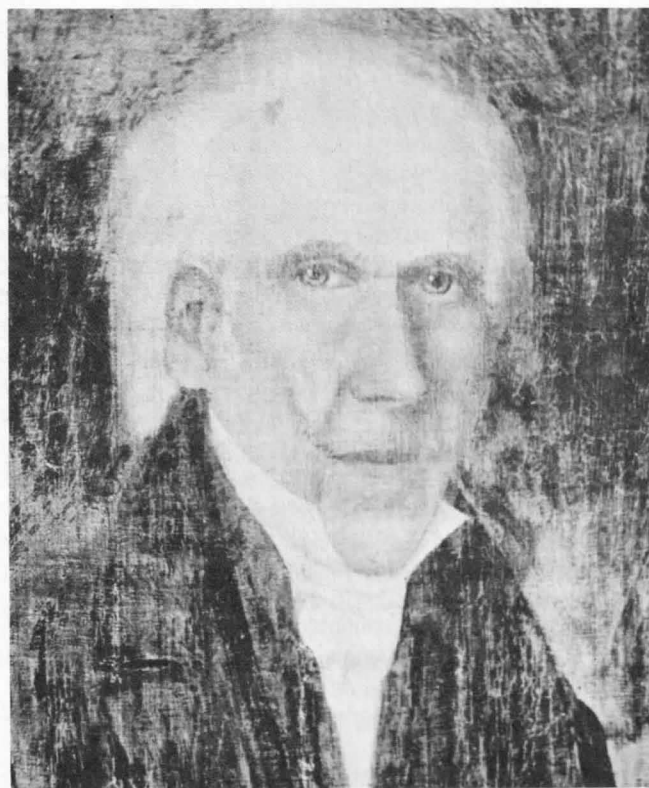


Rathbun-Rathbone-Rathburn
FAMILY
HISTORIAN



Wait Rathbone
(1744-1832)

Devoted to
the perpetuity of
our common heritage
an honorable
Name.

Letter From the Editor

As we go to press, our membership roster stands at nearly 330, just a little under last year's final total. Although some 50 of our 1983 members failed to renew by the Feb. 15 deadline, the loss was nearly made up by a surge of new memberships. We still hope that many of these "lost" members will resubscribe.

Continued growth is our key to success. We are starting a series of small mailings to Rathbuns, Rathbones and Rathburns whose names and addresses have been sent to us by Association members from local telephone books. We are asking primarily for family information, with membership in the Association as a secondary goal.

As our Historian's genealogical section moves closer to present-day generations, we need all the data we can get to make the family record complete.

I am pleased to report that five more members have volunteered to serve as research assistants in their areas, joining the six we listed in the last issue. The new researchers are K. Haybron Adams, Provo, Utah; Arline Cox, Cheshire,

Ohio; Charles Murray, Gallipolis, Ohio; Dale Rathbun, Monroe, Mich., and Fred C. Rathbun, Denver, Colo.

Our thanks to them all, and we again urge others to consider volunteering in this effort. All of you, however, can help in other ways. Watch your local newspapers for obituaries and other items mentioning our name. Call or write the Rathbuns, Rathbones and Rathburns in your telephone book and see if they will at least provide their family data. At the very least, ask the names and home towns of their parents and grandparents.

The answers to many genealogical questions are stored away in various family trunks and attics throughout the country. Please help us locate them. And for you few who have *still* not sent in your own family records, please: please, mail them to us now.

Many members have written of their interest in our proposed second annual reunion next year in Rathbun, Iowa. We will have a preliminary report in the next issue. If you have any thoughts or suggestions, let us know.

In an earlier issue, we cautioned our members about the mass mailings being made by a firm using the name Beatrice Bayley, and offering a Rathbun (or Rathbone or Rathburn) Family Heritage Book for \$27.85. We have learned that these mailings are again being made. As we pointed out before, the "Heritage" book consists primarily of names culled from telephone directories, and does not have any genealogical data on our family.

When we launched our Association and the Historian in 1981, with 150 members and a \$25 annual membership fee, we had no idea how it would work out and how long it would last.

Now in our fourth year, and fourteenth issue, with the fee down to \$15 and with well over 300 members, it looks as though we will survive. I thank you all for your support, and your notes of encouragement, during these early years. Please help us continue to grow.

Frank

Family Crest Bookplates Are Offered

Nearly 50 years ago, when Katherine Rathbun was an eighth-grader in Westerly, R.I., she and her classmates were given an assignment to draw their family crests as an art project. Katherine, whose family had a copy of Cooley's *Rathbone Genealogy*, copied the English crest that appears in the book.

Her entry was judged the best in the class, and as a prize the drawing was made into a metal die from which bookplates could be printed. Katherine, now Mrs. Raymond K. Hoxsie, still has the die, and will have bookplates made for any cousins who might be interested.

The plates would be on sturdy ivory-colored paper, three inches wide and three and a half inches deep. The cost is \$5 for 25 copies, or three for one dollar. A copy is reproduced with this story. Notice that the Rathbone spelling is used.

If interested, write Mrs. Hoxsie at Post Office Box 355, Westerly, R.I. 02891.

She is the daughter of Herbert Warren⁸ Rathbun (Warren⁷ Calvin⁶ Samuel⁵ Elijah⁴ Samuel³⁻² John¹) and Julia L. Wilcox.



Rathbone

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Harry Rathbun, 90, Continues Lifelong Fight Against War

One of the most remarkable members of our family living today is undoubtedly Harry J. Rathbun of Palo Alto, California, who will celebrate his ninetieth birthday in June.

Harry "retired" 25 years ago after a distinguished career as a business executive and law professor, then launched his lifelong dream of working full time for world peace and the betterment of mankind.

For many years before and after his "retirement" he had conducted lectures and seminars for his friends and students, discussing the philosophical nature of man and possible ways to harness man's intellect and energy into more productive channels.

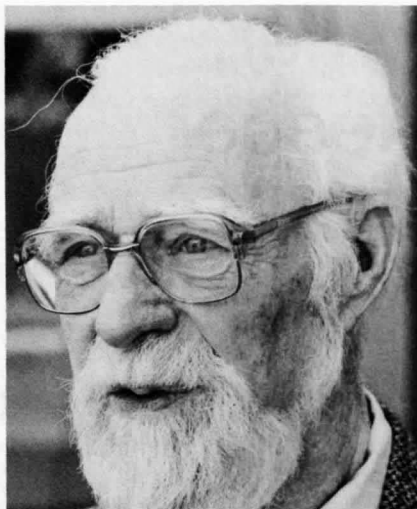
From these lectures sprang the idea of an organization, and it was created in 1962 when a group of his dedicated followers joined him in chartering the Creative Initiative Foundation. It is now a nationally recognized organization with more than 2,000 active members and a fulltime staff of nearly two dozen.

Creative Initiative conducts lectures and seminars, and also produces films, videotapes and pamphlets, and provides speakers on a wide range of subjects. The primary focus is world peace, but other problems are considered, including pollution, poverty, crime, energy conservation, alcohol and drug abuse.

Harry's son, Richard Rathbun, 43, is now president of the Foundation and runs its day-to-day operations, but Harry, as board chairman, is still the guiding hand and philosophical force behind the group.

He is a slightly built man with thinning white hair, a full white beard and penetrating blue eyes. He has an amazing memory, a sharp intellect, a deep love for books and music, and a willingness to accept change that is unusual in men his age.

Harry Rathbun was born June 14, 1894, in Mitchell, South Dakota, the son of Charles Galen⁸ Rathbun (Harmon⁷ John⁵ Clark⁵ Jonathan⁴ John³⁻²⁻¹) and



Harry J. Rathbun

Elizabeth Bigler.

The father, a native of Iowa, had moved to the Dakota Territory in the late 1880s, and settled in Mitchell, where he became an insurance agent, grocery store owner and assistant postmaster.

Harry was graduated in 1911 from the Mitchell High School, where he was named class valedictorian. His valedictory address showed that even then, at 17, he was dreaming of world peace.

"The great era of war is about to give way to the greater era of peace," he declared in his speech. "This is the great movement of the times."

"During the Nineteenth Century," he pointed out, "there were over fourteen million men killed in battle . . . How much better it would be for all concerned if international controversies were settled by arbitration."

He could not foresee in 1911 that World War One was only three years away, and that he would live through that war and a second world war, as well as the Korean and Vietnamese Wars and a host of smaller ones — with a total loss of life exceeding one hundred million men, women and children.

In his speech, Harry suggested that future wars might be prevented through a "code of international law . . . enforced by a small body of international police." This idea came into being just seven years later with the short-lived League of Nations and was revived again in 1945 with the present-day United Nations.

In concluding his talk, Harry told his fellow classmates:

"We have before us the great battle of life, which will always exist for every man, even when peace rules the world. In this battle, let us allow ourselves no peace until we have achieved the idealism for which we strive. Let us fight for success and let us not lay down our arms until we have attained it. And may we seek to bring out the best that is in us; seek to become worthy citizens not only of our own beloved country, but of the world."

Stirring, thoughtful words for a teenager, but Harry did indeed live up to the challenge he laid down for his classmates.

That same year, after Harry's graduation, the family moved to California. Harry's mother, a former teacher, encouraged all her children to attend college, and Harry enrolled in 1912 at Stanford University. In 1916, he was graduated with a degree in mechanical engineering, and in the next four years earned a degree in electrical engineering — then a relatively new field.

