

Volume II

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# The RATHBONE FAMILY HISTORIAN

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

Associates and Contributors.

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# THE RATHBONE FAMILY HISTORIAN.

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*Frank B. Rathbone*





## FRANKLIN ROOT RATHBUN.

BY REV. FRANK D. PENNY.

As a man, as an artist, as an author, we wish to speak of Mr. Franklin Root Rathbun. He was born at Burlington, Vermont, Oct. 28, 1838. He is the son of the late Samuel Root Rathbun, a native of Pittsfield, Mass. Having been educated in the public schools of Winooski Falls, and in the Union High School of Burlington, Vermont, and in Fort Edward Collegiate Institute, New York, until he became seventeen years of age, when he engaged in active business, and independent study, in which he has ever since been busy.

From Vermont Samuel Rathbun removed to Glenham, Dutchess county, New York, where he became Superintendent of the "Glenham Woolen Mills," owned by Messrs R. and H. Dart & Co., of New York City, young Frank acting as book-keeper for this concern.

From Glenham, after a term of service in the army, he went to Worcester, Massachusetts, where he became head draftsman in the Cleveland Manufacturing Company. Thence he went to New York City to assume, and acceptably filled, the position of head draftsman for the American Artisan, just started, and in 1865 removed to Auburn to join his father, who at that time was agent of the Auburn Woolen Company. For the Auburn Mills he served in the mechanical and practical departments. Having no special taste for this business, he launched out into an independent career of mechanical designing and drafting. From that day to the present, he has been engaged, more or less, with the large and well known firm of D. M. Osborne & Company.

Socially, Mr. Rathbun is cordial with his friends, versatile in conversation and manner, and agreeable as a companion. He is not particularly fond of that phase of social life which brings promiscuous excitement; but he prefers, rather, the quiet sociability of the home, and is most completely satisfied with favorable scenes and opportunities for visiting Nature's voiceful haunts where he may "hold communion with her visible forms."

"And this our life, exempt from public haunt,  
Finds tongues in trees, books in the running brooks,  
Sermons in stones, and good in everything."

When he is alone, he is not alone.

The subtle influences of life find ready and easy access to his soul. If there are whisperings in the air, and in the minute chambers of the

earth over which we move, our neighbor and friend has an ear to catch them, and a mind to discern their import.

A glance at the accompanying portrait will convince all of his personal attractiveness, and native strength of character.

During the years devoted to business Mr. Rathbun's aggressive mind has been active in other lines. Scientific and literary studies have never been absent from his mind. What he would have attained in the world of science and letters had his life been exclusively and judiciously devoted thereto, may be easily estimated, when we compute the proportions which are demanded by the breadth of foundation, both in his native abilities and genius, and the character of his actual accomplishments. Mr. Rathbun is a natural artist. His mechanical designing, his drawings of birds from nature, and his hand colorings of of them are proof positive of this statement. His designs for the publishing companies are excellent in the extreme. Since this is but a sketch of a character, we can do little more than make the few strokes that will cause the bold figure to stand out for introduction to the reader. Probably ill health during a part of Mr. Rathbun's life, has been the main reason why he has not so developed as to fill a large place as instructor in the departments of Art and Science, for Natural History finds in him not only a lover, but a master. In that beautiful production: "Bright Feathers, or Some North American Birds of Beauty," we find a wonderful union of scientific and literary talent. Various birds are presented as if in action, and in their natural colors, by his own hand accompanied with an accurate and fascinating history of habits, etc.

We see here a living proof, that it is most desirable to develop the mind on every side, for even the home influence, and for personal uplift. Yet Mr. Rathbun's works have not stopped at home; they have found their way to thousands of homes, as they were published in the press of Auburn, and Rochester, and in the "American Rural Home." The author makes no secret of the fact that he has reveled most joyfully in his Ornithological work. He is an associate member of the "American Ornithological Union."

As an author Mr. Rathbun has won not only a reputation, but he has demonstrated the fact that he possesses every talent which authorship demands. In "The Diamond and the Dagger;" in "The Pig and the Potation," in "Old Toys and Pastimes, etc.;" in "Simple Studies in Bird Life," he has shown clear, concise, forceful, racy, witty,



entertaining and instructive style. And the subject-matter of his thought is substantial.

When one sits, for an hour, now and then in the studio with Mr. Rathbun, and takes notice of the multitudinous engravings and designs of his own construction, and also examines the books on Geology, Minerology, Natural Science, Zoology, etc., etc., besides the newest and best of books on living issues, the best of magazines; and where the subject of conversation is considered, it takes not long to decide that here is true genius. True culture is a matter of moral and mental constitution, acting in obedience to the higher life-purposes. Inwrought in the inner self are the real secrets of power in any line. Imagination, aspiration, primal promptings of thought, are all deep-rooted and rise out of the rich sub-soil of native worth, constantly fertilized by careful gleanings of living truth. To the natural artist there comes thought and feeling unutterable; but with pen and pencil and life movements he reveals what he cannot speak.

Mr. Rathbun has been a patriot in the War of the Rebellion. He was First Lieutenant of New York Volunteers and is now a member of the G. A. R.

Religiously, Mr. Rathbun declares himself to be "a believer in the true and living God."

I have taken great pleasure in presenting to the friends of the "Rathbone-bun" circle, so able, and so useful a man as Franklin Root Rathbun. I have spoken as a neighbor and friend. Any one who will call and take up the heavy volumes of carefully gleaned writings upon the topics dear to his heart, and listen to the instructive discourse which will inevitably fall from his lips, will be glad that in the genealogical line, there stands at least one forcible personality, Franklin Root Rathbun, the man, the artist, the author, the home teacher.

Mr. Rathbun was married December 5, 1865, to Miss Helena Simon Phillips of Brooklyn, New York, and has had two children, a daughter and son; the latter of which is deceased.

AUBURN, N. Y.

#### EXPLANATORY OF THE DESIGN FOR TITLE PAGE OF THE RATHBONE FAMILY HISTORIAN.

BY FRANK R. RATHBUN.

The ribbon placed at the top margin of the page, and represented in folds or creasings, the whole bearing a trailing vine, is intended to be emblematic of the various ramifications or branches of the family and its average fruitfulness. The

scheme of the whole design is intended as a section of a library; with a shelf showing in the upper left hand corner, on which the completed and bound volumes and the current unbound numbers of the HISTORIAN rest.

On the left margin, which is a stile of the library, is placed the Roman fasces, erect, which is an emblem not only of strength and power, but is used as a mace in high judicial and other bodies, or *Bundesrath*, as designated in the German tongue. It is also a bearing in the arms of the Rathbones, of Liverpool, and enters into the crest of the same family as given by Burke, in his "General Armory." On the leash of the fasces, is inscribed the motto, "*Suaviter et fortiter*,"—(Mildly and firmly,) which is given by Burke as the family motto.

In the upper right hand corner, is a coat of arms, argent, (silver), charged with three doves azure, (blue.) Above the shield, and standing on the usual wreath of the colors of the house, is a dove holding in its beak an olive branch. This arms and crest is given by Burke as the general blazon of the name Rathbone.

For the two shields beneath, the designer is indebted to Gen. E. G. Rathbone, Fourth Assistant Post Master General, U. S., the central of which is blazoned as follows in the *Herald's* office Dublin, "To any family of the name Rathborne." "Per saltire or, (gold) and argent, (silver), four torteaux cross-wise; on a chief azure, (blue), a bee volant of the first, (gold.)" The shield to the left is derived from the same source which says: "The surname of Rathbone, an ancient and reputable family of Ireland, bears for arms, Field argent, (silver), a cross azure, (blue), between four roses gules, (red), barbed vert, (green). Crest,—On a wreath of its colors, (silver and blue), a rose gules, stalked, leaved and barbed vert; motto—*Vincit qui patitur*, (He conquers who endures)." The crest and motto which do not appear in the design, are recorded in this connection for the benefit of the heraldic student.

