PREFACE

A table of vital statistics for the Sorrell family is provided at the end of this story. As subsequent census reports, marriage records, obituaries, draft registration cards, etc., provided different data, the table was revised. The table contains data beyond that necessary for this Chesapeake and Ohio Canal family history in hopes it will be useful to others doing research; This is a work in progress and new information would be most welcome.

Note that in the several canal boat mortgages Richard and Robert Sorrell are mentioned as residents of Allegany County yet all the records indicate they lived in Alexandria, Va. On-line records have been searched looking for either brother as residents in Allegany County, Md. to no avail.

We hope the readers will find the story interesting and contact me with additional information or corrections.

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Robert Alexander Sorrell was born in September, 1839, in Spotsylvania county, Virginia to Richard Sorrell, age 21, and Harriett Sorrell, age 17. He was the first of their six children.

The 1850 census reported Richard Sorrell, age 54, a farmer with real estate valued at $1,800 was living in Eastern District, Spotsylvania County, Va. Living with him were: Harriet, age 28, wife; John, age 11, son; Robert, age 10, son; Virginia, age 8, daughter; Richard, age 5, son; Mary E., age 4, daughter; and Charles T., age 3, son.

The 1860 census reported Thompson Cornell, age 34, a farmer, living in Loudoun County, Va. Living with him were: Mary [Polly Wright], age 55, wife; Julia A., age 28, daughter; Mary E., age 27, daughter; William B., age 25, son, Idiotic; Sarah J., age 24, daughter; John R., age 23, son, a farmer; George H., age 21, a farmer; James J., age 18, son, a farmer; and Mornada F., age 16, daughter. The family were born and raised in Prince William County through 1835 when they moved to Loudoun County; then Sarah J. and the other four children were born in Loudoun County. Getting a bit ahead of the story, Richard Sorrell subsequently married Julia A. Cornell.

The Civil War began on April 12, 1861.

Robert A. Sorrell [age 22] enlisted as a private on April 20, 1861 in Company F, Virginia 6th Cavalry Regiment. He mustered out on July 30, 1862. He then re-enlisted on Sept. 1, 1862 in Company F, Virginia 6th Cavalry Regiment. He was captured and became a POW at Snicker’s Gap, Md. He was paroled on March 10, 1865 at Elmira. He survived the war.

Youngest brother Richard H. Sorrell enlisted on April 25, 1861 in Company B, 30th Regiment, 30th Virginia Infantry, age 18. He was detailed as a guard at Goldsboro, N. C., April 1862. Promoted to Sergeant about May 1863. Absent sick in August 1863. ‘Deserted to the enemy while on furlough in King George Co., Va. Sept. 1863.’ In fact, Sorrell’s desertion was not directly to the enemy, as he was captured on the Potomac River on May 8, 1864 and sent to Ft. Delaware. In Dec. 1864 he was on a list of those desiring to take the oath of allegiance. He was finally released on April 18, 1865, having failed in his attempt to consummate his desertion to adequate advantage.

The Civil War ended on April 9, 1865.

On November 29, 1867 Richard H. Sorrell, in consideration of $987, purchased the canal boat “Joseph F. Hitch” from the Central Coal Mining and Manufacturing Company; the deed is provided at the back of this report.

On October 7, 1868 Richard Sorrell, widowed, married Mary Ann Cornell, in Fairfax, Va.; it was his second marriage. Richard’s father was named William Sorrell and his mother was named Margaret Sorrell. That is a generation earlier than of interest in this report.

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1 1850 Census, Virginia, Spotsylvania County, Eastern District, enumerated 9/10/1850.
2 1860 Census, Virginia, Loudoun County, P. O. Bellmont, enumerated 7/12/1860
5 Allegany County Courthouse, Cumberland, Md., Deed Book 27, page 86, recorded 11/29/1867.

The 1870 census reported Richard Sorrell, age 52, a farmer with real estate valued at $500 living in Fairfax County, Dranesville Township, P. O. Thornton Station, Va. Living with him were: Julia, age 40, wife; Charles, age 21, son; and William Cornell, age 35, [Julia’s brother], farm hand, Idiotic. Apparently the second marriage to Mary Ann Cornell did not work out or she died; in any event, before 1870, Richard Sorrell married Julia A. Cornell who brought her brother, William Cornell, into the household and he helped with the farm.

The July 1870 census reported R. A. Sorrell, age 28, a Canal Hand with real estate valued at $800 was living in Alexandria, Va. Living with him were: M. E., age 19, wife; J. H., age 1, son; and Ann Henry, age 67, House Keeper. At the risk of getting ahead of the story, note the death certificates for both Robert A. Sorrell and Mary E. Sorrell at the back of this report. Both husband and wife were buried in Bethel Cemetery, Alexandria, Va. The father of Mary E. Sorrell was listed as William Arrington and her mother was listed as Susan Lloyd. Back to the 1870 census report wherein William Arrington, age 40, a Cabinet Maker with real estate valued at $100 was living in the house adjacent to R. A. Sorrell. Living with William Arrington was: Susan, age 40, wife; Sarah, age 12, daughter; and Thomas, age 15, son, a Canal Hand. This would suggest that Robert A. Sorrell had married his neighbor’s oldest daughter and the families remained neighbors while Robert Sorrell and Thomas Arrington worked on the C. & O. Canal. As a passing note, since Robert and Mary Sorrell were both buried in Bethel Cemetery, we went there to obtain supplementary family statistics from the headstones.

Later that month a newspaper reported: Alexandria Affairs – The Gazette of yesterday evening has the following news item: Two mules belonging to Mr. Robert Sorrell fell dead on the tow-path of the canal yesterday.

On October 27, 1870, Richard Sorrell of Allegany County, in consideration of $636, purchased the canal boat “Joseph F. Hitch” from Fredrick Mertens, of Allegany County, Md. We recall that Richard Sorrell had earlier, in 1867, bought that boat for $987; today we would probably call this a re-financing of his mortgage, which is provided at the back of this report.

On October 24, 1872, Robert Sorrell of Allegany County, in consideration of $2,100, purchased the canal boat “Alexander Adams” from Frederick Mertens. Then on October 30, 1872, Richard Sorrell, of Allegany County, in consideration of $2,100, purchased the canal boat “Nora & Willie” from Frederick Mertens.

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6 1870 Census, Virginia, Fairfax County, Dranesville Township, P.O., enumerated 8/1/1870, p. 4.
9 Allegany County Courthouse, Cumberland, MD, Deed Book 31, page 615, recorded 11/1/1870.
10 Allegany County Courthouse, Cumberland, MD, Deed Book 37, page 494, recorded 11/1/1872.
11 Allegany County Courthouse, Cumberland, MD, Deed Book 37, page 482, recorded 11/29/1872.
During 1873 the “Alexander Adams” departed from Cumberland on 4/2, 5/7, 7/10, 7/19, 8/25, 9/10, 9/20, 11/1, 11/13 and 11/24/1873, usually for Hampshire & Baltimore Coal Co., bound for Alexandria, Va. While the data is sketchy, some newspaper editions were not found and there were interruptions to navigation, it appears that Robert Sorrell was taking only 9 – 12 days for a round trip.

During 1873 the “Nora & Willie” departed from Cumberland on 4/11, 5/15, 5/24, 7/3, 7/16, 8/25, 9/12, 9/22, 11/10 and 11/22/1873, usually for New Central Coal Co., bound for Alexandria, Va. With the above caveat, it appears that Richard Sorrell was taking only 10 – 13 days for a round trip. Also during 1873 the “Joseph F. Hitch” departed from Cumberland on 4/9, 5/6, 7/11, 7/26, 8/30, 9/20 and 11/11/1873, usually for New Central Coal Co., bound for Alexandria, Va. Looking at the departure dates, we surmise one of the boats had a hired Captain.

Then on November 8, 1873, Richard Sorrell of Fairfax County, in consideration of $1,290, purchased two bay mare mules, one black mare mule, one light bay horse mules, one light bay mare mule and the harness that was then used with said mules, and also the Boat rig now on the canal boat “Nora & Willie” including the cooking stove and furniture. Unstated is what Richard Sorrell used for motive power prior to that date; had Fred Mertens loaned Richard Sorrell the mules, harness and boat rig when Richard Sorrell bought the boat from Fred Mertens? Maybe Richard Sorrell had obtained the mules, harness and boat rig by some other means in 1872 and in late 1873 was experiencing some financial difficulties and used them a collateral for a “home equity” loan? We just don’t know.