He worked briefly for a telegraph company, then joined the Kennedy Radio Corporation and became a vice-president at age 27.

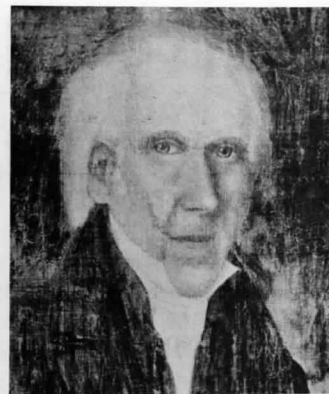
He might have considered himself a success by this time, but Harry was not satisfied. There were other fields, other areas of knowledge, other challenges.

He decided to study law, and enrolled again at Stanford. In 1929, he was graduated with a law degree, and was immediately offered a law professorship at Stanford, where he taught law, and

(continued on page 25)

Wait Rathbone

Revolutionary Patriot, Sailor, Ship-Owner, Merchant, Innkeeper



Wait Rathbone

In earlier issues, we published articles on Rev. John Rathbone (Jan. 1981) and his brother, Rev. Valentine W. Rathbun (Oct. 1981 and Jan. 1982), sons of Joshua³ Rathbun (John²⁻¹) and Mary Wightman. This is the story of their youngest brother, Wait Rathbone, who like his older brothers had a long and interesting life. A young man during the French and Indian War, in which he lost one brother, he served in the Revolutionary War and lost a son in the War of 1812. He had a varied career as a sailor, ship-owner, businessman and innkeeper, living in Connecticut, New York and New Jersey during his 88 years of life.

Wait Rathbun (he adopted the Rathbone spelling late in life) was born Aug. 18, 1744, in Stonington Long Point, Conn., where his father, Joshua, operated a wind-driven mill to manufacture cloth and probably to grind corn and other grain for his neighbors.

Long Point, which juts several miles into Block Island Sound between Westerly, R.I., and Mystic, Conn., was then the home of several hundred persons. Most of the men earned their living at sea, fishing for whales or codfish. Joshua Rathbun, as a mill owner, was one of the more prominent and probably wealthy residents. The son-in-law of Rev. Valentine Wightman, a leading Connecticut Baptist minister, Joshua had been one of the co-founders in 1743 of Stonington's Baptist Church, the second in Connecticut. Wait Rathbun, in fact, was named for the church's first pastor, Rev. Wait Palmer.

Religion and education played important roles in the Rathbuns' lives. Joshua was one of the contributors when a new school was built on Long Point in

1763, and all his sons were well educated for that day. Four of them became Baptist ministers.

On May 22, 1768, when he was 24, Wait was married to 20-year-old Susannah Dodge, of nearby Westerly. They were distant cousins by marriage through Wait's grandmother, Ann (Dodge) Rathbun. Wait and Susannah settled on Long Point, probably living with his elderly parents, and Wait apparently became a sailor and later a ship-owner.

On May 10, 1774, Wait and his brother John were among the Long Point residents who petitioned the Conn. General Assembly for permission to conduct a lottery and raise funds for a meeting house for public worship. Apparently, they had been traveling four miles to the mainland each Sunday for church services.

The petition described the Long Point inhabitants as "generally poor, living principally by the whale and cod-fishery." The population "had increased to upwards of eighty families, among those twenty widows." Life at sea was perilous, and widowhood was all too common for sailors' wives. By this time, most of the other Rathbun brothers and sisters had left Stonington to seek their fortunes in "the West," then meaning western Connecticut and Massachusetts. Only Rev. John, Wait and one sister remained in Stonington.

The outbreak of the Revolutionary War in 1775 brought troubled times to the residents of Long Point, isolated as they were from the mainland. In August, 1776, two British warships shelled the village, causing considerable damage. Wait's nephew, John Rathbone, Jr., a merchant, suffered damage to both his

house and general store. On Oct. 11, 1776, the inhabitants petitioned the Colony's General Assembly for men and cannon to help defend the town against British attacks.

Wait was probably the "Captain Rathbun" who in July 1776 led a group of Stonington men in recovering most of the cargo aboard a sloop which had run ashore on the nearby coast. It was a British merchantman which had been captured by an American warship. The American crew placed on board had apparently run her aground while trying to evade recapture. "Captain Rathbun's people" were paid 17 pounds, two shillings, for their role in bringing ashore 90 barrels of rum and seven barrels of sugar.

By 1777, Wait had formed Wait Rathbun and Co. and began purchasing merchant vessels for coastal trade. One of his ships, the schooner *Sally*, was refitted that year, armed with two cannon and a 10-man crew, and commissioned with a letter of Marque to attack British shipping. The *Sally* was commandeered later in the war as a "victualler ship" by order of the Continental Congress.

Wait apparently went to sea himself during the war. In Sept. 1778, he was listed as "prize master" on the *Venus*, a British ship captured by the American privateer *Eagle* and sent into Boston Harbor. Wait must have been an officer on the *Eagle*.

(On the basis of his services during the Revolution, Wait is considered a "patriot" and his descendants are eligible for membership in the Daughters of the American Revolution and the Sons of the American Revolution.)

As the long war drew to its end, and



Mary (Brown) Rathbone

inflation made Continental dollars almost worthless, living conditions on Long Point became worse. On Nov. 17, 1780, Wait and his neighbors petitioned the captain of a Continental vessel to bring them "wheat, rye, indian corn, flour and pork, as they, the inhabitants, are in such real want."

Death had struck the family with regularity during the war. Wait's mother, Mary, died in 1777, and on Nov. 22 of that year, his wife, Susannah, had died, leaving him with three small children, the oldest seven. Another had died as a baby. Wait was married three months later, on Feb. 18, 1778, to Mary (Brown) Palmer, a widow with four young children of her own.

On June 6, 1779, Wait's father, Joshua Rathbun, died at the age of 85. Due to the chaotic war-time conditions, the estate could not be settled at the time. The other children were scattered, and communication was difficult.

After the war, when conditions returned to normal, the estate was settled in 1785, and Wait, as youngest son, was given the family home, where he had probably been living since his first marriage. All the other brothers had left Stonington by that time, and all agreed to give up their rights in the property.

By this time, Wait and his second wife had six children of their own, in addition to his three by Susannah, and her four by her first husband. They had a household of 13 children, the oldest in their early 20s.

With his parents both dead, and all his brothers and sisters gone from the area, Wait had no reason to stay in Stonington. He looked about for a new home, and decided to investigate Troy, New York, a bustling village on the Hudson

River near the capital at Albany.

Probably leaving his large family behind, he went to Troy about 1788 to look for a home, or land on which to build one. He found a choice site, a large lot at First and Congress only a few blocks from the river and near the center of the city. But he ran into problems when he tried to buy the property.

The lot, and most other vacant land in Troy, was owned by Jacob VanderHeyden, descendant of an old Dutch family which had once owned all the land along the river.

Wait, operating on the yankee tradition of "pay as you go," offered VanderHeyden cash for the property. The old Dutchman, imbued with the traditions of his ancestors, wanted to lease Wait the land, or sell it on a long-term contract, expecting at some point to have it returned to him.

Incensed at such tactics, Wait decided to drop the idea of settling in Troy and set off down the Hudson River for New York City.

Several prominent Troy businessmen, recognizing that Wait and his investments would be an asset to the village, went to VanderHeyden and persuaded him to change his mind. Then they followed Wait to New York and asked him to return to Troy. Told that VanderHeyden would sell for cash, he went back to Troy, bought the property, and proceeded to build what became the largest home in the village.

It was made big enough to take in boarders, which would give him a new source of income. When it was completed, he brought his family from Long Point to Troy.

An early resident of that time, writing her memoirs over fifty years later, recalled Wait's home:

"We went to Troy the 1st of November 1792 and stopped at Captain Rathbun's boarding house, where we remained until our furniture could be brought in by sleigh. . . The Rathbuns were a worthy couple from Stonington, Connecticut, and had a numerous and agreeable family. . . Captain Rathbun's house was the largest and best kept boarding house in the village. He built it himself."

In addition to taking in boarders, Wait launched into a series of other enterprises. He took as a partner his nephew, Amos Rathbun, Jr., then in his late 20s, and the two men chartered boats for

fishing trips down the Hudson to New York and out into the Atlantic. One of these trips is described in a 1790 letter written by Wait (See our issue of Jan. 1983):

"Amos and I have chartered a sloop for fishing and Amos is preparing to go aboard of her this evening at Albany and sail tomorrow for New York and so proceed on the voyage. A mackerel voyage is intended this time, at Crow Harbor, if God wills."

The following year, in partnership with Amos and a local pharmacist, William Willard, Wait opened a store to sell drugs and medicines. They likely purchased their stock from Wait's nephew, John Rathbone, Jr., by then a wholesale merchant in New York City.

Wait was apparently operating during these years at least partly on borrowed money. In 1794, John Taylor of New York City sued him for non-payment of a \$30 note. To recover the money, Taylor obtained a legal writ in Stonington to seize Wait's property there. From this writ, we learn the location of the Rathbun property there. It was described as "a dwelling house and land in Stonington at a place called Long Point on the west side of said point where the defendant last resided in Stonington. It is bounded . . . on the east by the street (Water Street) that runs through said Long Point."

This would place the house west of Water Street, still the main street through the point, and not far from the home of Rev. John Rathbone, Wait's brother, built in 1775 at the corner of Water and Harmony Streets, and still standing today.

Wait must have settled the suit, for in June 1796, he sold the Stonington house and lot for 200 pounds to Isaac Sheffield and Reuben Chesebrough.