Hung by a chain on the left hand marginal stile and beneath the Roman fasces already described, is the well known badge of the popular order of the Knights of Pythias, which is introduced in honor of the founder thereof, Justus H. Rathbone, for an account of which see the HISTORIAN for February, 1892. The badge is blazoned in its colors of black, gold or yellow, (represented by the conventional dots for that color) and red or gules, also conventionally represented by vertical lines.

On the right marginal stile, in close proximity to the shield first described, is a "Rath," defined



by Webster as "a hill or mountain, a fortress." From the top of it flies a banner charged with the family initial. On the same stile, lower down, is represented a portion of the crest of the Liverpool Rathbones, which in full is—the Roman fasces fessways in front of a lion's head ppr., [proper] gorged with a collar argent, [silver], charged with two roses gules, [red].

The emblems of husbandry, manufacture, mechanics, science, war, art, music and literature, are introduced as appropriate to the varied avocations of those bearing the family name, above the lower margin, which is composed in part of a ribbon in folds, having represented thereon the red roses and the golden bezants which are charges on the shield of the Liverpool house as blazoned by Burke.

The spots in the background of the shield and crest first mentioned, are ermine spots taken from the Liverpool arms, and introduced to balance the color effect of the design.

Auburn, N. Y.

### GIDEON RATHBONE.

BY J. Q. RATHBONE.

*Continued from Page 185, Vol. I.*

After the death of my wife, which left me alone in the world, as it were, for all of my children were grown and married, except my youngest daughter, and in business for themselves, I concluded to sell my Iowa farm and retain my Florida farm and orange grove, and spend my winters in the South and my summers in the North, as I chose. My son Onatus purchased 192 acres, which included all of my improved lands in Hardin county, except 120 acres of timber lands, which adjoined the portion sold.

In the early part of the winter of 1875-6, I went to Florida, spending the winter there, making repairs on my place and improving the orange grove. In the spring I returned to the North, stopping at Danvers, McLean county, Illinois.

April 25th, 1876, I was united in marriage with Mrs. Lucy A. (Brooks) Howell, widow of my first wife's brother. At this time she had in charge the farm left to the family at the death of her husband, Mr. Jacob Howell. On this farm we remained for about a year after our marriage. She then rented the farm and we removed to Hardin county, Iowa, in the spring of 1877, and I soon put up a small house on my land and began preparations for opening up another farm;

and in the course of two or three years had the timber removed and the ground prepared for cultivation. I also built a substantial house, a convenient barn and other outbuildings, all put up with the thought of making this my last home.

Finding that it was not compatible for me to make further preparations for living or spending any considerable time in Florida I gave up that idea, but still retained the property there.

Learning that it was running down and in need of repairs, in company with my son John, I started on another trip for Florida on January 13th, 1878, to look after the property there.

Finding that the fencing had decayed to such an extent as to require rebuilding with new material, we went to work and made new posts, procured new fence lumber from Jacksonville, and spent three weeks rebuilding the fences on the place and then returned home. In the fall of 1880 I made arrangements with my youngest son, Winfield, to take charge of my place in Florida, which he did; but when the extreme heat of summer in that climate came on his family were taken sick and were obliged to return to the North to regain their health. After an absence of about one year, his family returned, he remaining to market his farm products and oranges. But before he could do this he was taken sick, with a fever there known as "break-bone fever," but which in reality was a mild form of "yellow fever." He came near dying, but in February was able to return, although very much emaciated, and so thoroughly impregnated with the malaria of the country that he did not fully recover for a year or more. This proved to be the last attempt of any of my family to make Florida their home.

During my visits to Florida I made the acquaintance of two of the children of my mother's youngest brother, Cornelius Taylor, of whom I have before spoken as the uncle with whom we first stopped on our arrival in the territory of Illinois in 1816.

They were Mrs. C. B. Ochus and Charles D. Taylor, both living in Jacksonville, Fla.

I was informed by Charles that when he was a boy he spent some years in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, with Gen. Zach. Taylor, who was his father's cousin, and attended school there while living with the General.

During one of my trips to Florida I went, in company with Charles Taylor, to Mayport, on the coast of the Atlantic ocean and at the mouth of the St. Johns river, where he showed me the ruins of the first government lighthouse, built there about 1832 by his father. A new one had recently been built on a much more elevated



place and the old one abandoned, and then was in ruins.

On the morning of June 7th, 1889, my wife prepared the breakfast meal, ate as usual, but in an hour was stricken down with heart failure and died, again leaving me without a companion. To me she had been a faithful, kind and affectionate wife, and her sudden death was a shock from which I have never fully recovered. In the latter part of the autumn I took a trip to visit some of my children whom I had not seen for years, also a sister, visiting my daughters, Mrs. Victoria Conger at Woodward, Iowa, Mrs. Mary Gillidette, Bethany, Missouri, Mrs. Narcissa Taylor and Mrs. Electa Allen, Glen Elder, Kansas, also my grandchildren at Oberlin, Kansas, and from there to Crawford, Kansas, where I found my only living sister, Mrs. Electa Fail, who was living with her sons, Bolivar and Webster Fail. She was in her eighty-sixth year and entirely blind, but otherwise in fair health for a person of her age.

By exposure to the weather I had taken a severe cold, and after a brief visit with my sister I hastened on to Jacksonville, Florida, again thinking I would spend the winter there. During my journey from Kansas I had grown constantly worse, and on arriving at Jacksonville I had to have help to get out of the car, and then felt as if my days were numbered; but in a day or two I began to recover, and under the influence of that climate, which is always delightful and invigorating in the winter season, I soon recovered my usual health. After a brief stay I returned to Iowa and made my home with a grandson, Samuel Rathbone, to whom I had let my farm for the year. During the year I sold my Iowa farm to S. S. Lockwood, husband of my youngest daughter, reserving rooms for myself for my remaining years of life. With them I have lived for a little more than a year, and this brings me to my eighty-third year, and finds me awaiting the summons into that great unknown from whence none ever return to inform us of what lies beyond.

NOTE.—In the foregoing sketch, the narrative has been in the first person, and was written and submitted to him for his approval, to the time when he removed from Illinois to Iowa in 1853; and when that date was reached he said to the writer: "You know the rest and can write it whether I direct you or not;" and as this was in July last, and for want of time in the attention of my personal matters, nothing more was written until after his death, but was continued as in the first person.

His health continued to be quite good until the

day before his death. Only a few days before he was taken down with his last sickness, he walked from Eldora to his home, a distance of six miles, with apparent ease.

In June he went to an artist and sat for a photograph, the one from which the portrait was taken that has appeared in the HISTORIAN.

