

RAFFERTY

Col. Thomas Rafferty (1822-1888) and
Susan McCoun Rafferty (1824-1900)

and Four Generations of Their Descendants

Biglow - Brokaw - Buek - Crawford - Kingsley - Laing - Milne - Parry - Wilson
and other families

compiled by William John Parry
from notes of John Jay Parry

1992

revised 2002, 2023



John Cafferty



S. A. Cafferty

RAFFERTY

Thomas and Susan McCoun Rafferty and their descendants.

The main seat of the O'Rafferty sept was Tory Island, off the north-west coast of County Donegal, but there were branches on the western coast of Ireland, and in the northern part of County Tyrone, northern Ireland. It was to this latter branch that Michael Rafferty belonged (born about 1794). Here he married Bridget ("Biddy") Sloane (born about 1795), and had two children: Thomas and Catharine (Kate). About 1830 he came to America; his wife and children followed him a few years later. Michael Rafferty worked as a laborer and lived on Canal Street. He died of consumption in New York City, Nov. 7, 1834, at the age of 40, and was buried in the churchyard of St. Patrick's Old Cathedral. His widow was living in 1855, and died in 1886?

Thomas Rafferty was born April 10, 1822, in County Tyrone (south of Londonderry), northern Ireland. He was raised as a Roman Catholic, and when his father came to America, Thomas was placed in care of a Catholic priest in Ireland. This experience left him with "a horror of anything that savored of priestly domination" [*New York Daily Tribune*, Mar. 4, 1874]. He came to America with his mother, arriving at New York City on Aug. 10, 1833, on the packet ship "Constitution" from Liverpool. At the age of 14, he was apprenticed to a hatter.

In 1840, Thomas Rafferty attended a giant revival meeting led by Elder Jacob Knapp at the newly formed Tabernacle Baptist Church in Mulberry Street, and was baptized and joined that church, eventually becoming a Deacon. Elder Knapp and Rev. William W. Everts (the church's minister from 1839-1843) were both committed Abolitionists, and converted Rafferty to their political views as well as their religion.

The Tabernacle Baptist Church moved to a new building at 166 Second Avenue in 1850.



Elder Jacob Knapp (1842)



Old Tabernacle Baptist Church on Mulberry St.
(after conversion to a tenement)



New church on Second Avenue,
built 1850

A U.S. passport application (Jan. 1849) and a pension application (1879) described Thomas Rafferty as light complexioned, with dark brown hair and blue or gray eyes. He was 5' 10" tall and weighed 185 pounds.

Thomas Rafferty married Susan Anne McCoun (March 9, 1824 - Apr. 19, 1900), daughter of John Titus McCoun and Hannah Bogardus, in New York City on June 30, 1845.

According to family tradition, Thomas Rafferty went to California, crossing the Isthmus of Panama, soon after the discoveries of 1849, but he found only gold enough to make a ring for his wife. He came back around Cape Horn.

In 1845, Thomas Rafferty formed a partnership with Henry G. Leask: "Rafferty and Leask, Hatters." They operated several stores, the main one at the corner of Pearl and Chatham Streets (463 Pearl - 123 Chatham). In 1852, they opened a new store at 57 Chatham Street [now Park Row], which was also Thomas Rafferty's residence. According to an advertisement:

Seven years ago two young Mechanics, Journeymen Hatters, with very little money and very few friends, resolved to start business for themselves. They commenced first a manufactory for the trade, not having money enough to furnish and stock a store.... but after two or three years they were enabled to purchase the stock and good will of the store on the corner of Chatham and Pearl sts., and from that moment they have been in the full tide of prosperity.... so much so, that they have been obliged to fit up another store as No. 57 Chatham st., opposite Chambers, which, in point of elegance, is not surpassed by any in the city. [*New York Daily Times*, May 29, 1852]

Another advertisement:

RAFFERTY & LEASK have been obliged to open another store, to meet the demands of their increasing business. Their old store, on the corner of Chatham and Pearl sts., they have found too small, and they have opened another, at No. 57 Chatham st., opposite Chambers st. Puffing does a great deal, but "facts are stubborn things," and this fact talks loud – two stores, and both full of business. [*New York Daily Times*, July 5, 1852]

And yet another advertisement described one of their distinctive specialties:

RAFFERTY & LEASK are prepared to furnish Hats for the million, who are daily flocking to both of their stores, after their superior White Beaver Hats, which they sell at \$3 and \$4, and give each purchaser his Daguerreotype likeness, neatly inserted in the top of his Hat, without additional charge. [*New York Daily Times*, July 13, 1853]

A British author quoted another advertisement as an example of "Yankee puffery":

Talking about holiday gifts, gift concerts, &c., is all very well, but Rafferty and Leask give you your likeness in your hat, free of charge; so that when you make New Year's calls, and leave your hat in the hall, another fellow can't walk off with it – especially if it is better than his, as it always is – if you buy from Rafferty and Leask, No. 57, Chatham-street, and corner of Chatham and Pearl streets. [*The Language of the Walls*, 1855]



Intersection of Chatham (now Park Row) and Pearl Streets, looking northeast, about 1853. Rafferty and Leask's hat store was in the building at the right. The notorious "Five Points" intersection was only one block away.

Paper: True Sun; Date: 07-26-1847;
 Location: New York, New York

MESSRS. RAFFERTY & LEASK respectfully submit to the intelligent public of this metropolis, the decision of the great question—
 Whether a man will be most successful in life with a good or bad hat. Look on this picture and on this, and test it fairly by examining their beautiful \$3 article, and they feel assured that the answer will be like the handle of a jug, all on one side.

RAFFERTY & LEASK,
 Corner of Pearl and Chatham streets.
 Established in 1804. je28 Imieb



OVER HEAD AND EARS IN LOVE!—THE man who has a Hat to his liking, may be said to be over head and ears in love; for his Hat, though it may not cover both, is at least over them. Messrs. RAFFERTY & LEASK render all such who patronise them. Their Fall styles are inimitable, and need only to be seen to win favor. RAFFERTY & LEASK, Hatters,
s9 3mis corner Chatham and Pearl sts, New York.

New-York Daily Times
June 24, 1852

IT IS REALLY AMUSING TO US TO WITNESS THE efforts of some of our cotemporaries to sustain their waning reputation. Poor "Items," of the *Tribune*, is sadly at a loss to find out why some of them are so lavish with their fans. If he will call upon us, at our new store, No. 57 Chatham-st., opposite Chambers-st. we will try and bring our light to bear upon his obtuse intellect, or rather we will tell him the reason why we don't supply our customers with penny fans. When a gent puts on one of our Drab Beavers, it is not so heavy that it leaves a red streak around his forehead and sets him in a perspiration to carry it; on the contrary, as soon as he gets one, he has no further use for a fan—presto! he is cool. Talk about coolness! Put some sugar and milk into one, and set it in the sun, and if it don't make ice cream, it will make—something else. So, dear "Items," if you have been humbugged into buying a hat which obliges you to use a fan, call on us—we will give you fifty cents for it, and sell you a hat that will give you what you sadly want this hot weather, viz., coolness and—ideas!

RAFFERTY & LEASK

New-York Daily Times
July 17, 1852

HE WENT AND GOT HIS HEAD HOOPED—HE DID— or, in other words, he bought one of the sheet-iron Hats which are now sold about town, and it almost kil'ed him— for when his head began to swell he could not get it off, and he had to get a friend with a chisel and mallet to cut it off, and in so doing almost split his skull open, and it would, too, if it had not been thick; so his Governor found out where he had been, and told him if he ever "crooked his elbows" again, he would cut him off with a shilling. He might have avoided all this if he had got his Hat from RAFFERTY & LEASK, No. 57 Chatham-st., opposite Chambers-st.

A New Invention!

DAGUERREOTYPE
HATS!

RAFFERTY & LEASK,

THE CHATHAM STREET HATTERS,

Desire to inform the public that they have invented a new style of
HATS, to which they invite attention.

