

Rathbun-Rathbone-Rathburn
FAMILY
HISTORIAN



Estes G. Rathbone
(1848-1926)

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

Letter from the Editor

With this issue, we begin the fourteenth year of our Historian and of our Association. It has been a successful and productive 13 years. Looking back, our accomplishments are all that I ever dreamed, and then some!

We have compiled our family history far beyond what was published nearly a century ago by John C. Cooley in his 1898 Rathbone Genealogy. We have printed a complete outline of the first six generations of our family in America, and are well on our way into the seventh generation. We have published stories about scores of Rathbuns, Rathbones and Rathburns and have printed pictures of many of them.

We have held six national reunions throughout the country, and brought hundreds of cousins together. We erected a monument to our ancestors on Block Island, and we made a major contribution toward the cost of saving the historic Southeast Lighthouse on Block Island.

From a handful of charter members 13 years ago, we have grown into an organization of more than 500 members, all descended from our immigrant ancestors, John and Margaret Rathbun, who came to America some 340 years ago. The total number of

descendants who have been members since 1981 is probably close to 1,000.

One of the most enjoyable things about these past 13 years has been the opportunity to meet so many wonderful cousins who I never would have otherwise known.

We ended 1993 with 541 members and with a good surplus in our Association account. If our membership remains that high this year, we may be able to resume publication of the Historian index, which we have not been able to afford for several years. Dr. Earl Antes has been faithfully compiling the index to each year's Historians.

Hazel and I spent the Christmas holidays in England with her family and had a marvelous time. We returned early in January to open our Christmas cards and found many from Association members. They were greatly appreciated.

Also waiting for us, and not quite as welcome, was the deadline to write this Historian. In November, we purchased a new computer and printer, our old one having "bitten the dust" after nearly 12 years of faithful service. It is a much more modern (and complicated machine) and it has taken a lot of time to learn its operation. I am still learning, and it is slow going. For those of you who are computer users, I have an IBM compatible Laser, with a fantastic program called Windows. I am also using a "mouse" for the first time.

So, between our English trip and trying to learn a new computer system, this Historian may be coming even later than usual—but hopefully no later than mid-February.

One of the saddest parts of this work is writing the obituaries of cousins whom I have come to know. Among them this month are Roland Rathbun and Rosma (Rathbun) Limbeck. Roland and I began corresponding nearly 20 years ago and was one of our first charter members.

Rosma was also an early charter member and an active one. She was

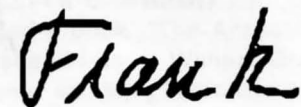
an avid and capable researcher, and provided me with much information over the years on her line of the family as well as other data she found in her research. Two years ago, as a surprise Christmas present, she presented me with a bound set of our first nine years' Historians.

For those of you who have followed our long and frustrating efforts to have a stamp named in honor of Captain John Peck Rathbun, I am sorry to report that he will not be included on the 1994 list. Stamps are to be issued in honor of the Keystone Cops, Buffalo Bill Cody and Zasu Pitts, among others. Last year, you recall, the Postal Service honored Elvis Presley and such other "outstanding" Americans!

John Peck Rathbun, a forgotten hero of the American Revolution, who died in an English prison, is not considered a suitable candidate. A reflection, perhaps, on the present-day priorities of our country.

Special thanks to Janet Hayes, who sent in an extra \$32 with her renewal check "toward the cost of the new computer."

Hazel and I send our very best wishes to you all for happiness and health in this New Year.



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Fannie Rathbun Frye Marks Hundredth Birthday in February

Next month, a very remarkable Rathbun lady will celebrate her 100th birthday. Fannie (Rathbun) Frye was born Feb. 25, 1894, and fortunately for us and her descendants, she has written her memories of a long and happy life.

Fannie Rubie Rathbun was born on a farm in Buffalo County, Iowa, the daughter of Edson M.⁹ Rathbun (Curtis⁸ Ransom⁷ Asa⁶ Daniel⁵ Valentine⁴ Joshua³ John²⁻¹).

She will mark her birthday in a rest home at Independence, Iowa, where she has lived for the past five years. She is in fair health, has a clear mind and still worries about her three children and many grandchildren.

Fannie's birthplace, a farm home still standing near Independence, is owned by one of her nephews, Herbert Rathbun.

It was a rather old house when she was born, Fannie recalls, but in 1898 when she was four, her father built an addition.

"We had a cistern for soft water, an attic for seed corn, cats and kittens, and a lean-to where wet coats and boots were left, and to wash clothes and provide a warm place in winter for the cats.

"The addition gave us our first bathroom. Before that, we had to get a wash tub from the lean-to, bring it into the living room near the stove, and fill it with warm water to bathe."

It was not until 1914 that water was piped into the house. Before that, the family used a "little house out back" for their toilet.

"Before cars," Fannie recalls, "most of our trading was done in the closest town, Stanley, six miles away. Mother would take 30 dozen crates of eggs to trade for groceries. Only when one of us needed shoes did we go to Independence. That was an all-day trip in our open buggy. Father would

take along a peck of oats to feed the horses.

"We had no furnace, only a wood stove in the living room. Getting firewood was an all-winter job for father, and he had many other chores. He was always up at 5 a.m.—fed and milked 15 cows before breakfast. Then he had to clean the barn, get in hay for the cattle, feed the hogs and clean their shed. By 10 a.m. he'd be



Fannie (Rathbun) Frye pictured about six years ago.

off to cut wood, taking a lunch with him.

"He would chop down trees and trim them until he had enough for a wagon load. Then he would haul them home with horse and wagon. By spring, there would be enough to bring in a sawmill and cut the wood up. Then the

pieces were stacked in neat piles to season for the next winter.

"Father was a rugged, outdoor man and was rarely sick, but he had asthma, which plagued him all his life. Doctors could not help him, but he found a tin box of German ash in a drug store, which relieved the tightness asthma brings on. He would put a spoonful or two in a saucer, light it with a match and then inhale the smoke through a paper cone four or five times a day.

"His doctor told him he was as well at 70 as most men were at 50. However, he died aged 70 from complications of the asthma. Mother had died of diabetes a year earlier.

"Once father developed appendicitis and a doctor came from Oelwein. He laid father on the dining room table to operate, and he recuperated very well. But he could never do heavy work again for fear of a rupture. Years later, during a coughing spell, it did rupture.

"For many years, mother baked a supply of pies every Saturday—one or two apple, two mincemeat and shells for soft pies. Father loved his pie. He always had a piece before retiring, about 9 p.m. after he smoked for his asthma. When his asthma woke him during the night, he had a smoke to clear his breathing, then a piece of pie before going back to sleep.

"When he got up at 5 a.m., he'd always have a piece of pie before he went out to milk the cows.

"After milking, he would carry the 10-gallon can of milk to our creamery, a small building with a stove, a separator and a churn. The separator was operated with a crank. We used some of the cream to churn butter, and the rest was put in cans for the milkman, who came every other day. We fed the skim milk to the hogs.

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Estes G. Rathbone Goes from Fame to Obscurity

This is the story of Estes G. Rathbone, whose career was one of the most meteoric in our family's history. He rose to national prominence before he was 40 but after a dozen years, his career foundered after circumstances that are still somewhat of a mystery, and he died in obscurity.

Estes George Rathbone was born June 30, 1848, in Hebron, Potter County, Pa., the first child of Horace Maine⁷ Rathbone (Aaron⁶ David⁵ John⁴ Joshua³ John²⁻¹). The father was an officer in the Civil War but died a short time later of Bright's Disease when Estes was only 18.

Estes reportedly received a college education and graduated with honors, but the name of his school is not known. In the early 1870s, he helped track down and arrest a counterfeiting gang, and the U.S. Department of the Treasury recruited him in 1874 as a secret service agent. He made a reputation for himself by breaking up several more counterfeiting rings, and in 1876 was put in charge of the Department's Cincinnati office, heading a five-state area which included Ohio, Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan and West Virginia.

He was sent to Washington, D.C., in July 1881 after President James Garfield was shot by a disappointed job seeker named Charles Guiteau. Rathbone, as a top secret service official, was put in charge of the investigation, and interviewed Guiteau in jail. He obtained a full confession from Guiteau and an accounting of Guiteau's activities before the shooting. He determined that Guiteau had acted alone, and was not involved in a widespread conspiracy, as had been feared.

After seven successful years with the secret service, Rathbone resigned

in 1883 to become chief special examiner for the U.S. Pension Bureau, with a pay raise from \$3100 a year to \$4600. He was in charge of 531 examiners throughout the country. But Rathbone was a Republican, and in 1885 when Democrat Grover Cleveland became president, Rathbone lost the pension job.

