

Edmund Rice (1638) Association, Inc.

NEWS LETTER

OCTOBER 1973

NUMBER 27

OFFICERS FOR 1973-1974

PRESIDENT

Mrs. Margaret E. Allen, 69 Walnut St., Holden, Mass. 01520

1ST VICE PRESIDENT

Charles W. Rice, 388 Franklin St., Wrentham, Mass. 02093

2ND VICE PRESIDENT

Seaver M. Rice, 97 Everett St., Southbridge, Mass. 01550

TREASURER

John E. Rice, 20 MacKay Drive, Marlboro, Mass. 01752

RECORDING SECRETARY

Mrs. Beatrice W. Johnson, 48 Oak Ave., Northborough, Mass. 01532

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY AND HISTORIAN

Miss Margaret S. Rice, Lion's Mouth Rd., Amesbury, Mass. 01913

NEWS LETTER EDITOR

Mrs. Louise Rice Trudeau, William Street, Chester, Mass. 01011

DIRECTORS

Edward F. P. Brigham, Brigham Bldg., Miami, Florida 33131

Mrs. Constance Campbell, 1361 Main St., Concord, Mass. 01742

Mrs. Patricia P. MacFarland, 162 Whitney St., Northborough, Mass. 01532

Edwin W. Proctor, 154 Whitney St., Northborough, Mass. 01532

John E. Vivian, 79 Jeffrey's Neck Rd., Ipswich, Mass. 01938

All Past Presidents

President's Message

We had a beautiful day for the "Rice Cousin's Reunion" in Northboro, and it was gratifying to meet old friends and new friends.

We are now embarking on a new year, and as your new president, I will welcome your help, advice and ideas.

My special thanks goes to our past-president, Col. Allen F. Rice, and officers and directors for the 1972-1973 season — for all their hard work.

In closing, I told my family about the office I am undertaking, and my young son looked at his father and said, "Dad, does it mean if Mother is President, that she will stop being my Mother?"

Best of health, happiness to all, and let us look forward to being together again next year.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Margaret E. Allen

1973 Reunion

ANNUAL RICE GATHERING EXCITING, SUCCESSFUL EVENT

As you noted on your reunion notice we were a week late having our reunion this year but it did prove to be well worth waiting for.

We gathered in the meeting room of the Northborough Historical Society Building in Northborough, Massachusetts, on the morning of Saturday, October 6th. Our gathering was a might smaller than usual but we were still busy meeting our old and new friends, especially Mr. and Mrs. Robert Wallace Rice and David Rice of P.O. Box 476, Lisle, Illinois (20 miles west of Chicago) who came the greatest distance.

It was our pleasure to have Mr. Edwin W. Proctor, age 86 years, of Northborough as our oldest member present and the youngest was 8-year-old Margaret Sarah Stokes of Marlborough, Massachusetts.

The idea of the picnic lunch proved to be quite popular and, like always, the Rices had enough to share with an army!

After our lunch, the annual meeting and election of officers was held. Please note the several changes in the officers and directors which appear in this news letter.

Margaret S. Rice, historian, asked that we please continue to send in descent records, those of new children, deaths, marriage dates, etc., so that records can be kept up-to-date in hopes that at some future time a continuation of the Rice Register can be published. These records are being kept in a locker at The New England Historic Genealogical Society at Newbury Street, Boston, Massachusetts. As a matter of tact it will be necessary shortly to acquire more space for such records.

Mrs. Ann T. Morton of the D.A.R. Capt. Samuel Wood Chapter talked to us about the bicentennial project in Northborough that is trying to locate Rice D. A. R. ancestors whose names were listed in the Revolutionary War from Northborough.

Our president Col. Allen F. Rice expressed his closing thoughts before turning the gavel over to our newly elected president, Margaret E. Allen of Holden, Massachusetts, by stating he enjoyed his four years of presidentship and saying please "Let's Keep Our Association Alive".

After the meeting we all enjoyed a tour of the Historical Museum of Northborough located above our meeting room. The guided tour was made available through Edwin W. Proctor and his neices Mrs. Beatrice W. Johnson and Mrs. Patricia P. MacFarland. Mrs. MacFarland spoke to us on behalf of the Society.

We must also thank John E. Rice for his timeless effort in the reunion planning.

