

Rathbun-Rathbone-Rathburn

FAMILY HISTORIAN



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

Letter from the Editor

Lot of news this month!

Our reunion in Rhode Island was a great success, with nearly 200 cousins in attendance. Details on page 51.

Our membership has reached a new record high of 565! That, and a surge of back-issue sales, has solved the problem of printing our 1987-88 indexes. We will have enough surplus this year to publish the indexes early in 1990. They will probably be mailed with the April Historian.

And, finally, it is dues time again! A membership renewal form is enclosed with this issue, with a deadline date of Dec. 5. We will again keep the dues at \$15 (as we have since 1984), but for those who miss the deadline, we must charge \$20 — an extra \$5 — to renew.

So please, save yourself some money and save me a lot of extra time and work — send your check before the deadline, preferably today!

In my last letter, I told of our experiences with Radio Shack Corporation, and our broken printer. The company has offered to repair it without charge, and it has been sent to their headquarters in Texas. A full report will be given in the next issue.

One of the big topics at the reunion was "Where's the next one going to be?"

We have had a lot of suggestions — Boise, Idaho; Denver, Colorado; Sacramento, California; Springfield, Illinois; Kansas City, Missouri; Auburn, N.Y.,

and even Nassau in the Bahama Islands (the island captured by Captain John Peck Rathbun in 1778).

DUES ARE DUE!

A membership renewal form for 1990 is enclosed with this issue of the Historian. Dues are again \$15, and the deadline is December 5. If you miss this deadline, we will have to charge you an extra \$5 to cover the cost of removing and replacing your name on our mailing list. It will save you \$5 to renew on time, so send your check now before you forget!

Following our precedent of every-other-year reunions, the next one would be in 1991, so we have over a year to make our decision.

Here are some of the considerations: We have tried to plan each reunion in a place with family connections (Block Island in 1983 (settled by our ancestors); Des Moines in 1985 (with visits to the village of Rathbun and nearby Rathbun Lake); Rapid City, S.D., in 1987 (tied in with our stories on the family's westward migration), and Rhode Island this year (with visits to sites of family significance — Block Island, Smith's Castle, Hammersmith Farm and the sloop Providence).

We have just about run out of areas with family connections. The most promising in this regard would be Springfield, Illinois, the home and burial place of Abraham Lincoln. We could tie a reunion there to our many family connections with Lincoln (See our Historian of October 1981).

Sacramento would also be a possibility, if we arranged the program around the famous Gold Rush of 1849 and early 1850s. Many of our ancestors and early cousins were "Forty-Niners."

And of course, Nassau, with its link to Captain John Peck Rathbun, would also offer a family connection. (However, it

would be quite expensive — both getting there and renting hotel rooms).

The question is: how important is a family connection in choosing a reunion site? Places like Boise, Denver, Kansas City and others have much to offer in terms of scenery, tourist attractions and interesting places to visit.

I would like to hear from any of you on this subject, especially those who have attended any of the past reunions. Tell me your thoughts on the reunion location, format and programs, along with any of your ideas, comments or suggestions.

In past issues, we have warned members about an organization selling so-called family histories, heritage books or other inaccurate titles. They are nothing more than expensive lists of names (often outdated) from telephone books, with a few general remarks on genealogy. The firm, which in the past has used such names as Beatrice Bayley, Elizabeth Ross and Sharon Taylor, is back in business with a new name — Mary Whitney. Don't waste your money on it, and warn your friends, neighbors and relatives!

Frank

Past Issues Still Available

All issues, 1981-1988	\$125
All issues, 1981	22
All issues, 1982	20
All issues, 1983	15
All issues, 1984	15
All issues, 1985	15
All issues, 1986	15
All issues, 1987	15
All issues, 1988	15

Single copies of any 1983-1988 issue are \$4 each. Earlier single issues (some available only in xerox) range from \$2 to \$5, depending on our supply. Write if interested.

The Rathbun-Rathbone-Rathburn Family Historian is published quarterly by the Rathbun Family Association at 11308 Popes Head Road, Fairfax, Va. 22030.

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Editor & Publisher

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Reunion Another Success! Nearly 200 Cousins Attend

Our fourth national reunion last month in Rhode Island was another great success, with a total of nearly 200 cousins participating in some or all of the four-day program.

Even the weather cooperated, with bright sunny days for our day-long bus tour and our ferry trip to Block Island. It rained on the final night, forcing us to have our clambake inside, but that hardly dampened the fun and enthusiasm.

The reunion began on Monday, Sept. 11, with registration, a get-acquainted party and group pictures, all at our headquarters motel, the Dutch Inn at Point Judith.

On Tuesday, we boarded four 47-passenger busses for an all-day tour which took us to Wickford Village, Smith's Castle, downtown Newport for lunch, Fort Adams and a visit to the reconstructed sloop Providence, and finally Hammersmith Farm. We returned to the motel at 7:30, after a long and fascinating day.

Wednesday morning, we boarded the Block Island ferry for the hour-long trip to the little island home of our early ancestors. Making good use of the island's only bus, we broke into three groups and took turns touring the island, visiting Settlers Rock, the Island Cemetery, the Block Island Historical Society, Mohegan Bluffs and the South East Light House. At the cemetery, we placed a floral wreath on the Rathbun monument erected by our Association in 1983.

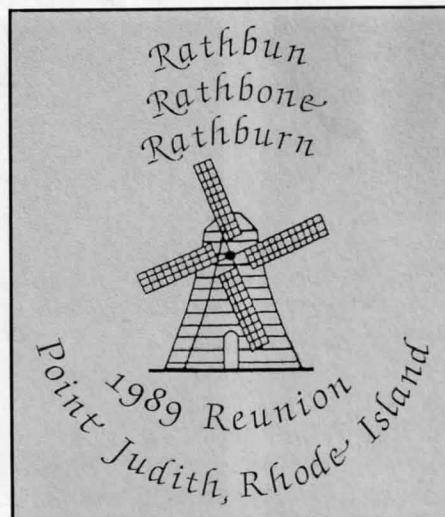
Thursday was spent at the Dutch Inn, and it was a busy day. In the morning, we enjoyed our traditional display of family heirlooms, brought by many cousins. It was so interesting, the Providence Journal sent a reporter and photographer to cover it. A picture and story appeared the next day in the Journal.

Among the many wonderful heirloom exhibits were the following:

Arnold Rathbun brought a 200-year-old cobblers' bench and tools used by

his great-great-great-grandfather, Joseph Sheffield Rathbun.

Bill Hosking displayed an 1878 bust of his great-grandfather, Nathan Warren Rathbun, a Connecticut sea captain, and also some of Nathan's seafaring logs and his picture in a Navy ensign's uniform during the Civil War.



John Rathbone and his sister, Antoinette McCreary, exhibited a razor and hone used in the 1700s by their great-great-grandfather, Edmund Rathbone. They also had a crude tooth extractor used some 90 years ago by their father, Dr. Ralph Rhett Rathbone, a dentist.

Kenneth Rathbone brought account books kept by his great-great-grandfather, Jonathan Coffin Rathbone, a Nantucket sea captain in the late 1700s and early 1800s.

Orson H. Rathburn Jr. showed a doll-sized, hand-sewn, black satin bolero, worn by his father as a baby nearly 100 years ago.

Nellie (Rathbun) Hooghkirk displayed an old family photo album with pictures of her ancestors dating back 150 years.

Other cousins brought a remarkable assortment of family bibles, albums, scrapbooks, old clothing and other items.

In the afternoon, a genealogical seminar attracted nearly 50 cousins, who engaged in a three-hour discussion which ranged from family research to genetic tracking of health problems. Discussion leaders were President Frank Rathbun, Professor K. Haybron Adams, John Bowen and Dr. Earl Antes.

The final event of the reunion was the clambake that evening. We devoured 200 pounds of lobster, three bushels of clams, 200 pounds of potatoes, 100 pounds of sausage, 75 pounds of fish, four bushels of corn on the cob, and dozens of sliced watermelons.

Special recognition was given during the reunion to several cousins.

The oldest person in attendance was Mrs. Nellie (Rathbun) Hooghkirk, at 89. The longest-married couple was Bob and LaPrelle (Rathbone) Weatherford, at 54 years. Close runners-up were Steve and Laura Burrows, who celebrated their 51st anniversary that week, and LaVerne and Marge Rathbun, who marked their 48th, also that week.

