

# Edward and Elizabeth (Sherman) Hayes

## Parents of Susanne Bowman (Hayes) Weeden

### Chapter 4 of Weeden Families

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#### Introduction

**Edward Hayes** was a prosperous executive of the Bank of Commerce in Buffalo, NY. He married **Elizabeth Sherman**. They had four children:

1. Son **William** was an Episcopal Minister who had a long career as a Canon of Grace Cathedral in San Francisco.
2. Daughter **Helen** married Water Sawyer, who became a prominent developer of hydroelectric power projects.
3. Daughter **Susanne** married the noted Episcopal Minister Burr Miller Weeden of St. Luke's in San Francisco. The story of their life is told Chapter 2, Burr and Susanne (Hayes) Weeden.
4. Son **Robert** died at age 20, while a sophomore at Hobart College.

#### Edward and Elizabeth (Sherman) Hayes



**Elizabeth Anna (Sherman) Hayes**



**Edward Warbasse Hayes**

—Collection of Nancy Kenyon, from the estate of Edward Hayes

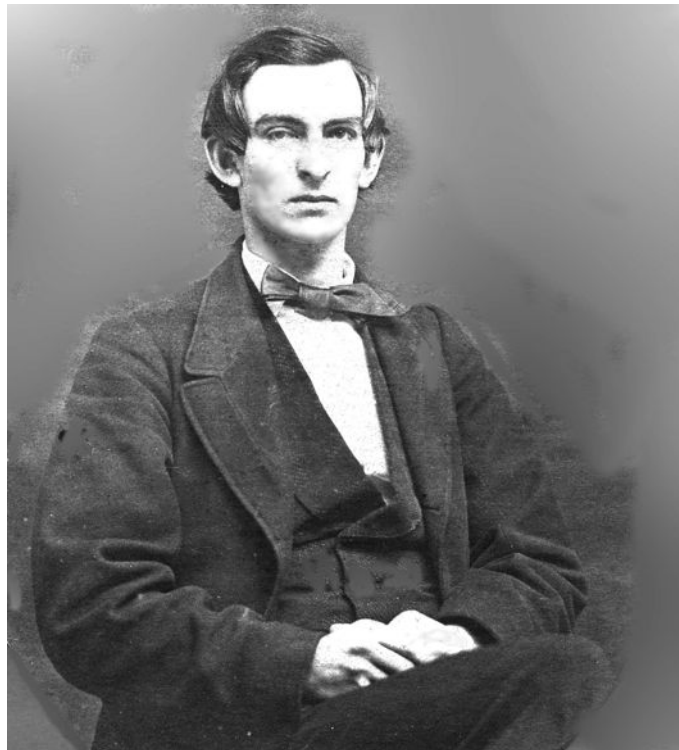
**Edward Warbasse Hayes** was born at 5:30 a.m. on Mar 31, 1839, in New York City, on 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave. near 14<sup>th</sup> St. He was the second son of William Otis and Martha Maria (Wood) Hayes. Edward died at age 50, at 4 p.m. on Jul 31, 1889, at his home at 736 Niagara St. in Buffalo.

On Aug 14, 1861, at Newark, Wayne Co NY, Edward married **Elizabeth Anna Sherman** of Newark, NY, by the Rev. J. N. Rawling. The couple moved to Buffalo, NY, the following year. Elizabeth was born Oct 7, 1843 in East Palmyra, Wayne Co, NY. She was the oldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Durfee A. Sherman. She died at age 41, at 1 pm on Jun 11, 1884, at her home at 736 Niagara St. in Buffalo.

### **Edward's Hayes' ancestors.**

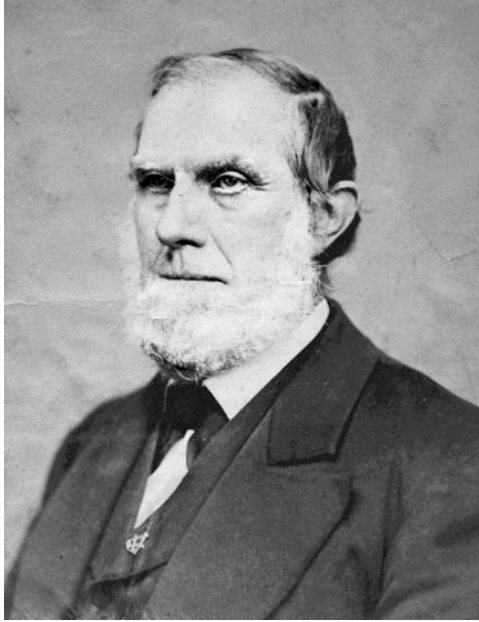
The father of Edward Warbasse Hayes is **William Otis Hayes**. He was born Nov 8, 1809 in Orange Co, NY, and died at an unknown date. He married **Martha Maria Wood** Nov 29, 1832 in Port Jervis NY. She was born Nov 10, 1811 in Sussex Co, NY, and died at an unknown date.

