

Volume II.

1893.

The RATHBONE FAMILY HISTORIAN

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

Associates and Contributors.

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| GEO. A. RATHBUN, | MYRA R. BROWNELL, |
| FRANK R. RATHBUN, | JOHN C. COOLEY, |
| ANTOINETTE RATHBONE, | MRS. J. G. BUSSE, JR. |

F. P. RATHBONE, Editor,
OBERLIN, KANSAS.

THE RATHBONE FAMILY HISTORIAN.

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No. 2.



COL. JUSTUS H. RATHBONE.

BY FRANK R. RATHBUN.

In the HISTORIAN for February, 1892, is given a partial biography of Justus H. Rathbone. Some years since, the writer contracted the habit of clipping from the newspapers and periodicals, any and all articles, sketches, advertisements and otherwise, in which the name of Rathbone, Rathbun, Rathburn, etc., appeared, or to whom the same in any way, shape or manner referred. With no definite object in view, and having no idea of a periodical devoted particularly to the interests of his family name being ever issued as such from the press, he finds that, with no particular effort on his part, an accumulation of general material of every complexion has accrued, from which he is enabled to supplement the partial biography referred to, with the addition of a portrait of the founder of the Pythian Brotherhood.

Of course this is done at the risk of repetition; but when such repetition appears, and from entirely different sources, it but serves to verify

facts and statements of a personal nature, especially so in sketches of a biographical character, which cannot fail in being of the utmost value to the genealogical student.

The portrait, and the immediate material accompanying it, were clipped from *The Utica Globe*, of December 14th, 1889. The former being reproduced by the photo-engraving process from the newspaper print, loses of necessity, much of its original sharpness and freshness which a reduction in size from the original serves partially to overcome.

“COL. J. H. RATHBONE.

DEATH OF THE FOUNDER OF THE KNIGHTS OF
PYTHIAS.”

“There died in Lima, Ohio, Monday, Justus Henry Rathbone, founder of the order of the Knights of Pythias. The deceased was born in Deerfield, near this city, October 29, 1839. His father was a prominent lawyer in Utica, and his mother, Sarah Elizabeth Dwight, was a lineal descendant of Jonathan Edwards. In 1857 he went to the copper regions on Lake Superior, and while teaching school at Eagle Harbor, Michigan, during the winter of 1859, first conceived the idea of forming the Knights of Pythias, and wrote the ritual, taking as his basis John Banim's play, which had been sent him as stage manager of an amateur dramatic association. While reading it over alone in the little school room, he was struck with its peculiar fitness for a fraternal secret society. He was nineteen years of age at this time and was not a member of any secret society.

“After completing the three ranks of the ritual he folded the manuscript and laid it away, telling no one what he had done. Then the war coming on, he formed a company of volunteers, but on account of some informality it was not accepted by the Governor. His father dying about this time he came East. He entered the United States

service and became clerk of the hospital at Germantown, Pennsylvania. Shortly after he was transferred to Washington, and on February 19, 1864, he organized the first lodge of the Knights of Pythias. It was composed of clerks in the departments with one exception.

"Recognizing the universality of human brotherhood, its organization is designed to embrace the world within its jurisdiction. Friendship, Charity and Benevolence, are its principles. December 31, 1865, there was but one lodge; membership fifty-two. At the close of 1882, there were 1,876 lodges and 126,274 members. Now there are about 300,000 members.

"Mr. Rathbone passed, step by step, through all the chairs until he attained the position of Supreme Chancellor, the highest in the order, and then retired. But he was not permitted to enjoy the quietude he sought. He held a position in the War Department, but inducements were offered him that would bring greater financial results by lecturing to the Pythian lodges throughout the country, and he resigned his clerkship about a year ago to accept the offer.

"The remains were brought to Utica and placed beside those of his wife, who died two years ago. The funeral took place Thursday afternoon and was largely attended. Utica Lodge, K. of P., turned out in a body, and were accompanied by Knights from Syracuse, Amsterdam and Albany. Supreme Chancellor Ward, of New Jersey, and the Supreme Lodge were also present."

The following by special wire to the *Auburn Daily Advertiser*, from Utica, N. Y., December 12, 1889, gives further particulars of his funeral obsequies.

"The special train from Lima, Ohio, bearing the remains of Justus H. Rathbone, founder of the Knights of Pythias order, arrived in this city at 11:15 last night.

"The train consisted of a baggage car and two sleeping coaches, and bore Mrs. J. O. Pease, a sister of Mr. Rathbone, of Germantown, Pa., and two daughters, Misses Lulu and Sara Rathbone, of Alexandria. A large number of the officers and members of the order from the State of Ohio accompanied the train, and acted as a guard of honor to the remains. Among them were the

following grand lodge officers: Past Supreme Chancellor, Howard Douglass, of Cincinnati, Ohio; Major General James R. Carnahan, of Indianapolis, Ind.; Grand Chancellor, Franklin Ellis, of Cincinnati; Grand Keeper of Record and Seal, S. A. Court, of Toledo, Ohio; Supreme Representative, John C. Bowers, Mansfield, Ohio; Past Grand Chancellor, A. P. Butterfield, of Cincinnati, Ohio.

"The present Supreme Chancellor, General William Ward, of Newark, N. J., accompanied by members of the New York State grand lodge and local lodges met the train at the depot. On account of the lateness of the hour and the severe storm raging at the time the train was side-tracked and those who had accompanied it remained in the cars over night.

"At the various cities along the route, floral emblems had been presented by the Knights who viewed the remains, and the car was literally lined with the beautiful tokens. The hour of holding the funeral had been placed at 2 p. m., today, but in accordance with the wishes of the friends the time was changed to 11 a. m., and telegrams to that effect were sent out.

"At the funeral this morning a large number of Knights and others were present. Brief services were held in the First Presbyterian church and at Forest Hill Cemetery. The body was interred in accordance with the ritual of the order."

Who shall not say that a greater Damon slumbers beneath the shades of Forest Hill Cemetery? Justus H. Rathbone did more in life than pledge his corporeal entity for that of a friend. Reflect for one single moment on the triple virtues of Friendship, Charity and Benevolence and what a coalescence of these principles means. It is not the mere loyalty of a man for his friend as exemplified by the pagan patron of the Pythians. Charity is something more than Friendship, Benevolence something more than Charity; while the wedded three serve to awaken and strengthen all that is most noble and good in the ever upward heart of mankind.

The writer is no Knight of Pythias, and never had the fortune to come in personal contact with the subject of this sketch. He is proud, however,

to be of an allied lineage; and when he reflects that a young and humble, but enthusiastic American schoolmaster, communing in the privacy of his little room with his inner self, has, without blare of trumpet or pæan of praise, enthused the individual hearts of nearly one half million of his fellow men with these allied virtues, and also aroused in this noble army such restless zeal for honest emulation in the practical exemplification of this triad of principles, he is proud of the fact that one of his name has been the instrument in the hands of Divine Providence for this great good.

The clustered ribbons of rainbow tint, the orders and crosses scintillant with gems of an elder world and an elder civilization, pale into insignificance before this example of enthusiastic endeavor for the welfare of mankind at large. The name of Justus H. Rathbone may be found written on the hearts of thousands of men who instinctively thrust forth the hand of succor to the needy. What greater monument can one desire than this?