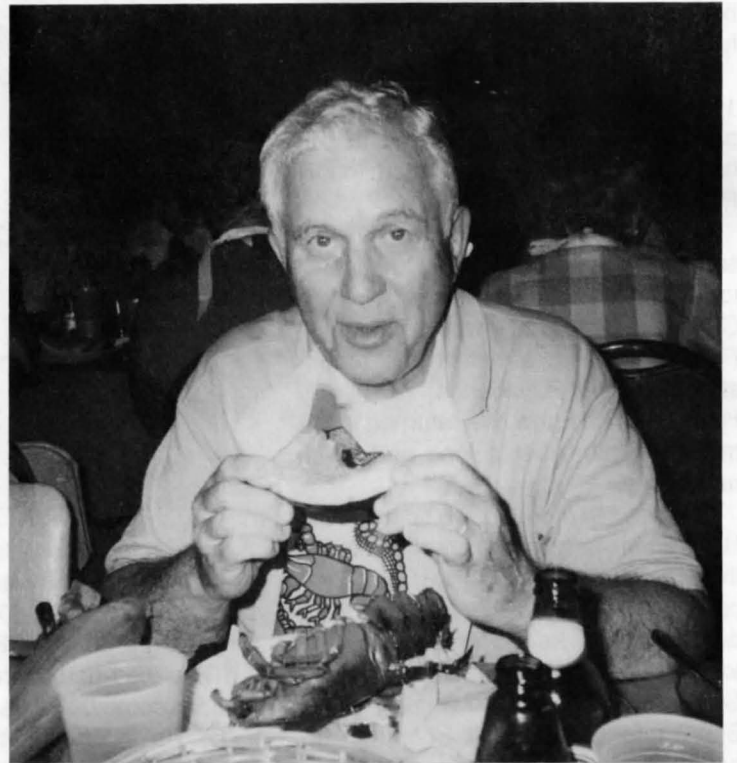
Twelve cousins were cited as having attended all four of our national reunions, including Block Island in 1983, Rathbun, Iowa, in 1985, and Rapid City, S.D., in 1987. The 12 were John Bowen, Elwin and Ellen (Rathbun) Kenyon, Edison and Polly Rathbone, Frank and Hazel Rathbun, Jack Rathbun, and his daughters, Carol Colbry and Jackie Furgala, and Bob and LaPrelle (Rathbone) Weatherford.

Another cousin was honored in her absence. Lois (Rathbone) McEachern, of Houston, Texas, who celebrated her 97th birthday on July 18, had attended all three previous reunions, being the oldest cousin present at each. She was unable to attend this year, so we sent her a giant greeting card, four feet long unfolded, which was signed by nearly 150 cousins.

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John Quincy Rathbone prepares to eat a lobster at our reunion clambake. We devoured 200 pounds of lobster.

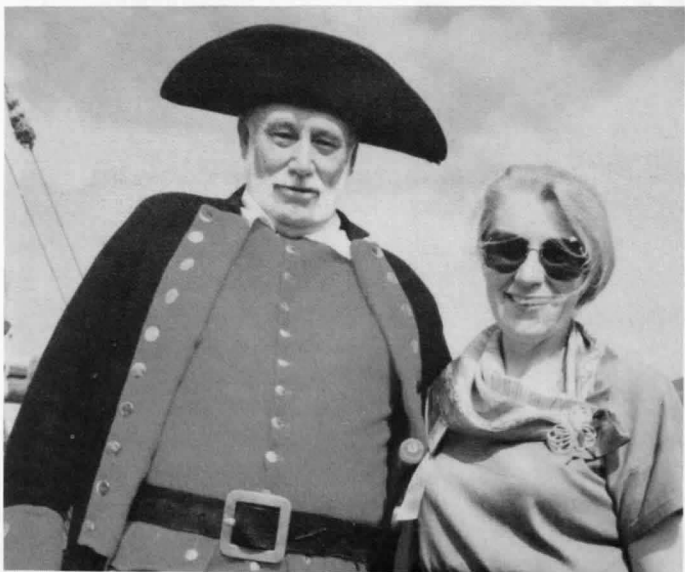


Darrell Rathbun finishes off his clambake meal with a slice of cold watermelon. No one went away hungry that night.



Nellie (Rathbun) Hooghkirk, at 89, the oldest cousin who attended the reunion.

Pictorial Highlights of Family Reunion In Rhode Island



Colonel Robert Allen Green and Hazel Rathbun at our visit to the sloop Providence. Bob was decked out in his colonial militia uniform, adding a colorful touch to the occasion.



Robert and LaPrelle (Rathbone) Weatherford, longest married couple at the reunion, at 54 years.



Colonel Greene displays his colonial handgun to a group of interested cousins — from left, Virgil and Phara (Rathbun) Holdredge; Melinda (Rathbun) Connell; her father, Laverne Rathbun; Colonel Greene, and Association President Frank Rathbun.



Rob Rathbun and Lauren Landis relax on the Block Island ferry during the hour-long cruise to the little island where our ancestors settled in the 1600s.

Rathbone Cousin Plays Role in 'Black Friday' Scandal

Our first issue of January 1981 promised to publish stories on our family members who were scoundrels, as well as those who were heroes. This is the story of Abel Rathbone Corbin, a somewhat shady character, who married a sister of President Ulysses S. Grant, and then used his White House connection to help the notorious financier Jay Gould try to corner the New York gold market. They did not succeed, but they did bring about one of the worst days in American financial history — Black Friday, September 24, 1869.

Abel Rathbone Corbin was born May 24, 1808, in Salem, Conn., a son of Eliakim L. Corbin and Lodama⁶ Rathbone (Abel⁵ John⁴ Jonathan³ John²⁻¹). Little is known of Abel's early life, except that he went West for some years and lived for a time in St. Louis, where he served as a city alderman and was editor of the Missouri Republican.

By the 1850s, he was a lobbyist in Washington, D.C., and had apparently studied law. In 1857, he was ordered to appear before a Congressional committee investigating political corruption. He freely admitted to the committee that he had helped secure the passage of legislation to benefit his clients. That, he argued, was his proper task as a lobbyist.

His activities during the Civil War years are not known, but he most likely joined in the frenzy of wartime profiteering. It was an era much like our own, with charges of graft and corruption reaching into the highest levels of government. Many famous American fortunes were launched or increased during the war.

Cornelius Vanderbilt bought condemned ships rotting in New York Harbor, and sold them to the government for troop ships. He made millions on his deals. J. Pierpont Morgan purchased thousands of Army-rejected carbines at \$3.50 each, and sold them to the War Department for \$22 each. When reports

of soldiers' thumbs being blown off reached Washington, Morgan blamed his agents, and quietly pocketed his profits.

Other "speculators" sold the government shoddy uniforms, spoiled food and cheap shoes with cardboard soles.

The end of the war in 1865 brought an end to the easy profits, and the financiers looked for new ways to make



*President Ulysses S. Grant
(1822-1885)*

more money. Abel Rathbone Corbin ended up in New York City, which had become the financial center of the nation.

He struck up a friendship with Jay Gould, president of the Erie Railroad, and a recognized financial genius although still in his early thirties.

Early in 1869, Corbin, then 61, met 37-year-old Virginia (Jennie) Grant, sister of war hero General U.S. Grant, who had just become President of the United States. Corbin soon proposed marriage, and Jennie accepted. (Corbin had possibly been married before, but we have found no record of it).

Jennie Grant, who was the President's favorite sister, was described as "a golden-haired beauty, with dark, dove-like eyes, and a complexion exquisitely fair, with just a tinge of pink." Grant's wife, Julia, called her "beautiful, cheerful, practical and always good company."

Just what Jennie saw in the grizzled old Corbin, 24 years her senior, we do not know. No picture of him, or her, is known to exist. He may have been a handsome, personable man, with charm and grace. Perhaps she was impressed with his reputation as a lawyer, newspaperman and somewhat mysterious lobbyist.

At any rate, they were married that spring, and Corbin found himself a brother-in-law of the nation's president.

The relationship was not lost on Jay Gould, who had been privately working for many months on an ambitious plan to corner the gold market and make a financial "killing."

The price of gold had soared to \$241 an ounce during the war, but by 1869 had dropped to \$130. Gould hoped to buy as much as possible, drive up the price, and then sell at a huge profit. The nation was then on a paper-money basis, and gold was traded on speculation on the New York commodity market. Most of the trading was done in gold certificates, or contracts to buy or sell gold.

There was about \$1 million worth of gold in circulation, and New York banks held another \$14 million. Gould had enlisted the cooperation of another wealthy financier, Jim Fisk, and figured that between them they could buy, on credit, contracts for virtually all the New York gold.

Gould's plan was plausible, but there was one major problem. The U.S. Treasury held nearly \$100 million in gold reserves, and could ruin their scheme simply by selling off large amounts of its reserves and thus keep the price down.

Gould and Fisk needed an ally with connections to the White House, and here was Abel Rathbone Corbin married to the President's favorite sister!

