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The Rathbone

Family Historian.



October, 1892.



Oberlin. Kansas.

THE RATHBONE FAMILY HISTORIAN.

VOL. 1.

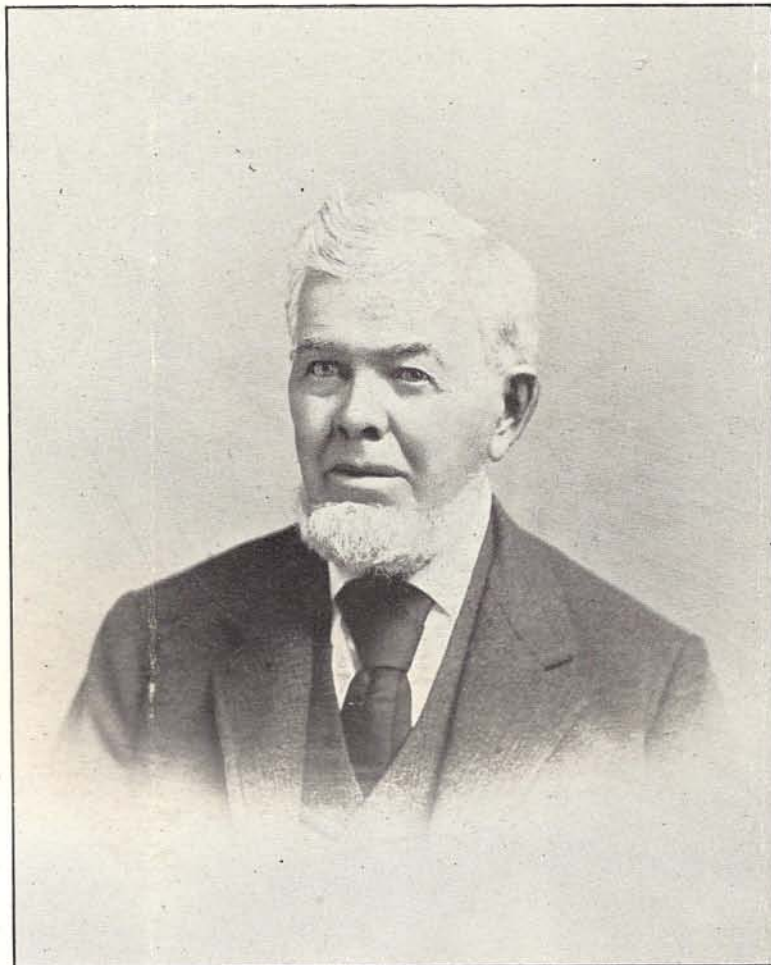
OCTOBER, 1892.

No. 10.

ISSUED MONTHLY.

OBERLIN, KANSAS.

\$1.00 PER YEAR.



GIDEON RATHBONE.

GIDEON RATHBONE.

BY J. Q. RATHBONE. *

The subject of your sketch was born August 6, 1809, in Belpre township, Washington county, Ohio. My father, Edmund Rathbone,† located in what was called "Sundy Creek Settlement," not far from Athens, where he lived for a short time, after which he went to Marietta, and lived until 1816. On the morning of April 16th, he embarked with his family upon a flat-boat and started down the Ohio river with the current.

By the time we reached Lawrenceburg, Ind., fever and ague had taken such a severe form among the children that we were obliged to leave our water quarters and get away from the fog and dampness of the river.

For five months I was subject to two chills every day and became so weak that I could not walk. Cold weather coming on, we recovered from the malarial affection and again proceeded down the river in our craft, landing near Evansville, Ind., where we started across the country by wagon.

On the first day of August, 1817, we reached the home of my uncle, Cornelius Taylor, a few miles from Vincennes, Ind., but in the Territory of Illinois. A week later father raised his log cabin and the family once more had a home.

The following November, Lord Selkirk came through our settlement on his return from an expedition to the British possessions along the Red River

of the North, with a retinue of soldiers and attendants numbering about sixty. On account of high water he was unable to cross the Wabash river, which was seven miles wide at that time. I remember that his train of wagons and carriages was a great curiosity to me, as well as his official and aristocratic airs. His silver washbowl was held in the hands of one servant, while he bathed his face, and his towel by another, these being provided with others of lower caste who waited upon them in like manner. During the delay Lord Selkirk came into the house one day and asked my eldest sister, who was then about sixteen, for a ribbon with which to fasten his stocking, stating that he had lost his. She replied, "I think I can get one, sir," and stepping out soon returned with a small piece of rope which she tossed to him with the remark, "I think that is good enough for an Englishman."

"Well, I think the young ladies in this country are very independent!" was his astonished reply. "Why any young lady in England would have given me the finest ribbon she had."

This took place only a short time after the war of 1812, and even the children in those days felt very independent of the British.

During this high water, which continued for several weeks, we ran out of provisions, and as the water entirely surrounded us and we had no boat, it was impossible to get away until a young man who had been helping

* Just previous to the death of Gideon Rathbone, he dictated the following Autobiography to the writer and it is given here as such.