He had established his home several years earlier at Hamilton, Ohio, and he returned there in 1885 and went into business. He built a block of stores in the heart of the city, and



Estes G. Rathbone about 1893, as pictured in the Old Rathbone Historian. We have been unable to locate a good photograph of him.

became a director and vice-president of the local bank.

Two years later, he ran for State Senator on the Republican ticket, and even though the district was considered a Democratic stronghold, he was easily elected, defeating his Democratic opponent by 800 votes.

Rathbone had become a major force in the Ohio Republican Party organization, and in 1887 was a strong backer of Benjamin Harrison in the presidential primary. Harrison won the nomination and went on to defeat President Cleveland that fall. Rathbone soon had his reward for helping Harrison—he was appointed in 1889 as Chief Post Office Inspector for the U.S. Post Office Department.

Rathbone had been married in 1884 to Josephine (Campbell) Milliken, daughter of a former Ohio Congressman and widow of a doctor in Hamilton. He was then 36 years old; she was 33. In 1889, they moved to Washington, D.C.

Two years later, in 1891, just after his 43rd birthday, Rathbone was promoted to the new position of Fourth Assistant Postmaster General of the United States and became a recognized national leader of the Republican Party. In 1892, he was on a 12-member committee which led President Harrison's successful bid for renomination and soon thereafter was promoted to Third Assistant Postmaster General.

Various newspaper accounts give us some fascinating descriptions of Rathbone about this time. He was called "a tall, handsome man, brave as a lion and extremely pleasant, even while very firm and straightforward."

Another writer described him as "a very handsome man, over six feet tall and built strongly from his feet to his broad shoulders, and to the top of his well-poised and finely-shaped head. His weight must be over 200 pounds and when he rises from his chair to give a greeting, it is plain to be seen that he is far above the average of men in brain power as well as in physical force.

"Personally, Major Rathbone is genial and approachable...discreet and tactful, he is a good listener, decides quickly and acts without hesitation. He is a man of strong conviction but broad views."

Still another report said: "Rathbone is a tall man, wears eyeglasses, has a short, blond mustache, a strong intelligent face and an athletic physique. He is not impulsive, but cordial in his greetings, although inclined to let other people do the talking...I found him simple, direct and truthful."

Even allowing somewhat for that era's flowery writing, it would seem that Estes G. Rathbone was a very impressive man. His wife was apparently a most suitable mate—she was described as "handsome, very engaging and popular in society."

Things were surely looking up for them that fall, but in November came an unpleasant surprise—President Harrison was defeated by Grover Cleveland, the very man he had defeated four years earlier.

Rathbone was soon out of a job, but before leaving Washington, he and his wife attended President Cleveland's Inaugural Ball. A newspaper account described Mrs. Rathbone as wearing "an exquisite toilet of pale lavender satin, with trimmings of silver embroidery and point lace." The Rathbones went out of town in style!

Back in Hamilton, Rathbone remained a Republican leader, and in 1894, he was his party's nominee in a special election for United States Congress.

The old Rathbone Family Historian of April 1894 printed excerpts from the speaker who nominated Rathbone: "I rise to nominate a man, not only well and favorably known in Butler County and the state of Ohio, but a gentleman of national reputation as well. A man known as wise, shrewd and far-seeing in politics, and a man who would ably represent our district in the Halls of Congress."

The Historian also printed Rathbone's acceptance speech, a traditional political oration which lambasted the Democratic Party and praised the Republicans: "The people want and need a conservative management of the country's affairs," he declared. "The people will herald with

delight each succeeding Republican victory until every thread of vicious Democratic theory is eradicated!"

Despite his enthusiasm, however, Rathbone lost by 2,000 votes to the Democratic nominee.

The Rathbones remained in Hamilton for several years, still retaining their political and social standing. In 1898, Rathbone was invited to Washington and met with President William McKinley, a fellow Ohio Republican who had been elected in 1896, no doubt with strong support from Rathbone.

A short time later, Rathbone received the plum appointment as Director of Postal Service for America's new territory of Cuba, acquired from Spain that year after the Spanish-American War. The Rathbones moved to Havana, Cuba, and he took over the task of reorganizing the Cuban postal system.

Rathbone was back in action again. At the age of 51, the future looked bright indeed. Then the roof caved in!

He was working under the supervision of General Leonard Wood, then the military governor of Cuba. He and Rathbone did not get along, and there were reports that Rathbone's friends in Washington wanted him to have Wood's job.

In 1901, President McKinley was assassinated, and succeeded in office by Vice-President Theodore Roosevelt—a close friend of General Wood. And that year, General Wood "lowered the boom" on Rathbone. He formally accused him of illegal use of post office funds, including expense-paid trips throughout Cuba and to New York for himself and Mrs. Rathbone.

Two other men were also charged—Charles Neely, chief of the Post Office Bureau of Finance, and William Reeves, chief of the Bureau of Postal Accounts.

Secretary of State Elihu Root ordered Wood to separate the trail of Rathbone from the two others, but Wood failed to do so, later claiming he never received the order.

He assigned Rathbone a Cuban attorney who could not speak English, and denied Rathbone's request for a 10-day period to prepare his defense. A similar request by Reeves was

granted. After a quick trial, directed behind the scenes by General Wood, Rathbone was found guilty only on one count—of using post office funds to pay Mrs. Rathbone's traveling expenses.

Neely and Reeves were also convicted, but Reeves, who was the chief witness against Rathbone, was immediately pardoned. It later turned out that Reeves had been promised a pardon in return for his testimony. Rathbone and Neely were each sentenced to 10 years in prison, and fined—Rathbun \$35,324 and Neely \$56,516.

Rathbone and his friends were furious, especially when Rathbone was sent to a Cuban prison without bail, even though he had appealed the conviction to the Cuban Supreme Court.

The situation looked grim, but then Rathbone was suddenly and unexpectedly released after only a few days in prison, when the new Cuban Congress ordered a general amnesty.

Rathbone paid his fine, returned to Washington and launched a battle to clear his name. He charged General Wood with waging a personal vendetta against him and declared that Wood himself had regularly done the same things with which he had charged Rathbone. He also stated that General Wood had accepted bribes from Cuban gambling interests, and had violated customs laws by shipping expensive gifts to the mainland.

Ohio Senator Mark Hanna came to Rathbone's aid and early in 1902 asked President Roosevelt to grant Rathbone a new trial. Roosevelt a close friend of General Wood, declined, but offered Rathbone a pardon. Rathbone refused, saying that to accept a pardon would be an admission of guilt. He renewed his fight for a new trial.

"If my official record was criminal," he declared publicly, "that of General Wood is a hundred times more criminal." He told reporters that there was deep animosity between General Wood and himself, but added that his dislike of General Wood was based on personal reasons—"too personal for publication."

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Horses Played Major Role in Our Ancestors' Lives

It is difficult today to comprehend the role of the horse in America prior to the automobile age. The term "horse-power" as applied to engine capacity is one of our few reminders of the powerful and beautiful animals that once played a major role in everyday life.

Horses were tamed by man as early as 2300 B.C. in the Middle East and were in common use throughout Europe by the Middle Ages. They were introduced into America from England in the 1600s but were used primarily as saddle horses for many years. Oxen were preferred for farm work and heavy hauling.

Rhode Island, home of our ancestors, became famous in the 1700s for its Narragansett Pacers, one of the colonies' most popular saddle horses. German farmers in Pennsylvania developed the famous Conestoga, a horse noted for its size, power and endurance.

By the mid-1800s, horses largely had replaced oxen for farm work and long-distance hauling. For the rest of the century and well into the 1900s, the horse reigned supreme. New breeds were developed with specialized features—larger size, more strength and greater speed.

Horse-drawn stagecoaches opened up transportation between major cities throughout the nation. Peddlers used horse-drawn wagons to take their merchandise throughout rural areas. In cities, horsecarts delivered milk, vegetables, coal and ice.

Doctors rode horses to make their rounds, as did circuit-riding ministers and judges. In the west, small, speedy horses carried mail on a network of "Pony Express" routes. Horses, and sometimes mules, plodded along tow-paths pulling barges in the Erie and other canals.

Horses became vital partners of cowboys in their grueling task of herd-

ing cattle and driving them across the western plains to feeding grounds and eventually to slaughter. Packhorses and horse-drawn freight wagons were the only way of shipping goods overland. Covered wagons pulled by horses carried pioneers from Eastern states into the Midwest and Far West.