Death continued to strike Wait's family during these years.

In 1790, about the time of the move to Troy, his youngest daughter, Elizabeth Maria, died at about 18 months. His second child by Mary, 10-year-old Delia Julia, died May 8, 1791. His stepdaughter, Phoebe Palmer, died in 1798, aged 28.

But there were also happy times. On Oct. 13, 1791, his oldest daughter, Mary, married William Willard, one of his

(continued on page 26)

Cooley's Rathbone Genealogy Took Decades of Researching

In our first issue, we mentioned John C. Cooley's *Rathbone Genealogy*, published in 1898, and called it the starting point for anyone researching our family in America.

As we noted then, Cooley's book contains many errors, but it is a valuable research tool. Its 827 pages are an awe-inspiring indication of the countless hours spent by Cooley on its preparation.

Cooley was born Nov. 4, 1819, in Oswego, New York, a son of Robert and Electa (Rathbun) Cooley, and a grandson of Amos⁵ Rathbun (Amos⁴ Joshua³ John²⁻¹).

As a young man, he worked in his father's tailor shop, and eventually took over the business for about 10 years. For the next few decades, he dabbled in numerous enterprises. He was Oswego's street commissioner in 1850; purchased a local newspaper about 1855, but sold it a year later; opened a knitting factory, which failed, and for a time operated boats on the Erie Canal. For eight years, he was Oswego's canal toll collector.

As a young man of 22, Cooley became interested in genealogy and began to trace his mother's Rathbun ancestry. He contacted the prominent Rathbone families of Albany and New York City, and became convinced that Rathbone was the original, and correct, way to spell the name.

He gradually developed a fascination for the Rathbun-Rathbone family, and turned it into his major interest. Beginning about 1870, when he was 51, it became his full-time occupation.

Using city directories and other lists of names, he wrote an estimated 12,000 letters over several decades to Rathbuns, Rathbones and Rathbuns throughout the United States, asking for information on the family.

The results were amazing. He received between 9,000 and 10,000 responses, and a flood of data from family bibles and other sources. Most of it was accurate, but some was based on faulty

memories and stories handed down from earlier family members.

He must have spent thousands of hours compiling and collating this immense amount of data, assembling it into a cohesive family tree.

Cooley had no problem tracing the family back to John and Margaret Rathbun of Block Island, but he desperately wanted to establish their earlier ancestry.

In 1888, the *New England Historical and Genealogical Record* published the 1616 will of Captain Matthew Whipple of Ipswich, England, which mentioned a brother-in-law, Richard Rathbone. Cooley saw it and somehow conceived the notion that the will had been made in Ipswich, Massachusetts, rather than England.

From this mistaken notion, he rea-

soned that Richard Rathbone must have been in Massachusetts at the time, and therefore must have been the founder of our family in America. The gap of nearly 50 years between Richard of 1616 and John of Block Island in 1661 needed another generation, so he somehow came up with another John Rathbone – the supposed son of Richard and the father of our Block Island John.

Thus was born the legend of Richard Rathbone. (See Vol. 1, No. 1 of our *Historian*.)

Satisfied that he had solved the early generations, he proceeded with vigor in his task of putting together the later generations.

In this endeavor, he made one fatal mistake, common to early genealogists – when he could not find proof, he

RATHBONE GENEALOGY

BY

JOHN C. COOLEY.



A COMPLETE HISTORY OF THE

RATHBONE FAMILY,

DATING FROM 1574 TO DATE.

1898:
PRESS OF THE COURIER JOB PRINT.
SYRACUSE, N. Y.

placed family members on the basis of assumption, if they lived at the right time and place.

As a result, several lines were incorrectly recorded. One of our major goals today is to find and correct such erroneous lineages. Our task is made easier by publication in recent years of many earlier records, unknown to Cooley a century ago.

One of Cooley's biggest problems came in the lack of interest by many Rathbuns of his day, and their reluctance to provide information. (This same problem plagues your editor and his associates even today.)

When Franklin P. Rathbone launched the *Rathbone Family Historian* in 1892, (see our *Historian's* Vol. 1, No. 3) Cooley heard of it and became one of its active supporters. He offered his large mailing list to help Rathbone find new subscribers.

In some of Cooley's letters which were published by the *Historian* from 1892 through 1894 can be seen some of the frustrations he underwent in trying to obtain family data.

He wrote, in July, 1893: "There is much yet to be done in order to fill unfilled records of dates of births and marriages. There are (some) who are very sensitive about giving dates of birth. To them, I can only say (that) their descendants will be made even more sensitive from the fact that they cannot tell even the birth dates of their parents."

The following month he wrote: "I am anxious to close my work of family history and records in December . . . There is but little time in which to aid me in making the records of families full and complete. The records can be obtained only through the active cooperation of all . . ."

After the *Historian* ceased publication in June, 1894, Cooley decided to begin the task of writing his data in final form to be printed.

On January 9, 1896, he wrote his cousin, Hugo B. Rathbun (your editor's grandfather); "I shall finish the work as early as March if I live and am able to work. I am making fine progress so far." He signed the letter, ". . . truly your old Coz, John C. Cooley. Old because I am now past 76."

The work took him longer than he expected. It was not until late 1897 that it was done, and on Dec. 23, 1897, he



John C. Cooley

"He wrote an estimated 12,000 letters to Rathbuns, Rathbones and Rathbuns in the U.S."

send a "Prospectus" to family members throughout the country who had expressed interest. It began:

"After more than twenty-seven years of careful research, examination of records, and correspondence with thousands of Rathbones and their connections by marriage, the undersigned has completed and put into the hand of the printer as complete a record of the Rathbone lineage in America as it is possible to make.

"The Genealogy begins with Richard Rathbone, who came to this country from England about the year 1600, and who is responsible for the vast multitude (nearly 14,000) of Rathbones and Rathbuns (they are of the same blood) who have lived and are now living in America.

"The book," he continued, "will contain about 650 pages, 6¼ by 9½ inches in size, and will be printed on a very strong 80-pound book paper, handsomely bound in cloth, with gold stamping . . . The price of the book is \$6.00 — 25 cents additional when sent by mail — payable strictly in advance. A limited

edition only will be printed and to secure a copy of the book it will be necessary to have your subscription entered at once."

Cooley underestimated the eventual length of his book; it eventually contained 827 pages.

His book was finally published in 1898. Cooley apparently died about that time, although his exact death date is not known. Final proofreading was done by others with less interest, or knowledge. As a result, the book contains many typographical errors.

There may have been other problems. Harry J. Rathbun, of Palo Alto, California, now 90, recalls that his father, Charles G.⁸ Rathbun (Harmon⁷ John⁶ Clark⁵ Jonathan⁴ John³⁻²⁻¹) ordered one of the books.

"Unfortunately, for my father's hopes, the publishing plant burned down before all the books were distributed, so he never had access to a copy," Harry wrote your editor recently.

It appears that a second edition was published about 1902, apparently after Cooley's death, with a 13-page addition entitled, "Errata." Oddly, it doesn't mention Cooley's death.

At any rate, copies of the book were sent to at least some subscribers throughout the country, and became prized heirlooms. Today, the genealogy is rare and valuable. When your editor sought a copy in 1949, he contacted Goodspeed's Book Shop in Boston, and was told that it was "Very rare and sells for \$50 when available."

In 1962, Goodspeed's offered a copy for \$75, and again noted that it was "very scarce." Your editor by then had acquired a copy from a relative.

Today, copies of the book seldom appear on the market, and are probably worth nearly \$200.

Those of us who are interested in the family's history owe a great debt to John C. Cooley, who devoted so much of his life to the task of collecting and collating records from people and sources throughout the country.

His resulting book, while not perfect, contains a wealth of information, much of which would have been lost forever had he not spent so many years to give us his *Rathbone Genealogy*.

Credit should also be given to Margaret S. Dale, one of our members, who in 1966 published the only index to Cooley's second edition.

Two Other Rathbuns Linked To Revolutionary War Events

In our last issue, we listed all the members of our family with known military or naval service during the Revolutionary War. Following are the stories of two other Rathbuns whose involvement was more indirect, but definitely worth recording:

A Canadian Rathbun was an unwitting eye-witness to the first sea battle of the American Revolution, which took place on June 12, 1775, less than a month after the first shots were fired at Lexington and Concord.

Amos Rathbun (1738-1816), a resident of Horton, Nova Scotia, was a passenger on the Connecticut sloop, *Victory*, bound from Horton to New London, Conn. Off Machias, Maine, the *Victory* became involved in this early naval action, which historians have called "The Lexington of the Sea."

The difficulties began on the evening of June 10, when residents of Machias objected to the loading of lumber on two cargo ships to be hauled to Boston for construction of British barracks.

Machias dock workers refused to load the lumber, and a "liberty pole" was erected in the town square as a symbol of defiance to England.

Capt. James Moore, commander of the British schooner, *Margaretta*, waiting to escort the lumber to Boston, ordered the liberty pole torn down.

The angry patriots, led by Jeremiah O'Brien, responded the morning of June 12 by seizing the lumber ships and then setting out with them

to attack the *Margaretta*. After an exchange of gunfire, Captain Moore broke off the fight and headed out to sea, his ship's rigging badly damaged.

Amos Rathbun's involvement then occurred.

He was relaxing on the *Victory*, lying at anchor in the bay, waiting for a good wind to resume the trip to New London.

