

Individual Narrative of Benjamin⁷ Chase Leveridge [206] Son of John⁶ Leveridge [99] and Ann Chase Husband of Mary Ann Van Pelt

Benjamin Chase Leveridge was born on 11 January 1800 at Manhattan, New York County, New York, the son of John Leveridge and Ann Chase. The birth date is engraved upon Benjamin's gravestone at Green-Wood Cemetery in Brooklyn, Kings County, New York. John Leveridge adopted the "idge" spelling, instead of the "ich" spelling, and the practice was carried on by his children and their descendants.^{1,2,3}

Benjamin C. Leveridge studied medicine at the College of Physicians and Surgeons at what was then Columbia College, now Columbia University, in Manhattan, New York County, New York. Benjamin graduated in 1826.⁴

Benjamin C. Leveridge married Mary Ann Van Pelt on 29 March 1826 at Manhattan, New York County at the Reformed Dutch Church of New York.⁵

Mary Ann Van Pelt was born in New York State 8 September 1802. The birth date is engraved upon Mary Ann's gravestone at Green-Wood Cemetery in Brooklyn, Kings County, New York. Mary Ann's parents have not been identified. Mary Ann was about age 18 at the time of the 1820 U.S. Census. That census recorded 1 household in Manhattan, New York Co, New York (Henry Van Pelt), and six households in Staten Island, Richmond Co, New York (John, Jacob <2>, David, Peter, and George), all with at least one tally in the category free white females age 16 to 25.^{6,7,8,9}

The 1830 U.S. Census records Benjamin C. Leveridge living in Manhattan, Ward 4, New York County, New York. The census tallies include 2 free white males under age 5 (sons John H. and Benjamin C); 1 free white male age 15 to 19 (unidentified); 1 free white male age 20 to 29 (Benjamin Sr); 1 free white male age 70 to 79 (unidentified, perhaps father of wife Mary Ann); 1 free white female under age 5 (possibly daughter Mary Ann who died as a child); 2 free white females age 20 to 29 (wife Mary Ann and unidentified).¹⁰ Benjamin C. Leveridge is listed in the 1830 New York City Directory identified as a physician at 71 James Street, residing at 27 Oak Street.¹¹

The 1840 U.S. Census records Benjamin C. Leveridge living in Manhattan, Ward 4, New York County, New York. The census tallies include 2 free white males under age 5 (son William number two, and unidentified); 2 free white males age 10 to 14 (sons John H. and Benjamin C); 1 free white male age 40 to 49 (Benjamin Sr.); 3 free white females under age 5 (daughter Mary Ann and 2 unidentified); 1 free white female age 5 to 9 (unidentified); 1 free white female age 20 to 14 (unidentified); 1 free white female age 30 to 39 (wife Mary Ann).¹² Benjamin C. Leveridge is listed in the 1840 and 1841 New York City Directories identified as a physician at James Street corner of Oak Street.^{13,14}

Benjamin C. Leveridge is not found listed in the New York City Directories from 1842 to 1848. He may have been living in New Jersey, probably Westfield, Union County, for at least part of this time. Benjamin Leveridge reappears in the New York City Directory in 1849, a physician at 103 East Broadway.^{15,16,17,18,19,20,21,22}

The death certificate for Benjamin's youngest child, Charles William Leveridge, indicates that he was born in 1848 in Westfield (Union Co), New Jersey. *The History of Town of Westfield* states that: "the first step toward supervision of schools was taken prior to 1850, when township superintendents were elected by boards of education ... the first record of such a superintendent in Westfield township is that of Benjamin C. Leveridge from 1846 to 1847". This history goes on to quote from Benjamin's report to the Town at the expiration of his term of office: "There is much dissatisfaction on the part of the inhabitants respecting the License which they state prevents them procuring teachers, and the cause of unnecessary expense."^{23,24}

The 1850 U.S. Census records Benjamin C. Leveridge, physician age 50, living in Manhattan, Ward 7, District 1, New York County, New York. The household includes: wife Mary Ann, age 46; son John H. age 23 (and wife Emily age 21 and daughter Emily age 2); son Benjamin C. age 21 (and wife P. Leveridge age 18); daughter Mary Ann age 12; son Albert age 10; and son Chas W age 2.²⁵ Benjamin C. Leveridge is listed in the 1850 New York City Directory identified as a physician at 149 East Broadway.²⁶

In 1851 Benjamin C. Leveridge was named a Fellow of the New York Academy of Medicine.²⁷