† Early History.

father gather his corn, constructed a raft of logs and rails with which he succeeded in reaching town. For six days previous to this we had nothing to eat but parched corn and hominy, and were almost famished when he returned in a canoe with some groceries.

The first school I ever attended was taught by a gentleman from Kentucky, whose name was King. Public schools were not established until too late for me to have the advantage of them.

Mr. King was a very exacting teacher and kept his pupils from early morning until sunset. When about nine years old I attended his school, going three miles through the woods which were infested with many species of wild animals.

Everything went well for about two weeks, but while returning alone one evening as I came to a sharp turn in the path, I saw a large panther sitting cat fashion in the track only a few rods in front of me with its back toward me. Turning to run back, I was startled to see another about the same distance from me, sitting in the road over which I had just passed. This cut off all hopes of retreat and I quietly stepped back of some bushes to await developments, thinking their keen scent would betray me, but a wild scream from another not far away started them bounding in that direction and left the open road before me once more, which I was not long in taking advantage of.

That adventure ended my schooling for the time and it was three years

before another opportunity was given me to take my place under a teacher.

The spring following I began active work upon the farm and became responsible for its management as my father gave his attention largely to his trade. At the age of twelve I started to school again but the rains set in and high water put an end to that after one months attendance. At seventeen I attended school again for one month, which was all the education I ever received from that source. The only book I had was a "John Rogers Primer," which I remember from a picture it contained of John Rogers burning at the stake. The lack of a better education has caused me much regret, but those who bore the trials of settling a new country often endured many hardships and privations of which the lack of school privileges have always seemed greatest to me.

In the fall of 1827, we removed to Springfield, Ill., near where father bought a claim. For two years I lived at home and did what I could to aid in improving the farm by breaking the prairie, building houses and barns of logs, making rails and general farm work.

June 14, 1829, I united in marriage with Miss Eliza J. Howell, whose father owned a farm adjoining ours. She was born in Hardin county Kentucky, in 1815, afterwards removed to Indiana and lived in the neighborhood and attended the same school with Abraham Lincoln. In the spring of 1830, I

remember seeing Mr. Lincoln on his way from Decatur to Springfield. It was a very muddy season and he passed my house with his shoes in one hand and a bundle tied in a handkerchief in the other. Mrs. Rathbone recognized him and as he stopped over night with her father, who lived near by, we went over and spent the evening with them. He told us he had just struck out into the world for himself and wanted work. Mr. Howell told him of a gentleman in Springfield who wanted a stout man to help load and pike a flat boat down the Sangamon to the Illinois river. This offer he accepted and assisted at until the boat was landed at Beardstown.

Shortly after going into business for myself, I turned my attention to building, cabinet making and wagon work, during which time I turned post heads for a fence inclosing the state house at Springfield. In 1838 I made the first plow, ever seen or heard of in that country that would scour, or from which the soil would slip. The share was made of steel and the moleboard of iron. Many farmers examined it during its construction and said it would never do what was claimed for it, but believing it would, I polished it as best I could by rubbing it with a brick and sand until it was smooth, then took it to an old timber road in the clay soil to give it a final polish before returning into the prairie soil with it. Until that time the old wooden moleboard plows were universally

used, but this invention was so satisfactory and worked so well that it marked a revolution in the manufacture of plows. I might have obtained a patent upon it, but my means were so limited and communication so slow, that I neglected to secure what would have made a great fortune to me.

After this invention I lived upon the farm, which was three miles northwest of Springfield, occasionally making a few plows as farmers furnished the means to procure the iron work, not being able to manufacture them upon an extensive scale. During the time I made frequent trips to St. Louis, Mo., by team, taking grain and other produce and bringing back merchandise for Springfield merchants, and hauled timber for the Springfield & Meridota railroad, which was the first road ever built in Illinois.

In the fall of 1840, I removed to McLean county, locating at Stout's Grove, where I built a log shop and began the manufacture of plows upon a more extensive scale by engaging Bunn & Ellsworth of Bloomington to make the iron work, stocking them with wood myself. After getting a number completed, I hauled them around over the country to find a market for them, taking notes for most of the sales. Times were so close and money so scarce that the business proved unprofitable as I was obliged to pay cash for the work done by the Bloomington firm. Having no patent upon the invention, others with more means soon began manufacturing them and I was forced to abandon what was rightfully my own.

(To be continued.)

EARLY HISTORY.

PEQUOT IN NARRAGANSETT WEEKLY.

AUGUST, 1860.

In my last I traced the Block Island Rathbuns from the first arrival of the family at Plymouth, in 1620, through John Rathbun, (1) John Rathbun, (2) who were among the very first settlers, Samuel Rathbun (1) and Samuel Rathbun (2). The latter as we have seen married Elizabeth Dodge and had four children; Walter, Samuel, [3] Elijah and Betsey,

THE GROTON, CONN., BRANCH.

