someone's faulty memory of Tsvi (Lena's family name in Itsyk Leib's birth record - reproduced on page 5 of the Rolnick book), this is almost certainly our Itsyk Leib Rolnick born in Babtai, Lithuania. I searched for Rolnicks living in Hazleton, Pennsylvania and found the following document, the 1910 US census record:

Lewis Rolnick	<i>Rolnick</i>	<i>Lewis</i>	<i>Head</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>26</i>	<i>26</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>Russ. Jewish</i>
Fannie Rolnick	<i>—</i>	<i>Fannie</i>	<i>Wife</i>	<i>W</i>	<i>24</i>	<i>24</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>Russ. Jewish</i>
Aron Rolnick	<i>—</i>	<i>Aron</i>	<i>Son</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>Russ. Jewish</i>
Nathan Rolnick	<i>—</i>	<i>Nathan</i>	<i>Son</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>Pennsylvania</i>

this is Lewis Rolnick 26 years old in 1910 (so born in 1884) married to Fannie, two years younger. They had been married three years and had two children, Aron who was half a year old and Nathan, aged three, (Libbie Rolnick had not yet been born). They were living at 35 N. Wyoming Street. Lewis was listed as running a "five and ten cents" store. Searching now with the name Aaron Rolnick, I found the 1920 census page:

38-43	<i>Gold</i>	<i>Miriam</i>	<i>Head</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>45</i>	<i>45</i>	<i>1885</i>	<i>70</i>	<i>1902</i>	<i>yes</i>	<i>yes</i>	<i>Poland</i>
	<i>Rolnick</i>	<i>Nathan</i>	<i>Adm. Son</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>13</i>	<i>13</i>	<i>1897</i>	<i>70</i>	<i>1902</i>	<i>yes</i>	<i>yes</i>	<i>Poland</i>
		<i>Darry</i>	<i>Adm. son</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>9</i>	<i>9</i>				<i>yes</i>	<i>yes</i>	<i>Russ. Jewish</i>
39-41	<i>Rosen</i>	<i>Nathan</i>	<i>boarder</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>26</i>	<i>26</i>				<i>yes</i>	<i>yes</i>	<i>Russ. Jewish</i>
		<i>Miriam</i>	<i>boarder</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>39</i>	<i>39</i>	<i>1871</i>	<i>70</i>	<i>1902</i>	<i>yes</i>	<i>yes</i>	<i>Poland</i>
48	<i>—</i>	<i>Sayvuk</i>	<i>Head</i>	<i>O</i>	<i>26</i>	<i>26</i>	<i>1893</i>	<i>70</i>	<i>1902</i>	<i>yes</i>	<i>yes</i>	<i>Poland</i>
		<i>Lena</i>	<i>Wife</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>40</i>	<i>40</i>	<i>1873</i>	<i>70</i>	<i>1902</i>	<i>yes</i>	<i>yes</i>	<i>Poland</i>
		<i>Miriam</i>	<i>daughter</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>14</i>	<i>14</i>				<i>yes</i>	<i>yes</i>	<i>Russ. Jewish</i>
		<i>Eddie</i>	<i>daughter</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>11</i>	<i>11</i>				<i>yes</i>	<i>yes</i>	<i>Russ. Jewish</i>
		<i>Sally</i>	<i>daughter</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>8</i>	<i>8</i>				<i>yes</i>	<i>yes</i>	<i>Russ. Jewish</i>
40-42	<i>Gold</i>	<i>Miriam</i>	<i>Head</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>43</i>	<i>43</i>	<i>1905</i>	<i>al</i>	<i>1902</i>	<i>yes</i>	<i>yes</i>	<i>Poland</i>
		<i>Nathan</i>	<i>Adm. Son</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>40</i>	<i>40</i>	<i>1895</i>	<i>70</i>	<i>1902</i>	<i>yes</i>	<i>yes</i>	<i>Poland</i>

Here we have Aaron and Nathan Rolnick (rows three and four in the figure) listed as the adopted sons of Maurice and Esther Gold. They are living at number 38 N. Wyoming Street (Street numbers are listed in the second column of numbers). Next door at 39 is the Rosen family and at number 40, other Golds. Now Lewis, the father of the two young boys, had, as we have seen, died in 1913 leaving the two boys fatherless. So it was not totally surprising that they could be now adopted sons of Maurice and Esther Gold. But where was their mother? And where was their sister Libbie? It turned out that just a little over a year after Lewis's death, Fannie had married again, this time to a Nathan Tucker. When looking for Fannie Tucker in the 1920 census I found:

Nathan Tucker	Tucker Nathan	Adopted 48	1878 58 11 1900 11/1/1902	
Fannie Tucker	—, Fannie	Wife	4 77 54 11/1871 1/1/1894	
Libby Tucker	—, Libby	daughter	4 77 5 11	
Sylvia Tucker	—, Sylvia	daughter	9 77 4 11	
Julius Tucker	—, Julius	son	11 77 18 11	

Nathan and Fannie, now living in New York with three Tucker children, Libby, Sylvia and Julius. Libbie is listed as being eight years old, hence born in 1912. Thus she was not of this marriage but, of course, of Fannie's previous marriage to Lewis Rolnick. In rights, she should have been listed as Libbie Rolnick, as she appears on her burial record. Her death was recorded as 13 September 1920, while the census record is dated 7 January of that year. Poor little thing.