On 13 October 1853 the *New York Times* reported that "Thomas J. Muhony was indicted for stealing a horse and wagon, the property of Benjamin C. Leveridge. It appeared that the plaintiff, who is a physician residing at No. 149 East Broadway, drove, in the course of his profession, to No. 98 Chatham Street, and went in, leaving the property outside the door. On returning outside again he missed it, and it was soon afterwards found in the possession of the prisoner, at Third Avenue near Forty-second Street. The accused could only account for the property in his possession by saying that he was very drunk and really did not know. The jury, after some deliberation, found him *not guilty*."²⁸

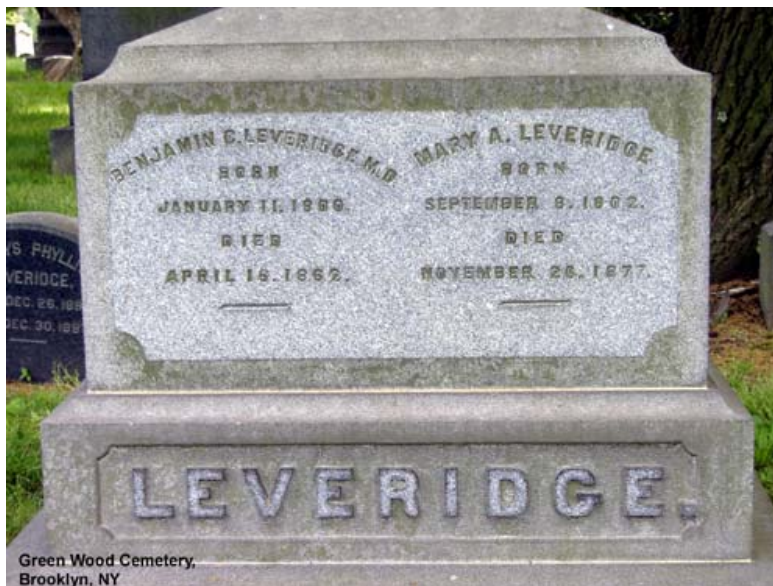
The 1855 New York State Census records B. C. Leveridge, physician age 53, living in Manhattan, Ward 7, New York County, New York. The household includes: wife Mary A. age 50; son John H. age 26 (and wife Emmerly age 24, children Emma, John H. and William ages 7, 3, and 1); daughter Mary age 16; son Albert J. age 15; and son Charles age 6.²⁹

The 1860 U.S. Census records Benjamin C. Leveridge, physician age 59, living Manhattan, Ward 7, District 2, New York County, New York. The household includes: wife Mary Ann, age 54; son John H. age 30 (and wife Emily age 26, and children Emily, John, William, and Silas, ages 10, 8, 6, and 5); daughter Mary age 20; son Albert age 19; son Charles age 11.³⁰ Benjamin C. Leveridge is listed in the 1860 New York City Directory identified as a physician at 153 East Broadway. At the same address is a separate listing for Benjamin's son John H. Leveridge, also identified as a physician.³¹

Benjamin C. Leveridge died on 16 Apr 1862 at Manhattan, New York Co, New York, at age 62. Benjamin's original burial place has not been identified. However, he was reinterred at Green-Wood Cemetery, Brooklyn, Kings Co, New York on 5 April 1878.^{32,33,34,35} Benjamin C. Leveridge made a will dated 11 September 1852, which was proved at the New York Co Surrogate on 7 May 1862, and recorded 10 November 1862. The will mentions wife Mary Ann, daughter Mary Ann, and sons John Henry and Benjamin C. Sons Albert J. and Charles W., who were both minors at the time, were not specifically named. Benjamin named his wife and sons as Executors of his estate.³⁶

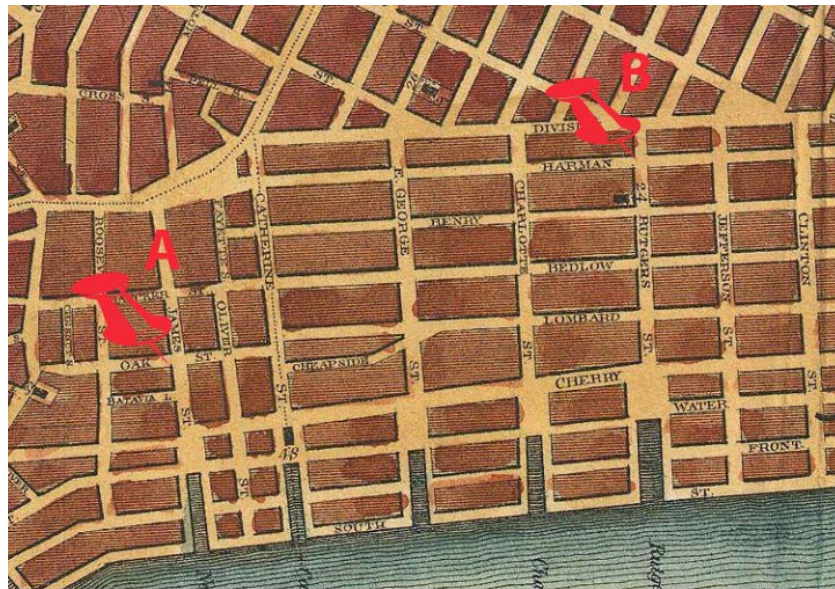
The 1870 U.S. Census records Mary A. Leveridge, widow age 60, living Manhattan, Ward 7, District 6, New York County, New York. The household includes: son John H. Leveridge age 40 (John's children Emeline age 22, John H. Jr. age 19, William J. age 16, and Silas P. age 14); son Albert J. age 30 (Albert's wife Lucy age 26 and daughters Lucy age 4 and Mary J. age six months).³⁷ John H. Leveridge is listed in the 1870 New York City Directory identified as a physician at 153 East Broadway. At the same address are separate listings for his brothers Benjamin C. and Charles W. There is no separate listing for their mother Mary Ann.³⁸