SOLOMON RATHBONE.

BY JOHN C. COOLEY.

Previous to the year 1815, Solomon spelled his name Rathbun, he changed the spelling on the ground that Rathbone was the correct spelling, and was the original and true name as spelled in England.

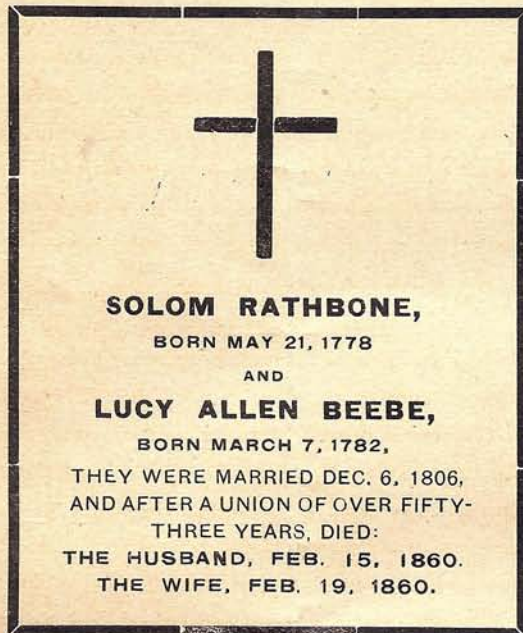
He was born in Richmond, Berkshire county, Massachusetts, on the 21st of May, 1778, and remained at the paternal roof until about 1803 or 1804, when on the removal of his father and mother to Rock City, otherwise called Milton, Saratoga County, N. Y., he and his sister Lydia, who alone of all the children remained unmarried and at home, went with them. Soon after he entered the law office of Judge James Thompson, of Milton, as a student at law. In the fall of 1806, he was admitted to the bar, and on the 6th of December following (1806), was married to Lucy Ann Beebe, who lived, her mother being dead, with her uncle, — Kellogg, who was a merchant in Lansingburg, N. Y. Soon after his marriage, that is, in the spring of 1807, he located at Mar-

ti nsburgh, Lewis County, N. Y., in what was called the Black River country, then only sparsely settled, and engaged in the practice of law. Here on the 20th of October, his first child, Caroline Meriam, was born. He remained at Martinsbu rgh until 1811, and then returned to Saratoga County, settling in Galnay, of which place he was appointed postmaster. In 1813 he returned to Rock City and engaged in the mercantile business, and here on the 15th of December, 1813, his son George W. was born. In 1815 he changed the spelling of his name from Rathbun to Rathbone, as also did some of his brothers, thus returning, as it was claimed, to the correct old English name. In 1817 he removed to Menden, N. Y., but soon after decided to go to the land of promise, the great West. Accordingly in October, he moved his family and household by wagon to Olean Point, and there embarked with them on the Allegheny River for Pittsburgh on his way to Vincennes, Indiana, his point of destination, then with the exception of Cincinnati and St. Louis, the largest town^s in the West. At Pittsburgh he transferred to a larger boat, an Ohio river flat, and floated on down that river until he reached Cincinnati, where he arrived on the 22d of December. The weather had become very cold, and the river so filled with heavy floating ice that he found it unsafe to proceed further until spring, and therefore disembarked and remained over winter in Cincinnati. It would have been well if he had remained there permanently, or had gone to Vincennes in the spring as was his original intention. Unfortunately, however, he was induced by injudicious advisors to change his plans, and without proper investigation, to go to old Fort Masser, Illinois, forty miles above the mouth of the Ohio River, there to engage with a man named Wilcox, in an extensive dairy business. Wilcox to furnish the capital. He arrived at Fort Masser early in April, 1818, and very soon learned that his expected partner had no money and was a rascal, not to say outlaw, and hence nothing was, or could be done to establish the contemplated enterprise; and more still, he found himself in a new and wilderness region, where there was practically no business, and the few settlers, being for the most part ignorant, rude

and unenterprising, his situation and prospects were gloomy enough. To add to his discouragement, he and his whole family were taken down with intermittant fever, or fever and ague, and in July his daughter, Caroline Meriam, almost ten years of age, was attacked with bilious fever, and on the 7th of August died. This was a climax to his discouragement, and he began to think of a move backward, when it occurred to him that he was at a favorable point for a new town. Naturally sanguine and hopeful, he was apt to act promptly on a new conviction, and therefore, when this new idea struck him, he at once set to work to found the new town. To this end he selected a site for the future city, two miles above the old Fort, where a farm had been opened, and by arrangement with the owner, located his town on a part of it which laid high and eligible on the Ohio River, and gave it the name of Belgrade. He at once erected a two story rough log house on the premises, moved in and the town was *inhabited!* As time passed a few settlers, mostly of a useless class, straggled in and built log cabins, but the hopes of the founder were hardly realized. Nevertheless he held on, and in 1820, secured the establishment of a post office at Belgrade, and his own appointment as post master, and a weekly mail which was brought on horseback from Golconda, the town next above on the river, and distant by land twenty miles. The following year, however, his faith in Belgrade failed. By this time it contained a dozen or fifteen houses, and probably from fifty to seventy-five inhabitants, the houses being undressed logs, (there being no mills nearer than Golconda,) and the inhabitants were, with a few exceptions, as rough as the houses. Such being the situation, he decided to make a move backwards to a more advanced civilization. Acting on this decision he moved in the fall of 1821, to Golconda, but not realizing his expectations there, he moved again a year later, that is in the fall of 1822, going to the "Saline" or Salt Works, in Gallatin County, Illinois, about twelve miles from Shawneetown, and near the present town of Equality, where he rented a tavern stand and expected to do well. Soon after his brother-in-law, Hopestill Beecher, (his sister Abigail's husband,) came with his family and set-

tled near him, and here on the 5th of October, 1823, his daughter, Caroline Sarah, was born. He soon discovered he had made a mistake in coming to the Salines. Travel was light and the tavern did not pay. Another move was therefore determined upon, and this time to Vincennes, Indiana. The point for which he started when leaving New York six years before. During these six years he had suffered great affliction in his family from sickness and death, had endured many hardships and discouragements, and besides had about exhausted all the moderate means brought with him to the West, in this last respect proving the truth of the old adage: "That a rolling stone will gather no moss." In the localities where he had resided in Illinois, he had found small use for his profession of the law, and had from necessity practically abandoned it, and on arriving at Vincennes decided not to take it up again but to engage in other pursuits. He arrived in Vincennes in February, 1824, and found it a place of considerable trade and containing about twelve hundred inhabitants. Many of them, people of education and enterprise, and for the first time since leaving Cincinnati in March, 1818, felt himself in a civilized community. At first he leased one of the principle taverns, or hotels as the more modern phrase it, and for a number of years followed tavern keeping, at all times commanding a liberal share of the public patronage. Subsequently, during his long residence in Vincennes, he was occupied in various employments and enterprises, and always industrious, attentive and prudent, was never successful in the way of accumulation, yet with the aid of his son who had come forward in business and remained at home he and his family lived in comfort and were highly respected, occupying a social position with the best of the community. It was here that on the 28th of March, 1829, his fourth and last child Charles, was born, but only to live less than a year, his death occurring on the 17th of January following. On the marriage of his son George, in the spring of 1848, and removal to Evansville, Indiana, to take the management of a bank, he, after a residence of twenty-four years in Vincennes, with his wife and daughter went and lived also, and all lived together as one family until death

came to cause separation. On the 15th of February, 1860, he died, and was followed four days later, on the 19th, by his beloved wife, Lucy, who had so long shared with him the joys and sorrows of life, and who, like him, had lingered for months in great suffering from disease and the infirmities incident to their advanced age. Both were for over twenty years of their latter life, earnest and faithful members of the Episcopal church, and both were buried with the rites of the church. He was also a Mason of advanced degree, and he was buried with Masonic honors, as well as with the rules of his church. Both lie side by side in the beautiful Oak Hill Cemetery at Evansville, Indiana, and on the shaft of the monument at the head of their graves the inscription is as follows :



In conclusion, it may be said of Solomon Rathbone that whether in the pale of the church, or out of it, he was by nature an honorable, a generous and upright man, whatever his errors of judgment his intentions were always to do right, and that he did not succeed better in life, was owing, in part at least, to the neglect of his own rights in an over regard for the interest of others.