They INSERT in the LINING of EVERY HAT a **DAGUERRE-
OTYPE LIKENESS** of each Customer or any of his Friends,
FREE OF CHARGE. They have built a GALLERY at their
Establishment,

No. 57 CHATHAM STREET,

(OPPOSITE CHAMBERS,)

And have secured the services of one of the best Artists of the City,
and are now prepared to furnish every Customer with
his own Likeness, Free of Charge.

They have applied to the Patent Office of the United States for a
PATENT for this invention, and caution dealers against infringing
upon their right.

RAFFERTY & LEASK,

57 Chatham Street, opposite Chambers,

AND

At their Old Stand, cor. Chatham and Pearl Streets.

Rafferty and Leask were the sponsors of a Militia Company, “The Rafferty and Leask Guards” commanded by Capt. Denton. They held excursions for target practice in 1852 and 1853, after being “presented with a set of guide colors” at the hat store at 57 Chatham Street. [*New York Daily Times*, Oct. 15, 1852; Nov. 16, 1853]

In 1853 or 1854, Thomas Rafferty moved to Brooklyn (corner of Quincy Street and Throop Avenue, in the Bedford-Stuyvesant neighborhood). A severe economic recession in the winter of 1854-1855 probably caused a serious decline in his business. His partnership with Henry Leask was dissolved in late 1855, and he continued in business on his own for a few more years at 57 Chatham Street.

At the start of the Civil War, Thomas Rafferty recruited a company of soldiers for the “Jackson Light Infantry Regiment,” and was made its Captain. He enlisted in the Union Army May 12, 1861, and was mustered as Captain of Company H on July 7, 1861. His regiment became part of Gen. Daniel E. Sickles’s “Excelsior Brigade,” and was originally called the 2nd Excelsior Regiment, later the 71st New York Volunteer Infantry Regiment (Second Brigade, Second Division, Third Army Corps).



Second Excelsior Regiment in camp, soon after enlistment, late May 1861

Thomas Rafferty first saw action in the Peninsular Campaign, serving in the Siege of Yorktown. At the Battle of Fair Oaks, June 1, 1862, he commanded the skirmishers in advance of his regiment, during a spectacular bayonet charge. A second charge occurred, according to the report of Gen. Sickles, when:

Skirmishers were thrown out about 400 yards in front ... when Captain Rafferty, Company H, Second Regiment, was sent out to reconnoiter and ascertain the position of the [enemy] battery and the force supporting it. Major Toler followed, with two companies of the Second Regiment.... [*Official Records*, ser. I, vol. 11, pt. 1, p. 823]

These charges attracted the attention of the commander, General George B. McClellan, who concluded his first report "from the Field of Battle" on June 1, 1862, by saying:

Our men behaved splendidly. Several fine bayonet charges have been made. The Second Excelsior made two to-day. [*OR*, ser. I, vol. 11, pt. 1, p. 749]



Bayonet charge of the 2nd Excelsior Regiment at Fair Oaks, June 1, 1862

From June 8 to June 23, 1862, there were frequent skirmishes between the picket lines. Rafferty participated in these fights; the regiment lost 3 men in one of these clashes on June 15. Lt. Col. Potter remembered a fight on June 19, involving Rafferty's Company H plus Companies A and F "driving back and reestablishing picket line, which brought enemy in force, but the houses in which the enemy sheltered to pick off our pickets were burned all the same" [N.Y. State Archives, Regimental History Survey Files, box 26, folder 20]



The Twin Houses, Fair Oaks battlefield, mid-June 1862.
The Excelsior Brigade in line of battle, in the distance at upper right.
The Twin Houses changed hands several times.

On June 25, 1862, Rafferty's division attempted to advance their pickets toward Richmond from Fair Oaks, in an action known as the Battle of Oak Grove (first of the Seven Days' Battles). During this fight he again was posted on the skirmish line, and was wounded in the right thigh by a musket ball. His regiment lost over 100 men in this action. Rafferty's close friend, the Regimental Chaplain Joseph Hopkins Twichell, wrote to his father:

Dear Capt. Rafferty was shot through the leg – a bad flesh wound, but not dangerous. He accepted the fact ... without murmuring or complaint as became a Christian soldier... We shall feel the loss of Capt. Rafferty. He and Capt. Nolan were our best men. [*Civil War Letters of Joseph Hopkins Twichell*, pp. 146-147]

Thomas Rafferty was hospitalized for 30 days, then sent to Brooklyn for another 45 days, where he recruited 50 new soldiers for his regiment. During his absence he was promoted to Major (July 31, 1862), and upon his return to duty (Sept. 15, 1862) he assumed command of the regiment (the Colonel commanding the brigade, and the Lt. Colonel absent, wounded).

On Nov. 10, 1862, Chaplain Twichell, wrote to his father:

A glad day Capt. Rafferty was appointed our Major and is now in command of the Regiment. You may imagine my joy.... He is popular with the Regt. – as a gentleman and a brave soldier.... He will see to it that justice and not flattery rule his administration. [*Civil War Letters of Joseph Hopkins Twichell*, p. 188]



First flag of the “Jackson Light Infantry” (71st New York Volunteers), carried in 1861 and 1862 (retired April 24, 1863).

Thomas Rafferty was in command of the 71st New York during the Battle of Fredricksburg, December 13, 1862; however, the regiment was held in reserve and only saw light action. The next major battle he was engaged in was the Battle of Chancellorsville. On the evening of May 2, 1863, his brigade was formed as the first line of resistance, following the rout of the Eleventh Corps by “Stonewall” Jackson. They were involved in more heavy fighting the next morning, when their division commander Gen. Hiram Berry was killed, after which the Excelsior Brigade was marched from the field by their commander, Gen. Joseph Revere (who was relieved of command for this act). The 71st New York lost 39 men in this battle.

On July 2, 1863, Major Thomas Rafferty participated with his regiment in the Battle of Gettysburg. Gen. Sickles, who was now in command of the Third Corps, in a very controversial move, advanced his troops to the Emmittsburg Road in advance of the rest of the Union Army. They were not able to hold this position and were forced back by the Confederate attack, losing nearly half of their men in the process. The 71st New York lost 91 men, out of 243 present for duty. After the Confederate troops overran the Union position in the Peach Orchard, the Excelsior Brigade was forced to retreat. Then they counterattacked, recapturing three guns and taking 30 prisoners and the flag of the 8th Florida Regiment. Here is Rafferty’s own account of this action:

As soon as they found themselves assailed both in front and flank, they broke and retreated. The confusion was but momentary, for although disrupted and somewhat in disorder, they had a soldier for a leader; they were soldiers themselves, and almost immediately rallied.... They knew that the position could not now be held, and they seemed to have simultaneously made up their minds that they were going back to a position they could hold, and back they did go, but fighting, not disorderly. They would fire at the enemy, *walk* to the rear, loading as they went, then turn, take deliberate aim and fire again ... so deliberately that the enemy kept at a very respectable distance. However, they kept up a terrible artillery fire, killing and wounding our poor fellows very rapidly; and yet the coolness and self-possession of our men under it was most remarkable.... I had dismounted and together with Colonel Brewster, who was in command of our brigade, was walking to the rear. Colonel Brewster's horse had just been killed, and I was leading mine, with the bridle thrown over my arm, when a private belonging to my old company came up to me with a handsome bridle in his hand all covered with blood.... He had stopped under that terrible fire to unbuckle the bridle from Colonel Brewster's horse for the purpose of presenting it to me. Poor fellow, in less than two minutes afterward he was struck with a grapeshot and killed! ...

Shortly after our rallying ... it was rumored that [three] guns had been left behind when we fell back, and at once, as though by spontaneous impulse, the cry was raised, "Boys, let's go back and get those guns!" and with a wild cheer the whole mass of officers and men, all mixed up, and without any organization, rushed back across the field we had just come over.... The front on the Emmitsburg road was again reached, the guns secured, and we commenced to drag them back, men and officers all together. Strange to say, the enemy never fired a shot.... We at the same time captured quite a number of prisoners – stragglers – from the enemy.... In dragging back one of the guns we came to a farm drain, which we had some difficulty in crossing. As we arrived there I happened to look into the drain, and there at the bottom lay two rebels. One of them had a rifle. I had my revolver in my hand, and at once covering him I commanded him to drop that rifle, which he promptly did, and they both came out and surrendered. They proved to be a captain and a private. On coming out the captain asked me what he should do. It was all enthusiasm and hurrah just then. "Do?" said I; "do anything to make yourself useful. There, take hold and help drag out that gun!" and they actually did take hold; and the last I ever saw of those two rebels they were hauling on that rope as heartily as any one.

