

Individual Narrative of Benjamin⁷ Leverich [218] Son of John⁶ Leverich [102] and Mary Brundage Husband of Eunice Outhouse, Susan (unknown), and Mary Hannah Purdy

Benjamin Leverich was born on 22 January 1793 at North Castle, Westchester Co, New York, the son of John Leverich and Mary Brundage. John Leverich was living in the Town of North Castle in the 1790 U.S. Census.^{1,2,3}

Benjamin Leverich married Eunice Outhouse on 27 August 1814 at Westchester Co, New York. Their first child Hettie Leverich was born in 1815. Benjamin's father John Leverich was living in North Castle in the 1810 U.S. Census.^{4,5,6}

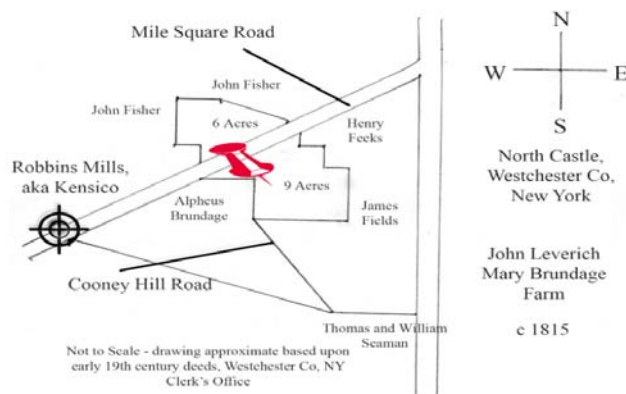
Eunice Outhouse was born 6 May 1791 in the Town of New Castle, Westchester County, New York. Eunice was the daughter of Daniel Outhouse and Susanna Van Tassell. Her place of birth and her mother's maiden name are cited in several unsourced Public Family Trees at Ancestry.com.^{7,8,9,10}

Benjamin Leverich served as a volunteer militiaman in the War of 1812. He was enrolled in Col. Jonathan Varian's New York Regiment, Captain Jacob Miers' and Captain John Wood's companies during the period 25 September to 18 November 1814. The militia units were stationed at an encampment in Brooklyn, Kings Co, New York. The muster roll dated at Brooklyn 22 November 1814 identified Benjamin as a Corporal, the remarks section noting "deserted 18 November 1814". No further information regarding this "incident" has been found, and the subsequent events of Benjamin's life including serving as a town official create some doubt regarding the accuracy of this muster roll annotation. The interpretation of the handwriting also raises questions. The annotation could be interpreted as "Desisted", although the meaning of that term in this context is unknown.^{11,12}

On 6 March 1815 Benjamin and Eunice Leverich executed a mortgage borrowing \$350 from Benjamin's father John Leverich. The mortgage was secured by nine acres of land which they were acquiring from John, the tract being described as follows (see diagram below):

- beginning at a walnut tree standing by the road leading from Kings Street to Robbins Mills, aka northeast corner of the lands being conveyed;
- southwesterly with said road to a birch tree at the corner of Alpheus Brundage's land;
- easterly with Brundage's land to a stake in the corner of the fence;
- southerly with Brundage's land to the end of a stone wall at the corner of James Field's land;
- easterly with said Field's land as the stone wall now stands to the corner of the wall;
- northerly with Field's land to a white oak sapling at the corner of the lands late of Henry Feeks, deceased;
- westerly with lands late of Henry Feeks, deceased, to a stake at the corner of Feek's land;
- northerly with lands of Feeks to a stake, westerly one chain to a chestnut stump;
- northerly with Feeks' land to the first mentioned walnut tree at place of beginning.

The mortgage transaction was recorded on 7 April 1815, and noted as discharged on 31 May 1817.¹³



**6 March 1815: Benjamin & Eunice Leverich, Mortgagors
 (borrowers), John Leverich, Morgagee (lender)
 9 Acres in North Castle**

Benjamin Leverich is recorded in the 1820 U.S. Census of Cortlandt, Westchester Co, New York. The census tallies included 2 free white males under age 10 (sons John and Caleb); 1 free white male age 26 to 44 (head of household Benjamin); 1 free white female under the age of 10 (daughter Hester); and 1 free white female age 26 to 44 (wife Eunice).¹⁴

