

# William Paris Chambers

Newport, PA

- 1854 William Paris Chambers is born on November 1<sup>st</sup> in Newport, PA
- 1867 starts playing the cornet (*Music Trade Review*, 1898)
- 1872 appointed leader of the local Keystone Cornet Band (Trescott)
- 1876 Chambers marries Anna E. Drawbaugh (1853-1938)
- 1879 appointed director of the Capitol City Band of Harrisburg and taught many students (Trescott); son William Smith Chambers is born (census)
- 1880 Chambers family in Harrisburg, #1009 2-1/2 Street, music teacher (census)
- 1881 played in serenade to General Grant (*MTR*, 1898)
- 1887 appointed director of the Great Southern Band in Baltimore, MD (Trescott)
- 1892 the Great Southern Band tours the west and Chambers plays at the top of Pike's Peak (Trescott)
- 1896 Chambers moves to New York and plays for Fanciulli's (photo 2) 71<sup>st</sup> Regiment Band (*MTR*, 1898)
- 1897 the Conn office and warerooms at #23 East 14<sup>th</sup> St are now approaching completion (*MTR*)
- 1898 Chambers is working with the Conn store at #23 East 14<sup>th</sup> Street and has played the Wonder cornet for the past twenty years (*MTR*)
- 1900 Chambers has leased #34 East 14<sup>th</sup> Street to sell Conn Wonder instruments and music (Dec. *MTR*); ad below from 1901; 1903 at right; the census has him at #533 Carrollton Ave in Baltimore, MD



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<p><b>President McKinley's</b>                  Favorite Hymns  <b>Lead Kindly Light and</b>  <b>Hearer, My God to Thee</b>                  Specially arranged by                  W. Paris Chambers.                  With the Last Call, "TAPS" in Un-                  son for all Cornets.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>W. PARIS CHAMBERS</b></p> <p>Music Distributor for Bands and Orchestras. Special Yearly Contracts.                  New Successes Just Out. For Band and Orchestra                  ATICIZIA MARCH, King of Marches. "ENITA" - ER. CUBANA, a great                  Favorite. REVELATION MARCH (with Organ Point)                  GERALDI MARCH (will surely please you.)                  Our New Song, "I DO" (Caprice Ballad) See it for Prof. Copy.                  New York Agents for the New "Copen Pianos."  <b>CONN WONDER INSTRUMENTS and everything in Music.</b>                  No. 34 E. 14th Street, opp. Union Square, N. Y.</p>
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- 1901 Chambers is selling the new Conn Conn-queror cornet and is to spend a month touring including playing with the 71<sup>st</sup> Regiment Band in Buffalo at the Pan-American Exposition (*MTR*); he used tricks of playing with the cornet upside down and with the bell near his ear

- 1903 Chambers home at #34 E. 14<sup>th</sup> St, NY, merchant & musician, 5'-5" tall with blue eyes & brown hair (passport)
- 1905 Chambers tours Europe & Africa (Trescott)
- 1907 Chambers, of #35 East 27<sup>th</sup> Street, has filed for bankruptcy; he owes \$3,816 to Conn besides other debts (Nov. *MTR*)
- 1908 Chambers advertises in the NY *Daily Tribune* selling his own line of cornet mouthpieces called the Falcon model



- 1910 Chambers family at #3122 West North Ave, Baltimore; son Smith is working as a book keeper and two daughters are school teachers
- 1912 Chambers forms the municipal band in Atlantic City
- 1913 Chambers returns to Newville, PA for health reasons and tries to rebuild a band there
- 1913 Chambers dies at home on November 1<sup>st</sup> in Newville, PA from acute uraemia, a high level of urea in the blood which is normally removed by the kidneys (death cert.)