Gould lost no time in cementing his association with Corbin and his bride. They were hosted and entertained royally. There were fancy dinner parties, expensive gifts, free trips in Gould's private railroad cars, and excursions on Gould's yachts and steamships.

When Corbin had trouble selling some land in New Jersey, Gould suddenly decided he needed that very land as a right-of-way for one of his railroads. He paid the Corbins well over market value for the property, and then casually mentioned that he would like to meet President Grant.

The grateful Corbins complied. The next time the Grants were in New York City, there was a dinner party at the Corbins, and Gould was there.

It is likely that Gould by this time had informed Corbin about his ambitious plans for the gold conspiracy, and told Corbin how he could help. Gould wanted his friend, retired General Daniel Butterfield, appointed to head the U.S. Treasury office in New York, giving him another ally in a key position.

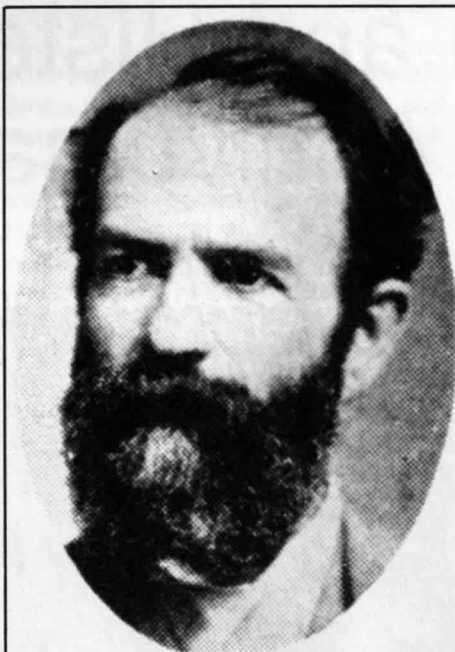
Corbin urged Grant to give Butterfield the appointment, and the President agreed.

The pieces were now falling into place for Gould, but he still had a great fear that Grant would step in and release some of the federal gold supply if the price rose too sharply. There was a general belief that higher gold prices would cause inflation.

Gould asked Corbin to convince the President that there would be no such danger, that higher gold prices would be good for the economy.

Corbin launched a campaign to persuade the President. He argued that higher gold prices would help farmers by increasing their return on crops, that railroads would prosper through higher rates, and that the economy would be revitalized. Grant seemed impressed with Corbin's arguments.

Corbin then wrote a long, carefully worded paper entitled, "Grant's Financial Policy," in which he stated that Grant favored higher gold prices as a means to ensure continued prosperity. He "leaked" his paper to the New York Times, which published it on August 26,



*Financier Jay Gould
(1836-1892)*



*Financier Jim Fisk
(1834-1872)*

1869, as the views of "someone in the intimate confidence of the president."

The Times declared, editorially, "The President will not send Federal gold into the market."

By this time, Gould and Fisk had begun buying, and in a few days had purchased or contracted to buy \$7 million in gold — nearly half the gold in New York City. Banking on Corbin's influence with the president, the two financiers kept buying and by early September they theoretically controlled all the gold in circulation in New York City, the "Gold Capitol of the Nation." And they had purchased, on credit, contracts to buy twice again as much. Jim Fisk alone held contracts for over \$8 million.

To help ensure the cooperation of Corbin and Gen. Butterfield, Gould placed \$2 million in gold certificates in Corbin's name, and \$1,500,000 in Butterfield's. They were to receive all the profits from rising prices, without risk to themselves.

By mid-September, a "gold rush" was on, as other investors became aware that something was happening. The demand for gold drove the price up sharply — from a low of \$130 to \$144 when the stock market closed on Thursday, Sept. 23.

The Corbins were making \$15,000 every time gold rose one point. It was estimated that Gould and Fisk, on paper

at least, at one point were making \$100,000 a minute! There were predictions, encouraged by Gould, that the price would reach \$200 an ounce.

But meanwhile, Horace Greeley, the crusading editor of the influential New York Tribune, realized what was happening. He editorially charged that Gould was behind a gold conspiracy, and called upon Grant to begin selling some of the Treasury's reserves.

Gould went to Corbin for reassurance that Grant would not intervene. Corbin had read the Tribune, however, and was panicky. He wrote a frenzied letter to Grant, confessing his role, and begging the President not to unload any government gold.

But Grant too had read the Tribune, and was greatly concerned over Corbin's letter. He sent word to his brother-in-law to sell his gold contracts (not knowing that they had been given him gratis by Gould). Grant also warned Corbin to break off his relationship with Gould.

Corbin saw that the end was in sight. He went to Gould the night of September 23 and demanded \$100,000 in profits, immediately, for his certificates. He also told Gould he wanted out of the arrangement.

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Association and Historian Mark Ninth Anniversary

This issue marks the end of the ninth year of the Rathbun Family Association and the Rathbun-Rathbone-Rathburn Family Historian. It seems like an opportune time to review our history, our accomplishments and our goals. Much of the story will be familiar to long-time members, but for our newer members and for posterity, it will be interesting history.

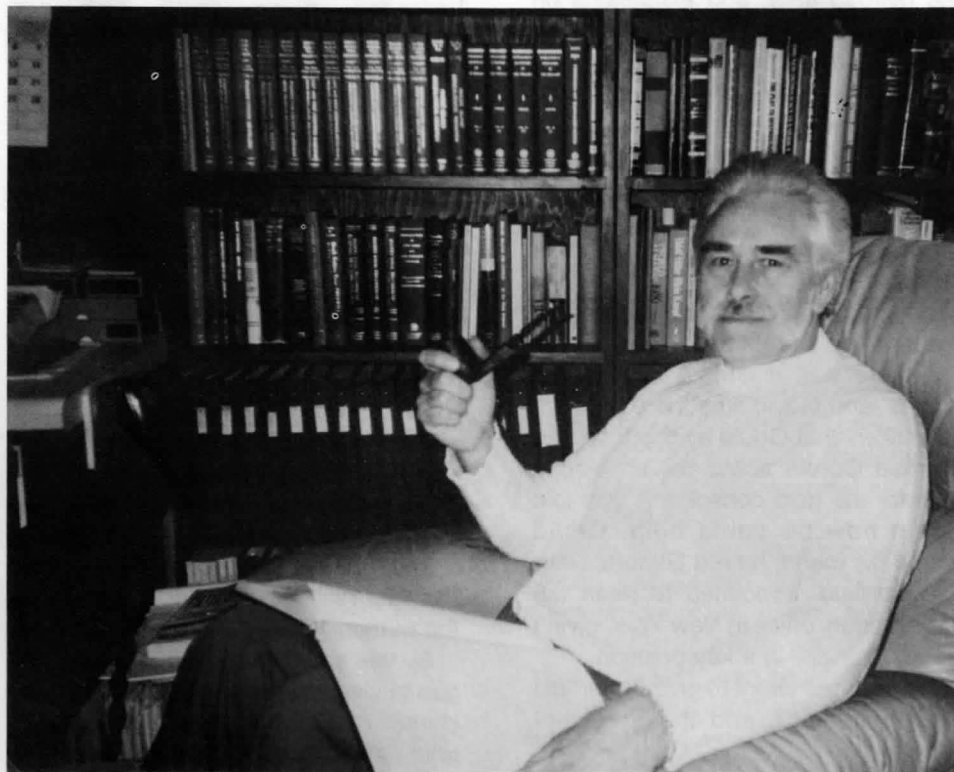
The story begins with me, president of the Association and editor of the Historian. My interest in family history dates back to my teen years, and to my "Uncle Charlie" (Charles Benjamin Rathbun, 1870-1956), who lived on our old family farm in Michigan where my great-grandfather, Charles Rathbun (1796-1875) settled in the 1850s.

When I was 16, I spent a week on the farm with Uncle Charlie and his wife, Elizabeth, my "Aunt Lizzie." The old house was full of family treasures, including oil paintings of my great-grandparents, their old family bible, and a host of other pictures, old letters and other heirlooms, most of which I later inherited.

I was especially intrigued by the old bible, and watched intently as Uncle Charlie showed me the register of births, deaths and marriages dating back to the middle 1700s. I listened with fascination as he related stories about these long-dead ancestors, great-uncles and aunts, cousins and in-laws, many of whom he had known as a boy.

That experience sparked an interest in family history which has burned brighter over the years. Sporadically, as a teen-ager and young adult, I worked on the family tree, compiling and recording names, dates and biographical information.

In 1956, I inherited from Uncle Charlie, among other items, a set of the 1892-94 Rathbone Family Historians, published by Franklin P. Rathbone, a distant cousin. I learned that another of my uncles, George Amos Rathbun



Association President Frank Rathbun relaxes with his pipe and a book in the study of his Fairfax, Virginia, home. Most of the books in his library deal with history or genealogy.

