

-- COLFAX --

The family groups represented in this collection may not be complete, because information was entered bit by bit as I found it or happened upon it; I have not done any systematic research on these families. Because they do not compose whole family genealogies, these listings are arranged differently from most genealogical records or histories. Each listing is a family group, and is arranged and filed alphabetically under the name of the head of the family.

Names are generally in alphabetical order (disregarding spelling variations and middle names), then in approx. chronological order. The first sorting is by surname (mixing together any and all spelling variations), then by given name, then by approximate birthdate (when known) in approximate chronological order. For easier reference, surnames in headings are grouped together under the most common spelling usage that evolved in this geographical location, regardless of individualistic spellings in the records themselves. Cross references are used in most cases where surname spellings substantially vary.

Within the quoted records, the individual spellings have been (mostly) retained because they sometimes provide clues (although in general—but with exceptions—they seem to largely reflect the record keeper's particular orthography and not always, at this early period, any special family preference). Those interested can see the variety and evolution of a particular name's spelling and the interesting and sometimes amusing attempts at phonetic reproduction. Keep in mind that before names and spellings were standardized, records reflected the individualistic whim of the particular recorder (often two different spellings of the same name within the same document). In addition, all records were handwritten, and sometimes deciphering a handwritten name in early records can be quite challenging! So expect to search under all possibilities of spelling (for both surnames and given names).

Given names are grouped together without regard for middle initials or middle names. Because middle names and/or initials are sometimes used, sometimes not used in various records, it seemed simplest to arrange entries as if the middle names or initials did not exist. Usually all variations of a given name are grouped together as though spelled one way: Jan, Johannes, John, etc. are all grouped as one (but also look under the other forms).

Sources and references are included with each "family" grouping, but may or may not include sources that are cited (or are obvious, such as baptismal records, etc.) within the narrative or listing itself.

As with any compiled genealogical record, researchers should regard this information as leads and clues, and should verify all data with independent research.

I welcome, and would be grateful for, any additions or corrections, especially with source citations.

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Colfax, George Washington

George W. Colfax
son of William Colfax &
Hester Schuyler

b. about 1784
d. 8 Jan 1849, age 65
buried Pompton Ref Chyd

George Washington was godfather to George Washington Colfax, holding him at the baptismal font and conferring upon him his own name.

---children of George Washington Colfax & Eliza Colfax:

• **Elizabeth Colfax**, b. 16 Feb 1814; bp. 8 May 1814 Pompton Plains Ref Ch (no wit)

---Sources: Westevelt, Frances M., Bergen County New Jersey Marriage Records, Paramus, p. 72; Ackerman, Herbert S. and Arthur J. Goff, Paramus Reformed Dutch Church Records (Marriages 1799-1900; Baptisms 1851-1900), 1944, typescript printed [1998?] by Bergen Historic Books; Reformed Dutch Church records of Pompton Plains, pages 1-210 : records of Montville, pages 211-258 : typescript, 1923, (online at HeritageQuest)

m. 12 Dec 1811
Paramus Ref Ch

Eliza Colfax
dau. of

b.
d.
buried

Colfax, George R.

George R. Colfax
d.

---children of George R. Colfax & Rachel Berry:

• **Anna Colfax**, b. 26 April 1807; m. (1) Dec 1824, **Andrew Mickens**; m. (2) April 1841, **Tunis Haulenbeck**.

m.

Rachel Berry
d. 20 Aug 1834

- **Sarah Colfax**, b. 10 Nov 1808; m. 10 June 1829, **Abraham Lines**
 - **William Colfax**, b. 16 Sep 1811; d. 20 Feb 1835.
 - **George Martin Colfax**, d. unmarried
 - **Elizabeth Colfax**, m. 22 March 1835, **Nathaniel Oakley, Jr.**
 - **Catharine Herbert Colfax**, m. 2 April 1842, **Masklin Clark Baker**
 - **Harriet Ryerson Colfax**, m. 17 April 1850, **John V. Harriott**
 - **Robert R. Colfax**, m. 28 April 1846, **Anna Logan**
 - **John Quincy Adams Colfax**, m. 3 July 1851, **Sarah Logan**
 - **Mary Jane Colfax**, m. 15 Nov 1854, **Charles Logan**
- Sources: Warner, Peter Roome, Descendants of Peter Willemse Roome, New York: David H. Gildersleeve, n.d. (c. 1883), p. 62

Colfax, George W.

