

Ira Grover, Amanda Brown, and Elizabeth Elliston

1815-1854

1812-1845

1828-1897

Ira Grover was born May 24, 1815, in Dryden, Tompkins County N.Y., the son of Peter and Catherine Snyder Grover. His parents were natives of New Jersey, and moved to Tompkins County before their first child was born. He had an older sister, Mary (or Polly), born in 1806, and a younger brother, Lemi, born in 1817.

On January 12, 1837, Ira married Amanda Brown, the daughter of Jacob and Anna Baldwin Brown. They had a son, Simeon, who was born September 14, 1842, but apparently died fairly young and before 1850. Amanda herself died June 13, 1845, and was buried in the Robertson Cemetery in Varna, Tompkins County, N.Y.

On December 28, 1846, Ira married Elizabeth J. Elliston (or Eletson), the daughter of Samuel Eletson and Permelia Buch, originally from Poughkeepsie, Dutchess County, N.Y. Elizabeth was born February 1, 1828. Ira and Elizabeth had four children: Bryon, 1848-1849; (Charles) Pliny, 1849-1914; Mary Catherine, 1851-1869; and Ira Simeon, 1852-1940. Father Ira is recorded in the family Bible as having died "at sea" on April 28, 1854.* (He is listed on a gravestone in the Willow Glen Cemetery in Dryden, but it isn't known if his body was actually buried there.)

In the 1860 census, Elizabeth and her three surviving children are living next to Ira's father Peter, and surrounded by related Snyder families in west Dryden. On August 25, 1868 she married Norman Crittenden, born about 1811, as his second wife. In 1870 they, along with sons Pliny and Ira, (Mary having died in 1869), are living in Dryden next to Ira's brother Lemi. Norman died from consumption on September 1, 1879 in McLean, Tompkins County, N.Y. Elizabeth died November 16, 1897, in Freeville, and is buried in Willow Glen Cemetery in Dryden.

Census

1840: Dryden, Ira with wife (Amanda)

1850: Dryden, Ira, Elizabeth, and Charles P., next to Peter & Catherine Grover

[**1850:** Ithaca, Norman Crittenden with wife Maria Prosser]

1860: Dryden, Elizabeth, Pliny, Mary, and Ira S., next to Peter Grover

1865: NYS Groton, Norman Crittenden a boarder; Dryden, Elizabeth, with children Pliny, Mary, and Ira

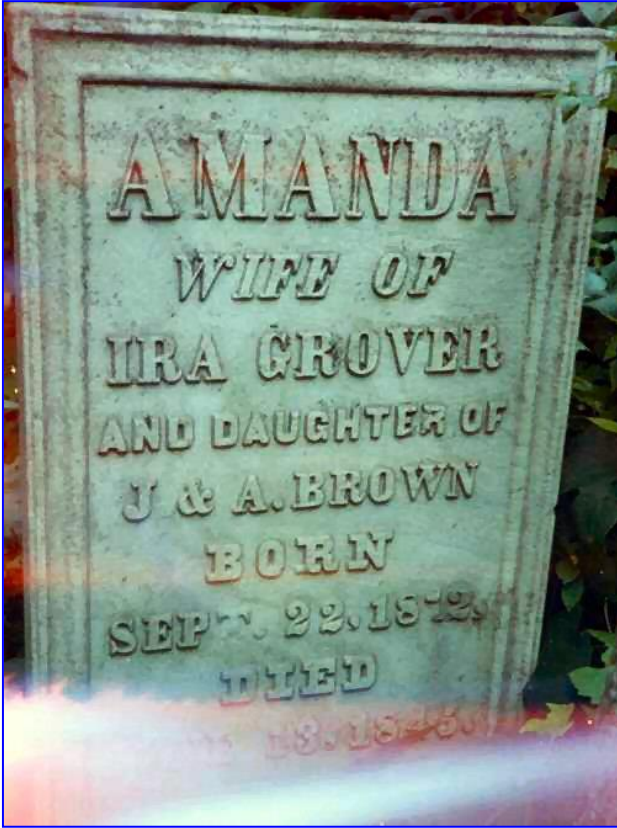
1870: Dryden (Etna), Norman Crittenden, Elizabeth, Pliny, and Ira S., next to Lemi & Sally Grover