At the time of his death the Marshalltown, (Iowa), *Times* said:

At 1 o'clock p. m., August 27, 1892, in the presence of five of his children, all of whom now live in the vicinity of his home, he passed quietly and peacefully away, at the advanced age of eighty-three years and twenty-one days. But few indeed have lived to see their offspring so numerous. He had thirteen children, all of whom were the result of his first marriage. There were six sons and seven daughters:—Edmund E. and Samuel H., deceased at the ages of thirty-eight and thirty-one years, respectively; Onatus C. and John Q., of Steamboat Rock; Isaac F., Red Oak, Iowa; Winfield S., Nemaha, Nebraska; Narcissa [Mrs. Taylor], Glen Elder, Kansas; Celicia [Mrs. Doak], Grundy, Iowa; Electa [Mrs. Allen], Glen Elder, Kansas; Mary J. [Mrs. Gillidette], Bethany, Missouri; Victoria A. [Mrs. Conger], Woodward, Iowa; Frances M. [Mrs. Snyder], Eldora, Iowa; Angela, of Steamboat Rock. The last named is the youngest and is now thirty-seven years of age. His eleven living children were all present at the funeral service, held at the house at two o'clock Tuesday, August 30, Rev. J. E. Keyes, pastor of the Universalist church of Marshalltown, preaching the discourse and using as a text the following from St. Paul. "And as we have borne the image of the earthly, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly." The large assembly of relatives, neighbors and friends all evinced the universal regard and high esteem in which "Father Rathbone" was held by the community.

He may truly be called a pioneer, as he has well kept pace with the civilization of the developing West.

When he came to Illinois the red man had his home there, and when he settled in Hardin county he was still following close on the trail of the Indian in his retreat before the plowshare of civilization. For his generosity and kindness to the needy and early settlers in furnishing food and shelter for man and beast many have remembered and thanked him. His door was always opened to take in the weary traveler when night or cold and hunger impelled such to seek shelter or food. None were ever turned away.

In politics in early life he was a Whig, and



then a staunch Republican, and detested the principle that made any man speak or act with disrespect to his country, the American government, or of that cherished and personal friend of his, Abraham Lincoln, and his efforts to preserve the Union.

In religion, in early life, he became identified with the Baptist church, but in after years he became a Universalist and took an active interest in the spread of this blessed faith, believing that all things were governed and controlled by an unchanging and never failing law, ordered by a power all supreme. That all evil must eventually succumb to good.

As he had lived, so he met death, without fear, but welcomed the final summons as a relief from toil and pain and the infirmities of old age.

His remains were laid to rest in the Cumberland Cemetery and truly "His good works do follow him."

#### A COOL HIGHWAYMAN.

ROBBED HIS VICTIM OF \$700 AND WISHED HIM A  
HAPPY NEW YEAR.

PITTSBURGH, PA., Jan. 4.—"I'll just take that satchel full of envelopes and will relieve you of the trouble of paying off the men at the brick works," said a highway robber to paymaster J. H. Rathburn, of the Kensington Brick Company, at New Kensington, Saturday afternoon. As he said it he stepped between the wheels of Mr. Rathburn's buggy. With one hand he grasped a spoke of the front wheel to prevent the horse from running, and with the other held a revolver so close to the paymaster's nose that the latter shuddered at the touch of the cold steel.

Mr. Rathburn has been in the habit of paying his men off every two weeks. On Saturday he left Pittsburg as usual and proceeded to New Kensington, with over \$700 done up in envelopes. At New Kensington he secured a horse and buggy to drive to the yards, two and one-half miles from the station. He had covered half the distance when a man stepped out and told him to stop. As he did so the man whipped out a revolver.

The paymaster thought the robber also wanted his own purse and watch. As he was handing over the pocketbook, the highwayman, with a courtly bow and wave of the hand, said: "Oh, keep the change. I have a watch and you may need yours. Good afternoon and a happy New Year." With that he ordered the paymaster to drive on. Pittsburgh detectives are now working on the case.—*Daily Palladium*.

#### THE RATHBUNS AND RATHBONES.

BY L. G. RATHBUN.

Soon after this country  
Was by Columbus discovered,  
While from ocean to ocean  
Was a region unknown,  
A ship load of pilgrims  
Came from over the water  
And brought to this country  
The Rathbuns and Rathbones.

With a heart without fear  
And a will to press onward,  
They fought the wild savage,  
Trode the forest unknown;  
They built up our factories  
And cleared up our farms,  
Those brave pioneers,  
The Rathbuns and Rathbones.

When the British invaders  
Came to war with our country,  
No doubt they soon wished  
They were safely at home,  
For among the brave heroes  
Of the old revolution  
Again there was found  
The Rathbuns and Rathbones.

When the late civil war  
Desolated our country,  
And traitors the seed  
Of rebellion had sown,  
There sprang to the breach  
Our nation's brave defenders,  
And among them again  
The Rathbuns and Rathbones.

From the far distant east,  
To the land of the sunset;  
From Mexico's gulf  
To the cold frozen zone,  
In the office and workshop,  
The bench and the pulpit,  
You often will meet  
The Rathbuns and Rathbones.

All hail to our kinsmen,  
Whate'er be your station,  
From the crowds in the cities  
To the prairies alone,  
Stand up for the right,  
Be true to our country  
Nor disgrace the fair name  
Of Rathbun or Rathbone.

Then let us so live  
We can cross the dark river  
With no fears of the future  
Or the dreaded unknown,  
Where angels are singing,  
And saints are rejoicing,  
May there not be one missing  
Rathbun or Rathbone.

Nevada Mills, Ind.

The excursion of the Marsh chorus to Oswego on Thursday was an affair thoroughly enjoyable. Grove L. Marsh should be happy over the outcome, for aside from having a crowded house of Oswego's elite, the concert was one of the most artistic of successes. The Oswego Musical Association proved themselves to be composed of hospitable ladies and gentlemen, to whom Syracuseans are indebted for one of the best times they have ever enjoyed. The Syracuse chorus was composed of over a hundred voices and the Oswego organization of about ninety. The combi-



nation of the two choruses was most successful, every number rendered being marked for its perfect rendition. Mr. Marsh wielded the baton with skill and precision, and the chorus paid strict attention to the beat. The shading and finish were all that could be desired, the crescendo effects being delightfully executed. The Haydn quartet outdid themselves. Their numbers were given in perfect time and with a dash and style which made a reputation for them in the "Lake City." The soloists did themselves credit in every instance.

Miss Francis Rathbun of Deseronto, Ontario, was one of the surprises of the evening. Her voice is really, for cultivation and sweetness, a remarkable one, and she has a very charming stage presence. It is to be hoped that Syracuse may soon have an opportunity of hearing this talented singer.—*Syracuse Herald*.

Some time ago Mrs. Margaret Royce asked, through the HISTORIAN, for some information about a friend of her early life, and a member of the family, Miss Elizabeth Bartholomew. She writes that from that she learned of her death and sends the following clipping. The name of the paper from which it is taken is not given:

ELIZABETH BARTHOLOMEW.

Miss Elizabeth Bartholomew was born August 1st, 1830, in the town of Howard, this county, and died at Culver's Point, Cayuga Co., Dec. 19th, 1890.

She came of good, old New England stock, her ancestors on both sides having come to this country long before the Revolution. Her father, Eber Bartholomew, was born in Connecticut, but when young came with his parents to Howard where almost his whole life was spent. In 1828 he married Elizabeth W. Rathbun, of the same place. Their two children were Ann Eliza, who died in 1857, and Elizabeth, so long and so well known in our town.

Miss Bartholomew received her early education in the district schools in her native town. When she was fifteen years of age she went to Alfred Academy for a more thorough preparation for what she even then felt was her life work.

She began her work here in 1865, but had already taught eight years in Fremont, Howard, Wallace, Greenville, Liberty and other places. From 1865 to 1886, inclusive, twenty-two years, her home was here. During this time she was twice compelled to stop work to recuperate. The only account made of these events in her diary are the brief but pathetic entries: "March 1870,

left school sick, returned Sept. 1871," and again, "1877, out of school for one year, for rest."

In June, 1886, on the death of her father she resigned her position as teacher and went to Howard to be with her mother. In April 1889, she removed with her mother to this town and devoted herself in the same unselfish manner that characterized her whole life, to the care of her one remaining parent. To those who knew her best, there was a touching faithfulness in this care. Her friends saw her rapidly aging under it, but as cheerful as she had always been in her brightest days.