[*National Tribune*, Feb. 9, 1888]



Gen. Daniel E. Sickles



Col. William R. Brewster
commanding Brigade



HENRY L. POTTER.
1861-1865.
Late Colonel 71st N. Y. S. V. Inf.
[1901]



Major Thomas Rafferty at Gettysburg (from *National Tribune*, Feb. 2-9, 1888)

Gen. Daniel E. Sickles lost his right leg at Gettysburg. Col. Henry L. Potter, who commanded the 71st New York at Gettysburg, also was wounded on July 2, departed on sick leave July 16, 1863, and never returned, leaving Thomas Rafferty in command of the regiment for the remainder of its service.

During the pursuit of Lee's army, the Excelsior Brigade led a charge on Confederate soldiers holding a ridge at Wapping Heights (Manassas Gap), July 23, 1863. Gen. Spinola, who commanded the brigade, fell severely wounded and was replaced by Col. Farnum, who in turn was sent to New York City on July 27, 1863. Thomas Rafferty then assumed command of the Excelsior Brigade, and commanded it from July 27 - Aug. 10, 1863, during the final pursuit of Lee's army to the Rappahannock River.

Rafferty was cited “for gallant and meritorious conduct at the battles of Chancellorsville, Gettysburg, and Wapping Heights,” and was recommended for promotion. However, his promotion to Lieutenant Colonel was delayed until Feb. 10, 1864 (according to Rafferty, because of “political influence”), but with retroactive rank from May 1, 1863. One soldier in his regiment wrote:

Our Major (Rafferty) was promoted to Lieutenant-Colonel last week, and well he deserves it. He is just the right kind of officer to have command of a regiment, and we feel proud of him. [*New York Sunday Mercury*, Feb. 21, 1864]

Lt. Col. Thomas Rafferty commanded the 71st New York (now part of the Second Corps, in Gen. Gershom Mott’s Division) throughout the spring and summer of 1864. In May 1864, they fought in the Battles of The Wilderness, Spotsylvania Court House (where they participated in the assault on the “Bloody Angle”), North Anna, and Totopotomoy. In June they fought at Cold Harbor and Petersburg. They were heavily engaged at Petersburg on June 16, 1864, participating in the capture of Batteries 13 and 14, on the future site of Fort Stedman. During July 1864, they participated in the siege of Petersburg, where Thomas Rafferty again briefly commanded the Excelsior Brigade. The regiment’s term of service expired, and they mustered out July 30, 1864.

A newspaper reported:

The Seventy-first New York State Volunteers, or Second regiment of the Sickles Brigade, will return on Saturday or Monday. They have been through all the fights on the Peninsula – at Antietam, Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville and Gettysburg, and in this campaign under Grant – and now return with less than one hundred men. Lieutenant Colonel Thomas Rafferty, who is and has been in command for fourteen months, was formerly captain of Company H. He is an excellent officer, and has been faithful to all his trusts. He was wounded at Fair Oaks. [New York State Military Museum files]

An obituary later reported:

He ... was brevetted brigadier-general for gallantry in the field, but declined the promotion. He believed that he had been unfairly treated through motives of jealousy, and claimed that, as he had long been colonel of his regiment in fact, he should have received that rank. [*Appletons’ Annual Cyclopedia*, 1888, vol. 28, p. 650.]

In 1865, Rafferty obtained letters of recommendation from several of his former commanders. A letter from Major General Sickles is no longer in the file, but here are brief excerpts from two of the others [National Archives, Record Group 94 - file R 226 CB 1866]:

Major General Gershom Mott (Division Commander):

Having served under my command during the most of the campaign of 1864.... I always found you active, efficient and zealous in the performance of all duties, and in the field brave, gallant and meritorious.

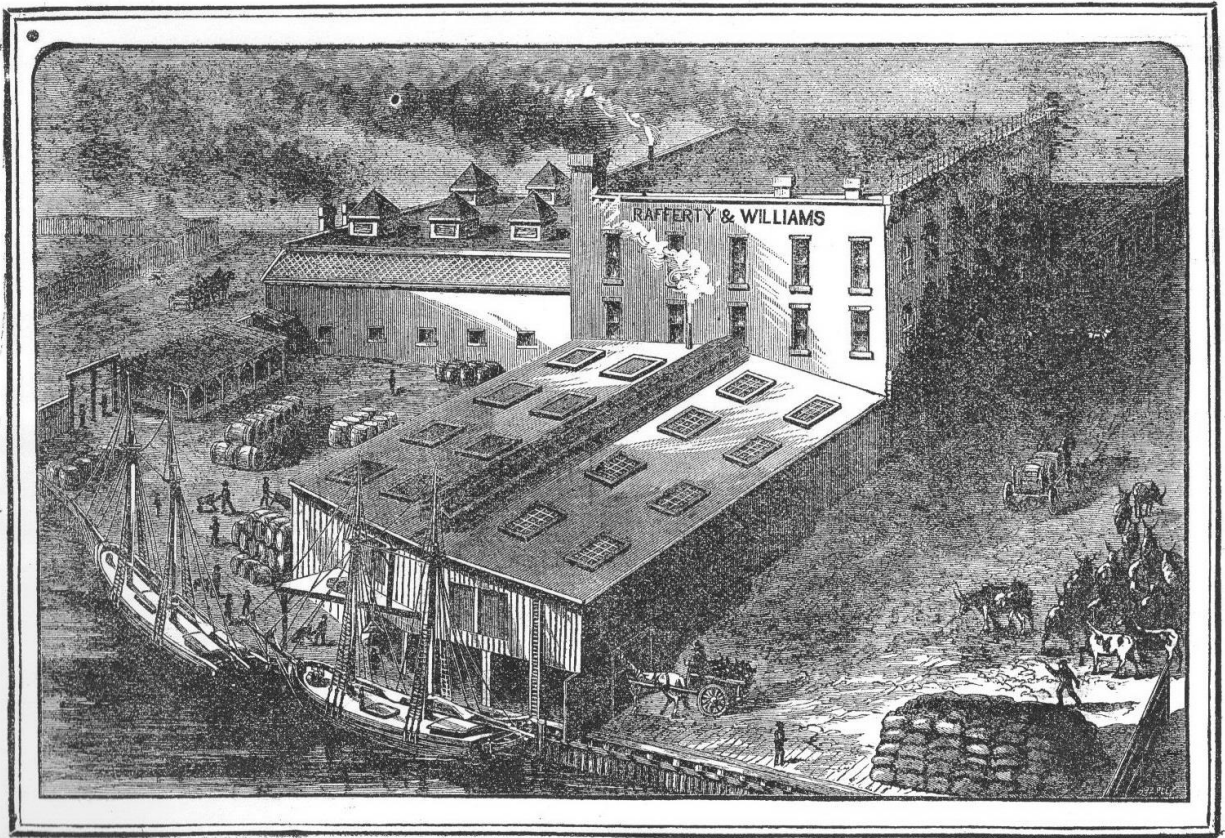
Colonel William R. Brewster (Brigade Commander):

His Regiment having been in the Brigade under my command for nearly two years, it gives me great pleasure to testify to the soldierly qualities and general good conduct of Col. Rafferty during that time. He is a gentleman of good standing in society, brave and gallant in action.

After the war, Thomas Rafferty found himself temporarily unemployed. In 1865, he applied for a commission in the Regular U.S. Army, and was appointed Second Lieutenant in the 12th U.S. Infantry Regiment, May 11, 1866. By the time he received the commission (more than one year after his application), he had found employment as a confidential clerk with Hoyt Brothers (leather merchants), 210 Eldridge Street, New York City, and chose to resign from the Army as of Sept. 10, 1866. From 1869 to 1874 his occupation was listed (in directories) as a bookkeeper, and inspector of hides in 1875. About 1876 he moved to Manhattan (243 East 14th Street), and formed a partnership with John Williams, "Rafferty and Williams, Fertilizers." Thomas Rafferty also was a member of the Produce Exchange.

