while the son outlived the father forty-seven years, and whose autograph, by those not familiar with such things, and unobserving of dates, has been mistaken for the signer's.

There were two Benjamin Harrisons, near relatives, and both prominent in public affairs in Virginia during the Revolution—one, the signer, was contra-distinguished from the other as Benjamin Harrison of Berkley; while his kinsman was known as Benjamin Harrison of Brandon—Berkley and Brandon being the names of their respective seats on the banks of the James River. Virginia also furnished two Thomas Nelsons—Thomas Nelson Sr., familiarly known as Secretary Nelson, who resided in Yorktown, was the unsuccessful competitor of Patrick Henry for the first term of governor of Virginia under the constitution of 1776, and when, shortly after, chosen one of the privy council, he declined on account of the infirmities of age; while his nephew, Thomas Nelson Jr., also of York County, who was the signer, became governor during the life-time of his namesake uncle. The father of Secretary Nelson, and grandfather of Gov. Nelson, also bore the christian name of Thomas.

It may be added, that Josiah Bartlett, Robert Treat Paine, Oliver Wolcott, Francis Lewis, Lewis Morris, George Ross, and others of the signers, had sons of the same name. Col. James Smith, of Pennsylvania, afterwards of Kentucky, has sometimes been mistaken for his namesake, the signer. George Taylor, also of Pennsylvania, had a counterpart of the same name. There was a second John Morton, a Philadelphia Quaker merchant, sometimes mistaken for the signer. "I have," writes Mr. Stauffer, "a series of about thirty-five letters that I call my set of *wrong men,* who had the same name, and flourished at the same period as the genuine ones." These are points that require the care and knowledge of an expert, in order to prevent errors, which experienced collectors are constantly on the alert to detect, and the mere suspicion of the existence of one of which, would injure the reputation of a set amongst *con-*