In the Army, the mounted cavalry was the "elite" branch of service and played a major role in all our country's wars up to the early years of World War I, when tanks replaced horses for mobile units.

On the farm, horses pulled plows, drags, cultivators, seeders, mowers, binders, haywagons and grain carts. When families moved, they and their possessions were carried on horse-drawn wagons.

Throughout the country horseracing became a favorite pastime—both jockey racing and sulky or harness racing. The "Sport of Kings" drew thousands to race tracks and country fairs. Fox hunting with horses and hounds was a popular sport in many areas.

Because of the horse, thousands found employment in jobs which today are rarely found—liverymen, hostlers, curriers, harnessmakers, teamsters, blacksmiths (for horseshoeing), coachmen, horse traders and horse doctors (veterinarians then spent most of their time with horses).

Following are a few stories culled from our family archives about horses and the roles they played in our ancestors' lives, and deaths:

In the 1890s, Peabody, Kansas, was known the world over for its famous race horses. That reputation was due in part to Elijah Rathbone (1815-1899) and his sons, Charles and Howard Rathbone. Elijah was the son of Amasa⁶ Rathbone (Moses⁵ Joshua⁴ Jonathan³ John²⁻¹).

Elijah settled in Peabody about 1871 and opened a general store dealing in shoes, boots, clothing, hats and animal hides. Later, he began buying and training race horses with a partner, Willis Westbrook, a sulky driver. Their most famous horse was Joe Young, the most noted harness-racing horse of the day. They reportedly paid \$10,000 for him!

Joe Young sired another famous racehorse, Joe Patchen, known as "The Iron Horse," who set many new records. He in turn sired the greatest racehorse of all time—Dan Patch, who set world records which lasted for 30



Chelsea Glenn Rathbun, aged about 21, on his horse and ready for a day's work about 1911 on the family ranch near Vinton, S.D. He was the son of Henry⁸ Rathbun (William⁷ Gideon⁶ Job⁵ Gideon⁴ John³⁻¹). Thanks to Darlene Boyle.

years. He was sold in 1907 for \$60,000.

Elijah's sons Howard and Charles were part-owners of Dan Patch at one time, according to our member Jim Stites, a grandson of Howard.

Further north, another cousin also won fame in harness racing. Amos Morton Rathbun (1862-1927), son of Gouverneur⁷ Rathbun (Charles⁶ Amos⁵⁻⁴ Joshua³ John²⁻¹), settled in Rochester, N.Y., and became a harness-racing driver. In the late 1890s, he became one of the leading drivers of the Grand Circuit, the nation's top racing organization.

Amos raced for about 15 years (see picture), then became a horse trainer for another 15 years before retiring in 1925. His daughter Lucille Rathbun (1895-1979) inherited her father's love for horses and taught horseback riding at girls' schools for many years.

Even as the automobile of today is a leading cause of death, horses too caused many casualties.

In 1928, four-year-old Emily Maxine Rathbun and her sister Delores, six, jumped onto one of their father's horses on the family farm near Fort Pierre, S.D. The girls were accustomed to riding their own pony so they had no fear.

They were wearing large colorful bonnets which "spooked" the horse and he bolted. Delores was thrown clear but one of Emily's feet became tangled in a lasso hanging from the saddle.

The horse ran for a mile, dragging the little girl behind. They passed Emily's grandfather, Henry Rathbun, working in a field and when he saw what had happened, he reached for his gun, planning to shoot the horse and stop it. But his gun was not loaded, and by the time he put in a cartridge, the horse was out of range. Emily's battered body was found a few hours later, miles away.

She was the daughter of Elzie Merwin⁹ Rathbun (Henry⁸ William⁷ Gideon⁶ Job⁵ Gideon⁴ John³⁻¹). We thank our member Darlene Boyle for this tragic story.

Rev. David Rathbone (1763-1823) died of a broken neck when he was thrown from his horse-drawn carriage while going down a hill in



Charles Percy Rathbun (1892-1973), pictured about 1910 on a Kansas ranch. He is dressed as a working cowboy, with mohair chaps. His slicker and lasso are draped over the horse and a pistol is on the saddle horn, probably for shooting rattlesnakes rather than rustlers. He was the son of Millard⁷ Rathbun (William⁶ Amiziah⁵ Job⁴ Benjamin³ Joseph² John¹). Thanks to Gerald Reser, his nephew.

Pennsylvania. He was the son of John⁴ Rathbone (Joshua³ John²⁻¹).

Dwight Rathbun (1829-1905) died of a fractured skull when he was kicked by a horse on his farm in Minnesota. He was the son of Gamaliel⁶ Rathbun (Walter⁵ Thomas⁴⁻³⁻² John¹).

Also kicked to death by a horse on his farm in Michigan was Ansel Rathbun (1816-1843), son of Ansel⁶ Rathbun (Abel⁵ John⁴ Jonathan³ John²⁻¹).

Even today, our family and horses still make the news. On January 2 this year, a horse owned by Jennifer Rathbun broke through the ice and was trapped in five feet of water in Rathbun Pond near Lyme, Conn. The horse, a four-year-old Arabian female named Tiger, was saved when Jennifer reached it with an inflatable raft, and firemen broke a channel through the ice so she could lead the horse ashore. We do not know Jennifer's identity.

One of the most amazing stories about a horse-caused accident occurred in 1887 with the death of Alexander Kinney in North Stonington, Conn. He had been married only a

few months earlier to Hannah Lydia Culver.

In October, Kinney was working with a team of horses and a wagon when the team bolted and ran. The shaft of the wagon tongue rammed Kinney, pierced his shoulder and emerged through his back. His companions sawed off the wagon tongue and carried him to his house, with the sawed-off tongue projecting from his chest and back.

His wife, who was three months pregnant, fainted when she saw him. Kinney died a short time later. Six months later, on April 12, 1888, Hannah gave birth to a baby girl, who was born with a hump in her back on the same side where her father had been pierced!

The girl, named Mary Jane, was married and lived until 1951. Hannah was married two years after the tragedy to George Deming Rathbun, son of Asher⁷ Rathbun (Christopher⁶ Jonathan⁵ Isaiah⁴ Jonathan³ John²⁻¹), by whom she had seven normal children. We thank Doris Stoppa, their granddaughter, for this tragic story.

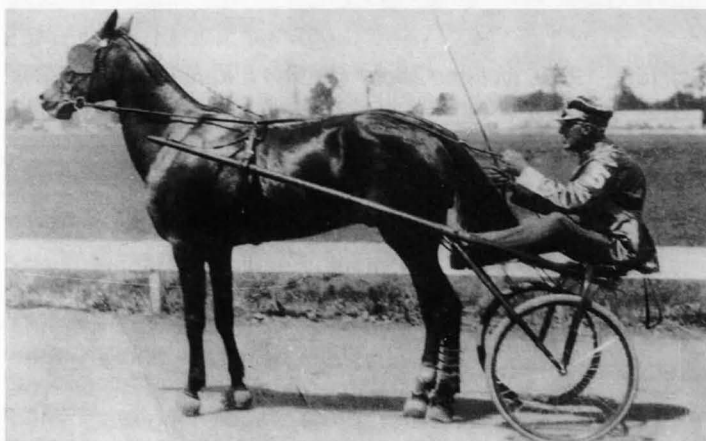
**MORE PICTURES
ON NEXT PAGE**



Charles B. Rathbun (1870-1956), riding on the rear of a corn planter on his farm near Grand Rapids, Michigan, about 1904. A hired man is driving the horses. Charles was the son of Hugo⁷ Rathbun (Charles⁶ Amos⁵⁻⁴ Joshua³ John²⁻¹). Picture from the editor's collection.



Elizabeth Rathbun, wife of Charles, see accompanying picture, in a one-horse buggy about 1905 on their farm in Michigan.



Amos M. Rathbun in his sulky, ready to "hit the track." The picture, probably dating to the 1910-1915 era, is from the editor's collection.



William C. Rathbun (1842-1906) in a horse-drawn buggy about 1900 at his home on Rathbun Street in Coventry, R.I. He was the son of Robert⁶ Rathbun (John⁵⁻⁴ Samuel³ Thomas³ John¹).



Mattison Rathbun (1860-1913) with his favorite horse, Jimmie, about 1904 in Grand Rapids, Mich. Mattison was the son of Lewis⁶ Rathbun (Amos⁵ Thomas⁴⁻³ John²⁻¹). Our thanks to Leo Rathbun, his grandson.



