



Edmund Rice (1638) Association, Inc.

NEWS LETTER

JUNE 1972

Number 24

OFFICERS FOR 1971-1972

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

To my Fellow Members of the Edmund Rice (1638) Association:

Despite a reluctant acceptance of my re-election in absentia as your Association President, I hope, as the New Year of 1972 begins, to be more active than I was able to be in 1971.

While our organization is primarily a social group designed to perpetuate the memory of our common ancestors, Edmund and Thomasine Rice, and to acquaint us, as their descendants, with each other, the Association, could, and I feel should, be effective in other ways as well. America today needs a revival of the ideals and characteristics of the founders of our country and we as a group and as individuals can help to promote their fine qualities. We need, too, to persuade many of our children that those men and women were people well worth knowing and emulating. I would like to see more young people at our next reunion. Won't you try to interest those in your own families?

If you were not present at the 1971 Annual Meeting last September to hear the talk on genealogy given by Margaret Rice, I recommend its reading to you. It is available in print, as announced elsewhere in this news letter. As Margaret has so well shown, genealogy is not simply as a pastime to flatter human vanity; it is a science of undeniable value to our country as well as to individuals.

I shall hope to meet more of you in the future.

Allen F. Rice, President
Edmund Rice (1638) Association, Inc.

EDITOR'S NOTE

My first letter as news letter editor came to me in February from a past president, 1964-1965 - William H. Hoefler of Geneva, New York. He says, "Our experience at our first meeting are identical", also "Every meeting has been a rewarding experience."

A great big thank you goes out to these folks, Beverly Read Harrises, Chester G. Rice, Gladys M. Brown, Claton S. Rice, Mr. and Mrs. Dewey Force, Stanley Rice, Connie Campbell, Ray Lowther Ellis, John Rice, and Margaret S. Rice. Your words were very kind and encouraging.

As time went by very little material was available, so I sent out several notes looking for news contributors. Some did respond.

I do hope each member will write when they have something to contribute. We need to hear from everyone. Just think what would happen if everyone wrote - what a nice news letter we would have!

Have any of you folks had any "regional reunions" with any Rices? If so, do report it for your news letter. We are interested to know what everyone is doing and where.

During the last few months I have contacted 33 people who are already in the Rice Register to try to interest them in becoming members of our Rice association. They are all my relatives! How many have you got to work on? Up until news time I haven't been too successful but am sincerely hoping for a few by reunion time. How about you? OOPS.....just got one member today - my relative - you see, never give up!

Please note our cover picture. It comes from a pen and ink drawing by Pauline Attlee Long found in an old newspaper clipping from the Boston Herald - 1913. The picture has been used previously on reunion programs.

NEW MEMBER

Mrs. Judith Rice Patterson, Middlefield St., Chester, Mass. 01011 (lineage - page 1252 in Rice Register)

In Memoriam

Mrs. Laura Stafford Sanderson Calkins (Mrs. Herbert G. Calkins) of Rutland, Massachusetts, died 24 January 1972. She was at one time a member of our association and did much genealogy work for various people. Her genuine interest in genealogy since her teen years until last winter proved very valuable to us all. She was responsible for your present news letter editor ever learning about the association. Her lineage will be found on page 1039 in the Rice Register.

REUNION PLANS 1972

Mrs. Barbara Rice Herndon (a director) has announced after much consultation with the proper people that our **1972 REUNION** will be **September 23**, beginning at 10 o'clock in the morning at Longfellows Wayside Inn in South Sudbury, Massachusetts. A delicious luncheon is being planned and she hopes to have a speaker lined up very soon.

Please note the September date is different than normally has been scheduled. With this advance notification, we hope everyone can begin making plans to attend. A letter will be sent to you by our secretary for making reservations as the time draws near.

INFORMATION

Stanley Rice informs us the Marlboro Historical Society has acquired the Peter Rice House in Marlboro, Massachusetts (Peter is (30) III. in the Rice Family by Ward). They are at work fixing it up as club quarters.

The Society holds bake sales once a month to earn money. So far they have had a new roof put on and several smaller jobs done.

DONATIONS

A verification has been received from the Archivist of Wisconsin State University (Patrick B. Nolan, PhD.) that the family Bible of James Reuben Rice and Mary Ann Goodnow Rice has been donated to the Area Research Center, University of Wisconsin, River Falls, Wisconsin 54022. Here it will be preserved and of course made available for consultation. This is the Bible mentioned in Marjorie Cole's letter in the October 1971 news letter.

Two more of our new book "The Genealogical Register of Edmund Rice Descendants" have been made available for public use.

