Meet Some of Edmund's Descendants: The 19th Century U.S. Army Generals



Michael A. Rice, Director & Treasurer Edmund Rice (1638) Association, Inc.

Summary

- Brigadier General James Clay Rice (1828-1864), command of 44th NY Volunteers at Little Round Top at Gettysburg. Died at Spotsylvania Courthouse.
- Brigadier General Americus Vespucius Rice (1835-1904), commanded 57th Ohio Volunteers at Kennesaw Mountain
- Brigadier General Edmund Rice (1842-1906), as Major at Gettysburg earned Medal of Honor for action to repel Pickett's Charge
- Brigadier General Charles Austin Coolidge (1844-1926) in Indian Wars, Spanish-American War, Philippine-American War & Boxer Rebellion

Brig. General James Clay Rice

- Born 27 Dec 1828 in Worthington Mass to William & Cothea (Cottrell)
- Graduated Yale University
- Taught school in Nachez,
 MS
- Passed bar exam & began law practice in NYC



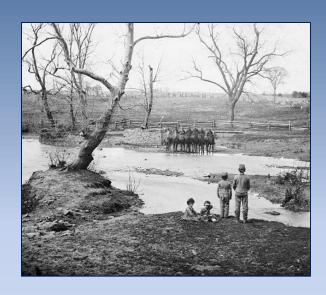


Connection to Edmund Rice

- James Clay Rice, son of
- William Rice (1778 ?), son of
- Joseph Rice (1745 1826), son of
- Ebenezer Rice (1709 1793), son of
- Ebenezer Rice (1671 1724), son of
- Benjamin Rice (1640 1713), son of
- Edmund Rice (1594 1663)

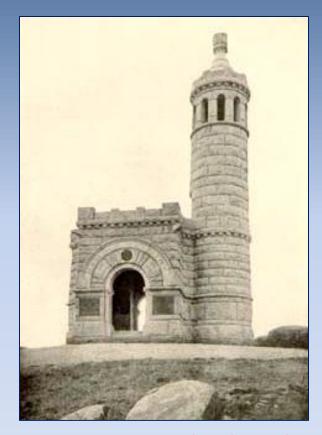


- Commissioned as lieutenant in NY39th on 28 May 1861
- Promoted to captain of Company B & fought in First Battle of Bull Run 12 July 1861
- Joined new NY44th on 13 Sep 1861 as lt. col. & fought in Peninsula Campaign
- Promoted to colonel & command of NY44th on 4 Jul 1862
- In brevet command 3rd brigade, 1st division V Corps at Second Battle of Bull Run 29 Aug 1862



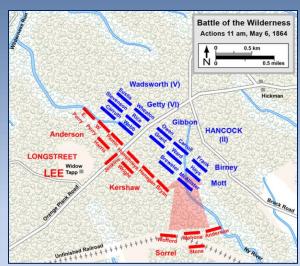


- Returned to command of NY44th and led the regiment at Fredericksburg and Chancellorsville
- Assigned defense of Little Round Top at Gettysburg
- Given brevet command of 3rd brigade 1st division V corps at Gettysburg on death of Gen. Vincent Strong
- Earned personal & unit commendations
- Promoted to Brigadier General 17 Aug 1863



Monument to NY12th and NY44th at Little Round Top Gettysburg

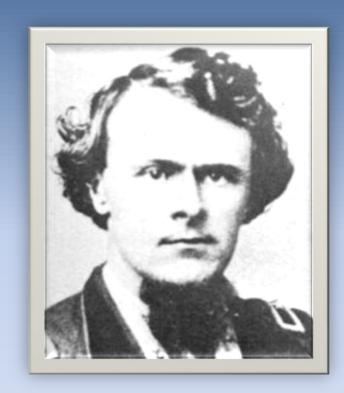
- Given command of 2nd brigade, 4th division V corps
- Led brigade at Battle of the Wilderness
- Led brigade at Battle of Spotsylvania Courthouse
- Killed in action at Spotsylvania 10 May 1864
- "Turn me over that I die with my face to the enemy."
- Story publicized in Harper's Weekly June 1864
- Buried at Menands, NY





Brig. Gen. Americus Vespucius Rice

- Born in Perrysville, Ohio on 18 Nov 1835 to Clark Hammond Rice & Catherine (Mowers) Rice
- Attended Antioch College & graduated from Union College in classics
- Law degree from Union College, Schenectady, NY
- Practiced law in Ohio before the war



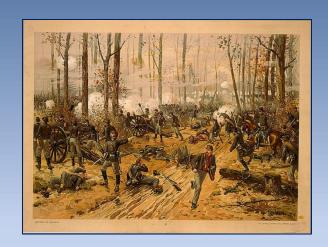


Connection to Edmund Rice

- Americus Vespucius Rice, son of
- Clark Hammond Rice (1804 1870), son of
- Ebenezer Rice (1773 1821), son of
- Samuel Rice (1752 1828), son of
- Gershom Rice (1703 ?), son of
- Ephraim Rice (1665 1732), son of
- Thomas Rice (1626 1681), son of
- Edmund Rice (1594 1663)