Capt. Moore spotted the *Victory* and decided to capture it to obtain new rigging for his own damaged ship. He also took, as prisoners, Capt. Robert Avery, commander of the *Victory*, and Amos Rathbun.

Once his schooner was repaired, Capt. Moore sailed back toward Machias to resume the fight. He took the precaution of tying Capt. Avery to a mast by the helmsman, thinking the Americans would not fire at one of their countrymen.

The Americans, however, did open fire when the *Margaretta* came within range, and Capt. Avery was killed. In the ensuing battle, Capt. Moore was shot twice in the chest and abdomen, and died the next day. Five other English crewmen were wounded, two fatally.

The Americans lost two men killed and four wounded, but succeeded in capturing the *Margaretta*. America's first sea battle was a victory, and Amos Rathbun had been in the middle of it.

There is no record of Amos during the battle. He apparently was not injured, and it is likely he dropped his plans to visit New London and returned to Nova Scotia.

Amos was a son of John⁴ Rathbun (Jonathan³ John²⁻¹), and the ancestor of one of our members, George Maurice Rathbun of Cheverie, Nova Scotia.

The most high-ranking court-martial of the Revolutionary War was held primarily in the home of a Rathbun. General Arthur St. Clair was ordered to trial by the Continental Congress for negligence and cowardice in the surrender of Forts Ticonderoga and Mt. Independence, N.Y., to the British in July 1777. General Washington authorized the court-

martial at his White Plains, N.Y., headquarters on Aug. 23, 1778. Seven of the court's 10 meetings were held "at the home of Captain Rathbun in King Street." This can only refer to James⁴ Rathbun (James³ Samuel² John¹), a sea captain of Greenwich, Conn., who moved to that area of New York state in the early 1770s. Gen. St. Clair was found not guilty.

Harry Rathbun

(continued from page 19)

business courses, for the next 30 years. He was listed in "Who's Who" as early as 1937, and in 1950 was named "Great Teacher" by the university's student body.

In the late 1930s came an event which was to affect the course of his life. As he prepared one day to deliver his traditional final lecture of the semester, he read a letter in the school newspaper from a student expressing fear of going out into a world he did not understand.

Harry threw away his notes and went to class with a new approach to his year-end summation. He wanted to tell his students something about the world that they were entering, and offer them some advice.

"My lecture that day was spontaneous," he recalled. "It was an outpouring. I couldn't help myself. I had to tell those kids that the meaning of life was up to them, that no teacher, and no school, and nobody else, could hand it to them like a diploma."

He received a standing ovation after his talk, and a new Stanford tradition had been launched. For the next 25 years, he ended every course with a similar lecture, and the university finally had to move his lectures to an auditorium to accommodate the growing number of students who heard of his talks and wanted to hear them.

"If those kids were so hungry for that much assurance, who was I to deny it to them," Harry says today.

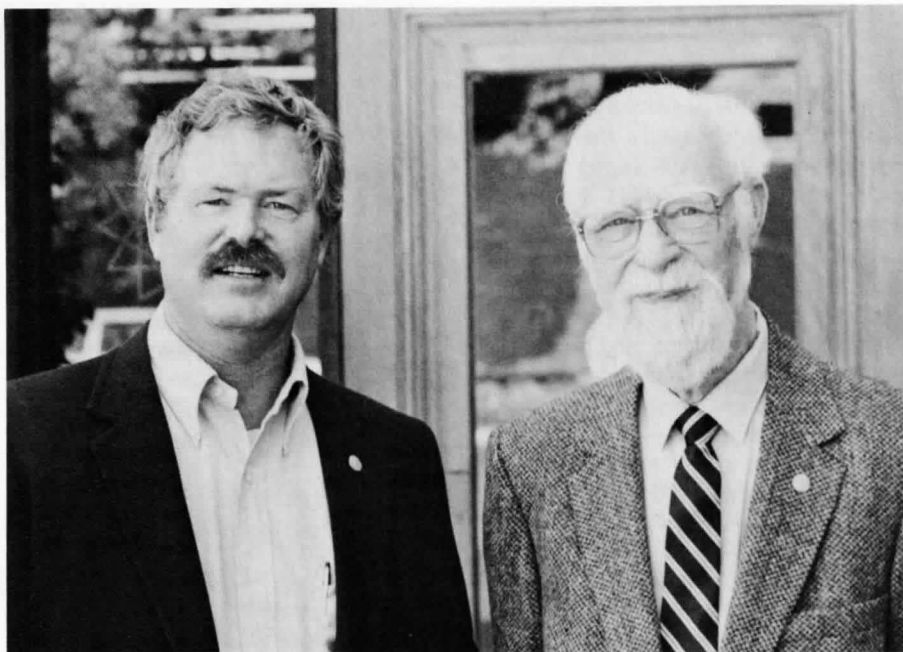
Harry retired in 1959, at the age of 65, but continued to teach part time for another eight years. Then he started lecturing and conducting seminars as a hobby for anyone interested in his approach to life and the world.

"I just couldn't seem to quit," he recalls. "I seemed to have more to say than ever before."

From these continued lectures came the idea for Creative Initiative, a non-profit foundation dedicated to helping individuals find "personal and global fulfillment." Some 50,000 persons have since participated in the Foundation's programs — mostly small seminars for less than 20 people.

His "students" today are vastly different from those in his university classrooms.

"They're not kids," Harry says.



Harry Rathbun and his son, Richard

"They're people with kids, with families, with good jobs and nice homes. They're people who have 'made it' in the eyes of the world, but who are still looking for something more — something that has greater meaning and greater promise.

"If I did nothing else with my life, it would be to teach people how utterly inter-related — and interdependent — they are with all of life."

With this philosophy, Harry has directed his efforts, and that of Creative Initiative, primarily to the prevention of war — the problem he discussed in his 1911 valedictory speech. The development of nuclear weapons, he feels, has made such an effort even more urgent.

The Foundation gears most of its lectures, panels, seminars, meetings, pamphlets, tapes and other programs toward the goal of a "World Beyond War."

"Our message," says Harry, "is that nuclear weapons have made war obsolete in competition between great powers. It is time to use the same intellect and resources that developed nuclear weapons to find a way to eradicate warfare among nations."

The Creative Initiative Foundation, and the Sequoia Seminar Foundation, of which he is a co-founder and president, are the culmination of Harry's life-long dream.

Religion plays a part in his philosophy, but without a structured belief.

One of Creative Initiative's basic premises is: "There is a positive power at work on this planet that is beyond the human dimension. Call it God, Truth, or that Which is Ultimately Real, or by whatever name you find congenial, there is a supreme intelligence, direction and will beyond human understanding."

The philosophy of Creative Initiative has attracted hundreds of men and women to work actively with Harry and his associates. The majority are mature, successful persons — many of them middle-aged — some of whom have left or taken temporary leave from their careers to help spread the Foundation's message.

Some skeptics, in fact, have called them "middle-aged moonies," but skeptics do not bother Harry. He goes serenely about his work, confident of his basic premises, and hopeful about the future.

His chief supporter is his wife, Emelia, now 78, to whom he was married in 1931, and who has worked with him over the years in Creative Initiative. She is an educator, lecturer and seminar leader.

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Harry Rathbun

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Their son, Richard, earned a degree 18 years ago in architecture, then spent seven years as a Peace Corps volunteer in both Africa and Asia. He was married in Nepal in 1969 to Carolyn Nissen, and they both returned to California to join Harry and Emelia in the Foundation's work.

Richard's sister, Juana, and her husband, Donald Mueller, are also involved in Creative Initiative activities, as are their three children.

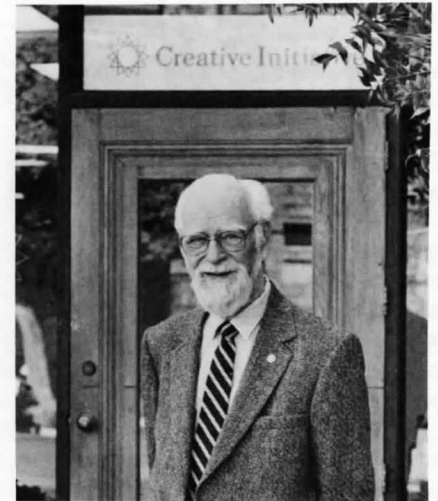
Harry is immensely pleased that his children and grandchildren are working with him for the goals he has sought all his life.

Nearing his 90th birthday, Harry is far from ready to sit back and relax. His father lived to 92, and his mother to 90. Two older twin brothers died at 89, giving the family a tradition of long life which Harry expects to continue and expand.

"I am not afraid to die," he says. "I am afraid that I might leave a lot of unfinished business behind for other people to take care of. I've got so much to do, and I see no end in sight."

This is the kind of late-life philosophy you would expect from the 17-year-old valedictorian who told his classmates 73 years ago:

"Let us fight for success and let us not lay down our arms until we have attained it."



Harry J. Rathbun

Wait Rathbone

(continued from page 21)

partners in the drug and medicine business. His stepdaughter, Catherine Palmer, married Dr. Daniel Hewitt about 1792.

With deaths and marriages reducing the family's size, Mary and Wait sold the home in Troy about 1794 and moved to nearby Lansingburgh. They purchased a large house on King Street in the central part of the village and opened a tavern and inn.

His partnership with Amos Rathbun ended about that time, and Amos moved westward to Cayuga County, N.Y., where he bought a large tract of land for wheat farming.