Rafferty and Williams operated a fertilizer factory at the foot of East 44th Street, between First Avenue and the East River (now the site of the United Nations), one block north of Hoyt Brothers' hide processing works. They rendered waste from nearby slaughterhouses into fertilizer, tallow, and oil. The fertilizers were sold under the name "Americus Brand." There were frequent complaints from neighbors about odors emanating from this factory, and they were investigated by the Board of Health on several occasions (and indicted once in 1878 as a "public nuisance"), but never convicted. One of these investigations was described in detail in the *New York Times*:

The committee first visited Rafferty & Williams's fat-rendering factory.... Large barrels of tallow stood on every hand ready to be turned into stearine and oil. This tallow is first thrown into the hashing-machine and chopped to bits. Thence it goes into the trying-machine, and, by means of revolving blades, is passed and repassed over an iron surface, whose temperature is 250°. From the liquid thus obtained is extracted the stearine, which is packed in hard, dry cakes in barrels, and forwarded East and West to be used in the adulteration of lard. The oil which is left is sent chiefly to Holland, where the honest Dutch farmers mix it with their butter, producing a cheaper grade of so-called butter.... In another apartment were vats of blood whose albumen was being collected for the clarifying of sugar. Passing into still another apartment, the committee were introduced to a number of large cylinders, looking somewhat like huge wooden guns. They were "charged" with the blood and offal of bullocks which was then subjected to a drying process that reduced the mass to something resembling fine black dirt.... Its capacity for stink is apparently unlimited. Under the same roof it is mixed with phosphates, forming an excellent fertilizer. "An ox may be killed in the morning. The next night you will find him here in this heap of fertilizing matter," explained Mr. Williams. This whole district between Forty-second and Forty-seventh streets is given up almost entirely to slaughterhouses and rendering establishments.... The premises occupied by Rafferty & Williams are said to be unusually well sewered, and they were in a remarkably cleanly condition when the committee made their appearance. [March 27, 1881]

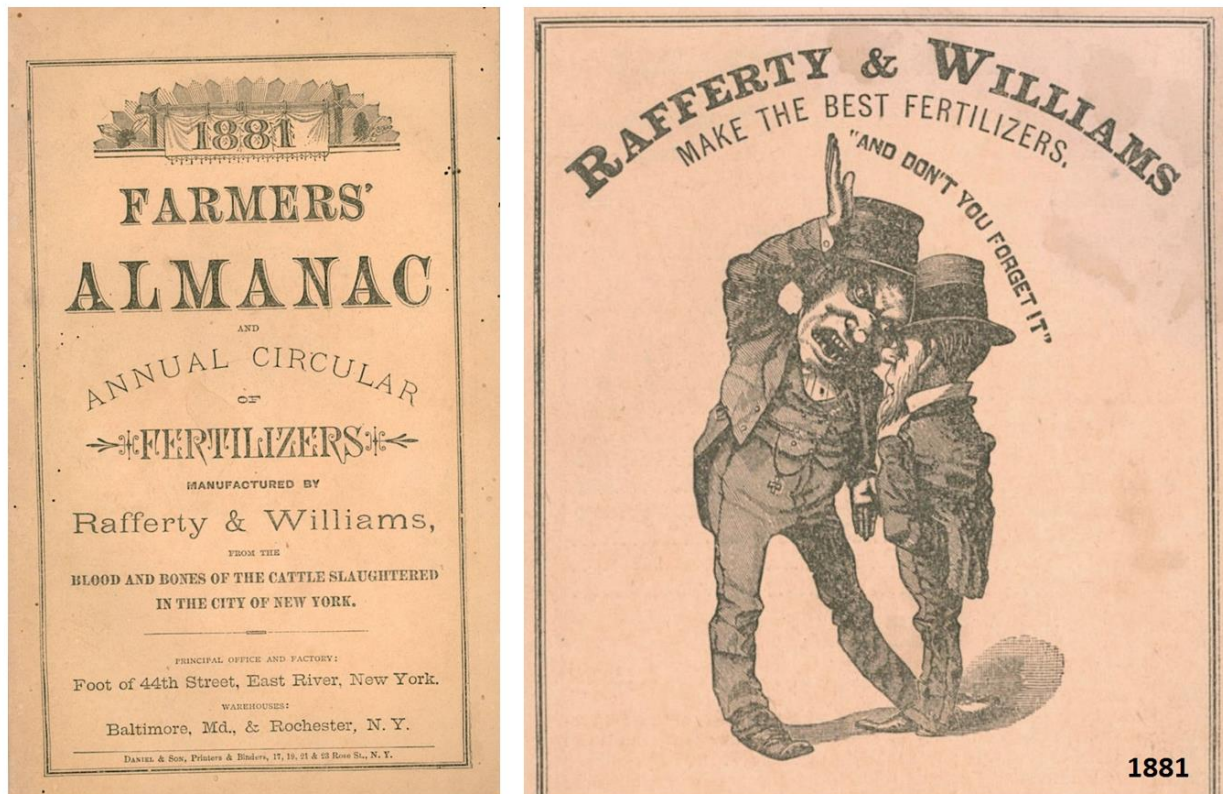


1879

In 1884, faced with complaints from a “Ladies’ Health Protective Association,” Rafferty gave a lengthy interview to the *New York Tribune*, which also described his plant in detail. Here are a few excerpts:

The reporter found Colonel Thomas Rafferty at his office at the foot of East Forty-fourth-st. Mr. Rafferty served through the war as Colonel of the 71st Regiment. “I am glad you came,” he said. “... I claim that our establishment is a necessity in this city, and that it is doing New-York more good than harm. We are disposing of the offal of all the slaughter-houses on this side of the city and handling it while it is fresh and before it has a chance to decompose. So long as slaughtering is carried on in New-York, a business like ours must be carried on alongside of it....

“Our plant cost us over \$100,000. Our principal business is the taking care of offal, bones and blood, and we claim that it is the best place for the purpose in the United States, or in the world.... If the city of New-York says we must stop, we will stop it. If it says we can make any improvements, we will make them. We are prepared to put in any machinery or appliances that any scientist will demonstrate to be better than those which we now have in use.” [Nov. 24, 1884]



Thomas Rafferty was a Deacon in the Tabernacle Baptist Church, and an active member of the Baptist Social Union. During the war, his regimental chaplain mentioned in a letter dated March 1, 1863, that "I paid a pastoral visit to Major Rafferty, and, as usual, to my enjoyment and edification. He is in low spirits about the national prospects, ... but in matters pertaining to Zion full of brightness. He is one of those men who are pre-eminently Christians" [*Civil War Letters of Joseph Hopkins Twichell*, p. 215].

At a meeting of the Baptist Social Union, "Col. Thomas Rafferty ... advocated the study of the Scriptures as the foundation source of all self-knowledge.... To know what I am, to increase in knowledge, and to escape from sin, I go to the Bible" [*Brooklyn Daily Union*, May 21, 1875].

Thomas Rafferty was active in Republican politics (but never held office), campaigning for Republican Presidential candidates from Frémont in 1856 to Blaine in 1884. In 1884, he ran as a Republican candidate for Alderman in the 16th District, but was soundly defeated by two Democrats, receiving only 6% of the vote.

Col. Rafferty also was active in various veterans' organizations. He was a member of the Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States (MOLLUS), the Grand Army of the Republic (GAR), the Excelsior Brigade Association (serving as a Vice President in 1887), the Society of the Army of the Potomac (a Vice President in 1880), the Second Corps Club (First Vice President, 1886-1887), and the Third Army Corps Union (President 1886-1887).

