Jules Levy

London

- 1838 Jules Levy is born in London on April 24.
- 1855 After years of saving, he is finally able to obtain a used cornet from a pawnbroker.
- 1856 Levy is hired to play in the Grenadier Guards Band.
- 1860 Levy is hired to play at the Princess Theatre.
- 1861 Levy is hired for the Royal Opera House Orchestra and the Crystal Palace.
- 1864 Levy visits Paris and receives awards as a cornet virtuoso.
- 1865 Levy is hired by Papa Bateman to join his group on their American tour.
- 1866 Levy returns to England and tours with Alfred Mellon.
- 1868 Levy joins the Parepa Concert Company and returns to America. The company dissolves and Levy joins Theodore Thomas, playing in Central Park.
- 1871 Levy is offered \$10,000 per year to play with Colonel Fisk's band.
- 1875 Levy joins the Gilmore band in New York & marries actress Mary "Minnie" Conway (1852-1896).
- 1876 Levy plays daily at the Philadelphia Centennial.
- 1878 Son Frederick Conway Levy in born in NY (later becomes actor Conway Tearle).
- 1883 Levy's marriage to Minnie was annulled on the grounds that Levy was already married at the time of their union (*Saratogian*, 7-26).
- 1883 Levy brings a lawsuit against Pepper & Distin to stop them from using his previous letters to them praising their cornets, since he was now working for Conn (*Memphis Daily Appeal*, Dec).
- 1884 Levy marries Stella Corbett (1863-?) in December. She was a music teacher from Belgium.
- 1885 Daughter Louise is born in NY.
- 1889 Son Jules Adolph Gabriel Levy is born in NY.
- 1890s Levy is working as a tester for Conn.
- 1891 Levy is playing with the El Dorado Band in NY.









- Levy's Great American Band is formed in February in NY. 1891 They wore black pants with gold stripes and scarlet frock coats with gold filigree; comprised of 40 players and Stella Costa, soprano (Herald, Reading, PA, April).
- 1892 The Levy Great American Band has forty members (Brooklyn Daily Standard). Levy becomes a US citizen and plans to head the 22nd Regiment Band (MTR, Dec).
- Levy claims he used a mouthpiece alone for five years (1850-1855) before getting a cornet then practiced 10-12 hours per day. Daughter Juliette Rose Marie Levy is born.
- Levy starts teaching at the Conn Conservatory in September and continues to test new cornets. He is also playing the new Conn Wonder cornet (MTR).
- 1897 The Conn program costs \$60 for three months study under Levy (MTR).
- Conn teachers include Levy, Chambers, & Liberati (MTR).
- 1900 Levy files for bankruptcy in Elkhart in December (MTR).
- Courtois is making the Levy's model cornet (photos 3 & 4 page 1, author's collection, #89; #20000 photo 4 from auction sale).
- 1901 Levy joins Lyon & Healy in Chicago to test and tour with their new Own Make cornets. Levy claims in a letter to them that they are the best he has ever played (MTR) [who wouldn't if they needed a job]. They also make the Levy model cornet (photo 2) & mouthpiece (photo 3).



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SEE ILLUSTRATIONS SHOWING PROCESS OF MANUFACTURE, Pages 8b and 8c.









- 1903 Levy dies in Chicago on November 28. He was then working for Lyon & Healy with their new Own Make model cornets.
- 1904 Jules Jr makes his public debut as a cornet soloist (*NY Clipper*).
- 1910 The Levy family is living at #47149 West 129th St in NY. Stella, Jules and Louise are all working as stage musicians (census).
- 1911 The Levy family is performing together on tour with Stella at piano & singing, Louise at violin, and Jules at cornet (Jamestown *Evening Journal*).
- 1917 Jules Levy, #31 West 129th St, NY, vaudeville musician (draft).
- Levy family still in NY, Stella & Jules, musicians and Louise is an actress (census). Jules is doing recordings with Joseph Samuels (photo 1).
- 1921 Jules Jr marries Mary Durnin in Feb. (NY Clipper).
- 1922 Jules Jr is a trumpeter for Buescher in the Selvins Orchestra.
- 1924 Jules Jr dies June 18th in NY (NYC death record).
- 1930 Stella is living with daughter Juliet in NY (census).









