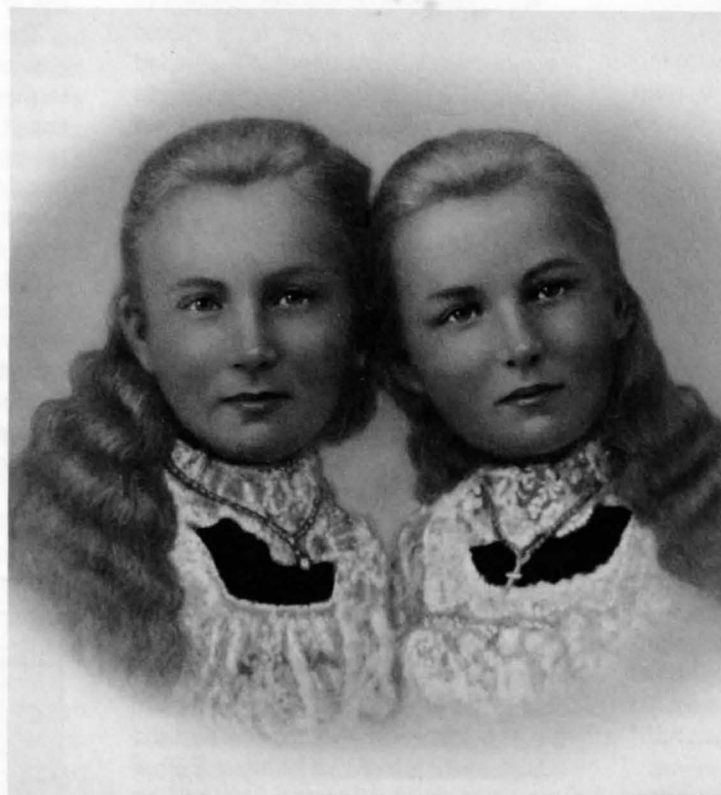


Rathbun-Rathbone-Rathburn
FAMILY
HISTORIAN



Louise Virginia and Leversa Vacilla Rathbun
(1879-1957) (1879-1902)
Among Our Family's Many Twins

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

Letter from the Editor

Our membership, which peaked last year at 503, dropped to 460 in January as nearly 50 members failed to renew, but new members have since brought our total back up to 474. It seems that we just have to accept losing about 10 percent of our members each year, and keep trying to recruit new ones. Hopefully, we will be able to top the 500 mark again this year.

At this level, we should have no problem keeping the annual membership dues at \$15, which is no small achievement in this age of inflation. We expect to be able to absorb the new increase in postal rates.

With this issue, you are receiving the combined index to our 1985 and 1986 Historians, and I again offer my thanks to Margaret Dale, who compiled the 1985 index, and Dr. Earl and Mrs. Gayle Antes, who compiled the 1986 index. Dr. and Mrs. Antes have already completed the 1987 index, and are now working on this year's Historians. Be sure to keep these indexes with your Historians. They will add greatly to the future value of your set.

Our story in the January issue about Dr. Donald Rathbun's 1893 family button has uncovered another of the rare heirlooms. When Mrs. Mary Gagliardi saw the article, it stirred a long-forgotten memory. She realized that she had one of the buttons — set in gold filigree — in her safety deposit box. Her great-grandfather, Thomas Worthington Rathbone (1824-1908), son of Jonathan⁵ Rathbone (Coggeshall⁴

Abraham³ Samuel² John¹), was a subscriber to the 1892-94 Rathbone Family Historian. He purchased five of the buttons and had them set in filigree for each of his five daughters.

Mrs. Gagliardi's grandmother, Mary (Molly) Rathbone, who was the oldest daughter, married George T. Brown, and at her death in 1925 left her button to her daughter, Emelie Gladys McCoy, who gave it to her daughter, Mrs. Gagliardi, nearly 40 years ago. It had been put away ever since, unrecognized and forgotten, until she saw our story.

We have had but few expressions of interest in the site of our 1989 annual reunion. Several members in Idaho, led by Glenn E. Rathbun, have proposed Boise as the site, but having had our last two reunions in the west (Des Moines in 1985 and Rapid City in 1987), it would seem unfair to our East Coast members to again "go west." Perhaps Boise could be our 1991 site, or maybe a regional reunion could be held there next year.

A number of Rhode Island members, led by Helen M. Rathbun, feel strongly that we should again have our reunion there. (Our first reunion, in 1983, was held on Block Island, R.I.). They point out that Rhode Island was the home of our immigrant ancestors, John and Margaret Rathbun.

I am inclined to agree with this reasoning, and Rhode Island will probably be the site of our 1989 reunion. We would not make Block Island our headquarters again, but most likely select a hotel in the Providence or Newport area, and make side trips to Block Island and other points of family interest. We will be checking on details in the next few months, and announce our final decisions in the next Historian.

Please let me know if you have any thoughts on this. I would particularly like to hear from any of those who have attended our other reunions who have any suggestions regarding the format of our reunion programs.

The story on twins in our family proved to be far more extensive that I had expected. I was literally inundated with information and pictures of twins, past and present. They are all listed in this issue, with pictures of many. I thank

all the members who sent information and pictures.

Many of our Rathbun members have written to ask about a mail solicitation they have received from Halbert's Inc., of Bath, Ohio, and signed by Sharon Taylor. It offers a "new book" called "Rathbun Families Around the World" for \$24.50.

This is a nothing more than an new version of a similar book offered over the years by companies using the name Beatrice Bayley, Elizabeth Ross and now Sharon Taylor. It is quite possibly the same organization.

The book is nothing more than several chapters of general genealogical information, much of it inaccurate, followed by lists of Rathbuns culled from telephone directories throughout the country, many of the listings being outdated. Similar offers are being made to other families throughout the nation.

There is no authentic, detailed genealogical information given about any family, and legitimate genealogists have been trying for years to prevail upon the Postal Service to crack down on the operation. Our advice — don't waste your money on it!

Frank

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Our Family Has Had Its Share Of Twins — Past and Present

Twins have been the object of curiosity, awe, joy and even fear throughout the recorded history of mankind. They have been regarded as a special blessing of God, an omen of good luck, and as a sign of infidelity. Some American Indians believed that twins were old people, reincarnated, and treated them with great respect. A tribe in New Guinea automatically killed the male in any boy-girl twin combination.

Today we recognize that twins are merely a biological happenstance, occurring on the average once in every 78 births. Twins themselves, however, have twins once in 58 births, showing a genetic influence. About one third are identical (formed from a single ovum) and the other two thirds are fraternal (from separate ova).

It is estimated that there are some 2,400,000 sets of twins in the United States today, with 33,000 sets born each year.

An informal study of our family records indicates that we have had, and do have, our share of twins.

There were no twins among the eight children and 66 known grandchildren of our immigrant ancestors, John and Margaret (Acres) Rathbun. Our family's first twins came in the fourth generation — two sets of them.

The first were Joshua and Isaiah Rathbun, born Sept. 7, 1723, to Elizabeth³ Rathbun (Joseph² John¹), who had married her first cousin, Jonathan³ Rathbun (John²⁻¹). Joshua continued the twin tradition. He had twins, Samuel and Anna, born in 1758, and his son, Moses, had twins, Elijah and Elias, born in 1792.

The second set of twins in our family came on Jan. 2, 1736, with the births of Job and Martha, children of Joshua³ Rathbun (John²⁻¹). Neither Job nor Martha became the parent of twins, but two of Job's brothers did. Twins have appeared several times among Job's descendants.

As the descendants of John and Margaret Rathbun multiplied (families of 10



Our members Leonard E. and Lorenzo E. Rathbun, born in 1914, pictured while serving in the U.S. Navy in the early 1940s.

or more children were common), the number of twins also increased, but, interestingly, they remained clustered in the descendants of John Rathbun Jr.

There were 10 known sets of twins in the fifth generation (six of them among the descendants of John Jr.); 11 in the sixth generation (eight from John Jr.); 24 in the seventh generation (17 from John Jr.), and 26 in the eighth generation (19 from John Jr.).

In the seventh generation came the first known double set of twins in one family. John David⁶ Rathbun (Gideon⁵⁻⁴ John³⁻²⁻¹) and his wife, Mary, had sets of twins born in 1854 and 1868, among their 15 children.

In the eighth generation came our family's first and only known triplets — Alfred, Albert and Almond Rathbun, born March 12, 1864, sons of Mary and Hiram⁷ Rathbun (Kenyon⁶ Paul⁵ Joshua⁴ John³⁻²⁻¹). Only Alfred survived; the other two died in infancy.

The second double set of twins in our family were born to Jacob Washington⁷

Rathbun (Edwin⁶ George⁵ Job⁴ Benjamin³ Joseph² John¹) and his wife, Catherine Lucinda Kee. Edwin Washington and Lucinda Ellen were born April 20, 1871, and James Arthur and Rosetta Anna were born Jan. 22, 1884.

This family has also continued the twin tradition. Lucinda married Samuel S. Cline and has two sets of twins among her descendants — Dolly Gerlene (now Mrs. Fred Barrett) and Dimple Glendora Sharp, born Oct. 13, 1922 (Dimple died six months later), and Jeana Mary and Jana Marie McDonald, born Dec. 26, 1972.