The Springfield, Massachusetts, Library, Genealogical Department, in care of Miss Mosely have received a copy from Mrs. Helen Graebner, one of our directors.

Also, the Los Angeles Public Library, Genealogy and Local History, 630 W. Fifth Street, Los Angeles, California, have received one as a gift from Mrs. R. E. Cole of Fargo, North Dakota.

BOOKS

THE FOLLOWING BOOKS ARE AVAILABLE:

"A Genealogical Register of Edmund Rice Descendants" (new) \$25.00
This is the continuation of the descendants found in A. H. Ward's "Rice Family" of 1858 and in the "Supplement" to that book.

"Rice Family" by Andrew Henshaw Ward (reprint) \$20.00
A genealogical history of the Rice Family; descendants of Deacon Edmund Rice who came from Berkhamstead, England, and settled at Sudbury, Massachusetts, in 1638 or 9.

"Supplement" to "Rice Family" \$3.50
In 1967 the Rice Association published from its records a compilation of additions and corrections, bringing the 1858 edition up-to-date.

"Index" \$1.25
Names in the Ward book which were not included in the Ward index.

"More About Those Rices" by Elsie Hawes Smith \$3.50
Still a few more left, copyright 1954.

"You are Heir to Millions!" by Margaret S. Rice \$1.50
This seven page speech was made by Margaret S. Rice at the 1971 Rice Reunion.

Send orders to: Mrs. Constance Campbell, Secretary, 1361 Main St., Concord, Massachusetts 01742. Make checks payable to "The Edmund Rice (1638) Association, Inc." and mail with orders to the secretary. Send all correspondence, orders and monies to Mrs. Constance Campbell, Secretary.

"Additional News Letters" \$2.00

REGISTER CORRECTION

Correction to Rice Register:

Page 971

Under Lela Rice, m Theodore McKay Wright,
.2 Gertrude F. m M. Eugene Malone

It should read2 Gertrude F. m Joshia Denholm Morgan

COMPLIMENT

"The new Rice Register arrived yesterday in good order. I am pleased with it, truly amazed at the contents, and the immense successful undertaking of compiling the data, as well as the superb quality of of the book. You and your associates are to be congratulated on the dream come true."

..... Esmond S. Rice, Waban, Mass.

PERSONAL NEWS

Our secretary, Mrs. Constance Campbell, with her husband and their two youngest sons flew to Ft. Myers, Florida, in April to visit her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Vicent F. Rice. The Vicent Rices have been making their home in Florida since last fall.

Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Rice of Worcester have been keeping busy with "The Walley Byam Caravan Club", a travel club. Just attended the annual meeting and expect to go south for a big rally the fourth of July. Last summer they traveled to the west coast.

Mrs. Marjorie Cole has been in the McCleary Memorial Hospital at Excelsior Springs, Missouri, and is hoping to be back to her North Dakota home in Fargo very soon.

Just received a very informative letter from Mrs. J. Edward Vivian, Sr. (Florence Vivian) a director. She is located with her husband at the Birla Institute of Technology & Science in Pilani, Rajasthan, India.

SIGN OF OUR TIMES

This is something we read and hear about these days but I guess we really don't think it will happen to us or someone we know. Mr. Ray Lowther Ellis and his typist, Mrs Reynolds, were mugged in the Harvard Square Subway this winter. Ray was knocked unconscious and suffered bad cuts about the head requiring stitches and a stay in the hospital. Mrs. Reynolds suffered a back injury. Her purse was found several days later in Boston. The manuscripts they were carrying were strewn about but recovered.

Just talked with Mr. Ellis again and he has had another four day stay in the hospital (unrelated to above incident). Says he has just got to stay healthy for awhile because his doctor is going to Iran for three months. Good luck Ray.

NEWSPAPER CLIPPINGS

In your last news letter, number 23, The Edmund Rice Descent of William Thompson Rice was given. The following news clippings from "The Berkshire Eagle", Pittsfield, Mass., pertain to members of this genealogy.

Thursday, January 20, 1972

About 125 Berkshire County alumnae, parents and friends of Miss Hall's School attended a cocktail party and dinner last evening at the school, the first time an event of this type had been held. Among the guests was the only male alumnus of the school. William T. Rice, chairman of the board of A. H. Rice Co. Mr. Rice recalled his early school days at the school which was then located on Bartlett Avenue.