Rafferty attended special reunions at Gettysburg in June 1882 (“for the purpose of defining the positions of the various commands”) and July 1886. He was one of the organizers of the latter reunion, where he presented Gen. Sickles to the attending veterans, jokingly saying “As I suppose that none of you know the man that made the victory of Gettysburg possible, I will have to introduce him to you.” He attended another reunion in Oct. 1886, called by Gen. Sickles to finalize the correct positions for monuments for New York state troops on the battlefield.

Rafferty marched in General Hooker’s funeral procession Nov. 5, 1879, and in President Grant’s funeral procession (as an Aide to Gen. Sickles), Aug. 8, 1885. In the spring of 1887 he was elected Commander of Abraham Lincoln Post No. 13 of the Grand Army of the Republic.

According to one obituary:

He had been ill from asthma and other diseases of the lungs for more than a year past, and Lincoln Post comrades now recall his most pathetic words when he accepted the nomination of commander, to which he was elected unanimously for the term of 1887 and 1888. He then declared that the advice of his physicians was against serving in any prominent capacity in the Grand Army of the Republic. But the declaration ... that all the officers of the post were ready to lighten his burdens, induced the old Colonel to accept that nomination. [*New York Herald*, Feb. 23, 1888]

Ill health forced his retirement from business in January 1887, and in May 1887 he moved from Manhattan to North Plainfield, N.J., where he died Feb. 21, 1888. He had six daughters, but no sons. He and his wife (and three of their daughters) are buried in the Woodlawn Cemetery, Bronx, N.Y.



Miniature flag from a veterans’ celebration or parade, after 1880.



TIPTON #2763
N.Y. Historical Commission
Exhibiting to Gen. Carr & DEs
Generals Sickles, Carr, Graham with Major Chas.
A. Richardson and others at site where General
Sickles lost his leg. Tipton #70E (1886).
Looking east and showing stake in ground behind
Carr; west elevation of Troutle Barn, carriages.

Reunion of officers of the Third Army Corps at Gettysburg, July 1886 or Oct. 1886.
Those present at both reunions included Gen. Sickles, Gen. Carr, Gen. Graham, and Col. Rafferty.
(Gen. Sickles is seventh from left – with one leg and crutch; Rafferty may be the man to the right of Sickles.
Gen. Carr is fifth from left, Gen. Graham is tenth from left.)



THOMAS RAFFERTY
DIED FEBRUARY 21, 1888.
AGED 64 YEARS.

SUSAN MCCOUN RAFFERTY
HIS WIFE
DIED APRIL 19, 1900.
AGED 76 YEARS.

FATHER

Sons-In-Law of Thomas Rafferty

Sarah Augusta Rafferty (1849-1878) married CHARLES HERMAN BUEK (1844-1929). He was born Dec. 23, 1844, at Coblenz, Germany; son of Herman Buek and Marie Auguste Siemers Buek of Hamburg, Germany. The family came to the U.S. in 1849, settling in Brooklyn, N.Y. about 1854. (In 1862, his family moved to 445 Quincy Street, next door to Thomas Rafferty's residence.) He served in the Union Army from 1861-1864, as a Private in the 41st N.Y. Infantry Regiment. After the war he was employed as an architect with the firm of Duggin and Crossman in New York City. He took over the firm in 1879 and reorganized it as Charles Buek and Co. They built numerous luxury row houses in Manhattan, including the landmark "Astor Row" on West 130th Street. He died Feb. 19, 1929, at Westport, Conn. [Note: his surname was often misspelled as "Buck"]

Isabel Bacon Rafferty (1851-1918) married ALEXANDER HATFIELD MILNE (1850-1888). He was born Dec. 16, 1850, at Brooklyn, N.Y.; son of Gordon Milne and Margaret Grant Milne. (His father, a native of Banff, Scotland, worked on a steamboat, and was crushed to death in a tragic accident while repairing the paddle, six weeks before Alexander was born.) He worked as a baker in Brooklyn and New York City. He died June 13, 1888, at North Plainfield, N.J.

Susan McCoun Rafferty (1853-1918) never married.

Emma Titus Rafferty (1857-1929) married DANIEL DEWITT BROKAW (1848-1916). He was born Feb. 28, 1848, at Piscataway, N.J.; son of John Field Brokaw and Mary M. Smock Brokaw. He was a designer and manufacturer of platinum jewelry, head of D. D. Brokaw and Son, 15 Maiden Lane (later at 37 W. 47th Street), New York City. He died Nov. 21, 1916, at North Plainfield, N.J.

Ada Albertine Rafferty (1861-1938) married LUCIUS HORATIO BIGLOW JR. (1860-1929). He was born Apr. 3, 1860, at Brooklyn, N.Y.; son of Lucius Horatio Biglow and Amelia Ward Biglow. His father was a leading publisher of popular hymn music (Biglow and Main Co.), and a prominent member (along with Thomas Rafferty) of the Baptist Social Union. The son followed in the publishing business, as owner and president of L. H. Biglow Co., printers and stationers, New York City. He also was a director of the Preferred Accident and Insurance Co., a trustee of Colgate University, and a veteran of the Seventh Regiment, N.Y. National Guard. He died June 15, 1929, at Greenwich, Conn. [Note: his surname was often misspelled as "Bigelow"]

Descendants of Thomas and Susan Rafferty [Four Generations]

- I. Kate Rafferty. Born about 1847? Died young (before 1850).

- II. Sarah Augusta Rafferty. Born May 28, 1849. Died June 29, 1878, at Brooklyn, N.Y.
Married Aug. 2, 1866, at Brooklyn, N.Y., to Charles Herman Buek (Dec. 23, 1844 - Feb. 19, 1929). Buried in Woodlawn Cemetery, Bronx, N.Y.
 - A. Augusta Isabel ("Gussie") Buek. Born Sept. 9, 1867, at Brooklyn, N.Y. Died Jan. 14, 1943, at Rome, N.Y. Married Sept. 5, 1888, to Watkyn William Parry (Apr. 28, 1856 - Sept. 2, 1945).
 1. John Jay Parry. Born Sept. 30, 1889, at Rome, N.Y. Died Oct. 8, 1954, at Urbana, Ill. Married June 22, 1921, to Marion Jewett Austin (Jan. 16, 1897 - Oct. 29, 1967).
 - a. Anne Elizabeth Parry. Born June 7, 1922, at Champaign, Ill. Died June 28, 2004. Unmarried.
 - b. John Jay Parry, Jr. Born Nov. 23, 1925, at Champaign, Ill. Died Oct. 19, 1999, at Schenectady, N.Y. Married Apr. 14, 1951, to Joyce Miller Robinson (Jan. 18, 1929 – March 6, 2020).
 2. Anne Buek Parry. Born July 24, 1893, at Rome, N.Y. Died Apr. 24, 1939, at Riverside, Conn. Married June 20, 1919, to Carleton Lewis Marsh (Sept. 10, 1891 - Apr. 10, 1973).
 - a. Carleton Lewis Marsh II. Born and died June 10, 1920.
 - b. Carleton Lewis ("Gadget") Marsh, Jr. Born Nov. 9, 1923. Died June 20, 1980. Married Sept. 9, 1950, to Priscilla Foster Atwater (Apr. 24, 1928 – Oct. 17, 2014).
 - B. Susan Mary ("Susie") Buek. Born Nov. 22, 1870. Died Jan. 21, 1943. Married Nov. 7, 1890, to William Morgan Kingsley (Dec. 16, 1863 - Sept. 7, 1942). Divorced 1921.
 1. Charles Parkhurst Kingsley. Born Oct. 13, 1892. Married June 20, 1931, to Virginia Kelsey. No children.
 2. Myra Kingsley. Born Oct. 1, 1897, at Westport, Conn. Died Nov. 20, 1996, Miami. Married (1) Oct. 6, 1921, to George Fleming Houston (Jan. 11, 1896 - Nov. 12, 1944). Divorced 1927. Married (2) Apr. 5, 1934, to Howard L. Taylor. Divorced. No children.
 3. Mabon Kingsley. Born Mar. 1, 1900. Died Nov. 5, 1994. Married Apr. 30, 1928(?), to Alberta Schofield.
 - a. Jennifer Susan Kingsley. Born Feb. 21, 1930. Married 1957, to Jay Nelson Pike.
 - b. William Morgan Kingsley.
 4. Elsa Kingsley (adopted). Born Mar. 4, 1900. Unmarried.