A group of us made our annual trip to place a wreath on the grave of Edmund Rice. Do wish some day each and every member could make this trek, it is too impressive for words.

TREASURER'S REPORT

From September 23, 1972, to October 6, 1973

Our assets at present consist of one service charge — free checking account at the First National Bank, Marlboro, Massachusetts.

Balance on hand 9/23/72	\$2435.45
Deposits (7 during year)	1488.25
Total 9/23/72 Bal. plus deposits	\$3923.70
Checks drawn during year (9)	664.81
Balance on hand 10/6/73	\$3258.89

John E. Rice, Treasurer

MRS. COLE AND MRS. RIDENOUR ILL

One of our material contributors to our newsletter, Mrs. Robert E. (Marjorie) Cole of 1202 - 7th St. So., Fargo, N.D. 58102 has been ill since May 25th. We do hope she has improved and our prayers are with her.

We received word that another member, Mrs. John S. Ridenour, Smithtown Lodge, Rt. 25-A, Smithtown, New York 11787, formerly of Washington, D.C., has also been ill since spring. Our thoughts and prayers are with her.

CELEBRATES 91ST BIRTHDAY

A little bird told us Mrs. Mary E. Wentzel, 18 Old Sudbury Rd., Wayland, Mass. 01778 celebrated her 91st birthday September 3, 1973. Belated Happy Birthday.

Editor's Note

ASSOCIATION HIGHLIGHTS

From time to time our members ask such questions, "How old is the Rice Association?" I thought it would be appropriate at this time to reprint the following association highlights from a previous newsletter Number 16 — June 1968.

5 Sep 1851 First known meeting of the Rice Family at Wayland. Deacon Edmund Rice of Brighton, Moderator. Scriptures read by Edward Rice of Wayland and an address by Abner Rice of Woburn.

2 Sep 1853 Letter written by Abner Rice of Natick, dated 29 Aug 1853 stating that the meeting would be held on the second.

27 Aug 1856 Letter signed by Marshall P. Rice, evidently for the newspapers, calling attention to the annual meeting to be held at the usual place, in a Grove on the Rice Homestead in Wayland.

7 Oct 1903 Dedication of marker at the site of the home of Captain Jonas Rice, first permanent settler of Worcester, Mass. After the exercises the Rice Descendants met in the rooms of the Worcester Society of Antiquity in Worcester.

13 Sep 1913 Descendants met in Wayland Unitarian Church. At this time they unveiled the Edmund Rice Memorial Marker on the Old Connecticut Path.

29 Aug 1914 Mrs. Nellie Rice Fiske was elected President of the Association. At this time a slate marker, designed by Arthur Wallace Rice was placed in the old cemetery at Wayland honoring Deacon Edmund Rice.

10 Jan 1934 Rice Association was incorporated and we have a charter from the State of Massachusetts under the name of Edmund Rice (1638) Association, Inc.

Originally the membership was mostly confined to New England, however, since we have been seeking lineages from all descendants of Deacon Edmund the membership has spread to nearly every state and Canada.

NEW MEMBERS

Miss Cynthia Blomstrom, 38 Indian Hill Rd., Worcester, Mass. 01606 (Page 1260 in Rice Register)

Mrs. Shirley E. Blomstrom, 38 Indian Hill Rd., Worcester, Mass. 01606 (Page 1260 in Rice Register)

Mrs. Freda F. Connors, 117 Chino Ave., Worcester, Mass. 01605 (Page 1074 in Rice Register)

Mrs. Beatrice W. Johnson, 48 Oak Ave., Northborough, Mass. 01532 (Page 979 in Rice Register)

Mrs. Patricia P. MacFarland, 162 Whitney St., Northborough, Mass. 01532 (Page 979 in Rice Register)

Mrs. Janice R. Parmenter, 15 Hudson St., Northborough, Mass. 01532

Mr. Lyle Tornquist, 3484 Gregory Ct., San Luis Obispo, Calif. 93401 (Page 1097 in Rice Register)

Mr. Richard Leigh Tower, 18 Fairfield Drive, Hampton, N.H. 03842

Mrs. Osborne C. West, 219 Bay Road, Hadley, Mass. 01035 (Page 1160 in Rice Register)

Mr. Herbert S. Whitman, Sadem Hollow, Block Island, Rhode Island 02807

In Memoriam

Mr. Clarence Depew Rice, Calxico, Calif. 92231 died 3 August 1969. His sister, *Mrs. Edith Rice Wing* of Portland Oregon, died in 1970. Their brother, *Frank C. Rice* of Santa Barbara, Calif. died 1 January 1969. (see page 874 — Rice Register) Our belated sympathy goes to their families.