Lucy Allen Beebe, wife of Solomon Rathbone, was the eldest daughter of Dr. Lewis Beebe and his second wife Miriam Kellogg, both of Litchfield, Connecticut, or that vicinity. She was born March 7, 1782, when twelve years old her mother

died, and after that until her marriage in 1806, she lived with her uncle — Kellogg, in Lansingburgh, N. Y. She was named after her father's first wife, who was a sister of Ethan Allen, the hero of Ticonderoga. She was a woman of more than ordinary capacity and commanded an influence in every situation. Her father, Dr. Lewis Beebe, was a graduate of Yale College and an ordained minister of the Presbyterian Church. He was also a physician and gave his attention to the practice of medicine, preaching only occasionally to fill vacancies. In 1776 he was a surgeon in the Continental Army, being attached to the forces around Lake Champlain. The last fifteen years of his life he lived and practiced medicine in the City of New York, where he died March 19, 1816. He was married three times, his family record being as follows:

Lewis Beebe, born March 21, 1749, died March 19, 1816. Lucy Allen, born April 24, 1749, died June 10, 1775. They were married September 20, 1774. Miriam Kellogg, born May 24, 1755, died June 4, 1794. She was married to Lewis Beebe April 27, 1779. They had children as follows: 1st, Lucy Allen Beebe, born March 7, 1782, died February 19, 1860; 2nd, Nancy Beebe, born July 9, 1784, died —; 3rd, Rhoda Beebe, born January 24, 1788, died January 26, 1832; 4th, Lewis Beebe, Jr., born May 13, 1791, died December 20, 1855; Phœbe Thompson, born September 15, 1759, died —. She was married to Lewis Beebe January 2, 1795, one child was born of this marriage, viz: Amelia, born May 14, 1796.

Lucy Allen Beebe married Solomon Rathbone, December 6, 1806. Nancy Beebe married Joseph Hanchett. Rhoda Beebe married Jacob Benedict. Lewis Benedict married Ann Blackall, September 19, 1816. He died December 20, 1855. She was born 1797, died 1867.

On Thursday evening, January 5, 1893, at the home of Mr. and Mrs. M. Keith, on West Third street, in Mitchell, South Dakota, the marriage of Mr. H. J. Mohr and Miss Eva Rathbun Keith was celebrated. Both bride and groom are well known residents of the city. Mr. Mohr is a rising young lawyer, who by his

industry, attention to business and legal capabilities is fast forging toward the head of the legal fraternity in this county. He is city attorney, and also state's attorney for Davidson county. Mrs. Mohr was for several terms one of the most successful teachers in our city schools, and later bookkeeper for Champany Bros., which position she resigned a few weeks since in anticipation of the more important position which she so recently assumed. Their presents were many and elegant.
—*Mitchell Paper.*

DEATH OF JAMES RATHBONE AND
HIS FATHER.—SKETCH OF THE
LIFE OF A PROMINENT
BUSINESS MAN.

FROM THE WEEKLY (RANDOLPH, N. Y.) COURANT,
FEB. 18, 1886.

On Sunday last, about 5 o'clock in the morning, Mr. Philander Rathbone, who had been staying at the home of his son James of this place some weeks, breathed his last, and at the advanced age of ninety years closed his eyes in death. Five hours later the dread messenger smote his terrible blow once more in the same household, and the son lay beside his father cold in death.

James Rathbone was one of Randolph's public-spirited, enterprising, go-ahead, prosperous citizens, and as we mourn with every neighbor his demise, well knowing that his removal from our midst is a loss to Randolph as a business community, we also mingle our tears with those of many others when we realize that in his death we have lost a friend.

His birth occurred in Albany, this state, Oct. 8, 1826, and he was therefore in his 60th year, while yet a child he came with his father into Erie County, and lived at Abbott's Corners until he was a young man. The father was engaged in the mercantile business at Sinclairville and James was with him for some years. After this he was a partner with Mr. Mitchell, then with Mr. Bronson and afterwards with Mr. Sylvester in the general merchandise business at Sinclairville. All through his life he was in business of various kinds, and in 1875 he moved to Randolph, and in 1877, after

disposing of his stores at Forrestville and Red House, he opened the Cash Grocery House of this place.

In business Mr. Rathbone was prompt, reliable, enterprising and a leader. Believing and practicing these business precepts made him a favorite with the community, and few men have lived in this section who had more warm personal friends among all classes of people. He desired the prosperity of his town and when the public weal was at stake he was ready with his purse and influence to help along any movement for the general good. He despised deceit and intrigue and stoutly maintained that the breaking of a promise was as bad as stealing.

Socially, our friend was jovial, good humored, bluff and outspoken. He fawned on no one. He never masked his likes and dislikes. He fought his battles openly and above board, and if he had any point of difference with you, no third party was required as a go-between. The man of money was no more to him than the man of no money—for it was the man of worth he admired, be he rich or poor. He was fond of a joke, relished a hearty laugh, and, best of all, was tender-hearted and kind.

He was married in 1856, and his wife and son constitute all of his immediate family. His own death occurred on the twenty-fifth anniversary of the death of a daughter, who died in infancy. It is a remarkable coincidence that the father and grandfather of the little one should follow her into the unknown future on the anniversary of her death.

Kind and affectionate in his domestic relations, he experienced keen delight in the occasional visits of his aged father, and when the father was taken sick about two weeks ago, the son was solicitous for the father's comfort. A few days ago James himself was obliged to take to his bed, and hand-in-hand they went down into the valley of death—the father in the fullness of years and the son but little past the meridian of life.

He had been in poor health for several months, but none of his acquaintances dreamed that the end would come thus soon, yet from remarks he frequently dropped while in the presence of friends we believe he was aware of the approaching shadow.

For many years he has been an active member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and was one of the earliest members of the Ancient Order of United Workmen. He was in good standing in both orders at the time of his death.

The funeral was held at the house yesterday, Prof. Edwards officiating. James was buried in the cemetery here, and the father will be taken to Gowanda today for interment there.

It is unnecessary to add that the death of one of our most prominent citizens is a blow that is sadly felt by every member of this community—and not alone here, for James Rathbone had warm and numerous friends through Erie and Chautauqua, where he had formerly resided.

