

Frederick William Ritter, Sr. (30 Sep 1797 – 14 Apr 1877)

Ritter. At Washington on April 14, 1877 at 10:30 p.m., Frederick W. Ritter in the 80th year of his age, formerly of New York and for the past 30 years a resident of Washington. Funeral from the residence of his son, No. 2215 E street northwest at 3 o'clock on Tuesday the 17th.

Ritter Family Genealogy (from unnamed family member):

From the Book of New World Immigrants, Vol. 2, compiled by Tepler

"Pioneers from Standerheim" by Hugo Foelich

from the Lutheran Church Register of the Village of Standerheim (in the Nahe Valley near Bad Kreuznach in the Northern Palatinate of Germany).

1. Ritter, Johann Peter, village mayor (Schultheiss), son of Matthias Ritter, married Mary Elizabeth. Children born at Strandernheim:
 - 1.1 Johann Heinrich Ritter, baptized July 27, 1732
 - 1.2 Johann Michael Ritter, baptized Sept. 8, 1734
 - 1.3 Johannes Ritter, baptized March 7, 1737

From the family bible:

1. John Peter Ritter, born in Germany, Oct. 9, 1698; married Maria Elizabeth Fox, January 9, 1722
John Peter Ritter writes:
"I would briefly state how long we were on our passage from Germany.
Left Germany June 1739, arrived Amsterdam, June 27, 1739.
Ten days after, we proceeded to Dover in England.
We remained there seven weeks. On the 25th of August, 1739
we set sail for New York, where we arrived 7th October, 1739 and
landed at Keeps Bay."
 - 1.2 John Michael Ritter, born in Germany, Sept. 5, 1734, died in New York, Nov. 1799; married Margaret Bant
 - 1.2.? Henry Ritter, born Oct. 30, 1768 in New York; married Elizabeth Bachus, Feb. 5, 1797 at Athens, New York. Died April 28, 1847
 - 1.2.?.? Frederick William, born Sept. 30, 1797 at Athens, New York; married Angelica Gilbert Powers, born Jan. 4, 1809 at Middletown, Ct. He died April 1877 and was buried in Congressional Cemetery, Washington, D.C.

*History of Members of Ritter Family buried in Congressional Cemetery
Range 42, Lots 186-190*

These grave sites were purchased in 1850 by Frederick William Ritter, Sr. who came to live in the District of Columbia in 1848 when Millard Fillmore became President of the United States. This came about because his wife, Angelica Gilbert Powers Ritter was a first cousin of Millard Fillmore's wife, Abigail Powers. Frederick Ritter came down to Washington from New York and found a job in the Treasury Department.

In April 1877, Frederick William Ritter, Sr. was buried in site 188. He was born in Athens, New York, September 30, 1797, son of Henry and Eliza Bachus Ritter. He married Angelica Gilbert Powers Ritter in Ithaca, New York, May 4, 1829. He was the owner/editor of small weekly newspapers in upstate New York: Ithaca, Poughkeepsie, Fiskill, Geneva, Havana, later removing to Washington, D.C. when he was about 51 years of age.