So Fannie had left her two Rolnick sons in the care Of Morris and Esther Gold in Hazleton while she had taken her daughter Libbie to live with her in New York. There two more children were born. Why was it with the Golds that the two young Rolnick boys had been left? It turns out that Fannie was born Rosen, as was Esther Gold. Indeed my reading of earlier census records suggests that Esther and Fannie were twin sisters. Morris and Esther were childless and would, we can be sure, delight in having the two young Rolnicks to psrent.

Not seen on our cutting from Nathan and Aarons' 1920 census record is that their uncle Nathan Rosen is listed as a "merchant, wall paper". In the 1935 City Directory Nathan Rolnick is listed as a secretary, working for the United Wallpaper Company. I could still see this firm listed in Hazleton's STANDARD-SENTINEL newspaper in 1957.

It is clear why I could never find Libbie Rolnick in any document. In the 1910 census she was not yet born and by the 1920 census she was already Libbie Tucker and then died very shortly after that census took place. I should have spotted Lewis Rolnick in 1910 census, however. There is one strange issue that remains. In that 1910 census,

which is the only document that bears Lewis Rolnick's name, his age is recorded as 26 making his birth year as 1884 (which fits more or less with the 1885 of his birth record) but his immigration date is given as 1886. This would make him just two years old when he travelled from Lithuania. So he must have come accompanied by some adult. If Itsyk Leib did travel in 1886, this was exactly the year in which his mother Leya and father Meer were divorced, according to the record in JewishGen, with his mother marrying Yovna Vitek at the end of the next year (also in Babtai where Itsyk Leib had been born). It looks as if little Itsyk Leib, later to become Lewis, was shipped off to somebody in America to be taken care of, instead of being left in the hands of his now Lonely father or to the mercy of an unknown stepfather. It makes sense that it would have been Meier himself who would have accompanied little Itsyk Leib, but I have not found any appropriate shipping manifest for Lewis, with or without Meier, and I have found no further record concerning Meier in Lithuania or elsewhere. Itsyk Leib's elder brother Joseph stayed around in Lithuania another decade before leaving for South Africa. And here is an interesting point: just as two of Meier Rolnick's brothers left Lithuania, one for America (Dov Behr) and one for South Africa (Wolf), so now of the next generation, one of Meier's sons went to America (Itsyk Leib) and the other to South Africa (Joseph, who would become Congo Joe).

Descendants of Lewis and family Rolnick can be found when searching Pennsylvanian records.

# ROLNICKS, LEVENSONS, AND BERMANS IN RICHMOND, VIRGINIA AND BEYOND.

My book *The Rolnick Chromosomes* was, on the whole, well received although some felt that an index should have been present. I did receive the following, taken from an email sent on 5 August 2016. (I have made a few minor changes in this text):

“Dear Dr. Stein,

My name is Abby Pines. While researching my family’s background with one of my sons, we came across your book the *Rolnick Chromosomes*. My mother, Shirlye Pittle (née Levenson), is the granddaughter of Sarah Levenson (née Rolnick), the eldest child of Dov Ber Rolnick. I purchased your book for my mother and discovered that my great-grandmother was not listed. You have most of the siblings listed. In fact, you have a couple of pictures of Sarah in your book, however, you have identified her as Dora. Dora was actually the sixth child of Dov Ber, not the eldest daughter. (I have attached a copy of the last will and testament for Jake Rolnick that lists all the siblings in chronological order along with their offspring and what city they were living in at the time.) Sarah was born in Upyna in 1850 and came to America in 1883 with her two sons, Hyman (b. 1875) and Charles (b. 1880), my maternal grandfather. She immigrated to Richmond, VA to be close to her sisters, Dora and Michle (Rolnik). She lived there until she passed in 1928. I have also attached some copies of photographs that my mother has of her aunts, uncles, and cousins.

I want to thank you for such an enjoyable and comprehensive account of the Rolnick/Rollnick families. My mother would love to be in touch with you to share the many stories she has about the Rolnik family.

Sincerely, Abby Pines”

well, there you are, a grievous error indeed, and its correction will be the basis of much of this section of the Supplement.

Here is, that marvellous document, the 1931 will of Jake Rolnick:

STATE OF ILLINOIS,  
County of Cook }

## In the Probate Court of Cook County

To the Honorable HENRY HORNER,  
Judge of said Court.

The Petition of JOSEPH ROLNICK

respectfully sheweth that he is a resident of said County, that on the Twelfth day of December A. D. 1931, JAKE ROLNICK of Chicago, in said County, departed this life at Chicago, Illinois, leaving a last will and testament, duly signed and attested, as your petitioner believes, which he now presents to your Honor for Probate. That said Testator in said will nominated your petitioner executor thereof as a without bond.