(brother to Uncle Charlie and my father), was one of Franklin Rathbone's early assistants on the old Historian. Uncle George drowned in 1894, aged 23.

In the 1960s, I inherited from a cousin her copy of John C. Cooley's 1898 Rathbone Genealogy, which I studied avidly and which I still own.

I found many errors in Cooley's book, and began corresponding with others who were researching the family, and were puzzled by some of Cooley's information. I eventually developed a list of some 50 cousins, in varying degrees, who were interested in correcting the family data.

After serving four years in the Marine Corps during World War II, I attended college under the G.I. Bill of Rights, earned a degree in journalism, did a

year's graduate work in American history, and went to work as a newspaper reporter. In 1965, I moved to Washington, D.C., to become the administrative assistant to a friend who had been elected to Congress.

In 1980, after 16 years on Capitol Hill, I decided to take early retirement at the age of 56. My second wife, Hazel (who I married in 1970), joined me in retirement a year later. (My first wife, now Claire Bergeron, is a charter member of the Rathbun Family Association, as are our three children — Charity Ramoz, Frank H. Rathbun III, and Rebecca Duffey.

During my last year of work, I received an inspired suggestion from one of my Rathbun family correspondents, Art Burris, of Minneapolis. Why not form a

family association and publish a family history newsletter, correcting and updating Cooley's work?

I liked the idea, but wondered if I could carry it out. With the help of my son, Frank, then just out of college with a journalism degree, we calculated what it would take — at least 100 persons willing to pay \$25 for a year's membership to launch the venture. This would cover the cost of printing, mailing and miscellaneous expenses. There was no thought of making a profit. It would be a "labor of love."

I wrote letters to all the cousins with whom I had been corresponding, inviting them to become charter members of the Rathbun Family Association, and help me recruit other members.

Nearly 150 cousins throughout the country sent in their checks, and the Association became a reality, with me as self-appointed president.

In January 1981, we published Volume One, Number One, of the Rathbun-Rathbone-Rathburn Family Historian.

I researched and wrote the articles, Hazel did the final typing, my son Frank did the editing, proofreading and layout, and his wife Janice became bookkeeper and treasurer. I received valuable research help from many cousins, especially Rob Rathbun of Kentucky, who shared my enthusiasm for family history.

I made myself editor and publisher, and gave titles to the others — Hazel, assistant editor; my son Frank, production manager; Janice, business manager, and Rob, research director.

The growing membership made it possible to reduce the membership fee from \$25 to \$20 in 1982, to \$17 in 1983, and then to \$15 in 1984. Increased printing and postage costs have prevented us from lowering it further.

My son, who had been editor of his college newspaper, taught me the essentials of magazine layout (my experience having been entirely as a writer), and later turned the task over to me. Janice became a mother, and had to give up the treasurer's job. In 1985, we purchased a word processor, relieving Hazel of the typing chores. More and more members joined Rob in doing research for me all over the country.

So we dropped the titles, leaving me as editor and publisher, with Hazel as an untitled, but irreplaceable, partner,

proofreader and sounding board for my ideas.

For the first three years, Hazel, Frank, Janice and I stuffed and stamped and hand-addressed the envelopes for each mailing, and delivered them to the post-office. It finally became too much for us, so we turned the job over to a professional mailing house — PRAIDS in Washington — which still does the mailings for us, and maintains our membership list on computer tapes.

We decided at the start to publish the Historian quarterly, using a professional printing firm (Systems Publications of Capitol Heights, Maryland), and to use first-class mail. Some family associations publish mimeographed newsletters and send them by second-class mail, but we thought our family deserved better.

We also made two other key decisions. To save space and enable us to proceed faster with our printed genealogy, we decided not to carry on the daughters' lines in our Historian, but to just record the sons' families — those who would carry on the name. We are publishing the family genealogy generation by generation, and are now well into the sixth generation in America. If we had decided to list daughters' families as well, we would probably be only in the fourth or fifth.

We also decided, somewhat reluctantly, not to follow the professional genealogical style, which calls for documentation of sources, with footnotes and references. For one thing, that would have taken much more space, but also, we realized, most of our members were not ardent genealogists, and were more interested in the family history itself than in the research and documentation.

Genealogists among our members are always welcome to ask for documentation of any item we publish.

By the time our second Historian was printed in April 1981, we had just over 200 members, and by year's end we were up to nearly 250. And we kept growing! The membership roll hit 270 in 1982, 330 in 1983, and 405 in 1984. Our goal was 500, and we finally reached it in 1987, when Charles H. Boardman became Member Number 500!

Today, we have 565 members, and have set our sights on 600. Counting former members who have dropped out

or died, we have had a total of nearly 1,000 members over the past nine years. The average family association membership, I am told, is about 300.

But our great success in membership is only part of our accomplishments.

In 1982, we conceived the idea of raising enough money to have a monument placed in the old Block Island Cemetery in honor of our immigrant ancestors, John and Margaret Rathbun, who are no doubt buried there, but whose grave markers long ago disappeared.

We estimated the cost of an appropriate monument at something over \$2,000. We asked our members for donations, and to our amazement and delight, they contributed \$3,100. We ordered an even better monument, and used the extra money to publish a brochure with pictures of the monument, and a list of all the donors.

We felt a ceremony was needed to dedicate the monument, so in 1983, we held our first National Reunion on Block Island, with the dedication as the reunion highlight. We expected perhaps 50 cousins to attend. We ended up with 200!

It was such a success, we decided to try another reunion in 1985, at Des Moines, Iowa. That site was chosen because of its proximity to the little town of Rathbun, Iowa, and the nearby Rathbun Lake, one of the largest in the midwest. This time, 240 cousins attended, and we decided to make the reunion a biannual event.

Using the theme, "The Family Moves West," we went to Rapid City, South Dakota, in 1987, attracting 160 cousins. This year, of course, we returned to Rhode Island, drawing nearly 200 participants.

But the growing membership and the national reunions are still only part of our success story.

Our major goal was and is to compile and publish a corrected, updated history of our family in American, and our roots in England.

Cooley's 1898 Rathbone Genealogy was a major starting point, but his account of the early generations had many errors, the book was riddled with factual and typographical mistakes, and many

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branches of the family were omitted entirely.

Franklin P. Rathbone's *Historian* of the 1890s was also an important resource, for it contained many letters, bible records and other data from dozens of family members born in the early 1800s.

There were still many missing links, and these we are gradually filling in with the help of our members, who have been sending me bible records, yellowed newspaper clippings, old letters and other items which have helped fill many blanks in the family record.

The research goes on. Several members deserve special recognition for their major research assistance — Rob Rathbun, Haybron Adams, Frank E. Rathbun and John Bowen. Dozens of others have also contributed valuable items. Each issue of the *Historian* has a special thank-you list of those who have sent in material.

And another vital reason for our success is our loyal membership, whose annual dues make it possible to carry out the research, to print and mail the *Historian*, and to pay for copies of old photographs and order copies of various records in city halls, court houses, libraries and historical societies.

Special thanks are due also to Margaret Dale, who compiled the indexes to the first five years of the *Historian*, and to Dr. Earl Antes and his late wife, Gayle, who compiled the 1986-88 indexes. Earl is now working on the 1989 issues.

Each *Historian* is a blend of three types of articles — the family genealogy (three or four pages), news of current family members (our People, Obituaries and Birth columns), and stories on past (and some present-day) family members whose lives or activities lend themselves to interesting articles.

The subjects for these stories are chosen on the basis of available material. Most of our ancestors and early cousins left scant records of their lives, and we know little of them except their names and dates of birth, marriage and death. Those who left letters, detailed obituaries, or biographies in local history books are the ones whose lives can be developed into stories.

We are always on the lookout for information to be used in such stories, and pictures of any Rathbuns, Rathbones and Rathburns born prior to 1900. We prefer clear, sharp pictures, preferably the head-and-shoulders studio type, for good reproduction in the *Historian*, but clear home-taken photographs will sometimes work out.

Once a year, in the January issue, we publish a financial statement, reporting all our income (dues and sales of past issues), and our expenses (printing, mailing, supplies, research etc.).

Copies of all past *Historians* are available, but some of the early issues are in short supply. These dwindling originals are sold only to members purchasing at least one full-year set. Those desiring single copies of these early issues must settle for xerox copies. A price list for back issues appears in each *Historian*.

The original Rathbone Family *Historian* lasted less than three years. We are about to start our tenth year. How long will ours last? As long as I am able to carry on, and as long as you — the Association members — keep sending in your renewal checks to make it possible.

I enjoy researching and writing the articles, and based on our growing membership, I am glad to know that you enjoy reading them.