MR. RATHBONE'S FUNERAL.

The funeral ceremonies yesterday over the remains of our townsman, James Rathbone, were attended by a large number of people. The ceremony was under the auspices of the order of I. O. O. F. It was a sad hour to us all to see the two coffins side by side containing father and son, and at the head of the son James, the casket containing the remains of his little daughter who died twenty-five years ago, (which had been removed to this place for interment with its father). The remarks of Dr. Edwards upon the death of the father and son were very impressive. The pall bearers were Nelson Saunders, Wm. M. Brown, J. H. Lyman, C. P. Adams, Alex. Wentworth, O. A. Tompkins, G. E. Seager and T. E. Adams. The business places were all closed during the funeral services. Mr. Rathbone and his daughter were buried in the same grave.

RESOLUTIONS OF RESPECT.

At a regular meeting of Randolph Lodge, I. O. O. F., No. 448, held on February 17, 1886, the following resolutions were adopted:

WHEREAS, Death has again entered our ranks and taken from us one of our most eminent officers and ardent workers, Brother James Rathbone, therefore

Resolved, That while the citizens of Randolph have lost one of their most prominent and honored business men, we have lost a worthy brother and a faithful guide.

Resolved, That we heartily express the high

esteem in which the deceased was held as an officer and brother of our lodge and deem the loss sustained in his death as one not easily repaired.

Resolved, That as a private citizen our brother's life was such that we regard his example as one worthy of imitation.

Resolved, That our heart-felt sympathy is hereby extended to his stricken family and sorrowing friends.

Though Mr. Philander Rathbone had been a frequent visitor at his son's since his residence here, our people were not generally acquainted with him. He had passed his 90th year and appeared quite hale and hearty. He came here for a few week's visit in December, we believe, and took much comfort in his son's comfortable house and in company with those who had always shown him kindness. We leave it to those who are better acquainted with him to write his obituary.

HYMENEAL.

[From a Brooklyn Paper.]

One of the most brilliant weddings of the season was solemnized at St. Ann's Church Wednesday evening, December 16, 1885. The contracting parties were Miss Madge Loper Rathbone, daughter of Mr. A. Henderson Rathbone, and Mr. George Justus Busse, jr. The church was magnificently decorated with tall palms and rare plants. Roses and smilax entwined the chancel rail, while great clusters of cut flowers graced the altar, around which were many twinkling lights. Shortly after 8 o'clock the groom emerged from the vestry with his best man, Mr. Charles P. Noyes, and took his stand at the altar. Almost simultaneously the two organs chanted the bridal chorus from "Lobengrin," and the wedding party marched up the aisle, preceded by 100 choir boys in surplices, who sang as they marched. Following the choir boys were six urshers, Mr. Henry Eagles, Mr. James Reed Walter, Mr. Courtland Busse, Mr. Henry Russell Drowne, Mr. Howard Sweetser and Mr. Loper Rathbone. After them came the maids of honor, Miss Lillie Higgins, Miss Georgie Staples, Miss Lulu Schenck, Miss Ida Maurier, Miss Elsie Rathbone and Miss Maud Dorman, attired alike in

dresses of heavy white corded silk and tulle. Each carried a gilt basket, suspended from the arm filled with roses. The two first young ladies carried La France roses, the next two Marechal Niel and the last two Jacqueminot. The baskets were held in place by broad satin ribbons matching the roses. The gloves worn also matched the roses.

Next came the bride, leaning on the arm of her father. Her dress was an imported robe, of heavy white satin, with side panels and front of hand embroidery in seed pearls. The train and body were elaborately trimmed with duchesse lace. The veil of tulle, was held in place by a half wreath of natural orange blossoms, while in her hand was a bridal bouquet of lilies of the valley. She wore as ornaments a crescent diamond pin, the gift of the groom, a diamond necklace and a lace pin, in which were two matchless stones, gifts from her father. The venerable Archdeacon Kirkbuy, with two assistants performed the ceremony. It was a very impressive one. After it a brilliant reception was held at the residence of the bride's father, No. 1 Sidney place. The house was completely transformed with the elegant floral decorations. On each side of the hallway are large drawing-rooms. All the portable furniture was removed and groups of palms and flowering plants were found at every corner. The chandeliers were covered with smilax, and huge balls of roses in solid colors depended from them. Over the pictures were plaques of pansies, carnations and other flowers. The largest room was set aside for the family reception room. In this are two bow-windows. Both were entirely hidden by plants. In one stood the bride and groom, with three maids of honor on either side. In the other was the bride's father and Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Dorman, the last an aunt of the bride. Mrs. Dorman was attired in a robe of white satin with overdress of point. Her ornaments were diamonds, and she carried Jacqueminot roses. The reception was only to be held till 10 o'clock, but so many friends were there to tender congratulations that it was long after that hour before the bridal party could get away. Several hundred invitations had been issued, and it was estimated that over three hundred guests were in attendance.

Mrs. George Busse wore a dove-color satin en train with front of embossed garnet velvet. Her ornaments were elegant diamonds.

Miss Busse, a little sister of the groom, wore a dress of light blue silk and lace.

Mrs. R. F. Loper, grandmother of the bride, and the lady who has acted as a second mother to her since the death of Mrs. Rathbone, wore a robe of black satin with point lace and diamonds.

Mrs. R. F. Loper, jr., of Stonington, Conn., wore black velvet en train with point lace.

Miss Annie Bloodgood, of Philadelphia, wore pink colored silk en train.

Miss Mary Bloodgood wore white silk en train, with point lace trimming.

Miss Heizer was dressed in black silk en train, heavily trimmed with jet.

Mrs. Richard Dorman was attired in white satin en train, trimmed with point lace and pearl embroidery.

Mrs. James Skinner, of Syracuse, wore Mikado colored satin, with black bead overskirt.

Miss Minnie Higgins wore white crepe de chine, with opal bead embroidery.

Mrs. Charles Higgins was attired in an elegant robe of cream satin.

Mrs. De Land wore Nile green silk and duchesse lace.

Mrs. Franklin Woodruff wore an imported robe.

Miss Addie Barton wore lemon-colored satin.

Miss Carrie Hull was attired in white nun's veiling lace.

During the reception a supper was served in the billiard-room by Angea. This room was also elegantly decorated with flowers and hanging plants, Weir being the decorator. After the reception the happy pair started for the South on an extended tour. On their return they will go directly to a house on Union Street, handsomely furnished throughout, the present of the bride's father, Mr. Henderson Rathbone. Here the bride will receive Thursdays in January. The bride's gift to her bridesmaids were four-leaf clover gold pins studded with diamonds. The presents were exceedingly fine and made an excellent display. The grandmother of the bride, Mrs. R. T. Loper, gave a black marble clock; Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Dorman, Italian marble ornaments and clock;

Mr. George Weaver Loper, of Philadelphia, a brass and agate table; Mr. R. F. Loper, a Sevres china punch-bowl; Mr. Robert Rathbone, a porcelain and brass clock and ornaments of the Louis XV style; Mr. and Mrs. George Busse, a case of silver containing spoons and knives and forks; Miss Maud Dorman, after-dinner coffee spoons, gold and silver; Miss Lillie Higgins, hammered, oxidized gold and silver ice cream, salad and soup ladles; Miss Elise Rathbone, a tete-a-tete set of silver; Miss Georgie Staples, imported after-dinner coffee cups; Mr. Stewart W. H. Loper, asparagus fork; Mr. Alace Busse, sugar tongs of solid silver; Mr. and Mrs. W. Eno, an imported etching; Miss Minnie Higgins, a cake basket of porcelain and silver; Miss Elise Rathbone, a four-foot statue of bronze, representing a Spanish dancing girl; Mr. R. T. Loper, of Stonington, Conn., a silver pitcher and salver; Mr. Drowne, a brass and Mexican onyx table; Mr. Harry Eagles, a brass sconce; Miss Lulu Satterlee, a handkerchief case; Mr. Wells, a marble clock; Mr. Sweetser, an embossed leather letter case, scene from "The Merry Wives of Windsor;" Mr. Noyes, jr., two bronze statues; Mr. Noyes, after-dinner coffee cups.