That said deceased left property and effects as follows: \$1,000.00  
 Personal estate not to exceed in value ONE THOUSAND and no/100 Dollars  
 Real Estate not registered under Torrens Act, not to exceed in value None Dollars  
 Real Estate registered under Torrens Act, not to exceed in value None Dollars  
 That said Testator left visible estate more than sufficient to pay his debts.  
 That the value of the whole estate of said deceased does not exceed ONE THOUSAND and no/100 (\$1,000.00) Dollars. That said deceased left h. im surviving:

NAMES	Relationship	RESIDENCE
1. HYMAN V. LEVENSOUN	Nephew - 1322 Winamac Avenue, Chicago, Illinois.	
CHARLES M. LEVENSOUN	Nephew - 2335 West Grace Street, Richmond, Virginia. (Children of SARAH M. LEVENSOUN, a deceased sister of testator).	
2. RACHEL LICHTENSTEIN	Niece - 6136 Lansdowne Ave., Philadelphia, Pa.	
JOSEPH R. ROLNICK	Nephew - 555 Ocean Avenue, Brooklyn, New York.	
NITZHEL ROLNICK	Nephew - 2119 Park Avenue, Baltimore, Maryland.	
BEATRICE WEINSTEIN	Niece - 2016 Rosewood Avenue, Richmond, Virginia.	
SUZIE COHEN	Niece - 9 Main Street, Ambler, Pennsylvania.	
EDWARD I. ROLNICK	Nephew - 1569 East 8th Street, Brooklyn, New York.	
MALBY URYSTAL	Niece - 6004 Lansdowne Ave., Philadelphia, Pa.	
MARION BROUWER	Niece - 6004 Lansdowne Ave., Philadelphia, Pa. (Children of LOUIS ROLNICK, a deceased brother of testator).	
3. A. MICHAEL BERMAN	Nephew - Jacksonville, Florida.	
JAKE BERMAN	Nephew - 111 1/2 West Washington St., Greensboro, N.C.	
TILLIE SALISBURY	Niece - 2908-A Idlewood Avenue, Richmond, Virginia.	
RACHEL D. SAGGS	Niece - 2905 W. Chestnut Avenue, Altoona, Pa.	
DOROTHY BERMAN	Niece - 2905 W. Chestnut Avenue, Altoona, Pa.	
ABE BERMAN	Nephew - c/o Tillie Salisbury, 2008-A Idlewood Ave., Richmond, Virginia. (Children of MICHELE BERMAN, a deceased sister of testator).	
4. MAI ROLNICK	Nephew - 5441 North Spaulding Avenue, Chicago.	
JOSEPH ROLNICK	Nephew - 825 Sunnyside Avenue, Chicago.	
HARRY D. ROLNICK	Nephew - 919 Argyle Street, Chicago. (Children of MICHAEL ROLNICK, a deceased brother of testator).	
5. GRACE GARBUS	Niece - c/o Dixie Store, Carnegie, Oklahoma. (Child of MEYER ROLNICK, a deceased brother of testator).	
6. DORA FELDMAN	Sister - 2109 Gallow Avenue, Baltimore, Maryland.	
7. NATHAN GARDNER	Nephew - 3541 Lexington Street, Chicago, Illinois. (Child of FANNIE GARDNER, a deceased sister of testator).	
8. HANNAH FISHER	Sister - 3830 West Congress Street, Chicago, Illinois.	
9. ETTA GARDNER	Sister - 3541 Lexington Street, Chicago, Illinois.	
10. JOE ROLNICK	Brother - 3821 West Roosevelt Road, Chicago.	
11. LENA GARDNER	Sister - 1225 Millard Avenue, Chicago.	
12. BERNARD ROLNICK (age 12 years)	Nephew - c/o Joe Rolnick, 3821 West Roosevelt Road, Chicago.	
GRACE ROLNICK (age 7 years)	Niece - c/o Lena Gardner, 1225 Millard Avenue, Chicago. (Children of HYMAN ROLNICK, a deceased brother of testator).	
13. WILLIE ROLNICK	Brother - 1225 Millard Avenue, Chicago.	
14. YEKEL ROLNICK	Brother - Upina, Kovno, Lithuania.	
15. ABBAH YUDEL ROLNICK	Brother - Upina, Kovno, Lithuania.	

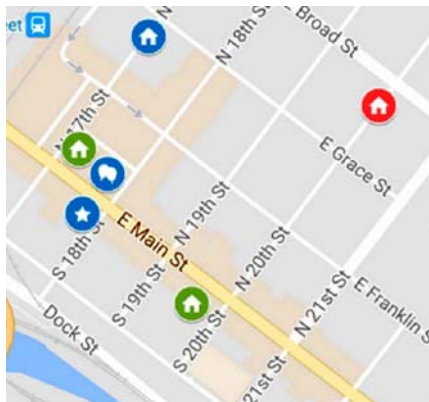
The will had been drawn up by Jake's brother, the lawyer Joseph Rolnick (page 99 et seq in the Rolnick book), who lived in Chicago. It lists, either as still living or as deceased (with that sibling's descendants listed). The names, as far as we can understand were written in descending order of age (but I think there is at least one error, in that the birth orders of Yekel and Abbah Yudel should be reversed). If we add in the name of Jake himself we will have listed the 16 children of Dov Behr Rolnick of Uplyna and Skaudvil in Lithuania.

