

JOHN RUTHERFORD

When John Murdah left Cookstown, Ireland and sailed for America in 1728, he doubtless thought that the romance which had been developing between his daughter, Jean, and young Thomas Rutherford, the son of a neighbor, was at an end. A few months later Thomas boarded a vessel bound for America. In his pocket he carried a memorandum book in which he had written these significant words, "Inquire for Donegal." Jean Murdah's home in the new world, Thomas seems to have known, was at Donegal Pennsylvania.

One fine day Jean was washing the family linen out under an apple tree, near a spring, when suddenly she found herself in the embrace of her sweetheart, Thomas Rutherford whom she believed, until that moment, to be separated from her by the broad Atlantic.

Thomas Rutherford and Jean Murdah were married September 7, 1730. They passed the earlier years of their married life in the vicinity of Donegal and Derry. Later they removed to the Harrisburg settlement where they were able to purchase a large tract of land, some of which is still owned by their descendants. The house in which this couple established themselves is now owned by the city of Harrisburg, a stone structure build in 1740. It bears the marks of having been built by the same company of masons who laid up the walls of historic Paxton church nearby which has just celebrated the two hundredth anniversary of its erection.

John Rutherford was the oldest son of Thomas and Jean Rutherford. He was born February 16, 1737, died October 1, 1804.

Captain John Rutherford commanded a company in several campaigns of the Revolution and in 1779 he led a detachment from eight or ten companies against the Indians on the frontier.

Rev. John Elder, known as the "fighting parson", was a warm friend of Captain Rutherford, being kindred spirits in Rev. Days.

John Rutherford married Margaret Parke. Their daughter, Martha married Captain James Collier. Their children were:

Eleanor Murray	born	October 1, 1792
Thomas	born	September 21, 1795
Mary	born	October 26, 1797
John Rutherford	born	March 30, 1799
James	born	October 31, 1801
William Gray	born	November 8, 1803
William	born	April 25, 1806

(John Rutherford 2 of 2)

Rutherford born February 7, 1810

John Rutherford Collier married Margaret Rutherford; their daughter, Eliza Collier,
married Francis Baldwin Plyley; their daughter, Margaret Plyley, married James Mitchell Murray.

Mary (Polly) Collier married William Crawford

Their son, James, married Mary Scroggs

Their daughter, Cora, is a member of this Chapter, Nat. No. 94095

William Collier married Eleanor Murray

Their daughter, Martha, married William Martin

Their daughter, Mary, and granddaughter, Grace Jackson, are members of Juliana
White.

William Collier's daughter, Ellen, married Alec Watts, Ch. John, James, Eleanor. Eleanor
married Paul Hout. Nat. No. 199571