

Rathbun-Rathbone-Rathburn
**FAMILY
HISTORIAN**



Benjamin Hall Rathbone
(1775-1815)

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

Letter from the Editor

With this issue, we begin the thirteenth year of our Historian and of the Rathbun Family Association. As I look back at the 48 issues of our Historian, I am pleased and proud of what we have done.

As this issue goes to press, we have received renewal checks from only 450 of our 559 members in 1992. That means that nearly 20 percent of our membership did not renew by the deadline. They have all been dropped from the rolls, and each will receive a reminder notice. Based on past experience, we can probably expect nearly half of them to rejoin.

As you will see in our 1992 financial report in this issue, we ended the year with a \$900 balance, compared with a \$146 deficit in 1991. The increase in dues from \$15 to \$18 made the difference.

Some of you may have noticed that your checks were somewhat late in being deposited. That was because we applied in December for non-profit status, and waited to deposit the checks until it was approved. This means that we will no longer have to pay sales tax or bank charges — a savings of several hundred dollars a year.

I was very surprised at the many comments I received about the stories of my father's life, more than on any

article I have written over the years. Some cousins wrote to say that they had cried over some of the episodes. Others could relate to my father's battle with alcoholism, and with his anguish as he waited word of my safety during World War II. I thank you all for your kind words.

As I write this, I have just learned of the death of LaPrelle Rathbone Weatherford at the age of 81. (See obituaries). She was a warm and gracious lady in the truest sense of the word. I am proud to have had her as a cousin.

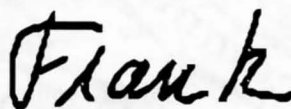
I must apologize for a typographical error in our last issue. On page 52, in a large headline, I misspelled "Descendants" as "Decendants." As a long-time newspaper reporter and editor, I groan as I wonder how I could have overlooked it in my proofreading.

Our story on Merchant John Rathbone's "descendants" brought one gratifying letter. Juliet Pantel, who supplied the pictures of Merchant John and his son, John Rathbone Jr., took one look at the picture on our front cover and sat down to write me a letter. The picture was that of Eliza Rathbone (1791-1853). Juliet has the original drawing, and had never known who it was! "It was just one of those old family things, charming but mysterious," she wrote. "Now I know her identity, at last."

Hazel and I visited Williamsburg, Va., twice in December, and have chosen the date of Sept. 7 through 11 for our 1993 reunion to be held there. (See story in next column).

It should be a great time! Mark your calendars now, and plan to join us. Complete details and registration forms will be mailed with the April Historian.

We had a wonderful Christmas holiday, and we thank all the cousins who sent us Christmas cards to help brighten the season.



Williamsburg Reunion Set for September

Our 1993 National Reunion will be held from September 7 to 11 in Williamsburg, Virginia, with the four-star Fort Magruder Inn as our headquarters.

The five-day program will include our traditional get-acquainted reception, heirloom and memorabilia display, and bus trips to interesting sites in the area.

There will be a full day set aside for exploring the streets, homes and shops in fascinating old Colonial Williamsburg, which has been restored to its original character of the 1700s.

Another day will feature trips to Jamestown and Yorktown. Jamestown is the site of the first permanent English settlement in America, with a restored 1600s fort, an Indian village and replicas of the three ships which brought the first settlers.

Yorktown is the site of the final battle of the Revolutionary War, where the English surrendered to the combined American and French forces on Nov. 19, 1782, the day our nation officially won its independence. The area is a virtual museum of Revolutionary War history.

Another trip will take us to see Carter's Grove, an authentic colonial plantation, with mansion, orchards, gardens, barns, slave quarters and other outbuildings, as well as an archaeological digging site.

At the lovely and impressive Fort Magruder Inn, we will have an outdoor dinner one night with a Civil War theme, and our customary closing banquet, which will have a colonial theme.

The program will enable us to step back in history for a look at three stages of our nation's past - the colonial period, the Revolutionary era, and the Civil War — a three-century panorama.

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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ISSN 0737-7711

Rathbone Sea Captain Lost in Violent 1815 Hurricane

On September 23, 1815, a ferocious hurricane roared ashore in southern New England, striking with tremendous force at the Rhode Island cities of Newport and Providence. The "Great Gale of 1815," as it came to be known, caused widespread damage totaling millions of dollars, but strangely claimed only a few lives. Among them was Captain Benjamin Hall Rathbone, a 40-year-old Newport sea captain.

Benjamin Hall Rathbone was born about 1775 in Newport, R.I., the son of Captain Joshua⁵ Rathbun (Valentine⁴ Joshua³ John²⁻¹), and his first wife, Elizabeth Hall.

Joshua, who apparently adopted the Rathbone spelling late in life, sailed out of Newport for many years as a captain for the prominent merchant firm of Gibbs and Channing—owned by George Gibbs and Walter Channing.

Joshua first appears in April 1770, aged 24, as master of the brig Catherine, sailing between Newport and the West Indies, probably carrying molasses from the islands, and returning with rum. During the Revolutionary War, when the British occupied Newport, he was imprisoned for refusing to take an oath of allegiance to the British crown.

By 1790, Joshua was captain of the 70-foot brig John, and in 1794, Gibbs and Channing put him in command of an 82-foot, three-masted ship, the William. In 1797, at the age of 51, he decided to retire from the sea and move to a farm, but he became ill a short time later and died Sept. 5, 1799.

Benjamin, his eldest son (who always used the Rathbone spelling), grew up in Newport and followed his father's footsteps by going to sea. He probably sailed with his father as a young man, and when his father

retired, Benjamin was named to succeed him as captain of the William.

In January 1798, the William was captured by a French privateer and Benjamin Rathbone, with his crew,



This portrait of Captain Benjamin Hall Rathbone was painted by his brother-in-law Edward Green Malbone, one of the most talented artists of his day. The original, a miniature in deep colors, has exquisite detail.

was sent to France. He was back in Newport by June 6, 1801, when Gibbs and Channing made him captain of the 64-foot, three masted schooner Federal, which he sailed for nearly five years.

That same year, on Nov. 3, 1801, Benjamin was married to Mary Malbone, youngest daughter of General John Malbone, a member of one of Newport's most wealthy and prominent families. Benjamin was about 26; Mary about 24. She was one of General Malbone's six illegitimate children by his long-term mistress, Patience Greene. Descendants and

historians have long wondered why they were never married.

Possibly with money from his wealthy father-in-law, Benjamin branched out and became a ship owner as well as captain. In 1806, he was commander and part-owner of the schooner Pegasus, a two-masted 64-footer. Five years later, he was master and part owner of the ship Rufus King, 95 feet long with three masts. She was apparently captured by the British during the War of 1812.

In June 1815, he was listed as master of the brig Hiram, and was probably on the Hiram that September when the hurricane struck. Cooley, in his 1898 Rathbone Genealogy, reported that Benjamin's ship was due to arrive in Newport the day of the storm, and that she probably went down in sight of land. Nothing was ever found of the ship or any of her crew.

Rhode Islanders had gone to bed the night of Sept. 22 as a heavy rain was falling, driven by northeast winds. During the night, the wind shifted southward and increased its intensity. By dawn the wind had reached gale force and about 10 a.m. it developed into a full-scale hurricane—of a force never before seen by even the oldest residents.

For two hours, the storm raged, driving sea water over its banks and up Narragansett Bay toward Providence. Ships docked in the Newport and Providence harbors were ripped from their moorings and smashed ashore. Cargoes were strewn along the waterfront, and streets were littered with wreckage. Roofs were torn off, windows broken, trees uprooted and homes moved on their foundations.

At noon, the wind suddenly subsided and the cloud cover disappeared. The sun burst forth on a

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Rathbun Woman Is Slashed by Robbers in Early Kansas

This is the story of a Rathbun daughter who married and settled on the Kansas frontier just after the Civil War, and found herself living in one of the most lawless areas of the legendary "Wild West." In a society racked with crime and violence, she was slashed from neck to belly by a band of thieves who turned out to be her husband's nephews. She lived to see two of the bandits hung by a vigilante gang.