- C. Thomas Charles ("Tom") Buek. Born Jan. 30, 1874, at Brooklyn, N.Y.. Died Sept. 20, 1955, at Wethersfield, Conn. Married Oct. 6, 1907, to Katharine Taintor Welles (Mar. 15, 1875 - Jan. 21, 1975).
1. Katharine Welles ("Kit") Buek. Born Feb. 7, 1910. Died Oct. 4, 1999. Married Aug. 3, 1948, at West Simsbury, Conn., to Charles Earnest Haines (1896 - Apr. 9, 1975). No children.
 2. Charles Welles Buek. Born Oct. 27, 1911, at Glenbrook, Conn. Died July 18, 1988, at Darien, Conn. Married Apr. 19, 1941, at New Rochelle, N.Y., to Marjorie Ann ("Peggy") Pinckney (1919 - 2011).
 - a. Ann Pinckney Buek. Born Mar. 9, 1943. Married Sept. 1970, to James Harry Beggs.
 - b. Thomas Welles Buek. Born Feb. 23, 1946. Married May 19, 1973, to Jeri Jo Whittington.
- D. Sara Augusta ("Sadie") Buek. Born Nov. 2, 1876. Died Aug. 9, 1949, at Norwalk, Conn.. Married Oct. 11, 1899, to John Crawford (Sept. 15, 1873 - Apr. 25, 1941).
1. John Crawford, Jr. Born Feb. 25, 1901. Died May 23, 1901.
 2. Janet Crawford. Born Apr. 14, 1902. Married Oct. 29, 1926, to Burton Lenox How.
 - a. Sara King ("Sally") How. Born Nov. 17, 1927. Died Nov. 24, 2004. Married Oct. 6, 1951, to Wadsworth Stelle ("Waddy") Stone (1923 - 2020).
 - b. Burton Lenox How, Jr. Born Dec. 8, 1928. Died March 22, 2020. Married Mary Collom.
 3. Sara Buek ("Sallie") Crawford. Born Mar. 22, 1904. Died Dec. 1982. Married Oct. 18, 1929, to Charles Webster ("Web") Maschal (1896 - 1985).
 - a. Sara Jane Maschal. Born Jan. 1931. Married June 13, 1953, to Lewis Eldon Sullivan (1930 - 2005).
 - b. Charles Webster Maschal, Jr. Born 1934. Died Nov. 24, 2014. Married Apr. 27, 1963, to Roberta Gleason.
 4. Susan Kingsley Crawford. Born July 30, 1912. Married Nov. 30, 1939, at Westport, Conn., to Arthur Rae Stahman (1917 - 1974).
- E. Charles E. Buek [Jr.]. Born June 29, 1878. Died Feb. 4, 1925. Married June 1911, to Edith Adele Cotton (June 21, 1881 - Apr. 21, 1936).
1. Elizabeth Abbie Buek. Born Oct. 7, 1914, at Merion, Pa. Died May 1, 2006. Married Mar. 24, 1937, at Bala Cynwyd, Pa., to Philip James Woodcock.
 - a. Edith Cotton Woodcock.

III. Isabel Bacon ("Belle") Rafferty. Born Sept. 18, 1851. Died Dec. 11, 1918. Married Sept. 10, 1872, to Alexander Hatfield Milne (Dec. 16, 1850 - June 13, 1888). Buried in Green-Wood Cemetery, Brooklyn.

- A. Alexander Milne. Born Nov. 17, 1876. Died Apr. 21, 1951, at Plainfield, N.J. Married Apr. 19, 1899, to Jessie Adams Kennard (Aug. 17, 1878 - May 24, 1965).
1. Alexander Milne, Jr. Born July 9, 1901. Died May 1969. Married (1) Apr. 19, 1924, to Marion Dalzell Blair (1899-1990). Divorced. Married (2) Mar. 20, 1930, to Eleanor Manning. Divorced. Married (3) June 15, 1950, to Bessie M. Hansen (1909-1989).
 - a. Barbara Milne. Born June 26, 1925. Married May 10, 1947, to George John Shebey, Jr.
 - b. Patricia Milne. Born Feb. 5, 1931.
 - c. Alexander Milne III. Born Mar. 25, 1934.
 2. Harriet Milne. Born Aug. 26, 1905. Married (1) Oct. 8, 1927, to Robert L. Fountain, Jr. Divorced. Married (2) Apr. 28, 1937, to Rodney W. Ross.
 - a. Robert L. Fountain III. Born Oct. 16, 1929.
 - b. Sandra Fountain. Born May 20, 1932.
 - c. Rodney W. Ross, Jr. Born Aug. 22, 1946. Died Sept. 9, 2017. Married (1) Dorothy ("Dotsie") Mellon. Married (2) in 1981, to Shelley Toler.
 3. Jessie Milne. Born May 16, 1909. Married Jan. 24, 1931, to William Strickland Dunn.
 - a. William Strickland Dunn II. Born Jan. 12, 1932.
 - b. Alexander Milne ("Sandy") Dunn. Born Dec. 31, 1933. Died May 15, 2020. Married, June 22, 1957, to Marilyn Bailey.
 4. John Milne. Born Aug. 21, 1915. Died Nov. 29, 1998. Married Jan. 31, 1942, to Jean McDuff (Sept. 16, 1917 -).
 - a. Jonathan Milne. Born May 20, 1943.
 - b. Jeffrey Milne. Born June 24, 1945.
 - c. Jared Milne. Born Apr. 20, 1947.
 - d. Joel Milne. Born May 2, 1948.

- B. Susan R. ("Susie") Milne. Born Feb 9, 1881. Died Mar. 4, 1956. Married Feb. 4, 1902, at Plainfield, N.J., to Edward Taylor Wilson (Jan. 25, 1869 - Dec. 27, 1957).
1. Isabel Milne Wilson. Born Nov. 16, 1902. Married (1) Dec. 30, 1924, to Russel Bayly (died Aug. 2, 1938). Married (2) June 10, 1939, at Portland, Oregon, to Donald W. Johnson (Jan. 10, 1908 -).
 - a. Diana Laurence Bayly (adopted). Born May 2, 1929.
 - b. Michael Milne Bayly (adopted). Born Apr. 27, 1932.
 - c. Russel Wilson Bayly (adopted). Born Apr. 27, 1932.
 2. Edward Taylor ("Ned") Wilson, Jr. Born Mar. 5, 1905. Died Feb. 24, 1954. Married June 23, 1926, to Marion V. Suydam (Dec. 23, 1907 - Jan. 1985).
 - a. Joan Reid Wilson. Born Dec. 30, 1927. Died Dec. 26, 2009. Married July 8, 1950, to Thomas Vincent Metz (1925 - 1984).
 - b. Marion L. ("Joy") Wilson. Born Jan. 3, 1932.
 - c. Edward Taylor ("Ned") Wilson III. Born Dec. 2, 1933. Died Mar. 27, 1983. Married, 1982, to Eileen Winifred Wesson.
 3. Laurence Raeburn ("Laurie") Wilson. Born May 3, 1910. Died May 5, 1980. Married June 2, 1934, to Bertille Bea Beech (Mar. 17, 1905 - 1972).
 4. Elsie Brokaw Wilson. Born May 30, 1912. Died Nov. 26, 2005. Married June 30, 1934, to Edward S. Blackwell, Jr. (Jan. 22, 1911 - 2005).
 - a. Janet Gail Blackwell. Born Aug. 12, 1937. Married John Bent.
 - b. Edward S. Blackwell III. Born July 8, 1940.
 - c. Marion W. Blackwell. Born Feb. 22, 1946. Married Clinton V. Meserole Jr.
 5. Robert Bruce ("Robbie") Wilson. Born Nov. 17, 1918. Died Sept. 17, 2011. Married June 21, 1939, to Valentine Denham.
 - a. Robert Bruce Wilson, Jr. Born Nov. 5, 1942.
 - b. Lynn Elizabeth Wilson. Born Oct. 2, 1946. Married Douglas Arnot.