Friday, February 25, 1972

Jack Rice, (John) president of A. H. Rice Co., cracked his ankle recently, but it hasn't kept him off the ski slopes. He skied, cast and all, Saturday, Sunday and Tuesday night at Bousquet and has skied at King Ridge, N.H., where his daughter, Heidi, teaches skiing weekends.

"It's a new art," Jack said. "I can do anything which doesn't require two skis."

Heidi is a senior at Boston University. She received her Canadian certification pin last winter. She started teaching at King Ridge when she was a student at nearby Colby Junior College.

Jack was planning a trip to Alta, Utah, when the accident happened. He has postponed the trip now until the cast is off his ankle.

Wednesday, April 19, 1972

The A. H. Rice Co. has donated 700 pounds of thread for shipment to Bangladesh by the Berkshire County chapter of the Red Cross.

The thread, forwarded through the American National Red Cross warehouse in Maryland, will be used for making clothes. The thread is both light and heavy and in various colors, the Red Cross said.

Last December, Rice, local manufacturer of thread and braid, made a similar donation to India.

"Such valuable gifts by American industry of basic materials, not readily available locally, are invaluable in getting these peoples back on a self-sustaining basis," a Red Cross spokesman said.

AN INTERESTING LETTER

May 5, 1972

It might be of interest to our readers to know of my visit to the Adirondack mountains last October to view again a bronze plaque placed on the Summit of Ampersand Mountain in honor of my father Walter Channing Rice. Walter Rice was born in Lowell, Massachusetts, in 1851 and went into the Adirondack wilderness as a very young boy. His father Henderson Rice conducted a hotel and gave singing lessons around the country side. Walter Rice his son grew up in this beautiful

country and in early manhood became a guide for many of the wealthy people who spent their summers there. Later he conducted a small hotel and after the death of his wife (my mother), he returned to the woods as a Fire Observer for the State of New York. He lived in a log cabin in the solitude which he loved. He was a self taught Naturalist, Poet and Author of many articles for magazines and newspapers.

In 1928, four years after his death, his son, Sturgis C. Rice, a past president of the Rice Association, journeyed with workmen to the top of this mountain and placed a bronze plaque, bolted to the rocky summit which reads

1851 - Walter Channing Rice - 1924

"The Hermit of Ampersand Mountain"

Who kept vigil on this peak

1914 - 1922

"Erected in loving memory by his Sons"

It was over 40 years since I had been there and it stands out as a red letter day in my memory.

Sincerely,
Seaver M. Rice

LATE FLASH

Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Rice have just attended open house for Mrs. Theresa Jemison at the Westboro Historical Society, May 15, 1972. By reading the following outline given to them upon preparation for her visit, you will see why we are so excited. She claims direct descent from 309.2 Silas Rice b. 10 April 1695.

Stan and his wife "Teen" have spent additional time talking with her and filling out genealogical sheets. Mrs. Jemison is also planning a trip to England soon to do research too. One never knows what else she may find.

DESCENDANT OF CAPTURED RICE BOY PLANS TO COME TO WESTBOROUGH

An interesting incident, perhaps the most interesting in many generations, has recently come to light. Please read at least the first part of this article whether you are a long-time resident, a newcomer, and even if you are not truly interested in history, in order to be prepared to greet a young woman, Mrs. Theresa Jemison who plans to come to Westborough sometime in May.

Sometimes in these busy times an event escapes us and later we say we wish we had known.

The story is old, of the capture of the Rice boys by a group of Indians in 1704, which is 268 years ago. A memorial tablet stands near the entrance to the present High School which was placed there on September 5, 1904 by the Westborough Historical Society, for in the field south of it, the five young Rice boys were playing when a group of Indians, (some records say ten, others say twelve) swooped over the present Whitney Hill, in early years called Grindstone Hill, and headed for Caughnawaga in Canada with their captives. Little Nahor was killed and buried in the present Memorial Cemetery. In recent reading it was thought to be the south corner near the front, yet in those days there was no cemetery nor even a highway.

Mrs. Jemison is a Mowhawk Indian and lives on an Indian Reservation. Her husband was of the Seneca tribe. He died four years ago and was a veteran of the defenders of Bataan and Corregidor. There is a daughter and two sons in their twenties, Valerie, Andrew and Dwight. One son served three years in the Army, now back in college majoring in Political Science and Government. The other son is also back in college after three years in the Army including Germany and VietNam.