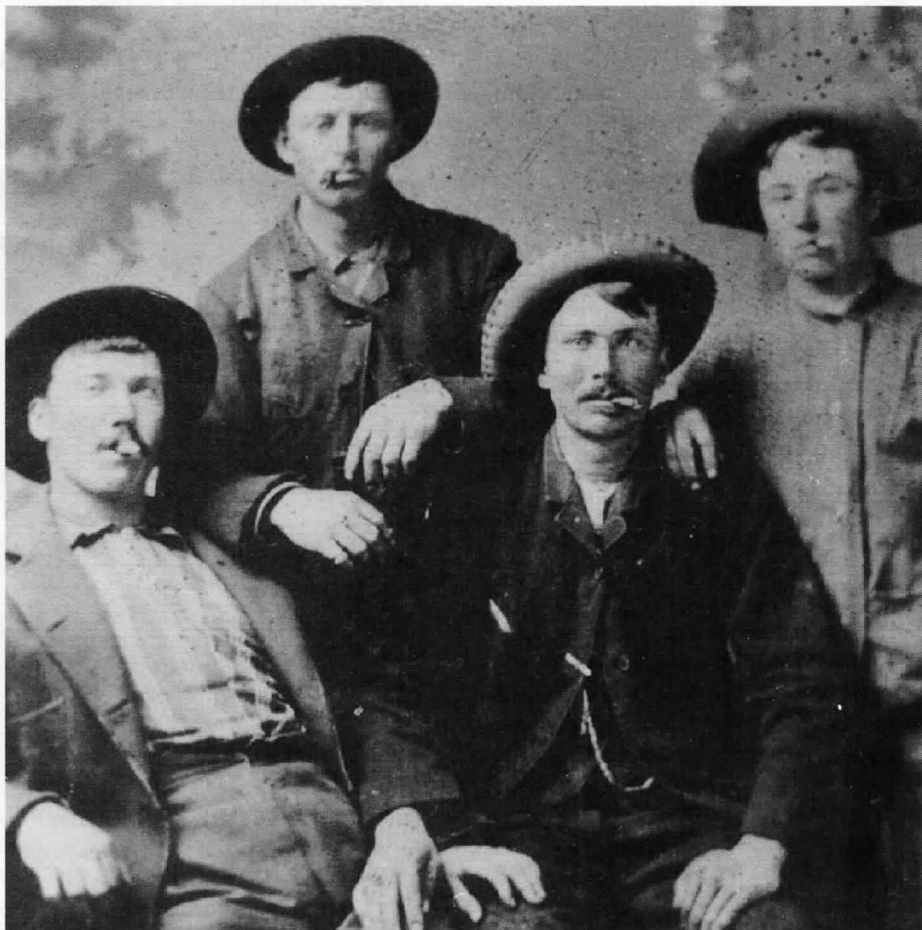
Sophia Rathbun was born April 11, 1815, near Belpre, Ohio, a daughter of Gideon⁵ Rathbun (Edmund⁴ John³⁻²⁻¹) and Anna (Newberry) Rathbun. On May 15, 1836, she was married in neighboring Athens County, Ohio, to Reason Tippie.

The newlyweds moved to Indiana soon after their marriage, and then in 1854 to Decatur County, Iowa. By this time, they had six children—four sons and two daughters. In 1861, their fifth son was born.

In the summer of 1862, as the Civil War entered its second year, their oldest sons, John and Lewis Tippie, enlisted in the 34th Iowa Infantry, and marched off to war. John had been married only 15 months. On Jan. 9, 1863, he died of typhoid fever in a military hospital at St. Louis. Two months later, Lewis was discharged with measles, bronchitis and general debility. (More Civil War soldiers died of disease than in battle).

After the war, in 1865, Reason and Sophia moved with their younger children to Bourbon County, Kansas, where they purchased a farm and began buying cattle. By 1866, they owned a sizable herd.

Kansas had become a state in 1861, after several years of bitter infighting between northern and southern sympathizers. Robbery, pillaging, shootings and other assorted terror-



The Tippie brothers in a remarkably clear photograph from the mid-1860s. From left to right are Philip, Sam, Joseph and Hathaway. Sam and Joe were hung. Philip and Hathaway, one of whom slashed Sophia (Rathbun) Tippie and killed Lem Shannon, eluded a posse and disappeared.

ism was the order of the day. The violence had given the territory its nickname, "Bleeding Kansas."

By the time the Tippies settled there, most of the violence had ended, but the area still had a tradition of lawlessness.

One day in late 1865 or early 1866, the Tippies had a visit from two of his nephews—Joe and Granville (Sam) Tippie, who lived in nearby Linn County. The Tippies and their brothers—Philip and Hathaway—had a rep-

utation as a "hard lot." They were mean, tough and vicious.

Joe had served in the Union Army during the war, but had a record of desertion, robbery and looting. After the war, the four brothers became partners in a cattle ranch, and developed a scheme for enriching themselves by buying cattle, and then stealing the money back.

Reason and Sophie Tippie knew their nephews were a rough lot, but they did not suspect treachery when

Joe and Sam admired their cattle and offered to buy part of the herd for \$800. He agreed, took the cash, and watched them drive the cattle away.

That night, two masked gunmen broke into the Tippies' house and shouted "Give us the money." When they refused, one of the thugs drew his hunting knife and with one vicious slash, cut 50-year-old Sophia's dress from neck to hem, leaving her with a bloody gash from her throat to her lower abdomen.

Terrified, bleeding and trying to hold her torn clothing together, Sophia went to the flour bin where she had hidden the money, and handed it over. A terrified witness to the scene was the Tippies' five-year-old son James. The event left a vivid imprint on his mind, and it haunted him the rest of his life.

Reason and Sophia were certain their assailants were Philip and Hathaway Tippie, brothers of Joe and Sam, but they could not prove it. Only the four brothers knew they had the money, but the masks made identification impossible.

That spring, Reason met a man from the next county, Ralph Warner, who casually mentioned that he had agreed to sell the Tippie brothers a large herd of cattle for \$2,800.

Reason was with another man who had also been victimized by the Tippies, and they both hastened to tell Warner their stories. Warner, now forewarned, returned home and laid his plans.

Late in April, Sam and Joe Tippie showed up at the Warner ranch, rounded up the cattle, paid Warner \$2,800 in cash, and drove off the herd.

Warner expected the other brothers to appear that night, and he was ready for them. He and nearly 20 of his friends and neighbors were stationed around his cabin, well armed and well hidden in the brush and behind out-buildings and wagons. Two other friends, Billy Howard and Lem Shannon—were in the cabin with Warner's wife and family.

Shortly after dark, Philip and Hathaway Tippie appeared, but walked right past the men on guard, who mistook them for members of their own band.

The Tippies reached the cabin, burst in with guns leveled, and ordered the occupants to put up their hands. Lem Shannon had been cleaning his pistol, which was still disassembled, but he leaped toward the closest gunman. He was shot dead. Billy Howard grabbed his pistol and opened fire, shooting off one of the bandits' thumbs.

The two thugs panicked, and ran outside with Billy in hot pursuit, his pistol blazing. By that time, the gunshots had attracted Warner and the others, who raced toward the house. In the confusion, with the darkness and a heavy rainstorm, the Tippie brothers managed to escape.

Two posses were immediately formed. One headed east on the trail of Philip and Hathaway Tippie, and the other took off for the north to find Sam and Joe with Warner's cattle. Each posse picked up more men as they traveled, rousing settlers in their cabins.

The next day, the second posse came across Warner's cattle, and in a nearby cabin they captured Sam and Joe Tippie. It was decided to hold a "fair trial" right on the spot. One man was chosen to be judge, and 12 others were selected as jurors. Another was named as defense lawyer.

The trial lasted until 10 p.m., as armed men circled the area in anticipation of an attack by the Tippies' friends. After hearing all the evidence, the "jury" found both Sam and Joe guilty as "accomplices" to the murder of Lem Shannon.

The assembled crowd was then told to line up, and at a given signal, everyone who favored hanging was asked to take three steps forward. The verdict was nearly unanimous to hang the two brothers.

The "judge" announced the decision, offered prayers for the condemned men's souls, and invited them to speak. Joe Tippie broke down and confessed, as his brother cursed him for his weakness.

It was decided to conduct the hanging in the morning, and the Tippies were led off under heavy guard to be confined in a nearby building. But the growing crowd was in no mood to wait. "Let's hang them now," some-

one shouted, and a majority loudly agreed.

The Tippie brothers were dragged to a wooded area, and hung from the most convenient tree. The bodies were cut down in the morning, and thrown into a swale, where their families came to claim them.

The other posse never did find Philip and Hathaway Tippie, one of whom actually killed Lem Shannon. Their trail was lost in the hills of Missouri, and they were never heard of again.

According to one county historian, Warner kept the \$2,800 given him by the Tippies, but gave the cattle to their widows. They, in turn, reportedly gave \$800 to Reason and Sophia Tippie.

Sam Tippie's widow was remarried in 1868 to Enos Long, and the ceremony was conducted, in a strange twist of fate, by one of Sophia Tippie's cousins—Cornelius Taylor Rathbone, a justice of the peace in Linn County.

Reason and Sophia both died in Cherokee County, Kansas, in 1871—he on March 27 and she five months later on August 22.

(Our thanks for this fascinating story to our member Marsha Magley, whose husband, Fred, is a great-grandson of Reason and Sophia (Rathbun) Tippie. Marsha, an ardent historian and genealogist, has compiled a history of the Tippie family. She wrote your editor, "We don't stand in judgment on the Tippie boys. We consider them to be a colorful part of the family history. . . . But I'm glad I don't have to chance meeting them in the flesh. By the way, if you ever run across anyone descended from a Tippie born about 1845, who was minus a thumb, let me know."

Two of our members were inducted last June as members of the First Families of Athens County, Ohio. One, James R. Chivers, is descended from Lewis⁶ Rathburn (David⁵ Edmund⁴ John³⁻²⁻¹). The other, Fred Magley, is descended from Reason Tippie and Sophia⁶ Rathburn (Gideon⁵ Edmund⁴ John³⁻²⁻¹), all early Athens County settlers.

Charles B. Rathbun Letters Show Turbulent Love Life

In our January 1988 Historian, we told the fascinating story of Charles Raymond Rathbun (1882-1940), also known as Charles Raymond Woodard. He was the only son of Charles Byron Rathbun, another most interesting cousin, whose life story is presented here, drawn largely from his letters and other papers which have survived. They give us a remarkable insight into his stormy and often tragic career.