On page 94 of the Rolnick book I had reproduced a genealogical tree of the Rolnicks drawn up by my mother Lily Rolnick Stein, which showed Behr Rolnick as having left 14 children, and I had been very proud of having identified 13 of them. But as we now see there were not 14 children but 16 and so we have not one, but three, that were not identified. Abby Pines has contributed another child, Sarah Mary Levenson who appears on Jake's will, but we still have two to go. One is Michle Berman and the other is Fannie Gardner. The stories of Sarah, Michle and Fannie follow:

We had seen in the Rolnick book (page 141) that Louis Rolnick with his wife Haddie had arrived in the USA, landing at New York in June 1882. We next pick up his trace in Virginia in the 1888 Richmond City Directory:

## **Rolnick Louis, tinware 1718 Main E h 1729 Main E**

so Louis is living at 1718 Main Street East (marked with a star on the large-scale map of the area in Richmond where the children of Dov Behr Rolnik lived in the 1890's) and had his shop (marked with the double balloons) at 1729, selling tin and sheet iron. By the next year, Louis and Haddie had moved around the corner to number 7 17<sup>th</sup> Street and Louis was now a dry goods merchant. Thus by 1883 he had already established himself as a businessman. Dora Rolnick arrived in 1887 and married Jacob Feldman in 1890, with the marriage taking place in Virginia but the couple soon moved to Baltimore in Maryland. Their story can be found starting from page 159 in the Rolnick book. The next to arrive, in 1898, was Michle





Rolnick already married to Joseph Berman. In the 1900 census Joseph and Michle are recorded as living at 7 17<sup>th</sup> street, Louis and Haddie's former house, since Louis and Haddie had followed the Feldmans to Baltimore after his dry goods store had failed (in 1892, as we read on page 143 of the Rolnick book). Joseph is listed in 1900 as a pawn broker. A shoe merchant who owed him \$100 had gone bankrupt:

In the 1910 census Joseph was listed as a driver of a bread wagon, but was dead by time of the 1920 census.

Sarah Rolnick, widow of Yehuda Levenson, came to the USA with her two children, Charles and Hyman, in 1891 and also settled in Richmond. They seem to have been quickly embraced by the local community as this notice from the Jewish South., January 19, 1894 suggests:

Was that Charles or Hyman who sang in that duet?

In the 1900 Richmond directory, Sarah and her son Hyman are listed as living at 1911 E. Main Street ( the green-shaded house at

the bottom of the small-scale map below, a couple of blocks away from the Bermans). Hyman, at that time, was running a fruit and confectionery store on the corner of 9<sup>th</sup> and Cary Street, a 15 minute walk away (marked with the knife and spoon in the small scale-map).

Small-scale map showing where Behr Rolnik's descendants lived by the time of the 1900 and 1907 Richmod City Directories

We must presume that Sarah and her sister Michle were in close social contact while their brother Louis and his family were not too far away, in Baltimore. In the 1907 Richmond city directory, Charles Levenson is listed as living at 222 North 20<sup>th</sup> Street (the most northerly marked house on the large-scale map) and, let us note this carefully, working as a salesman for the Cliff Well Cigar Company. Hyman was still running a confectionery. The Bermans were living in a house next

#### A Shoe Merchant Falls.

Benjamin Shoemaker, dealer in boots and shoes at No. 1608 east Franklin street, yesterday made an assignment to H. T. Ezekiel, trustee. His liabilities are placed at \$1,200. While no estimate is placed upon his assets. The trustee is first directed to pay the costs incurred in the execution of the deed, commissions of a per cent

to himself, all rents and taxes due, &c. Here is a full list of the creditors, who are to be paid in the priority named:

Samuel Jacobs, \$279.60; Nathan Cohen, \$75; D. Gillman, \$160; Joseph M. Berman, \$150; D. Weinstein, \$75; Alexander Cohen, \$109; Wallace Elliott & Co., \$130.20; Thomas E. Greenen, \$162.90; Batchelder & Lincoln Company, \$151.80. Total, \$1,284.30. 1

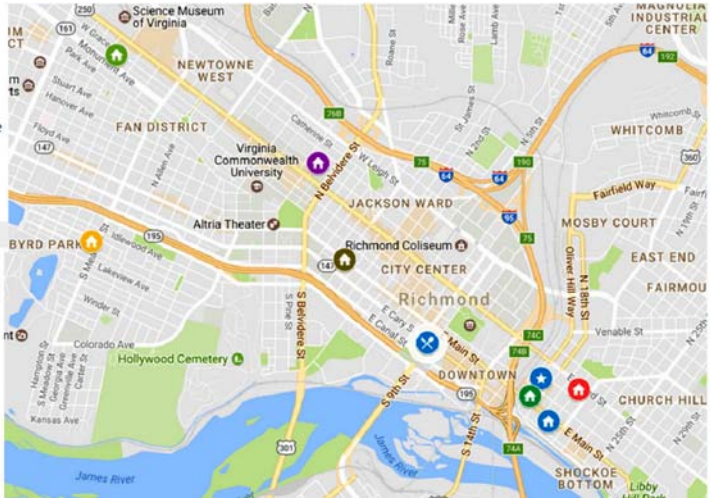
#### Young Men's Hebrew Association.

An interesting meeting of this organization was held last Sunday night at its hall corner of Eighteenth and Main street. Some important subjects were discussed and after adjournment Messrs. Levenson and Doodnoeky sang an excellent duet.

This association was formed about two months ago with eight members and already has upwards of thirty.

<sup>1</sup><http://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn85038614/1896-04-14/ed-1/seq-4/#date1=1896&index=0&rows=20&words=Berman+Joseph+M&searchType=basic&sequence=0&state=Virginia&date2=1896&proxtext=Joseph+M+Berman&y=0&x=0&dateFilterType=yearRange&page=1>

- 1911 E Main St
- 222 N 20th St
- 2335 W Grace St
- 800 W Marshall St
- 2011 Rosewood Ave
- 110 W Main St
- 129 N 17th St
- 7 N 17th St
- 801 E Cary St



door to the Levensons by 1910.

