

**Individual Narrative of John<sup>8</sup> B. Leverich Jr. [367]  
Son of John<sup>7</sup> Barkelow Leverich [192] and Ann Marie (unidentified)  
Husband of Mary Byrne and Mary (unidentified)**

John B. Leverich, Jr. was born circa 1828 at Manhattan, New York County, New York.<sup>1,2</sup>

John B. Leverich, Jr. married Mary Byrne circa 1848-1850 (their first child was born in 1852). The specific date and place are unknown. They lived in Manhattan, New York County, New York and had two daughters. They apparently divorced or separated. John entered into a second relationship to Mary (unidentified) by 1870 when they appear together in the census. They lived in Fishkill, Dutchess County, New York and had an adopted daughter. They later lived in Oswego, Oswego County, New York. No marriage record has been found for either relationship. The two Mary's are different. The first Mary was born circa 1826-1830 in Ireland. The second Mary was born circa 1832-1834 in Pennsylvania. The parents of both Mary's are unknown.<sup>3,4,5</sup>

John B. Leverich, Jr lived at various times in Manhattan, Fishkill, and Oswego, New York. John purchased land at Oswego in 1847 located at the corner of contemporary West Cayuga and West 4th Streets. John apparently had a house built on the lot. He sold the house and lot in 1868 to John K. Post. It is not certain if John ever lived in the house, although it could have been a summer home. Nevertheless the house is now known as the Leverich-Kessler House and has been given the distinction of being a Designated Historic Landmark by the Heritage Foundation of Oswego.<sup>6</sup>



John B. Leverich, Jr., age 22, was recorded in the 1850 U.S. Census of Manhattan, Ward 14, New York County, New York. John and his wife Mary, age 22, apparently are living in a boarding house.<sup>7</sup>

John B. Leverich, Jr. was listed in the 1856-1857 Oswego City Residence and Advertising Directory 51 West Cayuga Street. This may have been the Leverich-Kessler house discussed above establishing that John spent some time in Oswego, Oswego County, New York while maintaining an address in Manhattan, New York County, New York as per census records (1850, 1860).<sup>8</sup>

On 10 May 1856 Alfred Carson, Chief Engineer of the New York Fire Department, was assaulted at the corner of Walker and Elizabeth streets (Manhattan, New York County, New York) and beaten by John B. Leverich, clerk to the fire wardens. The provocation for this assault is said to have been an attempt by Mr. Carson to take liberties with the person of Mr. Leverich's wife. A further aggravation of this affair is the fact that Mr. Carson is the husband of Mr. Leverich's sister Frances. During Mr. Leverich's meeting with Carson, as he stated, Mr. Leverich first knocked him down with his fist, and

then whipped him in a severe manner with his cowhide. Mr. Leverich did not desist till compelled to do so by the interference of outsiders. Mr. Carson stated that the causes of the assault upon him were not such as were pretended, but arose from ill feeling on other matters.<sup>9,10,11,12</sup>

Associated with the Carson beating is the following. On 7 June 1856 Lieut. Palmer, of the 21st Ward police (Manhattan, New York County, New York) arrested John B. Leverich, Jr. and charged him with, on the 29th of June 1855, forging the name of Alfred Carson on an order issued by James Timpsox, Auditor of the city, for a warrant for the amount of Carson's salary, \$500. After obtaining said warrant, the endorsement of Carson was forged upon it, said endorsed warrant having been the means of drawing \$500 out of Mechanics' Bank, and thereby defrauding that Institution. John B. Leverich remained free on \$2,000 bond to answer the charge. The charge was investigated before Justice Flanigan on 18 July 1856 and the case was dismissed.<sup>13,14,15,16</sup>

John B. Leverich, Jr., age 32, was recorded in the 1860 U.S. Census of Manhattan, New York County, New York. John's household included his wife Mary, age 34 and daughters Mary J., age 8; and Cornelia F., age 7.<sup>17</sup>