Charles Byron Rathbun was born April 6, 1843, in Eden, Erie County, N.Y., the oldest son of James H. Rathbun (James⁶⁻³ Samuel² John¹) and Harriet Porter Rathbun. The family moved in the early 1860s to Concord, Erie County, Pa.

Early in the Civil War, Charles went to Buffalo, N.Y., and enlisted in the Union Army, but nothing is known of his service. After the war, he returned to Concord, and in 1866 he fell in love with Mattie E. Bentley, a young neighbor girl. They were married on January 4, 1867, at nearby Union Mills. Mattie was already about five months pregnant, and on May 3, gave birth to a baby girl who was named Cora May.

At that time, Charles was employed by the Philadelphia and Erie Railroad, possibly as a detective or guard. His railroad pass dated Jan. 31, 1867, is still in existence. Family tradition tells that he traveled frequently.

Nothing more is known of them until 1871, when Charles left Mattie, taking four-year-old Cora with him. On Dec. 31, Mattie wrote him a long, rambling and touching letter, begging him to return, or at least send Cora back home. The letter indicates that Mattie had been unfaithful.

"My own dear husband and child," Mattie wrote. "Oh my God, Charlie, what shall I do? My own dear child taken from me . . . I must have my



This photograph, found in Nellie Rathbun-Woodard's papers after her death, is believed to be that of Charles Byron Rathbun, who was her second husband.

child or I shall die. I cannot live without her.

"Oh Charlie, I am no whore . . . I have a firm determination to be a good, truthful, virtuous wife . . . I do not blame you. I am the one to blame . . . Charlie, I never will give you up as long as I have breath . . . I will be honest, virtuous and upright and do everything you require of me to be an honest wife, what you have wanted me to become so long a time.

"Would you be willing to let me stay with your folks . . . and help your dear mother? She has forgiven me . . . cannot you. Forgive me and receive me to your heart again . . . Life is dark, all dark now. Oh my God . . . give me my Cora, Charlie, do not take my angel baby."

In another paragraph, she wrote: "Charlie, I love you from the bottom of



This picture found in Nellie Rathbun-Woodard's papers, is believed to be that of Mattie Bentley, the first wife of Charles Byron Rathbun, probably about the time of their divorce.

my heart. I did do wrong. I have told you what I done it for."

The letter concluded with a few lines from Charles' mother, urging him to write Mattie and consider sending Cora back to her.

What happened next we do not know, but Charles apparently returned with Cora to Mattie, and they resumed their life together. In 1872, he was operating oil wells for his father, and that same year was a deputy constable at Rouseville, near Concord.

His papers contain a strange telegram sent him in 1873 from Triumph, Pa., by D.H. Hawkins. The message reads: "Everything right. Casmick, Casmack, Casmuke." Whether it was a coded message or some private joke, we will never know.

By 1874, he and Mattie had moved to Niles, Ohio, and in March that year,

he wired her from Warren, Ohio: "Will be home tomorrow. Have got a good job. Am going to Cleveland."

The job was possibly as a traveling salesman, for by May 1876, he was traveling throughout Iowa and Illinois, apparently dealing in livestock. His papers include a letter about horse sales from "J.V. Bean, M.D., Dealer in Trotting and Imported Draft Horses, Real Estate, Etc."

It may have been a short-lived job, for his papers also contain receipts dated 1876 and 1877 for rent and groceries in Oil City, Pa., where he and Mattie then lived.

Tragedy struck in 1877. On Sept. 18, little Cora died at the age of 10. Their marriage apparently ended about that time. Her death may have been just too much for their already strained relationship, or there may have been another problem—Charles had apparently found another woman.

His new love was Ella A. Smith, known as Nellie, a 25-year-old divorcee who must have been a most remarkable woman. She was the owner of the "Erie Hair Store," specializing in wigs and hairpieces made from human hair. For a young woman, she was obviously doing very well.

Just when their "affair" began, is not known, but it was probably before Cora's death. Charles wrote to "Dear Ella" on Nov. 17, 1877, two months after Cora died, and the letter indicates that Charles and Ella already had an ongoing relationship.

He refers to her "cold and snappish note." Their problems apparently stemmed from the fact that she was pregnant and was planning an abortion!

"I have again consulted the doctor," Charles wrote. "He made me thoroughly understand what to do. You are first to take a dose of castor oil or something else to relax the bowels and system generally. After a few hours, use (underlined) well you know what—the same we did. (Had there been a previous abortion?)

"At the first pain, cloths wrung out of hot water and whiskey are to be laid across you and changed often until all is over. You are also to drink hot whiskey. This is about all . . . only the Dr. should be ready in case he was really wanted.

"Now you appear to think that I do not care to come . . . Ella, you know better. I would go if I had to crawl there on my hands and knees. (He then explained that his coat had been stolen, the thief arrested, and the trial about to begin. He had to attend and testify).

The two apparently "made up" and he joined her a short time later in the hair business, as a traveling salesman. He appears to have divorced Mattie about 1880, and nothing more is known of her.

In 1880, Nellie opened a branch office in Burlington, Iowa, under the name "N. Woodard, Importers and Manufacturers of Human Hair Goods."

For some reason, Charles and Nellie about that time began using the name Woodard. His descendants have no idea why.

On February 18, 1881, he wrote to "Dear Nellie" in Burlington, where they had apparently moved, from the Brevoort House, a Chicago hotel.

"Last night," he wrote, "I was out with a party of hair men until past midnight . . . I thought of you often. I have no intention to go out with them again. They are too high-toned, nothing but wine, and that the best, is good enough for them . . . It cost me ten dollars to enjoy the company of this select party, and not being a bank president, I cannot accept any more invitations."

Charles was not doing well in sales and seems to have been doing some heavy gambling. His letter continued:

"My principal source of income . . . depends greatly upon my success in meeting some one who has a weakness for estimating the value of three kings or two pairs of aces. Not the nicest calling in the world, but anything to turn a honest dollar. In this Paradise of Scoundrels, it is not the best-paying business in the world, yet I manage to keep my hotel bills paid.

"I have posted myself as to the most popular free lunches in the city (taverns in those days offered free lunches to patrons, usually heavily salted and spiced to encourage drinking)."

He then cautioned Nellie on her announced plan to expand or move her business. The letter gives an

insight into his personality—a strong, almost paranoid cynicism.

"Look out, or they will get the best of you. It is hard to find a man in the West who has one iota of honor, or any more soul than a hog. They will show you no mercy if they get you in a tight place, so beware."

The letter also hints that their personal relationship had somewhat cooled, possibly because of alleged infidelity.

"You say you hope I will be more happy away from you," he wrote. "No I shall not, but on the contrary I am unhappy away from you. The only trouble is, you have misjudged me . . . Do not worry about my being in bad company as far as women are concerned. They have lost their charms for me.

"I hope you will excuse this most terrible writing. You know how you felt the morning after New Years. You know how I feel now." He signed, "Goodbye, as ever yours, Charlie."

Two months later, on April 4, he wrote a much warmer letter from the Ballingall House in Ottumwa, Iowa.

"I wish you fully understood my feelings toward you and the true devotion that I feel within my own heart. You would never doubt me again . . . you have given me your love. It is all I can ask and it is all I want. I would not trade it for all the gold the world is possessed of . . . believe me pet, I shall never abuse your confidence. Goodbye. Yours with love and affection."

In November, 1881, Charles was back in Erie, Pa., apparently running Nellie's store there. He wrote to her in Burlington, sending her some hair goods and a \$20 money order.

They were still having problems with jealousy and charges of unfaithfulness on both sides.

Nellie wrote him a harsh letter that same month, in which she said, "I have no doubt but what you are monkeying around." Charles immediately drafted a stern but loving reply: "I see that contemptible monkey (jealousy) still haunts your vision . . . Nell, I can stand up today in the presence of my

(Continued to page 8)

(Continued from page 7)

maker and truthfully swear that since the day I united my destiny with yours, my arm has never encircled the waist, or my lips ever touched, those of any lady save your own."

Then Charles raised his own doubts about Nellie's faithfulness.

"If you will permit me to take the liberty, may I ask—can you say as much? If you can, God bless you. If on the other hand, you so far forgot yourself last winter as to allow the embraces and kisses of (the rest of the line is crossed out, probably by Nellie in later years)."

The next morning, he set out to mail the letter, only to find one from Nellie—apologizing for her accusations and blaming her letter on being "worn out and tired."

Charles then drafted a second letter, and sent it (along with the first) to Nellie, promising to "drop everything" and go to her. He had just been asked by the Erie County sheriff to take over the task of guarding eight of the infamous "Mollie Maguires" who were in jail awaiting trial for murder. They had a reputation for jail breaks and the sheriff thought Charles was the man to watch them.