No twins appeared in the descendants of Thomas Rathbun, second son of John and Margaret, until the seventh generation, with the birth on March 3, 1828, of Jonathan and David Rathbun to Thomas⁶ Rathbun (Thomas⁵ John⁴ Samuel³ Thomas² John¹) and his wife, Lucinda. Both died shortly after birth,

(continued on page 20)

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and a later son, born in 1845, was given both their names — Jonathan David Rathbun.

The first surviving twins among Thomas' descendants were Jane and Elizabeth Rathbun, born Sept. 31, 1833, to Simeon⁶ Rathbun (Tibbetts⁵ John⁴⁻³ Thomas² John¹) and his wife, Elizabeth, followed 11 years later by twins born to John M. Rathbun, Simeon's brother, and his wife, Sarah — Henry and Hiram, born Oct. 8, 1844.

One of Thomas' descendants probably set a record for our family. Minnie (Rathbun) Potter, daughter of Jonathan⁷ Rathbun (Thomas⁶⁻⁵ John⁴ Samuel³ Thomas² John¹), had four sets of twins among her grandchildren, including two sets from one daughter.

Among the descendants of William Rathbun, third son of John and Margaret, the first known twins were born in 1776 to Sarah⁵ Rathbun (Daniel⁴ William³⁻² John¹), who married Jacob Sawyer. Sarah's brother, William Rathbun, was the father of twins — Elias (who died young) and Elijah, born July 14, 1783. Elijah's son, Dr. Sereno Rathbun, became the father of twins — Amos and Sarah Ann, born Jan. 13, 1837. Sereno's grandson, John Brown Rathbun, had two sets of twins.

The first known twins descended from Joseph Rathbun, the fourth son, were Joshua and Jerusha Rathbun, born Sept. 20, 1775, to William Harris⁴ Rathbun (Job³ Joseph² John¹), and his wife, Jerusha Beebe.

Among the descendants of the fifth and youngest son, Samuel, the first known twins came with the birth in 1756 of Asa and Anna, children of Thomas⁴ Rathbun (Thomas³ Samuel² John¹). Anna died in infancy, but Asa married Ruth Kimball and had twins, Asa and Ruth, born in 1800.

We have records of 73 sets of twins born in our family through the first eight generations in America, but the total would undoubtedly be much higher if we had data on all daughters' children.

Today, most of our living cousins are in the ninth, tenth and eleventh generations of descent from John and Margaret Rathbun, but we have no way of knowing how many twins are among them.

Among the nearly 500 members of our Association are five sets of living twins:

Leonard Ernest and Lorenzo Everett Rathbun, born May 16, 1914, sons of Frederick⁸ Rathbun (Lorenzo⁷ Elon⁶ Alfred⁵ Job⁴ Benjamin³ Joseph² John¹). Their brother, Truman Elonzo Rathbun, has twin grandsons and and twin granddaughters, and also twin great-grandsons. Alan and Cary McEwen were born April 6, 1955, to his daughter Betty and her husband, Donald McEwen. Debbie and Denise Rathbun were born August 5, 1959, to his son Wesley Rathbun. Brant and Brent Rathbun were born last December 14 to Wesley's son Kevin Rathbun and his wife, Tricia. They are our family's newest twins.

Beryl (Rathbun) Beerentrauch and Meryl (Rathbun) Zimmerman, born Feb. 6, 1925, daughters of Henry⁸ Rathbun (Clarence⁷ Job⁶⁻⁵ William⁴ Job³ Joseph² John¹). Beryl's husband, Ervin, is also a twin, and his twin sister, Doris, is the mother of twins. Beryl and Meryl had an aunt, Etta May (Rathbun) Prather, who had twins.

Beatrice (Rathbun) St. Onge and Bernice (Rathbun) Butts, born Sept. 18, 1920, daughters of Joel⁹ Rathbun (George⁸ Levant⁷ Williams⁶⁻⁵ Benjamin⁴⁻³ Joseph² John¹). Bernice has twin grandsons.

Daniel and David Rathbun, born Dec. 3, 1950, sons of Betty and Daniel⁹ Rathbun (George⁸ Daniel⁷ Greene⁶⁻⁵ Gideon⁴ John³⁻²⁻¹). Daniel and Betty are also members of our Association.

Katherine Allyn (Rathbun) Bull and Barbara Allyn (Rathbun) Richardson, born Jan. 7, 1928, daughters of Donald⁹ Rathbun (Leonard⁸⁻⁷ Calvin⁶ Samuel⁵ Elijah⁴ Samuel³⁻² John¹). Their sister, Elizabeth (Rathbun) Herrin, is the mother of twins, Shawna Marie and Lindsay Taylor Little, born Nov. 15, 1984.

Several of our members have twin children:

David and Terry Rathbone are the parents of Aaron David and Amber Dawn Rathbone, born Jan. 30, 1982. David is the son of Bettye and Lemuel¹⁰ Rathbone (Lemuel⁹ Rufus⁸ George⁷ Rufus⁶ Daniel⁵ Valentine⁴ Joshua³ John²⁻¹), also Association members.

Jerrold L. Rathbun is the father of Jerrold Jr. and Rita Rathbun, born Jan.

11, 1968. Jerrold Sr. is the son of Fred⁸ Rathbun (Erastus⁷ Edwin⁶ George⁵ Job⁴ Benjamin³ Joseph² John¹).

Edwin and Frances Rathbun are the parents of Keith Raymond and Kenneth Roger Rathbun, born Aug. 11, 1964. Edwin is the son of Edwin⁸ Rathbun (Edwin⁷ Ebenezer⁶⁻⁵ Thomas⁴ Jonathan³ William² John¹).

Norman and Margaret (Rathbun) Lamb have twins sons, Jerry and Gary Lamb, born in October 1937. Margaret is the daughter of Arthur⁹ Rathbun (John⁸ William⁷ John⁶ Perry⁵ Edmund⁴ John³⁻²⁻¹) and Edith Showalter.

William and Gertrude Lieuellen are the parents of Jean (Lieuellen) Owens and Joan (Lieuellen) Bartlett. Bill Lieuellen is the son of Arthur Lieuellen and Ora Jane⁸ Rathbun (David⁷ Lewis⁶ David⁵ Edmund⁴ John³⁻²⁻¹).

We have many other members with twins in their families:

Lois (Rathbone) McEachern, our oldest member at 95, and her sister, LaPrelle (Rathbone) Weatherford, are the daughters of Virgil⁸ Rathbone (Albert⁷ Amos⁶⁻⁵ Thomas⁴⁻³ John²⁻¹), whose wife, Tabitha Greene, was a twin. Both Lois and LaPrelle have twin grandchildren. Their father had a twin brother and sister, Edith and Edison Rathbone, born Aug. 24, 1878. Edison was the father of our member, Edison Rathbone Jr.

Edith (Rathbun) Roberts, daughter of Henry Howe⁹ Rathbun (Charles⁸ William⁷ Alfred⁶ Wait⁵⁻⁴ Joshua³ John²⁻¹), has two sets of twins among her 10 great-grandchildren.

Roland Rathbun, son of Frank¹⁰ Rathbun (Herbert⁹ Francis⁸ Joshua⁷ Abraham⁶ Joshua⁵⁻⁴⁻³ John²⁻¹), has a younger brother and sister who are twins — Philip and Phillis Rathbun, born March 4, 1924. Phyllis, who was born first, was "tossed to one side and pronounced dead" at birth, but managed to survive and have 11 children and 13 grandchildren.

Leta Hollman is the granddaughter of a Rathbun twin. Her grandmother, Phoebe Emeline Rathbun, and a twin brother, Isaac Hale Rathbun, were born May 8, 1850, children of Elihu⁶ Rathbun (Solomon⁵ Job⁴ Joshua³ John²⁻¹). The two twins died less than two months apart in 1935 at the age of 85.

Dr. C. Jay Brown and Mary Gagliardi are first cousins, the children of twins.

Their grandmother, Mary Adeline Rathbone, daughter of Thomas Worthington⁶ Rathbone (Jonathan⁵ Coggeshall⁴ Abraham³ Samuel² John¹), married George T. Brown and had twins born April 10, 1892 — Charles John Brown, father of Dr. Brown, and Emelie Gladys, the mother of Mrs. Gagliardi, who is the great-grandmother of twins, Jonathan and Briana Slater, born Dec. 4, 1987.

Dr. Earl and Gayle Antes have twin granddaughters, Megan and Erin Thomas, born Aug. 25, 1979, to their

adopted daughter, Pamela Sue (Antes) Thomas. Gayle Antes is the daughter of Alvin Mitchell and Nina Maude⁹ Rathbun (Frederic⁸ Edward⁷ Charles⁶ Joshua⁵ Amos⁴ Joshua³ John²⁻¹). Gayle's sister, Lorice (Mitchell) Johnson, has twin grandsons, Cary and Chad Johnson, sons of their adopted son, Ronald.

Your editor's father, Frank H. Rathbun Sr., had twin sisters, Louise Virginia and Leversa Vacilla Rathbun, born May 30, 1879, whose pictures as young girls appear on our front cover. Leversa mar-

ried John Anderson and died in childbirth aged 23. Louise married Walter McCrath and died in 1957. They were daughters of Hugo⁷ Rathbun (Charles⁶ Amos⁵⁻⁴ Joshua³ John²⁻¹).