With this issue is a renewal notice for 1990. In the past, we have lost about 10 percent of our membership each year. I would dearly love to see a 100 percent renewal this year. Also, some members send in their checks after the deadline, complicating our mailing process, and making more work for me.

Please do me a favor. Please don't drop your membership this year! And, please, send your renewal check before the deadline!

Nearly 100 descendants of Hallet⁷ Rathbun (Thomas⁶⁻⁵ John⁴ Samuel³ Thomas² John¹) held their annual reunion July 1 in Fitzgerald, Georgia. Most of the attendees were descended from Hallet's son, John K. Rathbun, including his seven surviving children. Among the group were Reba (Rathbun) Reeves and Anna (Rathbun) Paulk, members of our Association.

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The participants came from 28 states, led by Rhode Island, with 20; California, 17; Connecticut and New York, 16 each; Massachusetts, 15; Virginia and Michigan, 12 each, and Ohio, with 10.

A special thanks to all who helped make the reunion such a success:

Hazel Rathbun, who planned and organized the whole program, and made sure it ran smoothly.

Helen M. Rathbun, who brought a lovely wreath to lay at the Rathbun monument in the Block Island Cemetery, and also organized the volunteers who manned the registration table, gathered Rhode Island tourist brochures, and provided transportation to and from the hotel for those who came by train or plane.

Rob Rathbun and Lauren Landis, who filled in whenever needed throughout the reunion, carrying out a multitude of assignments.

Lydia, Donald and Pam Littlefield, who organized the bus tours on Block Island.

John Bowen, who helped with the planning, offered impressive family crest pins at cost to reunion participants, and served on the genealogical seminar panel. The pins can still be purchased, at \$5.50 each, from John at 613 Chichester Lane, Silver Spring, Maryland 20904.

Haybron Adams, who also served on the genealogical panel, and who made audio tapes of the talks given at Smith's Castle and at the sloop Providence. You can order transcripts from Haybron at \$3 each, plus a legal-size, self addressed, stamped envelope. His address is PO Box 7227, Provo, Utah 84602.

Edison Rathbone, who donated enough reunion buttons, with our Dutch Inn logo, to give one to each participant.

Colonel Robert Allen Greene, who arranged our tour of the sloop Providence, helped to pay for it, and then greeted us there in his Rhode Island colonial militia uniform.

Elwin and Ellen Kenyon, who helped select the headquarters motel, and who provided a piece of souvenir Westerly granite for each cousin in attendance.

Arnold Rathbun, who provided and delivered portable bleachers for our group pictures.

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Gould recognized that he was in trouble. He gave Corbin the money, but only on Corbin's promise to tell no one else about Grant's change of heart.

The next morning, Gould began quietly selling his gold contracts. But he did not warn his partner, Fisk, who kept right on buying. Prices rose steadily all morning, peaking at \$165 about 11 a.m. Investors, convinced that prices would indeed reach \$200, told their agents to buy at any price.

The blow came shortly before noon, when word came that the Treasury, on Grant's orders, had ordered the release of \$4 million worth of government gold. Fifteen minutes later, the price plunged to \$138.

Wall Street burst into pandemonium. Brokers closed their offices. Stock and commodity prices also plunged. Hundreds of investors lost everything. There were reports of suicides. One major broker went mad. The nation's economy was paralyzed.

Gould, who had reportedly raked in \$11 million in profits that morning, fled through a back door of his offices just as a mob broke in the front door threatening to lynch him.

Fisk, when he realized that he had been duped, confronted Gould, who blamed Corbin for the situation. Fisk then stormed to Corbin's home, called him a "treacherous scoundrel," and tried to attack him physically.

Fisk survived the Black Market crash by repudiating his gold contracts, and was upheld in court by two corrupt judges, both put into office by New York City's Boss Tweed, who was allied with Gould. Fisk was shot and killed three years later in a dispute over a woman.

General Butterfield, who became wealthy from his share of Gould's profits, was forced to resign his treasury post, and retired to a life of ease.

Jay Gould lived another 33 years, expanded his holdings, and died a multimillionaire. He was quoted as defending his actions in the Black Market crash by pointing out that he had defrauded only his fellow speculators, and that they were victims only of their own greed. There were calls for his arrest and prosecution, but attorneys noted that he had broken no law in buying and selling gold.

Cornelius Vanderbilt, Gould's bitter enemy, called him "the smartest man in America."

Abel Rathbone Corbin and Jennie took their profits and moved to New Jersey. They had a daughter named Jennie, born in 1870, but the little girl lived only a few months. Abel and Jennie both died in 1881 — he 73 and she 49. They reportedly had a happy marriage, refuting reports that he had married her only to help Gould in the gold conspiracy.

President Grant was reelected in 1872, and served eight years as President. His administration was constantly marred by reports of corruption, and he is held in low regard today by most historians.

Corbin's exact role in the Black Friday story will probably never be fully known. Was he merely Gould's pawn? Or was he an active and knowledgeable partner?

Gould, testifying at a Congressional investigation of the affair, called Corbin "a very shrewd old gentleman — much more far-seeing than the newspapers gave him credit for."

Grant's wife, Julia, in her memoirs, quoted President Grant as saying: "I always felt a great respect for Corbin and thought he took much pleasure in the supposition that he was rendering great assistance to the administration by his valuable advice. I blame myself for not checking this, as I thought, innocent vanity."

Corbin himself told a Congressional committee: "I did it for the sake of a lady — my wife."

Whatever the answer, Corbin was a fascinating cousin. A scoundrel, yes, but perhaps he only reflected the morals of his day — a period marked by widespread corruption, with greed and avarice at high levels of government, and with judges, congressmen, cabinet members and business leaders often under indictment or ousted in disgrace.

Hezekiah Wilcox (Willcocks), first husband of Sybil³ Rathbun (Thomas² John¹), died Sept. 10, 1729, in Groton, Conn., and is buried there in the Burrows Cemetery. Sybil married Samuel Littlefield two years later on Sept. 30, 1731, at Block Island.

New Data

Interesting new information has been found on Mary Ross, the second wife of John³ Rathbun (Thomas² John¹), of Exeter, R.I.

Exeter town council records relate that Mary Ross was one of several persons accused of "intruding into the town" in February 1754, and ordered to appear before the council to "show cause why they continue to live in said town."

Mary appeared as ordered, and stated that she had been born in "old England," landed in Boston in March 1742, and remained there about one year. She then lived several years in Braintree, Mass., moved to Newport, R.I., for a short time, then to Westerly, R.I., for two years, and finally to the home of John Rathbun in Exeter.

She had apparently lived at Rathbun's house for several years, possibly as a housekeeper. John Rathbun's wife, Experience, had died in the early 1750s, leaving him with five children.

The town council was apparently not impressed with Mary's story, and ordered her to leave town on the grounds that she did not have a "good character."

Mary obviously did not abide by the court order. She was married the following year, on July 31, 1755, to Rathbun, who was then 50 years old. Her age is not known, but if she came to America as a young woman, she was probably in her middle thirties at the time of the marriage.

A new unidentified early cousin has been discovered — in a Connecticut prison more than 170 years ago! John Rathbun, born in Exeter, R.I., served from 1826 to 1828 in the Old Newgate Prison at East Granby for horse stealing. He was described as 60 years old, just under six feet tall, with hazel eyes and graying brown hair. He is probably a previously unknown son of either Thomas⁴ Rathbun (Thomas³⁻² John¹), or George⁴ Rathbun (Joseph³⁻² John¹). Information on both these families is scant. Our thanks to Frank E. Rathbun.

Genealogy: The Sixth Generation in America

230. JOHN⁶ RATHBUN (Thomas⁵ John⁴ Samuel³ Thomas² John¹), born July 6, 1796, at North Kingstown, R.I., and moved with his parents as a boy to Norway, N.Y. He was married there July 19, 1817, to Sarah Austin, born about 1797, daughter of William and Sarah (Sweet) Austin. He served in the War of 1812, and returned to Norway, where he was a farmer. Sarah died there Jan. 14, 1844, and he died sometime after 1855. He is probably buried next to his wife in the Barnes Cemetery, but his gravestone has disappeared.

CHILDREN

HANNAH C., born in 1818; died Feb. 13, 1836.

ALTHEA, born in 1820; married James P. Fuller.

THOMAS W., born in March 1822; married Ellen Wallace.

SALOME, born in 1824; died May 14, 1842.

CATHERINE, born in 1826; married Almond Luther.

LUCINDA, born in 1828; married Seth Wright.

JOHN, born July 17, 1830; married Bridget Slattery (who later took the name Amelia Holt).

ELIZABETH, born in October 1832; married David Abel.