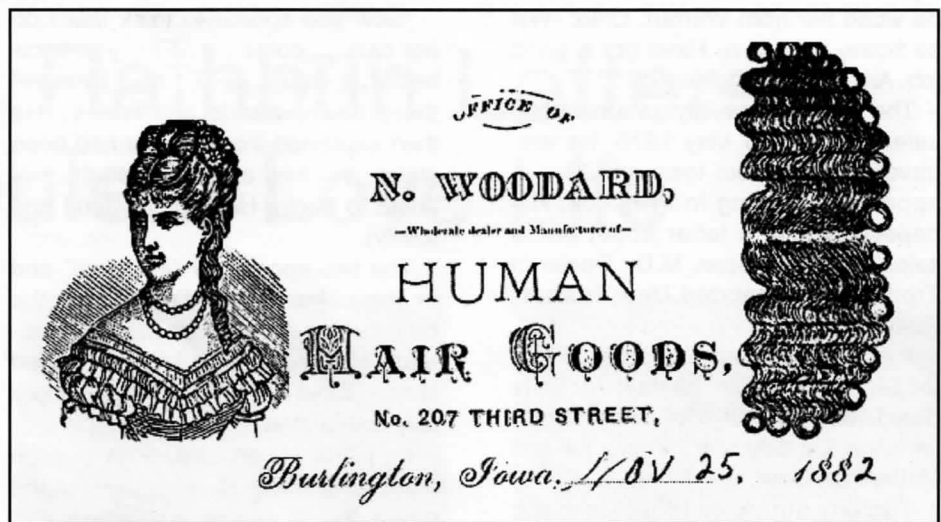
"I shall tell him I am going away," he assured Nellie. "Have courage. I will soon be with you."

United happily in Burlington, Charles and Nellie settled down together. There is no record of a marriage. In a few months she was pregnant, and this time there was to be no abortion. A baby boy was born on Nov. 20, 1882, and named Charles Raymond. He was born in Peoria, Illinois, where Nellie had opened still another store.

They were still both going by the name Woodard, but when the baby's birth was registered, it was under the name Rathbun.

Charles was back on the road four days later, but wired Nellie to telegraph him if her health was poor, and he would "take the first train home."

Three months later, on March 12, 1883, he wrote from the Commercial Hotel in Lincoln, Nebraska, to "Dear Wife and Baby." He was extremely upset over a woman customer who



The business letterhead of Nellie Rathbun-Woodard's hair shop.

had left town without paying him for some goods.

"My head is dizzy now, thinking about the damned bitch . . . I am so mixed up and mad . . . I hope I feel better tomorrow. Kiss the baby boy for me and I send you love and kisses also."

It was his last known letter. What happened, we will never know. He appears only once more in Nellie's papers—that August, he was in Fargo, South Dakota, where he filed a \$2 fee to purchase 157 acres of land.

That is the last record of Charles B. Rathbun in the surviving papers. He apparently returned to his father's home in Concord, Pa. (possibly for health reasons), and died there on Feb. 8, 1889, at the age of 46. In 1898, his father applied for a Federal pension, based on Charles' Civil War Service. In the application, he listed Charles' death date.

His father also reported that Charles had married Mattie Bentley, had a daughter Cora who died in 1877, and was divorced from Mattie about 1881. He made no mention of Nellie or her son (his grandson). Did he even know about them?

There are many questions left unanswered. Did Charles and Nellie ever marry? Why did they use the name Woodard? Why did they finally separate? Was he unfaithful? Was she?

Nellie moved by 1887 to Chadron, Nebraska, where she operated a general store and traded with Indians for many years. She married several times, but had no more children. She died in 1936 at the age of 84.

(The letters and papers on which this story was based, as well as the pictures, were saved by Nellie and found at her death. They are now in the possession of her grandson, Robert L. Rathbun, a member of our Association. We thank him for sharing them with us. Oddly, Nellie saved no pictures of herself. The letters tell us that Charles Rathbun was an intelligent well-educated and articulate man; that he was a rover, a gambler and drinker; probably a skeptic and cynic, but obviously capable of sincere love and affection.)

Descendants of Richard Milo and Matilda (Rink) Rathbun gathered for a reunion Sept. 20, 1992, at Courtland, Kansas. Among them was Fern Thompson, a member of our Association. Richard Milo Rathbun (1864-1939) was the son of William⁷ Rathbun (Daniel⁶ William⁵ Daniel⁴ Joshua³ John²⁻¹).

(Continued from page 3)

scene of destruction spreading over many miles.

One historian wrote that there were only two fatalities, but there were actually more than that, although no one seems to have made an official count.

Thomas "Nailer Tom" Hazard of South Kingstown, reported in his diary that several persons were drowned there. In the old Newport cemetery are the gravemarkers of Elizabeth Allen, 25, and her three children, the eldest four, all drowned on that terrible day.

In the Rathbone lot in the Newport cemetery are the graves of Captain Benjamin Rathbone's wife, Mary, who died four years later at the age of 34, and two of their five children.

Mary's brother, Edward Greene Malbone, became one of the America's most talented painters of miniatures, and fortunately for us, one of his pictures was that of his brother-in-law, Benjamin Rathbone, which appears on our front cover and with this story.

It is a xerox copy and does not do justice to the original, which is in lovely deep colors. It does show that Benjamin was a handsome young man, with a look of intelligence and humor.

So far as known, only one of Benjamin's five children—a daughter, Harriet Whitehorn Rathbone—left descendants. She married in 1827 Edward Henry Courtenay, a professor, civil engineer and author. They had at least two daughters who survived—Sarah, who married General Henry Brewerton, and Mary, who married General Chauncey B. Reese.

Two other daughters of Benjamin and Mary died young—Elizabeth in 1818, aged 11, and Mary Louisa in 1815, aged 10. A son, Edward Malbone Rathbone, born about 1811, became a sea captain and died in St. Louis, Mo., according to Cooley's Rathbone Genealogy.

We have received word that plans to move Block Island's Southeast Lighthouse have been postponed until spring. The delay comes from unforeseen expenses claimed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

The 'Yarn' Family!

We have frequently warned our members about the various firms which send offers to purchase books on family history which are usually lists of names taken from telephone directories. These offers go out "en masse" to persons with similar surnames.

Our member John Rathbone of Hamilton, N.Y., reports an unusual twist on this genealogy "scam." His wife Valerie runs a yarn and gift shop called "Yarns et al."

An enterprising operator in Midvale, Utah, apparently used a Hamilton directory in compiling a mailing list, and sent an invitation to "Et A. Yarn" to purchase a \$23 book on "Yarns Since the Civil War."

Needless to say, John and Valerie did not buy the book, but it did give them a chuckle. Books which tell of families "Since the Civil War" contain death records from Social Security files.

Another "scam" letter was reported by Member Jim Rathburn of Nash, Texas. He received a form letter from "Stephen D. Rathburn, i.a." of Bath, Ohio, with "exciting news for you and fellow Rathburns." (The "i.a." indicates that Stephen D. Rathburn is probably a fake name).

For \$31.38, Jim was told he could purchase a copy of "The World Book of Rathburns." He was informed that the first known Rathburn was a Mary, who came to Pennsylvania in 1772. Jim, who reads our Historian, knew better and sent the notice to your editor.

A land grant issued in 1837 to Harry Rathburn is on display in the Michigan Historical Library in Lansing. Harry (actually Henry) was born in 1802, the son of Ashley⁵ Rathburn (Isaiah⁴ Jonathan³ John²⁻¹). He came to Michigan from Monroe County, N.Y. Our thanks to LaVerne E. Rathburn who noticed the document while visiting Lansing. It is signed by President Martin Van Buren.

WE THANK the following members who have sent in family data: Phyllis Wingerak, Rob Rathbun, Forrest Rathburn, Lydia Littlefield, Melva Gregory, Lauren Landis, Dr. Donald Rathbun, LaVerne E. Rathburn, Mary J. Wood, Helen M. Rathburn, Isaac B. Rathburn, Mary Jane Davis, Darleen Boyle, Clair Cornell, John Bowen, Joe Wiswall, Rosma Limbeck, Reba Reeves, Dr. Lewis and Elizabeth Rathburn, Russell Rathburn, Mrs. Paul Retzke, James Rathburn, Bruce Rathburn, Larry Trask, Susie Carter Baston, David E. Rathburn, Neal M. Rathburn, Marilyn Flurer, Grove and Janet Rathburn, Mary Hyde, Gwen Koenig, Mary Champlin, Carol Jeanne Rathburn, Bill Hosking, William and Louise Marsh, Audrey Christian, Bill Stelzner, John W. Rathburn, Marlin Rathburn, Jeanne Whittington, Bob Willis, Dorothy Mueller, Phyllis Cuevas, John H. Rathburn, Doris Rathburn, Frank E. Rathburn, Alyce Gail Rathburn, Alice Phillips.