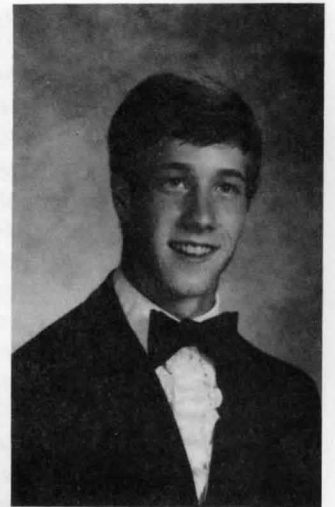
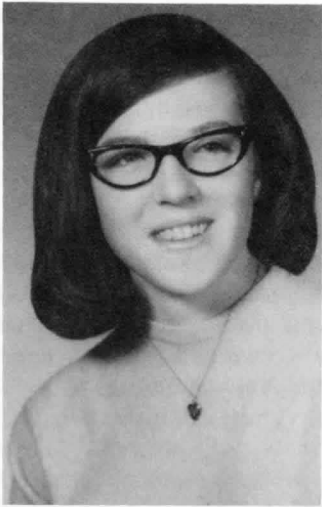
(We thank all our many members who sent us information about twins in their families, and pictures of their twins. We received far more pictures than we could use, so we selected only those which would reproduce best.)



Our members Beryl (Rathbun) Beerentrauch (on left in both pictures) and Meryl (Rathbun) Zimmerman, aged four and 20.



Our members Daniel Rathbun (left in both pictures), and David Rathbun, born in 1950, as babies and as they look today.



Jean Carol (Lieuellen) Owens (left) and Joan Sue (Lieuellen) Bartlett, twin daughters of Bill and Gertrude Lieuellen.

Keith Raymond Rathbun (left, and Kenneth Roger Rathbun, born in 1964, sons of our members Edwin and Frances Rathbun.



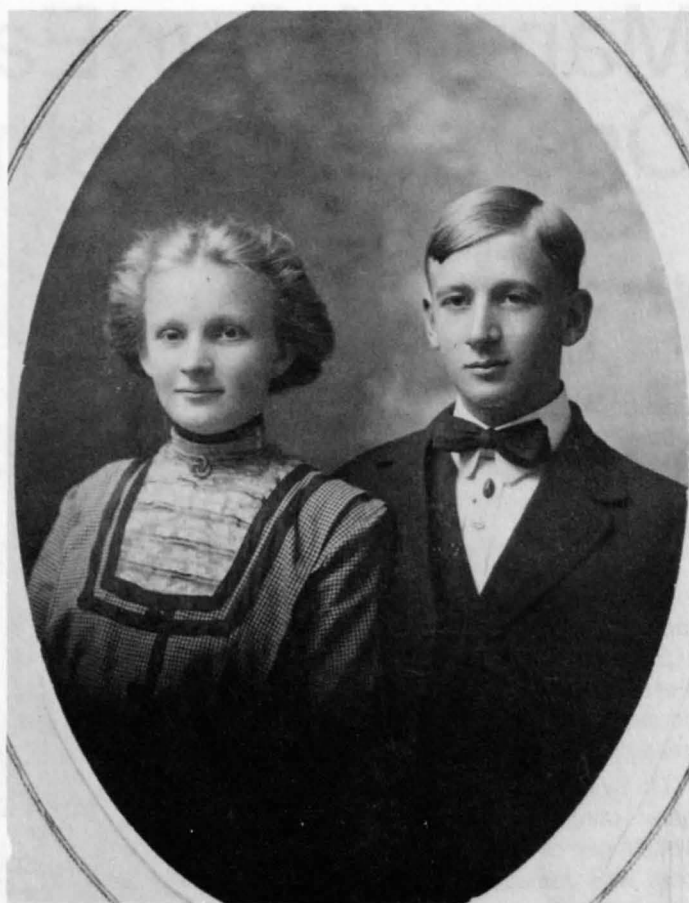
Aaron David and Amber Dawn Rathbone, born in 1982, children of David and Terry Rathbone and grandchildren of Lemuel and Bettye Rathbone.

Dr. Isaac Rathbun and Phoebe (Rathbun) Gilmore, born 1850 and died 1935.



Katherine (Rathbun) Bull and Barbara (Rathbun) Richardson.

Bernice (Rathbun) Butts and Beatrice (Rathbun) St. Onge.



Charles J. and Emelie Gladys Brown, as children in 1899 and as teenagers.



Lois and Jeannette, twin granddaughters of our member, Lois McEachern.



Dolly (left) and Dimple Sharp, pictured a few weeks after their birth in 1922. Dimple died the following year.



Debby (Rathbun) Burnside (left) and Denise (Rathbun) Rowe, twin daughters of Wesley and Shirley Rathbun.

Many of Our Early Cousins Operated Gristmills, Sawmills

In early America, one of the most important and respected occupations was that of the miller, or millwright. A gristmill or sawmill, along with a church, were usually the first buildings erected in a new community. Early real estate advertisements often mentioned proximity to a gristmill as a major selling point.

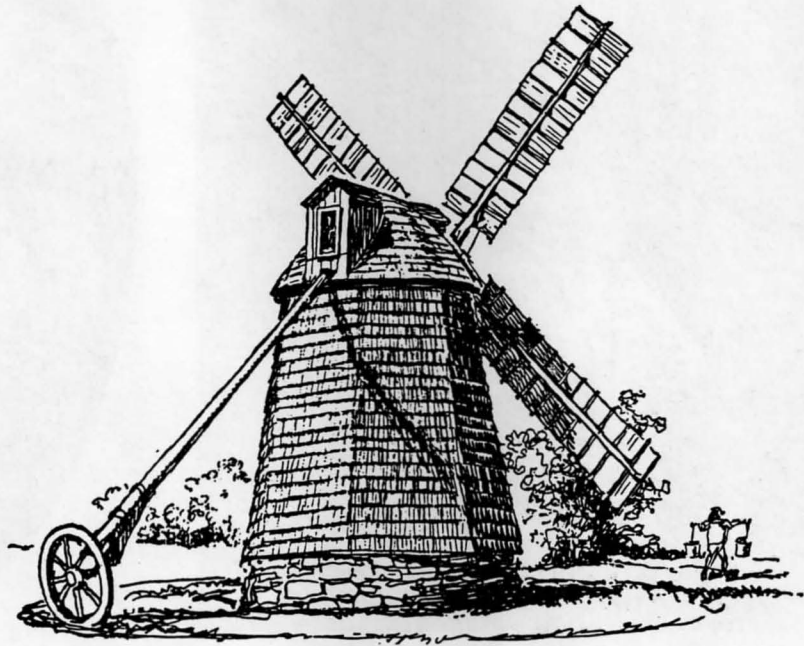
Farmers hauled their corn and wheat to the gristmill to be ground into corn meal or flour, giving the miller a portion in payment for the service. As log cabins were replaced by more substantial homes, it was the sawmills which turned trees into finished lumber and shingles.

On Block Island, when John and Margaret Rathbun settled there in the early 1660s, one of their most valued neighbors was James Sands, a carpenter, who dammed up a small stream to create a millpond, and then erected a mill to grind corn for the settlers. Before that, corn had to be ground in a hollowed-out wooden mortar by pounding it with a stone.

Early records seldom mention occupations, so we have few records of our family's earliest millers. In Rhode Island, the will of John⁴ Rathbun (John³⁻²⁻¹) in 1810 mentioned "a fordway across the road . . . below the dam I built." He most likely had built the dam to obtain a flow of water for a small gristmill for his own use and that of his near neighbors.

The most prominent millers in our family were descendants of Joshua³ Rathbun (John²⁻¹), born on Block Island in 1696, who moved as a young man to Stonington, Conn. Although we have no definite proof, Joshua himself was likely a miller, since three of his sons followed that trade. Joshua Hempstead, an early Connecticut diarist, wrote on Feb. 11, 1752: "I brot my blue cloth serge to Rathbon's fulling mill." This could be a reference to Joshua, or one of his sons.

His oldest son, Joshua Rathbun Jr. (1724-1801), for many years operated a wind-driven gristmill on Stonington



A typical windmill of the late 1700s, similar to that built and operated by the Rathbuns of Stonington, Conn. The tower had a revolving top, which could be moved by the spar-and-wheel mechanism to make the sails face into the wind.

Point, and was known as "Joshua of the Windmill." He left the mill to his sons, Joshua III and Acors, who were co-owners. Acors became the mill operator, since his brother was a sea captain. When Joshua III died at sea in 1773, he left his heirs "one half share of a wind gristmill at Long Point," as Stonington Point was called.

The brother Acors operated the mill for many years, probably until his death about 1827. The diary of Thomas "Nailer Tom" Hazard of nearby South Kingstown, R.I., has several references to the Rathbun Mill:

Nov. 6, 1781 — "Went to Rathbon's Mill."