On the death of her mother, June 4th, 1890, she quietly arranged all her affairs, and in September went for a brief visit at Culver's Point, with her friend, Martha (Alexander) Culver, where she was soon taken ill, and where at length she died among her most devoted friends.

Such, briefly, is the outline of a life quite unlike that which comes to most of us. Her deeds of charity were many, but known to none beyond her most intimate friends. She bore her cares, and they were many, with the highest kind of Christian cheerfulness.

Possibly, during her more than twenty years service here, many people thought her life was an easy one, her compensation ample. She served the village of Hornellsville faithfully twenty-two years, counting the time she was disqualified by overwork, and her diary shows that for a life's work she received precisely \$9,606. Surely not a large sum for the service rendered.

A woman so faithful, during so many years, cannot but have left her mark for good on many lives, else the good live in vain.

Those who were of school age when she came, are now, if living, more than twenty-eight years of age, and many hundreds have received something at her hands. About a year ago, a few of her friends, wishing to preserve some memorial of her, secured an excellent crayon-portrait, which now hangs in the academy. When it was known that such an offering was to be made, the money came in from voluntary contributors so freely that two could easily have been purchased.

From early life she had been a Christian, not with a feeble "hope," but with a full "assurance" which made her feel that life was, chiefly, a journey to heaven, a thought expressed in some lines carefully copied by her, and preserved among others of a similar kind:

"What is life, stranger? A race, to be run.  
What is life, worker? A thread to be spun.  
What is life, soldier? A battle, hard fought.  
What is life, youth? A long day of sport.  
What is life, mourner? A breath and a sigh.  
What is life, Christian? A road to the sky."



### RATHBONES IN THE REVOLUTIONARY WAR.

BY W. W. CONE, TOPEKA.

I send you a few notes on the above subject, taken from a publication issued three years ago, from the Adjutant General's office in Hartford, Connecticut, entitled "Connecticut Men in the Revolutionary War." This publication I find in the rooms of the Kansas State Historical Society in this city. It is all of the personal history of those by this name who served in this war, from Connecticut.

Samuel Rathbon served in Capt. Eliphlet Holmes' Company of Minute-men from East Haddam, Conn. The company was raised in 1776.

Asa Rathbone enlisted August 1, 1775, in Capt. Daniel Lyon's Company (7th), under Col. Jedidiah Huntington, of the 8th Regiment, and served until November 16th, 1775. He enlisted March 3, 1777 for the war, in Capt. Troops' Company of the 1st Regiment Connecticut Line.

Benjamin Rathbone enlisted in the Connecticut Militia under Col. Chapman in Seth W. Holmes' Company, August 3, 1778, and was discharged September 14, 1778.

Josiah Rathbone enlisted in Capt. Daniel Beebs' Company of State Troops, under the command of Col. Roger Enos, in 1778. He also served in the 14th Regiment under Col. Charles Burril, enlisting from Canaan, Connecticut.

Theophilus Rathbone enlisted in the 1st Regiment, Connecticut Line, July 15, 1780, and was discharged December 5, 1780. He also served the next year in Capt. Chas. Miels' Company of Militia.

Moses Rathborn enlisted from Colchester, Conn., May 11, 1775, and served until December 11 of the same year, in the 8th Company in the 2nd Regiment, under Col. Joseph Spencer.

Ezra Rathbun was receiving a pension in Connecticut in the year 1818, for his services in the Revolutionary war. The records make no further mention of him.

John Rathbun enlisted at Harwinton, Connecticut, March 27, 1781, in Matthew Smith's Company and was killed April 4, 1781.

Jonathan Rathbun was receiving a pension in 1840. He resided at this time in East Lyme, New London County, Connecticut. No further mention made of him in the records.

Thos. Rathbun served in the 3rd Regiment Connecticut Line, in 1781, in Capt. David Dor-

rance's Company. He received a pension in 1818 for his services, and at this time resided in Pennsylvania.

Ruth Rathbone was receiving a Revolutionary pension in 1832. She was then 81 years old, and resided in Lisbon, Connecticut. No further mention made of her.

### BLOCK ISLAND, R. I.

History informs us that there are three recognized divisions of Block Island—Neck, Harbor and West Side. We claim five—Harbor, Center, South Side, West Side and Neck. At least five are spoken of by our people, and the people in each differ from those in the others. As distinguished original characters we have for the West Side, Simon Ray, who lived where Anderson B. Dickens now lives, Mr. Dickens' present home having been built partly of the one owned by Simon Ray. At this house was made the famous cheese of which Benjamin Franklin wrote to Mrs. Catherine Ray. To this house the unfortunate passengers of the ship *Palatine* were carried, hospitably received and well cared for. Those who died were buried not far from the house on land now owned by Jeremiah C. Rose. James Sands was located near the house now owned by Almanzo Littlefield. His was the stone house so often referred to in history. Thomas Terry had his home on the north part of Indian Head Neck. These were three of Block Island's first settlers, and were noted, the first for his quiet and even temper, for his kind and unassuming disposition, and his God-like ways; the second for his high-toned statesmanship, and the third for shrewdness, self-possession and bravery. He appears to have been a warrior. He was a high-toned hero. Yes, he was the Napoleon on Block Island's battlefield. John Rathbone, the heirs of whom were reported some thirty years ago, as having \$40,000,000 in the Bank of England, was a resident on land now owned by Nathan Mott. His cellar is still visible. A spring of water is near it. It looks as if he was quite wealthy.—*Cooley's Weekly*.

—A passenger said to the pilot of a steamboat, "You have been at this business a long time, I suppose, and know every rock and shoal." "Not by a long ways," was the answer, "but I know where the deep water is."

Experience does take dreadfully high school wages; but he teaches like no other.—*Carlyle*.

'Tis not enough to help the feeble up,  
But to support him after.—*Shakespeare*.



## RATHBONES AND RATHBUNS.

SOME INTERESTING EVENTS IN THE HISTORY OF  
THESE FAMILIES.

The following from the *Omego Palladium* will be read with much interest—in and around Elmira, as we have prominent members of the families, spelling their names both ways, in this city. Elmira, N. Y. paper.

*To the Editor of the Palladium:*

Sir: as there are many descendants of the Rathbone (Rathbun) family in this city and county, will you please insert the following brief account of some portions of it:

George W. Rathbone, a notice of whose death appeared in your paper Monday, was born at Rock City, now Milton, Saratoga county, N. Y., December 13, 1813. His father, Solomon Rathbone was born in Richmond, Berkshire county, Massachusetts, 1778. In 1803 he entered the law office of Judge James Thompson of Rock City as a student of law. In 1806 he was admitted to the bar, and shortly afterward married Lucy Allen Beebe of Lansingburgh, N. Y. In 1817 the family removed to the then far west, and for a time lived at Belgrade, Ill. In 1823 he removed to the "Salines" where his daughter Caroline S. Rathbone, the sole survivor of the family was born. In 1824 he removed to Vincennes, Ind., then a place of about 1,200 inhabitants. Liking the place, he settled there permanently. It was there, shortly after the completion of his education, that G. W. Rathbone entered into business, in which he was quite successful. In 1848 he married Miss Kate Decker, daughter of Dr. Hiram Decker, and soon after moved to Evansville, Ind. to take the management of a bank. He held this position until the Hon. Hugh McCullough entered the cabinet as secretary of the treasury, when he succeeded him as president of the State bank of Indiana. This position he held until, by failing health, he was compelled to relinquish it to go to New York for medical advice and treatment, and where he remained until his death, which occurred in New York city on Sunday, at 6 a. m., March 11, 1882.