1875: NYS Dryden, Elizabeth not found; Norman a boarder in Groton

1880: Groton, mortality schedule: Norman Crittenden, died Sept. 1879

1880: Dryden, Elizabeth

1892: NYS, Elizabeth not found



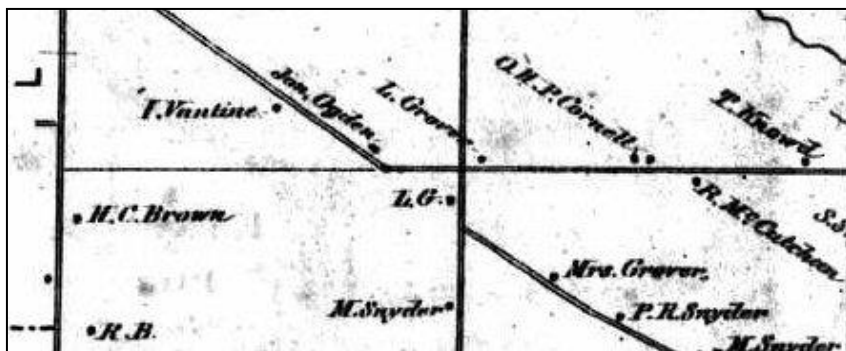
Gravestone of Amanda Brown Grover, destroyed since picture at left taken. Robertson Cemetery, Dryden, N.Y.



Gravestone of Ira, Elizabeth & Mary Grover, Willow Glen Cemetery, Dryden, N.Y.



Portion of Town of Dryden map from 1866 showing homes of Lemi Grover and Mrs. [Elizabeth] Grover (on her father-in-law's land according to a 1853 map). The roads that cross are present day Hanshaw Rd. (north-south), and Etna Rd. (east-west).



Family Group Sheet

Husband: **Ira GROVER**

Born: 24 May 1815 in Dryden, Tompkins Co. NY
 Died: 28 Apr 1854 in at sea
 Buried: in Willow Glen Cem., Dryden, Tompkins Co. NY
 Father: Peter GROVER (1784 - 1863)
 Mother: Catherine SNYDER (1783 - 1860)

Wife: **Amanda BROWN**

Married: 12 Jan 1837 in Tompkins Co. NY

Born: 22 Sep 1812 in NY
 Died: 13 Jun 1845 in Dryden, Tompkins Co. NY
 Buried: in Robertson Cem., Varna, Tompkins Co. NY
 Father: Jacob BROWN (1790 - 1837)
 Mother: Anna BALDWIN (1792 - 1874)

M Child 1: **Simeon GROVER**

Born: 14 Sep 1842 in Tompkins Co. NY
 Died: bef 1850

Wife: **Elizabeth J. ELETSON**

Married: 28 Dec 1846 in NY

Born: 1 Feb 1828 in NY
 Died: 16 Nov 1897 in Freeville, Tompkins Co. NY
 Buried: in Willow Glen Cem., Dryden, Tompkins Co. NY
 Father: Samuel ELETSON
 Mother: Permelia BUCH

M Child 1: **Bryon GROVER**

Born: 7 Feb 1848 in Tompkins Co. NY
 Died: 25 May 1849 in Tompkins Co. NY

M Child 2: **Charles Pliny GROVER**

Born: 11 Jun 1849 in Tompkins Co. NY
 Died: 9 Oct 1914 in Moravia, Cayuga Co. NY
 Buried: 11 Oct 1914 in Willow Glen Cem., Dryden, Tompkins Co. NY
 Wife: Alice M. SMITH b. 1854 d. 12 Nov 1901
 Married: 28 Apr 1875

F Child 3: **Mary Catherine GROVER**

Born: 15 Apr 1851 in Tompkins Co. NY
 Died: 11 Jul 1869 in Tompkins Co. NY
 Buried: in Willow Glen Cem., Dryden, Tompkins Co. NY

M Child 4: **Ira Simeon GROVER**

Born: 14 Sep 1852 in Dryden, Tompkins Co. NY
 Died: 26 Aug 1940 in Ithaca, Tompkins Co. NY
 Buried: 29 Aug 1940 in Willow Glen Cem., Dryden, Tompkins Co. NY
 Wife: Mae E. WEAVER b. 31 Oct 1854 d. 8 Jul 1916
 Married: 20 Mar 1876 in Ithaca, Tompkins Co. NY

Newspaper Clippings

Corning Journal, Corning, N.Y., Sept. 12, 1879

Norman Crittenden, a former citizen of Ithaca, died in McLean Tompkins Co.

Moravia Valley Register, Moravia, N.Y., May 28, 1897

Mrs. Elizabeth Crittenden of Etna, who has been seriously ill, will remove to this village shortly, to reside with her son, Pliny Grover.

