

GENEALOGICAL AIDS

By Charles E. Raffety

The author believes that his effort will be compensated for if this book did no more than pass along just two of the several Genealogical aids he has originated, designed, developed and used for years to study genealogical data.

1. The large columnar charts by generations.
2. The ID number system which shows--who, where and when.

Artists are permitted to deviate from the truth in painting as scene to make it attractive to the eye, but a genealogist cannot accept anything but the truth. The real facts of life are very precise but the records of them are quite often unreliable.

If "life is a comedy of errors" then death is tenfold in the premise expressed in the quote above.

In genealogical studies one is often reminded that our ancestors must have been great talkers but left few reliable records to support what they said.

Few individuals know anything about their ancestors beyond their grandparents and very little about the immediate family since they are not certain as to dates and places of events. The records of names, dates and places cannot always be relied upon even in official documents of death, wills, court cases, grants, deeds, marriages and births, etc, because of human error in their preparation of official recording. In some cases official recorded documents may spell the principle names two or even three different ways. The spelling and dates on head stones do not always agree with the recorded certificate or the family bible. For instance the name Raffety was misspelled ten different ways on 68 Revolutionary War pay cards for John, my great great grandfather.

We cannot accept as truth the spoken word or even legal documents, when there is conflict in evidence. In the study of Genealogy we are first in search of the truth and the simple facts, when it comes to names, the dates and places of births, marriages and deaths, the minimum information for identification purposes.

The author, being an amateur, self-styled, genealogist, was disturbed by erroneous records. So he devised a method of smoking out the truth or error as the case may be.

Over the years he has originated, designed and developed the "Large Columnar Chart By Generations" on which he posts the names, dates and places of birth, marriage and death for consecutive generations. He uses the charts not only to arrange a vast amount of data and present it in a chronological history as it actually happened, but in so doing it reveals hidden information not exposed by the written or printed word, it is easier to connect up families and follow them from place to place.

The charts may be designed for a lateral or horizontal approach on a direct line, family group or intermarriage grouping for the desired presentation of many situations relating to the span of life, the average age or marriage and death. It is especially effective in exposing unbelievable errors for study and correction.

(Careful study will be required to get the full significance of some of the charts in this book.)

For instance in the posting of information in the "Direct Line Chart of Family Inter marriages", under contents "D6, from two age old biographies of ex-presidents, James Madison and Zackery Taylor it was revealed that perhaps

1 of 2

From the notes of Charles E. Raffety, loose leaf booklet titled: **1st Raffetys in America**
Included in the Raffety Family Tree @ancestry.com
www.sherrihale.com
September 6, 2008

GENEALOGICAL AIDS
By Charles E. Raffety

neither were correct with respect to the generation of intermarriage in the use of the word grandfather and great grandfather when referring to the family intermarriage, probably the result of the difference in generation spans.

The chart may be designed for use to solve many genealogical problems if properly programmed to reveal the desired information such as one expects from punched cards and electric computers.

The I.D. numbers showing the who, where and when of each male Raffety makes it possible eventually to use punched cards and an electric computer to develop information that will tell who they are, from whence they came, where they are going, the prospects of getting there and what is in store for their future.

Charles E. Raffety

- *AUTHOR(S): Raffety, Charles E., 1896- (Main)*
***PUBLISHED:** Washington: Raffety, 1975-*
DESCRIPTION: ca. 250 leaves: ill. ; 38 cm.
*NOTES: Cover title. **Loose-leaf** for updating.*
SUBJECTS: Raffety family.
LC CALL NO.: CS71.R1351975
DEWEY CLASS NO.: 929/.2/0973
FORMAT: Book
LCCN: 74-16953