During 1874 the canal boat “Alex. Adams” arrived in Alexandria on 4/22, 5/5 and 5/28/1874. The “Alex. Adams” departed from Cumberland for Georgetown on 6/4/1874; departed Alexandria on 6/25; departed Cumberland on 7/20 and 8/6; departed Alexandria on 8/28; departed Cumberland on 10/5; 10/16; 10/30 and 11/16; arriving in Alexandria on 11/19; and departing Cumberland on 11/26/1874, usually for Hampshire & Baltimore Coal Co.. The 1874 data is really sketchy but we can see that the boat was active.

The “Nora & Willie” departed Cumberland on 7/17, 7/27, 8/6, 9/11, 10/5, 10/17 and 11/4/1874, usually for New Central Coal Co., bound for Alexandria. For the “Joseph F. Hitch” departures were found on 5/25 and 7/20/1874, for New Central Coal Co., bound for Georgetown. The New Central Coal Co. wharves were in Alexandria and thus we suspect the Cumberland office miss-identified the destination of the “Joseph F. Hitch.”

1875 started with the birth of William Sorrell on Jan. 12, 1875 to Robert A. and Mary E. Sorrell, before the boating season began.

In 1875 the canal boat “Alex. Adams” descended 17 times past Lock 75 on the following dates: 4/23; 5/3; 5/13; 5/25; 6/7; 6/17; 6/29; 7/9; 8/6; 8/16; 8/31; 9/20; 9/30; 10/9; 10/19; 10/31; and

13 Allegany County Courthouse, Cumberland, MD, Deed Book 40, page 260, recorded 11/10/1873.
Notice that a typical round trip took only 10 days. Captain Robert Sorrell was running day and night. In that same year the “Nora & Willie” descended 16 times past Lock 75 on the following dates: 4/2, 5/3, 5/12, 5/26, 6/4, 6/15, 6/24, 7/9, 7/22, 8/10, 8/22, 9/7, 9/27, 10/15, 10/28 and 11/17/1875. It would appear the Captain Richard Sorrell was also running day and night. No data was found for the “Joseph F. Hitch” in 1875.

In 1876 we learn that Robert A. Sorrell was a boatman and lived at the Canal basin, end of Washington, St. We suppose he lived on the boat. In 1876 we can confirm the canal boat “Alex. Adams” departed Cumberland on: 4/10; 5/10; 5/24; 6/9; 6/29; 7/15; 7/25; 8/11; 9/9; 10/16; 10/30 and 11/18/1876. The 1876 data is spotty, only 12 trips in 1876 whereas there were 17 trips in 1875. On November 18, 1876, just as he was starting his last trip of the season, Captain Robert A. Sorrell of Allegany County, in consideration of $146.94, took a mortgage on his canal boat called “Alexander Adams” from Frederick Mertens. The mortgage is provided at the back of this report; note that the mortgage was released and recorded on 11/27/1896, along with dozens of other mortgages.

Also in 1876 we find the “Nora & Willie” departed Cumberland 14 times on: 5/18, 6/3, 6/20, 7/19, 9/2, 9/27, 10/17, 11/2 and 11/28/1876. No data was found for the “Joseph F. Hitch.”

In 1877 we notice that Robert [A.] Sorrell, who captained and owned the canal boat “Alex. Adams” departed from Cumberland on: 4/14; 4/28; 5/17; 6/21; 9/7; 9/20; 10/5; 10/20; 11/6; 11/12; and 11/23/1877. Richard [H.] Sorrell captured and owned the canal boat “Nora & Willie,” from the same Register, and departed from Cumberland on: 4/3; 4/19; 5/3; 6/6; 6/20; 8/28; 9/19; 10/3; 10/19; and 10/30/1877, from the same Canal Trade 1877 report. Now there was another canal boat, “Richard Fannon,” captured by Taylor Sorrell and owned by Mrs. Alexander, per the same Register. The canal boat “R. Fannon” was active in 1877 but Taylor Sorrell must have been from another Sorrell family.

1878 was another busy year for both captains. The “Alex. Adams” departed from Cumberland on: 4/26; 5/8; 5/18; 5/29; 6/10; 6/26; 7/10; 7/23; 8/10; 8/31; 9/14; 9/27; 10/14; 10/29; 11/12; and 11/26/1878. Sixteen trips in all. The “Nora & Willie” departed from Cumberland on: 4/29; 5/10; 5/30; 6/12; 7/2; 7/13; 7/25; 8/5; 8/28; 9/14; 10/5; 10/22; 11/4; and 11/18/1878. Fifteen trips in all.

In 1879 no record was found of the “Alex. Adams” departing Cumberland and only one departure, on 4/5/1879, for the “Nora & Willie.”

The 1880 census reported R. H. Sorrell, age 37, a brick mason, living on Four and a half Street, S.W., Washington, D. C. Living with him were: Mary E., age 38, wife; Annie E., age 13.

17 Alexandria, Va., City Directory, 1876, p. 142.
19 Allegany County Courthouse, Cumberland, MD, Deed Book 47, page 685, recorded 11/21/1876.
20 “Register of Boats Employed on the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal, Jan 1st 1878,” www.candocanal.org/histdocs/index.html
daughter; Emma J., age 11, daughter; Welford Sorrell, age 20, nephew, working as a brick mason; Jane G. Pullin, age 78, mother-in-law; and Jane F. Pullin, age 20, niece, working as a dress maker. We conclude that Richard Henry Sorrell had quit boating.

An 1880 census report for Robert A. Sorrell has not been found. However, we find that John T. Dixon bought the canal boat “Helen V. Dixon” in consideration of $1,100 on 3/29/1880.\(^{23}\) He had several other boats and thus hired Capt. R. Sorrell, presumably Robert A. Sorrell. The “Helen V.” with Capt. R. Sorrell departed Cumberland on: 4/10; 4/25; 5/16; 6/11; 6/30; 7/26; 8/30; 9/9; 9/21; 10/4; 10/15; 10/26; 11/12; and 11/22/1880. Fourteen trips in all.

Richard Sorrell died on February 4, 1887, age 70, in Fairfax County, Va. His spouse was named Julia Sorrell; which would make her the third wife. Details to be found.

In 1888 we find that the canal boat “George S. Renner” with Capt. Sorrell departed Cumberland on 4/3, 4/16, 5/7, 5/23, 7/19, 9/3, 9/18, 10/15, 11/6 and 11/21/1888.\(^{24}\) The canal boat also ascended past Lock 75 on 6/20, 8/6, 8/21 and 10/1/1888. Indicating the canal boat made 14 trips that year. In the absence of any other Capt. Sorrell, we conclude Capt. Robert A. Sorrell was still boating in 1888.

Tragedy struck on July 29, 1890 wherein Robert A. and Mary Ellen Sorrell had a son, unnamed, who died on that day, in Alexandria, Va.\(^{25}\) An obituary remains to be found.

1891 started off better with the birth of Charles Sorrell on Jan. 4, 1891 to Robert A. and Mary E. Sorrell, in Alexandria, Va. We conclude that the unnamed son who died the previous year had been born before July 29, 1890. Birth announcements remain to be found.

In 1893 we find that the canal boat “George S. French” with Capt. R. Sorrell departed Cumberland at least 19 times; the data for that year is incomplete.\(^{26}\)


In August 1894, a newspaper reported: **Scalded** – Mr. Robert Sorrell, an employee at the Portner Brewery, was painfully scalded Saturday. Mr. Sorrell had a bucket in one hand and a piece of hose (through which steam was being forced) in the other, and by some accident the steam came in contact with his body. His injuries are painful, but not dangerous.\(^{27}\)

In 1895 Richard H. Sorrell was a grocer at 305 N street SW with residence at 329 N street SW.\(^{28}\)

In January 1896 a newspaper reported: **Property Sales** – E. Frances has sold to R. A. Sorrell a lot on the west side of Fairfax street north of First for $100.\(^{29}\) Additional details were mentioned

\(^{23}\) Allegany County Courthouse, Cumberland, MD, Deed Book 53, page 488, recorded 3/30/1880.
\(^{27}\) *Alexandria Gazette*, Alexandria, Va., Monday 8/20/1894, p. 3.
\(^{28}\) Washington, D. C., City Directory, 1895, p. 853.
\(^{29}\) *Alexandria Gazette*, Alexandria, Va., Tuesday 1/14/1896, p. 3.
in another newspaper: Real Estate Transfers – Emanuel Frances and wife have sold to Robert A. Sorrell two lots on Fairfax street extended, lying partly in Alexandria city and Alexandria county, for $100.\textsuperscript{30} Then later that year we read: “There has been a break in the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal at Cherry Run, about 114 miles above Washington, which will detain many boats for two weeks. Among the number is that of Captain Sorrell, loaded with coal consigned to Messrs. W. A. Smoot & Co., in this city.”\textsuperscript{31} This probably was Captain Robert A. Sorrell.