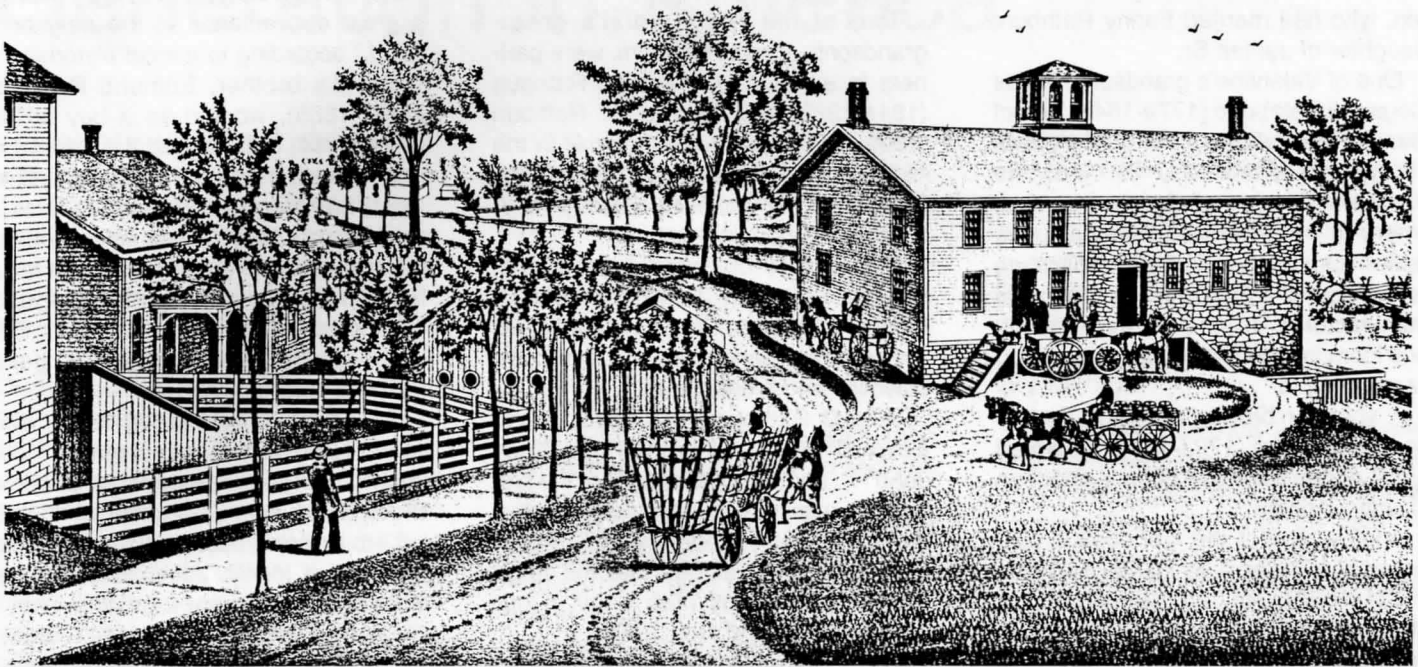
Dec. 23, 1782 — "I carried corn to Rathbone's mill."

July 1, 1783 — "Went to Rothbone's mill for a grist of wheat."

In 1782, Hazard also made this strange entry: "Christopher Robinson beat Acus (Acors) Rathbun yesterday in the mill." It sounds as though Rathbun and Robinson had a fight, maybe over payment, and Rathbun lost!

Acors Rathbun, and probably his father, were skilled both at operating and building windmills. An 1882 history of early Stonington relates: "There was a windmill at the extremity of the village where the corn of the villagers was ground. It was built by a member of the branch of the Rathbun family called 'Windmill Rathbuns' because they made it their business to erect windmills."

The mill was located near the tip of Stonington Point to take advantage of the sea breezes. The Rathbun family home was close by, as shown by an



A view of the Rathbun Brothers Mill in East Pembroke, N.Y., from an 1876 county atlas. The mill was founded by Lewis Vernon Rathbun and George W. Rathbun, sons of Ransom⁶ Rathbun (Daniel⁵⁻⁴ Joshua³ John²⁻¹).

early Stonington record which mentions the Rathbuns' "two lots of land with dwelling house and windmill at a place called Stonington Long Point, bounded by the sea . . ." No picture or description of the mill exists, but it was probably quite similar to an early Block Island windmill described as having four arms, each 30 feet long, which could grind 100 bushels of corn meal a day, "when the wind was favorable." Block Island records tell of a small child being hit and killed by one of the huge arms, which probably swept within a foot or two of the ground.

The wind-driven arms rotated a strong axle, which through a series of gear wheels turned a huge millstone, lying flat on another huge stationary stone. As the corn or wheat passed between the stones it was ground into meal or flour.

The mill in operation must have been an impressive sight, and a bedlam of noise — the rumbling of the huge windmill arms turning in the wind, the rattling and creaking of the wooden gears, and the grating roar of the huge millstones, grinding the grain and filling the air with dust.

By 1827, when Acors Rathbun died, the operation had been converted to a sawmill, as shown in the inventory of his estate: "110 acres of land, with house, stable, cornhouse and sawmill, valued at \$1800."

The mill was probably torn down soon after that, but descendants of the Rathbun millers at Stonington operated mills all over the country for the next several generations.

Solomon Rathbun (1799-1861) had a gristmill and sawmill at Rathbunville, N.Y., later called Verona Mills. His brother, Joshua, had a sawmill in Albany, later expanded into a sizeable lumber business which he left to his nephew, Acors Rathbun.

Francis Howgill Rathbone (1811-1855) founded a paper mill at Chatham, N.Y., and later sold it to his brother William Peckham Rathbun (1826-1901), who added a cotton mill.

Valentine Rathbun (1724-1814), son of the first Joshua, left Stonington for Pittsfield, Mass., where in 1770 he purchased a tract of land "about one half mile from the outlet of Richmond Pond, with the right of flowing (flooding) as much more land as should be necessary

to raise a fund of water sufficient for a fulling mill already built and a gristmill to be built."

The resulting pond eventually covered 45 acres and became known as Rathbun's Pond. There is no further mention of a gristmill, but Valentine operated the fulling mill for most of the next 30 years. (See story of his life in our issues of Oct. 1981 and Jan. 1982).

Valentine Rathbun's mill was probably powered by an "undershot" wheel lined with wooden blades. As water from the pond poured through a sluiceway under the wheel, it turned at a steady pace, the speed depending on the flow. A system of shafts, geared wheels, pulleys and belts transferred power to the mill's interior machinery, huge wooden hammers which pounded the spun wool to "full" it — meaning to clean and thicken it so it could be woven into cloth.

Valentine's son, James Rathbun (1764-1814), worked for years in his father's mill, but he moved by 1800 to Marcellus, N.Y., where he built and operated a fulling mill and later a clothing factory at Five Mile Point. At his death,

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the business was taken over by his son, James Harvey Rathbun (1791-1848), and later was purchased by William Patten, who had married Fanny Rathbun, daughter of James Sr.

One of Valentine's grandsons, Rufus Cogswell Rathbone (1779-1842), son of Daniel, also followed the fulling trade. He moved in the early 1800s to the Kershaw District of South Carolina, where in 1810 he was manufacturing cotton cloth, and probably operating some sort of fulling mill. A census of manufacturers in 1810 showed him with one loom and an annual capacity of 160 yards of cloth.

A younger brother of Rufus, Valentine W. Rathbun (1792-1876), operated a mill during the mid-1800s in Steuben County, Indiana.

Another son of the first Joshua who became a miller was Daniel Rathbun (1731-1823). He left Stonington for Massachusetts and according to an 1882 history of Great Barrington established the business of "fulling and cloth dressing as early as 1760 on the Green River."

Daniel's son and namesake, Daniel Rathbun Jr. (1759-1808), moved to Milton, N.Y., about 1790, and built a fulling mill and later a sawmill. The sawmill was run by an "overshot" wheel, lined with buckets. As water poured over the wheel, it turned, first filling and then emptying the buckets as it turned. In a well-designed mill, the wheel would turn seven times a minute, enabling the gear system to turn a circular sawblade 100 times a minute.

In November 1808, while trying to make repairs on the water wheel, Daniel stepped onto one of the buckets, thinking the wheel was locked. He was wrong! His weight moved the wheel, and his left leg just below the knee was caught in the turning bucket. The leg was broken in two places, and he died three weeks later after the leg became infected. Early mills were dangerous places, and the records often tell of accidents resulting in death or injury.

Another son of Daniel Sr. — Philander Rathbun (1764-1844) — also became a

miller, and operated both gristmills and fulling mills in Saratoga County, N.Y. His son, Philander Jr. (1796-1886), learned the trade from his father, and also became a fuller and clothier.

Two of the first Daniel's great-grandsons, sons of Ransom, were partners in a mill. Lewis Vernon Rathbun (1844-1923) and George W. Rathbun (1839-1925) operated a gristmill in the 1870s on the Tonawanda Creek at East Pembroke, in Genesee County, N.Y. (See accompanying picture).

Still another of Daniel's grandsons, William Rathbun Jr. (1802-1891?), moved to Ontario, Canada, bought 200 acres near Blenheim, and built two sawmills and a shingle mill.

Hugo B. Rathbun (1812-1886), son of Edward⁵ Rathbun (Amos⁴ Joshua³ John²⁻¹), another descendant of the first Joshua, also moved to Ontario and started a little sawmill operation in 1849 at Mill Point. It developed into the huge Rathbun Company (see story in our issues of July and Oct. 1986).