Among the guests were Mr. and Mrs. Robert Kearney, Mrs. Phillip R. Kearney, of New York; Mr. and Mrs. James Skinner, of Syracuse, N. Y.; Mrs. Henry A. Rathbone, Mr. and Mrs. J. B. La Lande, Mr. and Mrs. Pierre Laborufse, Mr. and Mrs. James De Buys, Miss Rita Rathbone, of New Orleans; Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Hopkinson, Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Fox, Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Bloodgood, Miss Annie Bloodgood, Miss Mary Bloodgood, Mr. and Mrs. James Baird, Mr. and Mrs. R. Loper Baird, of Philadelphia; Mr. and Mrs. Chas. T. Parry, Mr. and Mrs. Richard Z. Loper, Mr. and Mrs. G. Hearn Loper, Mr. Wm. M. Baird, Mr. and Mrs. Robert C. Rathbone, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. M. Earl, Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Williams, Mr. and Mrs. R. Bleecker Rathbone, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Stuyvesant, Mr. and Mrs. James N. Rugles, Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Satterlee, Mr. and Mrs. P. Wildey, of New York; Mr. and Mrs. Peckham, Mr. and Mrs. James Bleeker, Mr. and Mrs. Alex. J. Clinton, Mrs. Charles N. Clinton, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Philip Eno, *nee* Rathbone, Miss Celiste

Rathbone, Miss Mary Rathbone, Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Dreyer, *nee* Rathbone, Mr. John Wittemore, Mr. Fielding, Mr. and Mrs. Heizer, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Howard, Mr. and Mrs. Campbell, Mr. and Mrs. McKenzie, of New York; Mrs. Marshall, the Misses Vernon, Mr. and Mrs. Hill, Miss Addie Barton, Miss Carrie Hull, and Mr. and Mrs. Joe Williams.

OBITUARY.

LOLA ELNORA RATHBUN SMITH.

Lola Elnora, wife of Columbus B. Smith, of this city, died Friday, January 13, at 10 o'clock p. m., aged thirty-two years, three months and nineteen days.

Mrs. Smith was the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Rathbun of this place. She was born in Steuben County, Indiana, and was married to C. B. Smith in 1877. Besides her husband she leaves two children, one a boy thirteen years of age and the other a girl four years of age.

The immediate cause of her death was the bursting of a blood tumor that has been troubling her for some years past, and though not thought to be serious or of an immediately dangerous character, arrangements had been sometime perfected for an operation to remove it, but this had been deferred from time to time. On Wednesday preceding her death she walked up town and was in her usual health and spirits. This tumor seemed to have absorbed most of the blood in her body, and when without warning or apparent cause it became ruptured, the overflow of blood internally soon clouded her intelligence and in a comparatively few hours extinguished the vital spark. She was unconscious for some hours before her death, and though husband and friends were summoned in haste she knew them not. Mrs. Smith was a most estimable woman, who commanded the esteem and friendship of all who knew her.

Her sister, Mrs. Jere Dutter, has been with her during the past six weeks, up to the time of her death.—*Blair (Neb.) Pilot.*

MISS NINA RATHBONE.

DRAMATIC SOPRANO.

PROTEGE OF MADAME COSIMA WAGNER—HER FIRST
 APPEARANCE IN AMERICA—ENGAGED ESPECIAL-
 LY FOR THE ROLE OF "BRUNHILDE"
 IN "DIE WALKURE."

A commanding figure, an imposing bearing, an intellectual eye and an attractive personality. These are the characteristics of the young American soprano, Miss Rathbone, who is in possession of a magnificent voice, which will shortly be heard in this country in some of the important roles in the Wagner music dramas. Miss Rathbone received most of her instructions under the guidance of Madame de la Grange in Paris. During her sojourn in the French capital Miss Rathbone was heard frequently in private music circles and in which she always created a very marked impression. The interest evinced in the Wagner performances at the Metropolitan opera house in New York during the time when Miss Rathbone was in Paris attracted her attention, and she then decided to prepare herself as a Wagner singer in the hope that in some future time she would be capable of taking the leading roles in her native country. Spurred on by this ambition, Miss Rathbone left Paris for the Continent and placed herself under the guidance of Professor Carl Schroeder, at that time conductor of the celebrated opera house in Hamburg, the manager of which is Herr Pollini.

About this time Professor Schroeder received a call as director of the conservatory and conductor of the opera house in Sondershausen Thuringia, under the patronage of the Duke of Sondershausen. Professor Schroeder was so interested in Miss Rathbone's progress that he invited her to continue her studies with him at his new home. It was during her sojourn at Sondershausen which, by the way, is one of the musical towns of Germany, that Miss Rathbone became proficient in the German language and completely fitted for the Wagner dramas. After some appearances at the Court opera house in Sondershausen, Miss Rathbone received an invitation to visit Madame Cosima Wagner at her home in Bayreuth. Madame Cosima

has taken great interest in Miss Rathbone, and it is Miss Rathbone's intention to return to Bayreuth in the near future, where she will probably take part in the next festival.

Miss Rathbone's repertoire both in English and German consists of Elizabeth and Venus in Tannhauser, Elsa in Lohengrin, Senta in Flying Dutchman, Isolde in Tristan, and Isolde, Brumhilde, as well as Sieglinde, in the Nibelungen, and also Kundry in Parsifal, and other roles.

The foregoing is taken from the "Announcement Extraordinary" of ANTON SEIDL and his Metropolitan orchestra. The entertainment was given at the Lenox Lyceum in New York City January 22, 1893, and to give our readers some idea of the character of the role Miss Rathbone carried we append a synopsis of the act in which she takes the leading character, Brunhilde.