In the 1911 city directory we find for the first time a mention of the Levenson Cigar Company (H V and C M Levenson) at 908 E. Main Street and already with its own telephone MSD 2593. The firm expanded to two stores by 1913: But there are always problems: The times., February 01, 1901

The Times dispatch, June 08, 1913

**Levenson Cigar Co.,**  
Cigars, Tobacco, Soda Waters,  
Periodicals,  
908 East Main Street  
and  
New Virginia Ry. and Power Bldg.

**We Have His Favorite Smoke**

Smokes—  
**The Man's Gift**

Just as every man has his favorite fruit candy, every man cherishes a favorite smoke.

With the approach of the holiday season we have again purchased a large quantity of our best and most popular brands of Cigars, Tobacco, Cigarettes, Pipes and Smoking Accessories.

Gifts for the men, particularly Christmas, should be found among us.

It is hard to make everybody in the family and our neighbors (including our own family) happy. Make your selection as early as you can. We will have your preference in every instance.

**FINEST IMPORTED**  
Cigars  
Cigarettes  
Tobacco  
Pipes  
Cigar and Cigarette Cases  
Cigar and Cigarette Boxes  
Cigar Trays  
Accessories

**FREDY**  
TODD'S OLD VIRGINIA CURED HAMS  
FRUIT Cakes!

**Levenson Cigar Company**  
908 East Main Street Richmond, Va.

**Thieves Active.**

Hyman V. Levenson's fruit store, at Ninth and Cary Streets, was broken into Wednesday night by a negro who was discovered by a railroad man who gave the alarm. Officers Bailey and Clarison ran to the spot, but the negro eluded them and disappeared up the railroad track. Nothing of value was taken.

So the two brothers had joined forces. They ran a successful business which built the foundation of the families' fortunes, enabling them to move away from downtown Richmond to the more salubrious neighbourhoods further north. They had both become involved in local civic affairs, beyond the circle of the Jewish community . An advertisement in the Richmond Gazette in 1914 lists Harry and Charles Levenson

among "prominent persons" petitioning against the Prohibition bill:

# For Local Government

Prominent Citizens of Richmond call a public meeting to Protest Against the Overthrow of our present Local Option Law, and to Oppose the attack on the principal of Local Self-Government.

We, the undersigned citizens of Richmond, Virginia, believing that the preservation of the principle of Local Self-Government is of vital importance to all the people of this Commonwealth, and believing that the proposition to overthrow our present Local Option laws, and substitute therefor State-Wide Prohibition, without regard to the wishes of citizens in the individual communities of the State, is unwise and ineffective, and is a dangerous and insidious attack on the principle of Local Self-Government, do hereby call a meeting to be held on the 14th day of May, 1914, at 8:15 o'clock P. M., at the Academy of Music, Richmond, Va. We invite all citizens of Richmond, and others interested, to be present and hear the issues involved in this proposed radical innovation presented by speakers who will address the meeting.

H. L. Luckhardt	B. P. Lathrop
H. V. Levenson	Stuart C. Leake
J. Jordan Leake	G. Paul LaRoque.
John A. Lamb	C. M. Levenson
John P. Leary	J. F. McGrath
C. P. Lathrop, Jr.	Edward McGuire,

## ZION BALL GIVEN.

First Annual Celebration of the Society a Success.

The first annual ball of the Sons and Daughters of Zion, given last night at Sarger Hall, was a great success financially and socially. There were more than fifty couples on the floor, appearing in fancy costumes of every description and character. The proceeds of the ball go towards the Zionist movement, which is represented in Richmond by a society of seventy members.

Prizes awarded were as follows: First, a gold watch, to Mrs. Max Freedman; second, Albert Hentschell; third, Ben Lovenstein; fourth, Louis Koplan.

The committees of the ball and officers of the society were as follows:

Officers of the Sons and Daughters of Zion—Mr. Max Freedman, president; Mr. Isador Passamaneck, vice-president; Miss Ray Lovenstein, secretary; Mr. Benj. Lovenstein, treasurer.

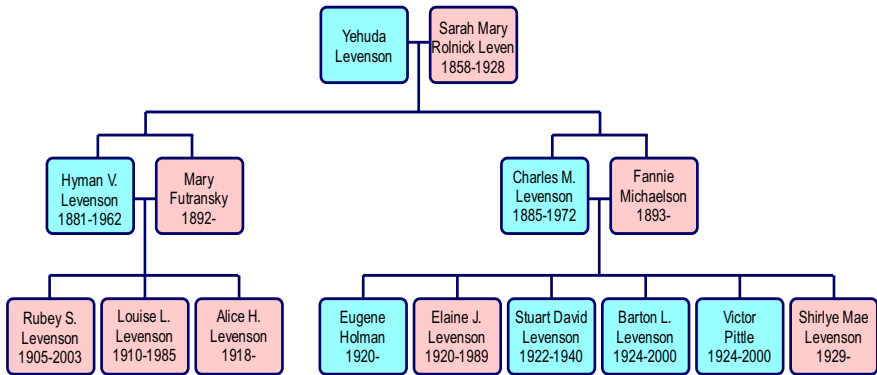
Committee of Entertainments—Mr. Milton Leinson, chairman, Miss Ray Lovenstein, secretary; Mr. H. B. Brown, treasurer; Mr. Billkopf, Mr. Meyer Levy, Mrs. Anna Miller, Miss Fannie Schrieder, Mr. Max Freedman, Mrs. Dora Schrieder, Mrs. Dora Silverman.