Mary Ann Van Pelt Leveridge died 26 November 1877 at Manhattan, New York Co, New York. Mary Ann's original burial place has not been identified. However, she was buried at Green-Wood Cemetery, Brooklyn, Kings Co, New York on 5 April 1878. Her remains may have been held in temporary storage awaiting a spring burial. Her husband Benjamin C. Leveridge, who died in 1862, was reinterred at Green-wood on the same date as his widow.³⁹



Mary Ann Leveridge made a will dated 5 July 1872, which was proved at the New York Co Surrogate on 25 January 1878. The will names son Benjamin C. Leveridge, then living in Kansas; also son John H. Leveridge, appointed Executor, and daughter Mary Ann. The will does not name sons Albert or Charles, for unknown reasons.⁴⁰

The *New York Herald* edition of 23 March 1879 announces the auction on Tuesday March 25 of property associated with the estate of Benjamin C. Leveridge. The properties included 151 and 153 East Broadway, near Rutgers St, two elegant four story brick houses, each 25 foot frontage. Also included is 76 James Street near Oak Street, three story brick house.⁴¹



Benjamin C. Leveridge, M.D.
A: James Street corner of Oak St
B: 153 East Broadway

Benjamin Chase Leveridge and his wife Mary Ann Van Pelt had at least eight children, of which five survived to adulthood. There may have been additional children, unidentified, who died young.^{42,43,44}

- i. John Henry Leveridge, MD was born in Manhattan, New York Co, New York 19 June 1827. John married Emily Holt Pierson 1 June 1847 at the Westfield Presbyterian Church in Union County, New Jersey. John died 20 December 1888 in Manhattan, and was buried at Green-wood Cemetery in Brooklyn, Kings Co, New York.^{45,46,47,48,49,50}
- ii. Benjamin Cornelius Leveridge was born in Manhattan, New York County, New York circa 1828-1830. Benjamin married Petronella (Petronelia) Trenor c 1849-1850 at an unknown location, but probably Manhattan. Benjamin died 4 January 1906 in Manhattan, then living in Hoboken, Hudson County, New Jersey. A place of burial for Benjamin has not been identified. Findagrave.com lists Benjamin Cornelius Leveridge and Ella L. Trenor Leveridge in the same lot at Green-wood Cemetery in Brooklyn, Kings Co, New York. However, incorrect dates of death are given for both individuals, and there are no gravestone photos.^{51,52,53,54,55,56,57}
- iii. Mary Ann Leveridge was born circa 1831 at Manhattan, New York Co, New York. Mary Ann died as a child 24 April 1834 in Manhattan. She was buried at the Middle Dutch Cemetery in Manhattan.^{58,59}
- iv. William Leveridge was born circa 1833 at Manhattan, New York Co, New York. William died as a child 6 December 1834 in Manhattan. He was buried at the Middle Dutch Cemetery in Manhattan.^{60,61}