A widow with grown children, Mrs. Jemison wanted to learn of her ancestry, knowing that she was a descendant of Silas Rice, one of the boys taken to Canada. She is a great, great, great granddaughter of Mary Josephine, daughter of Silas Rice. Through correspondence with a priest in Quebec she learned my name from the fact that she was sent a photostatic copy of two pages of the Commemorative Booklet compiled in 1967. One of the pictures was of a group of Rice descendants and was taken from a negative by Harriette Merrifield Forbes around 1891-1893 when she and her husband Judge William Trowbridge Forbes went to the Indian village of Caughnawaga in Canada. Judge Forbes always said that he was descended three ways from the Rice family. He and Mrs. Forbes were founders of the Historical Society in 1889.

Mrs. Jemison hopes to come in order to learn the location of incidents and the homes of the family which were many as the years went on. Thomas Rice had fourteen children after he married Anna Rice, daughter of his uncle Edward who was the son of Edmund. Anna had two sisters, Abigail who married Captain Samuel Forbush of the Forbush Tavern and Dorcas, wife of Thomas Forbush, whose home was on the site of the late Willard Beaman's home.

The two sons of Thomas Rice who were captured were Ashur and Adonijah. Ashur was the only one who returned to live here on the site of the present Foster home on South Street though the house was moved across the street and is where the Gilbert Groves live.

Since today one half of our present inhabitants are new to the community, there must of necessity be repetition so bear with us as we bridge the gaps in our history. As we quote Pauline Lindi we agree that "we need a feeling of identity with the past - a sense of roots, in a society that's becoming increasingly rootless".

Thomas Rice settled in Marlborough with his parents when ten years of age or in 1664. His father was also Thomas (1625-1681) and his grandfather was the immigrant Edmund Rice (1594-1663) who settled in Watertown in 1634 with Thomas Brigham, John Maynard and others. Thomas grew up on the Marlborough farm just north of Williams pond. His grandfather Edmund, born in 1594, came from Barkhamstead, Hertfordshire, England in 1638 and settled in Sudbury. Edmund (1663-1726) was the father of three of the Rice boys captured in 1704, Silas born in 1695; Timothy, 1697; Nahor, 1699; there were eleven children.

Asnur and Adonijah, also captured, were sons of Thomas Rice, our first settler who had his cabin on the site of the present High School. His brother Jonas was the first permanent settler of Worcester in 1713. Thomas Rice sold some of his property in order to redeem his sons and went to live on the site of the present Country Club and then to a house on Chestnut Street where he died in 1747.

Ashur was ten years old when carried away in 1704. He was redeemed in 1708. The others turned Indian. Adonijah grew up in Canada, married first a French woman, then a Dutch woman and settled near Montreal. Timothy was adopted by an Indian chief and became a chief. "He is said to have made the speech to General Gage in behalf of the Cagnawagas soon after the reduction of Montreal."

In April, 1739, Captain James Eager of Westborough, Representative to the General Court, called upon Mr. Seth Rice, a brother of Timothy's, and advised him to go down to Boston and confer with two men who as boys had been captured by Indians in Groton when young boys. Their names were Tarbell and had lived with the Indians many years.

A Captain Kellog had come down from Canada with these men and offered to act as interpreter, as the Tarbells had lost the English tongue. Seth Rice, the brother, started at once for Boston in the hope of hearing something of his brothers Timothy and Silas, also his cousin Adonijah, and he was successful.

Seth returned from Boston April 26, 1740, and stated that the Tarbells were going back to Canada and would try to arrange it so that he could meet his brothers who were well known to them. This was later accomplished through the efforts of Colonel Lydias of Albany, for on August 6, 1740, a letter came from him stating that the Rices of Canada "desired one of their brethren of New England would go up to Albany and meet them on September 6 next and arrange for a visit to Westborough".

Seth was indisposed and the cousin Ashur, captured at the same time, but ransomed, was not fit to go so the trip fell to Eleazer the youngest brother. On September 15, 1740, Eleazer arrived home with his brother, Oughtzorongton, and a Mr. Tarbell as interpreter. Eleazer now lived on the present Maynard Street, near the bridge, in the ell of the present Carroll place (1972). Seth's home was on Davis Street on the site of the place known as the Clarence Buckley farm in recent times.

From Davis Street to Maynard Street, though there were no streets, was all one farm, willed by Edmund Rice to Seth and Eleazer. A copy of the will exists, dated August 10, 1726.

The next day Mr. Parkman writes in his diary, "I rode to Seth Rice's where I saw the captive. Toward evening the captive came up to view the old house where Mr. Rice used to dwell and they were at my house, some number of neighbors with them". Mr. Parkman was then in his new house on the site of Maple cottage of Lyman School.

September 17th the Diary says, "at old Mr. Rice's, this was Thomas (1654-1745) then living in the house on Chestnut Street. The chief had been there and remembered him. They went down to view the place where he was captured".