The Groton branch of the Rathbun family, are descendants of the above Elijah, who was born May 28, 1740, and married Betsey Burrows, of Groton, where he settled. His first wife died of small-pox, and he married the second time, widow Dessie (Packer) Walworth, daughter of Ichabod Packer. He died in Groton Feb., 14, 1825, in the eighty-fifth year of his age.

His children by his wife, Betsey Burrows (died 1767) are; Benjamin, born 1766, died Oct., 13, 1795, aged twenty-nine years. Captain Samuel, [4] born 1767, died April 3, 1840, aged sixty-three years. Lucretia, died a young woman. Nancy married James Sawyer of Groton. Betsey married Elijah Rose of Block Island.

Children by his second wife, Widow Walworth who died in 1815, were; Desire, married Richard Bill of Bozea. (Deacon) Elisha, born Dec., 14, 1782, died May 5, 1858. Hannah, married Captain Silas Beebe and died Oct., 27, 1812.

I shall now trace the descendants of the above children of Elijah Rathbun. Benjamin, the oldest son of Elijah and Betsey (Burrows) Rathbun, married Elizabeth Packer, daughter of John Packer Sr. and Hannah (Avery) his wife. He left two children, viz: Lucy and Nathan. Lucy, married Captain Lodowic Latham and left four children viz: Benjamin Rathbun, Lodowic, Justin, Lucy and Edmund.

Captain Benjamin R. the oldest son, married Esther Holmes, daughter of Captain Jeremiah and Ann (Barridell) Holmes and was lost at sea, Sept., 4, 1842, aged thirty years, leaving two children. Justin, the second son of the above Lodowic and Lucy R. Latham, married Caroline Ascenett, daughter of Joseph Latham of Chicago, Illinois. Lucy the only daughter of Lodowic and Lucy Latham, married first, Captain Ambrose H. Burrows Jr., who died at sea, leaving one son. She has since married Rev. D. Henry Miller of Meriden, and they have one son.

Edmund, the youngest son of Lodowic and Lucy R. Latham, lives in Texas. This ends the generation of Lucy Rathbun, only daughter of Benjamin and Elizabeth (Packer) Rathbun.

Nathan Rathbun the only son of Benjamin and Elizabeth, married Phebe Wood of New York city, where they still reside with their children, viz: Elizabeth, William, Lucy and Charles.

I now return to (Captain) Samuel Rathbun, (4) the second son of Elijah and Betsey [Burrows] Rathbun, married

Nabby Burrows. She died in 1853. Their children were eleven, viz: Betsey, married Joseph Fish, and had five daughters. Nancy, died unmarried in 1854, aged fifty-six years. Desire, married Eliza Latham, and died at sea, leaving four children. John S., married Lucy A. Packer and has three children.

Luther married Henrietta Potter and has three children. He married a second time, Mary Chipman and they have three children.

Henrietta married William E. Chester, leaving four children. William married Harriett Rice, and has five children. Samuel married Phebe Packer, and had six children. Calvin married Rebecca Prémice and has eight children.

To return again to Nancy; the oldest daughter of Elijah and Betsey [Burrows] Rathbun, married James Sawyer and died in 1831, leaving two children, viz: John, died young, Nancy, married Lemuel Burrows and left six children.

Betsey, the youngest daughter of Elijah and Betsey (Burrows) Rathbun, married Elijah Rose, of Block Island, and left one son, Rev. Elijah Rathbun Rose, yet living. Thus ends the descendants of Elijah Rathbun by his first wife, Betsey Burrows. I now trace his descendants by his second wife, widow Desire Walworth.

Desire, the sixth child of Elijah Rathbun, married Richard Bill, of Bozea, was born in 1781 and died in 1800, leaving one daughter, Desire Bill (2) who married Charles Eldredge Deacon.

Elisha Rathbun, the seventh child of Elijah, married Lucretia Packer, daughter of John Packer, and Hannah, the youngest child of Elijah Rathbun, married Capt. Silas Beebe, of Groton, and died Oct., 27, 1812, leaving two children: Edwin, died in early childhood, and Silas Beebe Jr., married Charlotte Wade.

—o—

INTERESTING LETTERS.

The following letter is given as it was written in 1799, the original copy of which is now in the possession of Mr. Cooley. It will be noticed that the writer is speaking of a portion of our country in which a great many of our family have spent their lives, made fortunes and found fame. The address was written thus:

.....
 : MR. JOSEPH A. RATHBUN, :
 : TOWNSHIP 4, ELEVENTH RANGE, :
 : NEAR COMISTED SETTLEMENT, :
 : State of New York. :
 :

NEW YORK, Jan'y 3, 1799.

DEAR BROTHER:—Scarcely a day has passed since I left you, without reflecting on the situation I found and left you in, with anxious concern for your present and future welfare. If I recollect right you were in possession of, between sixteen and seventeen hundred acres of land, for which you were indebted, rising of \$3,000. part of which already began to draw interest. There was due to you from Mr. Dana, \$1200., which debt you looked upon to be doubtful.