In 1897 Robert A. Sorrell was a grocer at N. Royal St. extended, Alexandria, Va. And lived above the store.\textsuperscript{32} From the same source we learn John H. Sorrell was a brewer and lived at 1004 N. Columbus, St., Alexandria, Va.\textsuperscript{33} And over in Washington, D. C., Richard H. Sorrell was a grocer at 303 N street SW with residence at 329 N street SW.\textsuperscript{34}

In 1899 the son, John H. Sorrell was a hostler and still lived at 1004 N. Columbus St. and son, Robert E. Sorrell was a bottler and lived at 923 N. Washington St., Alexandria, Va.\textsuperscript{35}

In 1899 Richard H. Sorrell was a grocer at 305 N street SW with residence at 329 N street SW.\textsuperscript{36}

The 1900 census reported Julia Sorrell, age 70, widowed, living in Dranesville, Fairfax County, Va.\textsuperscript{37} Living with her was William B. Cornell, age 68, brother.

The 1900 census reported Robert [A.] Sorrell, age 60, married 30 years, a Day Laborer was living in Alexandria, Va.\textsuperscript{38} Living with him were: Mary E., age 49, wife, married 30 years, she had 15 children, 7 of whom were still living; Alfred, age 17, son, working as a Day Laborer; Samuel, age 14, son; Carrie, age 12, daughter; and Charles, age 9, son.

The 1900 census reported Richard H. Sorrell, age 56, married 34 years, working as a carpenter and builder living on N street, in Washington, D. C.\textsuperscript{39} Living with him were: Mary E., age 57, married 34 years, she had 2 children and both were then still living; Jane S. Scott, age 14, niece; Emma J. Murray, age 31, niece [sic daughter]; and Mary E. Murray, age 9, niece [sic granddaughter]. Socially we read: “Mrs. Emma Murray, of this city, is spending a week or two at the country home of her father, Mr. R. H. Sorrell, in King George County, Va.”\textsuperscript{40} In 1900 Richard H. Sorrell was a contractor and bricklayer at 329 N street SW and grocer at 303 N street SW with residence at 329 N street SW.\textsuperscript{41}

\textsuperscript{31} Alexandria Gazette, Alexandria, Va., Monday, 7/27/1896, p. 3.
\textsuperscript{32} Alexandria, Va., City Directory, 1897, p. 250.
\textsuperscript{33} Alexandria, Va., City Directory, 1897, p. 192/193
\textsuperscript{34} Washington, D. C., City Directory, 1897, p. 838.
\textsuperscript{35} Alexandria, Va., City Directory, 1899, p. 203.
\textsuperscript{36} Washington, D. C., City Directory, 1899, p. 925.
\textsuperscript{37} 1900 Census, Virginia, Fairfax County, Dranesville, enumerated 6/9/1900.
\textsuperscript{38} 1900 Census, Virginia, Alexandria County, Jefferson District, enumerated 6/1/1900, p. 11.
\textsuperscript{39} 1900 Census, Washington, D. C., enumerated 6/1/1900, p. 13A.
\textsuperscript{40} Washington Times, Washington, D. C., Tuesday, 7/31/1900, p. 5.
\textsuperscript{41} Washington, D. C., City Directory, 1900, p. 921.
The 1900 census reported John H. Sorrell, age 30, married 7 years, a bottler in a brewery, living in Alexandria, Va.\(^{42}\) Living with him were: Annie, age 33, married 7 years, she had 4 children, 2 of whom were then living; John J., age 4, son; Mary T., age 2, daughter; and Edward Finnegan, age 9, nephew. We learn that in 1900 John H. Sorrell was a bottler living at 1004 N. Columbus St. and Robert E. Sorrell was also a bottler but lived at 923 N. Washington St.\(^{43}\)

The 1900 census reported Robert [E. Lee] Sorrell, age 29, married 6 years, working as a laborer in a brewery, living in Alexandria, Va.\(^{44}\) Living with him were: Emma, age 30, married 6 years, she had 3 children, 2 of whom were still living; Hattie, age 4, daughter; and Annie, age 1 daughter.

In 1902 Robert A. Sorrell was a laborer and lived at N. Fairfax St., extended. John H. Sorrell was a bottler and lived at 904 N. Columbus St. and Robert E. Sorrell was also a bottler and lived at 312 Montgomery St., Alexandria, Va.\(^{45}\) Nothing changed for 1903.\(^{46}\)

In 1902 Richard H. Sorrell was a contractor with residence at 329 N street SW.\(^{47}\)

However, in 1902 the Rebekah Lodges were the women’s auxiliary to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows (I.O.O.F.) and in July of 1902 there was the annual election of officers. For Ruth Rebekah No. 2 Lodge – Miss Ray Avon, N. G.; Mrs. E. J. Sorrell Murray, V. G.; Mrs. Kate T. Sorrell, 620 F street southwest, R. S.; Miss Blanche Sanford, treasurer; Mrs. Henrietta Werner, F.S.\(^{48}\) In the spring of 1903 the I.O.O.F. held a Fair at Odd Fellows’ Hall with booths and decorations for the reception of donations which had been collected principally by the several ladies’ auxiliary committees. For Ruth Rebekah Lodge: Mrs. Emma J. Sorrell Murray, chairman; Mrs. Ethel Pumphrey, secretary; . . . Miss. Kate T. Sorrell.\(^{49}\)

In 1903 Robert A. Sorrell was a laborer and lived at N. Fairfax St., extended. John H. Sorrell was a bottler and lived at 904 N. Columbus St.\(^{50}\) In September 1903 a newspaper had the following obituary: “LITTLE ELLEN SORRELL’S DEATH. – Ellen Sorrell, the two-year-old daughter of John and Ann Sorrell, died at her parents’ home, 904 North Columbus Street, last night of diphtheria. Her funeral took place from her parents’ home today and the interment was made in St. Mary’s Cemetery.”\(^{51}\)

In 1904 Robert A. Sorrell was a foreman still living at N. Fairfax St., extended and sons Alfred L. and Samuel Sorrell were laborers living at home. John H. Sorrell was still a bottler and lived at 904 N. Columbus St. while Robert E. Sorrell was a laborer still living at 312 Montgomery

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\(^{42}\) 1900 Census, Virginia, Alexandria County, Alexandria City, enumerated 6/5/1900, p. 4B.
\(^{43}\) Alexandria, Va., City Directory, 1900, p. 195.
\(^{44}\) 1900 Census, Virginia, Alexandria County, Alexandria City, enumerated 6/7/1900, p. 10B.
\(^{45}\) Alexandria, Va., City Directory, 1902, p. 204.
\(^{46}\) Alexandria, Va., City Directory, 1903, p. 213/214.
\(^{47}\) Washington, D. C., City Directory, 1902, p. 1023.
\(^{50}\) Alexandria, Va., City Directory, 1903, p. 213.
On June 28, 1904, a newspaper announced: “Alfred L. Sorrell and Miss Lulu Stanford were married yesterday at the Methodist Protestant parsonage by Rev. Mr. Ewell.” The married couple continued to live in the family home, as we will see later. Nothing changed for 1905.

In 1904 Richard H. Sorrell was a builder with residence at 329 N street SW. Nothing changed for 1905.

In 1906 Robert A. Sorrell was a Stableman, still living at N. Fairfax St. extended; son Samuel, a laborer, still lived in the family home. John H. Sorrell was still a bottler but had moved to 822 N. Columbus St. and Robert E. Sorrell had become a fireman but still lived at 310 Montgomery St. The only change for 1907 was that son Alfred Sorrell, a laborer, was listed as living in the family home.

In May, 1907 a newspaper had the following obituary: “Estelle, infant daughter of Mr. Alfred and Mrs. Lulu Sorrell, died at her parents’ home on north Fairfax street this morning.”

In April 1907 a newspaper had the following obituary: “Thomas Arrington, aged fifty years, died Thursday at the residence of John H. Sorrell, 822 North Columbus street, after a brief illness. He was unmarried. The funeral services will be held in St. Mary’s Catholic Church at 9:30 o’clock this morning. The interment will be in St. Mary’s Cemetery.” We suspect Thomas Arrington was Mary Ellen Arrington Sorrell’s brother.