William Sargent Rathbun (1820-1887), son of Alfred⁶ Rathbun (Wait⁵⁻⁴ Joshua³ John²⁻¹), moved in 1855 from Hopkinton, Mass., to Beaver Dam, Wisc., where he operated a grist mill for several years.

Although descendants of Joshua Rathbun seemed to dominate the miller trade in our family, many other early cousins also were mill operators.

Edmund Rathbun (1737-1801), son of John³ Rathbun (John²⁻¹), moved shortly after the Revolutionary War to Delhi, Delaware County, N.Y., and erected a gristmill on Falls Brook. His son, David Rathbun (1767-1850) followed in the business.

About 1787, David built a gristmill at the foot of the falls on Falls Brook. An early Delhi historian said that David placed his mill at the foot of the falls, "securing in the great fall (the power) he must lose by crude and imperfect machinery."

David sold the mill in 1806 and moved to Ames Township in Athens County, Ohio, where for several years he operated a horse-powered mill, which served settlers for miles around. (See picture.) In later years, he built a small

hand mill — two round flat stones about two feet in diameter, the top one rotated by a wooden handle. Corn placed between the two stones was ground into meal. It was a slow process, but "proved a great convenience to the neighborhood," according to a local historian.

David's brother, Edmund Rathbun (1777-1865), worked as a boy in his father's mill, and learned the trade. He moved west in the early 1800s, and in 1831, he mortgaged his farm to build a sawmill on Clear Creek, near Springfield, Illinois. A drought that lasted for a full year virtually dried up the creek, and with no water, there was no power. Edmund abandoned the project at great financial loss.

Williams Rathbun (1800-1852), son of Williams⁵ Rathbun (Benjamin⁴⁻³ Joseph² John¹) built a sawmill on Shadow Brook Creek near Springfield, N.Y., and left it to his sons, Jacob and Levant, who operated it jointly. Jacob later built a cider mill, and Levant a gristmill.

James Eldred Rathbun (1811-1856), son of Thomas⁵ Rathbun (John⁴ Samuel³ Thomas² John¹), built a dam about 1855 on Dustin Creek in Monroe County, Wisc., and erected a sawmill and gristmill. The town he founded there was named Cataract for the tremendous rush of water over his dam.

Clarence M. Rathbun, (1849-1909), son of Erastus⁶ Rathbun (Russell⁵ Simeon⁴ Thomas³ John²⁻¹), operated an extensive sawmill and lumber business in the 1880s at Mountain Lake, Garrett County, Maryland, and later expanded it to include other building supplies.

There were probably other early members of our family who were millers, but have left no record of their activities.

The major drawback of early mills was their dependence on wind or water for a power supply. On windless days, or times of drought, they stood silent. By the late 1800s, the advent of the steam engine had made them obsolete. The day of the miller had given way to the era of steam engineer and mechanic.

A few old water-wheel mills still exist, primarily as tourist attractions, but in Rhode Island, there are still some water-wheel gristmills producing corn meal for the famous "Rhode Island Johnnycake."

Genealogy: The Sixth Generation in America

142. JUSTUS HULL⁶ RATHBONE (David⁵ John⁴ Joshua³ John²⁻¹), born June 19, 1794, in Charlestown, Mass. He studied law and became a prominent attorney in Utica, N.Y., where on May 24, 1826, he married Sarah Elizabeth Dwight, born Jan. 8, 1805, daughter of Henry Edwin and Electa (Centre) Dwight. Justus, according to Cooley's Rathbone Genealogy, "stood six feet in his stockings" — a tall man for that day — but apparently had some sort of handicap; an early Utica historian reported that he had a busy law practice but was unable to appear in court because of a "grave physical infirmity." He established Utica's first library, in his law office. It was opened in 1826 with 1100 books. Sarah died March 20, 1851, at Utica. Justus moved in later life to Germantown, Pa., where he died May 29, 1861.

CHILDREN

SON, name unknown; born April 1, 1827; died same day.

MARY DWIGHT, born July 12, 1828; married James Oliver Pease on Oct. 31, 1850.

ANDALUSIA RHODES, born June 11, 1830; married Thomas VanAmburg on August 15, 1854.

SARAH BUFORD, born July 17, 1832; died July 2, 1836.

JUSTUS HENRY, born Oct. 29, 1839; married Emma L. Sanger.

143. CLARENDON BATES⁶ RATHBONE (David⁵ John⁴ Joshua³ John²⁻¹), born March 23, 1796, in Sutton, Mass. He studied law in Cayuga and Madison counties, N.Y., and was admitted to the New York Bar at Utica in 1820. He moved soon after that to Lawrenceville, Pa., where he was married on June 15, 1830, to Mary Shumway Wilson, born April 10, 1809, daughter of Joseph and Lydia Wilson. He became a deputy state attorney general and an officer in the local militia, serving as captain in 1828.

In 1840, he moved his family to Blossburg, Tioga County, where he practiced law for many years. Cooley described him as "a tall man with fine blue eyes, noted for his love of children and for his cordial hospitality." Mary died Aug. 21, 1878, and he died August 26, 1892.

CHILDREN

MARIA S., born March 14, 1831; married George William Cady on Oct. 18, 1857.

DAVID, born July 31, 1833; married (1) Elizabeth Culp, and (2) Sarah Elliott.

ANGELICA, born Sept. 4, 1835; died Feb. 6, 1841.

MARIA NANCY, born Oct. 10, 1837; married N. Bryon Alworth in 1868.

JOSEPH CLARENDON WILSON, born Feb. 10, 1840; married Christina Schambacker.

MARY JANE, born April 20, 1842; married John H. Miller on Nov. 20, 1864.

ANGELICA ANDERSON, born Aug. 16, 1844; married Charles B. Signor on Dec. 24, 1868.

PHILA EMMA, born Aug. 16, 1847; married Isaac Frey on March 7, 1866.

144. LAZARUS STEWART⁶ RATHBONE (Joseph⁵ John⁴ Joshua³ John²⁻¹), born Jan. 7, 1789, in Hanover, Pa., and moved with his parents as a boy to Steuben (now Allegany) County, N.Y. He was married there on Nov. 24, 1808, to Lynda Granger, born April 24, 1789, daughter of Thomas and Jemima (Kingsley) Granger. They settled on his father's farm at Almond, where Lynda died May 12, 1827, leaving him with six children. He was married again Oct. 16, 1827, to Mary Evarts, born Aug. 16, 1803, daughter of George and Susannah (Holmes) Evarts. Lazarus attended school only three months in his life, and learned to write by using a pointed stick in fireplace ashes. He progressed so much that he later became a teacher. He was local justice of the peace, town supervisor, town clerk, county clerk,

postmaster, school commissioner, and a representative in the New York State legislature. He also served 30 years as deacon of the Baptist Church. He died sometime after 1875. Mary died Aug. 25, 1887.

CHILDREN

(By Lynda)

JULIANNA, born Aug. 26, 1810; married Philip McHenry on Feb. 26, 1828.

HARRIET, born Sept. 24, 1812; married Matthew Coleman on Jan. 10, 1832.

SALLY M., born March 7, 1815; died May 13, 1842, unmarried.

JUDSON, born Jan. 29, 1817; died in 1887, unmarried. He served several years as Allegany County's deputy clerk.

MARY, born May 4, 1820; married William H. Davidson on Jan. 21, 1840.

IRA D., born June 3, 1823; died in infancy.

LAZARUS STEWART, born Sept. 24, 1826; died Sept. 10, 1840.

(By Mary)

GEORGE WASHINGTON, born June 19, 1828; married Mary _____.

LYNDA GRANGER, born Aug. 1, 1829; married _____ Stanley.

RACHEL ADELIA, born Dec. 18, 1837; married _____ Dey.

145. JOHN⁶ RATHBONE (Joseph⁵ John⁴ Joshua³ John²⁻¹), born Oct. 30, 1791, at Hanover, Pa., and moved with his parents as a young boy to Almond, N.Y. He was married Feb. 27, 1817, at Amity, N.Y., to Sarah Van Campen, born Feb. 25, 1794, daughter of Samuel Van Campen. They remained in Almond, where John was a prominent music teacher. He died at Almond on Oct. 29, 1873, and Sarah on July 28, 1883, at nearby Angelica.

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CHILDREN

NEWELL, born March 17, 1818; died May 14, 1819.

CYRENE, born June 7, 1819; married John W. Major on Nov. 24, 1840.

EMILY, born Dec. 9, 1820; married Benjamin B. Clark on July 26, 1848.

MILTON, born June 1, 1822; died April 26, 1824.

ALBERT L., born Oct. 7, 1825; married Ann Fuller.

SYLVAN, born July 18, 1830; married Thirza Siddons.

LUTHER, born Jan. 10, 1839; died Jan. 10, 1841.

146. JOSEPH⁶ RATHBONE (Joseph⁵ John⁴ Joshua³ John²⁻¹), born April 22, 1802, at Almond, N.Y., and married there Aug. 10, 1831, Sally French, born Dec. 3, 1806, ancestry unknown. They moved about 1844 to Naples, Ontario County, N.Y., where Sally died Jan. 14, 1875, and Joseph on Jan. 24, 1884.

