

Individual Narrative of Benjamin⁸ Cornelius Leveridge [402] Son of Benjamin⁷ Chase Leveridge [206] and Mary Ann Van Pelt Husband of Petronella Trenor

Benjamin Cornelius Leveridge was born circa 1829-1830 in Manhattan, New York County, New York. Cornelius as a middle name is used in many family trees on Ancestry.com, but is not documented in the source records which consistently use only the middle initial "C."^{1,2,3,4}

In 1844 Benjamin C. Leveridge graduated from Columbia College in Manhattan, New York County, New York with a B.A. degree.⁵

Benjamin C. Leveridge married Petronella Trenor circa 1850 probably in Manhattan, New York County, New York.^{6,7,8}

Benjamin C. Leveridge, age 21 working in the post office, was recorded in the 1850 U.S. Census of Manhattan Ward 7 District 1, New York County, New York living in his parents' household (Benjamin Chase Leveridge and his wife Mary Ann Van Pelt). The household also included P. Leveridge, age 18, presumably Benjamin's wife. Also included was Benjamin's brother John H. Leveridge, age 26, and his wife Emily, age 21, and his daughter Emily, age 2. Also included was Benjamin's siblings Mary Ann, Albert, and Charles.⁹

Benjamin Leveridge (no middle initial given), age 30 (no occupation given), was recorded in the 1860 U. S. Census of Hoboken Ward 3, Hudson County, New Jersey. Benjamin's household included his wife Petronella, age 27, and children Benjamin, age 9, and Petronella, age 7.¹⁰

In 1870 Benjamin C. Leveridge and his family settled in Milton Township, Butler County, Kansas. Benjamin was appointed postmaster of Holden, Kansas.¹¹

By 1880 Benjamin C. Leveridge and his family were back in New Jersey. Benjamin, age 50 dealer in notions, his wife Petronella, age 46, and their daughter Petronella, age 25, a teacher, were recorded in the U. S. Census of Hoboken, Hudson County, New Jersey. They were living at 294 Bloomfield Street boarding at the home of William J. Van Pelt, who might have been a maternal relative.¹²

Benjamin C. Leveridge was listed in the 1883 St. Paul Minnesota City Directory, president of the St. Paul and Minneapolis Messenger and Telephone Company, boarding at 148 East 6th Street. Benjamin H. Leveridge, son of Benjamin C. Leveridge, was also listed as general manager of the same company and boarding at the same address.¹³

Petronella Leveridge was listed in the 1891-1892 Jersey City-Hoboken New Jersey City Directory living at 354 Washington Street in Hoboken, Hudson County, New Jersey¹⁴ Benjamin C. Leveridge was listed in the 1893 Jersey City-Hoboken New Jersey City Directory living at 908 Washington Street in Hoboken.¹⁵

Benjamin Leveridge was recorded in the 1895 New Jersey State Census of Hoboken Ward 2, Hudson County. Included with Benjamin Leveridge were his son Benjamin and his daughter Petronelia Luehs. Benjamin's wife May (Mary) was not included, although she was still living. Benjamin and May could have been separated noting that they were living at separate addresses in the 1892 and 1893 Jersey City-Hoboken City Directories.¹⁶

Petronella Trenor, wife of Benjamin C. Leveridge, died 25 July 1896 in Hoboken, Hudson County, New Jersey. Petronella's residence at the time she died was 1212 Washington Street. Petronella was buried at Greenwood Cemetery in Brooklyn, Kings County, New York.^{17,18}

Benjamin G. (should have been "C") Leveridge was listed in the 1902 Jersey City-Hoboken, New Jersey City Directory living at 1111 Washington Street.¹⁹

Benjamin C. Leveridge died 4 January 1906 in Manhattan, New York County, New York. At the time he died, Benjamin was living at 1111 Washington Steet in Hoboken, Hudson County, New Jersey. Benjamin was buried at Greenwood Cemetery in Brooklyn, Kings County, New York.^{20,21,22}

Benjamin Cornelius Leveridge and Petronella Trenor had two children, both of whom survived to adulthood.

- i. Benjamin H. Leveridge was born 22 February 1852 in Manhattan, New York County, New York. Benjamin married May (aka Mary) Newton circa 1873-1875, place unknown, but possibly Butler County, Kansas. Benjamin and May's only child Bessie was 5 years old in the 1880 U. S. Census. There was a marriage certificate from St. Louis Missouri, but the dates were not legible. Benjamin died 16 May 1928 in Philadelphia, Philadelphia County, Pennsylvania. Benjamin was not found in the U.S. Census for 1870, 1900, 1910, and 1920. Benjamin apparently moved around a bit based upon other records. Benjamin was found located in the following places: 1860 Hoboken, Hudson County, New Jersey (1860 U. S. Census); 1875 Milton, Butler County, Kansas (Kansas State Census); 1880 Manhattan, New York County, New York (1880 U. S. Census); 1883-1891 St. Paul, Minnesota (City Directories 1883 and 1891, State Census 1885); 1895 St. Louis, Missouri (City Directory); 1902 and 1910 Manhattan, New York County, New York (City Directories); 1917 Rochester, New York (City Directory); and 1928 (Death Certificate).^{23,24,25,26,27,28,29,30,31,32,33,34}
- ii. Petronelia (aka Petronella) F. Leveridge was born circa 1853-1855 in New York State, perhaps Manhattan, New York County. Petronelia married first John N. Luehs 21 January 1886 in Hoboken, Hudson County, New York. Petronelia married second William H. Bowers 25 October 1896 in Manhattan. Petronelia died after 1910. Several Ancestry.com family trees give a death year of 1911 without citing a source. Petronelia was recorded in the 1860, 1880, and 1910 U. S. Census of Hudson County, New Jersey as well as the 1895 New Jersey State Census of Hudson County.^{35,36,37,38,39,40}

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