

**Individual Narrative of Eleanor⁸ Eliza Leveridge [394]
Daughter of John⁷ Leveridge [204] and Mary Jane Poillon
Wife of Austin Melvin Knight**

Eleanor Eliza Leveridge was born 16 June 1835 in Manhattan, New York County, New York.¹

Eleanor Leveridge, age 19, was recorded in the 1855 New York State Census of Manhattan Ward 7, New York County, New York. Eleanor was living with her parents and several siblings.²

Eleanor Eliza Leveridge married Austin Melvin Knight 15 April 1857 in Manhattan, New York County, New York.³

Austin Melvin Knight was born 26 September 1829 in Cleveland, Cuyahoga County, Ohio. Austin was the son of Thomas Knight and Lucia Maria Melvin. Austin was associated with the heavy hide and leather house of Knight & Knapp at 83 Gold Street in Manhattan and later went into the oil commission business.^{4,5,6}

"Ellen Leveridge" (census enumerator error, actually Eleanor Knight), age 25, and her husband Austin Knight, age 26, were listed in the 1860 U. S. Census of Manhattan Ward 7 District 3, New York County, New York. Eleanor and Austin were living in the household of Eleanor's parents John and Mary Leveridge.⁷

Eleanor Eliza (Leveridge) Knight died 6 April 1867 in East Orange, Essex County, New Jersey. Eleanor was buried at Greenwood Cemetery in Brooklyn, Kings County, New York.^{8,9,10}

Austin Knight, age 40, was the head of household in the 1870 U. S. Census of East Orange, Essex County, New Jersey. Austin's household included three children: Thomas Knight, age 10; Martha Knight, age 5; Elenor Knight, age 3. Also included in the household were Austin's father-in-law John Leveridge, age 74, and Austin's sister-in-law Mary Leveridge, age 35. Presumably Mary was caring for the children.¹¹ Austin M. Knight remarried Maria Louise Walton 20 March 1873, probably in East Orange, Essex County, New Jersey.¹²

Austin M. Knight died 14 August 1878 at his home on William Street near Arlington Avenue in East Orange, Essex County, New Jersey. Austin committed suicide with a gun shot to the head. An autopsy was performed and disclosed that Austin had been suffering from progressive brain disease, which would likely explain Austin's erratic behavior in the weeks prior to his death, and his subsequent suicide. The New York Times published an extensive article on the incident in its edition of 15 August 1878. Austin was buried at the Rosedale Cemetery in Montclair, Essex County, New Jersey.^{13,14}

The three orphaned Knight children were taken in by their grandfather John Leveridge and their Aunt Mary J. Leveridge: Thomas L. Knight, age 19; Martha V Knight, age 15; and Elenor E. Knight, age 13 according to the 1880 U. S. Census of Manhattan, New York County, New York. The census disclosed that they were living at 141 East 48th Street in Manhattan, New York County, New York.¹⁵

Eleanor E. Knight maintained a long term relationship with her aunt Mary Jane Leveridge, sharing for several years accommodations at the Murray Hill and Park Avenue hotels in Manhattan, New York County, New York.

Eleanor's marriage to John Joseph De Barril was announced by Mary Jane Leveridge in the New York Times edition of 10 April 1902.^{16,17}

Eleanor Eliza Leveridge and Austin Melvin Knight had five children, three of whom survived until adulthood.

- i. Mary L. Knight was born circa 1858-1859 (parents were married in 1857) and died circa 1859, probably in Manhattan, New York County, New York. Mary was buried 5 August 1859 at Greenwood Cemetery, Brooklyn, Kings County, New York.¹⁸

- ii. On 19 July 1864 a Thomas "Melvin" Knight was baptized at the Market Street Dutch Reformed Church, 5 Rutgers place location. This was apparently a recording error, since all subsequent references to this individual are Thomas L. Knight or Thomas Leveridge Knight (see 1903 New York City Directory and the probate file of Austin M. Knight for specific use of the Thomas "Leveridge" Knight name). Thomas L. Knight was born 19 July 1860 probably in Manhattan, New York County, New York. Thomas married Josephine Byron 27 November 1888 in Manhattan. Thomas died 13 July 1926 in East Orange, Essex County, New Jersey. Thomas was buried at Greenwood Cemetery, Brooklyn, Kings County, New York. Thomas was recorded in the 1870, 1900, and 1920 U. S. Census of Essex County, New Jersey; 1880 and 1910 New York County, New York.^{19,20,21,22,23,24,25,26,27,28,29}
- iii. John Melvin Knight was born 12 October 1862 probably in Manhattan, New York County, New York. John was baptized at the Market Street Dutch Reformed Church, 5 Rutgers place location, on 19 July 1864, the same day his brother Thomas Knight was baptized. John died within a month of his baptism and was buried 19 August 1864 at Greenwood Cemetery, Kings County, New York.^{30,31}
- iv. Martha Victoria Knight was born 27 October 1864 in Manhattan, New York County, New York. Martha was baptized 7 July 1867 at the Central Brick Presbyterian Church in East Orange, Essex County, New Jersey. Martha married Irvin D. Travers 15 January 1888 in Union City, Hudson County, New Jersey. Martha and Irvin were divorced between 1920 and 1930. Martha died 12 April 1947 in Hollis, Queens County, New York. Martha was buried at Kensico Cemetery in Valhalla, Westchester County, New York. Martha was recorded in the 1870 U. S. Census of Essex County, New Jersey; 1880, 1900, and 1920 New York County, New York; 1910 Bronx, New York County; 1930 Nassau County, New York; 1940 Queens County, New York.^{32,33,34,35,36,37,38,39,40,41,42}
- v. Eleanor Eliza (or Elizabeth) Knight was born 21 March 1867 probably in East Orange, Essex County, New York. Eleanor was baptized 7 July 1867 at the Central Brick Presbyterian Church in East Orange. Eleanor married John Joseph DeBarril circa April 1902, place unknown. Eleanor's date and place of death, as well as her burial place, have not been determined. Eleanor was recorded in the 1870 U. S. Census of Essex County, New Jersey; 1880 New York County, New York. The 1910 U. S. Census of Manhattan Ward 18, New York County, New York records an Eleana E. (Eleaner E.) De Bassil (De Barril), age 38 (born circa 1872), a lodger living on East 26th Street. The record indicates that her parents were born in Ohio, which does not fit the daughter of Eleanor Eliza Leveridge and Austin M. Knight. The father was born in Ohio, but the mother was born in New York.^{43,44,45,46}

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Endnotes

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