In Lansingburgh, Wait operated the inn and tavern, and also did some speculating in western lands — a common investment at the time. In 1800, he advertised in local newspapers to sell 500 acres he had bought in Clinton County.

In 1812 came the second war with England, and new tragedy for Wait and Mary. Samuel Brown Rathbun, the second of their two sons, had entered West Point Academy in 1803, and graduated in 1808 with a lieutenant's commission in the Army. He was in the forefront of the American troops who stormed Queenstown Heights in Canada on Oct. 13, 1812, and was among the first to be wounded. He was taken to a military

hospital at Fort Niagara, and died there Dec. 8, 1812, aged 26.

That decade also brought the deaths of Wait's remaining three Palmer stepchildren, leaving him and Mary with only three of their own six children, and three of his first marriage.

Their eldest daughter, Susannah, had come to live with them after the death of her first husband. She was married in February 1813 to Dr. Cornelius P. Heermans, a widower, who had boarded at Wait's tavern for several months.

Their children all dead or married, Wait and Mary decided to give up the tavern. Wait was nearly 70 and Mary 64. The Lansingburgh Gazette of March 16, 1813, carried the following advertisement:

"The house and premises at present occupied by the subscriber as a tavern are to be let for a term of from one to five years, and possession given on the first day of May next, or sooner if desired. The buildings are in complete repair and the stand is equal to any in the village. For further particulars apply to WAIT RATHBUN."

About this time, Wait decided to change the spelling of his name from Rathbun to Rathbone, following the lead of his older brother, John.

Wait and Mary moved to a smaller house and remained in Lansingburgh for another 15 years, but about 1828 they moved to the home of their only surviving son, William Palmer Rath-

bone, in Bergen County, N.J. Wait's son by the first marriage, Wait, Jr., had moved to Middlebury, Vt., where he operated an iron forge.

Wait died at his son's home on Nov. 11, 1832, aged 88. Mary died there two years later.

The Patterson (N.J.) *Intelligencer* carried the following obituary on Wait's death:

"In a little while the last of the patriots of the Revolution will be gathered to their fathers as one after another is called home, daily reducing the number of the emancipators of our country. Died in Franklin Township, N.J., on the 4th instant at the residence of his son William P. Rathbone, Esq., Wait Rathbone of Lansingburgh, in the 86th (actually 88th) year of his age. Capt. R. was born in Stonington, Connecticut, was an early patriot of the revolution, and actively engaged in the cause of his country in the great conflict. For the last fifty years of his life he has been a devoted, zealous soldier of Christ, embracing every opportunity of doing good to his fellow creatures. He died beloved and esteemed by all who know him."

(Our thanks to Research Director Robert Rathbun, a descendant of Wait by his first wife, Susannah, for much of this material on his ancestor's life. Rob also provided the pictures of Wait and Mary, copied from the originals, which are in the possession of other descendants.)

Genealogy: The Fifth Generation in America

65. WILLIAM PALMER⁵ RATHBONE (Wait⁴ Joshua³ John²⁻¹), born Sept. 21, 1782, in Stonington, Conn., and moved with his father to Troy, N.Y., about 1789. He was an ensign in the local militia from 1805 to 1806, and was commissioned in the War of 1812 as paymaster. He was married Oct. 3, 1810, in New York City, to Martha Ming Valteau, born Nov. 3, 1793, the daughter of William and Eleanor (Henessey) Valteau. They lived in New York City where he was a councilman in 1825 and engaged in the ship-building business. He later moved to Bergen County, N.J., where he was appointed common pleas judge in 1838. In the early 1840s, he moved to Parkersburg, Va., (now West Virginia), where he and his sons drilled the first oil well south of the Mason Dixon Line. He became wealthy, and in 1848 was taxed on more than 21,000 acres of land. He died in Parkersburg on Dec. 7, 1862. His wife had died Nov. 26, 1846, in nearby Burning Springs.

CHILDREN

RATISBON, born and died in November, 1811.

JULIETTE, born July 9, 1812; married Peter Van Winkle (later a U.S. Senator) on Sept. 21, 1831.

MARY BROWN, born June 24, 1814; married John P. Atkinson on May 15, 1836.

TWINS (unnamed), born and died in 1816.

JOHN CASTELLA, born Oct. 10, 1818; married Elizabeth Vanderbeek.

JOHN VALLEAU, born Jan. 24, 1821; married Ann Doremus.

SAMUEL BROWN, born Feb. 16, 1823; married (1) Amanda Burrows, (2) Mahala Jane Grant, and (3) Caroline Smith.

ELEANOR SOPHIA, born March 4, 1826; married (1) Daniel Frost on July 13, 1843, (2) Andrew L. Brown, and (3) Rev. John W. Brigman.

WILLIAM VAN ALLEN, born May 9, 1837; married (1) Elizabeth Devers on Dec. 30, 1858, (2) Amanda Thompson on Jan. 1, 1866. No children by either wife. He died Feb. 14, 1914, in Scioto County, Ohio.

66. SAMUEL BROWN⁵ RATHBONE (Wait⁴ Joshua³ John²⁻¹), born Nov. 19, 1786, in Stonington, Conn., and moved with his parents to Troy, N.Y., about 1789. He entered the West Point Military Academy in 1803, was commissioned in 1808 as a lieutenant in the U.S. Army, and died Dec. 8, 1812, of wounds received two months earlier at the Battle of Queenstown. He never married.

67. SAMUEL⁵ RATHBUN (Nathaniel⁴⁻³ John²⁻¹), born about 1748 probably at West Greenwich, R.I., and married there about 1775 Hannah _____ (possibly Hannah Rathbun, born about 1756, daughter of John⁴ Rathbun (John³⁻²⁻¹). In 1781, they sold their farm in West Greenwich and moved about that time to Tyringham, Mass., then to neighboring Great Barrington, and finally by 1810 to Stockbridge, Mass., all in Berkshire County. He was listed in West Greenwich in 1777 during the Revolution as eligible for military duty, and is probably the Samuel Rathbun who served that same year for several weeks in a Massachusetts militia company. He died Dec. 16, 1840, at Stockbridge, aged 92. His wife had died some years earlier, on Nov. 30, 1826.

CHILDREN

MARY, born about 1776; married Elisha Darby.

?SARAH, born about 1778; married Sanford Sylvey on Jan. 1, 1799.

RUTH, born about 1780; married Jesse Stafford.

NATHANIEL, born about 1782; married Lucy Hurlbut.

NANCY, born July 22, 1784; married Samuel Gleazer on Jan. 1, 1804.

BENJAMIN, born about 1786; married Mercy Carter.

JOSEPH, born May 9, 1789; married Elizabeth Hager.

SAMUEL, born Jan. 25, 1793; married Elizabeth E. Carroll.

68. ?JOSHUA RATHBUN (Nathaniel⁴⁻³ John²⁻¹), born about 1750 at West Greenwich, R.I., and married about 1774 Alice James, born about 1754, daughter of John and Susannah James. They moved to Tyringham, Mass., in the 1780s, probably with his brother, Samuel. He became involved in the famous Shays Rebellion, begun by Daniel Shays in August 1786 to protest farm foreclosures and imprisonment of small farmers for overdue debts. Joshua Rathbun was one of several insurgents killed by state troops putting down the rebellion. A group of rebels attacked Stockbridge in February, 1787, according to local history, and "a man by the name of Rathbun was wounded and later died." The widow married a Mr. Clark a few years later, but apparently dispersed some of her six Rathbun children among relatives. This family was not covered by Cooley, and little information is available. His parentage as given here is unproved, but seems most probable.

CHILDREN

SUSANNAH, born about 1776; married Clark Bailey Jr. on June 19, 1798.

ALICE, born about 1778; alive in 1805; no further information.

MARY, born about 1780; alive in 1794; no further information.

JOHN, born about 1782; married (?) Louise _____.

JOSHUA, born about 1784; alive in 1792; no further information.

ANNA, born Aug. 15, 1786; married John⁶ Rathbun (John⁵⁻¹).

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Genealogy

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69. AMOS⁵ RATHBUN (Thomas⁴⁻³ John²⁻¹), born Aug. 1, 1767, at Exeter, R.I., and married about 1787 Mercy Mattison, born Dec. 6, 1768, parentage unknown. They moved shortly after their marriage to Shaftsbury, Vermont, and early in the 1800s to Cazenovia, Madison County, N.Y. His wife died there in childbirth on Sept. 13, 1808, and he was married again about 1809 to Anna Colt, born in 1787, parentage unknown. He died in Cazenovia in 1840. His widow died August 6, 1854, at nearby Nelson.

CHILDREN

(By Mercy Mattison)

SON (name unknown), born July 7, 1788; died Sept. 29, 1788.

BETSEY, born Sept. 12, 1790; married _____ Page.

NEWMAN, born March 8, 1792; died Sept. 15, 1794.

MARTHA, born June 12, 1795; married _____ Rotter.

NATHAN, born April 17, 1797; married Polly Davis.

AMOS, born Aug. 2, 1800; married Lydia Davis.

MERCY, born July 20, 1803; married William Campbell Dec. 12, 1818.

LEWIS MATTISON, born June 24, 1806; married (1) Dorothy Treat; (2) Laura _____, and (3) Lovica _____.

HIRAM, born Sept. 13, 1808; married (1) Minerva Hatch; (2) Wilma _____.

(By Anna Colt)

ABIATHER, born Dec. 10, 1810; married Sarah Brown.

MARY, born about 1819; married Burton Brown.

IRA, (twin), born April 23, 1821; died July 31, 1859, unmarried.

