

American Biography A New Cyclopaedia, The American Historical Society, New York, 1926, Vol. XXV, Pages 121-123

VREDENBURGH, William R.,
Business Man.

Arms—Coupe, au 1 d'or a une rose de gules, bout, et fenillee d'or: au 2 de gules a un hareng nagcant d'argent, la tete surm. d'une couronne d'or.

The first of the family in America was Willem Isaacsen Van Vredenburgh, who came from the village of Vredenburgh, Holland, in the "Gilded Beaver," and arrived at New Amsterdam in May, 1658. He is recorded on June 16, 1661, as having been a soldier in the service of the Dutch West India Company. In 1673 he lived at Fort Willem Hendrick and near the new fortifications of New Orange, and in 1677 removed to Esopus. He married, in New York City, October 19, 1664, Appolonia, daughter of Jacob Barentsen and Maritje (Leenderts) Cool, and who was baptized in New Amsterdam (New York City after the English took possession in 1664), January 29, 1635- Children (first six baptized in New York City): 1. Isaac, of whom further. 2. Cornelia, baptized December 14, 1667. 3- Maria, baptized November 3, 1669. 4. Johannis, baptized October 19, 1671, died May 8, 1721. 5. Annatje, baptized December 8, 1673. 6. Ariaentje, baptized December 8, 1675. 7. Willem, baptized December 2, 1677. 8. Abraham, baptized at Esopus, January 27, 1682. 9. Jannetje, baptized at Esopus, April 6, 1684.

(II) Isaac Vredenburgh, son of Willem Isaacsen and Appolonia (Cool) Vredenburgh, was baptized in New York City October 4, 1665, and married, in New York City March 7, 1694, Janneken Joosten, widow of John Pell and daughter of Joost Carelszen and Styntje Jans. She was baptized in New York City November 16, 1664, and outliving Isaac Vredenburgh, married (third), August 10, 1710, Pieter Van Velsen, widower. Children of Isaac and Jenneken (Joosten) Vredenburgh (born in New York City): 1. Willem, baptized December 23, 1694. 2. Willem, of whom further. 3. Joost, baptized January 1, 1699; married Magdalena Brouwer. 4. Johannes, baptized July 23, 1701; married Jannetje Woodard. 5. Isaac, baptized October 3, 1703. 6. Kristina, baptized March 10, 1706.

(III) Willem Vredenburgh, son of Isaac and Janneken (Joosten) Vredenburgh, was baptized in New York City, October 4, 1696, and married, in New York City, April 22, 1717, Catherina Scott, baptized at Kingston, New York, September 1, 1695, the daughter of Patrick Scott (in Dutch "Schott"), and Margery Wilding. Children: 1. Jannetje, baptized August 7, 1717. 2. Isaac, born June 18, 1718. 3. Samuel, born March 2, 1720. 4. Petrus, of whom further. 5-10 (not named).

(IV) Petrus Vredenburgh, son of Willem and Catherina (Scott) Vredenburgh, was born July 30, 1721, and died July 26, 1810. He married (first), October 13, 1743, Margaret Schuurman, who was born September 27, 1726, and died August 4, 1745, daughter of Jacobus and Antje (Terheun) Schuurman, of New Brunswick, New Jersey. Jacobus Schuurman came from Holland to New Jersey in 1719. He married (second) Elizabeth Fisher. Child, born at New Brunswick, New Jersey (by first marriage) : I. Petrus, of whom further. By second marriage: 2-12. John S. and ten others, names not known.

(V) Petrus Vredenburgh, only child of Petrus and Margaret (Schuurman) Vredenburgh, was born in New Brunswick, New Jersey, July 14, 1745, and died August 24, 1823. He was a merchant in New Brunswick, and the record in an old Dutch Bible belonging to the family states that he died "in the seventy-ninth year of his age, with his faculties but little impaired, and executing the duties of county treasurer, an office he had filled without interruption for forty-two years." He married (first), December 17, 1772, Margaret Schuurman, daughter of John and Antje (De Riemer) Schuurman, and granddaughter of Jacobus and Antje (Terheun) Schuurman. He married (second) Anne Van Voorhees. Children, all by first marriage, born in New Brunswick: I. Peter, born October 26, 1773, died January 7, 1744. 2. John Schureman

(Rev.), born March 20, 1776, died October 4, 1821. 3. Peter, of whom further. 4. A daughter, still-born, December 27, 1780.