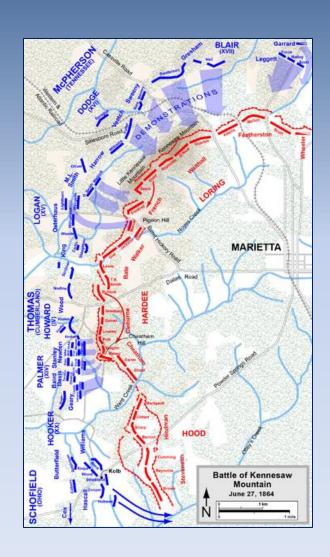


- Commissioned as captain in Ohio 21st on 27 April 1861
- Three-months service until 12
 August 1861 & unit disbanded in Columbus, OH
- Joined Ohio 57th on 2 Sep 1861 as major & fought in western theater
- Promoted to lt. colonel on 8 Feb 1862 & led regiment in Battle of Shiloh Apr 6-7, 1862
- Promoted to colonel on 16 Apr 1863 led several campaigns





- In command of regiment at Battle of Kennesaw Mountain in Atlanta Campaign 24 June 1864
- Wounded in action, leg amputated at Kennesaw
- Recovered & remained in army
- Promoted to brigadier general 31 May 1865 & joined Sherman's staff
- Mustered out 15 Jan 1866



Post-Bellum Career

- Managed bank in Ottawa, OH 1866-74
- Elected to U.S. Congress in Ohio 6th Congressional District in 1874
- Served 2 terms in Congress until 3 March 1879 --- chaired Committee on Invalid Pensions
- Founded A.V. Rice & Co. a bank in Ottawa, OH 1879-1898; served on several corporate boards
- Moved to Washington D.C in 1899, purchasing agent for Bureau of Census
- Died 4 Apr 1904 in D.C. & buried at Arlington National Cemetery

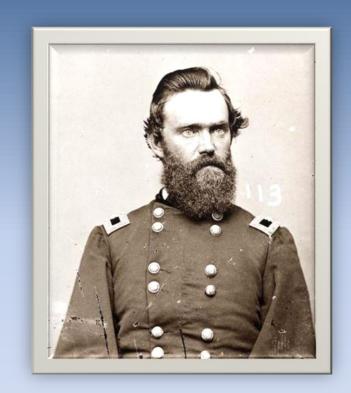


Congressman A.V. Rice Circa 1875



Brig. General Edmund Rice

- Born in Brighton, MA on 2
 Dec 1842 to Clark
 Hammond Rice & Catherine
 (Damon) Rice
- Attended Norwich University in VT to 1858, but graduated in 1874
- Apprenticed to captain of clipper ship to Shanghai, 1858
- Trained as a surveyor & civil engineer in NY, 1859





Connection to Edmund Rice

- Edmund Rice, son of
- Moses Maynard Rice (1811 1861), son of
- Deacon Edmund Rice (1785 1860), son of
- Edmund Rice (1755 1841), son of
- Edmund Rice (1725 1796), son of
- Jason Rice (1692 1730), son of
- Edmund Rice (1653 1719), son of
- Deacon Edward Rice (1622 1712), son of
- Edmund Rice (1594 1663)

Civil War Service

- First commissioned 22 Aug 1861 as captain in 14th MA Inf. Regiment
- Soon transferred to lead Company F. 19th MA Volunteer Infantry Regiment; Engaged in most early battles in Eastern campaign
- Promoted to major 7 Sept 1862 & led at Antietam & Fredericksburg
- Awarded Medal of Honor for repelling Pickett's Charge at Gettysburg

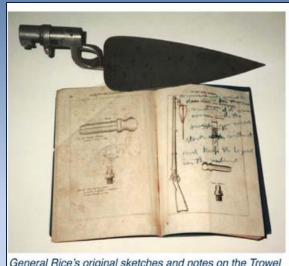


Civil War Service

- Promoted to It. colonel on 24 Feb 1864 & led several engagements
- Captured at Spotsylvania; escaped from POW train; rejoined his unit
- Promoted to colonel 28 July 1864 led regiment until after Appomattox
- Discharged 30 June 1865

Edmund Rice Army Career

- Commissioned as lieutenant in U.S. Army in July 1866; served in reconstruction forces at Hilton Head
- Invented several military implements: trowel bayonet, stacking swivel & entrenching tool. Assigned to Springfield Armory in 1868
- Engaged in Indian Wars & commands in the west 1874 to 1885.
- In 1877 was military envoy to England & Russia
- Was commandant of the Columbian Guard at 1893 World's Fair in Chicago
- Served as U.S. Military Attaché in Tokyo, 1897-98

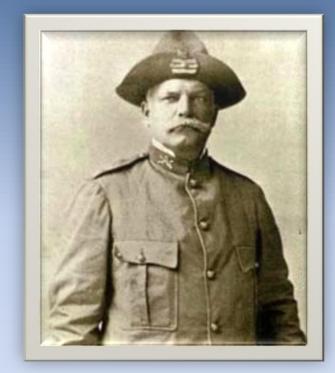


General Rice's original sketches and notes on the Trowel Bayonet, inscribed in an 1861 Springfield Musket Manual.