The interest, my brother, on so large a sum is a mischeivous thing, unless a person has an income sufficient, punctually, to discharge it. There is no prospect, in my opinion, of lands rising again very soon, and should your land ultimately rise in value on account of settlements being actually made, I much fear that the time will be so far distant that the interest being added to the first cost of the land will over balance the price that it will then fetch. With this view of the subject my advice to you is by all means to compromise the matter with Col. Williamson and, if possible, prevail on him to take part of the land back again. Also, the note which you hold against Mr. Dana in payment, that you may be released from paying interest. I sincerely wish that you would get rid of the land altogether and would realize one-half the sum you supposed yourself to be worth when you left Wilksbaue; say \$600, because I think your prospects of acquiring property would be much better than they are now. I am unwilling that you should spend your days in a wilderness deprived of many of the comforts of life, without being in a situation to acquire property. If you were in circumstances to add to your property rapidly, it would be some compensation for depriving yourself of the society of your friends and many conveniences which are only to be obtained in an old settled country. Having gone thus far I will venture to suggest two plans for your consideration, either of which, if

adopted by you, I think, will be much to your advantage: The first is to come to New York; the second is to go into the Northwestern Territory. "Move to New York!" (say you), "What shall I do there?" Don't be frighetned brother Joseph; there are many advantages in this city which the country people know nothing of. There are a multitude of people here whose abilities, either natural or acquired, do not exceed yours, and a great proportion of them are far inferior to you in point of knowledge; yet these people live and the principle part of them live very comfortably. If you were here with \$1,500 in cash, I have no doubt that with industry and a common blessing, you might treble your property in seven years, and maintain your family. I have known some people in this city who have purchased a large quantity of wood, say several hundred cords, in the summer season and sold it out in the winter for double the money it cost them. We have a recent instance of it this winter and it has been the case heretofore since I have lived in this city. I could mention many other advantages or chances of acquiring property but shall not have room.

I have lately had an offer of one-half of a brewery. The gentleman who owns it is an Englishman and is going to Europe; his partner who lives, and will remain here, is a very steady man, understands the business and wishes me to buy it. If you was here I believe I should (whether you had any money to

advance towards it or not) put you into business. The profit issuing from the business (I am told) is generally about seven or eight hundred dollars a year. He seemed to be desirous that I would buy and that you would come and help him carry on the business, etc.; besides it is my opinion that you might get a living here by teaching music for a time, until something better offered. I now come to the second proposition, viz; the Northwestern Territory. I am, at present, the proprietor of 3,400 acres in the military tract in that country and am in daily expectation of seeing an advertisement in the papers requiring all the holders of military warrants to bring them to Philadelphia for the purpose of being registered. The advertisement is to be continued for nine months at the end of which the proprietors are to draw for priority of location; he who is so fortunate as to draw the first number is to take his first choice and so on in succession until ALL of the proprietors or holders of warrants have drawn and the remainder (which it is supposed will amount to one-fourth or one-third of the whole tract surveyed for this purpose) will belong to the United States. One of the surveyors of the tract has paid me a visit, who informs me that 'here is a great difference in the quality of the land, some parts of it are excellent and some are very poor. It will therefore be necessary for me, by some means, to obtain the needful information, that I may be able to make a judicious choice

when my turn comes. If you will go into that country and spend the coming summer in exploring the land and keep a journal or minutes of each quarter township so as to enable me to choose the best land, I will give you one thousand acres for your services which shall be equal in goodness with my lands generally, and if you settle there will make you my agent to sell out the remainder of my land to settlers. Several members of congress are largely concerned in this tract of land whose interest it will be to use all their influence to promote the settlement of it, and it is generally expected it will settle fast as soon as it is drawn for. Then there is already a chain of settlements from Marietta up the Muskingum almost to the line; and I am further informed that a considerable number of families intend to move onto the tract as soon as their lands are designated. If you should incline to explore the country I will give you a letter of introduction to my friend in Marietta, and I have no doubt I shall be able to find one or more persons that will accompany you in the business. Indeed it is my opinion that there will be twenty or thirty men out on the land next summer for the express purpose of finding out where the most advantageous situations are. I would suggest the propriety of your keeping the matter a secret if you intend to leave your present situation for perhaps you cannot make so advantageous a settlement with Col. Williamson if it is known

that you are about to leave the country.
I should have sent you some clothes but
have had no opportunity; nevertheless
if you can come and see me you shall
not go away empty. With love to your
dear wife and family, I am,

Your Brother,

JOHN RATHBONE.

P. S.—Pray write to me as soon as
possible after you receive this and in-
form me particularly how your affairs
are; whether you found your cow that
was missing when I left you, etc.

—o—

TIME IS FLEETING.

BY W. G. RATHBUN.

Time is fleeting; the days go by,
Like the weavers shuttle; almost fly.
From youth to age; only a span,
Let us do all the good we possibly can.

Then do not stand waiting; some great deed in view,
But the present improve—find something to do.
Your purse may be empty and nothing in store;
You can comfort the sorrowing that come to your door.