The invention which ended the horse age. James Rathbun (1830-1919) is pictured in the rear seat of an early automobile in 1916, when he was 86. His chauffeur, standing with one foot on the running board, is his grandson Arthur Layton. James was the son of Ebenezer⁶ Rathbun (Perry⁵ Edmund⁴ John³⁻¹). Our thanks to Phyllis Wingerak, his great-granddaughter.

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Rathbone's request to Congress for a new trial was ignored in 1902 and again in 1904, but in 1906, he received a big boost when the Ohio State Legislature sent a special petition to Congress on Rathbone's behalf. That had the desired effect. Congress agreed to look into the case, and ordered that all the trial records be printed. Rathbone was asked to make a formal statement, also to be printed.

By this time, Rathbone had spent over five years in an almost full-time effort to obtain a new trial and clear his name. It was not to be. Congress did nothing after the material was printed.

It is difficult nearly a century later to decide the merits of Rathbone's case, but all the evidence does suggest that he deserved another trial, at the very least. Why he could not obtain it remains a mystery. Possibly General Wood, who had many powerful friends, was able to block Rathbone's efforts. Senator Mark Hanna, Rathbone's chief ally, had died in 1904.

General Wood went on to a long and distinguished career. He was a candidate for the presidential nomination in 1914 and 1920, and served as governor-general of the Philippines from 1921 until his death in 1927. Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri, is named in his honor.

Rathbone slipped into obscurity, an understandably bitter man. Nothing is known of his later years. He died April 4, 1926, in Elmira, N.Y., at the age of 78. His wife's death date is not known.

They had only one son, Estes George Rathbone Jr. (1889-1973) who was married but had no known children.

The New York Times in 1906 commented: "Rathbone has all along insisted that an investigation by Congress would completely exonerate him. Rathbone has spent most of the last five years...and has devoted all his time and energy...to the prosecution of his case...It is rather hard upon a man who has declined a pardon to be kept out of court."

What is the truth? Based on the evidence, your editor thinks Rathbone got a raw deal!

(Continued from page 3)

"My parents had six children. Each was delivered by a midwife, who had to be engaged before-hand as we had no telephone. Father took care of mother and baby after the midwife left, and did all the household chores for three days or so, until mother was up and about."

Fannie went to a little one-room country school through the eighth grade, taught by a teacher who often boarded with the Rathbuns. Then for two years she attended a "Normal School" (for teachers) in Cedar Falls, Iowa. For the next three years, as a teen-age girl, she taught in the same one-room school she had earlier attended.

On Feb. 20, 1919, when she was 24, Fannie was married to Norman Scott Frye, a neighbor, and they moved onto the Frye farm, only half a mile from the Rathbun home. There they lived and farmed for 28 years and raised three children. In 1947, they

moved "into town"—Independence—where her husband died 31 year later, in 1978, after 59 years of marriage.

Fannie lived on her own for another 10 years, but finally at age 95, she reluctantly agreed to enter a rest home. Her three children are scattered throughout the country, but Fannie gets frequent visits from Shirlee Rathbun, wife of nephew Herbert, who still lives on the old Rathbun farm.

Her oldest daughter, Beatrice Crain, a member of our Association in Roseburg, Oregon, says: "We are so grateful to Shirlee for looking after mother and being so kind and caring to her."

Fannie's other children are Norman S. Frye Jr. and Ardis M. Rogers. Fannie's younger sister, Fern Freeman, who will be 97 on March 28, lives in Colorado. The two sisters are the last survivors of Edson Rathbun's six children.



Fannie (Rathbun) Frye, aged about seven, pictured about 1901 with her family in Iowa. In front, from left, are her sister Mary Jane, about 13; mother, Mary Jane (Featherson) Rathbun, then 46; Fannie; father Edson M. Rathbun, 42; Fern, about four, and Emily, the oldest, about 16. In the rear are brothers George, 14, and Iver, 10.

Genealogy: The Seventh Generation in America

87. DR. CHARLES⁷ RATHBUN (John⁶ Clark⁵ Jonathan⁴ John³⁻¹), born Oct. 4, 1809, at Brookfield, Ohio. He studied medicine as a young man and became a physician. He was married Nov. 25, 1830, in Union County, Ohio, to Elizabeth Russell, born Jan. 18, 1809, daughter of James and Elizabeth (Cory) Russell. They lived at Marysville, Union County, where Elizabeth died Sept. 17, 1861. Charles was married again on June 12, 1862, to Margaret Nicholson, born April 15, 1818, daughter of Larkin and Elizabeth (McClary) Nicholson. Dr. Charles was a township trustee for several years, a Mason, member of the Union County Bible Society, and served on a committee in 1861 to recruit soldiers for the Union army. He was alive as late as 1893, living in Washington County, Indiana, where they moved during the Civil War. Margaret's death date is not known.

CHILDREN

JOHN NELSON, born Jan. 3, 1832; married (1) Elizabeth Turner, and (2) Mary Cranston.

LEVI, born Feb. 2, 1835; died Aug. 2, 1849, of typhoid fever.

SARAH ANGELINE, born Aug. 14, 1837; married (1) Charles Cavis on Nov. 25, 1856, and (2) Joseph Faulkner on Dec. 15, 1881.

LYDIA ELIZABETH, born May 12, 1839; married Alfred Scott on Dec. 30, 1856.

ABIGAIL HARRIET, born Sept. 12, 1841; married John H. Wood on Nov. 13, 1861.

EMILY JANE, born Oct. 7, 1843; married Leonard Bellus on Nov. 18, 1863.

LEONARD THOMAS, born June 5, 1846; died Aug. 27, 1848.

CHARLES LEBONS, born June 24, 1849; married Josephine Gross.

MARGARET ELLEN, born Jan. 19, 1852; died Dec. 14, 1853.

MILTON CHASE, born Dec. 1, 1855; married Mrs. Nancy (Roe) Grider, on Jan. 25, 1883. They had no known children.

88. LEVI⁷ RATHBUN (John⁶ Clark⁵ Jonathan⁴ John³⁻¹), born May 28, 1811, in Rosedale, Ohio. He was married May 12, 1836, in Champaign County, Ohio, to Eliza Appleby Mitchell, born Feb. 18, 1804, daughter of Thomas and Deborah (Perkins) Mitchell. He was a merchant for many years in Mechanicsburg, Ohio, and was a prominent abolitionist in the years preceding the Civil War. He was active in the Underground Railroad which helped escaped slaves make their way to freedom in the northern states and Canada. Levi and Eliza moved about 1856 to DeWitt County, Ill., where he became a merchant at Santa Anna. He died at Farmer City, Ill., on June 5, 1889, and Eliza returned to Mechanicsburg, where she died May 14, 1890.

CHILDREN

EMILY, born June 29, 1837; married Stephen J. Staley on June 10, 1856.

CHARLES, born March 4, 1839; died March 19, 1839.

JOHN, born March 5, 1840; died Nov. 11, 1843.

WILLIAM CONNELL, born Sept. 6, 1842; married (1) Marian Johnson, and (2) Jennie Bryant.

89. REV. NELSON⁷ RATHBUN (John⁶ Clark⁵ Jonathan⁴ John³⁻¹), born Jan. 14, 1814, in Mechanicsburg, Ohio. He was licensed to preach in 1836 at Marysville, Ohio, and was ordained a Methodist minister in 1841.

He was married Nov. 17, 1836, in Rosedale, Ohio, to Eleanor Fox, born April 12, 1808, daughter of Daniel and Abigail (Callen) Fox. They moved to Pioneer Grove, Iowa, about 1839, where he was a justice of the peace, postmaster and representative in the first Iowa State Legislature from 1846 to 1848. He had studied medicine with his father, and practiced medicine as well as church work. He was a co-founder of Cornell College in Mount Vernon, Iowa. In 1864, the Rathbuns moved to Marion, in Linn County, Iowa, where Eleanor died April 13, 1882, and he died May 6, 1893.

CHILDREN

ROBERT SPENCER, born Aug. 30, 1838; married (1) Fatima Rigby, and (2) Mary Blacker.

STEPHEN WRIGHT, born May 20, 1840; married Eliza Ann Worline.

SYLVIA ANN, born Dec. 12, 1842; married (1) William Edginton, and (2) _____ Bronson.

SABRIA ABIGAIL, born Nov. 7, 1844; married (1) Jay Caldwell, and (2) _____ Wilcox.

JOSEPHINE SARAH, born Nov. 7, 1848; died unmarried in 1922.