In 1908 Robert A. Sorrell was still a laborer, living at N. Fairfax St. extended. Living with him were: Robert, a foreman; Alfred, laborer; and Samuel L., laborer, his sons. The son, John H. Sorrell, a bottler, was living at 822 N. Columbus St.

The 1910 census reported Robert [A.] Sorrell, age 72, married once for 41 years, a Stable Boss in a Coal Yard was living in Alexandria, Va. Living with him were: Marie [sic, Mary E.], age 60, wife, married once for 41 years, she had 15 children and 7 were still living; Samuel, age 24, son, working as a Furnace Man at a Glass Factory; Charles, age 19, son. Living in the same dwelling as a separate household was Alfred Sorrell, age 27, married once for 5 years, working as a Furnace Man at a Glass Factory; Lulu, age 31, wife, married once for 5 years; Mary, age 4, daughter; and unnamed son [later identified as Alfred Leigh Sorrell, Jr.], age 1-6/12.

The 1910 census reported John H. Sorrell, age 40, married once for 18 years, worked as a wagon driver for a brewery, and lived in Alexandria, Va. Living with him were: Annie, age 43,
married once for 18 years, she had 7 children, 4 of whom were then living; John J., age 14, son, working as a helper in a brewery; Mary T., age 12, daughter; Annie M., age 4, daughter; and Pearl M., age 1-6/12, daughter.

The 1910 census reported Richard H. Sorrell, age 67, married once for 45 years, a bricklaying contractor, living on N St. S.W., in Washington, D. C.63 Living with him were: Mary E., age 67, wife, married once for 45 years, she had 2 children and 2 children were then living; Emma J. Murray, age 41, daughter, widowed, working as a bookkeeper for a bricklayer [presumably for her father’s business]; and Mary E. Murray, age 19, granddaughter.

The 1910 census also reported Robert E. Sorrell, age 35, married once for 16 years, was a Laborer in General work living in Alexandria, Va.64 Living with him were: Emma, age 39, wife, married once for 16 years, she had 6 children 4 of whom were then living; Hattie, age 15, daughter; Annie, age 11, daughter; Gayton, age 6, son; and Evelyn, age 4/12, daughter.

In 1911 Robert A. Sorrell was a watchman, living at N. Fairfax St. near 1st St.65 Living with him were sons Alfred, an engineer; Samuel, a helper; and Charles, a lab worker. John H. Sorrell was a driver for Robert Portner Brewing Co., and lived at 716 N. Columbus St. Son Robert E. Sorrell was a lab worker and lived at 818 N. Columbus St.

In 1913 Robert A. Sorrell was a foreman, living at N. Fairfax St. near 1st St.66 Living with him were sons Alfred, a glassworker; Samuel L., a helper; and Charles, a helper. John H. Sorrell was working for a brewer, and lived at 716 N. Columbus St., with his son, John J. who was also a brewer. Son Robert E. Sorrell was a glass worker and lived at 818 N. Columbus St. with his daughter Hattie G. Sorrell.

In 1914 a newspaper had the following obituary: Robert Sorrell, 74 years old, for many years employed as a foreman by W. A. Smoot & Co., lumber dealers, died yesterday afternoon at his home in North Fairfax street extended. He is survived by his wife and six children.67

Also in 1914 John H. Sorrell was still a bottler living at 716 N. Columbus St.; living with him were son, John G. a bottler and daughter, Mary T. Sorrell. Robert E. Sorrell was working in a laboratory and lived at 901 Oronoco; Hattie G. Sorrell lived with him. Alfred L. Sorrell, a glassworker; Samuel Sorrell, a helper; and Charles Sorrell, a helper, were all living in the family home at N. Fairfax St., extended.

In 1915 Alfred Sorrell was a fireman living on N Fairfax street, extended, the Robert A. Sorrell family home; living with Alfred was: Samuel L. Sorrell who was working in a lab; and Charles Sorrell, his youngest brother, also working in a lab.68 Ibid, John H. Sorrell was a bottler living at 716 N. Columbus St. Living with John H. Sorrell were: John J., his son, also a bottler; and Mary

64 1910 Census, Virginia, Alexandria County, Alexandria City, enumerated 4/30/1910, p. 10A.
65 Alexandria, Va., City Directory, 1911, p. 273.
66 Alexandria, Va., City Directory, 1913, p. 268.
T., daughter. *Ibid*, p. 248, George and Theresa Milstone [sic Milstead], he was working in a lab, were also living at N. Fairfax Street, extended.

By 1916 both parents, Robert A. and Mary E. Sorrell, had died. Alfred L. Sorrell, a helper, was still living in the family home at N. Fairfax St., extended.69 John H. Sorrell, a helper, his son, John J. Sorrell, also a helper, and his daughter Mary T. Sorrell, were all still living at 716 N. Columbus St., Alexandria. Robert E. Sorrell, a helper, and his two daughters, Annie T. and Hattie G. Sorrell, were all living at 523 N. Alfred St., Alexandria, Va.

World War I came along and men had to register for the draft, specifically:

**Alfred Leigh Sorrell**, age 35, born March 8, 1883, a fireman at Old Dominion Glass Co., Alexandria, Va., married to Lulu S. Sorrell, and they lived on N. Royal St., Extended, Alexandria.70 He was of medium height, medium build, gray eyes and black hair.

**Samuel Leonard Sorrell**, age 33, born January 25, 1885, a self-employed fisherman, nearest relative was Theresa Milstead (Sister), both living at N. Royal St., Extended, Alexandria.71 He was of medium height, medium build, gray eyes, black hair.

**Charles Sorrell**, age 26, born January 8, 1891, an unemployed laborer, single, living at Fairfax St., Ext., Alexandria.72 He was of medium height, medium build, brown eyes, brown hair and not bald.

**John J. Sorrell**, age 21, born January 20, 1896, a bottler at Washington Brewing Co., Washington, D. C., single, living at 716 N. Columbus St., Alexandria.73 He was tall, of slender build, brown eyes, brown hair and not bald.

**Howard Harrison**, age 36, born August 6, 1882, a baker at Corby Baking Co., 208-210 N. Lee St., Alexandria, married to Carrie Virginia [Sorrell] Harrison, and they lived at 708 N. Patrick St., Alexandria.74 He was medium in height, slender in build, gray eyes and dark hair.

In 1919 Alfred Sorrell was a fireman living on Royal street, extended.75 *Ibid*, John H. Sorrell was a fireman living at 716 N. Columbus St. Living with him were: John J. (who was actually in the Navy and kept this as home address); Mary T., daughter; and Annie M., daughter. *Ibid*, Robert E. Sorrell was a blacksmith and lived at 523 N. Alfred Street. *Ibid*, Samuel L. Sorrell was a fisherman living at N. Fairfax Street, extended, near 2nd street. *Ibid*, p. 287, George J. and Theresa Milstead, he was a machinist, were also living at N. Fairfax Street, extended, near 2nd street. That is the address for the Robert A. Sorrell family home, although by 1919 both parents had died.

The 1920 census reported Richard H. Sorrell, age 76, widowed, working as a building contractor and living on N street, in Washington, D. C.76 Living with him were: Emma J. Murray, age 51, daughter, widowed, working as a Government clerk; and Mary E. Murray, age 29, granddaughter, working as a clerk in a publisher house.

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70 WW-I Draft Registration Card, Serial Number 3114, dated Sept. 11, 1918.
71 WW-I Draft Registration Card, Serial Number 4436, dated Sept. 11, 1918.
72 WW-I Draft Registration Card, Serial Number 2686, dated June 5, 1917.
73 WW-I Draft Registration Card, Serial Number 1333, dated June 5, 1917.
74 WW-I Draft Registration Card, Serial Number 1901, dated Sept. 12, 1918.
75 Alexandria, Va., City Directory, 1919, p. 350.
76 1920 Census, Washington, D. C., Part of 4th Precinct, enumerated 1/8/1920, p. 6A.
The 1920 census reported John H. Sorrell, age 50, married, working as a laborer in a shipyard and living in Alexandria, Va. Living with him were: Annie A., age 53, wife; John J., age 24, son, working as a laborer in a feed mill; Mary T., age 22, daughter, working as a saleswoman; Annie M., age 16, daughter; and Pearl M., age 11, daughter.

The 1920 census reported Robert E. Sorrell, age 49, working as a Janitor in a Factory was living in Alexandria, Va. Living with him were Emma, age 50, wife; Gayton, age 16, son; Annie Bernhardt, age 20, daughter, widowed; and Herbert Bernhardt, age 1-6/12, Grandson.