George W. Colfax
son of

m. 28 Aug 1877
Brooklyn, NY,
by Rev. John Edmonds

Letty C. Post
dau. of John C. Post &
Mary -?-
b. about 1855

b. about 1842

At the time of their marriage, he was of Pompton and she was of Oakland.

---Sources: Information August 1996 from Donna Ristenbatt, Manheim, PA, citing NJSA Reel #77, Vol. BT, p. 17, Bergen County, Franklin Township

Colfax, Richard

Ruchard Colfax
son of

m. 15 May 1850
Pompton Plains, NJ, by
Rev. H. Doolittle

Frances Delia Powers
dau. of

---Sources: Sawyer, Ray C., New Jersey Marriages, as published in the Christian Intelligencer of the Reformed Dutch Church from 1830 to 1871, Vols. 1 & 2, pub. 1932-1933 (reprinted 1998 in one vol., by Bergen Historic Books)

Colfax, Richard H.

Richard H. Colfax
b. about 1835 NJ

m.

Nancy E.
b. about 1836 NJ

Richard H. Colfax, 35, grocer, and Nancy E., 34, were listed in the 1870 Federal Census, living in Franklin Township, Bergen County, NJ (probably in or near what became Midland Park Borough). Listed with them were: Joseph, 12; Jennie H., 9; Marcus W., 3; and Hattie M., 2. Also listed with them was Rachel Decker, 15, domestic servant.

---*children of Richard H. Colfax & Nancy E.*

- **Joseph Colfax**, b. about 1858 NJ
- **Jennie H. Colfax**, b. about 1861 NJ
- **Marcus W. Colfax**, b. about 1867 NJ
- **Hattie M. Colfax**, b. about 1868 NJ

---Sources: 1870 Federal Census, New Jersey, Bergen County, Franklin Township (Ramseys P.O.), taken July 1870, Dwelling 68, Family 76

Colfax, Schuyler

Schuyler Colfax
son of William Colfax &
Hester Schuyler
d. Dec 1822

m. 10 Aug 1820
Sugar Loaf St., NYC
Dutch Ref Ch

Hannah Delamater Stryker
dau. of Peter Stryker &
Hannah DeLameter
d.

---*children of Schuyler Colfax & Hannah Stryker:*

- **Schuyler Colfax, Jr.**, b. 23 Mar 1823 New York; d. 13 Jan 1885

---Sources: Ryerson, Albert Winslow, The Ryerson Genealogy, 1916, p. 24; New York #2, 1740s-1880s Marriage Index online at genealogy.com

Colfax, William (Capt.; later Brig.-Gen.)

William Colfax
son of

m. 27 Aug 1783
(NJ license)

Esther Schuyler (Hester)
dau. of Casperus Schuyler &

b. 1756 New London, CT
d. 9 Sep 1838
buried Pompton

b.
d. prob before 7 June 1798
buried

William Colfax and Adoniah Schuyler, both of Pomptan in the County of Bergen... [bound to]... William Livingston, Governor... 500 pounds... 27 Aug 1783. ... certificate of marriage between William Colfax... and Esther Schuyler ... [w] Anne Westervelt, Abr: Westervelt.

They lived at Pompton.

The Colfax family was originally from Connecticut. William Colfax came to Bergen County, NJ about 1760.

William Colfax served as Capt. of the Guards to George Washington during the Revolution. He was a judge of the court of common pleas, Passaic Co., a member of the General Assembly of the state in 1806-07, 1809-10, and in 1811. He served on the Legislative Council in 1808, 1812, and 1813. In 1811 he was commissioned Brig.-Gen of the Army, in charge of the 2nd

Division of Infantry from Bergen County, and stationed at Sandy Hook.