If you cannot lift the burdens others have to bear,
(For many around you are laden with care)
You can by your presence, encouragement lend.
And teach them to know that you are a friend.

If you cannot go aloft to reef the top-sail,
You can stay below, the water to bail.
If you cannot do that, help ballast the boat,
And by encouraging words, keep the vessel afloat.

Like Dorcas of Joppa, go about doing good
To the hungry and starving—carry them food.
Then like her, when you are laid to rest,
Your deeds will be remembered and name be blest.

It is not always food that we hunger for,
Neither is it for raiment we need to wear,
But the greatest hunger one has to contend,
Is when in want of a faithful friend.

In reading these lines, ponder them well,
For more truth than poetry they to you do tell.
Improve the golden moments as they swiftly pass by.
For like the weaver's shuttle, they almost fly.



WILKES GILLETT RATHBUN.

The subject of our illustration was
born in Clyde, Sanduskey county, Ohio,
February 20, 1829, being the fifth son of
Lucius and Rhoda Gillett Rathbun. He
believes that his great grandfather's
name was Jonathan, but some of the
family say it was Thomas. His father
was the fourth son of Jonathan and
Elizabeth Clark Rathbun; born in
Rhode Island, April 17, 1800, and loca-
ted at Green Creek, now Clyde, Ohio,
in 1822. The children of Jonathan and
Elizabeth Clark Rathbun were; Clark,
Chapin, Jonathan, Lucius, Martin, Eliza,
Marvell and Laura.

The children of Lucius were; Derwin
and Franklin, twins, Jonathan, Lucius
Lafayette, Wilkes Gillett, James, Mar-
tin, Vortimer, Emerett and Maryett,
twins, and Emeline, by his first wife.
The children of his second union were;
Francis, Norman, Clark, Caroline, Ade-
line and Rodney,—seventeen in all.

In April, 1846, our subject went to Bellevue to learn the wagon-maker's trade (being then sixteen), where he worked until fall, when the firm for which he was working sold out, and he found his way to French Creek, Ohio, where he was employed for the winter by Jacob Davis, and afterwards by Nathan Graves. The following December he was joined in marriage with Naomi Clark. The children of this union were; Lucius G. and Sumner W.

In January, 1849, he located in North Amherst, where he worked at his trade until 1853, at which time he purchased eighty acres of wild land in Stuben county Indiana, where he lived until 1858, at which time he purchased a water power and saw-mill. In 1863 he built a residence upon the place, said to have been the finest in the vicinity at that time. From December till June of the next year he traveled for a medicine firm of Indianapolis.

In September, 1864, his name was among those upon the last draft for soldiers, but being sick at the time, paid for a substitute, which, with long continued sickness followed by the loss of his wife, left him penniless.

Possessing a spirit of resolution he began again, and after forming a second matrimonial alliance, returned to his native town, Clyde, Ohio, which has ever since been his home.

In 1878 he began fitting up churches, opera houses and school buildings with seats for Andrews & Co., of Chicago, for whom he worked six years, traveling

extensively over the states of Kentucky, West Virginia and Ohio, fitting up some of the best buildings in that territory.

In 1884, he again met with financial and family losses.

August 26, 1886, he was married again; since which time he has enjoyed a good measure of success, and recovered some of the losses sustained in former years. Mr. Rathbun is of a genial, fun-loving disposition and always has a bright word to offer to those around him. He has gained some reputation as a composer of verse some of which is given at the head of this sketch. A letter of recent date closes with this invitation:

And should any choose to ride,
And their route should be by Clyde;
They would find a welcome,
(I'm not in fun)
With wife and I, W. G. Rathbun.

In 1865 he united with the M. E. church and has been a consistent christian worker ever since. As an artist, he has quite a reputation in the line of photo oil painting.

Mr. Rathbun is another illustration of the sturdy manhood of the family; having started in life with nothing but those inherent qualities of industry, frugality and honesty, coupled with an abiding faith in God and man, always recognizing the Fatherhood of one and the common brotherhood of the other.

Success has not closed his heart to those less fortunate, reverses have not scoured his temper nor impressed him with the idea that the hand that rules the universe has become unsteady. In a

letter to your narrator he says: "John Rathbun Sr., of Newark, Ohio, told me that a Rathbun came to Ohio from Connecticut, in an early day and entered land between Newark and Zanesville, a distance of thirty miles, so that he could walk upon his own tract from one town to the other, but returned and died, and the land went back to the state."

—o—

The following complimentary though pathetic lines were addressed to a scion of the family and accompanied a May basket, filled with choice flowers and sand, which was hung upon his door. He has exhausted his detective powers in search of the ardent though secretive author, but fears the golden opportunity will be lost as the waning months of Leap Year crowd upon him with cold and cheerless mockery:

Rathbone, if you only had a little more sand,

You might get a wife in this broad land;
Then your joys would be great,
If you with the right one would mate.

This as you well know is Leap Year,
That is why I show my love to you my dear,

I'll be the truest of true loves to you,
If you make up your mind that I will do.