In December 1921 a newspaper had the following obituary: “John H. Sorrell, 52 years old, died yesterday at his residence, 704 North Columbus street. Besides his wife, he is survived by four children, the Misses Teresa, Annie and Pearl and John J. Sorrell. The funeral will be held Monday morning at St. Mary’s Catholic Church.”

On December 5, 1926, Richard H. Sorrell died and was subsequently buried in Congressional Cemetery, Washington, D. C. His obituary remains to be found.

World War II came along and men had to register for the draft, specifically:

John Joseph Sorrell, age 46, born January 25, 1896, working at Dept. of Agriculture, Washington, D.C., married to Annie Sorrell, and they lived at 718 N. Columbus St., Alexandria, Va. He was 5 ft. 11 inches tall, 158 pounds, gray eyes, brown hair and ruddy complexion.

Alfred Leigh Sorrell, age 59, born March 8, 1883, unemployed, living with William Sorrell, N. Royal St., extended, Alexandria, Va. He was 5 ft. 8 inches tall, 145 pounds, blue eyes, black hair and ruddy complexion.

Howard Harrison, age 59, born August 6, 1882, working at Fruit Growers Express, Alexandria, Va., married to Carrie Virginia Harrison, and they lived at 708 N. Patrick St., Alexandria, Va. He had gray eyes, gray hair, and ruddy complexion.

Similarly, we learn that in 1942, Annie M. (widow of John H.) Sorrell was living at 748 N. Columbus St. Her son, John J. Sorrell was an employee at Department of Agriculture (District of Columbia) and lived at 718 N. Columbus St. along with his sister, Pearl M. Sorrell, who worked as a saleswoman. Alfred L. Sorrell, a car repairman for FR&PRR, and his wife, Lula, were living at 1109 N. Royal St. with their son, William L. Sorrell, a carpenter, and their son, Earl J. Sorrell, a driver.

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77 1920 Census, Virginia, Alexandria County, Alexandria City, enumerated 1/17/1920, p. 22B.
78 1920 Census, Virginia, Alexandria County, Alexandria City, enumerated 1/15/1920, p. 19B.
80 WW-II Draft Registration Card, Serial Number U3027, dated 4/2/1942.
81 WW-II Draft Registration Card, Serial Number U2463, dated 4/27/1942
82 WW-II Draft Registration Card, Serial Number U2164, undated.
83 Alexandria, Va., City Directory, 1942, p. 393.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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<th>Died</th>
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**End of 1st Generation**

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<td>1860?</td>
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**End of 2nd Generation**
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<td>Mary Sorrell</td>
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**End of 3rd Generation**
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At the request of the C. C. M. & M. Co. this Mortgage was recorded Nov. 29th 1867.

This Indenture made this twenty ninth day of November eighteen hundred and sixty-seven between Richard Sorrell of Allegany County, State of Maryland party of the first part and The Central Coal Mining and Manufacturing Company, of Allegany County, State of Maryland party of the second part.

Whereas the said party of the second part has this day sold to the said party of the first part the Canal Boat called "Joseph F. Hitch" at and for the sum of Nine hundred and eighty seven dollars which the said party of the first part is to pay to the said party of the second part in installments and in the manner and upon the terms hereinafter mentioned, to wit: Fifty dollars per trip for each and every trip said boat shall make from Cumberland to Georgetown, Alexandria, Washington City, or any other port until the full amount with interest is paid, crediting the respective payments thereon as of the time when such payments shall be made.

And whereas it was part of said contract of purchase and sale between the said party of the first part and the said party of the second part that the said party of the first part shall use the said boat exclusively in freighting coal from Cumberland to Georgetown, Alexandria or Washington City, in regular trips, both day and night, with as much expedition & regularity as can be reasonably done and to receive the loads of the said boat promptly at each trip, with the coal of such Company or person as the said party of the second part shall direct; and to freight the same at the lowest current rates which shall be paid by the Cumberland Coal and Iron Company, the Borden Mining Company, the Consolidation Coal Company and the Hampshire & Baltimore Coal Company; and keep said boat in proper repair; and that the said party of the first part will not during the continuance of this instrument of writing, assign, transfer or set over or otherwise by any act or deed permit the said boat to be assigned, transferred or set over unto any person or persons whomsoever without the consent in writing of the said party of the second part or its authorized agent; all of which said stipulations the said party of the first part covenants and agrees with the said party of the second part and its assigns, to fulfill and perform, provided always that if the said Company, should not furnish loading for said boat within twenty four hours after the boat has been reported by the Captain at the place of loading, ready to receive her load, then the said party of the first part shall have the right of loading wherever he chooses for that trip if such want of readiness to load the boat is caused by any default on the part of the said Company, or its agents; but in case of a glut of boats, or in case such default either in loading or unloading happens from any other cause than a personal default of the said Company, or its agents, then all the boats carrying coal for it must take their turn in loading and unloading, and no claim shall be made for such detention. And whereas the said party of the first part is anxious to secure unto the said party of the second part, and its assigns, the regular, prompt and due performance of the covenants aforesaid, the said party of the first part is willing to execute these presents.

Now this Indenture Witnesseth that the said party of the first part for and in consideration of the premises hath granted, bargained and sold and by these presents doth grant, bargain and sell unto
the said party of the second part and its assigns the Canal Boat called "Joseph F. Hitch" to have and to hold the same unto the said party of the second part and its assigns forever.

Provided nevertheless and it is hereby declared to be the true intent and meaning of these presents that if the said party of the first part shall well and truly pay unto the said party of the second part or its assigns the aforesaid installments of purchase money upon each and every trip as aforesaid until the whole purchase money with the interest as aforesaid, shall be fully paid and if the said party of the first part shall well and truly do and perform all the covenants on his part to be done and performed as set forth in this mortgage, then this instrument of writing and every matter and thing herein contained shall cease and be utterly null and void; otherwise to remain in full force and virtue in law.

And this instrument further Witnesseth that it is mutually agreed between the parties aforesaid that in case of any default upon the part of the said party of the first part to make regular payments on account of said purchase money as herein provided, or in case of a failure to make regular trips as aforesaid with said boat, or in case of a refusal or neglect on the part of the said party of the first part to freight for the Company or person designated by the said party of the second part or its authorized agent, or in case of a failure or neglect to use all diligence, care and skill in making such trips with said boat as before mentioned, or in case said boat is not kept in proper repair, or in case of a failure to perform any of the stipulations or recitals in this mortgage named to be done and performed on the part of the said party of the first part, then and in either event the said party of the second part, or its assigns or any duly authorized agent, is hereby authorized to take immediate possession of said boat and after ten days public notice thereof in a newspaper printed in the City of Cumberland to sell said canal boat at public sale as mortgagee to the highest bidder for cash or on credit, and out of the proceeds of such sale to pay the expenses of such sale and advertisement and then the balance due to said party of the second part or its assigns of said purchase money and interest, and if there be any overplus the said party or its assigns are to pay the same to the said party of the first part. In witness whereof the said Richard Sorrell hath hereunto subscribed his name and affixed his seal on the day and year first above written.

Teste: J. B. Widener

Richard X Sorrell {Seal}

State of Maryland, Allegany County, to wit: I hereby certify that on this twenty ninth day of November 1867 before the subscriber personally appeared Richard Sorrell and acknowledged the aforesaid instrument to be his act and deed. J. B. Widener, J.P.

State of Maryland, Allegany County, to wit: Be it remembered and it is hereby certified that on this twenty ninth day of November 1867 before me the subscriber a Justice of the Peace of the State of Maryland in and for Allegany County personally appeared A. Spier, Agent of the Central Coal Mining & Manufacturing Company, mortgagee in the aforesaid mortgage and made oath on the Holy Evangely of Almighty God that the consideration set forth in the aforesaid mortgage is true and bona fide as herein set forth and that he is the Agent of and authorized by the Central Coal M. & M. Co. to make such affidavit. In witness whereof I hereby subscribe my name on the day and year aforesaid.

J. B. Widener, J.P.
At the request of Frederick Mertens this Mortgage was recorded Nov. 1st 1870.

This Indenture, made this twenty seventh day of October eighteen hundred and seventy, between Richard Sorrell of Allegany County, State of Maryland party of the first part and Frederick Mertens of Allegany County, State of Maryland party of the second part. Whereas the said party of the second part has this day sold to the said party of the first part the Canal Boat called "J. F. Hitch" at and for the sum of six hundred and thirty six dollars, which the said party of the first part is to pay unto the said party of the second part, in installments and in the manner and upon the terms hereinafter mentioned, to wit: thirty dollars for each and every trip said Boat shall make from Cumberland to Georgetown, Washington, Alexandria, or any other point until the entire purchase money, with interest, is fully paid, crediting the respective payments thereon as of the time when such payments shall have been made.