90. STRANGE HARMON GRIFFIN⁷ RATHBUN (John⁶ Clark⁵ Jonathan⁴ John³⁻¹), born Jan. 15, 1819, in Mechanicsburg, Ohio. He was married Sept. 5, 1839, in nearby Union County to Alzina Davis Hill, born July 31, 1818, daughter of James and Deborah (Davis) Hill. They moved from Mechanicsburg to Iowa in the late 1850s, and later to Mitchell, S.D., where Alzina died on August 17, 1881. He died there Dec. 31, 1890.

CHILDREN

LYDIA, born Aug. 15, 1841; died Sept. 23, 1842.

SARAH E., born Jan. 11, 1843; married Henry E. Parker on Nov. 19, 1859.

ABIGAIL R., born Nov. 22, 1844; married Daniel P. Marshall on Dec. 24, 1862.

MARY E., born March 4, 1846; married Jerry Elson on Aug. 6, 1864.

EMMA, born Jan. 15, 1848; married Fred Sehl on Dec. 6, 1872.

JOHN JAMES, born Oct. 15, 1849; married Hila Lewis.

CHARLES GAIL, born May 7, 1859; married Elizabeth Bigler.

91. LEMUEL BANCHER⁷ RATHBUN (John⁶ Clark⁵ Jonathan⁴ John³⁻¹), born April 5, 1842, in Brown County, Ohio. He was married Jan. 10, 1861, in Madison County, Ohio, to Catherine Cary, born Sept. 26, 1844, daughter of Abraham and Margaret (Patterson) Cary. They lived all their married life in Brown County, where he died Oct. 22, 1883. Catherine was married in November 1890 to Clay Alder. Nothing more is known of her.

CHILDREN

ELIZABETH, born June 6, 1862; married Rev. John A. Wright on June 4, 1894.

EMMA LOUISA, born March 25, 1864; married Emmet C. Bigalow on Dec. 21, 1887.

CARY, born Feb. 24, 1867; died March 9, 1873.

92. ERSKINE⁷ RATHBUN (Joseph⁶ Clark⁵ Jonathan⁴ John³⁻¹), born Sept. 23, 1829, in Mechanicsburg, Ohio. He was married Dec. 19, 1853, to Cynthia M. Boyle, born Aug. 10, 1827, daughter of Rev. Hugh and Eliza (Spooner) Boyle. They moved to California in the 1850s, then spent a few years in Hamilton City, Nevada. They returned to California, lived in Willows, Colusa County, for several years, and by 1900 were in Yuma County, Arizona. He was a bricklayer and in 1882 built the courthouse in Tombstone, Arizona, for \$11,000. They returned to California where he died Jan. 17,

1912, in Los Angeles. Cynthia died there April 11, 1906.

CHILDREN

IONE BALL, born Oct. 28, 1854; married (1) James F. Hart; (2) Sidney Hulton, and (3) George Piper.

IDA HELEN, born Oct. 28, 1858; married Augustus A. Jackson on June 7, 1877.

ELIZABETH MAY, born May 12, 1862; married Marcus Aurelius Smith, who served in the United States Congress.

JOSEPH B., born April 12, 1864; married Effie Gotts.

93. EDWIN DAVIS⁷ RATHBUN (Joseph⁶ Clark⁵ Jonathan⁴ John³⁻¹), born April 23, 1831, in Mechanicsburg, Ohio. He was married Feb. 8, 1870, in St. Louis, Mo., to Catherine Fleming Donaldson, born Dec. 21, 1847, daughter of Andrew and Helen (Rhind) Donaldson. They lived for a time in Hamilton City, Nevada, then in 1876 moved to Colusa County, Cal., where he died in 1897. Catherine died March 31, 1919, in Conte Costa, Cal.

CHILDREN

ANDREW ROBERT, born Feb. 1, 1871; married Ethel H. Johnson.

HELEN RHIND, born July 1, 1872; married Edgar Julian Bissell.

HORACE HERBERT, born Jan. 14, 1874; married Alice Fouch.

LOUIS BROOKE, born Oct. 21, 1875; married Eva Florence Burt.

DONALDSON WILLIAM, born Oct. 20, 1877; married Helen Evelyn Donley.

GRACE KATHERINE FLEMING, born March 19, 1880; married N. E. A. Kratzer in March 1920.

See New Data 16-2 p 38

94. DAVIS LINCOLN⁷ RATHBUN (Joseph⁶ Clark⁵ Jonathan⁴ John³⁻¹), born March 25, 1838, in Logan County, Ohio. He was married May 30, 1867, to Rosanna Sophia O'Bryon, born in September 1836, daughter of Solomon and Margaret

(Prentice) O'Bryon. He became a Presbyterian minister and had churches in Falls Church, Virginia, and Baltimore County, Md. They moved by 1900 to California, where Rosanna died Dec. 26, 1926, in Sonoma County, and he died there Nov. 21, 1928.

CHILDREN

MAUDE EVA, born May 14, 1868; died August 12, 1940, single.

CORA TRUESDALE, born July 9, 1874; married Herbert M. Claggett on Sept. 24, 1894.

CARL MERMOD, born March 16, 1876; married Constance Josephine Burner.

95. JESSE PERRIN⁷ RATHBUN (Joseph⁶ Clark⁵ Jonathan⁴ John³⁻¹), born Nov. 8, 1842, at Rosewick, Mo. He was married March 22, 1864, in Franklin County, Mo., to Mary Ann Eliza Johns, born April 20, 1848, daughter of Caleb and Nancy (Woodland) Johns. They moved to California in 1852 and settled at Petaluma. In the early 1890s, they moved to Colusa County, where he operated a salt mine for several years. He died Sept. 25, 1924, in Colusa County, and Mary died there May 17, 1936.

CHILDREN

MARY ALICE, born Feb. 9, 1865; married Charles Willis Cockerill on Sept. 24, 1893.

JOSEPH EDWIN, born Jan. 26, 1867; married Hattie Abel.

WILLIAM TIMOTHY, born Oct. 17, 1869; married Emma Holmes.

JULIA OLIVE, born Dec. 12, 1871; died Dec. 24, 1878.

HENRY MERRITT, born May 29, 1874; died Dec. 27, 1887.

JESSE LAWRENCE, born April 14, 1877; died April 18, 1877.

HATTIE ADELE, born March 29, 1879; married (1) M.T. White, and (2) Wilson T. Shumaw.

(Continued to page 12)

(Continued from page 11)

ROSS BUXTON, born Nov. 5, 1882; married (1) Adele Powell, and (2) Mrs. May _____.

EARL HAYMAN, born March 12, 1886; died Aug. 11, 1907, in a dynamite explosion in Washoe County, Nev.

JESSIE EULA, born Oct. 28, 1889; married (1) Dr. Ernest Foster, and (2) _____ Brockman.

96. ORRIN⁷ RATHBUN (Clark⁶ Jonathan⁵⁻⁴ John³⁻¹), born about 1823, probably at Avon, N.Y., and was married about 1851 to Susan H. Stevenson, born about 1830, parentage unknown. He was a wagonmaker in Seneca Falls, N.Y., in 1850, and may have been married there. In 1855, he was listed as a carriage maker in New Haven, Conn., living in a boarding house with no wife. According to Cooley, he died that year in New Haven. Susan died in 1910. There were no known children.

97. RANDOLPH⁷ RATHBUN (Clark⁶ Jonathan⁵⁻⁴ John³⁻¹), born about 1830 at Avon, N.Y. and was married about 1856 to Theresa Emily Menroy (spelling uncertain). They were living in 1860 at Mackford, Green Lake County, Wisc., where he was a merchant. He died in March 1870 "of a fever." She was married on Oct. 17, 1876, to W.F. McCulloch and nothing more is known of her.

CHILDREN

EMILY J., born about 1857; married Gurdon H. Terry on Oct. 18, 1875.

CARRIE M., born about 1859; married Frederick Gillon on May 13, 1886.

98. SAXTON SQUIRE⁷ RATHBUN (Chaplin⁶ Jonathan⁵⁻⁴ John³⁻¹), born June 3, 1813, at Avon, N.Y. He moved with his parents to Ohio and was married there in Fremont on April 19, 1834, to Barbara Elizabeth Huss, born Dec. 27, 1816, daughter of Noah and Mary (Burkholder) Huss. They lived on a 200-acre farm three miles west of

Clyde, Sandusky County, Ohio, on Sand Road. She died there on March 13, 1894, and he died the following year on Feb. 3, 1895.

