

Jersey City 5th mo 19
1869.

My dear sister,-
Though we have not communed in this way for some time, thou art often in my affectionate remembrance, & I feel disposed to send thee a letter, though it may be, that much of the lively kind may not be contained in it.

We have had a very sickly house for two months & all the children have had the whooping cough! & Lullie is now near her confinement! I have had considerable sickness through the month of March & April. so that I

have found it difficult to write. The children have been going to school before they commenced with the whooping cough. I am glad to hear as to school. How are you all? I hope well? do ~~not~~ ~~write~~ ~~me~~ ~~for~~ ~~not~~ ~~writing~~ ~~for~~ ~~I~~ ~~cannot~~ ~~con-~~ ~~ceive~~ ~~a~~ ~~letter~~ ~~in~~ ~~any~~ ~~other~~ ~~way~~ ~~than~~ ~~by~~ ~~writing~~ ~~my~~ ~~dear~~ ~~sister~~ ~~I~~ ~~should~~ ~~write~~ ~~you~~ ~~such~~ ~~every~~ ~~day~~ ~~I~~ ~~trust~~ ~~that~~ ~~if~~ ~~my~~ ~~love~~ ~~be~~ ~~still~~ ~~pro-~~ ~~longed~~ ~~I~~ ~~shall~~ ~~rejoice~~ ~~in~~ ~~many~~ ~~triumphs~~ ~~of~~ ~~that~~ ~~grace~~ ~~which~~ ~~bringeth~~ ~~salva-~~ ~~tion~~ ~~I~~ ~~love~~ ~~is~~ ~~thunt~~ ~~Betsy~~ ~~Hayward~~ ~~thunt~~ ~~Betsy~~ ~~Allen~~ ~~thunt~~ ~~Polly~~ ~~reloq~~ ~~in~~ ~~air~~ ~~at~~ ~~post~~

are you all?
How did they hear from dear Brother Samuel & family? How is dear Brother Charles? Does thee expect to travel this summer? if thee & Betsy join travel do go to Chittaugo. I will send thee a card to that effect. I hope to be able to go in the 7th month July! how pleasant it would be to meet you there? Do write me a good long letter & tell me all the news.
I feel very weak & great debility, so that must excuse me. Farewell
I now conclude thy

Precious Paper in the Digital World

Though we have not communed in this way for some time,

Thou art often in my affectionate remembrance and I feel disposed to send thee a letter . . .

...so wrote 70-year-old Elizabeth B. Hayward of Jersey City in a flowing hand to her “dear sister” in May, 1869. The three-page missive, written in the brown ink of the period on 5- by 8-inch lightly-lined stationery, has made the journey of over 140 years in quite good condition. In its twenty or so sentences, the letter conveys a great deal about Elizabeth, her family, and her faith, and as 21st century eyes move down its pages and take in words like *whooping cough*, *confinement*, *grace*, and *salvation*, Elizabeth and her life take shape in the reader’s imagination.

Contrast that with these days and our digital e-world (email, e-magazines, eBooks, text messages, digital photos, and on-line everything), where pen and paper and the physical written word have been supplanted—as perfectly evidenced by the move afoot to remove cursive writing from school curricula. For those of us doing family history research, the discovery of a packet of age-old letters

SCHEDULE I. Inhabitants in The 1st Ward of Jersey City, in the County of Hudson of New Jersey, enumerated by me on the 30 day of June, 1870.

Post Office: Jersey City *A. S. Smith* Asst. Marshal

1	2	3	4			7	8		10	11		13	14	15		18	19	
			4	5	6		8	9		11	12			15	16		19	20
Dwellings-house, withhold the value of real estate.		The name of every person whose place of abode on the first day of June, 1870, was in this family.		Description.			Value of Real Estate owned.		Place of Birth, naming State or Territory of U. S.; or the Country, if of foreign birth.	Personal Property.		If born within the year ending March 1st, 1870, (Yes, No, &c.)	If present (Yes, No, &c.)	RECOGNITION.		Whether deaf and dumb, blind, insane, or idiotic.	CONSTITUTIONAL RELATIONS.	
Value of Dwelling-house.		Name of every person.		Profession, Occupation, or Trade of each person, male or female.			Value of Real Estate.			Value of Personal Property.				Attempted without within the year ending March 1st, 1870, (Yes, No, &c.)			Color or race.	
1		Larkin Kate	30	F	W	No Occupation			Ireland									
2	448 408	Hayward Ely D	50	M	W	Insurance and Real Estate Agent	600		Maryland									
3		Sarah W	35	F	W	Housekeeper			Massachusetts									
4		Marquitta	11	F	W	at home			Maryland									
5		Ely David R	9	F	W				"									
6		Charles B	6	M	W				New Jersey									
7		William H	5	M	W				"									
8		Isaac C	1/2	M	W				"									
9		Elizabeth B	71	F	W	No Occupation			Maryland									
10		Samuel B	40	M	W		600		"									
11		Anna C	28	F	W	Keeps House			New Jersey									
12		Samuel	18	F	W	at home			"									
13		Sarah C	17	F	W				New York									
14		Mary A	6	F	W				New Jersey									
15		Walter	17	M	W				"									
16		Marv Rose	35	F	W	Domestic			Ireland									
17		Mary	30	F	W				"									

... tied in a satin ribbon or an ancestor's diary or family bible inscribed with genealogical notations is something we dream about and the thought that such precious paper relics will cease to exist pains us. Still, at the risk of sounding a bit schizophrenic, we must acknowledge that digitization and the internet have brought millions of genealogical documents into our homes including vital, census and military records and newspaper archives, while also making it possible for us to easily commune with other researchers and newly-discovered relatives. Let's take the best of both worlds to discover more about Elizabeth Hayward.