Mr. Rathbone was descended from a hardy, vigorous and enduring race. The family originally emigrated to this country from Liverpool, England about 1620. The Liverpool family, of which the deceased was a descendant, was a commercial family, a branch of which was for over 200 years at the head of the merchantile body of that great emporium of commerce. The family were then, as they are now in this country, noted for their independence of character,

integrity, and high sense of honor. They are also here, as they were in England, eminently successful as manufacturers, merchants, bankers and business men. A peculiarity of the family is, none were ever known to be defaulters, a fashionable mania of the present day. John Rathbone came to this country about 1620. His son John married Miss Elizabeth Dodge. In 1660 he, with fourteen others, bought Block Island and in 1661 moved there and settled with their families. It is from Joshua a son of John Rathbone, born on Block Island February 11, 1696, and who married Mary Wightman, the beautiful and accomplished daughter of the Rev. Valentine Wightman of Groton, Conn., that the Rathbones of New York city, Albany, Elmira, Grand Rapids, Michigan, and Deseronto, Ont., are descended. From this Joshua and Mary Card, his first wife, who had a son Joshua, are descended a numerous family, some of whom also live in this city and vicinity, and what is singular is the fact that of two ladies, living on one of the finest streets of the city, and who are next door neighbors, one is a descendant of Joshua and his first wife Mary Card, and the other from Joshua and his second wife Mary Wightman. They probably do not know their near kinship.

The Rathbones were also noted for their patriotism. In 1778 Captain John Rathbone, in command of the United States sloop of war Providence, captured the fort at Nassau, with the town and six vessels, and a large amount of ammunition, all of which he brought away except two vessels. These he burned. Again, while in command of the Queen of France, and in company of the Ranger, he fell in with a large fleet of merchantmen convoyed by a ship of the line and took many of them prizes. He brought eight of those ships into Boston. They were valued at one million dollars. In the war of 1812 John Rathbone, the celebrated New York merchant, contributed \$20,000 to sustain the government in a vigorous prosecution of the war. In the late war of the rebellion the family was well represented. Amos Rathbone, of Grand Rapids, Michigan, contributed largely from his purse to provide for the subsistence of the earliest volunteers that were brought into camp about that city, until the government could provide them a regular commissariat. A portion of the family spell their name Rathbun; this is not correct. Rathbone is the correct English name, but for some reason not well understood, some have changed it to Rathbun.

RECORDER.

To the above may be added the following facts in relation to the Elmira Rathbones and Rathbuns: Like their antecedents, they are pub-



lic spirited, prominent people, just as much so as when, at the time of President Lincoln's call for 75,000 troops, the Hon. John T. Rathbun was one of the first to step forward and put his name to a bond of \$80,000 in order to raise the necessary means in aid of the brave boys' response to the summons. Henry W. Rathbone and John T. Rathbone were identified with others as the founders and builders of Elmira's extensive rolling mills, which have been managed by the former with such signal ability and success. To John T. Rathbun the city is largely indebted for its other great industries, the La France fire engine works, and Hays' truck manufactory. He was at first one of the principal investors in this enterprise, and is still one of its chief proprietors. That well-known, far-famed, first-class hotel, the Rathbun house, also owes its existence to him—and it is an honor to the city that there are such men as the Rathbuns and Rathbones to extend and develop its best and most vital interests. Would there were more of them among us!

From the same Elmira paper.

NOTE—The above was written in 1882. At that time it was supposed that John Rathbone, of Block Island, came from England in 1620. It now appears that this was not the case. It was, in fact, his great grandfather, Richard Rathbone, who came to this country at a much earlier date. We find by the will made by Capt. John Whipple, at Ipswich, Essex county, Massachusetts, 1616, who in it mentions both Rich Rathbone and his wife (the sister of Capt. Whipple) Marion by name. Richard Rathbone was probably married not far from 1596-97, and their first child, William, was born probably not far from 1598.

This certainly should settle the question as to the arrival of the head of the family in this country—years previous to 1620.

JOHN C. COOLEY.

### INTERESTING LETTERS.

The following is written as a private letter, but is so full of interesting facts to subscribers that we take the liberty of making it public:

EDITOR HISTORIAN:—Howard Rathbone, of Oklahoma, can go back five (5) generations, which is more than most of the family can do without help, and I will help him go to the end of his line.

He traces back to Joshua, who married Sarah Tennant, December 4th, 1745. Joshua's father was Jonathan (5th generation,) who married Catherine ———, about 1714. He settled at Colchester, Connecticut; was born on Block Island, 1691. He was a member of the Fort Hill

Church, which holds to open communion, in 1731. This church was organized in 1726.

Joshua, (6th generation,) was a Godly, truth-seeking man, who was loved and respected by all who knew him, and was known as "Deacon Joshua." I have the names and dates of birth of his eight children. I have the names of the descendants of Joshua, Moses and Samuel in great part, but nothing of Elizabeth or Lucy. Tabitha married first, — Teadway, second — Holmes, in 1806.

The children of the first marriage were Sarah and Mary, by the second, Clarissa. Sarah married — Chamberlain and settled in Litchfield, New York.

Jonathan's father was John (4th generation), who married twice; first, January 20th, 1680; second, Ann Dodge, November 11th, 1686. His father, John (3rd generation,) married Margaret Dodge. His father was John, (2nd generation,) son of Richard, (1st generation,) who married Marion Whipple. John, son of the above Jonathan was born in 1715, and married Ann Tennant, March 30th, 1737. They had sons, Amos and Abel and probably other children. Jonathan had besides John and Joshua, Benjamin, who married Mary Cahoon, November 11th, 1742. Joseph and Elizabeth Burrows. I have nothing more relating to the last three. Jonathan's fifth son was Isaiah, twin brother of Joshua, who married Molly Gates, May 9, 1745. They had five children, viz: Ashley, born in Colchester, Connecticut, October 4, 1763. He transferred real estate to his brother Jonathan in 1789 in Pitson, N. Y. This was land he received from his grandfather, Jonathan. Next was Jonathan, half brother of Ashley, born in 1765, and married Hannah Adams of Stonington, Connecticut, November 23, 1789. He was a soldier in the war of the Revolution. I may possibly refer to him again in the near future. His eight children were Jonathan, Deming L., Christopher P., Adams, Hiram G., William, Hannah and Elizabeth. Hiram married Tirzah ———. They had eight children. Hannah married Joshua Comstock. This is all I have of the records of the last two, although I have nearly all of the descendants of the rest except Jonathan, who married Mariah Smith, and was in the grocery business in New York City, in 1824. He had four children of whom I have no names except the youngest, Deming, born July 1, 1824. Some of their descendants take the HISTORIAN, and I trust they will aid, through its columns, in tracing the balance of this line. Fay Potter Rathbun, of Hornellsville, N. Y., is descended from Richard (1st



generation), the direct line being, Richard [1], John [2], John [3], William [4], William [5], William [6], William [7], Job [8], William [9], Fay Potter [10], Donald B. [11], Fay's son, the latter born May 27, 1877. Prof. G. R. Rathbun, of Omaha, cannot trace his line. I judge from his letter that he may possibly be a descendant of Jacob Rathbone, born November 4, 1732. He moved to Wyoming, Pennsylvania, and was killed at the battle of Wyoming Valley, July 3, 1778.

JOHN C. COOLEY.

Oswego, N. Y.