CHILDREN

SARAH ELIZA, born June 3, 1832; married Daniel T. Cole on Sept. 10, 1873

LOUISA PHIDELIA, born Nov. 17, 1833; married Charles G. Cleveland on Dec. 4, 1864.

MARY PRISCILLA, born Nov. 6, 1837; died June 24, 1855.

DAVID F., born June 6, 1841; died Oct. 24, 1844.

HENRY S., born Aug. 18, 1843; married Marian Liddiard.

147. ROBERT CHESEBROUGH⁶ RATHBONE (Aaron⁵ John⁴ Joshua³ John²⁻¹), born Aug. 23, 1825, at Ballston, Saratoga County, N.Y., and married on April 10, 1849, Juliet Bleeker, born about 1829, daughter of James W. and Sarah (Fanning) Bleeker. They lived for a few years in Oswego, N.Y., then moved to New York City where he became a grocer and later went into the insurance business. He served in the Civil War as a sergeant-major in the U.S. Army. He died Feb. 10, 1915, in New York City. Juliet died some time later, date unknown.

CHILDREN

JULIET BLEEKER, born April 23, 1850; married William Earl on Oct. 15, 1873.

MARY LOUISE BLEEKER, born Oct. 27, 1852; married Joseph Williams on Sept. 30, 1874.

ROBERT BLEEKER, born July 12, 1856; married (1) Helen Davis, and (2) Florence Klenny.

148. AARON HENDERSON⁶ RATHBONE (Aaron⁵ John⁴ Joshua³ John²⁻¹), born Nov. 7, 1827, in Saratoga County, N.Y., and married, date unknown, Caroline Regally, who died a few years after their marriage, leaving no children. He was married again on Nov. 29, 1865, to Margaret Baird Loper, birthdate unknown, daughter of Richard and Margaret (Baird) Loper. He was a journalist in his youth, but went into business in New York City and became wealthy. Margaret died before 1885, and he died sometime after 1900 in New York City.

CHILDREN

MARGARET LOPER, born Oct. 22, 1866; married George Busse on Dec. 16, 1885.

RICHARD FANNING LOPER, born in April 1866; married Lillian McGowan on Feb. 24, 1897.

ELIZA CHESEBROUGH, born Nov. 19, 1869; married Ralph Kenyon on Nov. 10, 1891.

149. BENJAMIN⁶ RATHBUN (Moses⁵ John⁴ Joshua³ John²⁻¹), born Dec. 1, 1790, at Ashford, Conn. He moved as a young man to Richfield, N.Y., where on Dec. 15, 1811, he married Alice Loomis, born Jan. 4, 1793, daughter of Thaddeus and Thankful (Meachum) Loomis. See the story of his fascinating life in our Historians of January, April and July 1982. Alice died Oct. 6, 1871, in New York City, and Benjamin died July 20, 1873, at Fort Washington, N.Y.

CHILD

THADDEUS LOOMIS, born about 1814; married _____ and died March 26, 1853, in Detroit, Mich.

150. LYMAN⁶ RATHBUN (Moses⁵ John⁴ Joshua³ John²⁻¹), born July 16,

1799, at Ashford, Conn., and moved to New York State with his parents as a boy. He was married in Buffalo, N.Y., on Jan. 4, 1824, to Maria Esther Clark, born in 1805, the daughter of Rev. Timothy Clark. Details of his life appear in our January, April and July 1982 Historians, in connection with the career of his brother, Benjamin. Lyman died August 1, 1839, in Texas. Maria died Nov. 16, 1874, probably in Buffalo.

CHILDREN

FRANCES MARIA, born in 1829; married Thomas Pearson on April 26, 1850.

CHARLES LYMAN, born in 1832; he was a journalist in Buffalo, and was living there as late as 1863. Nothing more is known of his later life, or death.

151. JAMES HAMNER⁶ RATHBONE (Samuel⁵ John⁴ Joshua³ John²⁻¹), born July 14, 1802, in Hartford or Ashford, Conn. He was married in Albany, N.Y., on Jan. 14, 1825, to Elizabeth Magdalen Beekman, born June 16, 1805, daughter of Peter and Magdalen (Van Rensselaer) Beekman. He was a merchant in New York City for some years, then moved to Buffalo, where he died Aug. 17, 1843, leaving a substantial estate. He was a prominent citizen; one of his pallbearers was Millard Fillmore, a future U.S. president. Elizabeth died Oct. 18, 1872, in Richfield Springs, N.Y.

CHILDREN

ELIZABETH BEEKMAN, born Oct. 28, 1828; married Dean S. Manley on Oct. 22, 1851.

ELSIE MARY, born Sept. 14, 1831; died July 28, 1832.

HARRIET MARIA, born Sept. 18, 1836; died July 2, 1903, unmarried.

JAMES VAN RENSSELAER, born Oct. 15, 1939; died August 31, 1852, in Buffalo of cholera.

152. HENRY ALANSON⁶ RATHBONE (Samuel⁵ John⁴ Joshua³ John²⁻¹), born Dec. 27, 1803, in Charlemont, Mass. He moved as a young man to Rogersville, Tennessee, where he married about 1832 Anne Powell, born in 1814, daughter of Judge Samuel Powell. They moved to Talledega, Alabama, where she died Dec. 25, 1834. He moved to

New Orleans, where he married about 1846 Marie Celeste Forestall, born April 4, 1823, daughter of Francis Placide and Delaphine Borga deLopez Forestall, member of a prominent French family. Henry became a banker and by 1860 was president of the New Orleans Canal Bank. When the Civil War broke out, he was a northern supporter, and moved to France to avoid problems. He died there, in Paris, on March 10, 1867. His body was returned to New Orleans and buried in the family vault there. His widow died April 3, 1914, in New Orleans.

CHILDREN

(By Anne)

SAMUEL POWELL, born Dec. 25, 1832; died Aug. 12, 1833.

GEORGE R. POWELL, born Feb. 15, 1834; died Oct. 10, 1853, in New Orleans, during a Yellow Fever epidemic.

(By Marie)

MARIE CELESTE EMMA, born Dec. 22, 1846; married John DeLande de Ferriers on Aug. 1, 1870.

PAUL HENRY, born Jan. 6, 1849; died May 18, 1849.

MARIE PAULINE, born Aug. 8, 1850; married Peter Labouisse on Jan. 28, 1874.

FRANCIS HENRY, born March 12, 1852; died Aug. 7, 1853, during the same Yellow Fever epidemic which killed his half-brother.

ELIZABETH MARIE STELLA, born Feb. 28, 1854; married James Gaspard DuBuys.

MARIE LAURIE, born April 28, 1857; died Aug. 7, 1858.

ALICE MARIE LOUISE, born Jan. 21, 1859; married William Phelps Eno on April 4, 1883. See our Historian of April 1982 for a picture of her and story of her life.

MARIE RITA, born in Dec. 1861; married Edgar de Poincy.

153. CHARLES EDWARD⁶ RATHBONE (Samuel⁵ John⁴ Joshua³ John²⁻¹), born Dec. 17, 1818, in New York City. He was married April 7, 1841, in Clauson, Erie County, N.Y., to Harriet Harvey, born Jan. 17, 1819, ancestry unknown. They moved to Elmira, N.Y., then to Bradford County, Pa., by 1850,

and finally to Buffalo, N.Y., by 1860. He was a successful merchant for many years. Harriet died April 9, 1860, in Buffalo, and he was married Aug. 31, 1864, in Plattsburg, N.Y., to Ann Elizabeth Dielle, born May 28, 1833, daughter of Rev. John and Caroline A. (Platt) Dielle. She died in Buffalo in 1870. He moved to New York City, and died some time after 1900.

CHILDREN

(By Harriet)

SAMUEL HARVEY, born April 8, 1842; married Anna Clark Burwell.

JULIET PATTERSON, born July 3, 1843; married (?) William C. Dryer on April 25, 1883, in Buffalo.

MARY TURNER, born Feb. 12, 1845; died unmarried some time after 1900.

CHARLES HENRY, born Oct. 27, 1853; died Nov. 1, 1855.

CELESTE MARIA, born Sept. 17, 1857; died unmarried some time after 1900.

(By Ann)

CHARLES CLARY, born Aug. 16, 1865; married Maida G. _____.

As we have explained in previous issues, we are not carrying on the female lines of descent in our genealogical section, but limiting our coverage only to sons. This is done in the interest of space. Several members, however, have expressed interest in the three daughters of our immigrant ancestors, John and Margaret Rathbun, and what happened to them. The oldest daughter, Sarah, is listed in Cooley's Rathbone Genealogy, but with inaccurate information. The two younger daughters — Margaret and Elizabeth — are not even mentioned by Cooley. Following is the result of your editor's research on the three daughters:

SARAH RATHBUN was born June 10, 1659, according to Cooley, but he gave no source or documentation for this date. It does not appear in any early American documents that we have discovered, but possibly Cooley had some source that no longer exists. Sarah was probably born in Dorchester, Mass., and accompanied her parents to Block Island about 1662. She was married there on Dec. 20, 1678, to Samuel George, born April 12, 1651, son of

Peter and Mary (Rowning) George, the widow of Simon Ray Sr. Samuel and Sarah had two children before his death April 12, 1692, on Block Island. She was married again later that year to John Mitchell, born about 1664, son of Thomas Mitchell, and grandson of Experience Mitchell, one of the Plymouth Pilgrims. After her second marriage, Sarah's brother, Thomas Rathbun, took over the George family property on Block Island in trust for her two daughters by Samuel George. Sarah and John Mitchell moved to Newport, R.I., where Mitchell died by 1708 and Sarah on April 6, 1718. Her gravestone is still legible in the town's Common Burial Ground.