CHILDREN

CLARK E., born Aug. 23, 1835; died in infancy.

EDWIN C., born March 10, 1837; he was a riverman and died Sept. 4, 1878, at St. Louis, Mo., of yellow fever.

NORTON G., born Sept. 19, 1838; married Elizabeth Hufford.

JAMES H., born June 13, 1840; he enlisted in the Union Army during the Civil War and was killed in action Dec. 13, 1862, at Stone Ridge, Tenn., while serving with the 21st Illinois Infantry. His father went to Tennessee to bring back the body.

BURTON SAXTON, born Feb. 26, 1842; married Margaret Brunthaver.

THADDEUS S., born Oct. 20, 1843; died Jan. 10, 1852.

CHAPLIN LORENZO, born June 5, 1845; married Mary A. Grover.

MARY LUCINDA, born March 1, 1847; married Charles W. Storer on Dec. 7, 1871.

NORMAN H., born Jan. 19, 1849; died Nov. 1, 1872, of typhoid fever.

MARTIN BRACE, born April 2, 1851; married Mary Cooper.

ORVILLA M., born Oct. 19, 1853; married Horace Sackrider on Dec. 18, 1875.

JACOB E., born Sept. 12, 1855; died Aug. 28, 1856.

JOHN E., born Aug. 11, 1857; married Elva Andrews.

99. CHAPLIN BRUCE⁷ RATHBUN (Chaplin⁶ Jonathan⁵⁻⁴ John³⁻¹), born March 10, 1831, in Green Creek Township, Sandusky County, Ohio. He was married there July 2, 1851, to Roxanna Tucker, born Feb. 11, 1833, parentage unknown. She died two years later on Feb. 21, 1853, and he was married seven months later on Sept. 29, 1853, to Rose Hearl, born about 1825 in Ireland. Chaplin died March 24, 1856. She was married on Nov. 5, 1866, to John Shaw, but was divorced a few years later. She is possibly the Rosa Rathbun who was mar-

ried May 8, 1874, in Richland, Ohio, to Richard H. Roberts, but she was called Rose Rathbun in the 1880 census. Her death date is not known.

CHILD

by Rose

ANNE, born about 1854; married _____ Harris.

100. FRANKLIN⁷ RATHBUN (Lucius⁶ Jonathan⁵⁻⁴ John³⁻¹), born Dec. 18, 1823, in Clyde, Ohio. He was married Sept. 10, 1847, in Lorain County to Louisa J. Tucker, born Feb. 17, 1827, parentage unknown. He died about 1868 at Clyde. Louisa died sometime between 1896, and 1900.

CHILDREN

MORRIS NEWTON, born Nov. 15, 1849; married Maria Winnie Lake.

MARY J., born about 1852; married James Stokes on Dec. 1, 1869.

ANNA AMY, born about 1854; married John H. Keller on Oct. 29, 1872.

LIDA E., born June 18, 1856; married Alva A. Fenn on March 16, 1876.

CHARLES VORTIMER, born June 24, 1864; married Mertie Adams.

101. LUCIUS LAFAYETTE⁷ RATHBUN (Lucius⁶ Jonathan⁵⁻⁴ John³⁻¹), born Nov. 18, 1825, in Clyde, Ohio. He was married about 1850 to Orpha Judson, born about 1826, daughter of Enoch and Mary (Higbee) (Judson) Rathbun (Mary was the widow of Lucius' uncle Jonathan Rathbun.) They moved to Cassopolis, Cass County, Mich., where Orpha died May 18, 1890. Lucius was married about 1892 to Julia (Jordan) Rathbun, born Oct. 2, 1836, daughter of Zebulon and Martha (Gifford) Jordan and widow of his brother Vortimer. Lucius died April 28, 1897, and Julia died March 27, 1905.

CHILDREN

By Orpha

HENRY SMITH, born in Feb. 1852; married Ella Farnsworth.

MARY CALISTA, born about 1854;
married Henry Farrar.

102. WILKES GILLETTE⁷ RATHBUN (Lucius⁶ Jonathan⁵⁻⁴ John³⁻¹), born Feb. 20, 1829, in Clyde, Ohio. He was married four times. He married on Feb. 4, 1848, Naomi Clark, born about 1823, daughter of Samuel Clark. She died about 1863. He then married on July 2, 1864, Jane A. Ward, born April 19, 1832, daughter of Salmon and Susanna Ward. She died in the early 1880s. He then married on August 25, 1886, Hattie Sage, born May 8, 1832, daughter of Roswell and Nancy (Jewett) Sage. She died Dec. 19, 1893. He was married July 8, 1896, to Jennette (Allen) Hughes, a widow who apparently died within a few years. Wilkes moved about 1855 from Clyde to Nevada Mills, Steuben County, Indiana, where he lived for several years. After returning to Ohio by 1870, he operated a hotel for several years at Put-in-Bay, a Lake Erie resort town. He used a 2300-pound cow to haul passengers to and from his hotel in a 12-passenger wagon. He died June 7, 1903, at Clyde.

CHILDREN

Both by Naomi

LAFAYETTE GEORGE, born June 4, 1849; married (1) Celia Flagler, and (2) Laura Abramson.

SUMNER WILKES, born Oct. 21, 1856; married Emma Fenstermaker.

DORA (adopted by Wilkes and Jane), born about 1863. No further data.

103. MARTIN VAN BUREN⁷ RATHBUN (Lucius⁶ Jonathan⁵⁻⁴ John³⁻¹), born March 22, 1833, at Clyde, Ohio. He was married there on Nov. 30, 1850, to Sarah Mary Simerson, born Jan. 9, 1833, daughter of Joseph and Trefena (Little) Simerson. They lived near Clyde, where Sarah died in the late 1880s, and Martin died Jan. 24, 1909.

CHILDREN

(Both adopted)

NELLIE, born about 1863; married (?) John Grunstad on Dec. 23, 1880.

GRACE E., born Oct. 15, 1869; no further data.

104. VORTIMER⁷ RATHBUN (Lucius⁶ Jonathan⁵⁻⁴ John³⁻¹), born July 5, 1834, at Clyde, Ohio. He was married about 1854 in St. Joseph, Indiana, to Julia Jordan, born Oct. 2, 1836, daughter of Zebulon and Martha (Gifford) Jordan. They lived in St. Joseph for several years, then moved by 1860 to Portage, Cass County, Mich., where he was a teamster. They moved by 1870 to nearby Cassopolis, where he died of cancer on Oct. 17, 1879. Julia was married about 1892 to his brother Lucius L. Rathbun. She died March 27, 1905.

CHILDREN

See Corrections 14-3 p 45

ESTELLA RHODA, born April 29, 1855; married Charles E. Deal.

WILLIAM S., born Dec. 3, 1856; died April 3, 1874.

MINNIE AMERETTA, born March 25, 1859; married Dominick Matusen, and possibly C.H. Kimmerle.

FRANKLIN C., born July 5, 1860; married Minnie Chilson.

GEORGE WILLIAM, born Jan. 1, 1862; married Margaret Dunning.

LOLA (IDA?), born Jan. 17, 1873; died Oct. 17, 1878.

105. FRANCIS B.⁷ RATHBUN (Lucius⁶ Jonathan⁵⁻⁴ John³⁻¹), born Feb. 15, 1842, at Clyde, Ohio. He was married in May 1863 to Julia Ann Hall, born about 1843, parentage unknown. They lived all their married life in Jefferson, Cass County, Mich., where Julia died in 1914 and he died in 1915.

CHILDREN

FREDERICK GRANT, born May 2, 1864; married Ella Fitch.

CHARLES, born April 4, 1866; died in August 1867.

LEWIS, born June 20, 1869; married Nora Dolph.

HATTIE M., born July 24, 1872; married ? _____ March.

EDGAR, born May 24, 1878 married Sarah E. _____.

EDNA (twin), born May 24, 1878; married Edward Everett on Oct. 30, 1895.

106. NORMAN L.⁷ RATHBUN (Lucius⁶ Jonathan⁵⁻⁴ John³⁻¹), born Sept. 23, 1843, in Cass County, Mich. He was married about 1867 to Emily J. Bonnell, born Oct. 1, 1846, parentage unknown. She died July 19, 1881, in Pittsburg, Crawford County, Kansas, where they moved in the 1870s. He returned to Michigan, where he was married August 28, 1882, to Jane E. Tallenday (spelling uncertain), who was born in June 1848, parentage unknown. They lived in Cassopolis, where he died June 28, 1921, and she died May 31, 1922.