DEAR HISTORIAN:

It is not in my power to give much information about my family. My father was a Lutheran minister and was born, I think, in Oneida County, New York, and served in the war of 1812. His father, Solomon Rathbun, served in the war of the Revolution. My father's brother, Titus Rathbun was wounded in battle in 1812 and died in the hospital in Washington. My father in his youth married Eleanor Beatty (my mother), daughter of Captain John Beatty of Carlisle, Pennsylvania, and in subsequent years, his second wife Sarah Powell of Pennsylvania.

I was born in Crawford County, Pennsylvania, where I married Dr. Lyman Howard, and from there emigrated to Rock Island, Illinois, in 1830. I was married there the second time to Mr. Tate, an Englishman, and came on to San Francisco in 1871. Now I am again alone and have reached the sunset of life.

MARGARET E. TATE.

San Francisco, Cal.

#### GEN. RATHBONE'S REPORT.

In his annual report, Fourth Assistant Postmaster General Rathbone says that the number of new postoffices established during the year was 405 greater than during any previous year, except 1890. Over one-fourth of these new offices went to Arkansas, Texas, Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia and North Carolina. The greatest increase in any State was in Georgia. He comments upon the inefficiency of legislation relating to the use of the mails by the "green-goods" swindlers, and suggests that the statutes be so amended as to make the mailing of "green-goods" circulars and literature a continuous offense from the point of mailing to the place of destination, so that a prosecution will lie at either point.—*National Tribune*.

Col. A. C. Chase has had submitted to him by Anton Seidl some magnificent programmes for the

great operatic festival to be held in this city on February 1, 2 and 3, and it is assured that the five concerts will be the rarest musical treat that has ever been afforded in this city. Only an intimation of the grandeur of these concerts can be given at this time, but it is enough to have Col. Chase's assurance that each will be given just as they have been at the Lenox Lyceum in New York city by Anton Seidl, the great Wagnerian conductor and his entire metropolitan orchestra with 22 vocal soloists, including Madame Emma Juch, the foremost of America's sopranos. Miss Nina Rathbone, a dramatic soprano and a protegee of Madame Cosima Wagner who makes her first appearance in America this season, Miss Amanda Fabris, recently prima dona of the Carl Rosa opera company of England, Miss Gertrude May Stein, recently leading contralto of the Emma Juch Grand Opera company, Emil Sauger, recently basso of the Metropolitan Opera House, William Stephens, recently leading tenor of the Juch Opera company, Signor Galassi, the well known and favorite baritone and William H. Rieger, regarded by many as the best solo tenor in the country. As many more of equal note are engaged by this time and Col. Chase will probably receive a complete list to-day from New York. The chorus is made up of about 16 female voices chosen from the leading soloists of prominent New York church choirs.—*Syracuse Standard*.

He avoids many inconveniences who does not appear to notice them.

Fine sense and exalted sense are not half so useful as common sense.—*Addison*.

Of all combats the sorest is to conquer ourselves; and of all cares the chiefest should be to wax strong against vice.—*Thomas a' Kempis*.

"Woman, there are some things that you can do, and this is one: You can utterly discountenance all drinking in your own house, and you can hold in suspicion every young man who touches the cup."—*Rev. J. H. Tabor*.

Howe'er it be, it seems to me  
'Tis only noble to be good,  
Kind hearts are more than coronets  
And simple faith than Norman blood.—*Tennyson*.

Not a day passes over the earth but men and women of no note do great deeds, speak great words, and suffer noble sorrows. Of these obscure heroes, philosophers, and martyrs the greater part will never be known till that hour when many that were great shall be small, and the small great.—*Charles Reade*.



### CHILDREN'S CORNER.

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

#### WHEN UNCLE PHRANQUE WAS A BOY.

"Yard-the-Sheep" was the prime favorite out-of-door game, and seemed never to grow old. The first thing was to decide who should "stand." This was done by drawing up in a semicircle in front of one of the number, who began at the head and pointed his finger at each one as he named them over, thus:

Onery-twoery-Ickery-Ann,  
Fillisy-fallisy-Nicholas-John;  
Quevie-quavy-English-navy,  
Stinklam-stanklam-Buck.

"Buck" would then drop out and the rig-a-ma-role gone over again, "Buck" dropping out each time, until one was left whose misfortune it was to stand. The home base would be selected at the most central place round the barn yard, so it could be reached from all directions. At this "base" a stick would be placed about the size of a ball bat, and was called "the stick." The stander would close his eyes and shout, "one!" then go on counting to fifty, when he would cry out:

"Bushel of wheat,  
Bushel of rye;  
All that aint hid,  
Foller nay-high."

As he began to count each one would run for some hiding place from which he might make a dash for the "stick," while the "stander" was away looking for some one. If those who were hid succeeded in reaching the "stick" before the "stander" could, he would throw it as far as possible, then run for a hiding place which he must gain before the "stander" recovered the "stick" or he would be "caught." The first man caught would be the "stander" for next game. Whenever the stick was "flung" all previously caught could run and hide again, so it would sometimes make a very long game. In order to "catch" a man, it was necessary to see him, then run and "pat the stick" and say, "one-two-three for Johnnie," or whoever it might be, before he could get the stick. I remember hearing one young man say, "I haven't had any real *fun* since I got too large to play 'yard-the-sheep.'" It was a game that the girls took as much delight in as the boys did. "Cobbing" was very exciting, but rather apt to end in a racket. This was usually indulged in by two. They would find plenty of light dry cobs around the barn to throw at each other. In case one was struck it would not hurt much as

they were so light; however, I hardly advise that game as it borders too closely upon war, for one who is a little quick tempered. At school our games were town ball, scrub, shinny, four-old-cat, pull-a-way, with our

"Pom, pom, pull-a-way,  
Come away or I'll fetch you 'way,"

crack-the-whip, bull pen, and a few others such as I see at the present.

### PERSONALS.

—Harry Rathbone, of Beeville, Texas, is an engineer on the S. P. R. R. He has been with that road more than seven years, is now running a passenger engine between Victoria and Beeville, Tex.

—W. R. Rathbone, dentist, Cuero, Texas, is a very busy man, having much to do in his profession.

—Miss F. L. Rathbone is in the office of *Arthur's New Home Magazine*, Philadelphia, Pa.

—Emily Rathbun is visiting with the family of W. H. Rathbun at Craigsholme, Garifraxá, Canada.

—Horace Rathbun is visiting the Drumbo, Canada, Rathbuns.

—Charles Rathbun, of Bellwood, Canada, is all smiles. It is a son.

—Louis Rathbun will visit his sister Maggie in Duluth, Minnesota, in the spring.

—Mrs. Wm. J. Robertson of 1264, Curtis avenue, Cleveland, Ohio, entertained her brother, Mr. Will Pool, and her cousin, Mr. Fred. B. Leyns, both of Chicago, during Christmas week.

—Henry R. Carrier, Jr., was elected Most Excellent High Priest of Lake Ontario Chapter, No. 165, December 20th, 1892.

—A new lodge of Knights of Pythias was instituted in Salt Lake, Wednesday night. C. F. Rathbone, as Grand Instructor for Utah, went down Wednesday morning to be present and assist in the work. A fine banquet was spread at the Tunnel after the institution, and a most delightful time was had, and enjoyed by all present. —*Tintic Miner*.

—Miss S. Annie Rathbun of Grand Rapids, Michigan, was presented with a very costly piano on the anniversary of her twenty-first birthday, November 24th, 1892, by her father.

—Charles B. Rathbun and Mrs. Lansing K. Rathbun, of Grand Rapids, Michigan, are reported quite ill, the former with inflammatory



rheumatism, the latter with neuralgia of the stomach.

—Charles B. Rathbun, of Grand Rapids, Michigan, inaugurated the winter social parties by giving a very swell pedro party a few evenings ago.