In 1827 John Depew filed suit against Benjamin Leverich in the Westchester County, New York Court of Common Pleas. A judgement was entered against Benjamin on 15 July 1827 in a dispute over payment of rent \$45.00 for the period 1 May 1824 to 1 May 1825, and damages of \$15.00. Benjamin is mentioned as being the constable for the Town of Cortlandt at the time. Benjamin appealed the decision. Benjamin and his brother William Leverich signed an appeal bond dated 17 May 1827. Final disposition of this case has not been found.¹⁵

The following news item was published in the *New York Spectator* on 1 August 1828. A rattlesnake, four and a half feet long and seven inches in circumference was killed by Mr. Benjamin Leverich of Peekskill N.Y. on the 16th ult (i.e.16 July1828). When first discovered, it was about four feet distant, in a jumping position but having a gun with him, it received the contents, which almost severed it. On raising it from the ground, a rabbit, almost full grown, which it had swallowed, fell from it. It had ten rattles.¹⁶

By 1830, Benjamin Leverich had removed to Tioga County, New York where he is found recorded in the 1830 U.S. Census in Spencer Township. The census tallies recorded in the Ancestry.com index entry are inaccurate for female household members. Using the original census image instead, the census tallies included 1 free white male under the age of 5 (son Benjamin Jr); 2 free white males age 5 to 9 (sons Caleb and William); 1 free white male age 10 to 14 (son John); 1 free white male age 30 to 39 (head of household Benjamin Sr); 1 free white female age 5 to 20 (daughter Mary Jane); 1 free white female age 10 to 15 (daughter Hester); 1 free white female age 30 to 39 (wife Eunice). It has not been determined why Benjamin removed to Tioga County, however he had returned to Westchester County prior to 1840.¹⁷

Another Benjamin Leverich is recorded in the 1830 U.S. Census of Manhattan, Ward 8, New York County, New York. This was Benjamin⁷ Leverich [288], the son of Gabriel⁶ Leverich [67] and Hannah Thorpe.¹⁸

Benjamin Leverich is recorded in the 1835 New York State Census in Spencer, Tioga Co, New York. The census record provided the following information.

- 6: number of males including head of household if male Benjamin – Head; sons John W., Caleb, William, Benj Jr, George
- 3: number of females including head of household if female - wife Eunice, daughters Mary Jane and Susan
- 1: entitled to vote
- 1: female married < age 45: Eunice>
- 2: females unmarried <under age 16: Mary Jane and Susan>
- 1: number of marriages in same family where the female resided during the year
- proceeding: Hester Cruger, see George Cruger on page 3
- Acres of improved land: 1
- Meat Cattle: 4
- Horses: 4
- Sheep: 6
- Hogs: 5.¹⁹

In 1837, Benjamin Leverich became a member of the Shrub Oak Methodist Church in the Town of Yorktown, Westchester County, New York. He withdrew in May 1842, apparently because he declined to meet charges for commencing a suit at law against (Elizabeth or Elijah) Hart.²⁰

Benjamin Leverich is recorded in the 1840 U.S. Census of the Town of Yorktown, Westchester County, New York. The census tallies included 2 free white males age 10 to 14 (sons Benjamin Jr and George); 2 free white males age 15 to 19 (son William and unidentified); 2 free white males age 20 to 29 (sons John and Caleb); 1 free white male age 40 to 49 (head of Household Benjamin Sr.); 1 free white female age 10 to 14 (daughter Susan); 1 free white female age 15 to 19 (daughter Mary Jane); 1 free white female age 40 to 49 (wife Eunice).²¹

On 1 May 1841 the Executors of the estate of Jonathan Ferris sold land at the Town of Yorktown in Westchester County, New York to Benjamin Leverich (residence not identified) in consideration of \$600. The tract is described as a 17 acre farm in Yorktown bordering the intersection of the county line between Westchester and Putnam; the center line of the cross road leading from Peekskill Hollow Road near Mrs. Elizabeth Hubbels to the Old Mill Road; the lands of Gilbert Williams and Mr. Hallock. The deed was witnessed by J. Henry Ferris and recorded on 18 October 1843.²²

Benjamin Leverich age 58, farmer, is recorded as head of household in the 1850 U.S. Census of the Town of Yorktown, Westchester County, New York. The household also include wife Eunice age 59; son William age 26; and son George age 20. Immediately adjacent to Benjamin in this census record his son Caleb Leverich age 30, his wife and family, is listed.