Floor Committee—Mr. Isador Passamaneck, floor manager; Mr. Jake Lovenstein, assistant floor manager; Mr. Charles Breitstein, Mr. Tel Cohen, Mr. Louis Weinstein, Mr. Hyman Levenson, Mr. Julius Schull.

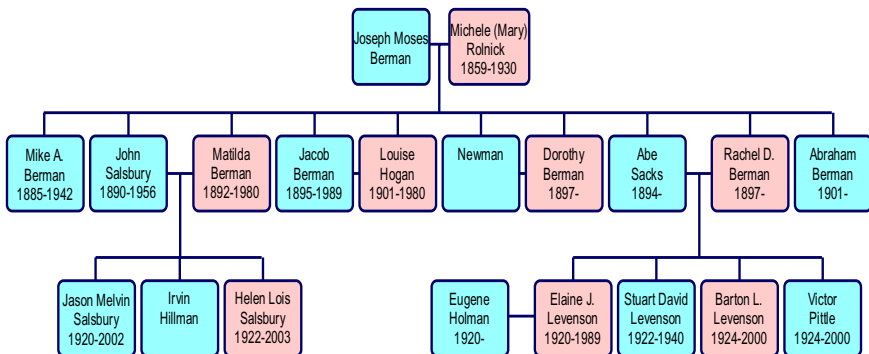
And Hyman was on the floor committee of the first annual Zion Ball.

(The Times: Richmond, V.A., Wednesday, March 5, 1902).

In 1920, Charles and his wife Fannie were living at 110 West Main (for this and the following addresses refer to the small-scale map). The 1926 Directory lists Sarah sharing a house with Charles at 2335 West Grace and in 1930 the Bermans are recorded as living at 2011 Rosewood Ave, with Joseph's grocery at 800 West Marshall. All were now comfortably established and with the Rolnick sisters able to remain close to each other.



By the time of Jake's will, in 1931, Bessie (one of Louis and Haddie's daughters) had married Henry Weinstein, and the couple were living just a few doors away from the Bermans at 2016 Rosewood Avenue. Two of the Berman children, Abe and Tilly were living close by on Idlewood Ave. Tilly had married John Salsbury. (In the 1940 Census John was recorded in as a statistical clerk working with the WPA project):



**Salsbury—Berman.**

Mrs. M. Berman announces the marriage of her daughter, Tillie Inez, to John Salsbury, of Berkeley, Norfolk. The ceremony was performed by Rabbi I. Marcus at the residence of the bride, 213 North Nineteenth Street. A number of out-of-town guests were present, and some of these were Mr. and Mrs. J. Salsbury, Misses Lena and Bernice Salsbury and Mr. Michelson, of Baltimore, Charles Feidman, of Baltimore.

Mr. and Mrs. Salsbury left at once for an extended trip through the North and East.

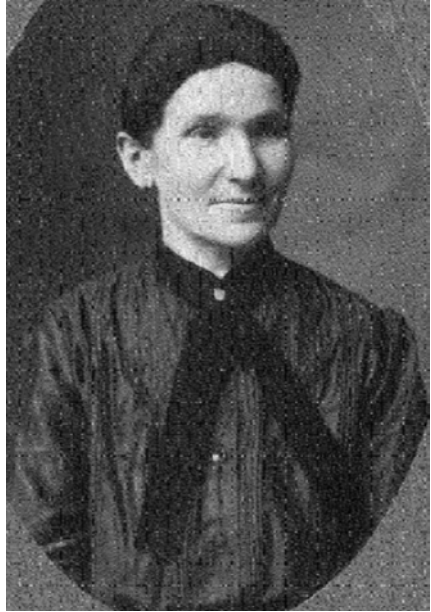
*Richmond times-dispatch.,  
March 09, 1919*

All of the other Rolnick family, however, were by now clustered together in Chicago.

And since writing the above, I received the following from Abbey Pines:

I did want to give you a little information regarding my great grandmother, Sarah Rolnick and her 2 children, Hyman and Charles - my grandfather.

Sarah, the eldest of the Upina Rolnicks, was born in 1850. She married Yehuda Levenson, probably about 1870 or 1871. Their children were Hyman b.1872 and Charles b. 1880. In 1883 she and the 2 boys immigrated to the United States to escape conscription. (Yehuda never made it to America due to an illness.) They came in through the port of Baltimore, MD and did some migrant farming there until she could save up enough money to go to Richmond, VA to be with her younger sister Michle Berman. In 1897, my grandfather, Charles, decided to become a homesteader and meet up with his uncle Meyer in Clovis, New Mexico [see pages 127 *et seq* of the Rolnick book.].