- C. Isabel Milne. Born Mar. 18, 1883. Died Nov. 24, 1947. Married Allen Blackwell Laing (1874 - 1961).
1. Allen Blackwell Laing, Jr. Born July 9, 1907. Died June 5, 1970. Married Jan. 30, 1932, to Margery Lyman (Nov. 30, 1913 -).
 - a. Margery Serrel Laing. Born Dec. 18, 1932.
 2. Susan Milne ("Susie") Laing. Born June 23, 1910. Died 1994. Married July 1, 1933, to Barclay Giddings Johnson (Aug. 14, 1909 - Apr. 27, 1985).
 - a. Barclay Giddings Johnson, Jr. Born July 21, 1934.
 - b. Isabel Alden ("Aldie") Johnson. Born Feb. 6, 1938. Married June 14, 1965, to Alfred Jensen Byrholdt Jr.
 - c. Susan Allen Johnson. Born Sept. 22, 1946. Married Nov. 1966, to Richard Franklin Moseley.
 3. Gordon Milne Laing. Born Apr. 15, 1915. Died Oct. 1983. Married Oct. 19, 1940, to Mary Elizabeth Rainier (Aug. 25, 1916 -).
 - a. Gordon Milne Laing, Jr. Born May 27, 1942.
 - b. Lucinda Rainier Laing. Born May 5, 1946.
 - c. Allen Blackwell Laing III. Born June 24, 1950.
 4. Isabel Ann Laing. Born Nov. 22, 1921. Married Oct. 24, 1942, to Henry Douglas Cochran (Dec. 16, 1915 - Feb. 23, 2005).
 - a. Henry Douglas ("Hank") Cochran, Jr. Born Sept. 13, 1943. Married Aug. 4, 1973, to Elizabeth ("Betsy") Penland.
 - b. Carolyn Cochran. Born Nov. 24, 1945. Married June 1971 to Orville Leroy Fields.
 - c. Malcolm Laing ("Mac") Cochran. Born Sept. 13, 1950. Married May 1, 1976, to Janet Elizabeth Bryson.
 - d. John Kerr Cochran III. Born Mar. 4, 1958. Married Aug. 8, 1981, to Anne Malony.
- D. Laurence Raeburn ("Laurie") Milne. Born June 25, 1888. Died Aug. 18, 1943. Married Dec. 15, 1916, to Clara Simpson (Feb. 17, 1884 - ?).
1. Mary Milne. Born Sept. 17, 1917. Married Sept. 14, 1940, to John Alan Hanson (Oct. 29, 1915 -).
 - a. Mary Sue Hanson. Born June 19, 1943.
 - b. John Alan Hanson, Jr. Born Jan. 7, 1949.
 2. Laurence Raeburn Milne, Jr. Born May 24, 1920. Died Apr. 1, 1993. Married Apr. 29, 1940, to Barbara Snell (July 25, 1919 -).
 - a. Nancy Jane Milne. Born Mar. 27, 1945.
 3. Thomas Chandler Milne. Born Nov. 10, 1922. Died Nov. 3, 1991.

IV. Susan McCoun ("Susie") Rafferty. Born July 10, 1853. Died Feb. 3, 1918. Unmarried. Buried in Woodlawn Cemetery, Bronx, N.Y.

V. Emma Titus Rafferty. Born Sept. 27, 1857. Died Sept. 7, 1929, Plainfield, N.J. Married Dec. 25, 1878, to Daniel DeWitt Brokaw (Feb. 28, 1848 - Nov. 21, 1916). Buried in Hillside Cemetery, Scotch Plains, N.J.

A. Elsie Isabel Brokaw. Born Feb. 23, 1880. Died May 20, 1909. Married, 1907, to Arthur Dunham Stout (1877 - 1968).

1. (infant). Born and Died May 20, 1909.

B. DeWitt Pierce Brokaw. Born Nov. 19, 1884. Died Aug. 29, 1954. Married (1) Mar. 6, 1915, to Elizabeth Hughes (Apr. 20, 1891 - Aug. 1924). Married (2) Apr. 3, 1925, to Katharine Preston Marshall (Aug. 6, 1898 - June 21, 1970).

1. Daniel DeWitt Brokaw. Born Feb. 16, 1916. Died Sept. 2, 1937. Unmarried.

2. Elizabeth Hughes Brokaw. Born Feb. 25, 1917. Died June 28, 2004. Married Apr. 27, 1946, to Don Robert Gosch (1918 - 2008).

a. Daniel Preston Gosch. Born Sept. 22, 1947.

b. Randall Lee ("Randy") Gosch. Born April 30, 1950. Married in 1970 to Ted Danson (1947-). Divorced 1975.

3. Nanette Brokaw. Born June 27, 1926. Died Mar. 3, 2005. Married June 8, 1957, to Stanley Thomas ("Tom") Urbank (1921 - 2008).

a. Douglas C. Urbank.

b. Robert M. Urbank.

c. Katharine S. Urbank.

4. Carolyn Brokaw. Born Apr. 21, 1931. Died Oct. 6, 2011. Married Sept. 12, 1952, to Douglas Delanoy, Jr. (1928 - 2011).

a. Susan Hollis Delanoy. Married John Splendido.

b. Bradford DeWitt Delanoy. Married Grace Fuell.

c. Craig Corlies Delanoy. Married Whitney Blosser.

B. Leslie Nelson Brokaw. Born Oct. 25, 1889. Died Oct. 13, 1908. Unmarried.

- VI. Ada Albertine Rafferty. Born Oct. 1, 1861. Died Apr. 3, 1938, Old Lyme, Conn. Married May 1, 1884, to Lucius Horatio ("Lu") Biglow [Jr.] (Apr. 3, 1860 - June 15, 1929). Buried in Woodlawn Cemetery, Bronx, N.Y.
- A. Lucius Horatio ("Ray") Biglow [III]. Born Feb. 28, 1885. Died July 9, 1961. Married 1917, to Marian Chandler Yeaw (1889 - 1990).
1. Lucius Horatio ("Loosh") Biglow Jr. Born Feb. 9, 1925. Died June 8, 2015, Seattle. Married Apr. 25, 1953, to Nancy Wheatland (1927-2023).
 - a. Lucius Horatio ("Luke") Biglow II. Born March 5, 1956. Married Maria ---.
 - b. John Robinson Biglow. Born Dec. 20, 1957. Married Sept. 23, 1995, to Deborah Kunhardt.
 - c. Timothy Pickering ("Tim") Biglow. Born Mar. 28, 1960.
 - d. Anne Shattuck Biglow. Born Jan. 12, 1962.
- B. Gladys Biglow. Born April 20, 1887. Died Jan. 11, 1917. Unmarried.
- C. Earl Biglow. Born Dec. 21, 1891. Died Jan. 1965. Married (1) May 1, 1916, to Adele Sylvie Abbes. Married (2) Feb. 28, 1938, to Mrs. Mary Hazelhurst Burke.
1. Gladys ("Gladdie") Biglow. Born Feb. 3, 1919. Died Sept. 24, 2004. Married Robert Torrey Hull.
 - a. Anthony Biglow ("Tony") Hull. Born 1943.
 - b. Christopher Ballard ("Chris") Hull. Born 1945.