While in Westborough the chief was sick a few days and probably this hastened his departure, for no amount of persuasion could induce him to remain. He met a number of people whom he remembered but nothing is recorded as to meeting his cousin Ashur who was a little peculiar due to his experience as a captive.

For those interested in a bit of background of the area of Powder Hill, (the present Lyman School) records show that in the division of Marlborough lands there fell to Abraham Howe an allotment of 100 acres in what is now Westborough, then Chauncy. This tract is of interest for part of it became the home of Edmund Rice (1663-1726) three of whose boys were captured while playing with the two sons of Thomas Rice (1654-1745).

In the trades and exchanges of tracts of land between early owners, Edmund Rice, a son of Samuel (1634-1685) became the owner of this Howe farm on Powder Hill. He probably settled on it about the time of his marriage to Ruth Parker of Roxbury in 1692. Here the three boys carried off by the Indians were born, also a son Seth. A few years after the Indian raid in 1704 he transferred the property back to the Howes, probably in exchange for the large tract on the south side of Davis Street in Northborough, including the house known to the present generation as the Hiram Broaders, Fessenden, or George Herbert Johnson house in Westborough, near the Northborough line and the two bridges. Edmund Rice died on this place in 1726 and his wife a few years later.

Captain Daniel Howe's son Daniel (1692-1740) came into possession of the Howe tract, or Edmund Rice farm, and on April 2, 1725, he deeded the same to the Reverend Ebenezer Parkman, Westborough's first settled minister who had been ordained and formed the Church of Christ in Westborough on

October 28, 1724. Mr. Parkman occupied the house then on the premises when he came to Westborough with his bride, Mary Champney, early in October, 1724. This house stood near a fence at the west line of the farm, near a highway. The meeting house was erected just over the fence, a little to the north-west on three quarters of an acre of land given by John Maynard. When Edmund Rice owned the farm he gave land to the town to enlarge the yard. This little triangle of land was formed by starting at a point just west of the house and crossing the garden and "foreyard" to the highway. This would be the present Oak Street which came up from the Forbush Tavern through the present Lyman School grounds and out Davis Street.

The Howe, Rice and Maynard families lived in the Powder Hill area. Hezekiah Howe built the house now occupied by the Reverend Sidney Smith and family at 221 Milk Street in 1714, across the way from the second home of Edmund Rice.

There were many Rice houses, for there were many Rices and also in the present Northborough. In our West Main Street area there were many Rice homes which still stand, some remodeled many times, or moved. From the first little cabin in the lane near the site of the present High School where Thomas first lived, then his second home which became a tavern and in 1795 was transferred to Isaac Ruggles who sold the tavern house with one half of the land to the Reverend John Robinson, pastor of the church from 1789 to 1807. Mr. Ruggles retained the east half which had a frontage on Main Street of forty-four rods. It reached from the corner of School Street to the tablet to the Rice boys and his house stood on the corner now the site of St. Luke's Church. This house was moved to 17 Ruggles Street in 1851 now the property of Miss Gladys Ainsworth. The timbers of the barn were used in the construction of the chapel of St. Luke's Church.

Thomas Fayerweather of Boston became the owner of the Rice property in 1810 and two children were born in the old tavern. He also came into possession of the Charles Rice place now the property at 102 West Main. Charles was a son of Thomas and lived in the Mary Knowlton house where between 1711 and 1727 many Rice children were born. He then went across the street and built the house at 99 West Main Street. The old Blue Anchor Tavern was moved up on Charles Rice property opposite the Elihu Blake place, recently Blodgett. Elihu Blake married the sister of Eli Whitney, inventor of the cotton gin. The old tavern knew many occupants, most recently Mr. and Mrs. Walter Harrington, and now a granddaughter lives there.

Another Rice house is located at the corner of Ruggles and Mt. Pleasant Streets near where the "Old Connecticut Path" crosses Ruggles Street. It was the Perez Rice house and was given to him by his father Thomas in 1725. One more, the Josiah Rice house, built by him at the time he married Thankful Rice in 1726, a daughter of Edmund Rice, still stands on Gleason, occupied by Mary Haven Ward.

And so a few facts of our Rice descendants and their homes for our expected guest, Theresa Jemison, a descendant of Silas, captured by the Indians and who never returned. It is also a thumb-nail sketch for the many Rices who come to our town or write for information of their ancestors. The Rices were one of the early founders of our Church and Town and many cherish their heritage.

Rachel R. Dearing, April 1972