Benjamin is also recorded in the non population schedule of Production of Agriculture, farming 20 acres of land, 15 acres improved 5 acres unimproved. The value of the farm is listed as \$2,000 and the value of improvements and machinery is given as \$50. Seven livestock are valued at \$200.^{23,24}



**Benjamin & Eunice Leverich: Yorktown, Westchester Co, NY
1851 Atlas Sidney and Neff**

Eunice Outhouse Leverich died at Yorktown age 61 on 29 May 1852. Eunice was buried at the Shrub Oak Methodist Church Cemetery in Yorktown.²⁵

Circa 1853, Benjamin Leverich married for a second time Susan (unknown) probably at Westchester County, New York. Susan was born circa 1811 probably in New York, and died at Westchester County on 9 April 1856 age 45. Susan was buried at the Shrub Oak Methodist Cemetery in Yorktown, Westchester County.^{26,27}

On 31 July 1854 Benjamin and Susan Leverich of Yorktown, Westchester Co, New York sold a one half acre lot of land in Yorktown to Caleb Leverich, either his son (living in Kingston, Ulster Co, New York in 1855) or his brother who owned land adjacent to Benjamin in Yorktown, in consideration of \$100. The lot is described as bordering the road from Elijah Lockwood's land to Peekskill Hollow at the county line. The deed was witnessed by John W. Carpenter and recorded on 13 September 1878.²⁸

Benjamin Leverich married Mary Hannah Purdy on 11 Jul 1856 at Manhattan, New York, New York.^{29,30,31,32,33}

Benjamin Leverich age 67, no occupation identified, is recorded as head of household in the 1860 U.S. Census of Yorktown, Westchester County, New York. The household also included the following members: wife Mary age 60 born in New York; son George age 30.³⁴



**Benjamin & Mary Purdy Leverich: Yorktown, Westchester Co, NY
1868 Atlas F. W. Beers**

On 13 June 1869 Benjamin Leverich and his wife Mary are listed as members of the Shrub Oak Methodist Church in Yorktown, Westchester County, New York.³⁵

Benjamin Leverich age 77, farmer, is recorded in the 1870 U.S. Census of the Town of Cortlandt, Westchester County, New York. Also included in the household is Benjamin's wife Mary age 71 born in New York, as well as John Pestrine age 79, retired merchant, and his wife Hannah age 75. The relationship between the Leverich's and the Pestrine's is unknown.³⁶

Benjamin Leverich died on 11 Apr 1878 at Cortlandt or Yorktown, Westchester Co, New York, at age 85. Benjamin was buried at the Shrub Oak Methodist Church Cemetery in the Town of Yorktown, Westchester County, New York with his first wife Eunice.^{37,38,39,40}



Benjamin Leverich of Cortlandt, Westchester County, New York made a will dated 3 March 1877, which was proved at the Westchester Co Surrogate on 1 June 1878. His son William Leverich and David K. Conklin were named executors. The will was witnessed by Sarah Jane Conklin and Jane Conklin. The estate file at the Surrogate's office identifies the following heirs: wife Mary of Cortlandt; sons William and Caleb of Kingston, Ulster Co, NY; son John W. and daughter Mary Jane Treadwell of Yorktown, Westchester Co; daughters Holly Ann Cruger and Susan Birdsall of Cortlandt. In addition, the following grandchildren, children of deceased son Benjamin Leverich Jr, are also named as heirs: Ada Marand, married, of Jersey City, Hudson Co, New Jersey; Emma Leverich of Connecticut; minors Mary Ella, Sophia, Lillie, Minnie, Lydia, William, and George Leverich, all of Yorktown. Dwight S. Herrick was named guardian for the minor grandchildren.^{41,42}

Mary H. Leverich age 79 born New York is recorded in the 1880 U.S. Census living at 169 West 45th Street in Ward 22 of Manhattan, New York County, New York. Mary is identified as a lodger in a boarding house operated by Mary E. Hedges.⁴³

Mary Hannah Purdy Leverich died 18 October 1882 in Manhattan, New York County, New York. Hannah's burial place has not been determined. Hannah's death record states that she was buried in Rye, Westchester Co, New York, but the name of the cemetery is not identified.^{44,45}

Benjamin Leverich and Eunice Outhouse had eight children, all of whom survived to adulthood, but two of whom died about age 40.^{46,47,48}