John B. Leverich, Jr., enlisted in the Union Army during the Civil War in New York City. He was commissioned an officer (Captain) 7 May 1861 in Co E of the Ellsworth, 1st New York Zoaves, later known as the 11th New York Volunteers. He was mustered out on 4 October 1861. In the same regiment he was commissioned an officer (Captain) on 3 May 1862 and mustered out 2 June 1862 at New York. Subsequently he was commissioned an officer (Luit Colonel) in New York City 12 September 1862 in the 163rd New York Volunteers and mustered out 30 January 1863 at Falmouth, Virginia. By the end of the war, he held the rank of Colonel.<sup>18,19</sup>

On 4 June 1870 the *New York Evening Telegram* reported on another of John B. Leverich Jr.'s adventures. "Mr. Tweed (Boss Tweed notorious New York City politician), on learning that numbers of the deluded and impecunious patriots were anxious to get home, and were actually suffering from hunger and exposure, dispatched his agent Colonel John B. Leverich to the front, and commissioned him to provide transportation for all members of the army of invasion who might desire to return home. Colonel Leverich went and carried out the orders of the "Boss", furnishing transportation. The Colonel had a carte blanche and he sent home all who wanted to come this way and who were willing to take advantage of the offer. They were properly cared for, and arrived safely and proud as peacocks. Yesterday Mr. Leverich's bill was presented to Mr. Tweed, and a check for the full amount - \$5,750 - was immediately drawn." The newspaper article does not date this incident, but the context appears to suggest the end of the civil war.<sup>20</sup>

John B. Leverich, Jr. was not recorded in the 1870 U.S. Census of Manhattan, New York County, New York. The Leverich household included John's first wife Mary, age 40, and daughters Mary, age 19, and Cornelia, age 17. It may be assumed that by this date John and his first wife were divorced or separated.<sup>21</sup>

John B. Leverich, Jr., age 42, and his second wife Mary (unidentified), age 37, were recorded in the 1870 U.S. Census of Fishkill, Dutchess County, New York.<sup>22</sup>

On 12 March 1873 the *New York Times* reported that "In the suit of John B. Leverich against the City to recover \$31,000 for cleaning snow and ice off Broadway from the 1st to the 10th of February 1871, the jury yesterday gave a verdict in favor of the plaintiff for the full amount."<sup>23</sup>

On 7 May 1874 John B. Leverich, Jr. sold a house and lot (25' by 100') in consideration of \$1.00 in Jersey City, Hudson County, New Jersey to his daughter Mary Jane Leverich (Hudson County, New Jersey Clerk's Office).

John B. Leverich, Jr., age 47, was recorded in the 1875 New York State Census of Fishkill, Dutchess County, New York. John's household included his second wife Mary, age 42, and their adopted (as per census record) daughter Mary, age 7.<sup>24</sup>

John B. Leverich, Jr., age 52, was recorded in the 1880 U.S. Census of Fishkill, Dutchess County, New York. John's household included his second wife Mary, age 46, and his adopted daughter Mary, age 13.<sup>25</sup>

John B. Leverich Jr.'s first wife Mary Leverich, age 50, was recorded in the 1880 U.S. Census of Jersey City, Hudson County, New Jersey. Her household included her two daughters Mary J. Leverich, age 26, and Cornelia F. Leverich, age 24.<sup>26</sup>

The steamer Iona caught fire at Long Dock in Fishkill Landing the evening of 5 November 1890 and burned to water's edge. The boat belonged to John B. Leverich, Jr. The steamer was built as a catamaran by the late W. T. Merritt, of Fishkill, Dutchess County, New York and afterwards sold to John of Fishkill Landing. John converted her into a side-wheel steamer and ran her a short time as a ferry between Yonkers, Westchester County, New York and the opposite side of the river.<sup>27</sup>

The *Oswego Palladium* reported on 1 April 1891 that John B. Leverich Jr. had resigned his position as assistant light keeper at this port.