- v. William Leveridge was born on 28 October 1835 in Manhattan, New York Co, New York. William died as a child in Manhattan on 24 January 1841, age 5 years, 2 months, and 27 days.^{62,63,64}
- vi. Mary Ann Leveridge was born in Manhattan, New York County, New York in March 1837. Mary Ann was never married. Mary Ann died 7 April 1918 at Brooklyn, Kings Co, New York. She was buried at Green-wood Cemetery in Brooklyn.^{65,66,67,68}
- vii. Alfred J. Leveridge was born in Manhattan, New York County, New York circa 1840. Alfred married for the first time Lucy C. Yarnell 6 May 1861 in Manhattan. Alfred married for the second time Theresa A. Martin 10 December 1884 in Manhattan. Alfred died 3 September 1894 at Brooklyn, Kings Co, New York. He was buried at Green-wood Cemetery in Brooklyn.^{69,70,71,72,73,74,75}
- viii. Charles William Leveridge was born on 20 July 1848. State of birth is uncertain due to differences in census records. It would have been either New York (1850, 1860, 1880, 1915 NJ, 1930) or New Jersey (1855 NY, 1900, 1910, 1920). Charles married Annis Hillman 25 June 1872 in Manhattan, New York County, New York. Charles died 5 May 1931 in DeLand, Volusia County, Florida. Charles also maintained a residence in Plainfield, Union Co, New Jersey at the time of his death. Charles' death certificate records his place of birth as Westfield (Union Co), New Jersey. The individual reporting information for the death certificate was his youngest child, daughter Mary Annis Leveridge White. Charles' family was living in Manhattan as per the 1840 and 1850 U.S. Census, and the 1840-1841, 1849-1850 New York City Directory. Charles' father is not listed in the New York City Directory 1842-1848, as indicated above, and was likely living in Westfield at least part of this time.^{76,77,78,79,80,81,82,83,84,85,86,87,88,89}

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- ⁶⁶*New York Daily Tribune*, New York, New York, 1842-1866. Hereinafter cited as *New York Daily Tribune*, 9 April 1918, page 15.
- ⁶⁷Burial Record, Green-wood Cemetery, 500 25th Street, Brooklyn, Kings, New York 11232, Lot 26602, Section 154.
- ⁶⁸Find A Grave, online www.findagrave.com, Memorial Number 11074619.
- ⁶⁹1880 U.S. Census New York, Albany Co. Ancestry.com, Provo, Utah. NARA, T9, Roll 807, Albany, ED013, page 346A.
- ⁷⁰*New York Times*, 5 September 1894, page 5.
- ⁷¹Burial Record, Green-wood Cemetery, 500 25th Street, Brooklyn, Kings, New York 11232, Lot 28855, Section 203.
- ⁷²Find A Grave, online www.findagrave.com, Memorial Number 11073330.
- ⁷³New York, New York City Marriages, 1829-1940, Database Family Search, online <https://familysearch.org/search/collection/2143225>, Municipal Archives City of New York, 1829-1940, LDS Film 1671674, Volume 4.
- ⁷⁴1870 U.S. Census New York, New York Co, Ancestry.com, Manhattan, Ward 7, District 6, page 304A.
- ⁷⁵New York Marriages 1686-1980, online www.familysearch.org, LDS Film 1570310.
- ⁷⁶1850 U.S. Census New York, New York Co, Ancestry.com, Manhattan, Ward 7, District 1, page 28A.
- ⁷⁷1855 New York State Census, New York Co, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, Manhattan, Ward 7, ED2, Household 275.
- ⁷⁸1860 U.S. Census New York, New York Co, Ancestry.com, Manhattan, Ward 7, District 2, page 58.
- ⁷⁹1880 U.S. Census New York, Albany Co, Ancestry.com, Albany, ED013, page 349C.
- ⁸⁰1900 U.S. Census New York, Kings Co, Ancestry.com, Brooklyn, Ward 23, ED0397, page 5.
- ⁸¹1910 U.S. Census New Jersey, Union Co. Ancestry.com, Provo, Utah. NARA, T624, Roll 909, Plainfield, Ward 3, ED0097, page 16A.
- ⁸²1915 New Jersey State Census, Union County. Ancestry.com, Provo, Utah. New Jersey State Archives, Plainfield, Reference No. L15, Film 61, page 8, Household 828.
- ⁸³1920 U.S. Census New Jersey, Essex Co. Ancestry.com, Provo, Utah. NARA, T625, Roll 1029, Plainfield, Ward 3, ED0129, page 5B.
- ⁸⁴1930 U.S. Census New Jersey, Union Co. Ancestry.com, Provo, Utah. NARA, T626, ED0114, Plainfield, ED0114, page 5A.
- ⁸⁵Florida Deaths, 1877-1939, online <http://www.floridahealth.gov/certificates/certificates/>, LDS Film No. 2135448, Reference ID 8748.
- ⁸⁶Find A Grave, online www.findagrave.com, Memorial Number 11074362.
- ⁸⁷Database Family Search, 1829-1940, LDS Film No. 156181, Reference ID 3855.
- ⁸⁸*New York Times*, 17 May 1931, page 39.
- ⁸⁹Burial Record, Green-wood Cemetery, 500 25th Street, Brooklyn, Kings, New York 11232, Lot 22650, Section 156.