—H. R. Carrier, Jr., of Oswego, New York, is a very strong candidate for the office of County Attorney. The *Utica Globe* in speaking of him says, "Mr. Carrier is a young man of ability, recognized as one of the main spokes in the Republican ranks of Oswego County."

—Mrs. Geo. D. Rathbun of Fayette, Iowa, has returned from an extended visit with her sister, Mrs. R. W. Clewell, at Waterloo, Iowa.

—Miss Fannie Rathbone of Oakfield, New York, was maid of honor at the recent wedding of Miss Flora Linda Stedman.

—Charles Gale Rathbun is proprietor of "The Bazaar," at Mitchell, S. Dakota.

—Strange Harmon Griffith Rathbun died December 30, 1889, aged seventy-two years; his wife, Alzina Hill, died 1882, aged sixty-five years. Married in Ohio, moved to Iowa, reared their family and died there. Mr. Rathbun's mother lived to the age of ninety-seven years and received her second eyesight.

—Rex and Ross, twin boys of Mr. and Mrs. Gale Rathbun, are universally called "those darling twins," and are nearly seven years old. They are perfect blondes with light flaxen hair, curls hanging to their shoulders. They are also very fine singers, and are to sing at the Xmas exercises at the M. E. church in Mitchell, S. Dakota.

—Robert B. Rathbone, Jr., was the projector of an elaborate Hallowe-en party, at the "Rathbone Farm" at Redwood Falls, Minn.

—Miss Lillie Rathbone visited in Oberlin, Kansas, recently.

—Mrs. N. J. Rathbone is visiting relatives and friends in the vicinity of Steamboat Rock, Ia.

—Mr. and Mrs. T. S. Gibbs, of Greenville, Mich., spent the holidays with Mr. and Mrs. Hugo B. Rathbun, of Grand Rapids, Mich.

—Charles B. Rathbun, of Grand Rapids, Mich., who has been suffering with inflammatory rheumatism for the past two months, dropped his physician a few days ago, commenced taking patent medicines, and is now rapidly improving.

—Born—On Jan. 10th, 1893, to Mr. and Mrs. C. F. Rathbone a ten pound boy.—*Tintic Miner*.

—Eugene W. Rathbun, who has been attending

school at Oak Park, Illinois, was recently called to his home at Grand Rapids, Mich., owing to the illness of his brother Charles.

—After a year of hard work as bookkeeper for the Oberlin National Bank, of Oberlin, Kansas, Mrs. F. P. Rathbone has again taken up home duties. The officers paid her a high compliment for the neatness and accuracy of her work, and gave her a valuable present.

—A card from H. T. Rathbone, mailed at Manhattan, Kansas, says "Send THE HISTORIAN to this address, as I have moved back here with the intention of making this my future home."

—Our genial friend W. G. Rathbun, of Clyde, Ohio, has been confined to the house since before Christmas with la grippe.

—Mr. and Mrs. S. W. Rathbun, Clyde, rejoice over the birth of a daughter, January 6, 1893.

—Mrs. W. S. Rathbone and daughter, Miss Dell, are visiting Mrs. Rathbone's mother at Neosho, Mo., where they will remain until Mr. Rathbone decides upon a future location.

—Miss Sue Conger, Woodward, Iowa, accompanied her father upon an extended visit to Chicago, Bloomington and other Illinois points, in December last.

Among the "Sunday Notices" in the *Syracuse Standard* is the following: "The Bethany Baptist, No. 610 East Railroad street, Rev. George E. Stevens pastor; preaching morning and evening by Rev. Anna A. Rathbun; Sunday school at 12 o'clock; Y. P. S. C. E. at 7 p. m."

—W. S. Rathbone is clerking for his brother-in-law, J. H. Allen, at Glen Elder, Kansas. He writes that it is his intention to remain there a few months before going into business for himself.

—Miss Sue Conger, Woodward, Iowa, was bridesmaid at the wedding of her friend, Miss Odessa Walters, which was performed in the Christian church at Oakland, Iowa, December 21, 1892. The ceremony was conducted by Rev. Alesworth, president of Drake University, and was a very elaborate affair.

—We clip the following wedding notice from *Evening Post* (New York) of January 11, 1893: "CUSHMAN—RATHBONE.—At the Church of the Heavenly Rest, on Tuesday, January 10, by the Rev. D. Parker Morgan, assisted by the Rev. L. M. Van Bokkelen, and the Rev. R. R. Graham, Frances Josephine, daughter of Charles Lambert Rathbone, to Joseph Wood Cushman.



THE  
RATHBONE FAMILY HISTORIAN.

*The first and only Magazine ever issued in the interest of a Family. Published Monthly.*

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F. P. RATHBONE, EDITOR,  
Oberlin, Kansas.

## IN AN EDITORIAL WAY.

It is with much satisfaction that we place THE HISTORIAN before our friends in its new garb. A comparison between the two January numbers will need no comment. The improvement is due almost entirely to those friends who have aided so willingly in keeping up the interest in a work that seems near the heart of every Rathbone-bun in the land. Yet there is room for improvement which will be made just as fast as means will permit.

Hereafter all copy must be received by us before the tenth of the month to insure publication in the current number.

Come to our rescue now or we shall be obliged to pay a visit to Mr. McGinty, as our "new suit of clothes" costs money.

The delay in getting out the December number was caused by the addition of the four extra pages. The intention is to have those placed in front of the volume when it is bound.

Now let's have some aggressive work done toward the reunion. All the hotels at Chicago are booking their rooms for future dates, and if the matter is put off too long it will be impossible to get accommodations for a large number at one place.

It is difficult to apologize without attempting to make some one else responsible. However, the poor proof-reading that has appeared during the past year has been an annoyance almost beyond endurance. We believe the publication this year is in the hands of those who will be correct.

We hope to make arrangements with some bindery that will do the work at a reasonable figure, by which all who wish can get the first volume bound. By having it all done at one place it can be done cheaper than where only one volume is to be bound.

As an inducement to correspondents, we will send ten copies, free, to the ten persons who will furnish the best five or more "personals," or a column article, for the next three issues, and each month thereafter, for this volume. Clippings from other papers that mention a member of the family will be counted.

THE HISTORIAN will be sent to all old subscribers, unless ordered discontinued. If any are not satisfied that it is worth the price, after receiving a few numbers, please notify us by card and it will be stopped. We trust, however, that such cases will be rare. All we ask is to get out even on the actual cost, and will make needed improvements as rapidly as possible.

Last year one or two representatives of the family were abroad, as was learned after their return. Should another be contemplating such a trip in the near future, we wish to be apprised of it in time to arrange for some correspondence that might bear upon family history. It would please all of us to get regular letters from England, and learn something about our cousins there.

In order to fully understand the intended meaning that Mr. Rathbun wishes to convey in the title page design, it will be necessary to read carefully his explanatory article, and observe his notes by comparisons. In the rebus which he has adopted, and as shown with his portrait, he has hit upon a happy combination, and one that will doubtless be received with favor by such members of the family as take an interest in beautiful designs for stationery. By some slight changes the design could become the "trade mark" for almost any business. Of all the coats of arms displayed, the Tower seems most appropriate and suggestive. Heraldry is not what it once was, at least in this country, but it would be very convenient, and aid much in awakening the family pride, to adopt a general design for use upon stationery, and in business or private affairs where it would be appropriate.

C. D. Rathbone, Belpre, Ohio, sends in a splendid record of the part taken in the late war by the Rathbones, from Ohio. It is crowded out this month, but will come out later. Others may be able to furnish the same kind of records from other states, and it is hoped they will do so.