SCENE FROM ACT III. The excerpt from "Die Walkure" which is to be given on this occasion is the first scene of the third act which follows the instrumental introduction known in our concert rooms as "The Ride of the Valkyries." The Valkyries (or Valkyrior, to use the correct plural form of the word,) are in Scandinavian mythology nine daughters of Odin whose duties, besides waiting on the heroes in Valhalla and filling their horns with mead, were to put the death mark on the warriors who were to fall in battle, and afterward to carry them to Valhalla, where they were restored to life and enrolled among the Eischeriar—the heroes who were to aid Odin in his great battle with the Giants. The significance of Valkyrior in the Norse tongue, as well as Walkuren in the German, is "Chooser of the Slain." They are also called "Shield Maidens," "Helmet Maidens" and "Odin's Wish-Maidens." It is in their character as choosers of the slain that they are presented to us in Wagner's drama, and they take only a passing part in the action as a body by attempting to screen Brunnhilde from the anger of Wotan. The scene is laid high up on a mountain among the clouds where the terrible creatures are gathering after a battle. Clad in heavy mail and mounted on colossal horses they come dashing through the clouds each with a dead warrior slung across her horse's back. They come singly and in pairs, being seen in the clouds ever and anon, when

a flash of lightning illuminates the scene. The voice of each new comer is heard in advance of her appearance, sounding the wild, exultant cry which makes up so much of the music of the ride as heard in its familiar concert-room shape. Their greetings, their questions and answers concerning the warriors that they bring, and their shouts to and about their steeds make up the text of the scene which is amongst the most characteristic and exciting scenes, in its wild savagery, that ever came from Wagner's pen. The thematic substance of the music is found chiefly in the cry, "Ho-yo-to-ho!" with which they salute and welcome each other, and the typical melody of the Valkyrior, in which the beat of horses' hoofs is as plainly indicated as in the famous Virgilian line: "Quadrupedante putrem sonittu quatit ungula campum;" though a turfman might urge that there is a difference in the gaits of the respective horses. The realism of the horse thrills and whinneyings of the woodwind instruments needs no explanatory comment.

In the duet between Brunnhilde and Sieglinde towards the close of the scene, there is a beautiful illustration of what may be called the prophetic use of the system of typical phrases as employed by Wagner. Brunnhilde urges Sieglinde to leave her to face the rage of Wotan alone, and seek protection in a forest cave to the East. As an incentive she tells her that she is destined to give birth to the greatest of earthly heroes. The musical phrase to which she utters this prophecy is that which in the next drama we find identified with Siegfried. It is thus that Wagner introduces it in the trilogy. But this is not all. In giving voice to her gratitude, Sieglinde, in turn, hails Brunnhilde as the representative of the redeeming principle in the tragedy (the "Ewigweibliche" of Goethe,) by using a melody which is an augmentation of the melodic symbol of Brunnhilde as loving woman in "Die Gotterdammerung," and which forms the subject of the final apotheosis of the heroine in the finale of the whole work.

H. E. K.

MRS. ELIZA FOSTER RATHBUN.

The death of Mrs. Eliza Foster Rathbun, widow of Dr. Josiah Rathbun of this city, occurred at

her home, No. 9 Hopper street, Saturday, January 14, 1893. The deceased was one of a family of eleven children, and was born in Litchfield, Herkimer County, February 11, 1805. At an early age she removed with her parents to New Hartford. In 1868 she was married to Dr. Rathbun, who died in 1879. About seven years ago Mrs. Rathbun suffered a severe fall, which brought about paralysis, and she was an invalid from that time until her death. She was an active member for many years of the First Presbyterian church. The deceased is survived by the following nieces: Mrs. Fred C. Ingalls, Miss Kittie Foster and Miss Leach, of this city; Mrs. Wallace Warner and Mrs. Charles Carpenter, of Chicago, and Mrs. W. E. Miller, of Elyria, Ohio.

JOHN T. RATHBUN'S DEATH.

THE SAD NEWS RECEIVED WITH UNIVERSAL SORROW.

[Elmira Daily Advertiser.]

The announcement in yesterday morning's Advertiser of the death of John Tobey Rathbun, caused a shock to the entire community. Comparatively few knew of his illness, which was but of brief duration, and were therefore unprepared for the sad news, having so recently seen him upon the streets of the city.

Mr. Rathbun's death is universally mourned. Few men in this city were better known and none more generally honored and respected. In all his extensive dealings his honesty and integrity was never questioned. His counsel and advice were much sought and ever freely given. To his public spirited enterprise and untiring energy are due much of the earlier progress and prosperity of this city. He was ever identified with any movement which had for its object the advancement and welfare of the community in which he lived and the public at large. He was a trustee in the Advertiser association where his wise counsel was highly prized. In all of his undertakings he displayed indomitable courage and energy, to which fact is attributed much of the success which he had attained in life.

Mr. Rathbun leaves as a legacy to his children a name which will be honored in this community for all time.

In the religious interests of the city Mr. Rathbun has also been active. For more than twenty-five years he has been one of the trustees of the First Presbyterian church.

The funeral will be held from the residence on Lake street at 3:30 o'clock tomorrow afternoon.

Mr. Rathbun had for many years been one of the trustees of the *Advertiser* association and deeply interested in its welfare, as he was, indeed, in every worthy enterprise in Elmira. Mr. Rathbun's career in this city, beginning in 1855, was one of honorable business success. He was prominent in several large manufacturing industries, held many places of trust and responsibility and was an important factor in social, financial, educational and religious work. He will be greatly missed.

John T. Rathbun, of Elmira, is dead. He was a trustee of the *Elmira Advertiser*, and for many years had been prominent in all affairs of public interest, and had represented his district in the Assembly. In 1835 Mr. Rathbun married Maria, daughter of Jessie Reed, of Auburn. She died in 1846. There were four children, George R., John H., Mary, and one that died in infancy. George R., the first born, is the only child now living. The daughter Mary married Samuel R. Van Campen, at one time a banker in Elmira. She died in June, 1891, leaving two sons, Samuel R. Van Campen, jr., and John Rathbun Van Campen. John H. Rathbun, the second son, died in January, 1880. During Mr. Rathbun's second term in the Assembly he met in Albany Sarah M. Benjamin, daughter of Simeon Benjamin of Elmira. The lady afterward became his wife, the marriage taking place in 1847. Three sons were born of this marriage, Simeon Benjamin, William R. and Louis G. A daughter named for her mother died early in life. Mrs. Rathbun died in Florida in the winter of 1886.—*Syracuse Standard*.

In the death of Hon. John J. Rathbun THE HISTORIAN loses a warm supporter and an interested reader. His letters were full of sympathy and encouragement. Last spring he wrote that he thought it very probable he would visit the

editor upon his next trip West, as he owned a large tract of land in Missouri which he made it a point to inspect annually.

DEATH OF ALBERT H. MORTON.

BY GEO. A. RATHBUN.

Albert Henry Morton, of the firm of Baker, Morton & Co., died at his home No. 1800 Michigan Avenue, Chicago, Illinois, Sunday February 5th, 1893, at 11:25 o'clock p. m.

He was the eldest son of Charity J. (Rathbun) and the late George C. Morton, grand-son of Charles Rathbun, and was born September 26th, 1860.

His fatal illness was brought upon him by a severe attack of the grippe about two years ago, from which he never recovered. Since then his life was one of continual suffering and he gradually wasted away. His long illness was borne with great fortitude and patience. Not until the last hour of his life did he show a single sign of giving up.

He was a man of courage and a great lover of his country. After receiving a public school education he embarked in business and soon became known as a successful man amongst the younger generation in Chicago.

He was interested in several different business enterprises, his keenness of perception enabling him to appreciate the possibilities of a business situation.

He enjoyed the confidence of his business associates, always maintaining amongst them an honorable name. If Providence had given him the physical strength that he was mentally endowed with, he might have occupied any position with credit.

December 7th, 1887, he was married to Drusie, the second daughter of the late Louis Wahl, a beautiful and accomplished woman.