ERI, (twin), born April 23, 1821; married Margaret _____.

CLARK, born about 1823; married (1) Maria Benedict; (2) Savilla Spencer.

ADELIA, born about 1826; married _____ Reckard.

70. THOMAS⁵ RATHBUN (Simeon⁴ Thomas³ John²⁻¹), born Oct. 19, 1771, at Exeter, R.I., and married about 1796 Eunice Greene, born about 1776, parentage unknown. They apparently moved to Waterford, Conn., where one daughter's birth is recorded, but returned to the Exeter area. Family tra-

dition says he fought at the Battle of Plattsburg in the War of 1812. He died in a house fire in the Exeter area April 11, 1839, in which he and seven other persons perished. His wife's death date is not known, but Cooley stated she was buried in Riverside Cemetery, Cleveland, Ohio.

CHILDREN

ANNA A., born about 1798; no further record.

ALMY GREENE, born Aug. 18, 1800; married William Davis.

71. RUSSELL⁵ RATHBUN (Simeon⁴ Thomas³ John²⁻¹), born June 20, 1782, at Exeter, R.I., and married July 14, 1804, Lucy Ann Nestley, born Oct. 7, 1787, parentage unknown. They moved by 1820 to Norwich, N.Y., and by 1830 to Franklinville, Cattaraugus County, N.Y. He served in the War of 1812. Cooley says he died Sept. 6, 1857, at Ottawa, Ill., but he does not appear in the 1850 census. His wife Lucy (listed as Anna), was living in Pittsburgh, Pa., in 1850 with their son, Thomas. She may also be the Lucy Rathbun, 67, who was recorded later that year living with Jehu Smith (her son-in-law?) at Butler, DeKalb County, Ind. She died June 18, 1854, at Pittsburgh.

CHILDREN

LUCY, born Dec. 13, 1804; married Philip Dickens in 1820.

ANN, born Feb. 4, 1807; married (1) Seymour Graham; (2) _____ Taylor, and (3) _____ Cox.

SALLY, born May 14, 1809; married _____ Hollister.

ROWENA, born April 3, 1811; married Comfort E. Sumner.

MARY, born March 18, 1813; married (Jehu?) Smith.

EUNICE, born Aug. 15, 1815; married William DeLand.

THOMAS RUSSELL, born Oct. 24, 1817; married Elizabeth A. Howe.

JOHN A., born March 20, 1819; married (1) Rebecca Scott; (2) Asenath Leroy.

CHARITY, born March 3, 1823; died March 5, 1823.

IRENE, born Feb. 24, 1824; married (1) Jacob Drew; (2) John Palmer.

ERASTUS, born Feb. 28, 1828; married Alice G. Ward.

LAURA, born July 10, 1830; died Aug. 7, 1864; no known marriage.

JOSEPH, born July 7, 1835; apparently died young.

72. SIMEON⁵ RATHBUN (Simeon⁴ Thomas³ John²⁻¹), born Sept. 14, 1784, at Exeter, R.I. Cooley says he married Ruby Hopkins and had the four children listed below, but there is no documented evidence of this. He could be the Simeon Rathbun listed in the 1820 census at Davenport, Delaware County, N.Y., with a wife and five young children. Cooley also says he was shot while attending a shooting match in Richmond (R.I.?) but gives no date. There is no record of his wife's death.

CHILDREN

?SIMEON

?NATHAN

?SUSAN

?ANN

73. NATHAN⁵ RATHBUN (Simeon⁴ Thomas³ John²⁻¹), born May 17, 1788, at Exeter, R.I., and married about 1810 Urania Hopkins, born in 1788, a daughter of Stephen Hopkins. They were recorded in the 1820 census at Mansfield, Conn., and in 1830 and 1840 at Smithfield, R.I. By 1850 they were in Blackstone, Mass. Cooley says he died in 1869. His wife died July 31, 1860, at Providence, R.I.

CHILDREN

DELIGHT, born about 1811; married _____ Briggs.

NATHAN, born about 1813; married Stacy Young.

URANIA, born about 1818; married Arnold H. Young on Jan. 9, 1836.

JOHN L., born about 1820; married (?) Julia Inman Dec. 25, 1854.

GEORGE NELSON, born about 1822; a sailor, he died about 1868.

NATHANIEL WHEATON, born April 24, 1825; married Ardelia Young.

SIMEON R., born about 1827; a sailor in 1850; no further information.

74. NATHAN DODGE⁵ RATHBUN (Nathan⁴ Thomas³ John²⁻¹), born Feb. 12, 1807, at Exeter, R.I., and married April 6, 1828, at North Stonington, Conn.,

Bridget Hakes, born Oct. 6, 1806, daughter of Jesse and Polly (Wheeler) Hakes. He was a "house joiner" (carpenter) at Norwich, Conn., where he died Oct. 13, 1847. Bridget died there Feb. 22, 1868.

CHILDREN

NATHAN W., born Aug. 27, 1829; died Sept. 13, 1829.

HELEN C., born June 25, 1831; married John Culver Jan. 21, 1851.

CHRISTOPHER HAKES, born May 7, 1836; living in New York City in 1900; no known marriage.

ANNIE G., born July 7, 1838; married Jacob C. Low.

EDWARD R., born May 20, 1846; died July 25, 1847.

75. JOHN HOPKINS⁵ RATHBUN (Nathan⁴ Thomas³ John²⁻¹), born Oct. 4, 1814, at Exeter, R.I., and married Aug. 20, 1836, at Lisbon, Conn., Sarah Burnham, born Feb. 9, 1815, daughter of Ichabod and Lydia (Gates) Burnham. They lived in Canterbury, Conn., where she died Jan. 1, 1840. He was married again on Feb. 10, 1841, at Voluntown, Conn., to Fanny (Parish) Sears, born in 1814, daughter of Russell and Eunice (Pierce) Parish. He died Jan. 17, 1847, at Griswold, Conn. Fanny died Dec. 23, 1880, at Norwich, Conn.

CHILDREN

(Both by Sarah Burnham)

ELIZA JANE, born Dec. 26, 1836; married Joseph Edminston on March 4, 1860.

LEWIS S., born Feb. 9, 1839; married (1) Eunice B. Earle; (2) Adelaide Baldwin.

76. BERIAH SAFFORD⁵ RATHBUN (Nathan⁴ Thomas³ John²⁻¹), born Nov. 8, 1819, at Exeter, R.I. He married Nov. 30, 1843, Phoebe Colburn, born Nov. 4, 1821, daughter of Daniel and Nancy (Bishop) Colburn. She died Sept. 14, 1845, and he married on March 15, 1846, her sister, Martha Colburn, born March 18, 1827. She died in childbirth May 30, 1856, and he married on April 27, 1857, Eliza Thompson, born Nov. 3,



Beriah Safford Rathbun

1832, daughter of John and Amy (Kenyon) Thompson. Beriah was a carpenter and stair-builder at Norwich, Conn. He died Feb. 19, 1913, at Norwich. His third wife died March 8, 1911. (See story on Beriah in our April 1982 issue.)

CHILDREN

(By Phoebe Colburn)

PHOEBE ADELAIDE, born Sept. 8, 1845; died April 7, 1861.

(By Martha Colburn)

SARAH LOUISA, born Jan. 13, 1850; died April 27, 1851.

MARTHA ELLEN, born May 30, 1856; died July 28, 1856.

77. ELIAS RANSOM⁵ RATHBUN (Nathan⁴ Thomas³ John²⁻¹), born July 8, 1823, at Exeter, R.I. He married Dec. 12, 1847, Phoebe Rebecca Healy, born May 13, 1826, daughter of Paul and Phoebe (Church) Healy. They lived for some years at Exeter, then moved to Hopkinton, R.I., where he died July 20, 1860. Phoebe died Aug. 22, 1915, at Worcester, Mass.

CHILDREN

CHARLES R., born Sept. 16, 1849; married Lucy A. Wilson.

IRVILLA REBECCA, born Oct. 6, 1851; died July 19, 1861.

NATHAN BERIAH, born May 25, 1853; went to sea and died June 30,

1873, of yellow fever after a shipwreck off South America.

SARAH JANE, born July 20, 1856; died Dec. 26, 1861.

JOHN HIRAM, born Jan. 14, 1858; married Nellie Norwood.

JAMES EMERSON WEBSTER, born March 6, 1860; died Oct. 3, 1863.

78. JOHN PECK⁵ RATHBUN (Nathaniel⁴ Thomas³⁻² John¹), born March 23, 1746, in Exeter, R.I. He married May 4, 1775, in Boston, Mass., Mary (Polly) Leigh, born about 1758, daughter of Benjamin and Maersje (Bant) Leigh. He died June 20, 1782, in Mill Prison, England. She died April 18, 1782, at South Kingston, R.I., during or shortly after childbirth. Their only child died at birth. (See story of his distinguished Naval career in our issues of Oct. 1982, and Jan., April, and July 1983.)

79. GAMALIEL⁵ RATHBUN (Thomas⁴⁻³⁻² John¹), born about 1757 at Exeter, R.I., and married about 1780 Experience Rathbun, born about 1760, the daughter of John⁴ Rathbun (John³ Thomas² John¹). He was given 30 acres of land in Exeter by his parents in 1776, and hired John Bates, a neighbor, to serve as a substitute for him during the Revolutionary War. He moved to Hancock, Mass., in the 1780s, then about 1795 to Broadalbin, N.Y., and by 1802 to Laurens, Otsego County, N.Y., where he died sometime after 1830. His wife apparently died about the same time. This family was not covered by Cooley, and little information is available.