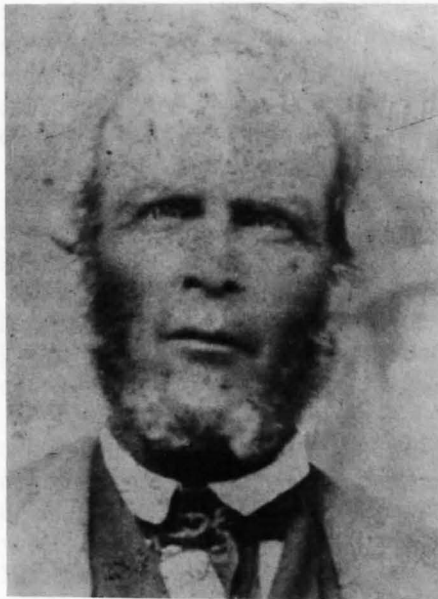
EDMUND COOPER, born Oct. 18, 1834; married Hattie Austin.

SARAH ANN, born about 1836; married (?) George Abel.

CHARLES, born in Feb. 1838; married (1) Eliza Jane Austin, and (2) Elizabeth Johnson.

231. THOMAS⁶ RATHBUN (Thomas⁵ John⁴ Samuel³ Thomas² John¹), born August 23, 1798, in North Kingstown, R.I., and moved with his parents as a boy to Norway, N.Y. At the age of 17, he worked on construction of the Erie Canal. Thomas was married Feb. 1, 1827, to Lucinda Austin, born Sept. 8,

1806, daughter of William and Sarah (Sweet) Austin. They moved in 1835 to Manlius, Onondaga County, N.Y., and in 1843 to Racine County, Wisconsin. They moved by 1850 to Greenbush, Sheboygan County, and then in 1852 to Jefferson Township, Monroe County, where they were the first settlers in what



Thomas Rathbun
(1798-1878)

is now the town of Melvina. Their home was the first in the township, and their son, George, was the first white child born there. Lucinda was a well-educated woman, and taught school in her home for her own children and some of her neighbors' children. She later taught in a one-room log schoolhouse built on the Rathbun farm, taking her youngest child, George, then a baby, with her to school. Thomas died at Melvina on March 23, 1878, and Lucinda on Sept. 23, 1889.

CHILDREN

JONATHAN AND DAVID (Twins), born March 3, 1828; both died in infancy.

HARRIET INA, born June 4, 1830; married Richard Cole on Jan. 9, 1848.

WILLIAM AUSTIN, born June 11, 1832; married Celia Cole.

HIRAM M., born August 11, 1834; married Sarah Osborne.

ELDRIDGE, born August 15, 1836; married Mary Eliza Osborne.

DEWEY, born May 11, 1839; joined the Army during the Civil War, was sent home with tetanus in 1863, and died there.

HALLET, born June 7, 1841; married (1) Katherine Kramer; (2) Anna Kramer, and (3) Augustine Kramer, all sisters.

LORENZO DOW, born July 25, 1843; Cooley reported that he left home at 16, and never returned. There is a family tradition that he served in the Civil War, but there is no record of such service. He does not appear with the family in the 1850 or 1860 census, and it is possible that he died in childhood.

JONATHAN DAVID, born Jan. 1, 1845; married Alice Sherrick.

SARAH ANN, born Sept. 24, 1848; married George Osborne on Oct. 7, 1866.

GEORGE H., born April 23, 1850; died July 11, 1907, in Verdon, S.D. No known marriage.

232. UPDIKE COOPER⁶ RATHBUN (Thomas⁵ John⁴ Samuel³ Thomas² John¹), born Oct. 30, 1800, at North Kingstown, R.I., and moved with his parents as a baby to Norway, N.Y. He was married about 1825 to Salina A. Haskins, born Nov. 9, 1808, daughter of David Haskins. They moved soon after their marriage to Ellery, Chautauqua County, N.Y.; in 1831 to Huron County, Ohio, and in 1848 to Dane County, Wisconsin. They moved in the 1870s to Prairie Du Chien, where he died June 5, 1877, according to his gravestone, but May 6, 1877, according to family records. Salina died there Nov. 11, 1892.

CHILDREN

GILBERT, born Jan. 29, 1826; married Mary Plato.

ELEANOR AMANDA, born Oct. 9, 1827; married Sylvester Richmond on Sept. 26, 1847.

JAMES HASKINS, born Jan. 22, 1830; died Jan. 12, 1832.

NATHANIEL FRANKLIN, born Nov. 27, 1831; married (1) Loretta Plato, and (2) Alice Billings.

ELIZABETH JANE, born Nov. 6, 1833; married (1) Chauncey Wakefield, and (2) George Matthewson.

DAVID THOMAS, born March 5, 1836; married Melissa Powers on Oct. 19, 1863. He enlisted in the Union Army the following year, and died Feb. 25, 1865, at Memphis, Tenn., from pneumonia. Melissa was awarded a pension, and nothing more is known of her. There were no children.

CAROLINE SALINA, born Feb. 19, 1838; married John Plato on May 27, 1855, and possibly had a second husband named Richardson.

JOHN WESLEY, born Oct. 24, 1845; married (1) Christine Henderson, and (2) Sarah J. (Radwell) Briggs.

ELVIRA ANN, born April 24, 1848; married (1) a Livingston, and (2) a Rose.

233. EDMUND COOPER⁶ RATHBUN (Thomas⁵ John⁴ Samuel³ Thomas² John¹), born Nov. 23, 1802, at Norway, N.Y. He was married there August 31, 1826, to Rachel T. Cummings, born Dec. 31, 1804, probably the daughter of Jacob and Mary (Franklin) Cummings. They lived all their lives at Norway, and both died there — Rachel on June 12, 1884, and Edmund on Dec. 17, 1892, three weeks after his 90th birthday.

CHILD

ABIGAIL, born Dec. 15, 1829; died April 20, 1844.

234. JAMES ELDRED⁶ RATHBUN (Thomas⁵ John⁴ Samuel³ Thomas² John¹), born June 19, 1811, at Norway, N.Y. He was married in February 1829 at nearby Newport to Ruth Cummings, born in 1808, daughter of Jacob and Mary (Franklin) Cummings. He was only 17 and she was 21, a rare situation in those days. They joined his brother



This remarkable old photograph, taken about 1852, shows Rev. James Eldred Rathbun and his family — from left, Justus, age 20; James' wife, Ruth, about 44, holding the youngest son, Byron, about two; Caroline, 15, standing behind Olive, about eight; Rev. James, then 41; Giles, age 13, standing behind Bowen, seven, and Charles, five. Two older children, Samuel and Mary Ann, had already married and left home. Our thanks to Rosma Limbeck for the picture.

Thomas about 1840 in Manlius, N.Y., and moved with him in 1843 to Wisconsin, settling first at Milwaukee, then Sheboygan County, and finally in Monroe County. He became a Methodist minister, and was described as "an exhorter of the old-time, noisy Methodist stamp, of considerable ability." He was also at various times a farmer, traveling peddler and store owner. He was the first postmaster in 1849 of what is now the town of Mitchell, Sheboygan County, and the postoffice there for many years was known as Rathbun. It was discontinued in 1902. In 1855, James built a dam on Dustin Creek at what is now the town of Cataract, Wisc, and erected a saw mill and gristmill. The name Cataract was given because of the rush of water over his dam. His home became a stopover for travelers in that area. He purchased considerable land in the area, and sought to make Cataract the county seat, but lost out to the town of Leon. He died on March 11, 1856, aged 45, of an injury suffered earlier in life. Ruth was married in July or August 1860 to Thomas Fawcett Sr., and died Sept. 6, 1890, in Morrison County, Minn.

CHILDREN

SAMUEL DAVID, born Nov. 5, 1829;

married (1) Charlotte Northway, and (2) her sister, Amanda Northway.

JUSTUS FRANKLIN, born Sept. 27, 1832; married (1) Philena Dustin, and (2) Lucy Ann (Walker) Cross.

MARY ANN, born Jan. 3, 1835; married Thomas Fawcett Jr. (her stepbrother) on Sept. 7, 1851.

CAROLINE AMANDA, born March 27, 1837; married (1) John C. Leigh on May 19, 1855, and (2) C.W. Love in 1864.

GILES GARY, born August 18, 1839; married Miranda Riggs.

OLIVE MARIA, born in 1843; married Daniel McNabb.

BOWEN BROWN, born May 1, 1845; married Ellen E. Travis.

CHARLES TERRENCE, born March 26, 1847; married Charlotte Riggs.

BYRON, born Dec. 25, 1849; married Jane Fellows.