Rathbone, you have the money,
And I'm as sweet as honey,
And with the two together,
Our hearts will be as light as a feather.

CHILDREN'S CORNER.

Conducted by Miss ANTOINETTE RATHBONE Herndon, Kansas, to whom all communications should be addressed.

We would like to hear of all the honors won by our children during the year which has just opened so full of promise to us all. Among so many gifted young people there are sure to be some who win the laurels at the games, gain the prize at the contest, or win applause "behind the footlights" of the school room rostrum.

Now if you will report the successes of your friends, some one will surely do you the kindness when it comes your turn to bear off the palm.

—o—o—

Cousin Viola Wright, whose letter appeared in the July number, is a valued member of our circle, being a sweet little lady possessed of rare musical talent, playing the violin nicely. We hope to hear from her again as we are much interested in her progress.

—o—o—

We take pride in giving the following communication to our little readers:

The prettiest boy baby in Hardin county, Iowa, is little Harry Rathbone Lockwood, ten months old, grandson of Gideon Rathbone. He was awarded first prize at our county fair, Sep., 9, 1892. Prize, six dollars in gold. Now, little cousins, don't be ashamed of any of our little folks, for he is only a fair specimen of you all. So long as your actions compare with your beauty, no

one can find any fault with you. Little Harry's parents live two miles south-east of Steamboat Rock, so you see he is a country baby and is a very sweet child with a smile for everybody.

—o—o—

We have received many complimentary words regarding the letter, "A trip to a Mining Camp," by Earl Bigalow. In answer to several inquires we will say that Master Earl is a young lad not yet in his teens, and that he prepared his letter without assistance of any kind.

PERSONALS.

—Miss Waldine Rathbone, of Marietta, Ohio, is the guest of her sister, Mrs. E. S. Lee, at Coshocton.—Cincinnati Enquirer.

—Miss Mae Rathbun has been dangerously ill at the home of C. G. Rathbun, in Mitchell, South Dakota. Her mother, Mrs. S. W. Rathbun, of Marion, Iowa, was telegraphed for.

—The Marion(Iowa) Register comes to our table with the name of S. W. Rathbun, flying at the mast head as editor. The editorials are solid and the readers of the Register have a thinker as well as a worker to furnish their weekly information.

—A century run under the auspices of the academy athletic association was had Saturday. There were about twenty entries, but only five started. They were Edward Rathbun, Albert O. Foster,

Harvey Wicks, Leland T. Waugh and Fred Owen. At 4:20 a. m. the start was made from Oneida square. All the riders reached Cooperstown about twelve o'clock and started for home at two o'clock. Rathbun was the first to arrive in the city at 9:05. A half hour later Foster came in. Waugh, while riding down a steep hill near Bridgewater, had the misfortune to fall and injure his back and face. Owen punctured his tire near Winfield and was obliged to come to Utica by train. Wicks was unable to finish in the allotted time, which was 18 hours. The winners were awarded gold medals valued at \$5 each.—Utica (N. Y.) Herald.

—In an account of the ball given by the Veiled Profits at St. Louis, recently, which appeared in the Globe-Democrat, was the following:

—Miss Helen Rathbun, pretty and becoming toilet of red crepe, made with demi-train; corsage V, trimmed with red embroidered chiffon, white gloves, red shoes and fan.

Miss Rathbun's home is in Springfield, Missouri.

—ROCKFORD, Ill., Oct., 10.—Mrs. William Woodruff, an Ohio woman, visiting at Pecatonica, aged eighty years, was fatally injured in a runaway here this morning, and her brother, H. Whittlesy, received injuries which, it is feared, will prove fatal. Mr. Whittlesy is probably the oldest justice of the peace in the state, he having held the office continuously for fifty years. They with

several others were on their way to a family reunion when the runaway took place.

[We don't know whether these are relatives or not but Mr. Cooley recently sent several addresses of that name. —Ed.]

—Mrs. Louise Rathburn, of Cincinnati Ohio, after a delightful summer abroad, has returned home.

—Mr. G. Frank Rathburn, of Shelby, Ohio, was a visitor at the Great Northern Hotel in Chicago last week.

—Miss Frances L. Rathbone has returned to Washington D. C., after a six weeks vacation spent in Ohio.

—Fred B. Leyns, son of Mrs. Omer Leyns of Utica, N. Y., holds a position with the Illinois Steel Co., in Chicago.

—Miss Lillie Rathbone has joined her sister at Herndon, Kansas, and will "keep house" while Miss Antoinette "keeps school."

—Miss Lizzie Dean Rathbone of Chicago, takes a working interest in the HISTORIAN and furnishes many items of news.

—Wm. H. Rathbone of Craigholm, Ont., has built a new barn this fall, which adds greatly to the convenience of his thriving farm.

—Mrs. Maria L. Rathbun Billings and husband of Perry N. Y. are spending a month with their son Charles E. Billings and family at St. Paul, Minn.