Some initial research on Ancestry.com located an 1870 U.S. census record for the extended Hayward family of fourteen and their two Irish-born domestic servants, Rose and Mary Carr. A directory listing for the same period gave the Haywards' address as 108 Washington Street, Jersey City. The head of the Hayward household was Elizabeth's son Ely Hayward, age 50, an insurance and real estate agent. Ely and his wife Sarah were parents of five children. Also in the household was Samuel Hayward, age 40 and likely also Elizabeth's son, and his wife Ann and their four children. The members of that Hayward clan were born in multiple states including Maryland, New Jersey, Massachusetts, and New York.

Further digging in census records revealed that the elder Haywards

were not New Jersey natives and were descended of a pre-Revolutionary War Maryland family line. Elizabeth Balderston Hayward married her husband Isaac in Maryland in about 1816. Using genealogybank.com, a newspaper archive website, I was able to piece together that Isaac Hayward was something of an entrepreneur who

was involved in several business ventures in the 1820s and early 1830s in Baltimore. One local newspaper of the time shows Isaac Hayward advertising the sale of 700 barrels of flour and 93 barrels of pork at his establishment on Smith's Wharf. In June 1826 he took out a special ad offering a "nearly-new wagon" and "six young horses (four greys and two bays)" at "a great bargain" at the Smith's Wharf location. That same year he was elected President of the Liberty Fire Company. Isaac also formed at least one business partnership with a J.J. Lanahan under the name Hayward & Co. but that alliance was dissolved by mutual consent in January 1828. According to a notice in the *Baltimore Patriot* newspaper, Isaac continued their produce business on his own at the same location at the corner of South and

Pratt Streets in Baltimore. At the very same time, Isaac apparently entered into a short-lived contract with a Mr. P. Baldwin. Just a few months later, each man took out an ad in the *Baltimore Gazette & Daily Advertiser* accusing the other of violating the contract. Six months later, the same newspaper carried a public ad listing the names of seven men scheduled to appear in Baltimore County Court as applicants under the insolvency laws of the State of Maryland, one of those being Isaac Hayward.

Isaac may have been down but he was not out. Just four months later an ad in the *Baltimore Patriot* announced his appointment as "Inspector of Quercitron," operating on Pratt Street at Calhoun's Inspection Warehouse. A quick google of quercitron revealed that it refers to a large timber oak (*Quercus velutina*) chiefly found in the eastern and central United States from which a yellow natural dye can be obtained through a process of grinding the bark. Isaac's announcement notified all quercitron manufacturers that he was "prepared to receive and inspect all quercitron bark intended for exportation" either along the U.S. coast or to foreign ports.

Perhaps that political appointment didn't work out because ten months later, in February 1830, Isaac changed gears yet again. A joint ad in the *Patriot* reported a change of ownership of the White Hall Tavern. Thomas Watson, who had been the proprietor, announced the transfer of the lease for the White Hall to Isaac Hayward. For his part in the ad,

WHITE HALL GARDENS.



The subscriber thankful for the encouragement afforded by his fellow-citizens, informs them that the improvements made and the pleasant shade of more than one hundred fancy trees, render White Hall the most pleasant resort for comfort (in hot weather) in or near the city. Various Refreshments of the best; the city and foreign political and mercantile newspapers, and by one days notice books from a library are provided for visitors. Those intending to celebrate the coming Fourth of July, are informed that Tables and Benches to accommodate upwards of 200 persons are erected, and a Platform, used at elections for public orators, will be furnished them.

June 22 f&s 4t* **ISAAC HAYWARD.**

Isaac assured all of Mr. Watson's friends and customers and the general public that his bar would be stocked with the "best wines, liquors and ale that could be procured in Baltimore" with a staff of "active and obliging assistants and servants." In June of that year, Isaac advertised White Hall Gardens in the *Patriot* highlighting the improvements he had made to the establishment including more than 100 trees providing "pleasant shade" for comfort in hot weather. Amenities included only the best refreshments, local and foreign newspapers and even library books. With the Fourth of July only ten days away, the ad informed readers that tables and benches were in place at the White Hall to accommodate over 200 people along with an oratory platform.