*Sarah Levenson*

Before going to New Mexico, however, he stopped in Chicago to learn how to become a shochet so he could continue eating kosher (my mother kept his shechting knife). After about 9 months, Charles came back to Richmond to help his mother, thereby, forfeiting his right to land in NM. He then went into the cigar business with his brother and later took over the business when his brother moved to Chicago. Charles also had 2 restaurants in downtown Richmond. [Abbey sent also some family pictures]:

*Hyman and Charles Levenson  
(Hyman's Bar Mitzvah (Charles was  
8 years old in the picture)*

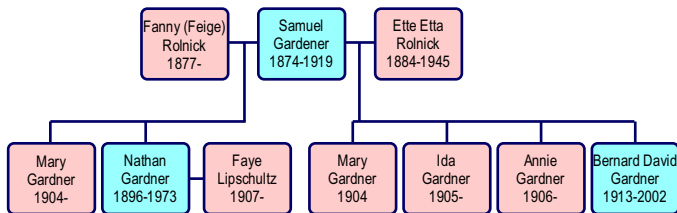


*Picture of Shirlye Mae Pittle (née Levenson) at the age of 2*

With the histories of Sarah Levenson and Michle Berman established, in addition to the 13 children of Dov Behr Rolnick that I told about in the Rolnick book, we have reached 15 of the 16 Rolnicks listed in Jake’s will. The remaining name is Fannie Rolnick, so who is she?

Now we know from the Rolnick book (page 108) that Sam Gardner had been married to a Fannie who died and left him with their seven year old son Nathan, and that Etta Rolnick had then married Sam and brought up Nathan. The marriage of Sam and Etta produced four more children. We now know that there was a Fannie Rolnick. Surely this Fannie is the person who had been married to Sam, and was the mother of Nathan? In the Rolnick book I had wondered how Etta, living in Chicago, had found Sam who was living in Baltimore, and I had suggested that the matchmaker was Etta’s brother Louis who was living in Baltimore the time. But the real explanation is much simpler. Etta had come to the USA, to Chicago, on her own in the year 1900. The news of Fannie’s death around 1904 in Baltimore would have come to her siblings in Chicago. Presumably, the question of someone’s marrying Sam and helping him bring up the little Nathan would surely have arisen. Apparently, Etta bravely answered that question by agreeing to go down to Baltimore, marry Sam and look after her little nephew, Nathan. The story of Sam and Etta’s travels in Maryland and then Missouri and finally Chicago, with their three daughters and son, born along the way, was told starting from page 109 in the Rolnick book. Fannie herself (listed in the shipping manifest as Feige – often anglicized to Fannie) had come to the USA in 1889, aged 14. Travelling with her was a Mr Moses Topp. Both were listed in the manifest as coming from “Spinnen”, but there is no Spinnen in Lithuania. I checked further into Moses Topp and found a record stating that he was born inUpyna. So Feige was also from Upyna and now we have identified Fannie Rolnick Gardner and hence all 16 of the Rolnicks on Jake’s will.

Fannie’s brother, Joseph Rolnick, had arrived in Baltimore on 17



September 1904 and on the manifest it was noted that he was going to his brother-in-law Sam Gardner who was living at 1196 First Street in Richmond. So we have the address where Fannie and Sam were living at that time, only a few blocks away from Fannie's other siblings. Joseph himself later went up to Chicago (page 112 of the Rolnick book) to join the siblings there.

In the photograph of three of the sons and four of the daughters of Louis and Haddie Rolnick that appears as the frontispiece of this Supplement, I hope now correctly labelled, the three sisters who were living at that time (probably 1915) in Richmond are in the photograph and also Hannah who was living at that time in Chicago. Among the men, Meyer (who was living in Oklahoma), and Michael and Jake (both living in Chicago at the time) are present. But what of the other Rolnick siblings who are on the list in Jake's 1931 will? Well, of course, two brothers, Yekel and Abba, were still living in their home town in Lithuania, Louis had died in 1906 and Fannie, at some date that I have not been able to establish but certainly much before 1915. But what of Joseph, Hyman, and William who had all arrived in the USA many years before and were alive and living in Chicago? Why had they not made the journey to be photographed in what looks like a family reunion, and why had their sisters Etta and Lena, also living in Chicago, not made the trip? I do not know where the picture was taken. It looks like some rural spot. They are posed in front of what looks like a barn and there seems to be grass in the foreground. Indeed, Marcia Burnham (Meyer's granddaughter) who had sent me that photograph in 2012 wrote "I have a picture of him [Meyer] with 2 brothers and 4 sisters taken c1915 outside a building (farm?)". It couldn't have been taken in Chicago, with all those Chicago residents not included. So was it taken in Richmond? I would suggest rather that the rural atmosphere and the fact that Meyer is in the centre of the males in the photograph, although this spoils the symmetry, makes it seem likely that Oklahoma itself was the scene. And here is a picture (also given to me by Marcia Burnham) taken on August 17, 1914 of Meyer's daughter Grace, standing outside their home in Oklahoma and perhaps this could be another view of the same property.





But if so, what a long journey it was for those Richmond and Chicago residents to make. Too far, perhaps, for some.

Jake's will lists the addresses of all of his siblings and the children of his deceased siblings at that date in 1931. They had now spread out beyond Richmond and Chicago to places in Philadelphia and New York. Note that Hyman Levenson, at the top of Jake's list, also is no longer living in Richmond but has moved to Chicago. Something must have happened to the cigar stores that he and his brother Charles had owned in Richmond. The 1930 census lists Harry as running a laundry in Chicago and Charles as the owner-manager of a restaurant in Richmond.