CHILDREN

By Emily

ADELIN, born Oc. 1, 1868; married Birch Haas.

CHARLES, born in December 1869; died in August 1881.

By Jane

MARY S., born August 12, 1886; married Neil Earl.

107. CLARK⁷ RATHBUN (Lucius⁶ Jonathan⁵⁻⁴ John³⁻¹), born Feb. 12, 1848, in Cass County, Mich. He was married in 1873 to Carrie Earl, born about 1853, parentage unknown. They lived in LaGrange, Cass County, where Carrie died about 1889. Clark was living in Montana in 1900 with his son Lucius. His death date is not known.

CHILDREN

LUCIUS F., born in March, 1875; alive in 1900; no further data.

LUMAR (?), born in 1879; died (?) in 1882.

New Data

On page 43 of our July 1990 Historian, add the name of Thomas Wade Rathbun just before the listing for Joseph⁵ Rathbun (Obadiah⁴ John³ William² John¹). Thomas, Joseph's brother, was born about 1784 in St. Johns, New Brunswick. In Dec. 1811, aged 27, he applied with his brother Joseph for land near Hampstead. He was admitted a freeman of St. Johns in 1815 and in 1818 was a witness to his brother Joseph's marriage. Thomas Wade Rathbun was married, date unknown, to Ann Akerly or Ackerly, birth date unknown, probably the daughter of Oliver and Lucy (Ward) Akerly or Ackerly. The death dates of Thomas and Ann are not known. Their only known child was William Ward Rathbun, born about 1830, who married Emily Constance Manley in Australia. Our thanks to new members Anthony and June Rathbun of New Zealand. Tony is a descendant of Thomas and Ann.

Rebecca Rathbun, daughter of Samuel⁴ Rathbun (Jonathan³ William² John¹), married Thomas Simmons on Jan. 13, 1789, as we speculated in our Historian of July 1982, page 46. Simmons died Feb. 2, 1801, and Rebecca then married James Barker, who died June 11, 1828. She died Nov. 21, 1841, at Lisbon, Conn.

Beulah Wright, wife of Samuel⁵ Rathbun (Simeon⁴ Benjamin³ Joseph² John¹), was the daughter of Samuel and Jemima (Hancock) Wright. Historian of January 1985, page 15.

Martha Ballard, wife of Arnon⁶ Rathbone (David⁵ John⁴ Joshua³ John²⁻¹), was the daughter of Stephen and Anna Ballard. Historian of January 1988, page 12.

Anna Colt, second wife of Amos⁵ Rathbun (Thomas⁴⁻³ John²⁻¹), was the daughter of Jabez and Sibel Colt. Historian of April 1984, page 2. Our thanks to Rob Rathbun for all this new data.

The wife of Walter Clark Rathbun, son of Thomas⁴ Rathbun (Thomas³⁻² John¹), was Anna Jones, born in Stonington, Conn., July 13, 1771, daughter of Henry and Eunice (Miner) Jones. See our Historian of April 1984, page 29-30. The information appears in a newly published index of Revolutionary War pensions.

Mary Ann Edmonds, first wife of Caleb⁶ Rathbun (Robert⁵ Jeremiah⁴ Joseph³⁻² John¹), was born March 23, 1812, in Tuscarawas County, Ohio, the daughter of David and Anna Elizabeth (Knaus) Edmonds. (Historian of October 1990, page 61). Her younger sister Rosanna Charlotte Edmonds, born April 7, 1826, married Caleb's nephew, Rev. Hiram Rathbun. Our thanks to Jan Herbert.

Gilbert Cooper Rathbun, son of Thomas⁵ Rathbun (John⁴ Samuel³ Thomas² John¹), served in the United States Army. He enlisted June 15, 1809, for five years. He was born Oct. 4, 1788, and died at sea according to Cooley. If so, he must have gone to sea after his Army enlistment ended in 1814. Our thanks to John Bowen, who found this enlistment record in the National Archives.

ANDREW RATHBUN, a 14-year-old Boy Scout in Lincoln, Nebraska, attained the rank of Eagle Scout last November. He is the son of Thomas and Claudia Rathbun of Lincoln and grandson of Paul⁹ Rathbun (Fred⁸ William⁷ John⁶ Perry⁵ Edmund⁴ John³⁻¹). Andrew has been a Scout for four years, has held many offices including patrol leader, quartermaster and den chief, and has earned more than 20 merit badges. His younger brother Gregory is also a Boy Scout and his sister Nicole is in Campfire Girls. The parents and grandparents are members of our Association.

Ann Rathbun's Name is Found on Old Plaque

An old metal plaque bearing the name "Ann Rathbun" has been found near an old tunnel, built in 1881 in the Colorado mountains.

Friends of our members Grove and Janet Rathbun found the marker while on a camping and hiking trip in the mountains of Gunnison County. It was on an old wooden beam that might have been used as a seat. The plaque reads: "Reserved for Ann Rathbun."

The tunnel was dug under the Continental Divide for the old Denver, South Park and Pacific Railroad track. It runs for 1,711 feet from Gunnison to Chaffee County.

Who was Ann Rathbun? Why is her name on a plaque deep in these western mountains?

WE THANK the following cousins who have sent us clippings, pictures, family data and other material: Jack Rathbun, Cheryl Jensen, Rob Rathbun, Bettye Rathbone, Paul Rathbun, Lauren Landis, Laverne E. Rathbun, Lydia Littlefield, Sandy Rathbun, Helene Rathbun, Russell Love, Jim and Maxine Stites, Helen M. Rathbun, Robert B. Rathbone, John Rathbone, Beverly Gillette, Phara Holdredge, Beth Kiteley, Marlin Rathbun, Mary Ellen Claypool, Col. Robert Allen Greene, Neal M. Rathbun, Dorcas Hendershott-Jones, Joan Byers, Bruce M. Rathbun, Reba Reeves, Joy Baker, John Bowen, Dr. Donald Rathbun, Phyllis Wingerak, Gaal and Mildred Rathburn, Mary Champlin, Marjorie Rathbun, Jim Chivers, Sherman Boivin, Alice Phillips, Beatrice Crain, William Wright, Elizabeth Horn, Carl Jordan, Paul Limbeck, Frank E. Rathbun, David E. Rathbun, Grove and Janet Rathbun.

Special thanks to Janet Hayes, who sent in an extra \$32 with her renewal check "toward the cost of the new computer."

Obituaries

DIED—Dec. 6, 1993, Rosma (Rathbun) Limbeck, 73, at Ladysmith, Wisc. She was a charter member of our Association and a dedicated researcher into her branch of the family. She was the daughter of William Jonathan⁸ Rathbun (Jonathan⁷ Thomas⁶⁻⁵ John⁴ Samuel³ Thomas² John¹). Survivors include her husband, Paul; a son Kevin; daughter Jeannine Limbeck; five grandchildren, and one great-grandchild.

DIED—Nov. 10, 1993, Roland A. Rathbun, 74, at Palm Beach, Fla. A charter member of our Association, he was the son of Frank¹⁰ Rathbun (Herbert⁹ Francis⁸ Joshua⁷ Abraham⁶ Joshua⁵⁻³ John²⁻¹). He is survived by his wife, Marjorie E. Rathbun; three brothers, Kenneth, Frank and Philip; two sisters, Doris Kellogg and Phyllis McKinnon, and several stepchildren. He was an Army veteran of World War II and was a mail carrier for 30 years until retiring.

DIED—Sept. 21, 1993, Nola Rathbun, 83, of Spring Valley, Minn. She was the widow of Maurice⁸ Rathbun (Byron⁷ Gamaliel⁶ Walter⁵ Thomas⁴⁻² John¹). Her husband died in 1981. Survivors include three sons, Marlin (a member of our Association), James and Stephen; three daughters, Donna Eisenberg, Joanne Goldammer and Bonnie Grabau; 12 grandchildren; 16 great-grandchildren, and a sister.

DIED—Oct. 6, 1993, Leonard Ernest Rathbun, 79, of Longmont, Colo. He was the son of Frederick⁸ Rathbun (Lorenzo⁷ Elon⁶ Alfred⁵ Job⁴ Benjamin³ Joseph² John¹). He is survived by his wife, Virginia; a son Leonard; a daughter, Patricia Hoyt; a twin brother, Lorenzo; three other brothers, James, Roger and Arthur; two sisters, Lucille Thornton and Louise Cliff; two grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren. He was a Navy veteran of World War II.