John B. Leverich Jr., age 64, and his second wife Mary E. Leverich, age 60, were recorded in the 1892 New York State Census of Fishkill, Dutchess County, New York.<sup>28</sup>

John B. Leverich Jr., died on 6 April 1894 at Oswego, Oswego, New York. John died at the residence of his niece Mrs. Amelia O. Griggs, 132 East Third Street, Oswego. John never enjoyed life or good health after the death of his (second) wife a few months prior to John's death. John was buried at the Fishkill Rural Cemetery in Fishkill, Dutchess County, New York.<sup>29,30,31,32</sup>

A petition for probate of the will of John B. Leverich was filed at the Oswego County, New York Surrogate on 18 June 1894. The petition named heirs and next of kin as follows: Maria Burnbaum, sister, of Lansing, Michigan; Louise Moore, sister, of Chicago, Illinois; Charles Doolittle, nephew, of Oswego; Amelia O. Griggs, niece, of Oswego. The petition also included the following statement: the deceased left no parents, child, wife, or widow surviving him." It is notable that John leaves out his first wife and two daughters.<sup>33</sup>

On 4 April 1901 the *New York Herald* published a death notice indicating that "Mary, widow of Colonel John B. Leverich," died on 2 April 1901 at her residence 57 Wayne Street, Jersey City, Hudson County, New York. This would suggest that John and Mary were never divorced, although it was apparent that they were separated.<sup>34</sup>

John B. Leverich, Jr. and his first wife Mary Byrne had two children, both of whom survived to adulthood.

- i. Mary Jane Leverich was born circa 1852 in Manhattan, New York County, New York. Mary Jane married John Watson 8 February 1893 probably in Jersey City, Hudson County, New Jersey. Mary Jane died after 1920. The specific death date and burial place are unknown. Mary Jane was recorded in the 1880 and 1920 U.S. Census of Hudson County.<sup>35,36,37</sup>
- ii. Cornelia Frances Leverich was born circa 1855 in Manhattan, New York County, New York. Cornelia married Charles J. Reilly 10 November 1881 in Jersey City, Hudson County, New Jersey. Cornelia died 5 December 1935 in Jersey City. Cornelia was buried at Holy Name Cemetery in Jersey City. Cornelia was recorded in the 1880, 1910, 1920, 1930 U.S. Census, all in Jersey City.<sup>38,39,40,41,42,43,44</sup>