The funeral services were held at his home on Tuesday at 2 o'clock. The surviving members of the family are his wife, mother, two sisters and one brother. His loss will be mourned not only by his relatives and near friends, but by the working classes to many of whom he had often proved a "friend indeed."

INTERESTING LETTERS.

EDITOR HISTORIAN: Your esteemed favor written some months since, I found awaiting my return from my summer outing.

My father is Aaron H. Rathbone, son of Aaron Rathbone and grandson of Rev. John Rathbone, a favorable notice of whom appeared in the July number of the FAMILY HISTORIAN. The following in relation to my father is a copy of an extract which appeared in the *Old Merchants of New York*, published in three volumes in 1872:

"Aaron, a brother of old John, was engaged in the wholesale grocery business in this city a number of years; about 1815 he removed to Waterford, Saratoga County, and engaged in business with John Knickerbocker, with whom he remained several years. In 1821 he married a sister of Robert Chesebrough; he died in 1845, leaving two sons, Robert C., and Aaron H.; both have been in business in this city a number of years. Aaron H., has been engaged largely in real estate and accumulated a fortune, and is accounted among our millionaires; both are married and have children. Aaron H., married the eldest daughter of Captain Richard F. Loper, of Philadelphia, the well-known veteran yachtman and ship-builder. His famous yachts, Madgie, (now Magic,) Josephine and Palmre, have won more prizes than any others of the New York Yacht Squadron. The Magic having won the Queen's Cup in the late contest, beating the Cambria and the entire squadron. Captain Loper was at one time the largest ship-builder and owner in the United States, having constructed also a large number of vessels for the government during the Mexican and the late civil war. Robert C., married the youngest daughter of the late James W. Bleeker, one of the original founders of the Board of Stock Brokers of this city; he was its second president, and at the time of his death in 1861 had held the office of treasurer for thirty-three consecutive years." There have been several editions of the *Old Merchants of New York*, one in five volumes published in 1885, and a subsequent edition about 1890.

My great-great-grandfather was Joshua Rathbone, who married Mary, daughter of the Rev.

Valentine Wightman, founder of "Wightman Church," Groton, Connecticut. Rev. John Rathbone was their fourth and youngest child. Rev. Valentine Wightman was said to have descended from the Rev. Edward Wightman, the last martyr who was burned at the stake for his religious opinions, he being a Baptist.

Rev. John Rathbone was a Baptist clergyman and preached seventy-five years.

Permit me to correct an error in relation to date and place of marriage; he married Content, daughter of Humphry Brown, of Stonington, Connecticut, January 8th, 1751. He died at Wellington, Connecticut, aged 97 years, one month and five days, and was buried at Ashville, Connecticut.

I send you under separate cover a picture of my father, also a silhouette of the Rev. John Rathbone, (my great-grandfather), and a picture of my little daughter Marguerite Rathbone Busse.

Sincerely yours,

MADGE RATHBONE BUSSE.

Brooklyn, N. Y.

EDITOR HISTORIAN: Can any of your readers tell through your magazine who was the father of Patience Rathbone, who was born in Exeter, R. I., September 16, 1734, and married Isaac Baldwin, afterwards of Norwich, Connecticut? Their children were born at the latter place, and were, Rufus, Thomas, Waterman, Adah, Affa, Isaac, William, Henry, Polly, Silas and Ichabod. They came to Wyoming Valley but afterwards moved to Chenning County, N. Y. Mrs. Patience R. Baldwin died in Southport, (New Elmira) New York, July 24, 1823, within a few weeks of ninety-one years of age. Affa and Adah Baldwin were both in the fort with their mother and were captured and painted by the Indians at the massacre of Wyoming, July 3, 1778. Affa was nineteen and Adah sixteen years old at the time, and they were sent on foot over the mountains and through the swamps to Delaware. One version is that Patience Rathbone was born in Providence, Rhode Island, but our records say Exeter, Providence County, R. I. John Rathbone (3) who married Patience Fish, lived at Exeter, R. I.

MRS. W. H. McCARTNEY.

Wilkes Barre, Pa.

PERSONALS.

—Miss S. Annie Rathbone, of Grand Rapids, Michigan, is in Chicago.

—Mrs. Camden Rathbone visited her sister, Mrs. Adams, in Baltimore in January.

—G. W. Harlan, Glen Elder, Kansas, is putting up a new residence, which will be ready to occupy shortly.

—Mrs. S. S. Lockwood, Steamboat Rock, Iowa, has been a severe sufferer lately, with a gathering in her head.

—G. W. Harlan has sold his restaurant business at Glen Elder, Kansas, and is clerking for the New York store at that place.

—Mrs. W. S. Rathbone and daughter, Dell, have joined their husband and father at Glen Elder, Kansas, after an extended visit at Neosho, Missouri.

—Miss Antoinette Rathbone, of Herndon, Kansas, has purchased a new piano and is teaching music in connection with her duties in the school-room.

—Mrs. Amanda Rathbone, widow of Amos Rathbone, and Mrs. Amos M. Rathbun, both of Grand Rapids, Michigan, are visiting and sight-seeing in California.

—Among the real estate transfers at Genoa, Illinois, is the following: Abigail Rathbone to James Rathbone, 5 Jan. '93 \$1.00 lts 12 blk 37 and pts lts 1 2 3 blk 37 original town.

—There are about one hundred and twenty descendants of David, Daniel and John Rathburn, living in the counties of Megs and Gollia, Ohio, so says B. F. Rathburn of Pomeroy, Ohio.

—S. H. Rathbone, of Steamboat Rock, Iowa, has received notice that he passed the civil service examination satisfactorily, and is now waiting for an appointment in the railway mail service.

—Edward Rathbun Weed represented the Lumbermen's Exchange of New York at Washington, urging Congress to make an appropriation for the survey of a deep water or ship canal from the seaboard to the Great Lakes.

—Mrs. Sarah Rathburn, eighty-seven years of age, left Pomeroy, Ohio, January 16, to visit

friends in St. Louis, and from there to her future home with sons living at Topeka, Kansas. She stood the journey well and enjoyed the trip.

—J. Q. Rathbone and family have moved from Sturdy Oak Farm, near Steamboat Rock, Iowa, where they have resided over nineteen years and where the five younger children were born, to the farm near Red Oak, Iowa, that he purchased last July.

—Much sympathy is extended to Mr. and Mrs. Henry Rathbun Tunks, of Brighton, New York, upon the demise of their son, Bertie, aged six years, of diphtheria, December 27, and their baby, Ray, aged two years, of diphtheretic croup, January 2, 1893. Interment at Warsaw, New York.

—W. S. Rathbone, Glen Elder, Kansas, is having a neat wagon built, preparatory to the establishment of a route through Mitchell County, after the old fashioned "Yankee Peddler" style. He will also engage extensively in the poultry and egg business, having a contract to furnish a car-load of chickens for the San Francisco, California, market.

—Mrs. E. H. Rathbone and children arrived in Oberlin last Monday on a three months' visit, or until the Rathbone Brothers get settled in their new home at Lander, Wyoming, to which place they will transfer the "Miner" plant after this week. This change became necessary by reason of the collapse or rather the shutting down of the mines at Eureka. The boys are meeting vicissitudes innumerable, consequent on the settlement of a new country, but they meet them with a bold, determined front, and in the end will win.—*Oberlin Opinion*.