(VI) Peter Vredenburg, son of Petrus and Margaret (Schuurman) Vredenburg, was born in New Brunswick, New Jersey, October 5, 1778, and died in Somerville, New Jersey, September 15, 1848. He was a highly respected physician and citizen of Somerville, a man of much intelligence and culture. He married, in South Branch, New Jersey, December 20, 1804, Maria Van Doren, daughter of Joseph and Sarah (Vanderbilt) Van Doren, who was born April 7, 1783, and died April 2, 1855. She was a bright, cheerful woman, active in good works. Children: 1. Peter, born October 31, 1805, in Readington, Hunterdon County, New Jersey, and died at St. Augustine, Florida, March 24, 1873; in 1855 he was appointed one of the Associate Justices of the Supreme Court of New Jersey, and held the office fourteen years sustaining a reputation second to no one on the bench. He married, in 1836, Eleanor Brinkerhoff, and had three sons: Peter, Jr., William H. and James B. 2. Joseph Van Doren, born April 5, 1807, at Readington, died at Parsippany, New Jersey, May 12, 1809. 3. John S., of whom further. 4. Sarah Van Doren, born at Millstone, April 15, 1811, died at Somerville, August 15, 1888, unmarried. 5. Joseph Van Doren, M. D., born May 16, 1813, died November 19, 1870. 6. Margaret S., who was born March 7, 1816, died March 19, 1870. 7. La Rue Perrine, born November 6, 1818, died June 1, 1892; married Blandina Bruyn Elmendorf. 8. Aletta Sutphen, born May 27, 1821, died August 16, 1866; married, in 1844, I. P. Lindsley. 9. Anna Matilda, born January 13, 1823, died July 2, 1903. 10. Mary Elizabeth, born February 24, 1826, died January 17, 1900, and married Matthew W. Woodward.

(VII) John S. Vredenburg, third son of Peter and Maria (Van Doren) Vredenburg, was born in Somerset County, New Jersey, March 11, 1809, and died in Springfield, Illinois, March 9, 1879. For several years after his marriage he lived in New York City, then removed to Sangamon County, Illinois, arriving there July 20, 1835. He located first in Curran Township, and later removed to Springfield. He engaged for a time in mercantile business, but later; confined his attention chiefly to his growing lumber business, continuing in same until 1878, when his sons took over the business. He served two terms as alderman and was mayor of Springfield, Illinois, from April, 1864, to April, 1865. He married, September 15, 1832 Ann Eliza Doremus, born in New York City October 12, 1810, and she died at Springfield, Illinois, November 23, 1880. She was the daughter of Francis and Phoebe (Smith) Doremus- Children: 1. Maria Van Doren, born June 28, 1833; married, March 22, 1853, Edward R. Ulrich. 2. Frances Doremus, born in Somerville, New Jersey, April 8, 1835, died September 25, 1907. 3. Peter, born February 7, 1837, died March 2, 1925; married Mary A. Canfield. 4. John Doremus, born May 2, 1839, died October 21, 1842. 5. Thomas Doremus, of whom further. 6. John Schureman, born September 1, 1844, died February 19, 1902; married, October 15, 1868, Elizabeth Gilman. 7. La Rue, born December 22, 1846, died November 6, 1849. 8. Ann Eliza, born April 19, 1850, died March 29, 1925; married James Partridge. 9. Margaret S., who was born at Springfield, Illinois, September 7, 1852, living in Springfield. 10. La Rue, born September 24, 1855; married Mary Nancy Topping and resides in Boston, Massachusetts.

(VIII) Colonel Thomas Doremus Vredenburg was born March 15, 1841, on a farm two miles west of Curran, Illinois, and he died at Owanita, Lee County, Florida, March 9, 1922, where he was spending the winter, and was buried in Oak Ridge Cemetery, Springfield, Illinois. He was the fifth child of John S. and Ann E. (Doremus) Vredenburg, who settled in Curran Township in 1835, removing there from New Jersey. Mr. Vredenburg enlisted for service in the Civil War as private in Company B, 10th Illinois Cavalry, in which regiment he subsequently held the following commissions: First lieutenant and adjutant, 2d Battalion, April 8, 1862; first lieutenant, Company D, October 14, 1862; captain, Company D, May 31, 1863; major, December 31, 1864; lieutenant colonel, October 10, 1865. Mr. Vredenburg was taken prisoner of war June 6, 1863, at Richmond, Louisiana, and was confined at Shreveport, Louisiana, and Tyler, Texas, until the latter part of August, 1864. He escaped from Camp Ford, Tyler, Texas, with the assistance and connivance of a number of prisoners of war who were to be exchanged at New Orleans. Thomas D. Vredenburg was engaged in the lumber business in Springfield and Loami in the early years

of his business life, later establishing the Loami Bank, of which he was cashier for a number of years, retiring shortly after his wife's death, thereafter making his home with his son in Springfield, Illinois. Mr. Vredenburgh was married to Maria S. Reynolds, who preceded him in death by about twenty years. He leaves one son surviving, William R., of whom further.

(IX) William R. Vredenburgh, son of Colonel Thomas Doremus and Maria S. (Reynolds) Vredenburgh, was born in Springfield, Illinois, February 21, 1867. He was educated in the public schools, then entered the firm of the Peter Vredenburgh Lumber Company for several years. In 1893 he became chief deputy collector of internal revenue in Springfield, and continued in this position for eight years. He was insurance commissioner for Illinois for four years, then spent two years in the grain business. In 1910 he became assistant treasurer of the Peter Vredenburgh Lumber Company, and has continued in this position. Mr. Vredenburgh is active in civic affairs, and is a member of the Rotary Club, and the Chamber of commerce, of Springfield. He is a member of the Christ Episcopal Church. Mr. Vredenburgh married, October 7, 1902, Junette W. Jones, of Springfield, Illinois.