CHILDREN

(By Samuel George)

MARY, born about 1680; married July 5, 1703, at Block Island, to Joseph Mitchell, her stepfather's brother, born about 1669. They had four children — Jonathan, John, Thomas and Mary — before her death March 1, 1715, on Block Island. Mitchell later married Elizabeth (Harding) Williams, a widow, and they had one son, Jeremiah. Joseph Mitchell died about 1763.

SUSANNAH, born about 1682; married May 17, 1706, Samuel Arnold, ancestry unknown, who died, insane, Aug. 9, 1717, on Block Island. Susannah was married again about 1723 to Thomas Paine, a widower, born probably in the 1670s, son of John Paine. Susannah had four daughters by Samuel Arnold — Mary, Sarah, Elizabeth and Rebecca — and one daughter, Margaret, by Thomas Paine. Susannah died by 1739.

(By John Mitchell)

JOHN, born about 1694; married June 19, 1720, in Newport, Lois Greenman. They had a daughter, Sarah, born in 1721 in Newport, but they later moved to New Providence, in the Bahama Islands, where he was living as late as 1742, described as a mariner.

MEHITABLE, born about 1696; was married by 1718 when her mother died, but her husband's name is not known.

MARGARET RATHBUN, second daughter of John and Margaret Rathbun, was born about 1663, probably on Block Island, and was married about

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1682 to Thomas Mitchell Jr., born about 1660, a brother of her sister Sarah's husband. They remained on Block Island, where Thomas was a prominent citizen, serving as constable, town sergeant, townsman, town moderator, justice and deputy to the Rhode Island General Assembly. Thomas died by 1742, and Margaret some time after 1743.

CHILDREN

THOMAS, born about 1682; married April 11, 1726, in Boston, Margaret (Maynard) Peck, widow of John Peck, and grandmother of Captain John Peck Rathbun. They lived for some years in Boston, where he was an innkeeper and "cheesemonger," but later returned to Block Island where he died March 29, 1742. Margaret died some time after 1774. They had at least two children who survived — Margaret and Elizabeth.

GEORGE, born about 1685; was married about 1706 to a wife whose name is not known, and who probably died within a few years, leaving him with one son, Samuel. He was married secondly on Feb. 27, 1712, to Sarah Mott, born Dec. 24, 1694, daughter of Nathaniel and Sarah (Tosh) Mott. They had five children — John, Rebecca, Worden, Nathaniel and George. George Mitchell Sr. died some time after 1739; Sarah's death date is not known.

JOSEPH, born about 1690; married Elizabeth Lamb Nov. 27, 1720, on Block Island, and moved by 1726 to Exeter, R.I., where he died by 1753. They had a daughter, Margaret, and at least one son, Joseph Mitchell Jr.

MARGARET, born about 1706; married Nathaniel Littlefield on June 16, 1726. They remained on Block Island, where Nathaniel was a deputy warden, town councilman and delegate to the Rhode Island General Assembly. He died about 1795, and Margaret a few years later. They had eight children.

BENJAMIN, born Jan. 23, 1711, and

moved as a young man to Newport, where he was a hatter in 1736. He was probably married and had children, but no record of them has been found.

ELIZABETH RATHBUN, third daughter of John and Margaret Rathbun, born about 1670 on Block Island; probably married about 1689 Nicholas Mosher, born in 1666, son of Hugh and Rebecca (Maxson) Mosher. (See our issue of January 1988, page 2). They moved to Dartmouth, Mass., and later to Tiverton, R.I., where Nicholas died Aug. 15, 1747. Elizabeth survived him but her death date is not known.

CHILDREN

HUGH, born Nov. 16, 1690; married Sarah Davol on April 25, 1717, at Dartmouth.

JOSEPH, born April 7, 1692; married Mehitable Smith Oct. 28, 1718.

MARY, born Dec. 16, 1695; married Philip Allen.

ELIZABETH, born April 16, 1697; married Benoni Tripp Nov. 21, 1728.

THOMAS, born Feb. 26, 1699; married Hannah Davol.

NICHOLAS, born Jan. 17, 1703; married (1) Dorothy Potter, and (2) Rebecca Wilcox.

MERCY, born July 6, 1705; married Caleb Shreve Aug. 24, 1729.

REBECCA, born March 20, 1708; married John Wilcox Jan. 20, 1729.

EPHRAIM, born March 5, 1710; probably died young.

MARGARET, born Jan. 17, 1713; married William Taber on May 7, 1732.

Scholarship Fund Left by Cousin

Dozens of needy students are and will be attending the college of their choice thanks to a scholarship program begun by William Donald Cossey, a Rathbun descendant, who died in 1984 at the age of 63.

Cossey was the son of Clifford Cossey and Mildred Electa (Rathbun) Cossey, a daughter of Clarence⁷ Rathbun (Guy⁶ Amiziah⁵ Job⁴ Benjamin³ Joseph² John¹). He became a successful businessman in Boise, Idaho, and in 1979 he inherited a substantial amount of money at his mother's death. Much of the money had been left to Mildred by a close friend, Mrs. Haugse.

In 1983, a year before his death, Cossey used part of his mother's estate to establish a scholarship fund in memory of her and Mrs. Haugse. He named it the Haugse-Cossey Foundation, and stipulated that it be used to aid needy college students with ability and character. When he died, his entire fortune was left to the Foundation, which is operated by a select group of his friends in Boise.

Last year, the Foundation awarded 45 scholarships totaling \$103,500, ranging from \$500 to \$4,500, depending on need. The recipients are attending such schools as Harvard, Yale, Georgetown, Cornell, Purdue, Stanford and many others, including 15 who are enrolled in colleges in Idaho.

(We thank our member Joy (Rathbun) Baker for telling us of this story. She is Cossey's cousin, but looked on him as a brother, since he was raised for many years by her father, Robert B. Rathbun.)

Queries

WANTED — Information on Henry Rathbone, who died Jan. 4, 1938, in Los Angeles, Calif., aged 95. His death certificate says he was born Jan. 8, 1843, in Los Angeles, the son of Charles and Corintha (Dean) Rathbun. We have no record of this Charles, who does not appear in early California censuses.

WANTED — Information on Walter Pearson Rathbun, who died April 23, 1920, at the Ohio Soldiers' Home, in Sandusky. Who were his parents?

Obituaries

DIED — Feb. 28, 1988, at Denver, Colo., Thomas Fred Rathbun, aged 94. He was the son of John Thomas⁸ Rathbun (William⁷ John⁶ Perry⁵ Edmund⁴ John³⁻²⁻¹). He was a member of our Association, and attended our 1985 reunion at Des Moines, where he was the oldest man present. A veteran of the First World War, he served with the Army in France, and was a charter member of VFW Post 2918 in Torrington, Neb. Survivors include two sons, Marvin Rathbun, a member of our Association, and Dale Rathbun; 12 grandchildren; 24 great-grandchildren; five great-great-grandchildren, and a sister, Myrtle Showalter, a charter member of our Association.

DIED — Feb. 10, 1988, at Texarkana, Ark., Mrs. Ann (Rathburn) Auerbach, aged 75. She was the daughter of William Thomas⁹ Rathburn (Joseph⁸ Aaron⁷ Joseph⁶ Perry⁵ Edmund⁴ John³⁻²⁻¹). She is survived by her husband, Charles E. Auerbach; a daughter, Kathryn Phillips, a member of our Association; a sister, Elsie Haak; three brothers, James Rathburn, a member of our Association; Willie, and Jesse; two grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren.

DIED — Feb. 12, 1988, at Stockbridge, Mass., Mrs. Margaret (Babcock) Gottschalk, aged 94. She was the widow of Louis Gottschalk and a great-granddaughter of Jesse Stafford and Ruth⁶ Rathbun (Samuel⁵ Nathaniel⁴⁻³ John²⁻¹). She is survived by her daughter, Mrs. Margaret (Betty) Angelini, a member of our Association, whose husband, Leo Angelini, died March 1, less than two months after her mother. Mrs. Gottschalk was formerly town clerk of Stockbridge.

DIED — June 9, 1987, at Hemet, Calif., Eldon Franklin⁹ Rathbone (Thomas⁸ Napoleon⁷ Cornelius⁶ Edmund⁵⁻⁴ John³⁻²⁻¹), aged 79. He is survived by three sons, Charles, Michael and Patrick Rathbone.

DIED — Nov. 27, 1987, at Providence, R.I., Mrs. Marguerite (Wust) Rathbun, aged 76. She was the widow of George Donald⁸ Rathbun (James⁷ Royal⁶ Rodney⁵ Simeon⁴ Benjamin³ Joseph² John¹). She is survived by four sons, John A., a member of our Association; George L., David A. and Donald J.; three daughters, Claire Lavine, Carol Gore and Marguerite Hardisty; 25 grandchildren; eight great-grandchildren; two brothers, and three sisters.