Financial Statement

1992 Income

Memberships (559 @ \$18) ..	\$10,062
Sale of Past Historians	690
Donations	30
Advance Dues	45
Total	\$10,827

1992 Expenses

Printing of Historian	\$5,709
Mailing Costs	1,957
Supplies	798
Secretary's Wages	412
Postage	391
Research	277
Telephone	118
Pictures	69
Miscellaneous	50
Total	\$9,781

Deficit from 1991	\$146
On Hand, Dec. 31, 1992 ...	\$900

Genealogy: The Seventh Generation in America

17. AUGUSTUS N.⁷ RATHBUN (Ansel⁶ Abel⁵ John⁴ Jonathan³ John²⁻¹), born July 28, 1818, probably in Chenango County, N.Y. Early in 1836, he joined his sister and brother-in-law, Mary Ann and Ariel Cornwell, in a move to Michigan. They started in the wintertime, with a sled and team of horses carrying all their belongs. Then they took the Erie Canal to Buffalo, and a boat across Lake Erie. Six weeks later they were in Hillsdale County, Michigan, where they camped in what later became Liberty Township. On May 10, 1826, he and Ariel went to the land office at Monroe and purchased 80 acres of land from the Federal government. They each took 40 acres, and built a "pole shanty" in which they all lived while they cleared the land. Later they built log cabins, after the men walked nearly eight miles daily to earn \$1 a day splitting logs for fence rails. Augustus was married by 1850 to Louise ____, surname and parentage unknown, born about 1814. They never had children of their own, but raised George and Mary Rathbun, children of his brother George, who died in 1855. By 1860, they moved to Springport, Jackson County, where Augustus died Oct. 12, 1874, and Louise on June 2, 1882.

18. GEORGE W.⁷ RATHBUN (Ansel⁶ Abel⁵ John⁴ Jonathan³ John²⁻¹), born Sept. 30, 1820, in Chenango County, N.Y. He moved as a young man to Rock County, Wisconsin, where he was married on Nov. 5, 1846, to Jerusha Ann Adams, born July 20, 1827, daughter of Nathaniel and Abigail Adams. They returned to New York and settled in Cayuga County. Jerusha died there Dec. 20, 1852, aged 26, leaving him with two young children. He took them to the home of his brother, Augustus, in Michigan, where he died on Jan. 23, 1855, aged 34.

CHILDREN

GEORGE SCOTT, born July 16, 1850; married Josephine Holden.

MARY JANE, born Nov. 13, 1852; married Frank O. Peterson.

19. MINER A. or E.⁷ RATHBUN (Anderson⁶ Joshua⁵⁻⁴ Jonathan³ John²⁻¹), born about 1821 at McDonough, Chenango County, N.Y. He went to Wisconsin as a young man and may have married there in the 1850s. According to a Chenango County newspaper, he died August 11, 1858, aged 37, in Michigan, but this may have been an error. A Mrs. Eliza Rathbun was living in Milwaukee in 1863 and may have been his widow. There were no known children.

20. RANSOM B.⁷ RATHBUN (Martin⁶ Joshua⁵⁻⁴ Jonathan³ John²⁻¹), born July 5, 1811, at Colchester, Conn. He was married there on Nov. 20, 1849, to Cynthia Marsh, born Oct. 8, 1828, parentage unknown. Ransom was a butcher, and lived in Colchester for some years. By 1860, they were living in East Haddam, where he was a merchant. They apparently returned to Colchester, where he died Nov. 19, 1890. Cynthia died Jan. 4, 1903, at Hebron, Conn.

CHILDREN

FRANCES E. born March 4, 1852; died in 1860 or 1869.

JENNIE, born Oct. 6, 1853; married John Gano Wightman on Aug. 28, 1876.

FLORENCE E., born Feb. 24, 1855; married Frederick Abel on March 24, 1885.

ADELIN L., born July 12, 1856; died in 1913, unmarried.

FREDERICK R., born in 1857; died in 1858.

ALBERT E., born April 22, 1860; married Katherine Loomis.

FREDERICK ROBERT, born Dec. 20, 1864; died Sept. 30, 1869.

LEON G., born Nov. 28, 1868; unmarried in 1920, no further data.

ETTA F., born Sept. 8, 1870; married Lewis A. Rathbun, her cousin, son of Russell⁷ Rathbun (Martin⁶ Joshua⁵⁻⁴ Jonathan³ John²⁻¹).

21. HENRY W.⁷ RATHBONE (Martin⁶ Joshua⁵⁻⁴ Jonathan³ John²⁻¹), born April 20, 1815, probably at Colchester, Conn. He was married there on April 17, 1838, to Emily C. Benjamin, born March 1, 1817, daughter of Stephen and Barbara (Phillips) Benjamin. They had eight children before their marriage crumbled about 1856. He charged her with adultery, and a divorce was apparently granted, but then negated when relatives claimed she was insane. They remain separated, and relatives raised most of the children. Henry died of typhoid fever on Oct. 25, 1863, in Hartford, Conn. Emily died March 7, 1880, apparently insane. She had been under the guardianship of her son Charles for many years.

CHILDREN

BENJAMIN HAWLEY, born in 1839; enlisted in the Union Army during the Civil War, was captured, and died Nov. 15, 1864, in Andersonville Prison.

RAYMOND, born in 1841; died in 1848.

FRANCIS MARTIN, born in May 1843; died Sept. 16, 1910, apparently unmarried.

JOHN E., born Feb. 26, 1846; married (1) Hattie Mosier, and (2) Florence Preston.

EMILY BENJAMIN, born June 30, 1847; married Charles H. Carroll on Dec. 30, 1866.

CHARLES A., born Oct. 20, 1850; married Sarah A. Chapman.

LEONORA MARY, born Dec. 1, 1853; married Louis Cone on Oct. 30, 1887.

WILLIAM ARTHUR, born March 27, 1856; married Hattie Swain.

22. RUSSELL B.⁷ RATHBUN (Martin⁶ Joshua⁵⁻⁴ Jonathan³ John²⁻¹), born May 15, 1819, probably in Colchester, Conn., and was married Dec. 19, 1847, in Salem, Conn., to Lucy Ann Welch, born about 1814, parentage unknown. They lived in Norwich, Conn., where she died Jan. 18, 1856. He was married a few years later to Mary Chapman Hilliard, born May 24, 1834, daughter of Lewis M. and Mary G. Hilliard. She died July 27, 1869, and he was married again in the 1870s to Emily (or Emma) Story, born in May 1834. Russell operated a livery stable at Norwich, where he died Dec. 18, 1884. Emily died some time after 1900.

CHILDREN

By Lucy

ELIZABETH J., born in March 1849; died Oct. 2, 1852.

DAVID JEWETT, born in 1851; married Alice V. Gray.

By Mary

JENNIE HILLIARD, born May 18, 1861; died Jan. 10, 1862.

LEWIS A., born in July 1863; married his cousin Etta F. Rathbun, daughter of Ransom⁶ Rathbun (Joshua⁵⁻⁴ Jonathan³ John²⁻¹).

See New Data 16-2 p 38

OLIVER MARTIN⁷ RATHBUN (Martin⁶ Joshua⁵⁻⁴ Jonathan³ John²⁻¹), born August 28, 1824, in Colchester, Conn., and was married Dec. 16, 1849 at Salem to Mary Jane Gates, born about 1823, daughter of Eli and Mary (Chaney) Gates. She died, or they were divorced, for he was married on Oct. 22, 1862, to a widow, Harriett (Comstock) Clark, daughter of Joshua and Hannah (Rathbun) Comstock. Hannah was the daughter of Jonathan⁵ Rathbun (Isaiah⁴ Jonathan³ John²⁻¹). Oliver died

August 10, 1896, at Salem. Harriett's death is not known.

CHILDREN

OLIVER CLARENCE, born March 29, 1852; died April 8, 1866.

MARY CECELIA, born April 25, 1854; died Dec. 8, 1872.

LORENZO EDWARD, born Feb. 20, 1876; married Elizabeth (Harvey) Dolbeare.

24. GEORGE BENJAMIN⁷ RATHBUN (Martin⁶ Joshua⁵⁻⁴ Jonathan³ John²⁻¹), born April 4, 1833, at Colchester or Salem, Conn. He was married Feb. 16, 1862, to Henrietta B. Swift, born Feb. 6, 1840, daughter of Charles A. and Henrietta (Benjamin) Swift. He owned a hack and livery stable in Colchester, and served as a state representative in 1833. He died of blood poisoning after an internal abcess on June 7, 1889. Henrietta died some time after 1900.

CHILDREN

CHARLES S., born Dec. 9, 1862; died Dec. 23, 1862.

EDWIN MARTIN, born Dec. 26, 1863; unmarried in 1900; no further data.

GEORGE B., born Jan. 9, 1866; died Jan. 7, 1867.

ELIZABETH J., born July 2, 1867; died Aug. 19, 1868.

25. ELIJAH⁷ RATHBONE (Amasa⁶ Moses⁵ Joshua⁴ Jonathan³ John²⁻¹), born June 15, 1815, at Salem, Conn., and moved as a young man to Bainbridge, N.Y., where he was married on Sept. 3, 1839, to Mary Ann Craig, born Feb. 17, 1816, daughter of Andrew Craig. They moved by 1840 to Moravia, N.Y., and by 1850 to Marengo, Calhoun County, Michigan. Mary Ann died Dec. 28, 1890, and Elijah died in 1899. Both are buried in Marshall, Mich.

CHILDREN

AMELIA, born Jan. 1, 1842; died July 14, 1843.

BUTLER C., born in 1844; died Sept. 25, 1852.

CHARLES, born July 20, 1846. married Ellen Benson.

HOWARD, born July 18, 1848; married Nellie Greene.

MANLIUS N., born Sept. 16, 1850; married his brother's widow, Ellen (Benson) Rathbun.

