

# William Paris Chambers

Newport, PA

- 1854 William Paris Chambers was born on November 1<sup>st</sup> in Newport, PA.
- 1867 Started playing the cornet (*Music Trade Review*, 1898).
- 1872 Appointed leader of the local Keystone Cornet Band (Trescott).
- 1876 Chambers married Anna E. Drawbaugh (1853-1938).
- 1879 Appointed director of the Capitol City Band of Harrisburg and taught many students (Trescott). Son William Smith Chambers was 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 toured the west and Chambers played at the top of Pike's Peak (Trescott).
- 1896 Chambers moved to New York and played 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 were now approaching completion (*MTR*).
- 1898 Chambers was working with the Conn store at #23 East 14<sup>th</sup> Street and played the Wonder cornet for the past twenty years (*MTR*).
- 1900 Chambers 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 had him at #533 Carrollton Ave in Baltimore, MD.



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- 1901 Chambers was selling the new Conn Conn-queror cornet and was 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 toured Europe & Africa (Trescott).
- 1907 Chambers, of 35 East 27<sup>th</sup> Street, had filed for bankruptcy. He owed \$3,816 to Conn besides other debts (Nov. *MTR*).
- 1908 Chambers advertised 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 was working as a book keeper and two daughters were school teachers (census).
- 1912 Chambers formed the municipal band in Atlantic City.
- 1913 Chambers returned to Newville, PA for health reasons and tried to rebuild a band there.
- 1913 Chambers died 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.).