CHILDREN

ALICE, born after 1796; mentioned as under 14 in the 1810 will of her grandfather, John Rathbun.

OTHERS, (names unknown); probably two sons and two other daughters, according to early census records.

80. WALTER CLARK⁵ RATHBUN (Thomas⁴⁻³⁻² John¹), born about 1770 at Exeter, R.I., and moved as a young man to Hancock, Mass. He married about 1792 Anna _____, born about 1774, parentage unknown. They moved to Broadalbin, New York, probably with his

(continued on page 30)

(continued from page 29)

brother, Gamaliel, about 1795, and later lived for a time in Laurens, Otsego County, N.Y., where he attended the first town meeting in 1811. By 1820 they were at Marcellus, Onondago County, N.Y., and by 1830 at Pike, Allegheny County. In 1839, he testified that he had been a witness at the 1784 wedding of Lydia⁵ Rathbun (John⁴⁻³ Thomas² John¹) to Benjamin Bentley at Hancock, Mass. He died sometime after 1843 at Pike. Anna died sometime after 1840. Like his brother, Walter was not mentioned in Cooley, and information on the family has been compiled from census records, deeds and other sources.

CHILDREN

THOMAS I., born April 17, 1793; married (1) Laurena Bates; (2) Sally Belknap.

NATHANIEL, born about 1798; married Lydia (Sears?).

GAMALIEL, born Aug. 6, 1800; married Lucretia Richardson.

WALTER, born about 1805; married Eliza (Bachus?).

HENRY, born about 1810; married Susan Reynolds.

AMOS, born Aug. 14, 1812; died April 4, 1845, in Winnebago County, Ill. No known marriage or children.

SEVERAL DAUGHTERS, names unknown.

81. JOHN⁵ RATHBUN (John⁴ Samuel³ Thomas² John¹), born about 1761 at North Kingstown, R.I., and married there about 1790 Mercy Dawley, born in 1770, the daughter of Nathan and Alice (Whitford) Dawley. She died about 1811 and he married shortly later Lydia _____, born in 1762, maiden name and parentage unknown. John died at North Kingstown on Dec. 29, 1813, and Lydia died there on Oct. 15, 1822.

CHILDREN

(All by Mercy Dawley)

?ANNE, baptized Sept. 20, 1794; no further information.

NATHAN DAWLEY, born April 2, 1797; married (1) Martha Adams, (2) Martha (Congdon) Hazard.

ROBERT, born Dec. 9, 1799; married Abigail Brown.

ALICE, born about 1801; died March 20, 1815.

ELIZABETH A., born March 4, 1805; married Zebulon N. Gardner.

82. THOMAS⁵ RATHBUN (John⁴ Samuel³ Thomas² John¹), born about 1763 at North Kingstown, R.I., and married there about 1787 Eliza Ann Cooper, born Feb. 14, 1767, the daughter of Gilbert and Elizabeth (Davis) Cooper. They moved shortly after 1800 to Norway, Herkimer County, N.Y., where they were among the early settlers. They had a 176-acre farm which they sold in 1830 and moved to nearby Bull Hill, where he died June 19, 1835, and Eliza died Oct. 23, 1835.

CHILDREN

GILBERT COOPER, born Oct. 4, 1788; became a sailor and was lost at sea as a young man.

SAMUEL, born Jan. 11, 1790; re-

mained in North Kingstown when his parents moved to New York, and was drowned Sept. 17, 1811, at Wickford.

BETSEY COOPER, born March 9, 1792; married Nathaniel Tompkins.

HANNAH, born June 20, 1794; died in 1813 of "epidemic fever."

JOHN, born July 6, 1796; married Sarah Austin.

THOMAS, born Aug. 23, 1798; married Lucinda Austin.

UPDIKE COOPER, born Oct. 30, 1800; married Salinda Haskin.

EDMUND COOPER, born Nov. 23, 1802; married Rachel Cummings.

ANNA, born June 16, 1805; died in infancy.

ABIGAIL, born about 1807; died in 1823.

SARAH, born June 6, 1809; apparently died young.

JAMES ELDRED, born June 19, 1811; married Ruth Cummings.

ANNA, born in 1813; died in infancy.

(To be continued)

Queries

WANTED — Pegge Hlavacek (Queries, Vol. 1, No. 1) is still seeking information for her biography of Major Henry Reed Rathbone, who was with Abraham Lincoln when he was assassinated in 1865. Ira Harris Sr., a nephew of Rathbone's wife, Clara, died at Bogota, N.J., on June 23, 1925. He may have descendants living in the Hackensack-Bogota area. Rathbone's son, Gerald (1871-1936), was in the insurance business in San Francisco, where his widow, Gertrude, died July 7, 1976, leaving no children. If either Harris or Mrs. Rathbone left any family papers, they could shed light on Major Henry Reed Rathbone. Any assistance in locating such papers would be appreciated.

WANTED — Information on Ida Rathburn who died sometime in the early or middle 1850s and is buried at Conneaut, Ohio. She may have been the wife of Benjamin Taft and was possibly born as early as 1775. She is buried in the Taft cemetery lot, but the tombstone is no longer legible.

WANTED — Information on Myrtle Rathbun, born April 25, 1884 (possibly 1885 or 1886), in Brainard, Minn. She was adopted as a baby by Albert and Jennie McIntire, who were married about 1882 in Bradford, Pa., moved to Minn. and then to Cheney, Wash., in 1890. Myrtle married a Barry and had a daughter, Adeline.

Answers

Vol. 2, No. 3 — George S. Rathbun, born in March 1847, was the son of Sylvester⁶ Rathbun (Philander⁵ Daniel⁴ Joshua³ John²⁻¹).

Vol. 2, No. 4 — Daniel Rathbun, born about 1822, was probably Horace Daniel Rathbun, the son of Daniel⁶ Rathbun (Samuel⁵⁻⁴ Thomas³ Samuel² John¹).

Obituaries

DIED — Feb. 11, 1984, at East Greenwich, R.I., Edith (Golding) Rathbun, aged 85. She was the widow of George Alonzo⁹ Rathbun (George⁸ Seneca⁷ John⁶ Joseph⁵ Joshua⁴ John³⁻²⁻¹). Survivors include two sons, Earl and Stephen Rathbun of East Greenwich; six grandchildren; 10 great-grandchildren, and two sisters, one of whom is Grace Rathbun, widow of George's brother, Willis Rathbun.

DIED — June 16, 1983, at Houston, Texas, Charles Raymond Rathbun, aged 63. He was chairman and chief executive officer of Ranger Insurance Companies. He was the son of Walter Raymond⁸ Rathbun (Leonard⁷ Calvin⁶ Samuel⁵ Elijah⁴ Samuel³⁻² John¹). Survivors include his wife Phyllis (Peterson) Rathbun; three sons, Charles, Robert and William and seven grandchildren.

DIED — Nov. 4, 1983, at Rochester, NY, Vernon B. Smith, 68. Among his survivors are his widow, Frances (Brusso) Smith, one of our members. She is the daughter of Minerva⁸ Rathbun (George⁷ Artemis⁶ Hubbard⁵ Job⁴ Benjamin³ Joseph² John¹) and John Brusso. Mr. Brusso died just one month before Mr. Smith. Also surviving are six children and 12 grandchildren.

DIED — Feb. 14, 1984, at Stephentown, N.Y., Amos Forrest Rathbun, 78, an Army veteran of World War I and a retired employee of the New York Department of Transportation. He was a son of Perry⁸ Rathbun (Norman⁷⁻⁶ John⁵ Roger⁴ Samuel³ Thomas² John¹) and Clovis Carr. Survivors include three brothers, Ashley, Wesley and Norman, and two sisters, Hazel Barrett and Frances Staples.

DIED — Dec. 13, 1983, at Providence, R.I., Frank A. Rathbun, aged 95. His wife of 73 years, Ethel E. (Fowler) Rathbun, 96, died just two days later. Frank was the son of Charles⁸ Rathbun (Seneca⁷ John⁶ Joseph⁵ Joshua⁴ John³⁻²⁻¹) and Ella Sweet. They are survived by a son, Frank A. Rathbun, Jr., of Toms River, N.J., and a grandson. Also surviving is Frank's brother, Ernest Rathbun, aged 101, of Cranston, R.I.

DIED — Oct. 5, 1983, at San Francisco, Cal., Mrs. Iris (Smitheram) Rathbun, aged 76, the wife of Jesse Earl Rathbun, one of our new members. Other survivors include two sons, Dr. J. Earl Rathbun and Dr. J. Edwin Rathbun. Jesse is the son of Edwin Washington⁸ Rathbun (Jacob⁷ Edwin⁶ George⁵ Job⁴ Benjamin³ Joseph² John¹) and Elizabeth Ann Roth.

DIED — Oct. 27, 1983, at Clinton, Iowa, Robert A. Gibson, aged 73. He was the husband of our member, Marjorie (Wendell) Gibson, a great-granddaughter of Mary Ann⁶ Rathbun (Erastus⁵ Thomas⁴⁻³ Samuel² John¹) and Johan Conrad Wendel. Survivors include Mrs. Gibson, two daughters, three grandchildren, a sister and a brother.