26. JOHN FRANKLIN⁷ RATHBUN (Amasa⁶ Moses⁵ Joshua⁴ Jonathan³ John²⁻¹), born June 15, 1818, in Salem, Conn., and married Sept. 7, 1843, in Hartford, Conn., to Lucy Ann Hills, born July 19, 1822, daughter of James and Abigail (Brewer) Hills. John was a wheelwright, first in Manchester and then Portland, Conn., where he died Nov. 3, 1886. Lucy died June 10, 1897.

CHILDREN

LUCY ELLA, born July 5, 1846; married Henry R. Frisbie on May 17, 1866.

FRANCIS ALBION, born June 20, 1854; died Nov. 24, 1875.

27. HENRY L.⁷ RATHBUN (Amasa⁶ Moses⁵ Joshua⁴ Jonathan³ John²⁻¹), born about 1827 at Salem, Conn. Nothing more is known of him, but he was likely the Henry Rathbun who married Elizabeth Vandewater on March 17, 1856, in Hillsdale County, Michigan. His mother and brother Elijah both died in Michigan.

28. JOHN FISHER⁷ RATHBONE (Ransom⁶ Moses⁵ Joshua⁴ Jonathan³ John²⁻¹), born Jan. 7, 1807, at Oxford, N.Y. He went to sea as a young man and served on the whaling ship Herald of New Bedford, Mass., from 1838 to 1842. He deserted his ship at Mai, Hawaii, in 1842, described as five feet, seven and three-quarter inches tall, with light brown hair. He appears in the 1850 census in San Joaquin, California, and died Oct. 25, 1865, at Woodbridge, Calif. There is no record of a marriage or children.

(Continued to page 12)

(Continued from page 11)

HENRY WELLINGTON⁷ RATHBONE
(Ransom⁶, Moses⁵ Joshua⁴
Jonathan³ John²⁻¹), born Aug. 14,
1813, at Oxford, N.Y. He was edu-
cated at the Oxford Academy, and
was married July 14, 1846, in New
York City to Sarah Elizabeth Bailey,
born July 10, 1823, ancestry
unknown. He was a merchant for
many years, first in Addison, then in
Elmira, Steuben County, N.Y. With Dr.
Edwin Eldridge as a partner, he built



Henry Wellington Rathbone
(1813-1891)

the Elmira Rolling Mills for steel pro-
duction in 1859, and within 30 years
had some 400 employees with a
monthly payroll of \$47,000. He died
Sept. 29, 1891, in Elmira, and Sarah
died there June 15, 1898.

CHILDREN

MARY BAILEY, born July 15, 1847;
married (1) Edward Carroll on April 27,
1871, and (2) John A. Reynolds on
June 6, 1876.

WILLIAM HENRY, born March 1,
1849; married Julia McKnight.

JAMES BAILEY, born Oct. 30,
1852; married Harriet Arnot.

30. WILLIAM PALMER⁷ RATHBONE
(Israel⁶ Moses⁵ Joshua⁴ Jonathan³
John²⁻¹), born Sept. 28, 1826, in
LeRoy, N.Y. He was married May 1,
1851, possibly in LeRoy, to Maria
Huldah Crane, born in 1830, daughter
of Charles and Huldah (Brown) Crane.
They moved soon after their marriage
to Detroit, Michigan, where he entered
the real estate business. He died in
Detroit on Nov. 22, 1883. Maria died
June 5, 1885, in Clifton Springs, N.Y.

CHILDREN

WILLIAM SEYMOUR, born Jan. 25,
1852; married Kate. E. Howard.

CHARLES ALBERT, born Aug. 4,
1854; he was a prominent Detroit-area
businessman, and the site of his home
in Grosse Pointe is still called
Rathbone Place. In 1898, he served in
the Navy during the Spanish American
War. He died Dec. 18, 1919, in
California, unmarried.

KATE BRUNSON, born Nov. 12,
1862; she was active in real estate
investments in Detroit and in Denver,
Colo. She never married and died
some time after 1919, possibly in
California.

31. LEVERET BUSH⁷ RATHBONE
(John⁶ Moses⁵ Joshua⁴ Jonathan³
John²⁻¹), born about 1819 in Oxford,
N.Y. He was married about 1846 to
Anne Eliza McNeil, born in March
1824, daughter of James McNeil.
They lived on a farm near Greene,
N.Y., where he died in 1895 and she
died in 1913.

CHILDREN

MARY, born May 24, 1847; married
____ Greene.

ANN ELIZA, born April 4, 1849;
married ____ Hall.

SAMUEL M., born in September
1851; married Eva E. ____.

CAROLINE, born in 1853; married
____ Harrison.

CHRISTINA, born in 1855; married
____ Wheeler.

?COLLIE, born about 1865, died in
childhood?

32. HENRY W.⁷ RATHBONE (John⁶
Moses⁵ Joshua⁴ Jonathan³ John²⁻¹),
born March 27, 1829, in Cortland
County, N.Y. He was married January
2, 1859, in Allegany County, N.Y., to
Lydia Ann Dwight, born Oct. 21, 1837,
daughter of Delos and Phoebe
(Totman) Dwight. They moved to
Fillmore County, Minn., where he was
a farmer and died Aug. 14, 1907, of
stomach cancer. Lydia died July 26,
1911.

CHILDREN

WILLIAM B., born Oct. 10, 1859;
died May 20, 1893, of consumption.

FRANK D., born Oct. 26, 1860;
married (1) Minerva S. Williams and
(2) Ida Bell Sherman.

EDWIN D., born in 1869; died in
March 1870.

CHARLES E., born about 1872;
alive in 1885; no further data.

33. PETER BETTS⁷ RATHBONE
(Elijah⁶ Moses⁵ Joshua⁴ Jonathan³
John²⁻¹), born Aug. 12, 1828, in
Greene, N.Y. He was married Sept. 3,
1857, to Eliza Gustin Dederer, born
Aug. 15, 1835, daughter of Nicholas
Anthony and Eliza Ann (Townsend)
Dederer. He lived many years in
Greene, where he was county super-
visor in 1858, sheriff from 1859 to
1861, and postmaster from 1866 to
1869. In 1872, he moved to Syracuse,
N.Y., where with David T. Knapp he
operated a wood planing mill. He died
Jan. 25, 1899, in New York City. Eliza
died Sept. 14, 1915, probably in New
York City.

CHILDREN

ANNA JULIARD, born Oct. 4, 1858;
died Aug. 28, 1861.

ROWLAND DEDERER, born Sept.
30, 1862; died Sept. 30, 1873.

HOWARD BETTS, born July 13,
1865; married Beatrice Eloise
Connely.

34. LEWIS⁷ RATHBONE (Valentine⁶ Samuel⁵ Joshua⁴ Jonathan³ John²⁻¹), born Feb. 13, 1818, in Albany, N.Y. He was married May 10, 1843, to Lavinia Silliman, born May 10, 1820, daughter of Peter and Mary (Gregory) Silliman. She died August 13, 1847, and he married in 1855 Mary G. (Smyth) Strong, daughter of Charles and Cornelia Adelaide (Kane) Smyth, and widow of Pachel N. Strong. He was a prominent stove manufacturer in Albany (See our Historian of Oct. 1988). Mary died Sept. 20, 1892; he died in 1899.

CHILDREN

LEWIS SANFORD, born about 1855; died in infancy.

CORNELIA KANE, born Feb. 18, 1857; she became a writer of popular short stories and detective novels, and died unmarried on Oct. 14, 1929.

35. JOHN FINLEY⁷ RATHBONE (Valentine⁶ Samuel⁵ Joshua⁴ Jonathan³ John²⁻¹), born Oct. 18, 1819, in Albany, N.Y., and married there on June 10, 1844, Mary Allen Baker, born in January 1826, daughter of Ellis and Lucy (Gifford) Baker. He was a prominent Albany businessman and served as a general during the Civil War (See our Historian of Oct. 1988). He died March 20, 1901, and Mary died Jan. 26, 1902, both in Albany.

CHILDREN

MARION LUCY, born Jan. 20, 1847; married Robert Shaw Oliver on Nov. 17, 1870.

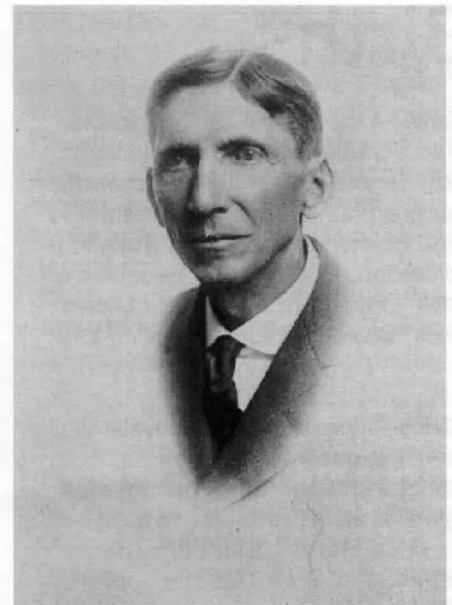
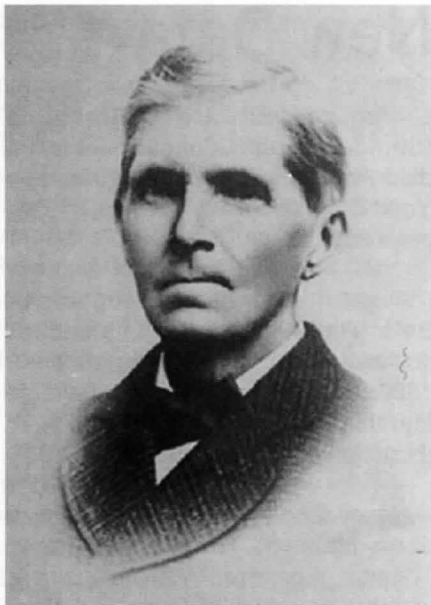
FRANCIS W., born in 1849; died in infancy.