Although it was Jake's will that had alerted me to those daughters of Dov Behr but whom I had missed for the Rolnick book, of Jake himself I have found almost no information. There is the record of his death in 1931 with the names of his parents and of his spouse, Mary. But that is all that I have been able to find, although I have searched at length. His tombstone gives his name in Hebrew as Itsik Gutel, son of Dovbehr Rolnik and the stone is topped with the word "BROTHER", so he seems to have left neither a wife nor children (which fits with the fact that only his siblings and their descendants are listed in his will).



Among the next generation, it was Shirlye Mae Pittle, a daughter of Charles and Fannie Levenson, who had, aided by her daughter Abby, alerted me to the fact that her grandmother Sarah Levenson was not mentioned in the Rolnick book. Our subsequent email correspondence led me to that wonderful record, Jake's 1931 will. Stuart Levenson, a son of Charles and Fannie, had wanted to be a doctor (according to the annotation in his 1939 school magazine) but died aged only 18. Of Hyman and Mary Levenson's children, Ruby married Lester Tishler who joined his father-in-law in the laundry business. Among the children of Joseph and Mary Berman, we have already mentioned Matilda (Tillie) who married John Salisbury. Another daughter Rachel (Rae) married Abe Sacks. Their daughter, Mavys Sacks, with her husband Martin Friedman, owned and operated the Tot'n' Teen Childrens Clothing Store in State College, Pennsylvania. After retirement, Mavys created and knitted children's sweaters which were sold around the State College area. She was awarded the Volunteer of the Year Award from the Mount Nittany Medical in State College. Joseph and Mary's son, Mike Berman had moved to Memphis Tennessee by the time of his death in 1942. He was divorced and had been a salesman. His brother Jacob, and Jacob's wife Louise (nee Hogan), were both living in Richmond at the time of their deaths. Of Dorothy, the third daughter of Joseph and Mary Berman, all I could find (from her sister Matilda's obituary) was that she had married a Mr. Newman.

### **MARSHALL SCHOOL.**

Third A Grade—Ross Binford, Garland Luck, Nelle Brimmer, Ruth Emerson, Estelle Figg.
Second B Grade—Sam Harfeld, Harry Want, Ada Brantz, Esther Katz, Indie Miles.
Second A Grade—Phoebe Adcock, Berilce Dickerson, Louis O'Neill, Walter Lane, John Romey.
First B Grade—Walter Butler, <b>Abe Berman</b> , Arby, Glass, Clinton Grant, Charles Hartley, Joe Marks, Laura Baldwin, Marie Jenkins.
First A Grade—Algernon Jones, Meyer Kocen, Ruby Dale, May Mills, Katharine Nagengust, Hannah Tatarsky.

*And was this their brother Abe, aged 6 in 1907?*

“Named for its Marshall Street location, Marshall School must have served a far larger area of the city as it accommodated 714 kids the year it opened in 1887. There were a high number of Jewish students who lived on the Shockoe Valley floor at the time in a community built around their synagogue and community house a block away on 19th Street. So many attended Marshall School that its principal (according to a history of Richmond schools) was known locally as “The Rabbi.”

<https://chpn.net/2015/10/07/a-history-of-marshall-school/>

But that, interesting as it is, was all that I could find about Abe Berman. I might add that the 19<sup>th</sup> Street synagogue was the descendant of the Moses Montefiore synagogue of which Louis Rolnick had been the Vice-President.

We have seen how close to one another Dov Behr's children had been living in Richmond but we have also seen how some of those Richmond Rolnicks began to move up to Chicago to join their siblings there. Interactions between the Baltimore and Chicago families continued through the decades. I was given by Carolyn and Charles Goodman (a grandson of Hannah Fisher Goodman) two wonderful photographs of the people who attended their wedding, which had taken place on July 19, 1959 in Chicago.



*Sitting, from left to right are Libby Fisher from Chicago, Sol Feldman of Baltimore, Lil (Fisher) and Abe Schwartz also of Baltimore, Beverley and Robert Zimmerman, daughter and son-in-law of Lil and Murray Feldman of New York (standing at the back).*



*And here, sitting from left to right are "Toots" (Jeanette Feldman) Hollander and her husband from Baltimore, Judy Fisher (Chicago), and Al and, at the back, Rosa (Feldman) Fleischer of Chicago.*

To extend these interactions even further: Charles and Carolyn Goodman (Charles being a descendant of Dov Behr Rolnick) met with Wilfred and Chana Stein (Wilfred a descendant of Wolf Rollnick) in Tel Aviv in December 2016, and we all of us visited with Sydney and Aryeh Lossin, Sydney's sister Beverley Taylor, and Frankie and Rochel Myers –(Sydney, Beverley, and Frank are greatgrand children of Wolf Rollnick) - in Timorim, the moshav where the Myers live.



*From left to right, Beverley (Brunow) Taylor, Wilfred Stein, Sydney (Brunow) Lossin, Frank (Rifkin) Myers with Rochel Myers, Charles Goodman and Aryeh Lossin. Beverley was visiting from London where she has lived many years.*

Finally. In this section, here are some photographs of the Rolnick siblings that Abby Pines sent me.





Uncle Jake Rolnick



Aunt Dora Rolnick Feldman



Uncle Sam Gardner