DIED—Oct. 18, 1993, Louise (Rathbun) McMahon, 85, of Chicago. She was the daughter of Kenneth⁹ Rathbun (Winfield⁸ Carlton⁷ Demarcus⁶ Solomon⁵ Job⁴ Joshua³ John²⁻¹), and the widow of Nelson McMahon. Survivors include three children, Mary Ellen Claypool (a member of our Association), Maureen Kehoe and Nelson McMahon Jr.; nine grandchildren, and one great-grandchild.

DIED—Jan. 2, 1994, Courtland B. Rathbun Jr., 72, of Coventry, R.I. He was the son of Courtland B.⁸ Rathbun (Rowland⁷ Joshua⁶ Acors⁵ Joshua⁴⁻³ John²⁻¹). He is survived by a brother, Kenneth Rathbun, and several nephews and nieces. He was an Army veteran of World War II.

DIED—September 27, 1993, Dr. Robert Jesse Rathburn, 65, of Flint, Mich. He was the son of Merle⁹ Rathburn (Charles⁸ William⁷ Raymond⁶ Stephen⁵ Gideon⁴ John³⁻¹). He is survived by his wife Doris; four sons, Robert, Daniel, Calvin and Matthew; a daughter, Heather, and several grandchildren. Dr. Rathburn was a 1957 graduate of Wayne State Medical School, Detroit, and had practiced medicine for 36 years.

DIED—Dec. 2, 1992, Violet (Rathbun) Gerken, 97, of Spring Valley, Minn. She was the daughter of Charles⁸ Rathbun (Henry⁷ Nathaniel⁶ Walter⁵ Thomas⁴⁻² John¹) and the widow of Charles Gerken who died in 1979. She is survived by a son, Harold; two sisters, Myrtle Davenport, a member of our Association, and Amelia Blake, and three grandsons.

DIED—Jan. 29, 1993, Mildred (Huber) McConnell, 89, of Green Springs, Ohio. She was the daughter of Bertrum Huber and Fannie⁹ Rathbun (Chaplin⁸ Saxton⁷ Chaplin⁶ Jonathan⁵⁻⁴ John³⁻¹). She was first married to Dr. J. Hollis Rhineberger, who died, and then to J. Dett McConnell, who also died. She is survived by a son, Richard Rhineberger; a stepson, Myron McConnell; seven grandchildren; 15 great-grandchildren, and two great-great-grandchildren.

DIED—Jan. 20, 1993, Alan E. Rathbun, 87, of Silver Lake, Ohio. He was the son of Edward⁹ Rathbun (Norton⁸ Saxton⁷ Chaplin⁶ Jonathan⁵⁻⁴ John³⁻¹). Survivors include three children, Alan, Joanne and Julie. A complete list was not available.

DIED—Nov. 3, 1993, Russell E. Brown, 74, of Polo, Illinois. He was the son of Everett Brown and Flossie⁹ Rathbun (Nathaniel⁸ Charles⁷ Samuel⁶⁻⁵ Nathaniel⁴⁻³ John²⁻¹). He was a funeral director and furniture store owner. Survivors include his wife Mildred; daughter Rita A. Brown; son Robert W. Brown; two sisters and a brother, and two grandchildren.

DIED—Oct. 8, 1993, Dr. Marjorie Cassell, 50, at Tucson, AZ. She was the daughter of Lyle and Margaret Cassell and the granddaughter of Ray Cassell and Irene⁹ Rathbun (Francis⁸ James⁷ Ebenezer⁶ Perry⁵ Edmund⁴ John³⁻¹). She is survived by her mother Margaret Cassell; son Kevin Armstrong and daughter Dawna Armstrong; three grandchildren; a sister, Sandra Olsen, and brother Dennis Cassell.

Death struck three members of a California Rathburn family within a three-week period last summer.

Caroline Isabell Rathburn, 89, died August 5 at her home in Lomita, California. Her son Marvin Arthur Rathburn died less than three weeks later on August 23, aged 67. And Marvin's son, Marvin Scott Rathburn, 34, died three days later in a traffic accident.

Caroline was the widow of George Thomas⁹ Rathburn (Marvin⁸ David⁷ Lewis⁶ David⁵ Edmund⁴ John³⁻¹). She died of emphysema. Among her survivors are several nieces and nephews including our member Phara Holdredge.

Marvin Arthur, who died of lung cancer, is survived by his wife, Norma. The younger Marvin is survived by three children—Vanessa, Levi and Kenneth.

People

HARRY AND GRACE RATHBUN of Seattle, WA., will celebrate their 67th wedding anniversary on Feb. 19. Harry and Grace Golda Skaggs were married Feb. 19, 1927. A member of our Association, he is the son of Ulysses Grant⁸ Rathbun (Alfred⁷ Daniel⁶ Gideon⁵ Edmund⁴ John³⁻²⁻¹).

GLENN R. RATHBUN was honored at a surprise 80th birthday party August 21, 1993, at his home in Ellsworth, Kansas. Over 70 relatives and friends attended. For the first time since he and his wife Eunice celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary in 1985, all their children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren were together. Glenn is the son of Melancthon⁹ Rathbun (George⁸ Rowland⁷ Acors⁶ Joshua⁵⁻³ John²⁻¹).

REBA RATHBUN REEVES and her husband Hamilton Reeves celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary Oct. 2 in Fitzgerald, Georgia. Her brother John Hallett Rathbun and his wife Lillis marked their 50th anniversary three weeks later on Oct. 26. Reba, a member of our Association, and John are children of John Kramer⁸ Rathbun (Hallet⁷ Thomas⁶⁻⁵ John⁴ Samuel³ Thomas² John¹).

COL. ROBERT ALLEN GREENE was elected in September as governor-general of the General Society of Mayflower Descendants. A member of our Association, Col. Greene was captain-general of the Society for three years and is deputy governor-general and past governor of the Rhode Island society. He is a descendant of John Howland of the Mayflower, and has three Rathbun lines of descent.

ELLEN GARDNER BROWN, a member of our Association, organized a three-day reunion last August in Wakefield, R.I. for some 70 descendants of Henry Wood Gardner and Mary Brown⁸ Rathbone (Stephen⁷ Joshua⁶⁻³ John²⁻¹).

Our New Members

Joanna Adams
Cambria, Cal.

Alexander Conti
Absecom, N.J.

Beatrice Crain
Roseburg, Ore.

Esther Davis
Red Bluff, Cal.

John E. Dodge
Greenlawn, N.Y.

Dorothy Doyal
Ringgold, Ga.

Mary Ferris
Fort Myers, Fla.

Princess Frush
Warsaw, Ind.

Edna E. Gallup
Niles, Mich.

Mrs. Peter Harp
Arlington, Ma.

Brenda Hasterok
Chesterfield, Mo.

Jan Herbert
Fostoria, Ohio

George Howard
Littleton, Colo.

Mildred Kloha
Fort Myers, Fla.

Cheryl McCulley
Coventry, R.I.

Lyndal W. McDaniel
Hot Springs, Ark.

Brion G. Rathbun
Patchogue, N.Y.

Charles G. Rathbun
Columbia Falls, Me.

Leonard C. Rathbun
Attleboro, Ma.

Robert & Rosemary Rathbun
Harwich, Ma.

Richard A. Spadone
Missoula, Mont.

Dennis Stangeland
Chino Hills, Cal.

MARY ANN CUMMINS has written a book on the history of St. Peter's Episcopal Church in Delaware, Ohio. The church was founded in 1817. She is a descendant of Theophilus Smith and Clarissa Harlow⁶ Rathbone (John⁵⁻⁴ Joshua³ John²⁻¹).

LYNDA RATHBONE of Wichita, Kansas has joined President Clinton's White House staff as a \$32,500 special assistant to Chief of Staff Thomas "Mack" McLarty. A 1990 graduate of Kansas State University, she previously worked in Washington on the staff of Congressman Dan Glickman as receptionist and later office manager and legislative aide. She worked last year as a part-time volunteer in the Clinton campaign and later worked for the President's transition team. We do not know her identity.

WILLIAM E. WRIGHT has just published a book, "The Ancestors and Descendants of William Browning Greene and Mary Hoxie Lewis," which has many pages on Rathbuns and other Rhode Island families. Anyone interested in Rhode Island genealogy will find the book useful. To order, send a \$48 check to William E. Wright, 11710 Greenbay, Houston, Texas 77024. Bill is a member of our Association and an active and dedicated genealogist.

FORREST RATHBURN reports that cousins who ordered lily bulbs from him last fall can expect to receive them early in the spring. He received numerous requests after an offer appeared in our last issue.