No information was found on the Hayes or Wood ancestors of William and Martha.



**William Otis Hayes**, father of Edward Warbasse Hayes  
B Nov 8, 1809 in Orange Co NY, d at an unknown date  
No photo was found of wife Martha Wood  
—Collection of Nancy Kenyon, from the estate of Edward Hayes

## Parents of Elizabeth (Sherman) Hayes



**Durfee Alexander Sherman**  
b Jun 24, 1815 in East Palmyra, NY.  
d Nov 22, 1898, in Pultneyville, NY.



**Susan Hinds (Fish) Sherman**  
b Aug 22, 1821 in Pultneyville, NY  
d May 3, 1896 in Newark, NY

### Elizabeth's Sherman's ancestors

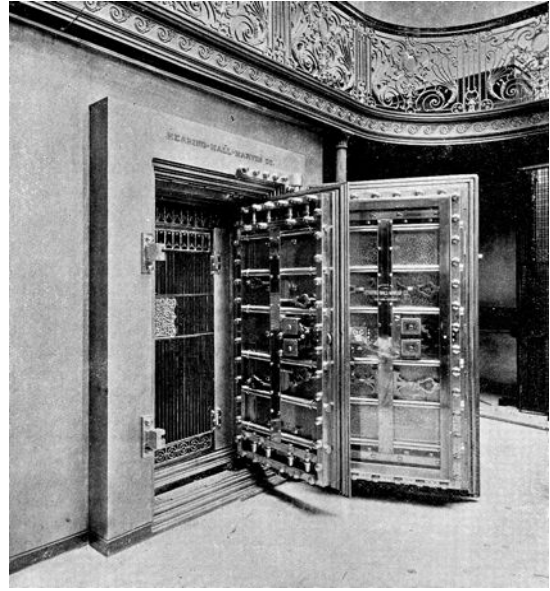
The Sherman ancestors have been the subject of definitive genealogical studies, motivated by the fact that the first Sherman in America was Phillip Sherman, famed as the first Secretary of the colony that became the State of Rhode Island. It was the first governmental body to establish the principle of separation of church and state.

Phillip Sherman had arrived in the Plymouth Colony in America from England in 1633. He was one of a group that left the colony seeking religious freedom. But that is another story.

### Edward Hayes' banking career

Edward Hayes had a very successful career as a bank officer. His first job was working for a John D. Vought in the Board of Trade. In 1873, he joined the newly organized Bank of Commerce in Buffalo, which became a prominent financial institution in the city. When the bank started, Edward Hayes acted as bookkeeper, but he rose rapidly to Assistant Cashier, and then to Cashier. The title Cashier referred to the officer of the bank who supervises the receipt and disbursement of money, and supervises the tellers.

The Bank of Commerce grew rapidly, and in 1895 opened a palatial new bank building in Buffalo, NY at 215-217 Main St. The bank issued a booklet to commemorate the occasion and the history of the bank. Edward Hayes was mentioned a number of times as having been a key executive.



In 1895 the Bank of Commerce published a souvenir booklet to commemorate the opening of their new bank building in Buffalo. At left, above, is the main room. At right is the vault. The vault and the bank record room were heavily fortified against theft and natural disasters.

The bank boasted that: “Holders of the original stock have received more than double the amount of their investment”.

### **The children become orphans**

On Jun 11, 1884, Edward Hayes’ wife Elizabeth died at age 40, after a very brief illness. She left four children, the youngest only 5 years old. Elizabeth was buried in her parents’ hometown of Newark, NY.

About 1887, Edward’s health began to decline. In 1887, he went abroad for his health, but his health did not improve. In January 1889, he suffered a bad attack of pneumonia and pleurisy, which left his lungs in such a weakened state that he never fully recovered. He died in Jul 31, 1889 at his **home in Buffalo**.

The children of Edward and Elizabeth Hayes became orphans on Jul 31, 1889 when Edward Hayes died. Edward left behind a family consisting of William Edward “Billy” Hayes, 26; Helen Frances Hayes, 19; Susanne Hayes, 18; and Robert Hayes, 10. The oldest son, William, became the head of the family. The family escaped poverty due to their father's estate, which supported them until they all left home.

### **Children of Edward and Elizabeth Hayes**

**1. William Edward “Billy” Hayes** was born Dec 5, 1862 at his parents home in Buffalo and died at age 75 on Aug 11, 1938. He was ordained as an Episcopal minister in 1892. He had a lengthy career as a Canon of Grace



Cathedral in San Francisco. He did not marry. His life is entwined with that of his sister Susanne, with whom he lived at various times. Their story is told in Chapter 2, Burr and Susanne (Hayes) Weeden.

**2. Helen Frances Hayes** was born in Buffalo, NY on Nov 15, 1867, at 214 Swan St. She died Oct 29, 1942 in Wellesley MA. On Apr 23, 1900, she was married by her brother, the Rev. William E. Hayes, to **Walter Howard Sawyer** of Boston, MA. The wedding took place at "The Rectory", Wellesley, MA.