And whereas it was part of said contract of purchase and sale between the said party of the first part and the said party of the second part, that the said party of the first part shall use the said boat exclusively in freighting coal from Cumberland to Georgetown, Alexandria or Washington City, in regular trips, both day and night, with as much expedition & regularity as can be reasonably done, and to receive the loads of the said boat promptly at each trip with the coal of such Company or person as the said party of the second part shall direct; and to freight the same at the lowest current rates which shall be paid by the Cumberland Coal and Iron Company, the Borden Mining Company, the Consolidation Coal Company, and the Hampshire & Baltimore Coal Company, and to keep said boat in proper repair; and that the said party of the first part will not during the continuance of this instrument of writing, assign, transfer or set over, or otherwise by any act or deed permit the said boat to be assigned, transferred or set over unto any person or persons whomsoever, without the consent in writing of the said party of the second part, or his authorized agent, all of which said stipulations the said party of the first part hereby covenants and agrees with the said party of the second part and his assigns, to fulfill and perform. Provided always that if the said Company should not furnish loading for said boat within twenty four hours after the said boat has been reported by the Captain at the place of loading ready to receive her load, then the said party of the first part shall have the right of loading wherever he chooses for that trip - if such want of readiness to load the boat is caused by any default on the part of the said Company or its agents; but in case of a glut of boats, or in case of such default either in loading or unloading happens from any other cause than a personal default of the said Company, or its agent, than all the boats carrying coal for it must take their turn in loading and unloading, and no claim shall be made for such detention. And whereas the said party of the first part is anxious to secure unto the said party of the second part, and his assigns, the regular and due payment of each and every installment of said purchase money, and also to secure to the said party of the second part and his assigns the regular, prompt and due performance of the covenants aforesaid, the said party of the first part is willing to execute these presents.

Now, this IndentureWitnesseth that the said party of the first part for and in consideration of the premises hath granted, bargained and sold and by these presents doth grant, bargain and sell unto the said party of the second part and his assigns, the Canal Boat called "Joseph F. Hitch" to have and to hold the same unto the said party of the second part and his assigns forever.  Provided
Nevertheless and it is hereby declared to be the true intent and meaning of these presents that if the said party of the first part shall well and truly pay unto the said party of the second part or his assigns the aforesaid installments of purchase money, upon each and every trip as aforesaid until the whole purchase money, with the interest aforesaid, shall be fully paid and if the said party of the first part shall well and truly do and perform all the covenants on his part to be done and performed, as set forth in this mortgage, then this instrument of writing and every matter and thing herein contained, shall cease and be utterly null and void; otherwise to remain in full force and virtue in law.

And this instrument further Witnesseth that it is mutually agreed between the parties aforesaid that in case of any default upon the part of the said party of the first part to make regular payments, on account of said purchase money as herein provided, or in case of a failure to make regular trips as aforesaid with said Boat, or in case of a refusal or neglect upon the part of the said party of the first part to freight for the Company or person designated by the said party of the second part or his authorized agent, or in case of a failure or neglect to use all diligence, care and skill in making such trips with said boat, as before mentioned, or in case said boat is not kept in proper repair, or in case of a transfer without permission as aforesaid, or in case of a failure to perform any of the stipulations or recitals in this mortgage named to be done and performed on the part of the said party of the first part, then and in either event the said party of the second part, or his assigns, or any duly authorized agent, is hereby authorized to take immediate possession of said boat and after ten days public notice thereof in a newspaper printed in the City of Cumberland, to sell said canal boat at public sale, as mortgagee, to the highest bidder for cash or on credit, and out of the proceeds of such sale to pay first the expenses of such sale and advertisement and then the balance due to said party of the second part, or his assigns, of said purchase money and interest, and if there be any over plus the said party or his assigns are to pay the same to the said party of the first part. In witness whereof the said Richard Sorrell hath hereunto subscribed his name and affixed his seal on the day and year first above written.

Teste: Andrew Gonder

Richard X Sorrell {Seal}

State of Maryland, Allegany County, to wit: I hereby certify that on this 27th day of October 1870, before the subscriber, personally appeared Richard Sorrell and acknowledged the foregoing instrument to be his act and deed.

Andrew Gonder, J.P.

State of Maryland, Allegany County, to wit: Be it remembered and it is hereby certified that on this 28th day of October 1870 before me the subscriber a Justice of the Peace of the State of Maryland in and for Allegany County, personally appeared Frederick Mertens Mortgagee in the foregoing Mortgage, and made oath on the Holy Evangely of Almighty God that the consideration set forth in the foregoing Mortgage is true and bona fide as herein set forth. In witness whereof I hereunto subscribe my name on the day and year aforesaid.

Andrew Gonder, J.P.
At the request of Frederick Mertens this Mortgage was recorded November 1st 1872.

This Indenture, made this twenty fourth day of October eighteen hundred and seventy-two, between Robert Sorrell of Allegany County, State of Maryland party of the first part and Frederick Mertens of Allegany County, State of Maryland party of the second part. Whereas the said party of the second part has this day sold to the said party of the first part the Canal Boat called "Alexander Adams" at and for the sum of twenty one hundred dollars, which the said party of the first part is to pay unto the said party of the second part, in installments and in the manner and upon the terms hereinafter mentioned, to wit: forty dollars for each and every trip said Boat shall make from Cumberland to Georgetown, Washington, Alexandria, or any other point until the entire purchase money, with the interest, is fully paid, crediting the respective payments thereon as of the time when such payments shall have been made.

And whereas it was part of said contract of purchase and sale between the said party of the first part and the said party of the second part, that the said party of the first part shall use the said boat exclusively in freighting coal from Cumberland to Georgetown, Alexandria or Washington City, in regular trips, both day and night, with as much expedition and regularity as can be reasonably done, and to receive the loads of the said boat promptly at each trip with the coal of such Company or person as the said party of the second part shall direct; and to freight the same at the lowest current rates which shall be paid by the Cumberland Coal and Iron Company, the Borden Mining Company, the Consolidation Coal Company, and the Hampshire & Baltimore Coal Company, and to keep said boat in proper repair; and that the said party of the first part will not during the continuance of this instrument of writing, assign, transfer or set over, or otherwise by any act or deed permit the said boat to be assigned, transferred or set over unto any person or persons whomsoever, without the consent in writing of the said party of the second part, or his authorized agent, all of which said stipulations the said party of the first part hereby covenants and agrees with the said party of the second part and his assigns, to fulfill and perform. Provided always that if the said Company should not furnish loading for said boat within twenty four hours after the boat has been reported by the Captain at the place of loading ready to receive her load, then the said party of the first part shall have the right of loading wherever he chooses for that trip if such want of readiness to load the boat is caused by any default on the part of the said Company or its agents; but in case of a glut of boats, or in case such default either in loading or unloading happens from any other cause than a personal default of the said Company, or its agent, than all the boats carrying coal for it must take their turn in loading and unloading, and no claim shall be made for such detention.

And whereas the said party of the first part is anxious to secure unto the said party of the second part, and his assigns, the regular and due payment of each and every installment of said purchase money, and also to secure to the said party of the second part and his assigns the regular, prompt and due performance of the covenants aforesaid, the said party of the first part is willing to execute these presents.

Now, this Indenture Witnesseth that the said party of the first part for and in consideration of the premises hath granted, bargained and sold and by these presents doth grant, bargain and sell unto
the said party of the second part and his assigns, the Canal Boat called "Alexander Adams" to have and to hold the same unto the said party of the second part and his assigns forever. Provided Nevertheless and it is hereby declared to be the true intent and meaning of these presents that if the said party of the first part shall well and truly pay unto the said party of the second part or his assigns the aforesaid installments of purchase money, upon each and every trip as aforesaid until the whole purchase money, with the interest aforesaid, shall be fully paid and if the said party of the first part shall well and truly do and perform all the covenants on his part to be done and performed, as set forth in this mortgage, then this instrument of writing and every matter and thing herein contained, shall cease and be utterly null and void; otherwise to remain in full force and virtue in law.