Dryden Herald, Dryden, N.Y., Wednesday, November 17, 1897

Mrs. Crittenden continues very low with no prospects of recovery.

Ithaca Daily Journal, Ithaca, N.Y., Wednesday, November 17, 1897

Mrs. E. J. Crittenden, widow of the late Norman Crittenden, died at her home near Etna on Tuesday. The funeral will be held at Etna Church on Thursday. She is survived by two sons, Pliny and Ira Grover.

Ithaca Daily News, November 23, 1897

The funeral of Mrs. Elizabeth Crittenden, mother of Ira Grover of Ithaca and Pliny Grover of Moravia, was held at the Baptist church in Etna last Thursday. Interment at Willow Glen.

Dryden Herald, Dryden, N.Y., Wednesday, November 24, 1897

Mrs. Elizabeth Grover Crittenden, after an illness of several months, died on Tuesday, November 16, at her late residence. The funeral services were held at the M.E. church and the interment was at Willow Glen. Mrs. Crittenden was the daughter of Samuel and Permelia Eletson, of Poughkeepsie, and is survived by two brothers, Charles, of Chicago, and Samuel, of Rochester, and one sister, Mrs. Winchester Snyder, of Waring, Pa. In early life she married Ira Grover, who died in 1854, leaving her with two sons, Pliny and Ira, who survive her, and a daughter, whose death occurred several years ago.

The Will of Elizabeth Crittenden [Excerpts]

Surrogate Court proceeding 11 December 1897

Elizabeth J. **Crittenden**, deceased, 16 November 1897

Last Will and Testament

I, Elizabeth J. **Crittenden** of the Town of Dryden, County of Tompkins and State of New York being of sound mind and memory, do make, ordain, publish and declare this to be my last Will and Testament, that is to say:

First. After all my lawful debts are paid and discharged, I give, devise and bequeath the use of one equal half of all the property real and personal of which I die seized (except a china set of dishes) to my son Ira S. **Grover**, the same to be used and enjoyed by him for

and during the term of his natural life, and after his death the said one half of all my real and personal property is hereby willed, devised and bequeathed to all the living heirs of my said son Ira S. **Grover** equally, the same however is subject to the use for life of my said son Ira S. **Grover**.

It is my further will that in case said Ira S. **Grover** dies without heirs, that in that event the property willed to said Ira's heirs shall go to and the same is, in the event aforesaid, willed, devised and bequeathed to the heirs of Pliny **Grover**.

Second. I give, devise and bequeath to my daughter-in-law Alice M. **Grover** (who was formerly Alice M. **Smith**) the use of one half of all that real and personal property of which I die seized, (except said set of china dishes) for the life time of my son Pliny **Grover**, the same to be used and enjoyed by said Alice M. **Grover** for and during the term of the natural life of said Pliny **Grover**, and at the death of said Pliny the said one half of all my real and personal property is hereby given, devised, and bequeathed to all the living heirs of said Pliny **Grover**, equally, subject however to the use of said Alice M. **Grover** for the life of Pliny **Grover** as aforesaid. And it is my further will that if said Pliny **Grover** dies without heirs, that in that event the said one half of the property, real and personal, willed to said heirs of said Pliny **Grover** shall go to, and in the event aforesaid, the same is hereby devised and bequeathed to the heirs of said Ira S. **Grover**.

Third. I do give and bequeath to my granddaughter, the oldest of said Ira S. **Grover**, (Who is not yet named) [Pearl E.] all my one set of china dishes or china tea set.

Fourth. It is my further will, that in case my said sons Ira & Pliny die without heirs that in that event the property, real, and personal herein before mentioned as willed to their heirs shall go to, and the same is, in the event aforesaid, hereby willed, devised and bequeathed to my brothers and sisters equally. This last clause of this will is only to take effect in case said Ira **Grover** & Pliny **Grover** die without heirs.

Likewise, I make, constitute and appoint my son Ira S. **Grover** to be executor of this my last Will and Testament, hereby revoking all former Wills by me made.

In witness Whereof I have hereunto subscribed my name and affixed my seal, the nineteenth (19) day of December in the year of our Lord nine thousand eight hundred and seventy seven.

[signed] Elizabeth J. **Crittenden**

*See "Ira Grover Family Bible" at
http://freepages.rootsweb.com/~taughannock/genealogy/grover/Ira_Grover_Family_Bible.pdf

Last revised February 5, 2021
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