Isaac's time as an innkeeper would be short-lived. His death, at the age of about 35, was reported in the *Patriot* on December 23, 1831. Elizabeth Hayward, a young widow and mother of 30 years old, was left to wind down her husband's business affairs. One month after Isaac's death, by order of the Orphan's Court of Baltimore County, a public sale was held on the premises of the White Hall Tavern for the purpose of selling the remaining two-year term of Isaac's tavern lease (rent payment \$200 per annum) along with the bar fixtures, liquor inventory and furniture, the proceeds to be applied to Isaac Hayward's unpaid accrued rent.

Indications are that Elizabeth and her children remained in Maryland for the next 25 or more years. Her son Ely, born in 1820 and just 11 when Isaac died would, like his father, become a local businessman. By the age of 24, he was the proprietor of a dry goods store. The *Baltimore Sun* reported a burglary at Ely's store on Howard Street in May 1844. The thieves came in through back windows and took some fine silk fabric, hosiery and other goods with a total value of \$700—no small amount in those days. Ely relocated his dry goods business to 73 Baltimore Street three years later and advertised that move and the array of goods offered in his store in a local paper, referring to his store as "The Great Bonnet Emporium." That same year, Ely's first wife died at the age of 24.

Following directory listings for Baltimore and then Jersey City available on Ancestry.com, we can conclude that the Haywards moved from Maryland to New Jersey in the mid-to-late 1860s. Once in Jersey City, Ely once again entered business, becoming an insurance and real estate agent as indicated on the 1870 census. His advertisements in the *Jersey Journal* newspaper for his New Jersey Real Estate and Insurance

WHITE HALL TAVERN FOR SALE.

BY ORDER of the Orphans' Court of Baltimore county, the subscribers will offer at public sale, on FRIDAY, the 27th inst. at TEN o'clock, A. M. on the premises, the unexpired time of the late Isaac Hayward in the above valuable tavern, situated between Town and Point, which is considered as amongst the most eligible situations in the city. The lot comprises an entire square, enclosed with a substantial plank fence and handsomely planted with trees and shrubbery. Terms of sale 2, 4 and 6 months credit for approved endorsed notes, bearing interest from the day of sale. There are two years of the time yet to come from the 1st of the present month, from which time the purchaser will be liable for the rent payable quarterly at \$200 per annum.

ELIZABETH HAYWARD, and } Adms.
SAML. WILSON.

Agency offered life and property insurance, leasing and rent collection, property sale or exchange services and the brokering of mortgage loans.



Prior to the move to Jersey City, Ely Hayward married for the second time to Sarah Williams Kelly. Just as I was thinking I was ready to button up my research on the Haywards and write their story, I took a quick look for some information on Sarah Kelly Hayward and, as often happens in genealogical research, was soon off in another unplanned direction. To summarize, I found that Sarah was descended of a very old New England Quaker family line. The 1850 U.S. census found 15-year-old Sarah living in Blackstone, a locale in Worcester County, Massachusetts with her parents Eli and Lydia Kelly. Eli Kelly, born in 1796 in Massachusetts, gave his occupation as “manufacturer” and reported real estate holdings valued at \$2,000, making him a very prosperous gentleman. More than that, the Kellys were members of the East Blackstone Quaker Meeting House, built in 1812 and still standing today, 200 years later. Sarah’s parents Eli and Lydia Kelly were both laid to rest in the adjacent East Blackstone Quaker Cemetery. I have no doubt that I could have spent many more hours delving into Sarah’s Quaker family history as, in genealogy, one thing always leads to another.

REAL ESTATE.

**GO TO 108 WASHINGTON STREET.
THE NEW JERSEY REAL ESTATE AND
INSURANCE AGENCY,**

To Insure your Life.
To Insure your Property.
To Buy, Sell or Exchange Real Estate.
To Find an Early Tenant for your Houses.
To Have your Rents Promptly Collected.
To Obtain a Loan on Bond and Mortgage.

RATES AS FOLLOWS:

For Selling City Property.....	2	percent.
For Selling Country Property ..	2½	"
For Renting and Collecting on Yearly Rental.....	5	"
For Procuring Tenants on Yearly Rental.....	2½	"
For Negotiating Loans on Bond and Mortgage.....	2½	"
For Tenement Property on Rents as Collected.....	10	"

ELY B. HAYWARD,
108 Washington street.

my 26-17

Elizabeth Hayward, whose 1869 letter inspired this article, wrote to her beloved sister asking that she write back soon and observed that should her life “be prolonged,” she would “rejoice in the triumphs of the grace which brings salvation.” In 1871, two years after writing those words, Elizabeth passed away and was laid to rest in a Quaker cemetery in Baltimore. Her son Ely, his wife Sarah and their children moved to Rahway by 1880. Ely died in the mid-1880s and widowed Sarah Kelly Hayward died in Newark in 1892.

As one who has always been drawn to history and things past including antiques and ephemera, I am certain I will always feel the lure of those remnants of lives gone by. Whether due to just the fact that they have survived, the poignancy of an expressed sentiment in a flowing hand, or the challenge of chasing down the associated owner or writer, these things pique my curiosity and fire my imagination and off I go . . . again.