And this instrument further Witnesseth that it is mutually agreed between the parties aforesaid that in case of any default upon the part of the said party of the first part to make regular payments, on account of said purchase money as herein provided, or in case of a failure to make regular trips as aforesaid with said Boat, or in case of a refusal or neglect upon the part of the said party of the first part to freight for the Company or person designated by the said party of the second part or his authorized agent, or in case of a failure or neglect to use all diligence, care and skill in making such trips with said boat, as before mentioned, or in case said boat is not kept in proper repair, or in case of a transfer without permission as aforesaid, or in case of a failure to perform any of the stipulations or recitals in this mortgage named to be done and performed on the part of the said party of the first part, then and in either event the said party of the second part, or his assigns, or any duly authorized agent, is hereby authorized to take immediate possession of said boat and after ten days public notice thereof in a newspaper printed in the City of Cumberland, to sell said canal boat at public sale, as mortgagee, to the highest bidder for cash or on credit, and out of the proceeds of such sale to pay first the expenses of such sale and advertisement and then the balance due to said party of the second part, or his assigns, of said purchase money and interest, and if there be any over plus the said party of the second part or his assigns are to pay the same to the said party of the first part. In witness whereof the said Robert Sorrell hath hereunto subscribed his name and affixed his seal on the day and year first above written.

his
Teste: H. J. Flanagan
Robert X Sorrell {Seal}
mark

State of Maryland, Allegany County, to wit: I hereby certify that on this fourth day of October 1872, before the subscriber, personally appeared Robert Sorrell and acknowledged the foregoing instrument to be his act and deed.

H. J. Flanagan, J. P.

State of Maryland, Allegany County, to wit: Be it remembered and it is hereby certified that on this 29th day of October 1872 before me the subscriber a Justice of the Peace of the State of Maryland, in and for Allegany County personally appeared Frederick Mertens, mortgagee in the foregoing mortgage, and made oath on the Holy Evangely of Almighty God that the considerations set forth in the foregoing mortgage is true and bona fide as herein set forth. In witness whereof I hereunto subscribe my name on the day and year aforesaid.

H. J. Flanagan, J. P.
At the request of Frederick Mertens this Mortgage was recorded Nov. 19th 1872.

This Indenture, made this thirtieth day of October eighteen hundred and seventy-two, between Richard Sorrell of Allegany County, State of Maryland party of the first part and Frederick Mertens of Allegany County, State of Maryland party of the second part. Whereas the said party of the second part has this day sold to the said party of the first part the Canal Boat called "Nora & Willie" at and for the sum of twenty one hundred dollars, which the said party of the first part is to pay unto the said party of the second part, in installments and in the manner and upon the terms hereinafter mentioned, to wit: fifty dollars for each and every trip said Boat shall make from Cumberland to Georgetown, Washington, Alexandria, or any other point until the entire purchase money, with the interest, is fully paid, crediting the respective payments thereon as of the time when such payments shall have been made.

And whereas it was part of said contract of purchase and sale between the said party of the first part and the said party of the second part, that the said party of the first part shall use the said boat exclusively in freighting coal from Cumberland to Georgetown, Alexandria or Washington City, in regular trips, both day and night, with as much expedition and regularity as can be reasonably done, and to receive the loads of the said boat promptly at each trip with the coal of such Company or person as the said party of the second part shall direct; and to freight the same at the lowest current rates which shall be paid by the Cumberland Coal and Iron Company, the Borden Mining Company, the Consolidation Coal Company, and the Hampshire & Baltimore Coal Company, and to keep said boat in proper repair; and that the said party of the first part will not during the continuance of this instrument of writing, assign, transfer or set over, or otherwise by any act or deed permit the said boat to be assigned, transferred or set over unto any person or persons whomsoever, without the consent in writing of the said party of the second part, or his authorized agent, all of which said stipulations the said party of the first part hereby covenants and agrees with the said party of the second part and his assigns, to fulfill and perform providing always that if the said Company should not furnish loading for said boat within twenty four hours after the boat has been reported by the Captain at the place of loading ready to receive her load, then the said party of the first part shall have the right of loading wherever he chooses for that trip if such want of readiness to load the boat is caused by any default on the part of the said Company or its agents; but in case of a glut of boats, or in case such default either in loading or unloading happens from any other cause than a personal default of the said Company, or its agent, than all the boats carrying coal for it must take their turn in loading and unloading, and no claim shall be made for such detention.

And whereas the said party of the first part is anxious to secure unto the said party of the second part, and his assigns, the regular and due payment of each and every installment of said purchase money, and also to secure to the said party of the second part and his assigns the regular, prompt and due performance of the covenants aforesaid, the said party of the first part is willing to execute these presents.

Now, this Indenture Witnesseth that the said party of the first part for and in consideration of the premises hath granted, bargained and sold and by these presents doth grant, bargain and sell unto
the said party of the second part and his assigns, the Canal Boat called "Nora & Willie" to have and to hold the same unto the said party of the second part and his assigns forever. Provided Nevertheless and it is hereby declared to be the true intent and meaning of these presents that if the said party of the first part shall well and truly pay unto the said party of the second part or his assigns the aforesaid installments of purchase money, upon each and every trip as aforesaid until the whole purchase money, with the interest aforesaid, shall be fully paid and if the said party of the first part shall well and truly do and perform all the covenants on his part to be done and performed, as set forth in this mortgage, then this instrument of writing and every matter and thing herein contained, shall cease and be utterly null and void; otherwise to remain in full force and virtue in law.

And this instrument further Witnesseth that it is mutually agreed between the parties aforesaid that in case of any default upon the part of the said party of the first part to make regular payments, on account of said purchase money as herein provided, or in case of a failure to make regular trips as aforesaid with said Boat, or in case of a refusal or neglect upon the part of the said party of the first part to freight for the Company or person designated by the said party of the second part or his authorized agent, or in case of a failure or neglect to use all diligence, care and skill in making such trips with said boat, as before mentioned, or in case said boat is not kept in proper repair, or in case of a transfer without permission as aforesaid, or in case of a failure to perform any of the stipulations or recitals in this mortgage named to be done and performed on the part of the said party of the first part, then and in either event the said party of the second part, or his assigns, or any duly authorized agent, is hereby authorized to take immediate possession of said boat and after ten days public notice thereof in a newspaper printed in the City of Cumberland, to sell said canal boat at public sale, as mortgagee, to the highest bidder for cash or on credit, and out of the proceeds of such sale to pay first the expenses of such sale and advertisement and then the balance due to said party of the second part, or his assigns, of said purchase money and interest, and if there be any over plus the said party of the second part or his assigns are to pay the same to the said party of the first part. In witness whereof the said Richard Sorrell hath hereunto subscribed his name and affixed his seal on the day and year first above written.

Teste: H. J. Flanagan

Richard X Sorrell {Seal}

mark

State of Maryland, Allegany County, to wit: I hereby certify that on this thirtieth day of October 1872, before the subscriber, personally appeared Richard Sorrell and acknowledged the foregoing instrument to be his act and deed.

H. J. Flanagan, J. P.

State of Maryland, Allegany County, to wit: Be it remembered and it is hereby certified that on this thirtieth day of October 1872 before me the subscriber a Justice of the Peace of the State of Maryland, in and for Allegany County personally appeared Frederick Mertens, mortgagee in the foregoing mortgage, and made oath on the Holy Evangely of Almighty God that the considerations set forth in the foregoing mortgage is true and bona fide as herein set forth. In witness whereof I hereunto subscribe my name on the day and year aforesaid.

H. J. Flanagan, J. P.
At the request of F. Mertens this Mortgage was recorded Nov. 10th, 1873.

This Mortgage made this eighth day of November in the year eighteen hundred and seventy-three by me, Richard Sorrell of Fairfax County, in the State of Virginia. Witnesseth, that for and in consideration of the sum of twelve hundred & ninety dollars, now due from me, the said Richard Sorrell to F. Mertens of Allegany County and State of Maryland, and in order to secure the payment thereof to the said F. Mertens, I, the said Richard Sorrell do hereby bargain and sell to the said F. Mertens the following property: two bay mare mules, one black mare mule, one light bay horse mule, one light bay mare mule and the harness that are now used with said mules, and also the Boat rig now on the Canal Boat "Nora & Willie" including cooking stove and furniture on said Boat. Provided, that if I, the said Richard Sorrell shall pay to the said F. Mertens or his assigns the said sum of twelve hundred & ninety dollars with the interest thereon from the date hereof in installments of forty dollars for each for all the trips made by said Canal Boat called "Nora & Willie" or any other Canal Boat on which said mules may work in freighting coal on the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal from Cumberland to Georgetown, Alexandria or any other port east of Cumberland, until the entire sum twelve hundred & ninety dollars is paid, with the interest thereon. Provided, said sum and interest be paid on or before the first day of December in the year eighteen hundred and seventy-five. Then, this Mortgage shall be void. And I, the said Richard Sorrell do hereby covenant and agree, that if in default of the payment of any of said hereinbefore mentioned installments, the said F. Mertens or his assigns may, and is hereby authorized to seize said mules, or any of them, and the said harness, boat rig and boat furniture, and sell the same to the highest bidder, for cash, wherever the same may be or seized and taken, after first giving notice by hand bills for at least ten days of such sale, and then pay himself the amount that may be still due to him, and all expenses attending the sale and seizure, and if there then be any over plus, to pay the same to me, the said Richard Sorrell, or my assigns.