235. WILLIAM⁶ RATHBUN (Robert⁵ John⁴ Samuel³ Thomas² John¹), born June 20, 1798, in North Kingstown, R.I., and moved with his parents as a baby to Otego, Otsego County, N.Y. He was married there about 1825 to Sarah Packard, born in 1802, possibly the daughter of Aschael Packard. They

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settled in nearby Huntsville, but returned by 1840 to Otego, where Sarah died June 20, 1848. He was married the following year to Caroline Roberts, born in March 1831, parentage unknown. He was 52 and she was 19 when they were married, and their last child was born when he was 68. William died May 28, 1867, at Otego. Caroline died there on March 11, 1911.

CHILDREN

By Sarah

DWIGHT, born April 27, 1826; married Harriet Moore.

EDWARD, born about 1830; married Mary Weed. He died in 1866 at Franklin, Delaware County, N.Y., leaving no children. Mary, born about 1835, daughter of William B. and Polly (Chamberlain) Reed, died sometime after 1893.

ASCHAEL P., born Sept. 27, 1832; married (1) Jane Young, and (2) Amanda _____.

MARTHA, born about 1835; married James Sanders.

WILLIAM HENRY, born in August 1839; died sometime after 1910; no known marriage.

CARLETON, born in 1840; died Sept. 15, 1841.

GEORGE, born Jan. 23, 1845; married (1) Jennie Chisholm, and (2) Hattie Lene.

By Caroline

ELVIRA, born about 1851; died in 1922, unmarried.

HANNAH, born about 1853; probably died young.

HIRAM, born in January 1855; died May 15, 1856.

RUFUS, born Oct. 22, 1856; died Feb. 9, 1877.

MARY PORTER, born about 1859; no further data.

SMITH A., born in March 1866; married Emma Palmatier.

236. JOHN⁶ RATHBUN (Robert⁵ John⁴ Samuel³ Thomas² John¹), born March 7, 1800, at North Kingstown, R.I., and moved as a baby with his parents to Otego, N.Y. He was married Jan. 11, 1826, at Franklin, Delaware County, N.Y., to Abigail Fitch, born Feb. 16, 1805, parentage unknown. They lived

all their lives at Otego, where Abigail died May 19, 1873, and John on Nov. 11, 1883.

CHILDREN

JOHN ADDISON, born Feb. 25, 1827; married Amanda Lois Northrup.

SAMUEL FITCH, born Oct. 18, 1829; died unmarried in 1848.

JAMES SIMON, born Jan. 11, 1831; married Maria L. Osborn.

MARY SALINDA, born March 11, 1833; died in 1852, unmarried.

EMMET JUDGE, born March 12, 1835; married (1) Mary Finch, and (2) Mary B. _____.

ENOCH, born Oct. 13, 1838; died in 1839.

LUCY JANE, born June 20, 1843; married D.S. Birdsall on Nov. 6, 1861.

ADELIA, born Jan. 4, 1848; died in infancy.

237. SAMUEL⁶ RATHBUN (Robert⁵ John⁴ Samuel³ Thomas² John¹), born about 1802 in Otego, N.Y. (There is no proof that this Samuel is the son of Robert, but it seems most likely. There is no other Samuel who fits in the family tree. Cooley said that Robert's son Samuel went to the west branch of the Susquehanna River and was never heard from afterward). This Samuel was married about 1830 to Rebecca _____, born about 1800, surname unknown. They may have been married in Pennsylvania, where she was born according to census records. By 1835, he was living in Wyandotte County, Ohio, and is listed as one of the founders of the town of Wharton. He last appears in the 1850 census at Richland in Wyandotte County. Rebecca was living in Crooked Creek, Cumberland County, Illinois, in 1860. Nothing more is known of her.

CHILDREN

WILLIAM HIRAM, born in March 1831; married (1) Amanda _____, and (2), Julia _____.

LORENZO, born about 1834; alive in 1850; no further data.

HANNAH, born about 1837; alive in 1850; no further data.

JOHN C., born about 1839; alive in 1860; no further data.

HENRY W.(or N.), born about 1841; died Nov. 23, 1891; no known marriage.

See New Data 16-2 p 38

238. ELDRIDGE⁶ RATHBUN (Robert⁵ John⁴ Samuel³ Thomas² John¹), born about 1804 in Otego, N.Y. He is probably the Eldridge Rathbun living in Berkshire, Tioga County, N.Y., in 1825, and was married about 1836 to Harriet (Bo-zer??), born about 1812, parentage unknown. They lived for a time in Westfield, Tioga County, then moved by 1850 to Caton, Steuben County, N.Y. He went to California in search of gold in the early 1850s, and died there August 3, 1859, at Placerville. Harriet may have died earlier in the 1850s. The family is not listed in Cooley, and we know only what we can find in census and land records.

CHILDREN

JOHN BOULDEN, born about 1838; married Myra L. Herrick.

JULIA, born about 1840; married Shubal Miner.

JOEL BERTRAND, born about 1842; alive in 1872; dead by 1918; no further data.

JAMES KNOX, born about 1844; married (1) Ella Dunn; (2) Katherine Shuel, and (3) Alice _____.

DAVID WILMOT, born Nov. 25, 1846; married Mary E. Allen.

GEORGE EDWARD, born about 1851; married Rhoda Rich.

239. GEORGE⁶ RATHBUN (Robert⁵ John⁴ Samuel³ Thomas² John¹), born August 26, 1806, in Otego, N.Y. He was married there Oct. 25, 1831, to Electa Jones, born Nov. 12, 1809, parentage unknown. They lived for some years in Franklin, Delaware County, but returned to Otego where he died March 27, 1842. Electa was still living in 1880.

CHILDREN

MARINDA JANE, born Nov. 14, 1832; married Ansel D. Ward on Sept. 25, 1853.

ROBERT ELDRIDGE, born April 30, 1835; married Mary Adeline Birdsall.

Do any of our members know the identity or present whereabouts of a Kathy Rathbun, now aged about 45, who lived and went to school in Seattle, Washington? An old friend would like to contact her.

Obituaries

DIED — July 10, 1989, Estelle M. Rathbun, 92, of Boonville, N.Y. She was the widow of Henry Howe⁹ Rathbun Sr. (Charles⁸ William⁷ Alfred⁶ Wait⁵⁻⁴ Joshua³ John²⁻¹). She is survived by two daughters, Edith Roberts, a member of our Association, and Estelle Innocent; a son, Henry Howe Rathbun Jr., a member of our Association; several grandchildren, including Henry Howe Rathbun III, Charles M. Rathbun and Robert B. Rathbun, all members of our Association; six great-grandchildren, and several great-great-grandchildren.

DIED — August 5, 1989, Dale Clark Rathbun, 74, of Mount Vernon, Washington. He was the son of Clark Allen⁸ Rathbun (John⁷⁻⁶ Alfred⁵ Job⁴ Benjamin³ Joseph² John¹). He is survived by his widow, Veva; two sisters, Melva Gregory, a member of our Association, and Lola Espy; three brothers, Russell and Wayne, both members of our Association, and Ernest, and several step-children and step-grandchildren.

DIED — Sept. 6, 1989, Jean M. (Rathbun) Waddell, 83, of Beatrice, Nebraska, a member of our Association. She was the daughter of Grove⁹ Rathbun (Heman⁸ Nathaniel⁷ Gideon⁶ Paris⁵ Gideon⁴ John³⁻²⁻¹). Survivors include her husband, Dr. William Wayne Waddell; a son, William Wayne Waddell Jr; two daughters, Virginia Ann Sampson and Mary Jo Wegner, and a brother, Dr. Sanford M. Rathbun.

DIED — July 29, 1989, Frank F. Rathbun Jr., 49, of Fairfax, Virginia. He was a son of the late Frank F.⁹ Rathbun Sr. (Clarence⁸⁻⁷ Erastus⁶ Russell⁵ Simeon⁴ Thomas³ John²⁻¹).

DIED — July 5, 1989, Richard Glen Morris, 13, at Jacksonville, Fla. He was the son of Linda and Howell Lamar Morris, and a grandson of Jesse L. Morris and Sally⁹ Rathbun (John⁸ Hallet⁷ Thomas⁶⁻⁵ John⁴ Samuel³ Thomas² John¹).

DIED — August 24, 1989, Gayle Eileen (Mitchell) Antes, 71, of Evansville, Indiana, a member of our Association. She is survived by her husband, Dr. Earl Antes; two daughters, Deborah Jeanne Johnson and Pamela Sue Bailey; two sons, Thomas Mitchell Antes and Richard R. Antes; two sisters, Lorice Johnson, a member of our Association, and Jeanne Hartwig, and six grandchildren. She was the daughter of Alvin Mitchell and Nina Maude⁹ Rathbun (Frederic⁸ Edward⁷ Charles⁶ Joshua⁵ Amos⁴ Joshua³ John²⁻¹). Dr. Antes and Gayle had indexed the last three years of our Historian.