On 7 June 1798 (recorded 1 Aug 1805, Bergen Co. V:130) William Colfax of the Township of Saddle River, conveyed to Derick Van Ripen of the same place, for £18, 15 shillings, 4-89/100 acres strict measure in the Township of Saddle River, beginning W side of road that leads from said Derick V. Ripen's house to the main road. Signed by Wm. Colfax. Witnessed by John Van Ripen, Jno. Ackerman (his mark).¹

On 1 October 1803 (recorded 15 Aug 1805, Bergen Co. V:58) Michael Ortley of the Township of Saddle River, and Catherine, his wife, conveyed to Abraham R. Lynson of the same place, for \$375, three lots: (1) 31 acres strict measure in the County of Bergen on south side of road that leads from Pompton to Hackensack being same conveyed by James Dunham to Patrick Hanley and from him to William Colfax and from him to William Burton and from him to David Brown, and from him to Thomas Morton and from him to said Michael Ortley, beginning 6th corner of a 30-acre tract returned to the heirs of William Earl of Sterling 9 July 1790. (2) also 10-3/100 acres strict measure in the mountains between Totowa and Preckness in the Township of Saddle River on road leading from Totowa to Pompton beginning SE corner of former survey of about 10 acres made for Doctor Stymas, conveyed by said William Colfax to said William Burton and from him to said David Brown, and from him to said Thomas Morton, and from him to said Michael Ortley. (3) 6 acres strict measure in Saddle River beginning SE corner of Samuel Van Saun's land, conveyed by Jonathan Holstead and Isabelle, his wife, to said William Borton by deed 8 Feb 1796; David Brown of the City of New York, baker, unto said Thomas Morton by deed 1 Aug 1799 and sold by Thomas Morton and Catherine, his wife, to Michael Ortley 4 Dec 1800. Signed by Michael Ortley, Catherine Ortley. Witnessed by Thomas Moore, John Earl (his mark).¹

On 3 January 1805 (recorded 7 September 1805, Bergen Co. V:331) Saml. Jennings of the Township of Pompton, conveyed to William and Robert Colfax of New Jersey, for \$100, 2 acres strict measure at Mackepan, beginning corner of tract sold by Samuel Cobb to Jno. P. Seahalster? 17 Aug 1799. Signed by Samuel Jennings. Witnessed by G. E. R. Colfax, George Sheaper.¹

On 20 April 1805 (recorded 28 June 1805, Bergen Co. V:120) George G. Ryerson and Abigale, his wife, of the Township of Pompton, conveyed to William Colfax of the Township of Saddle River, for \$812.50, 10-50/100 acres more or less being a parcel whereon the forge now stands in the Township of Pompton, being part of a farm formerly belonging to John Allen, beginning N side of Wiembemus Brook below SE side of piece of flat, stoney land on N side of Brook at a point of Steep Rocks about a mile and a half W of Joseph Bartrim's plantation. Signed by G. G. Ryerson, Abigail Ryerson. Witnessed by John A. Post, Theunis Ryerson.¹

On 15 November 1805 (recorded 29 January 1806, Bergen Co. W:160) William Colfax of the County of Bergen, conveyed to Thomas Gilleland of the same place, for £250, 5 parcels: (1) 2 acres meadowland in the Township of Saddle River at Preakness, lately the property of William Drummond, deceased, and on which he lived til his decease, beginning near a place called Long Bridge near the dwelling house of the said Drummond, deceased; (2) 1-82/100 acres at corner David Hennion (or land late of David Hennion), as conveyed by said David Hennion [and others?] to William Drummond. (3) 14-28/100 acres beginning NW corner of lot of 56-15/100 acres returned to David Ogden 28 October 1752. (4) 13-32/100 acres beginning corner of land formerly belonging to George Hains, NE from dwelling house of said Drummond. (5) 32-31/100 acres beginning corner of tract returned 18 May 1788 to James Parker... Signed by Wm. Colfax. Witnessed by George W. Colfax, Simeon Mead.¹