In speaking of the government officials and illustrious personages who attended the funeral of Ex President Hayes, the *Syracuse Standard* says: Special trains bearing Secretaries Foster, Noble, Rusk and Postmaster-General Wanamaker and Fourth Assistant Postmaster-General Rathbone, representing the Ohio association at Washington, Gov. McKinley and staff and members of the Ohio Senate and House from Columbus came soon afterwards. It was eleven o'clock when train No. 3 on the Lake Shore with the special car Grassmere, bearing President-elect Cleveland, reached the depot. Company D. of the Sixteenth regiment, under Capt. Criegler, had with much difficulty maintained an entrance way through the crowd at the station, and came to a "present arms" as the President-elect and Private Secretary O'Brien stepped from the rear platform of the train. They were met by Webb C. Hayes and Col. Corbin and driven at once to Spiegel Grove. The crowd was motioned into silence as the carriage passed through the crowded streets.

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

IN AN EDITORIAL WAY.

Today the events are taking place that will be heralded by the innumerable dailies of tomorrow. Columns will be headed in large type with announcements in which many names will appear bringing smiles of approval and make the hearts of proud mothers and admiring relatives beat with raptures of joy and feelings of exultation. Complimentary articles will be clipped and carefully preserved for the scrap-book, where they will be read and re-read many times. Great speeches, inspiring sermons, strong editorials will be recorded to the edification of humanity by men and women whose names will be honored by future generations. But this is not all; shocking accidents, brutal crimes and a thousand minor evils will be made known. Disgrace will leave its blackening, blighting sting upon the garments of many hitherto respected families and persons. Tomorrow some trusted treasurer or cashier will be branded a defaulter. A name will be crimsoned, a happy home thrown into a gloom of despair and disgrace through which it must struggle for years. Worst of all, the innocent must suffer with the guilty. Today young men are beset with such subtle temptation that tomorrow will record their downfall. Today young ladies are standing, waging a bitter struggle with circumstances upon one side and designing knaves upon the other, in which their defeat is certain

and a life of shame the sure result. What assurance have we, as a family, that our name may not be thus brought into print in a connection that would bring the blush of shame to our cheeks? Young man, are your methods in business leading you step by step toward the fatal precipice of using your employers funds in a dishonest manner, or such a way that his knowledge of your acts would lead to your discharge? Are you now upon the very verge of disgrace and ruin, about to be branded a defaulter, a forger? The Rathbone—Rathbun family has come down through the ages singularly blessed in this respect and is always alluded to as an "old and respectable family." The HISTORIAN has never yet felt a desire to, nor found occasion to make any attempt to whitewash or "fix" the record of any of its constituency.

A few of our members are today millionaires, a few are struggling with poverty, but the vast majority occupy that "glorious mean," enjoying the fruits of their industry and frugality which does not stimulate avarice upon one hand nor subject to great temptation upon the other.

The HISTORIAN is confident that the former would gladly come to the rescue the moment they become convinced of the necessity and worthiness of the latter. The same good judgment that governs all acts and impulses of their lives would control in a matter of this kind, and the recipient would not be subjected to humility nor made the object of direct charity unless the extreme nature of the case demanded it. The kind of charity that makes men of men, is that which leads to self help and revives the feeling within the soul that some one is interested in its destiny. And should the HISTORIAN ever learn of one descendant, who by some rash act has stained his character, it will not ignore him nor cease in its efforts to aid him rectify past errors and become worthy by future achievements. It is the fundamental principle of our religion that "good will finally triumph over evil."

We have not learned of one of our number being engaged in the saloon business, or being a professional gambler or any other illegal business. Neither have we heard of any young lady of the family being reduced to the necessity of a domes-

tic around a public house. We do not wish to be understood as casting any reflection upon the thousands of girls who fill these positions, but mention it because we are glad, or trust none may be subjected to that unjust, never-the-less certain, social ostracism which is the fate of domestics. By some senseless law of society the girl who does "general housework" for a family, or is the attachee of a hotel or restaurant is looked upon as a lower order of being than her sister who possesses qualifications that fit her for the school room, counting room or office. Should developments reveal the fact that any one of the family, is from necessity, leading this kind of a life, we shall make an effort to inspire her with ambitions towards a plane of life less subject to temptation and ruin.

The editor has been away from home for two weeks this month, which will account for delays in answering mail.

Don't fail to send us all clippings from papers making mention of the family name. Several have remarked lately that they saw articles relating to different ones, that we would like very much to secure. These may prove the "missing link" some time in the future, hence their value.

The HISTORIAN wishes to thank Mrs. J. G. Busse, jr., for splendid photographs of her father, Mr. A. H. Rathbone, and her little daughter, Miss Marguerite, also a splendid reproduction from a silhouette of Rev. John Rathbone, who was born June 26, 1879, and died at Nillington, Connecticut, at the advanced age of ninety-seven years. Also Rev. Hiram Rathbun, of Lansing, Michigan, for a good photo of himself, to be used in getting a plate. Besides these, we have been presented with late photos of Miss Grace Doak, granddaughter of Gideon Rathbone, Ralph, Don and Fay Rathbone, brothers and sister of the editor.

In this connection why not suggest the propriety of making the HISTORIAN the custodian of a collection of family portraits to be preserved for future reference? It would not be possible to make a general exchange of photographs by those who would be glad to make the collection, but if they can be collected by one person, it would not

be very expensive to have them grouped and photographed so that those wishing to do so could secure a larger number of pictures than could be gathered in any other way. Should we succeed in making the HISTORIAN all that is desired and the financial question solves itself satisfactorily, one of the leading features will be good illustrations, and this could be much better accomplished by having the photos at hand when wanted.

FAMILY CENSUS.

MARRIAGES.

MOHR—KEITH : At the residence of the bride's parents in Mitchell, South Dakota, Jan. 5, 1893.

BIRTHS.

BORN : A daughter, to Mr. and Mrs. E. G. Rathbun, of Ellis, Nebraska, February 4, 1893; weight eight and one-half pounds. She has been christened Julia Bidwell Rathbun.

DEATHS.

RATHBUN : Mrs. Eliza Foster Rathbun, died at her home in West Hartford, Connecticut, January 14, 1893.

RATHBUN : Mrs. Henry Rathbun died at her home in Castile, New York, January 8, 1893, of appoplexy.

RATHBUN : Hon. John Tobey Rathbun died at his home in Elmira, New York, January 23, 1893. The immediate cause of his death was from a carbuncle at the base of the brain. Had he lived until March 10th he would have been eighty-three years old.

MORTON : Albert Henry Morton died at his home in Chicago, Illinois, February 5, 1893, from the effects of La Grippe. He was in the thirty-third year of his age.

REMITTANCES RECEIVED.

Since last issue from Miss Lizzie Dean Rathbone, Chicago; Mrs. J. E. Snyder, Eldora; J. Q. Rathbone, \$15, Red Oak; Mrs. S. S. Lockwood, Steamboat Rock; Rev. Hiram Rathbun, Lansing; Charles A. Rathbun, Detroit; R. C. Rathbone; Mrs. Wm. M. Earle, New York; Albert Rathbone, Joubert; Mrs. Jennie R. Comstock, Cumberland; Mark Rathbun, Hantsport.

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