LUCY, born Jan. 12, 1851; married Edward Bowditch on April 24, 1873.

GRACE LENNOX, born July 29, 1859; married Henry Russell Shaw on Sept. 20, 1884.

ALICE EMILY, born in April 1861; married John Archibald Murray on June 4, 1890.

JOHN HENRY born Feb. 28, 1863; married Harriet Morton Griswell



In our historian of January 1986, we listed 52 early cousins who were medical doctors. Unfortunately, we had but few pictures. We recently acquired photographs of four of these Rathbun physicians—a father, son and two grandsons. Shown above are (top left) Dr. John Beatty Rathbun, 1820-1894, and (top right) his son, Dr. Frank Darlington Rathbun, 1854-1929. Below them are Dr. Frank's two sons—Dr. George Lawrence Rathbun (1884-1969) at left, and Dr. Frederick Judd Rathbun (1887-1943) at right. Our thanks to Gloria (Rathbun) McKie, daughter of Dr. George, and Margaret (Rathbun) Robb, daughter of Dr. Frederick.

Does anyone know Franklin Lee Rathbun? His name has been listed by the State of Texas as the owner of some unclaimed money, amount not listed. If anyone can identify him, let me know. Our thanks to Dr. Donald Rathbun.

KIMBERLI KAI RATHBUN and William E. Rauckman were married July 17, 1992, in Alberta, Canada. She is the daughter of Monte and Virginia Rathbun of Kennewick, Wash. We do not know the identity of these cousins. Can anyone help?

Births

BORN—Oct. 25, 1992, at Milwaukee, Wisc., Caitlin Maureen Holdredge, daughter of Daryl and Rita Holdredge and granddaughter of our members Virgil Holdredge and Phara (Rathbun) Holdredge. Phara is the daughter of Ottie⁹ Rathbun (Marvin⁸ David⁷ Lewis⁶ David⁵ Edmund⁴ John³⁻²⁻¹).

BORN—June 16, 1992, Danyelle Gail Rathburn, daughter of Alyce Rathburn and granddaughter of our member Alyce Gail Rathburn, widow of Clarence Harris⁹ Rathburn (Henry⁸ Valentine⁷ John⁶ Tibbetts⁵ John⁴⁻³ Thomas² John¹).

BORN—August 20, 1992, at Indianapolis, Ind., Nolan Michael Duffey, son of Mark and Gina Duffey, grandson of Ronald Duffey and great-grandson of our members Leslie B. Duffey and Louise¹⁰ Rathburn (Pearl⁹ Julius⁸ Sereno⁷ Elijah⁶ William⁵ Daniel⁴ William³⁻² John¹).

BORN—Oct. 23, 1992, at Titusville, Fla., James Christopher Wyckoff, daughter of John and Susan Wyckoff and grandson of our members Roger and Jane Wyckoff of Western Springs, Ill. Jane is the daughter of Harry Drew and Hazel Florence⁹ Rathbun (William⁸ Valentine⁷ Saxton⁶⁻⁵ Valentine⁴ Joshua³ John²⁻¹).

BORN—April 22, 1992, Courtney Renee Millsap at Salem, Ore., daughter of Michael and Theresa (Lane) Millsap; granddaughter of Darrell and Marcel (Phillips) Lane, and great-granddaughter of our member Alice Phillips. Alice is the daughter of Jessie⁹ Rathbun Cox (Thomas⁸ Alonzo⁷ Thomas⁶ Russell⁵ Simeon⁴ Thomas³ John²⁻¹).

New Data

Charles Edward⁶ Rathbone (Samuel⁵ John⁴ Joshua³ John²⁻¹) died April 2, 1901, aged 82, in New York City. (Historian of April 1988, page 29).

Charlotte Rathbun, daughter of Bela⁶ Rathbun (Saxton⁵ Valentine⁴ Joshua³ John²⁻¹), was born March 3, 1829, and married Hiram S. Tyler on March 29, 1849, at Marcellus, N.Y. (Historian of January 1988, page 10.)

Nancy Cooley (not Colley), wife of John Hazard⁶ Rathbun (James⁵ Thomas⁴ Ebenezer³ William² John¹), was the daughter of Peter and Mary (Sampell - not Samped) Cooley, as reported in our Historian of July 1990, page 44).

Elizabeth McCracken, wife of Renssalaer⁶ Rathbone, was born Aug. 15, 1795, in Colchester, Conn., the daughter of James and Mercy (Chamberlain) McCracken. (Historian of July 1991, page 43.)

Laura Brainard Comstock, wife of Levant⁶ Rathbun (Joel⁵ Benjamin⁴⁻³ Joseph² John¹), was baptized Sept. 4, 1794, at Charlestown, Montgomery County, N.Y., the daughter of Erastus and Laura (Brainard) Comstock. (Historian of January 1991, page 13).

Harry⁶ Rathbun (Ashley⁵ Isaiah⁴ Jonathan³ John²⁻¹), married Elvira Service on May 19, 1825, in Syracuse, N.Y. Cooley gave her name as Elvira Deo, which may have been her maiden name. Possibly she first married a Service.

Maria Hildreth Hawkins, wife of Thomas Wells⁶ Rathbone (John⁵⁻⁴ Joshua³ John²⁻¹), was the daughter of John and Martha (Hildreth) Hawkins, who were married June 20, 1769, in New York City. (Historian of January 1988, page 12). Our thanks to Rob Rathbun for this and the previous six items.

Sophia⁶ Rathbun (Gideon⁵ Edmund⁴ John³⁻²⁻¹) was married to Reason Tippie on May 15, 1836, in Athens, County, Ohio, not July 4 as reported in our April 1983 Historian. July 4 was the recording date. Our thanks to Marsha Magley.

Information in town council records of Westerly, R.I., (published in the Rhode Island Genealogical Register), has shed new light on the family of Thomas⁴ Rathbun (Ebenezer³ William² John¹), who was recorded in our Historian of July 1982, page 46.

His son Thomas Jr., died in 1799 and his daughter Mary died May 17, 1800, both unmarried. (Thomas Jr., as we previously reported, was not the Thomas who married Eliza Cooper).

The estates of Thomas Jr. and Mary were administered by their brother, Paul Wilcox Rathbun, who later fell upon hard times. In 1807, he was declared "imprudent," and placed under guardianship. In 1810, his property was sold to pay his debts. He died some time after 1820, probably not married, although census records from 1800 to 1820 show women living in his home. If he had been married, the 1807 guardianship papers would have mentioned a wife.

Edna Rathbun, daughter of William⁶ Rathbun (William⁵ Thomas⁴⁻³ Samuel² John¹), married Granville Bancroft Goodwin, not a Bigga, as we speculated in our Historian of April 1992, page 27.

Past Issues Still Available

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All issues, 1981.....	\$ 22
All issues, 1982.....	\$ 20

All issues for any single year from 1983 to 1992 are available at \$15 per year. Single copies of any issue are \$4 each, but some early issues are available only in xerox unless ordering a complete back set.

Obituaries

DIED—Dec. 22, 1992. LaPrelle (Rathbone) Weatherford, 81, at Phoenix, Arizona. An early and enthusiastic member of our Association, she was the last survivor of the seven children of Virgil⁸ Rathbone (Albert⁷ Amos⁶⁻⁵ Thomas⁴⁻³ John²⁻¹) and Tabitha Greene Rathbone. She was a talented artist, and painted the water-color picture of Block Island's Southeast Lighthouse, which appeared on the front cover of our Oct. 1991 Historian. She and her husband, Robert Weatherford, who celebrated their 57th wedding anniversary last September, were personal friends of President Harry F. Truman and his wife, Bess. (See our Historian of Jan. 1988). Her sister Lois (Rathbone) McEachern, died May 25, 1990, at 98 years, the oldest member of our Association. Both Lois and LaPrelle had attended several of our national reunions. In addition to her husband, LaPrelle is survived by three daughters and several grandchildren.

DIED—Dec. 11, 1992, Myrtle (Lantz) Rathbun, 86, at Glendive, Montana. She was the widow of Arthur Dow⁸ Rathbun (Lorenzo⁷ Elon⁶ Alfred⁵ Job⁴ Benjamin³ Joseph² John¹). She and her husband, who died in 1979, were avid genealogists, and compiled a history of their branch of the family. They had been married more than 53 years. She was a charter member of our Association and attended our 1987 reunion in Rapid City, S.D. Myrtle and her husband homesteaded in Wyoming in 1920 and were ranchers for many years near Sundance. She is survived by one son, Harley Rathbun; two daughters, Betty Caudill and Lois Burgess, and 10 grandchildren.

DIED—Oct. 18, 1992, Stephen A. Rathbun, 76, of East Greenwich, R.I. He was the son of George⁹ Rathbun (George⁸ Seneca⁷ John⁶ Joseph⁵ Joshua⁴ John³⁻²⁻¹). He is survived by a brother, Earl Rathbun.