Edmund Rice Army Career

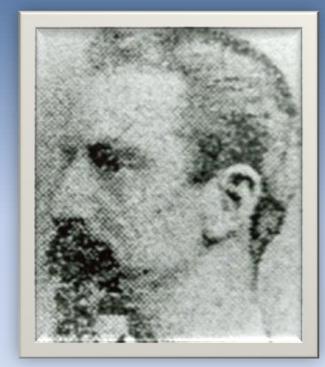
- In May 1898 promoted to lt. colonel & appointed to staff of General Nelson Miles
- In June 1898 promoted to colonel to command 6th Mass Vol. Reg. in Puerto Rico and Cuba.
- In late July 1898 appointed by President McKinley as senior colonel of Volunteers in Philippines leading the 26th U.S. Vol. Reg.
- In 1899, appointed as military governor of Panay & served to 1901, returning to US
- Retired in 1903 as brigadier general
- Was Grand Marshall of 1904 Louisiana Purchase Exposition in St. Louis
- Died 20 July 1906 & buried at Arlington



Colonel Edmund Rice of the 26th US Volunteer Army

Brig. Gen. Charles Austin Coolidge

- Charles Austin Coolidge, Jr. was born on 19 Jul 1844 in Boston to Charles Austin Coolidge, Sr. & Anna Maria (Rice) Coolidge
- Graduated Norwich University in VT 1862
- Later received a medical (MD) degree from Wooster Medical College in Wooster, Ohio



Lt. Charles A. Coolidge Circa 1875



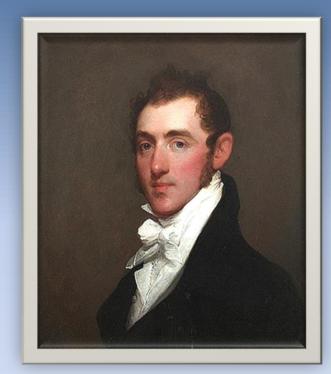
Connection to Edmund Rice

- Charles A. Coolidge (1844 1926), son of
- Anna Maria Rice (1817 ?), daughter of
- Henry Rice (1786 1867), son of
- Noah Rice (1751 1820), son of
- Jabez Rice (1702 1783), son of
- Caleb Rice (1666 1739), son of
- Joseph Rice (1637 1711), son of
- Edmund Rice (1594 1663)



Grandfather – Henry Rice of Boston

- Henry Rice born on 15 Jan 1786 in Marlborough to Noah Rice & Anna Palfrey (Cole) Rice
- Major in War of 1812
- Member of Boston City Council & member of MA House of Representatives
- Leading Boston merchant of imported manufactured goods from Europe



Henry Rice (1786-1867) 1815 portrait by Gilbert Stuart

Charles Coolidge Army Career 1

- On 23 Oct 1862 enlisted in 16th Mass. Vol. Inf. Reg.
- Commissioned in May 1864 as lieutenant in the 7th US Infantry Regiment; serving at Ft. Snelling, New York Harbor; unit transferred to Florida 1865-70
- Engaged in Indian Wars & commands in the west 1870 to 1889
- Wounded at Battle of Big Hole, Montana against Nez Perce. Promoted to captain in 1885
- Promoted to major in April 1898 and served with the 7th at El Caney & Santiago de Cuba
- Promoted to lt. colonel 16 May 1899 & assigned to 9th Infantry Regiment in Philippines







Charles Coolidge Army Career 2

- Led 9th Infantry in Battle of Zapote Bridge
 & Battles of Tarlac in Philippines
- Ordered to China June 1900 as part of China Relief Expedition/ Boxer Rebellion
- Assumed command of 9th after death of Col. Emerson Liscum at Tianjian
- Led first American force to enter Forbidden City in Beijing
- In 1901 promoted to colonel & assumed command of 7th Inf. Reg.
- Retired 8 Aug 1903 as Brigadier General.
- Died 2 Jun 1926 in Detroit. He was buried at Arlington National Cemetery



American Minister to China Edwin H. Conger and his family flanked by the 9th Infantry at the Meridian Gate of the Forbidden City.

U.S. Army photo 1901

Concluding Observations

- Four generals from each of four different sons of Edmund
- All four had good education or professional training prior to enlistment
- All four generals in the thick of important events of American military history
- All four were rapidly promoted during wartime
- Service in 'regular army' during Civil War a big advantage to career officers

Thank You & Questions

