

Charles H. Parsons & Co.

New York City

1843 Charles Henry Parsons is born in Hartford, CT on April 17.

c1867 Parsons, importer, #141 Maiden Lane, home #2 Harrison. He may have shared space with Milo Parsons who sold oil at the same address (directory).

1869 Parsons starts working as an agent for Stratton & Co., #55 Maiden Lane in Manhattan. Home on E. Warren St. in Brooklyn. Agent for Stratton until 1883 (dir).

1874 Parsons moves to #303 Clinton St. in Brooklyn (dir).

1875 Back at Harrison St, musical instrument maker (census).

1880 #308 Clinton St., musical instruments (census).

1883 Forms Charles H. Parsons & Co, #292 Broadway, NYC. His home is now at #308 Clinton St (dir).

1883-1890 Musical instruments, #292 Broadway (dir).

1890 Store still at #292 Broadway (dir).

1892 Listed as a "Commercial Traveler" (NYS census).

1932 Parsons dies in Brooklyn on December 9th, age 89.

Brass instruments found have a shield logo and their style matches the 1880s date range. The Eb cornet in the top photo is a match to one in the Stratton catalog of c1894 so he was probably using the same European maker listed as "M. Goulet / Paris". Parsons was likely only an importer.

I found a reference to a Charles H. Parsons being the president of the Hutchins Manufacturing Co. of Springfield, MA in 1896. It is possible that he moved there to help with that musical instrument business but there is also a real estate developer and prominent native citizen of that city of the same name who is more likely the match.

Instrument photos are from Horn-u-copia.net.



CHAS. H. PARSONS & CO.,
NO. 292 BROADWAY,
NEW YORK.