

**SKETCH OF THE LIFE OF SAMUEL F.
PRATT WITH SOME ACCOUNT OF THE
EARLY HISTORY OF THE
PRATT FAMILY. A PAPER READ BEFORE
THE BUFFALO HISTORICAL SOCIETY,
MARCH 10TH, 1873**

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WILLIAM P. LETCHWORTH

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Edward Pascal Pratt,

Compliments of

Pascal P. Pratt

Buffalo N.Y.



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OF

SAMUEL F. PRATT

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SOME ACCOUNT OF THE EARLY HISTORY
OF THE PRATT FAMILY.

*A PAPER READ BEFORE THE BUFFALO HISTORICAL SOCIETY,
MARCH 16th, 1873.*

By WILLIAM P. LETCHWORTH.

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INTRODUCTORY.

Mr. President and Gentlemen:

IN acceding to the request of the Buffalo Historical Society to prepare the paper which I am about to submit, I desire to have it understood at the outset, that I have not attempted a perfect delineation or even a full outline of the character of the late SAMUEL F. PRATT.

What I have attempted to do, has been to rescue from forgetfulness some of the interesting incidents relating to the antecedent history of his family, to bring before you such facts relating to him as have come to my knowledge, and certain events of his time which may have influenced in some degree the formation of his character, and also to show my personal relations with him, explaining thereby how I, for one, came so to love this man. It were exceedingly presumptuous in me, to endeavor to give a complete picture of him. Such a task requires a

bolder hand and a more delicate touch than mine. In view of the intimate connection of Oliver G. Steele, Esq., with the deceased in one of the important institutions of our city, the Buffalo Gas Light Company, I have asked him to give a history of the labors of his associate in that field, and his impressions of him founded upon that experience. Your attention is directed to his valuable sketch accompanying this. The brightest and fairest side of my subject, his Christian character, has been already eloquently illustrated in his funeral obsequies by the Rev. Dr. A. T. Chester. The various organizations with which he has been connected have borne fitting testimonials to his distinguished worth as a man and a citizen in resolutions which have appeared in the city press. It is therefore unnecessary and I shall not endeavor to add to, or re-color, what has been so judiciously and faithfully treated by others. If it shall be found that I have furnished any material of value to the historian who shall hereafter undertake to perfect a biography of this Christian gentleman, my aim will be attained.