Walter Sawyer was born in Middletown CT on May 21, 1867 and died in 1928 in MA. He was the son of John Marshall and Mary James Sawyer. He had an uncle in Boston who was a civil engineer. This probably inspired Walter H. Sawyer to also become a civil engineer. At the age of 18 he entered a civil engineer's office in Boston where he served his apprenticeship. He had no college education—college degrees in civil engineering had not yet attained the importance that they have today. However, in 1920 the University of Maine conferred on him the honorary degree of Civil Engineer. He became a recognized authority on systems for water supply, sewage and hydroelectric power generation. He was called into consultation all over New England, and supervised a number of major projects. Walter was a member of the firm of Sawyer and Moulton, which he founded, and which later was changed to Sawyer & Bean.

Walter died in **1923** at age 56, at his home in Auburn, MA. Helen died in Baltimore Maryland in 1942 at about age 70. They are buried in Mount Auburn Cemetery, Auburn, Androscoggin Co, ME.

Helen and Walter had 2 children:

**a. John Edward Sawyer:** Born Jan 31, 1901. Died at Wellesley MA Feb 2, 1901, at age 2 days.

**b. Elizabeth Sawyer:** Born Apr 21, 1904. Married to **Stephen Palmer Jr.** in 1930. She died in 1966 in Scottsdale, AZ. She did not have any children.

**3. Susanne Bowman Hayes** was born in Buffalo, New York, Jul 3, 1871, at the home of her parents, 183 Clinton St. in Buffalo. She died at age 64 January 26, 1936 in Palo Alto, CA. She was buried in Alta Mesa Memorial Park in Palo Alto, CA. On February 3, 1903 she married the **Rev. Burr Miller Weeden**, an Episcopal Minister, at St. Luke's Church in San Francisco. The full story of Susanne's life is told in Chapter 2, "Burr Miller and Susanne (Hayes) Weeden".

**4. Robert Stewart Hayes:** Robert was born May 9, 1879 at 4 p.m. at his parents home at 736 Niagara St. in Buffalo. He died of meningitis at age 20, on Jan 16, 1900, while a sophomore at Hobart College.

## Sources for the Sherman ancestors

There was a family story about being descended from Phillip Sherman, and I wanted to verify that it was true. I am very grateful to Art Cohan, who came to my assistance. I learned that the subject had been very thoroughly researched. The original research on the Shermans was done by Frank Dempster Sherman, who recorded his findings on about 5,000 beautifully hand printed cards. On his death in 1916, these were deposited in the New York Public Library. The collection was filmed in 1967 by the LDS Family History Library (FHL 1405270 and 1).

Art sent me copies of the relevant pages of Dempster's work. He also told me that the Dempster material was organized and published in 1968 by Professor Roy V. Sherman of the University of Akron, Akron, OH, under the title *Some of the Descendants of Phillip Sherman, The First Secretary of Rhode Island*. I consulted this book at the Huntington Beach, CA, Public Library. I also consulted *Going to Palmyra; Sherman Deeds, 1997*, by Margaret Sherman Lutzvick, 1997, which includes additional research on my subjects.

### **Sources for the family of Durfee and Elizabeth (Sherman) Hayes**

The remainder of the information, and all the photos, comes from the estate of Durphee Hayes. This includes birth and death dates from his Family Bible dated 1864. The material was inherited by his daughter Helen (Hayes) Sawyer, and then by her daughter Elizabeth (Sawyer) Palmer. On her death, it was inherited by Lydia (Weeden) Scheu, and is now in the collection of her daughter Nancy (Scheu) Kenyon of Irvine, CA.

It is indeed fortunate that the descendants of Edward and Helen Hayes kept unusually good records of the family history. They supplied most all of the data in this chapter. The sources ended up in the collection of the late Lydia Scheu. They included sources from the estates of Edward Hayes, Betty Sawyer and Susanne Weeden. Included were the family Bible records of Edward and Elizabeth Hayes (Bible printed 1864), other family genealogical record sheets, and many undated newspaper obituaries from which most of the biographical detail was obtained. The portraits of Edward and Helen Hayes and the booklet on the Bank of Commerce were also from this collection. The collection is now in the possession of Nancy Kenyon.

Without the documents from the Scheu estate, it would have been very difficult, and perhaps impossible, to prepare this chapter.

The information on Walter Sawyer's dates in the Hayes Collection was incomplete. His birth date and place is from his biography in "Who's Who in Engineering", 1933. His marriage record is online at ancestry.com: Maine marriage records 1840-1911. His parents' names are given in the marriage

record, but we were unable to find him in the census with his parents. Walter and Helen's burial is from findagrave.com. Walter's obituary clippings in the Hayes collection are undated and do not give the death date explicitly. Helen and Walter's place of burial is from Findagrave.com, which is also our source source for the death years. Helen's obituary from the *Lewiston Daily News*, Androscoggin County, Maine, Nov 2, 1942, is copied on Findagrave. It provides assurance that Findagrave has identified the right people.