- i. Hester "Hettie" Ann Leverich was born 17 August 1815 at Cortlandt, Westchester County, New York. Hester married George Cruger (aka Crooker) circa 1832-1833 probably in Westchester County, but possibly in Tioga County, New York. Hester died 26 April 1901 at Peekskill, Westchester County. Hester was buried at Hillside Cemetery in Cortlandt.^{49,50,51,52}
- ii. John Wesley Leverich was born 19 September 1817 in Cortlandt, Westchester County, New York. John married for the first time Elizabeth Ryder circa 1839. Son Horace G. Leverich was born circa 1841. Elizabeth died circa 1856-1859 in Westchester County. John married for a second time Mary Ferris, widow Benjamin, in the same period circa 1856-1859. John was struck by lightning and died 18 July 1878 near Peekskill, Westchester County. John was buried at the Shrub Oak Methodist Cemetery in Yorktown, Westchester County. In the 1880 U.S. Census, Mary B. Leverich, widow of Benjamin Leverich, is living in Cortlandt. Her household included two children from her first marriage, Sarah H. Briggs born circa 1852 and Ferris Benjamin, born circa 1854.^{53,54,55,56,57,58,59,60}
- iii. Caleb Leverich was born 17 February 1819 at Cortlandt, Westchester County, New York. Caleb married Matilda Ogden circa 1844-1845 in Westchester County. Their first child Louisa was born in 1846. Caleb died 31 October 1891 in Kingston, Ulster County, New York. Caleb was buried at the Montrepose Cemetery in Kingston.^{61,62,63,64}
- iv. William Leverich was born 25 October 1822 in Cortlandt, Westchester County, New York. William married Catherine Gale circa 1852-1853 in either Westchester County or Ulster County, New York. Their first child Mary C. Leverich was born in 1854. William died 5 October 1915 at Kingston, Ulster County. William was buried at Hillside Cemetery in Cortlandt.^{65,66,67,68}
- v. Mary Jane Leverich was born 26 April 1825 in Cortlandt, Westchester County, New York. Mary Jane married Gilbert Treadwell in 1846 in Westchester County. Mary Jane died 30 December 1920 in Putnam Valley, Putnam County, New York. Mary Jane was buried at the Shrub Oak Methodist Cemetery in Yorktown, Westchester County.^{69,70,71}
- vi. Benjamin Leverich Jr was born circa 1828 in Cortlandt, Westchester County, New York. The estimated birth year is based upon U.S. Census records. Benjamin married Mary V. Hopson at the 27th Street Methodist Church in Manhattan, New York County, New York on 9 September 1849. Benjamin died from cholera 11 August 1866 while staying at his father's house in Cortlandt. There was a cholera epidemic in the New York City metro area in 1866. Benjamin was living in Brooklyn, Kings County, New York at the time. Benjamin's burial place has not been determined. He may have been buried in a mass grave for cholera victims.^{72,73,74,75,76}

- vii. George Leverich was born circa 1830 either in Westchester County, or perhaps Tioga County, New York. The estimated birth year is based upon U.S. Census records. George, identified as a laborer, never married and was living with his father Benjamin Leverich Sr in the 1850 and 1860 U.S. Census of Yorktown, Westchester County. George died at Yorktown 19 May 1869. George was buried at the Shrub Oak Methodist Church cemetery in Yorktown.^{77,78,79}

- viii. Susan Leverich was born 25 January 1833 most likely in Tioga County, New York. Her father Benjamin was living in Tioga County in the 1830 U.S. and 1835 NY State Censuses. Susan married LeGrand Birdsall circa 1858-1859 in Westchester County, New York. Their first child Ida May Birdsall was born in 1860. Susan died 13 February 1921 in Peekskill, Westchester County. Susan was buried at the Shrub Oak Methodist Church cemetery in Yorktown, Westchester County.^{80,81,82,83}

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⁴⁵*Eastern State Journal*, White Plains, Westchester Co, New York, 1845-1918. Hereinafter cited as *Eastern State Journal*, 20 October 1882.

⁴⁶Reynolds *Genealogical and Family History of Southern NY*, Volume 2, page 575.

⁴⁷1878 Estate of Benjamin Leverich, Westchester County, New York Archives, Estate File 177-1878.

⁴⁸1877 Will Benjamin Leverich, Westchester County, New York Archives, Wills Liber 85, page 256.

⁴⁹Find A Grave, online www.findagrave.com, Memorial Number 45801569.