If we can get enough personals by the 10th of February, the next issue will come out earlier in the month. It has been the intention to get to press so the current issue would reach subscribers by the first of the month instead of the last, but many delays have prevented it in the past, and now it seems difficult to get caught up.

Our policy is to be liberal to the last degree, and we have always mailed extra copies when requested, without asking pay for them. Where sketches have been furnished we are very glad to return the favor in any way possible, and shall always extend liberality to subscribers, in every way, trusting that it may be good seed sown, from which an abundant harvest may ripen for the future.

One great object of the HISTORIAN is to get all the literature relating to the family together, that is possible, so that in after years those who follow us may know what part in the world's life we acted. Some articles may appear dry or tedious to those not directly concerned, while to others they are just the opposite. He would be a happy editor who could send out only such a publication as would never appear dry to any reader. It is going to require much more matter to keep up the paper this year than it did last, on account of the smaller type, and we can use more clippings, if they refer in some way to family news.

A few are beginning to think about the reunion and suggest different ideas with regard to it. Mr. W. G. Rathbun, Clyde, Ohio, asks: "What is being done about the family reunion at the Columbian Exposition? I would like to suggest that a badge be gotten up, of a uniform make, and that each one who attends provide himself with one. In this way we can recognize each other any place we chance to meet." This is a good suggestion, and we refer the idea to Mr. Frank R. Rathbun, who is interested in the meeting, and able to design a badge that could not be mistaken. One bearing the coat of arms surmounted by the dove and olive branch would be a beautiful souvenir, and one that every one would want, whether able to attend the reunion or not.

The HISTORIAN takes this occasion to thank those who have been so liberal during the past year in giving all the aid they could, both financially and by contributions. Among those who have been most constant and enthusiastic are Mrs. Currier, of Oswego, and Mrs. Leyns, of Utica, N. Y., Mrs. Goddard, of New London, and Mrs. Eliza A. Rathbun, of Norwich, Connecticut, J. Q. Rathbone, of Steamboat Rock, Iowa, J. C.

Cooley, of Oswego, N. Y., Frank R. Rathbun, of Auburn, N. Y., who designed and donated the beautiful new title page, Dr. T. W. Rathbone, of Kansas City, and many others whose names have not been mentioned on account of their expressed wish that they should be withheld. To our associates we wish to express heartfelt gratitude for the valuable assistance they have rendered. To every subscriber, let us say, the measure of success acquired is due in large part to your earnest support, and any one having the privilege of reading the many kind letters received from every hand would realize, as never before, the deep interest taken by all who have seen the publication.

There is a strain of sturdy common sense, easily traced throughout the whole family, that causes an aversion to frivolous sentiment, and stimulates a love for that substantial character which has become so prominent among our people. The accounts written by uninterested historians, of the early Rathbones, invariably mention their plain honesty. But few, if any, have gained reputations as leaders in any of the Fast Circles, or sporting professions, of which society was the better rid. Those who have won fame as artists, musicians, actors or orators, have all taken up their work with the realization that only the substantial was worth spending time and energy upon. The religious sentiment is very prominent in a deep and venerable, yet broad and liberal sense. The love of humanity, always felt and exhibited, gives rise to those nobler impulses that recognize the common brotherhood of man, and the universal fatherhood of God. What soul with a limited conception of these principles could found an order whereby all caste, except nobility of purpose, is obliterated, and its members ever ready to sacrifice their lives, if need be, for a worthy brother in distress.

The character developed as politicians has been based upon patriotic principles. Many have risen to prominence, but solely by honorable methods. In home life and the training of their families, *example* has been an object lesson so deeply impressed upon the hearts of the children that the temptations of later years have been resisted, where others, with no memories of a noble parent, would have fallen. The writer never heard the son of a Rathbone refer to his father as "the old man." He never heard his grandfather or his father use an oath; never saw either of them in a passion. No doubt the same may be said by many other sons. Such memories can only exert an influence for good over the lives of posterity.



Our poem this month is an exceptionally happy one, and will be read with delight. Mr. Rathbun paints the family history in our national life quite vividly, and correctly.

### LET THE BOYS SEE THE WORLD.

*Western Plowman 1884.*

"Is it alive?"

"It moves."

"When did it get in?"

Are some of the remarks we happened to overhear not long ago as a crowd of neatly dressed, "fly" young city gents passed by. Glancing across the street we at once saw the object of their merriment. Honest John Plowman had come to town to see the sights, and from every indication was not going home without having accomplished his object.

Now John is one of our acquaintances, and as he crossed the street and approached we asked, "John, why don't you pull your pants out of your boot tops, and raise your hat off your ears? Can't you see those fellows are laughing at you?" "Let 'em laugh, they are a pack of yer city dudes and I can clean out the whole crowd," said he, grinding his teeth and shaking his formidable fist. "No doubt of it, John, but wait a moment; suppose one of them was to go home with you, wouldn't you smile to see him milking cows with that suit of broadcloth? wouldn't it amuse you to see him pitch hay, in a July sun, with that stiff hat and choker?"

"You bet your life, I'd like to get one of them on a harvester for just one day. I'd make him laugh out of t'other corner of his mouth. I'd show him that it is better to have a pair of legs that are useful, than ornamental."

"Wait a moment, John, let me tell you something; you are not in the least inferior to these boys; all the difference is, they are educated differently from what you are. Your shoulders are broader, your chest is better developed, your mouth is not deformed by the use of tobacco and liquor, there is a look full of business in your face that at once recommends you much better than all the letters you could carry, were you in quest for a position. The point we wish to make is this: boys raised on a farm, as a general rule, are not allowed an equal chance in education with their city cousins. When they go to town they feel out of place. They would give anything to be able to walk along the street and not feel that everybody is looking at them."

If they only knew whether to put their hands in their pockets or hold them straight down, they would have learned one very useful lesson in ease

and comfort. If they were educated to see the difference, the shrewd clothing merchant could not palm off his last year's coat and two year old vest, with a hat of still more ancient pattern, upon them. We say give the boys a chance. If you live near a town—and all do now—let Tom and Harry and Rob attend school there one or two winters and learn the ways of city life. But, one objects, we can't afford to send our boys off to town alone, they would get into bad company, learn to drink and fall into all the attending evils of city life. To such we would say, some time they are going to go out from your door to meet all these temptations, and if they have been kept too strictly, without any chance to see the follies of evil, or learn to avoid the snares, they will be the very victims the sharper is after; they will suddenly find themselves turned loose in an unexplored pasture full of snares so artfully concealed by the most tempting baits, that he who steers clear of them is indeed a favorite of fortune. The boy who is kept too closely haltered to the farm sickens to it. He longs to go to the exciting scenes of the city where he sees most people wearing good clothes; in fact he never sees those who wear poor ones, he is so struck with the flash of gold chains, high hats and polished shoes. How much safer it is to let him see and taste all these things while you are able to hold him in check, than to turn him out alone, unguided by love's irresistible reins, to rush headlong into them. Besides all boys raised in cities do not come to ruin, nor all boys brought up on farms become angels.

F. P. RATHBONE.

### REMITTANCES RECEIVED.

Since last issue from Mrs. Margaret E. Tate, San Francisco; Mrs. Eliza A. Rathbun, Norwich; R. H. Rathbun, Duluth; Mrs. H. R. Carrier, Oswego; A. A. Jackson, Janesville.

John A. Rathbun, Mystic; Mrs. S. O. Conger, Woodward; W. S. Rathbone, Glen Elder; L. K. Rathbun, Grand Rapids; Mrs. T. S. Gibbs, Greenville; Miss Minnie Mae Rickner, Lowell; F. P. Rathbun, Hornellsville.

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