DIED — Feb. 20, 1988, Kenneth R. Rathbun of Salisbury, N.Y., aged 66. He was the son of Raymond⁸ Rathbun (Adelbert⁷ Samuel⁶ Wilbur⁵ Jeremiah⁴ Joseph³⁻² John¹). Survivors include three children, Randolph, Candice and Sherlyn Rathbun, and four sisters, Mary Vardiman, Edith James, Adelaide Titus and Agnes Tierney.

DIED — Feb. 11, 1988, at Portland, Ore., William Paden Rathbone Jr., aged 74. He was the son of William Paden⁸ Rathbone (Samuel⁷⁻⁶ William⁵ Wait⁴ Joshua³ John²⁻¹). He is survived by his wife, Donna; two sons, William John Rathbone and Robert Mark Rathbone, and three grandsons.

DIED — Jan. 9, 1988, at Plantation, Florida, Irene Lillian (Rathburn) Seeman, aged 86. She was the widow of Bernard Seeman and daughter of Orestus Shively⁸ Rathburn (David⁷ Lewis⁶ David⁵ Edmund⁴ John³⁻²⁻¹). Among her survivors are a son, Ralph Seeman, and a nephew, Jim Chivers, a member of our Association.

DIED — Dec. 26, 1987, at Lansing, Mich., Lucy Louise (Warren) Rathbun, aged 82. She was the wife of Cecil⁹ Rathbun (Hiram⁸⁻⁷ Dyer⁶ Daniel⁵ Valentine⁴ Joshua³ John²⁻¹), with whom she celebrated her 50th wedding anniversary last June 20. In addition to her husband, she is survived by a son, Warren Rathbun; two daughters, Mary Langley and Linda Sullivan; nine grandchildren; a great-grandson, and a sister.

DIED — Oct. 19, 1987, at Bloomer, Wisc., Mabel Cole, aged 91. She was a granddaughter of Richard Cole and Harriett⁷ Rathbun (Thomas⁶⁻⁵ John⁴ Samuel³ Thomas² John¹). Survivors include two sons, five daughters, 18 grandchildren, 31 great-grandchildren, and seven great-great-grandchildren.

DIED — December 1987 at Stephentown, N.Y., Wesley Rathbun, aged 63. He was the son of Perry⁸ Rathbun (Norman⁷⁻⁶ John⁵ Roger⁴ Samuel³ Thomas² John¹). He is survived by his wife, Bertha; three sons, Thomas, Donald and Wayne; two daughters, Wendy and Debbie; two brothers, Ashley and Norman, and two sisters, Hazel Barrett and Frances Staples.

WE THANK the following members who have sent us family data, pictures, clippings and other materials: Glenn Rathbun, Donald A. Rathbun, Chester Mack, Bettye Rathbone, Beatrice St. Onge, Rosma Limbeck, Mrs. William Marsh, Ellen Coates, Joy Baker, Kathy Phillips, Beverly Gillette, C.J. Brown, Donna Bender, Betsey Dana, Leonard Rathbun, Charles Boardman, Mary Gagliardi, Jack Rathbun, Haybron Adams, Victor and Ruth Streeter, Lauren Landis, Roy and Anna May Rathbun, Mary Ann Haafke, Bradley J. Rathbun, Donald E. Rathbun, Capt. Ben and Rosalie Rathbun, Jeanne Chubbuck, Rob Rathbun, Mary Davidson, Helen M. Rathbun, Ray Martin, Jim Chivers, John A. Rathbun, Carson Hunt, Betty Angelini, Martin T. Rathbun, Jerrold L. Rathbun and Marge Rathbun.

SHERI ANN KERSEY and Robert L. Goyette Jr. were married Feb. 20, 1988, at Pawtucket, R.I. Sheri is the stepdaughter of Howard¹¹ Rathbun (Henry¹⁰⁻⁹ Charles⁸ Seneca⁷ John⁶ Joseph⁵ Joshua⁴ John³⁻²⁻¹) and his wife, Diane.

People

JERROLD L. RATHBUN and Myrna Sabaduquia were married Oct. 31, 1987, in Lewistown, Idaho. Jerrold is the son of Fred⁸ Rathbun (Erastus⁷ Edwin⁶ George⁵ Job⁴ Benjamin³ Joseph² John¹).

MICHAEL H. RATHBONE and Bonnie L. Bishop were married March 19, 1988, in Boise, Idaho. Michael is the son of our members, Donna and Gary⁹ Rathbone (Edmund⁸ Eugene⁷ Cornelius⁶ Edmund⁵⁻⁴ John³⁻²⁻¹).

ANNABELLE STAR and Vernon Reaser were married April 2, 1988, in Durango, Colorado. Annabelle, a member of our association, is the daughter of Raymond Francis Hunt and Westa Joy¹⁰ Rathbone (Rufus⁹⁻⁸ George⁷ Rufus⁶ Daniel⁵ Valentine⁴ Joshua³ John²⁻¹).

DIANE RATHBUN and Kevin Savage were married Feb. 6, 1988, in North Kingstown, R.I. Diane is the daughter of Earl¹⁰ Rathbun (George⁹⁻⁸ Seneca⁷ John⁶ Joseph⁵ Joshua⁴ John³⁻²⁻¹).

COL. JAMES RATHBUN of Beaufort, S.C., played a leading role last year in passage of a state law prohibiting the mass netting of game fish in coastal waters. Only the traditional rod and reel can now be used and commercial netting is prohibited. Rathbun and other sports fisherman worked closely with their state legislators to get the bill passed. He is the son of Dr. Walter⁸ Rathbun (Walter⁷ Samuel⁶⁻⁵ Elijah⁴ Samuel³⁻² John¹).

TERRI MARSHALL, 12-year-old granddaughter of our members, Don and Shirley Rathbun of Brainard, N.Y., will compete in St. Louis in the July national finals for young dancing talent. Terri is a member of two tap-dancing groups — the Fast Steppers and the Dixie Darlings — which won top honors in regional competition last fall in Schenectady, N.Y. Don Rathbun is the son of Earl⁹ Rathbun (Norman⁸ Orlo⁷ Norman⁶ John⁵ Roger⁴ Samuel³ Thomas² John¹). Terri's parents are George and Karen Ann (Rathbun) Marshall.

Our New Members

Charles Beveridge
Lake Wales, Fla.

Edith Braddock
Queen City, Texas

Doreen Davidson
Lake Jackson, Texas

Patti Garrett
Lawrence, Kansas

Linda (Rathbone) Gartner
Johnson, Nebr.

Patrick Miller
Alexandria, Va.

Marjorie Pearson
Ypsilanti, Mich.

Alvin A. Rathbun
Portola Valley, Calif.

Charles S. Rathbone
Waynesville, N.C.

Earl and Marjorie Rathbun
Ceres, Calif.

John A. Rathbun
Hernando, Calif.

Lorenzo E. Rathbun
Everett, Wash.

Margaret Speckman
Golden, Colo.

John D. Wohlers
College Place, Wash.

Births

BORN — Nov. 29, 1987, Jeremy Paul Rathbun, son of Franklin A. and Mary Rathbun, and grandsons of our members Capt. Benjamin and Rosalie Rathbun of Noank, Conn. Capt. Ben is the son of Benjamin⁹ Rathbun (Benjamin⁸ William⁷ Benjamin⁶ Samuel⁵ Elijah⁴ Samuel³⁻² John¹).

BORN — Feb. 28, 1988, James Louie Curtis, son of James and Sharon (Solano) Curtis of Turlock, Calif., and grandson of our members Louie and Juanita (Rathbun) Curtis. Juanita is the daughter of Amory¹⁰ Rathbun (Charles⁹⁻⁸ William⁷ Alfred⁶ Wait⁵⁻⁴ Joshua³ John²⁻¹).

BORN — Jan. 4, 1988, Alexandra Noel Schmetgen, daughter of Randy and Kimberly Schmetgen of Milwaukee, Wisc. Kimberly is the daughter of Laverne Goldammer and Joan⁹ Rathbun (Maurice⁸ Byron⁷ Gamaliel⁶ Walter⁵ Thomas⁴⁻³⁻² John¹).

BORN — Jan. 8, 1988, Nina Isadora Limbeck, daughter of Kevin Rathbun Limbeck and Wendy (Siegel Limbeck, of Chicago, Ill., and granddaughter of our

members, Paul and Rosma (Rathbun) Limbeck. Rosma is the daughter of William Jonathan⁸ Rathbun (Jonathan⁷ Thomas⁶⁻⁵ John⁴ Samuel³ Thomas² John¹).

BORN — Feb. 3, 1988, Kayla Louise Hall, daughter of Paul and Sharon (Bonawitz) Hall, and granddaughter of our members, Duane and Betty Bonawitz of Groton, N.Y. Duane is a double Rathbun descendant, tracing his ancestry to Gideon⁴ Rathbun (John³⁻²⁻¹), and to Thomas⁴ Rathbun (Thomas³ John²⁻¹).

Another Doctor

In our issue of January 1986, we listed all known members of our family who had been doctors. We have since learned of another to add to the list — Dr. Almond Rathburn (1825-1880), son of Dr. Sereno⁷ Rathburn (Elijah⁶ William⁵ Daniel⁴ William³⁻² John¹).