DIED—Feb. 4, 1992, Raymond Willis Rathburn, 66, at Tucson, Arizona. A member of our Association, he was the son of George⁸ Rathburn (John⁷ Hiram⁶ Gideon⁵ Edmund⁴ John³⁻²⁻¹). A veteran of World War II, he is survived by his wife, Doris; a daughter, Mrs. Ronald (Betty) Creath; two sons, Raymond Duane Rathburn and Danny Leon Rathburn; a brother, Robert Jay Rathburn; a sister, Mrs. John (Rosemary) Hogg, and seven grandchildren.

DIED—Oct. 1, 1992, Thomas Higgins, 90, of Kingston, R.I. He was a grandson of Thomas T. Higgins and Caroline⁷ Rathburn (Lucius⁶ Jonathan⁵⁻⁴ John³⁻²⁻¹). He attended our 1983 reunion on Block Island, and provided much of the data for our story on Lucius Rathburn in the April 1989 Historian. He is survived by a son and two daughters, and several grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

DIED—Oct. 7, 1992, Ersa Grace (Rathbun) Ledington, 91, in Payette, Idaho. She was the daughter of Marshall Riley⁸ Rathbun (George⁷ Edmund⁶ Gideon⁵ Edmund⁴ John³⁻²⁻¹). She was married first in 1925 to Cecil Wells, who died in 1952, and then in 1962 to Delbert Ledington, who died in 1989. She is survived by three sons, several grandchildren and great-grandchildren, and a sister Ruth (Rathbun) Marlow.

DIED—April 16, 1992, Marguerite (Rathbun) Stangeland, 81. She was the daughter of George⁸ Rathbun (Demornington⁷ Sebra⁶ George⁵ Job⁴ Benjamin³ Joseph² John¹). Among her survivors is a sister, Elsie Almeda Norris, aged 87, of Green Forest, Ark.

DIED—April 17, 1992, John (Jack) C. Dougherty, 75, of Logan, Ohio. He was the husband of Winifred¹⁰ Rathburn (Pearl⁹ Julius⁸ Sereno⁷ Elijah⁶ William⁵ Daniel⁴ William³⁻² John¹), a member of our Association.

DIED—Oct. 9, 1992, Robert R. Rathbun, 66, of Hiawatha, Iowa. He was the son of Frederick Russell⁹ Rathbun (Frederick⁸ Edward⁷ Charles⁶ Joshua⁵ Amos⁴ Joshua³ John²⁻¹). A Navy veteran of World War II, he is survived by his wife, Marie; a son, Daniel Rathbun; three daughters, Kristine Flack, Kathryn Jourdan and Karla Rathbun; a brother, Richard, and two sisters, Thelma Draves and June Feist.

DIED—Sept. 20, 1992, Dorothy (Rathbun) Dwight, 89, of Sarasota, Fla. She was the daughter of Charles Addison⁸ Rathbun (Amos⁷ Asa⁶⁻⁵ Thomas⁴⁻³ Samuel² John¹). She was a former Wall Street broker in New York City and was active in civic affairs for many years in Holyoke, Mass., before moving to Florida. Survivors include her husband, William Dwight; a daughter, Marilyn Wilson; two sons, William Jr. and Donald R. Dwight; 15 grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren.

DIED—Oct. 20, 1992, Charles Rathbun, 56, of Tacoma, Wash. He is survived by his wife, Leticia; a son, Billy, and his mother, Alice Carey of West Seattle. We do not know the identify of this cousin. Can anyone help?

DIED—June 7, 1992, Myron A. Rathbun, 77, in Hillsdale County, Michigan. We do not know his identity. Can anyone help?

DIED—Nov. 10, 1992, Phyllis Loraine (Wise) Rathburn, at Columbus, Ohio. She was the wife of James Rathburn. We do not know their identity. Can anyone help?

DIED—Nov. 8, 1992, Wellington Rathbun, 72, of Plainville, Mass. He was born in New York and left no survivors. We do not know his identity. Can anyone help?

People

ROLAND RATHBUN and Marjorie Connar were married Feb. 10, 1992, in Palm Beach, Fla. Roland, whose first wife Alecia died early in 1991, is a charter member of our Association, and the son of Frank¹⁰ Rathbun (Herbert⁹ Francis⁸ Joshua⁷ Abraham⁶ Joshua⁵⁻⁴⁻³ John²⁻¹). Roland has known Marjorie, a widow, since they were children.

ROBERT AND GAIL RATHBUN of Rimrock, Arizona, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on Sept. 26, 1992, with a small gathering of family and friends. Bob is the son of Charles Raymond⁹ Rathbun (Charles⁸ James⁷⁻³ Samuel² John¹) and a long-time member of our Association.

JOHN DAVID RATHBUN and Deborah Meejeon Kin were married June 13, 1992, at Beulah, Wyoming. He is the son of our members Janet and Grove¹¹ Rathbun (Grove¹⁰⁻⁹ Heman⁸ Nathaniel⁷ Gideon⁶ Paris⁵ Gideon⁴ John³⁻²⁻¹).

JOHN D. BOWEN of Silver Spring, Md., has retired from the U.S. Postal Service and has become a part-time genealogical researcher, specializing in resources in the Washington, D.C. area. A long-time member of our Association, John is descended from David Abel and Elizabeth⁷ Rathbun (John⁶ Thomas⁵ John⁴ Samuel³ Thomas² John¹). John still has a supply of Rathbun family crest pins, which he displayed at our 1991 reunion. They are \$5.50 each, postpaid, and may be ordered from John at 613 Chichester Lane, Silver Spring, Maryland 20904.

ALYCE RATHBURN and Teddy Gould were married Sept. 12, 1992, at Ormand Beach, Fla. She is the daughter of our member Alyce Gail Rathburn, widow of Clarence Harris⁹ Rathburn (Henry⁸ Valentine⁷ John⁶ Tibbetts⁵ John⁴⁻³ Thomas² John¹).

Our New Members

Sarah Rathbun Ball
Scotts Bluff, Neb.

Dawn Marie Boone
Lincoln, Neb.

Dorothy Doyal
Ringgold, Ga.

Colleen A.L. Rathbun
Baltimore, Md.

Gayle L. Rathbun
Waxahachie, Texas

Isaac B. Rathbun
Selma, Oregon

Danny L. Rathburn
Elgin, Ill.

Raymond D. Rathburn
Seattle, Wash.

Ronald Lee Rathburn
Portland, Ore.

Lyle C. Scott
St. Paul, Minn.

ALLISON RATHBUN and Richard Pierce were married Sept. 25 1992, at West Warwick, R.I. She is the daughter of our member Donald¹⁰ Rathbun (Elmer⁹ Frank⁸ James⁷ Robert⁶ John⁵⁻⁴ Samuel³ Thomas² John¹).

PHYLLIS CUEVAS spent two and a half months last fall traveling throughout the United States and visiting most of the places where her ancestors have lived. Her travels took her to Rhode Island, New York, Iowa, Missouri and Colorado. She is the granddaughter of George Carl Kaess and Blanche Mae⁸ Rathbun (William⁷ Alfred⁶⁻⁵ Job⁴ Benjamin³ Joseph² John¹). She found the obituary of Alfred⁶ Rathbun in Missouri, and learned that he died in 1896 in Scotland County, Mo., after being kicked in the abdomen by a colt he was saddling.

SGT. CHRISTOPHER MOMMAERTS has been sent to Somalia with the First Marine Division. He is the son of our member Marge Mommaerts of Green Bay, Wisc., who asks our prayers for him and all the other Americans sent to Somalia. Marge is the daughter of Fred¹⁰ Rathburn (James⁹ Elijah⁸ Sereno⁷ Elijah⁶ William⁵ Daniel⁴ William³⁻² John¹).

GILBERT MUELLER and Donnette Farris Anderson were married July 3, 1992. He is the son of our member Dorothy (Rathbun) Mueller, daughter of Curtis⁹ Rathbun (Henry⁸ William⁷ Gideon⁶ Job⁵ Gideon⁴ John³⁻²⁻¹). Dorothy also reports the marriage on July 25, 1992, of Douglas L. Kenzy and Janice M. Fink. Douglas is the son of Lyle and Phyllis Kenzy and granddaughter of Elzie Rathbun, another son of Henry⁸ Rathbun.

GRANT MISBACH would like to correspond with other descendants of Joseph⁵ Rathbun (Jonathan⁴ John³⁻²⁻¹) and Olive Pearson, who were married in 1787. His address is 3484 North Canyon Road, Provo, Utah 84604.

SANDRA KRISTINE WILLIS and Troy Allen Waltemath were married August 8, 1992, at Bird City, Kan. Sandra is a descendant of Reason Tippie and Sophia⁶ Rathbun (Gideon⁵ Edmund⁴ John³⁻²⁻¹).

JOHN ALBERT RATHBUN JR. of Hernando, Fla., recently earned the rank of Eagle Scout in the Boy Scouts of America. He is the son of our members Meryl and John⁹ Rathburn (George⁸ James⁷ Royal⁶ Rodney⁵ Simeon⁴ Benjamin³ Joseph² John¹).