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## Endnotes

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- <sup>1</sup>Find A Grave, online <[www.findagrave.com](http://www.findagrave.com)>, Memorial 129323253. Hereinafter cited as Find A Grave.
- <sup>2</sup>1850 U.S. Census New York, New York Co. Ancestry.com, Provo, Utah. NARA, M432, Roll 537, Manhattan, page 240 A.
- <sup>3</sup>1870 U.S. Census New York, New York Co. Ancestry.com, Provo, Utah. NARA, M593, Roll 1009, Manhattan Ward 18 District 16, page 443 A.
- <sup>4</sup>1870 U.S. Census New York, Dutchess Co. Ancestry.com, Provo, Utah. NARA, M593, Roll 925, Fishkill District 1, page 144 A.
- <sup>5</sup>*New York Times*, Manhattan, New York Co, New York, 1851-Date, 15 July 1894. Hereinafter cited as *New York Times*.
- <sup>6</sup>*Oswego Palladium*, Oswego, New York, 1832-1852. 27 August 1885.
- <sup>7</sup>1850 U.S. Census New York, New York Co, Ancestry.com, Provo, Utah. Manhattan Ward 14, page 240 A.
- <sup>8</sup>*Oswego NY City Directory 1857* (Oswego, New York: William Hancock, 1857)..
- <sup>9</sup>*Brooklyn Daily Eagle*, Brooklyn, Kings Co, New York, 1841-1955, 1960-1963. 10 May 1856.
- <sup>10</sup>*New York Evening Express*, New York, New York, 1839-1881. 10 May 1856. Hereinafter cited as *New York Evening Express*,
- <sup>11</sup>*New York Herald*, New York, New York, 1840-1920. 16 May 1856. Hereinafter cited as *New York Herald*.
- <sup>12</sup>*New York Daily Tribune*, New York, New York, 1842-1866. 16 May 1856.
- <sup>13</sup>*New York Sun*, New York, New York, 1833-1950. 9 June 1856.
- <sup>14</sup>*New York Daily Times*, New York, New York, 1851-1857. 9 June 1856.
- <sup>15</sup>*New-York Evening Post*, New York, New York, 1832-1920. 9 June 1856.
- <sup>16</sup>*New York Herald*, 19 July 1856.
- <sup>17</sup>1860 U.S. Census New York, New York Co. Ancestry.com, Provo, Utah. NARA, M653, Roll 819, Manhattan Ward 18 District 2, page 399.
- <sup>18</sup>*Civil War Soldier Records and Profiles, 1861-1865; Historical Data Systems, (Duxbury, Massachusetts), 2009.*
- <sup>19</sup>1890 Veterans Schedules, NY Dutchess Co. Ancestry.com, Provo, Utah. NARA, M123, Roll 48, Fishkill, ED 36, page 3.
- <sup>20</sup>*New York Evening Telegram*, New York, New York, 1867-1920. 4 June 1870.
- <sup>21</sup>1870 U.S. Census New York, New York Co, Ancestry.com, Provo, Utah. Manhattan Ward 18 District 16, page 443 A.
- <sup>22</sup>1870 U.S. Census New York, Dutchess Co, Ancestry.com, Provo, Utah. Fishkill District 1, page 144 A.
- <sup>23</sup>*New York Times*, 12 March 1873.
- <sup>24</sup>1875 New York State Census, Dutchess Co. Ancestry.com, Provo, Utah. New York State Archives, Fishkill, ED (Election District) 01, Household 78, Sheet 8.
- <sup>25</sup>1880 U.S. Census New York, Dutchess Co. Ancestry.com, Provo, Utah. NARA, T9, Roll 824, Fishkill, ED 036, page 136 C.
- <sup>26</sup>1880 U.S. Census New Jersey, Hudson Co. Ancestry.com, Provo, Utah. NARA, T9, Roll 784, Jersey City, ED 006, page 139 B.
- <sup>27</sup>*Poughkeepsie Daily Eagle*, Poughkeepsie, New York, 1860-1915. 5 November 1890. Hereinafter cited as *Poughkeepsie Daily Eagle*
- <sup>28</sup>1892 New York State Census, Dutchess Co. Ancestry.com, Provo, Utah. New York State Archives, Fishkill, ED (Election District) 03, page 16.
- <sup>29</sup>*Oswego Daily Times*, Oswego, New York, 1887-1925. 6 April 1894.
- <sup>30</sup>*New York Herald*, 7 April 1894.
- <sup>31</sup>*Poughkeepsie Daily Eagle*, 7 April 1894.
- <sup>32</sup>Find A Grave, online [www.findagrave.com](http://www.findagrave.com), Memorial Number 129323253.
- <sup>33</sup>John B. Leverich petition for probate (1894 June 21), ; Oswego Co NY Surrogate, 25 East Oneida Street, Oswego, New York 13126. Hereinafter cited as 1894 Petition for Probate John B. Leverich.
- <sup>34</sup>*New York Herald*, 4 April 1901.
- <sup>35</sup>*Jersey City Evening Journal*, Jersey City, Hudson Co, NJ, 1867-Date. 13 February 1893. Hereinafter cited as *Jersey City Evening Journal*.
- <sup>36</sup>1880 U.S. Census New Jersey, Hudson Co, Ancestry.com, Provo, Utah. Jersey City, ED 006, page 139 B.

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<sup>37</sup>1920 U.S. Census New Jersey, Hudson Co. Ancestry.com, Provo, Utah. NARA, T625, Jersey City Ward 9, ED 207, page 11 A.

<sup>38</sup>*Jersey City Evening Journal*, 6 December 1935.

<sup>39</sup>*New Jersey Marriages 1678-1985*, Family Search Index, online <https://familysearch.org>.

<sup>40</sup>Find A Grave, online [www.findagrave.com](http://www.findagrave.com), Memorial Number 90892055.

<sup>41</sup>1880 U.S. Census New Jersey, Hudson Co, Ancestry.com, Provo, Utah. Jersey City, ED 006, page 139 B.

<sup>42</sup>1910 U.S. Census New Jersey, Hudson Co. Ancestry.com, Provo, Utah. NARA, T24, ED 241, Jersey City Ward 4, ED 0111, page 8 A.

<sup>43</sup>1920 U.S. Census New Jersey, Hudson Co, Ancestry.com, Provo, Utah. Jersey City Ward 9, ED 210, page 3 A.

<sup>44</sup>1930 U.S. Census New Jersey, Hudson Co. Ancestry.com, Provo, Utah. NARA, T626, Jersey City, ED 0129, page 34 B.