DIED — Oct. 17, 1983, at Albuquerque, N.M., James A. Ruppen, 31, after a long bout with cancer. He was the son of James and Olive (Rood) Ruppen, and grandson of Florence May⁹ Rathbun (William⁸ Jason⁷ Joshua⁶ Elias⁵ Joshua⁴ John³⁻²⁻¹) and Horace Rood.

DIED — March 5, 1983, at Yuma, Ariz., Wesley Edward Haymaker, husband of Ann G. (Berry) Haymaker, one of our members. Mrs. Haymaker is a daughter of Vada⁹ Rathbone (Coker⁸ Edmund⁷ Gideon⁶ Edmund⁵⁻⁴ John³⁻²⁻¹) and Walter Berry. Survivors include Mrs. Haymaker's daughters, Eula Jean Goden and Shirley Lee Stokrp.

DIED — July 10, 1983, at Stamford, N.Y., Oliver Rathbone, aged 63. He was the son of John⁹ Rathbone (Lambert⁸ Oliver⁷ Gideon⁶ Tibbetts⁵ John⁴⁻³ Thomas² John¹) and May Gregory. Survivors include his wife, Frances (Smith) Rathbun; two sons, Donald and Jack; a daughter, Mrs. Harry (Judy) Wyckoff, and five grandchildren.

DIED — March 12, 1984, Anna Theresa (Johnson) Rathbun, 85, of Groton, Conn. She was the widow of Capt. Benjamin Franklin⁹ Rathbun (Benjamin⁸ William⁷ Benjamin⁶ Samuel⁵ Elijah⁴ Samuel³⁻² John¹). Survivors include two sons, Capt. Benjamin F. Rathbun Jr., one of our members, and John A. Rathbun; eight grandchildren, and a sister.

Old Rathbun Gravestones Are Repaired

A fine example for us all has been set by Capt. Benjamin Franklin Rathbun of Noank, Conn., and his wife, Rosalie.

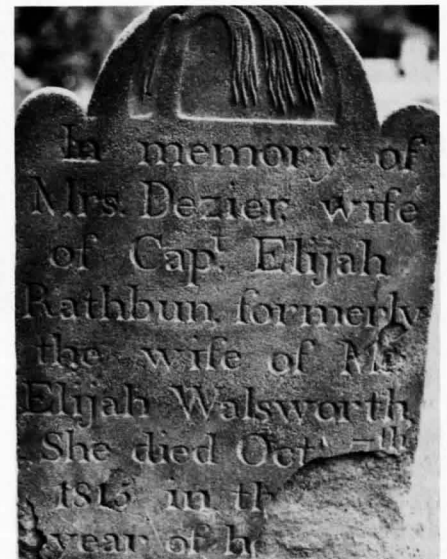
Last summer, they spent many hours of their spare time in the old Noank Cemetery, locating, cleaning, repairing and photographing all the Rathbun gravestones, which total nearly 30.

Captain Ben is the son of Benjamin Franklin⁹ Rathbun (Benjamin⁸ William⁷ Benjamin⁶ Samuel⁵ Elijah⁴ Samuel³⁻² John¹) and Anna (Johnson) Rathbun.

Included among the cemetery's old stones were those of several of Captain Ben's ancestors.

The oldest were those of his fourth great-grandparents, Elijah Rathbun (1740-1825), whose stone is now illegible, and Elijah's wife, Desire (spelled Dezier on the stone), who died in 1815.

Another marks the grave of his great-great-grandfather, Capt. Benjamin Rathbun (1801-1832), who died at sea on a return trip from Jamaica.



This is the oldest gravestone found by Capt. Ben and Rosalie Rathbun in their cemetery project. It marks the grave of his ancestor, Desire Rathbun, widow of Capt. Elijah Rathbun, and earlier the widow of Elijah Walsworth. She died Oct. 7, 1815, aged 60.

People

See Corrections 04-4 p 63

MARK VERNON COX was married Feb. 10, 1984, at Harrisburg, Ore., to Sheri Lynn Doolittle. Mark is the son of Arline and Merle Cox, members of our Association. Merle is a **grandson** of Jessie Aurelia⁹ Rathbun (Thomas⁹ Alonzo⁷ Thomas⁶ Russell⁵ Simeon⁴ Thomas³ John²⁻¹) and Clarence Ivon Cox.

JOHN RATHBUN GREGORY is the youngest and one of the newest members of our Association. He was born Dec. 16, 1983, the son of Phillip Gregory and Susan¹⁰ Rathbun (Alvin⁹ Frank⁸ Thomas⁷ Norris⁶ Thomas⁵⁻⁴ Jonathan³ William² John¹). His membership was a gift from his aunt, Jean Stanton (Rathbun) Conningham, one of our members.

DOREEN MARIE RATHBUN was married Jan. 26, 1984, at Englewood, N.J., to Scott Avery Harris, son of Robert and Cathy (Boyle) Harris. Doreen is the daughter of George Daniel¹⁰ Rathbun (Oscar⁹ George⁸ Corbet⁷ Gideon⁶ Tibbetts⁵ John⁴⁻³ Thomas² John¹) and Louise DeGraw.

ALICE AND LLOYD PHILLIPS report a birth and a marriage in their family during the past year. Their grandson, Dennis Lane, and his wife, DeLois, became the parents of Holly Nichole Lane, born Dec. 2, 1982. Their granddaughter, Teresa Kay Lane, was married Oct. 8, 1983, to Michael Alan Millsap. Dennis and Teresa are the children of Darrell and Marceil (Phillips) Lane. Alice Phillips is the daughter of Jessie Aurelia⁹ Rathbun (Thomas⁹ Alonzo⁷ Thomas⁶ Russell⁵ Simeon⁴ Thomas³ John²⁻¹) and Clarence Ivon Cox.

HENRY HOWE RATHBUN III was married Oct. 29, 1983, at Warner-Robins, Ga., to Donna Annette Crumpton, daughter of Myron J. and Clara A. (Watson) Crumpton. His brother, Charles M. Rathbun, was best man. Charles' son, Charles H. Rathbun, was one of the ushers, and Charles' daughter, Robin F. Rathbun, was a bridesmaid. Henry is the son of Henry¹⁰ Rathbun (Henry⁹ Charles⁸ William⁷ Alfred⁶ Wait⁵⁻⁴ Joshua³ John²⁻¹) and the late Helen (Boehm) Rathbun.

Our New Members

Nancy Allison
Long Beach, Calif.

Michael Angelini
Somerset, Mass.

Sgt. Thomas Angelini
Loring AFB, Maine

Lorraine M. Barrick
Darwin, Minn.

Major Stanley & Sharon Busboom
Holloman AFB, N.M.

Ruth P. Czirr
Palo Alto, Calif.

Mrs. Charles Duclos
Seekonk, Mass.

Ervin Du Mond
Spring Valley, Minn.

Margery Foss
Newport, N.Y.

Martha (Rathbun) Glass
Tampa, Fla.

John Rathbun Gregory
Menlo Park, Calif.

Carol (Rathbun) Hawkins
San Lorenzo, Calif.

Tom and Jeanne Hunt
Woodbury, Minn.

Mrs. Floyd Lane
Milan, Ill.

Viola McLeod
Saginaw, Mich.

Douglas C. Miller
Rancho Cordova, Calif.

Charles T. & Wanda Rathbun
Pacific, Wash.

Mr. & Mrs. Jeff Rathbone
Round Rock, Texas

Jesse E. Rathbun
San Francisco, Calif.

Dr. Margaret L. Rathbun
Honeoye Falls, N.Y.

Marlin Rathbun
Spring Valley, Minn.

Milton & Elizabeth Rathbun
Waupun, Wisc.

Neal & Patricia Rathbone
Loomis, Calif.

Neal & Mary Rathbun
Camano Island, Wash.

Nola Rathbun
Spring Valley, Minn.

Paul H. Rathbun
Superior, Neb.

Roy D. Rathbun
Golden, Colo.

Jane Higgins Shaffer
Heath, Ohio

Nellie E. Westlake
Sedan, Kan.

Paula Wilkinson
Wayland, Mass.

Births

BORN—Sept. 14, 1983, Jessica Lynn Sheehan, daughter of Michael and Carol (Rathbun) Sheehan of Pittsfield, Mass. She is a granddaughter of Earle S.¹⁰ Rathbun Jr. (Earle⁹ Norman⁸ Orlo⁷ Norman⁶ John⁵ Roger⁴ Samuel³ Thomas² John¹) and Joan (Fox) Rathbun.

BORN—Oct. 5, 1983, Jessica Frances Rathbun, to Bruce Alan and Karen (Coughran) Rathbun. Bruce is the son of our members, Ralph and Frances (Druery) Rathbun, and a grandson of John Wilbur⁸ Rathbun (Cyrus⁷ Daniel⁶ William⁵ Daniel⁴ Joshua³ John²⁻¹) and Georgianna (Anna) Bailey.

Thanks, Cousins

WE THANK the following members who have sent in family records and other data in recent months — Joan Byers, Nola Rathbun, Bettye Rathbone, Victor Mastin, Benjamin and Rosalie Rathbun, Frank E. Rathbun, Dion Gardner, Mary Pearl Whitman, Loraine Walters, Carole Atkinson, Edison J. Rathbone, Delores Neenan, Ann Haymaker, Keith M. Rathbone, Arline Cox, K. Haybron Adams, Fred C. Rathbun, Ralph W. Rathbun, Charles Murray, Dr. Margaret Rathbun, Clair Cornell, Mrs. Charles Rathbun, John Bowen, Viola McLeod, Helen M. Rathbun and Douglas C. Miller.