—Miss Kate B. Rathbone resides with her parents on the "Glendale Farm" of 500 acres located on the banks of the Minnesota river, four miles from Redwood Falls. A portion of the farm is used for large herds of blooded stock, principally the Polled Angus, and several head of valuable sheep and swine. A good many acres of land are cultivated by R. B. Rathbone assisted by four brave Rathbone boys—Will, Fred, Ed. and Bolivar. Miss Kate B. superintends the Dairy department, from which many hundreds of pounds of gilt edged butter is made annually.

—R. W. Rathbone, Jr., died recently at West Baden Springs, Ind., of neuralgia of the heart. Funeral from the Church of the Epiphany, corner of Adams and Ashland av. Interment at Rosehill.

Although he had been in poor health for some time his death was sudden and unexpected and will be deeply regretted by his wide circle of friends. He was an old member of the board of trade and quite prominent in social circles. He was a son of the present flour inspector, and married a daughter of A. B. Pullman, prominently connected with the Pullman Palace Car company.—The Evening News.

—G. G. Rathbone and wife arrived in Eureka Monday night from Wilsonville Nebraska.

—C. F. Rathbone was one of Eureka's representatives at the territorial convention held in Salt Lake City.

—Mrs. Mortimer Rathbone, of Chicago, has returned from her visit to Colorado Springs and Denver.

—E. H. Rathbone occupied a seat in the Amen corner at the territorial convention at Salt Lake City.—Tintie Miner.

—Frank H. Rathbun is expected from Grand Rapids this month to accept a position with the Union Cold Storage & Warehouse Co., of Chicago, Ill.

—The hearty reception given our Chicago associate on his summer vacation was influenced by his connection with the HISTORIAN, which is so enjoyably read by the Michigan branch of the family.

—Mrs. A. D. Rathbone Sr., of Grand Rapids, is visiting her son A. D. Jr., who is in Chicago finishing his musical education. He recently graduated at Ann Arbor College with highly flattering honors.

—Mrs. Alvira Rathbun Straehan, of Paisley Ont., visited her mother last week at the homestead in East Garafraxa; she also visited her nephew, N. L. Smith, Druggist of Belwood, and her brother W. H. Rathbun of West Garafraxa, Ont.

—Miss S. Annie Rathbun entertained our Chicago associate while at Grand Rapids, Mich., by arranging a delightful camping party at Green Lake, Mich. Miss Rathbun is a most praiseworthy leader and contributed a large share of the fun and pleasures of the trip.

—Eugene W. Rathbun, son of Hugo B. Rathbun, of Grand Rapids, Mich., is now at Oak Park, Ill., attending High School and living with his uncle George E. Gerts, who has so kindly and liberally given him this grand opportunity of securing an education.

—Miss Clara B. Cooper, for years of Long school, and one of the very bright lights among 1 A workers, has taken second grade work at Walnut Hill. The spirit and method of Miss Cooper's work in Omaha has furnished a high ideal to the many teachers younger in experience or success, who have been privileged to visit her room and learn of her.—Omaha Bee.

Mr. Henry Rathbun and wife, and son George and wife, of Woodbine, Ia., and Miss Jane A. Baldwin, of Utica, N. Y., spent Wednesday, Sept. 7, with Kate Rathbun Spaford in Omaha. In all respects 'twas a "red letter day." The HISTORIAN came in for a full share of notice, although the time was all too short "to tell it all." There was so much to be said in this first meeting after the "lapse of years." Mr. Rathbun and wife, and son and wife, and Miss Baldwin are now in Council Grove, Kansas, visiting Mr. Robert Wright, whose wife, Eliza Rathbun Wright, is a sister of Mr. Henry Rathbun. Miss Baldwin's mother was Lorica Rathbun. Mrs Spaford will spend a few days in Woodbine on their return from Kansas, visiting with Miss Baldwin; who will visit numerous friends and relatives on her way from Iowa to Utica.

THE RATHBONE FAMILY HISTORIAN

F. P. RATHBONE, Editor.

Associates:

Geo. A. Rathbun,
1800 Michigan Av., Chicago.Miss Antionette Rathbone,
Herndon, Kansas.Mrs. Myra Rathbun Brownell,
Silver Springs, N. Y.

Others wanted!

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Entered at the postoffice at Oberlin,
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IN AN EDITORIAL WAY.

'Tis a worthy ambition to rise
Above the common level of our fellows;
If in the rising we seek to light
Them to higher ground.
But me thinks there is a cord
That binds us to all humanity.
By it, if we rise,
The race is drawn upward;
If by it alone, we are risen,
We are a weight, to burden
The flight of better men.

—F. P. RATHBONE.