On 15 November 1805 (recorded 1 May 1806, Bergen Co. X:372) William Colfax of the County of Bergen, conveyed to Cornelius Acker of the County of Bergen, for \$250, two lots in the Township of Saddle River, of 43 acres and 23 acres; opposite a pond at Jacob B. Dooremus; Henry Cooper; John Tucker; line of Phillip J. Schuyler; Abraham Ryerson, Esquire for said William Colfax; David J. Hennion, lately of William Drummond. Signed by William Colfax. Witnessed by Thomas J. Gillelan, George W. Colfax.¹

---children of William Colfax & Hester Schuyler: (6 children)

- **George Washington Colfax**, b. abt. 1784; m. (poss) 12 Dec 1811 **Eliza Colfax**. George Washington was godfather to George Washington Colfax, holding him at the baptismal font and conferring upon him his own name.
- **William Colfax** (Dr.), b. 26 Apr 1797; bp. Pompton Plains Ref Ch (no wit); d. 28 Mar 1876; m. 27 Mar 1826
Hester Mandeville
- **Lucy Colfax**, poss the Lucy Colfax who m. 3 Aug 1815 Morris Co., NJ (by Jacob T. Field), **Henry Berry**
- **Eliza Colfax**, b. 8 Aug 1794
- **Mary Colfax**
- **Schuyler Colfax**, d. Dec 1822; m. **Hannah** (Stryker?), dau. of Hannah Stryker. She m. (2) George W. Matthews.

---Sources:

[1] Bergen County, NJ Deeds, at Bergen Co., Division of Cultural & Historic Affairs, Hackensack, NJ, abstracted by Patricia A. Wardell; Nelson, William, *New Jersey Marriages*, p. 71; *Bulletin of the Passaic County Historical Society*, Vol. 3, No. 11, Sept. 1952, p. 66; Ryerson, Albert Winslow, *The Ryerson Genealogy*, 1916, p. 24; "Morris County Marriage Records" in *Genealogical Magazine of New Jersey*, July 1932, p. 21; Clayton, W. Woodford & Nelson, William, *History of Bergen and Passaic Counties, New Jersey*, Philadelphia 1882, p. 555; Early New Jersey Marriage [License] Extracts, 1999 by Patricia M. Bergener <brngr@ix.netcom.com> FHLC 0888701; Vol. A, posted online at <ftp://ftp.rootsweb.com/pub/usgenweb/nj/marriage/marr1.txt>; Reformed Dutch Church records of Pompton Plains, pages 1-210; records of Montville, pages 211-258; typescript, 1923, (online at HeritageQuest)

Colfax, William

William Colfax

m.

Elisabeth

---children of William Colfax & Elizabeth

- **Harriet Ryerson Colfax**, bp. 6 June 1840 West Milford Presby Ch
- **Elizabeth Colfax**, bp. 6 June 1840 West Milford Presby Ch
- **Robert Colfax**, bp. 6 June 1840 West Milford Presby Ch
- **Elenor Colfax**, bp. 6 June 1840 West Milford Presby Ch
- **Sophonria Ryerson Colfax**, bp. 6 June 1840 West Milford Presby Ch

- **Joseph Hogan Colfax**, bp. 6 June 1840 West Milford Presby Ch
 - **William Colfax**, bp. 6 June 1840 West Milford Presby Ch
 - **Richard Hogan Colfax**, bp. 6 June 1840 West Milford Presby Ch
 - **Maria Louise Colfax**, bp. 6 June 1840 West Milford Presby Ch
- Sources: Kent, George P., *List of Members and Baptismal Records found in the Session Book of Minutes of the West Milford Presbyterian Church (formerly called Long Pond & New Milford) 1819-1884* (1964)

Colfax, William W.

William W. Colfax

son of

---Sources:

[1] Information online Feb 1999 from Judith Courter Ullman <AJULLMAN@aol.com> citing Return of Marriages in the County of Bergen & State of NJ Celebrated by Barnabus V. Collins, Minister of the Gospel;

m. 25 Sep 1863

Ponds Ref Ch¹

Delia Romine

dau. of