⁵⁰William P Horton *Cemetery Inscriptions of Westchester County, NY*, Two Volumes (Peekskill, NY: Privately Printed, 1928), Volume 2, Ancestry.com image 296 of 526. Hereinafter cited as *Cemetery Inscriptions of Westchester County, NY*.

⁵¹1850 U.S. Census New York, New York Co. Ancestry.com, Provo, Utah. NARA, M432, Roll 537, Manhattan, Ward 19, page 121.

⁵²New York Death Index 1852-1956, New York Department of Health (Albany, New York), Certificate Number 16398.

⁵³Miller, Robert B.; *Shrub Oak Methodist Church Cemetery Inscriptions*, page 78.

⁵⁴Reynolds *Genealogical and Family History of Southern NY*, Volume 2, page 575.

⁵⁵1850 U.S. Census New York, Westchester Co, Ancestry.com, Town of Cortlandt, page 236A.

⁵⁶1860 U.S. Census New York, Westchester Co, Ancestry.com, Town of Cortlandt, page 334.

⁵⁷1880 U.S. Census New York, Westchester Co. Ancestry.com, Provo, Utah. NARA, T9, Roll 945, Town of Cortlandt, ED089, page 106B.

⁵⁸*Eastern State Journal*, 19 July 1878.

⁵⁹Find A Grave, online www.findagrave.com, Memorial Number 46122143: Mary B. Ferris, second wife of John W. Leverich.

⁶⁰Shrub Oak Methodist Church Cemetery, 24 May 1950 Large Bound Volume of Ownership Information, Shrub Oak Methodist Church Records.

⁶¹Find A Grave, online www.findagrave.com, Memorial Number 31614740.

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- ⁶²1850 U.S. Census New York, Westchester Co, Ancestry.com, Town of Yorktown, page 259A.
- ⁶³1865 New York State Census, Ulster Co. Ancestry.com, Provo, Utah. New York State Archives, Kingston, ED06, page 14.
- ⁶⁴*The Highland Democrat*, Peekskill, Westchester Co, New York, 1858-1942. Hereinafter cited as *The Highland Democrat*, 1 December 1917, page 1: celebration of 50th Wedding Anniversary Louia Leverich and Abram Fields.
- ⁶⁵Find A Grave, online www.findagrave.com, Memorial Numbers 46122242 and 46122263 and 46122317.
- ⁶⁶1850 U.S. Census New York, Westchester Co, Ancestry.com, Town of Yorktown, page 259A.
- ⁶⁷1855 New York State Census, Ulster Co. Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, Provo, Utah. New York State Archives, Kingston, ED03, Household 85.
- ⁶⁸1915 New York State Census, Ulster Co. Ancestry.com, Provo, Utah. New York State Archives, Kingston, ED01, Household 64, page 21.
- ⁶⁹Find A Grave, online www.findagrave.com, Memorial Number 73015271.
- ⁷⁰*The Highland Democrat*, 12 February 1921, page 5.
- ⁷¹1920 U.S. Census New York, Putnam Co. Ancestry.com, Provo, Utah. NARA, T625, Roll 1256, Putnam Valley, ED199, page 6B.
- ⁷²1850 U.S. Census New York, Westchester Co, Ancestry.com, Manhattan Ward 19, page 121A.
- ⁷³1865 New York State Census, Kings County. Ancestry.com, Provo, Utah. NY State Archives, Brooklyn Ward 8, page 42.
- ⁷⁴Fisher, *New York City Methodist Marriages*, Volume 1, page 313.
- ⁷⁵*Eastern State Journal*, 24 August 1866, page 2.
- ⁷⁶*New York Times*, Manhattan, New York Co, New York, 1851-Date, 15 April 2008 "How Epidemics Helped Shape the Modern Metropolis", by John Noble Wilford. Hereinafter cited as *New York Times*.
- ⁷⁷Find A Grave, online www.findagrave.com, Memorial Number 68671561.
- ⁷⁸1850 U.S. Census New York, Westchester Co, Ancestry.com, Yorktown, page 259A.
- ⁷⁹1860 U.S. Census New York, Westchester Co, Ancestry.com, Yorktown, page 721.
- ⁸⁰Find A Grave, online www.findagrave.com, Memorial Number 69999475.
- ⁸¹1830 U.S. Census New York, Tioga Co, Ancestry.com, Town of Spencer, page 148.
- ⁸²1835 New York State Census, Tioga Co, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, Town of Spencer, page 7.
- ⁸³*The Highland Democrat*, 19 February 1921.