DIED — July 6, 1989, Jean B. (Rathbun) Webb, 73, of Exeter, R.I. She was the daughter of Walter⁹ Rathbun (William⁸ John⁷ Robert⁶ John⁵⁻⁴ Samuel³ Thomas² John¹). Survivors include three brothers, William, a member of our Association; Walter and John; five sisters, Marjorie Raymond, a member of our Association, and Ethel Breault, Barbara Williamson, Doris Fuller and Beverly Moriarity; four grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren. She was the widow of Parker G. Webb, who died last Feb. 8.

DIED — Sept. 13, 1989, Shirley Jean Rathbun, 53, of Belle Forche, S.D. She was the wife of Harley Bradford Rathbun and daughter-in-law of our member, Myrtle Rathbun, and the late Arthur⁸ Rathbun (Lorenzo⁷ Elon⁶ Alfred⁵ Job⁴ Benjamin³ Joseph² John¹). Other survivors include a daughter, Jolene Stinson; two sons, Jeffrey and Jerry Rathbun; two grandchildren; her parents, three brothers and a sister.

DIED — July 7, 1989, Mary (Solyk) Rathbun, 70, of Little Falls, N.Y. She was the widow of Jay Foster¹⁰ Rathbun (Newton⁹ Mary⁸ Edmund⁷ John⁶ Thomas⁵ John⁴ Samuel³ Thomas² John¹). The only survivors are nephews, nieces and cousins.

Births

BORN — July 4, 1989, Brett William Rathbun, son of William and Betty Rathbun, and grandson of our member Marion Rathbun of Cooperstown, N.Y., and the late John William¹⁰ Rathbun (Joel⁹ George⁸ Levant⁷ Williams⁶⁻⁵ Benjamin⁴⁻³ Joseph² John¹).

BORN — May 24, 1989, Joseph Arthur Rathbun, son of Bruce and Patricia Rathbun of Trafford, Pa., and grandson of our members, Arthur and Narda Rathbun of Monroeville, Pa. Arthur is the son of Arthur⁹ Rathbun (Ira⁸ Elisha⁷ Griswold⁶ Elisha⁵ Elijah⁴ Samuel³⁻² John¹).

BORN — July 23, 1989, Michael Thomas Rathbun, son of Jeffrey and Christina (Clark) Rathbun, of Pawcatuck, Conn., and grandson of the late Harold Fred¹⁰ Rathbun (Amos⁹ Charles⁸ Amos⁷ Newman⁶ Jonathan⁵ John⁴⁻¹).

BORN — August 22, 1989, Abbey Lynn Allen, daughter of Scott Allen and Phara Lynn (Rathbun) Scott of Tulsa, Okla., and granddaughter of Charles Jacob¹⁰ Rathbun (Ottie⁹ Marvin⁸ David⁷ Lewis⁶ David⁵ Edmund⁴ John³⁻²⁻¹).

WE THANK the following members who have sent us family data, pictures, clippings and other materials: Fred C. Rathbun, Darleen Boyle, Rob Rathbun, Beverly Gillette, Dr. Don Rathbun, Edith Leppla, Mary Ellen Claypool, Mary Lockhart, Larry Trask, Eleanor Laughlin, John Bowen, Edison Rathbone, Dollie Vick, Haybron Adams, Pat Berry, Lauren Landis, Vivian McLaughlin, Mary Van Epps, Jan S. Stewart, Charles Boardman, Robert R. Rathbone, Horace Still, David E. Rathbun, Russell Rathbun, Dale Bennett, Gretchen Clements, Bill Hosking, Keith Rathbone, Ellen Kenyon, Frank E. Rathbun, Laura Burrows, Grove and Janet Rathbun, Gaal and Mildred Rathburn, Mr. and Mrs. William Marsh, Reba Reeves, Bud Parfitt, Art Hutchinson, Evelyn and Barbara Jordan and Bernice Mann.

People

SCOTT RATHBUN and Christine Lee Westover were married July 8, 1989, at Sumner, Wash. Scott is the son of our members Barbara and Robin¹⁰ Rathbun (Chelsea⁹ Henry⁸ William⁷ Gideon⁶ Job⁵ Gideon⁴ John³⁻²⁻¹).

REV. VAN RATHBUN has accepted a call to the Faith Reformed Church at Cedar Grove, Wisc. He had been serving as associate pastor of the First Reformed Church at Kalamazoo, Mich. Van and his wife, Terry, are members of our Association. He is the son of Raymond¹⁰ Rathbun (Louie⁹ John⁸ Rowland⁷ Acors⁶ Joshua⁵⁻⁴⁻³ John²⁻¹).

LOWELL AND BEVERLY GILLETTE, members of our Association, celebrated their 35th wedding anniversary on July 11, 1989, with a family dinner. Lowell is recovering nicely from open heart surgery last October. Beverly is the daughter of James⁹ Rathbun (James⁸ John⁷⁻⁶ Thomas⁵ John⁴ Samuel³ Thomas² John¹).

RORIE R. BOYLE and his wife, Pak Chong, left in August for a three-year assignment in Korea with the Army Department. He has been with the department for 17 years. Rorie is the son of our member Darleen Boyle, a daughter of Michael Babich and Vera Viola⁹ Rathbun (Henry⁸ William⁷ Gideon⁶ Job⁵ Gideon⁴ John³⁻²⁻¹).

RALPH AND MILDRED RATHBUN of Iilon, N.Y., celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary with a cruise to the Bahamas, a gift from their children. Ralph is the son of George⁸ Rathbun (Ralph⁷ Samuel⁶ Wilbur⁵ Jeremiah⁴ Joseph³⁻² John¹).

JAMES M. PHILLIPS and Jo Ann Henry were married Sept. 16, 1989, at Texarkana, Ark. He is the son of our members Bert and Kathy Phillips. Kathy is the daughter of William Kenney and Donna Ann¹⁰ Rathburn (William⁹ Joseph⁸ Aaron⁷ Joseph⁶ Perry⁵ Edmund⁴ John³⁻²⁻¹).

Our New Members

Mary Ellen Claypool
Lake Forest, Ill.

Gretchen Clements
Lowell, Mass.

Caroline J. Colbry
Corunna, Mich.

Sumner and Susan Crosby
Woodbridge, Conn.

Kathryn Garrett
Sand Springs, Okla.

Mary E. Gates
Pearland, Texas

Arthur Hutchinson
Springfield, Va.

Barbara Jordan
Kenyon, R.I.

Evelyn Jordan
Carolina, R.I.

Roberta Koslowski
Alta Loma, Calif.

Eleanor Laughlin
Arlington, Va.

Mary Lockhart
Eustis, Fla.

Bernice Mann
Westbury, N.Y.

Martha Mardavich
Walnut Cove, N.C.

Dorothy Mueller
Pierre, S.D.

Patricia Porter
Warwick, R.I.

David E. Rathbun
Pawcatuck, Conn.

George Rathbun
Pearland, Texas

William I. Rathbun
Saratoga, Wyo.

Mildred Remillard
Redfield, S.D.

Betty June Stevens
Arroyo Grande, Calif.

Jan Stewart
Deer Lodge, Mont.

Horace Still
Holbrook, Mass.

Phyllis Voit
Beverly, Mass.

ROBERT AND EVELYN DEMARS of Herkimer, N.Y., celebrated their 35th wedding anniversary on July 31. Evelyn is the daughter of Lorenzo⁹ Rathbun (George⁸ Thomas⁷ John⁶ Thomas⁵ John⁴ Samuel³ Thomas² John¹).

FRANK E. RATHBUN of Coventry, R.I., received a Certificate of Appreciation on August 21 from the commanding officer of the U.S. Naval Submarine Base at New London, Conn., upon completion of 30 years' civilian service. Frank, a member of our Association, is the son of Dorothy Rathbun and the late Elmer⁹ Rathbun (Frank⁸ James⁷ Robert⁶ John⁵⁻⁴ Samuel³ Thomas² John¹).

ALMANZOR D. RATHBUN, a storekeeper third class in the U.S. Navy, has been promoted to Third Class Petty Officer and given a coveted Bluejacket Award for outstanding duty and performance with the Atlantic Fleet. He is the son of Walter¹⁰ Rathbun (Walter⁹ William⁸ John⁷ Robert⁶ John⁵⁻⁴ Samuel³ Thomas² John¹), of Warwick, R.I.

WILLIAM J. SUMNEY has completed basic training with the Army at Fort Dix, N.J. He is the son of Margaret (Rathbun) Sumney of Warwick, R.I., a daughter of Edwin⁹ Rathbun (Edwin⁸ John⁷⁻⁶ Joseph⁵ Joshua⁴ John³⁻²⁻¹).