

Oliver Benton **Evans** and Jane M. **Evans**  
By Douglas H. Shepard, 2012

The 1860 Census for Buffalo records an Oliver B. **Evans**, 44, Photographer; Jane M., 31; and Grace, 6. There is a genealogy-books.net item that was for sale, **Evans'** Domestic Tanning Process. . . . (Patented May 9, 1867 by O. B. **Evans** of Buffalo.) The work was printed in Chillicothe OH. The Mormon Family Search site records an Oliver Benton **Evans** being Christened at St. Paul's Evangelical Church in Buffalo on 5 September 1869. No age given. The 1870 Census for Buffalo has only Oliver B. **Evans**, 54; and Grace S., 17.

I can find no record of Jane M. **Evans** until 1873. The *Fredonia Censor* of 13 August 1873 carries a long ad for "Photographs! Mrs. O. B. **Evans**." (The ad ran through 11 February 1874.) She has taken the rooms formerly occupied by George R. **Martin** "over **Miner's** Bank" (ca. 30 West Main Street in Fredonia). She states that she has produced Ivorytypes "18 years ago" which can be seen to prove their durability. Make an appointment "as Mrs. E's time for the next month will be divided between Westfield and Fredonia."

Three testimonials follow, from H. H. **Gifford** of Jamestown dated 24 February 1872; from C. F. S. **Thomas** of the *Commercial Advertiser*, Buffalo, 19 February 1869; and from Dr. T. F. **Hunt**, Associate Editor, *Commercial Advertiser*, Buffalo, 10 March 1868. **Gifford** has "Ivory pictures" of himself and of Mrs. **Gifford** taken by Mrs. **Evans** at Buffalo "some sixteen years ago" (i.e. 1856). **Thomas** has one made in 1856, and **Hunt** one done in 1867.

The 1875 Census for Fredonia has Jane M. **Evans**, 39, Photographer, born in Herkimer NY; and Grace E. **Evans**, 20, daughter, born in Erie, living with her in a brick home near 1 Park Place in Fredonia. A website called, "The Stories of Some Buffalo Photographers," says that O. B. **Evans** was buried in Forest Lawn Cemetery in Buffalo. J. H. **Lants** & Son's 1879 Jamestown Directory includes in its listing for Fredonia, Mrs. O. B. **Evans**, Photographer.

The *Fredonia Censor* of 17 September 1879 noted the marriage of Grace **Evans** to Percy M. **Ising** (**Eising**?) at the Church of the Transfiguration ("The Little Church Around the Corner") in Manhattan. The marriage was performed by the Rev. Dr. **Houghton** on 6 September 1879. The 1880 Census for Buffalo includes Grace **Eising**, 26, and Grace **Eising**, 2 months, living with Otis **Seymone** and his family. There is no mention of Percy or of Mrs. **Evans**.