- D. William Kenneth ("Ken") Biglow. Born Sept. 9, 1895, at Plainfield, N.J. Died Mar. 12, 1948, at South Orange, N.J.. Married Oct. 22, 1921, to Elizabeth Delano ("Betty") Hitch (Oct. 11, 1897 - 1990).
1. Gertrude Allerton ("Trudy") Biglow. Born Jan. 7, 1923. Died 1998.
Married (1) Robert T. Barry (divorced). Married (2) Sept. 28, 1949, to John Edson Gary (1917 - 1987).
 - a. Elizabeth Linton Gary. Born Aug. 9, 1951. Married Nicholas Sible Young.
 - b. Ann Gardner Gary. Born July 11, 1954. Married William Thomas Oliver (1942 -).
 - c. Joan Hathaway Gary. Born Apr. 10, 1957. Married Peter Henry Brown (1953 -).
 2. Elizabeth Delano ("Betsey") Biglow. Born Dec. 13, 1926. Married Oct. 25, 1950, to Francis Scoffin Cantrell III (1919 - 1974)
 - a. Elizabeth Delano Cantrell. Born July 18, 1951. Married (1) Bashir Hashim Chehabi (1955 -). Married (2) Donald Lloyd Gordon Jr. (1949 -).
 - b. Francis Scoffin Cantrell IV. Born Oct. 5, 1952. Married Christine ---.
 - c. Christopher Henry Cantrell. Born Jan. 8, 1955. Married Donna Jeanne Dawson (1954 -).
 - d. Karen Evans Cantrell. Born Feb. 7, 1956. Married Robert Harris Carlson (1952 -).
 - e. Theodore Allerton Cantrell. Born July 31, 1961. Married Susanna Gamboa (1967 -).
- E. Susanne Doris Biglow. Born Nov. 9, 1904. Died Feb. 13, 1970. Married Apr. 24, 1931, to Royal Meredith Parkes. Divorced. No children.

Notes on Individuals:

John Robinson Biglow (1957-) was a rower at Yale, twice national champion as single sculler, and a member of the 1984 U.S. Olympic team. He won a gold medal in double sculls at the 1987 Pan American Games. He attended Dartmouth Medical School and became an anesthesiologist. See *The Amateurs* by David Halberstam (1985).

Lucius Horatio ("Loosh") Biglow Jr. (1925-2015) was an attorney, and a friend of President George Herbert Walker Bush – both men having been members of the Class of 1948 of “Skull and Bones” at Yale. He served on the Medina (Washington) City Council from 2005-2009. See *George Bush: The Unauthorized Biography* by W. G. Tarpley and A. Chaitkin (1992), pp. 132-133; *Seattle Times*, June 8, 2015.

Charles Welles Buek (1911-1988) was a banker, the President and Chairman of the Board of the U.S. Trust Co. of New York. See *Who Was Who in America*, vol. 9, p. 54.

Henry Douglas ("Hank") Cochran, Jr. (1943-) was a chemical engineer, senior research staffer in the Chemical Technology Division of the Department of Energy's Oak Ridge National Laboratory. He also was an adjunct professor of the Chemical Engineering Department at the University of Tennessee – Knoxville. See *American Men and Women of Science*, 19th ed., vol. 2, p. 353.

Sara Buek Crawford (1876-1949) was Secretary of State of Connecticut, the second highest office in the state. Elected in 1938, she was “the first woman to win the office, the first woman to hold any elective major state office [in Connecticut], and the first woman to administer the oath of office to an incoming governor.” See *Bridgeport (Conn.) Post*, Nov. 10, 1938; *New York Times*, Aug. 10, 1949; connecticuthistory.org/votes-for-a-woman-sara-buek-crawford/

Randall Lee ("Randy") Gosch Danson (1950-) is an actress who appeared in such films as "The Last Temptation of Christ" (1988), "Chain Letters" (1985), "The Scenic Route" (1978), and "Local Color" (1977). Broadway plays include "Angels In America," "Wonderful Town," and "Wicked." She won a "Helen Hayes Award" for Outstanding Lead Actress in 1986, and an "Obie" for Sustained Excellence in 1992. She was the first wife of actor Ted Danson.

Anthony Biglow ("Tony") Hull (1943-) was Vice President and Chief Scientist at Optical Corporation of America, Principal Engineer at Jet Propulsion Laboratory, NASA's Technologist for Terrestrial Planet Finder Coronagraph, Director and Program Manager for Optical Fabrication of the James Webb Space Telescope (sequel to Hubble), Adjunct Professor of Physics and Astronomy at University of New Mexico, Chair of Maxwell Museum National Conference on Astronomy and Ceremony in the Prehistoric Southwest.

Myra Kingsley (1897-1996) was a professional astrologer with studios in New York and Hollywood, the most famous female astrologer of the 1930s and 1940s, “The Queen of the Crystal Ball”; author of *Outrageous Fortune: How I Practice Astrology* (1951). See *Life* (Aug. 7, 1939), pp. 41-43; *Current Biography* 1943, pp. 380-382; *Saturday Evening Post* (Dec. 6, 1947), pp. 30 ff.

John Jay Parry (1889-1954) was a Professor of English at the University of Illinois, specializing in medieval Welsh and Latin literatures (particularly the Arthurian legends), editor and translator of *The Vita Merlini* (1925) and *The Art of Courtly Love* (1941). See *Who Was Who in America*, vol. 3, p. 668.

Compiled by William John Parry, 1992 (with revisions, 1994-2023)
Address: 310 Garfield Pl. #10, Brooklyn, N.Y. 11215
wparry@hunter.cuny.edu

This manuscript is copied from notes compiled by John Jay Parry starting in 1923 (and periodically updated until about 1950), primarily from newspaper obituaries and from information supplied by Ray Biglow, Charles Buek, and Sara Buek Crawford. Some lines are incomplete after 1950. I have supplied corrections and additions from the following sources:

- New York, Passenger Lists: Ship "Constitution," sworn Aug. 12, 1833. National Archives, microfilm M237, roll 20. [Biddy and Thomas Raverty.]
- Petition of Biddy Rafferty, widow of Michael Rafferty, filed Nov. 11, 1834. New York County Surrogate's Court, Record of Letters of Administration, liber 33, page 41.
- Civil War compiled military record for Thomas Rafferty, 71st N.Y. Vol. Inf.; also files no. R 1149 VS 1863 and R 226 CB 1866, Record Group 94, National Archives.
- Civil War pension files for Thomas Rafferty (certificate no. 199,674) and Charles Buek (certificate no. 1,638,049), National Archives, Washington, D.C.
- "Gettysburg," by Col. Thomas Rafferty. In *Personal Recollections of the War of the Rebellion*, 1st ser., pp. 1-32. New York Commandery, Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States, 1891. [Also published in *National Tribune*, Feb. 2-9, 1888.]
- The Civil War Letters of Joseph Hopkins Twichell*, edited by P. Messent and S. Courtney. University of Georgia Press, 2006.
- Farmers' 1879 Almanac and Americus Brand of Fertilizers ... by Rafferty & Williams.*
- Obituary of Thomas Rafferty, *New York Daily Tribune*, Feb. 23, 1888, p. 5.
- "Obituaries, American: Rafferty, Thomas." *Appletons' Annual Cyclopedia*, 1888, vol. 28, p. 650.
- Tombstones in lot 3586, Woodlawn Cemetery, Bronx, N.Y. [Rafferty and Buek plots].
- Wills of Thomas Rafferty (5792R, Somerset Co., 1888) and Susan A. Rafferty (6927R, Somerset Co., 1900), New Jersey State Archives, Trenton.
- Obituaries, *New York Times*:
- Biglow, William Kenneth (Mar. 14, 1948)
 - Brokaw, Daniel DeWitt (Sept. 3, 1937)
 - Brokaw, DeWitt Pierce (Aug. 30, 1954)
 - Buek, Charles Welles (July 20, 1988)
 - Crawford, Sara Buek (Aug. 10, 1949)
 - Johnson, Barclay Giddings (May 1, 1985)
 - Laing, Allen Blackwell (Apr. 3, 1961)
 - Rafferty, Col. Thomas (Feb. 23, 1888)
- Social Security Death Index.
- "Buek, aus Hamburg." *Deutsches Geschlechterbuch* vol. 51 (1927), pp. 101-102. [Buek family.]
- "Descendants of Isabel Rafferty Milne." Manuscript compiled by Jessie Kennard Milne in 1950. FindAGrave.com [Brokaw family plot, Hillside Cemetery, Scotch Plains, N.J.; and others]



A postwar photograph of Col. Thomas Rafferty, originally in the Adjutant General's collection (subsequently combined with the Brady collection), National Archives, catalog no. 111-BA-25. [The photograph at the beginning of this article, from family papers, appears to be another pose from the same sitting.]