In witness whereof I have subscribed my name and affixed my seal.       his
Teste: H. J. Flanagan.       Richard X Sorrell {Seal} mark

State of Maryland, Allegany County, to wit: On this eighth day of November, in the year of our Lord, eighteen hundred and seventy-three, personally appeared before me, the subscriber, a Justice of the Peace of the State of Maryland in and for Allegany County, Richard Sorrell and acknowledged the foregoing Mortgage to be his act. And at the same time also appeared before me F. Mertens and made oath in due form of law that the consideration set forth in said Mortgage is true and bona fide, as herein set forth. In witness whereof I hereunto subscribe my name, on the day and year aforesaid.

H. J. Flanagan, J. P.
At the request of F. Mertens this Mortgage was recorded November 21st 1876, at 2:45 P.M.

This Mortgage made on this eighteenth day of November in the year eighteen hundred and seventy-six by me Robert A. Sorrell of Allegany County in the State of Maryland. Witnesseth, that for and in consideration of the sum of one hundred forty-six and 94/100 dollars, now due from me the said Robert A. Sorrell to Frederick Mertens of Allegany County, and State of Maryland and in order to secure the payment thereof to the said Frederick Mertens, I the said Robert A. Sorrell do hereby bargain and sell to the said Frederick Mertens, the following property: one Canal Boat called "Alexander Adams." Provided that if I the said Robert Sorrell shall pay to the said Frederick Mertens or his assigns the said sum of one hundred forty six and 94/100 dollars, with the interest thereon from the date hereof in installments of fifteen dollars each for all the trips made by said Canal Boat called "Alexander Adams" in freighting coal on the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal from Cumberland to Georgetown, Alexandria or any other port East of Cumberland, until the entire sum of one hundred forty six and 94/100 dollars is paid, with the interest thereon. Provided said whole sum and interest be paid on or before the first day of December in the year eighteen hundred and seventy-seven, then this mortgage shall be void. And I, the said Robert A. Sorrell do hereby covenant and agree, that if, in default of the payment of any of said hereinbefore mentioned installments, the said Frederick Mertens or his assigns may, and is hereby authorized to seize said Boat and sell the same to the highest bidder for cash, whenever the same may be so seized, and taken, after first giving notice by hand bills for at least ten days of such sale, and then pay himself the amount that may be still due to him, and all expenses attending the sale and seizure, and if there be any overplus, to pay the same to me, the said Robert A. Sorrell, or my assigns.

In witness whereof I have subscribed my name and affixed my seal. his
Teste: H. J. Flanagan                 Robert A. X Sorrell {Seal}
mark

State of Maryland, Allegany County, to wit: On this eighteenth day of November in the year of our Lord, eighteen hundred and seventy-six, personally appeared before me, the subscriber, a Justice of the Peace of the State of Maryland in and for Allegany County, Robert A. Sorrell and acknowledged the foregoing Mortgage to be his act. And at the same time also appeared before me Frederick Mertens, and made oath in due form of law that the consideration set forth in said foregoing mortgage is true and bona fide, as herein set forth. In witness whereof I hereunto subscribe my name, on the day and year aforesaid.

H. J. Flanagan, J. P.

Deed of Release recorded in Mortgage Record TL 21, folio 183 &c [dated 11/27/1896 @ 2:30 P.M.].
At the request of F. Mertens this Mortgage was recorded August 28th 1878, 11:35 A.M.

This Mortgage made on this 10th day of August in the year eighteen hundred and seventy-eight by me Robert Sorrels of Alexandria in the State of Va. Witnesseth, that for and in consideration of the sum of three hundred ninety and 16/100 dollars, now due from me the said Robert Sorrels to Frederick Mertens of Allegany County, and State of Maryland and in order to secure the payment thereof to the said Frederick Mertens, I the said Robert Sorrels, do hereby bargain and sell to the said Frederick Mertens, the following property: one Canal Boat called "Alexander Adams" and three mules (one black horse mule, one black mare mule and one sorrel mare mule) and the harness that are now used with said mules, and also the Boat rig now on the Canal Boat "Alexander Adams," including cooking stove and furniture on said Boat.

Provided that if I the said Robert Sorrels shall pay to the said Frederick Mertens or his assigns the said sum of three hundred ninety & 16/100 dollars with the interest thereon from the date hereof in installments of twenty dollars each for all the trips made by said Canal Boat called "Alexander Adams," in freighting coal on the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal from Cumberland to Georgetown, Alexandria or any other port East of Cumberland, until the entire sum of three hundred ninety & 16/100 dollars is paid, with the interest thereon; provided, said whole sum and interest be paid on or before the first day of December in the year eighteen hundred and seventy-nine, then this Mortgage shall be void. And I, the said Robert Sorrels do hereby covenant and agree, that if, in default of the payment of any of said hereinbefore mentioned installments, the said F. Mertens or his assigns may, and is hereby authorized to seize said Boat, Mules, and said harness, boat rig, and boat furniture, and sell the same to the highest bidder for cash, whenever the same may be so seized, and taken, after first giving notice by hand bills for at least ten days of such sale, and then pay himself the amount that may be still due to him, and all expenses attending the sale and seizure, and if there be any overplus, to pay the same to me, the said Robert Sorrels, or my assigns.

In witness whereof I have subscribed my name and affixed my seal.

Teste: J. B. Widener

Robert X Sorrels {Seal}

State of Maryland, Allegany County, to wit: On this 28th day of August in the year of our Lord, eighteen hundred and seventy-eight, personally appeared before me, the subscriber, a Justice of the Peace of the State of Maryland in and for Allegany County, Robert Sorrels and acknowledged the aforesaid Mortgage to be his act. And at the same time also appeared before me Frederick Mertens, and made oath in due form of law that the consideration set forth in said aforesaid mortgage is true and bona fide, as herein set forth. In witness whereof I hereunto subscribe my name, on the day and year aforesaid.

J. B. Widener, J. P.

Deed of Release recorded in Mortgage Record TL 21, folio 183 &c [dated 11/27/1896 @ 2:30 P.M.].
**Certificate of Death**

**Place of Death:**
- County: [Illegible]
- District of: [Illegible]
- Inc. Town of: [Illegible]
- City of: [Illegible]

**Registration District No.:** 2020

**File No.:** 5013

**Name:** [Illegible]

**Sex:** Male

**Date of Birth:** Nov 11, 1839

**Age:** 57 yrs. 4 mos. 14 ds.

**Date of Death:** March 25, 1914

**Place of Death:** [Illegible]

**Cause of Death:** [Illegible]

**Witness:** [Illegible]

**Certificate No.:** 93

**Residence:** In City

**5. Name of Father:** [Illegible]

**6. Name of Mother:** [Illegible]

**7. Birthplace:** [Illegible]

**8. Occupation:** [Illegible]

**9. Contributory:** [Illegible]

**10. Length of residence:** [Illegible]

**11. Place of Burial:** [Illegible]
**Certificate of Death**

**Commonwealth of Virginia**

**Bureau of Vital Statistics**

**State Board of Health**

**File No.** For State Registrar Only

20324

**Registered No.** (For use of Local Registrar)

4.21

**Death Certificate**

**Place of Death**

County of:

City of:

**Name**

Mary E. Sorelle

**Personal and Statistical Particulars**

1. **Sex**
   - Female

2. **Race**
   - White

3. **Date of Birth**
   - 11/8/12

4. **Age**
   - 63 yrs. 1 mos. 23 days

5. **Occupation**
   - [Blank]

6. **Birthplace**
   - [Blank]

7. **Name of Father**
   - [Blank]

8. **Maiden Name of Mother**
   - [Blank]

9. **Parents**
   - [Blank]

10. **Address**
    - [Blank]

11. **Length of Residence**
    - [Blank]

12. **Place of Burial or Removal**
    - [Blank]

**Medical Certificate of Death**

**Date of Death**

Dept 3, 1915

**Cause of Death**

Pneumonia

**Contributory**

[Blank]

**Examining Physician**

[Blank]

**Informant**

Alfred E. Sorelle

**Address**

City

[Blank]