Growth is one of the first evidences
we look for in any enterprise, when
wishing to become identified with it.
Here is one out of dozens of letters of
like nature:

DEAR SIR:—I received the HISTORIAN
today, and find it more interesting than
usual. I have come to watch for it
with much anxiety, and its late appear-
ance this month, caused me to think
that my number had miscarried, and I
was on the eve of inquiring the cause,
when it made its appearance. The in-

terest increases with each number, and
as its wavelets spread out over the sur-
face of the waters, gathering in others,
who as yet are not in the fold, the in-
terest will continue to increase. I think
you are justified in raising the price of
subscription to even \$5.00 per year,
inasmuch as you have assured us that
the money is to be used in buying
clothes for the baby HISTORIAN. We
should be proud of it and, like a fond
mother, take a pride in seeing her baby
dressed in the height of fashion.

The HISTORIAN is growing in the
hearts of its readers, in the pens of its
contributors, in circulation, in reputa-
tion, in influence for good. It is unit-
ing the family, awakening a sense of
pride in the general reputation of the
name and paving the way for grand
results not yet fully comprehended.
Who may say what would be the limit
of influence swayed by a united people
like ours if once concentrated. No
family can become thoroughly respect-
able unless every member of it is made
to feel his individual responsibility in
making it such. It is our duty to each
other, to mankind and to ourselves, to
make the Rathbone Family an honora-
ble one. History tells us of many
famous families and ours is not want-
ing in this respect already, while there
is yet room for greater lustre in the
galaxy of great families. Education
and agitation will awaken a sense of
pride in them and bring about these
results.

Let other families boast of their en-
terprise, but where is there one outside
of ours that has a publication devoted
entirely to its interests? Is there one

enterprising enough to support such an advocate? We say without egotism that it is something to be proud of, to be the first family in the world to have a journal issued regularly in its interest. It is a matter of history.

The past year the publication has been an experiment, but it has a place for itself in the hearts of its readers that demands the very best efforts of the publisher to bring it up to a standard in keeping with the taste and ideas of the family. With this object in view we shall attempt, with the co-operation of others, to place before our readers a magazine next year that will be the equal of any publication extant, so far as the mechanical construction is concerned. We now have the design for a Title Page, executed by our draughtsman, Mr. Frank R. Rathbun that excells anything we ever saw in this line of work. It will make its first appearance upon the January number, and will be a surprise to everyone. The cost of publication next year will be more than twice as much as it has during the past. The type will be new and a beautiful style; the paper calendered, and the binding much better. In view of all this and to meet its cost the price of subscription will be advanced to two dollars beginning, with the first of Volume II.

We make the following special offer and trust as many as possible will take advantage of it: All new subscribers who send two dollars will receive the

HISTORIAN from the time the money is received till the close of the second volume. All old subscribers who send one dollar and seventy-five cents before December 1st, next, will be credited in full for next year. We make this offer in the hope that money may be received to meet the heavy expenses that will necessarily come up in making the desired improvements.

Many inquiries have been made since last issue, for the early numbers. To such we are sorry to say they cannot be supplied now, earlier than the July number. We have published more than twice as many each month as required for subscribers. Many sample copies have been sent out to those whose addresses could be obtained, but nothing more has been heard from them. When the first number was published we had but little idea that enough interest could be awakened to warrant going to any expense, but the warm reception given it and the many kind letters received, were too much appreciated to be thrust aside. The time seemed to have come and the family demanded just such a medium of communication as a monthly magazine could become. The editor never worked harder nor took a deeper interest in any subject than he has in the publication of the HISTORIAN. It is gratifying to note the growing interest that is being manifested in the undertaking, coming from all parts of the country. The present outlook for the second vol-

time is most promising, and we would urge the importance, both to publisher and subscribers, of sending in your name at once and thus be sure of getting all that is published in the future. Those who are unfortunate enough to have missed getting part of the first volume will realize the force of this.

Let us make the New Year Number of the HISTORIAN especially attractive by having as much interesting reading as possible. It will be published and mailed so as to reach all subscribers by the first of the New Year, which will make it necessary to get out two numbers in December. To do this we must ask some help. Many are now making it a point to send Personals, Clippings and News which is greatly appreciated. This is the only way to make the work a success, and we trust all readers will make it a point to send anything they see or hear, that relates to family matters.

There will be three pages of the cover devoted to advertising next year, and these should be taken by the family, as there must be enough business represented in our circle to fill that amount of space. Remember that the HISTORIAN goes into almost every state in the union as well as to many points in Canada and England. It is only a question of support that prevents the HISTORIAN from becoming a thirty-two page magazine.

Subscription price has been received from each of the following, adding their names to our list of friends: W. G. Rathbun, Clyde, O., Lawrence B. Rathbone, Wellfleet, Neb., Mrs. D. S. Manley, Richfield Springs, N. Y., Mrs. Wm. P. Eno, Mrs. Emma Lallander, Sangatuck, Vt., Mrs. Henry A. Rathbone, New Orleans, La., Chas. A. Raynor, Clarence, N. Y., Rev. George Herbert Patterson, South Portsmouth, R. I., Fred B. Leyns, Chicago, Prof. Richard Rathbun, Washington, D. C., Mrs. Adam Sproul, Jamesport, Mo., Levant W. Rathbun, Warren, N. Y., Lucy E. Webb, Pequannoc, N. Y., Jean Rathbone, New York City.

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