Mr. Paul F. Dobbins, Route 5, Box 11, Booneville, Miss. 38829 died 26 October 1972. Our belated sympathy goes to his wife, Mary R. Dobbins.

Mrs. Mary Sarber Ball, 4055 Del Rio Road, Atascadero, Calif. 93422 died 21 February 1973. She was a director of our Association for several years. Our sympathy goes to her nephew, John L. Sarber who notified us of her passing.

Mrs. Helen Graebner (Mrs. Eugene J. Graebner) of R.R. 5, Winfield, Kansas, and Charlemont, Mass., died 7 March 1973. She also was a director of our Association at the time of her passing. Our sympathy goes to her husband, Eugene J. Graebner.

Mr. Randolph Packard Rice, Weston, Mass. died 19 June 1973 at Waltham (Mass.) Hospital aged 75 years (Page 1090 in Rice Register). Born in Sharon, Pa., 11 June 1898, he was graduated from Cornell University in 1921 and from Harvard Business School in 1923. He was a retired executive of the General Electric Company. Our sympathy goes to his wife, the former Virginia Hastings and two daughters, Mrs. William Taft Wolf (Jane) of Chapauqua, N.Y. and Mrs. Thomas R. Morse (Suzanne) of Boxboro, Mass.

Mr. Everett Linwood Rice, 179 Wheelock Avenue, Millbury, Mass. died 27 July 1973 at Memorial Hospital, Worcester, Mass. Mr. Rice was a direct descendant of Gersham Rice, the second permanent settler of Worcester, Mass. He was greatly interested in genealogy. Our sympathy goes to his wife, Elizabeth R. Rice.

Mrs. Harold G. Russell, Foxboro Pt., Essex, Conn. died 5 August 1973. She was a member of our association. Our sympathy goes to her family, especially her son, our 1st Vice President, Charles W. Rice of Wrentham, Mass.

Dr. Verne L. Rice, Sr., 398 Lincoln Ave., Portsmouth, N.H., died 16 August 1973. He was a member of our association and his corrected lineage was in our last newsletter. We extend our sympathy to his wife, Eula and family.

Mr. Sydney George Smith, 400 39th Ave. N.E., St. Petersburg, Florida died 28 August 1973 at St. Petersburg. He was 92 years, 3 months, 5 days of age and a member of our association. Our sympathy goes to his family and sister Mrs. Gladys M. Brown of our association.

TRIBUTE TO RICE GENEALOGY AUTHOR

This memorial to Andrew Henshaw Ward was written in 1863, 110 years ago. We thought it might be of interest to our readers.

Ray Lowther Ellis

ANDREW HENSHAW WARD

The man who has inspired literally thousands of descendants of Edmund Rice to know their family ancestors is, indeed, Andrew Henshaw Ward. Hundreds of his book, "Genealogy of the Rice Family" are in use today. Five hundred copies were printed in 1858. On the 100th anniversary of this printing, through the efforts of the then president of the Rice Association, Stanley I. Rice, and Albert W. Rice, caused a reprint of the book to be made. So the book is now still in circulation.

Andrew Henshaw Ward, the oldest son of Thomas Walter and Elizabeth (Denny) Ward, was born in Shrewsbury, Mass., on the 26th of May, 1784. It is said that he received the name of Andrew Henshaw at his baptism at the special request of Madam Sarah Henshaw, then of Shrewsbury. She was desirous of perpetuating the name of a beloved brother, Andrew Henshaw, who died in Boston in December 1782 in his 31st year, s.p.

Thomas Walter Ward was an independent farmer in Shrewsbury and a part-time deputy sheriff. Andrew seems to have been entrusted with the farm duties when his father was away. He attended the district school in the village during the winter seasons until he was 18 years old, when he began fitting himself for college at Leicester Academy. Andrew entered Harvard College in 1804 and graduated with the class of 1808. The next September he began the study of law and was admitted to the bar at Northampton in 1811. He continued the practice of law in Shrewsbury until 1829. During this time he compiled the town records of births, marriages and deaths from the different volumes. He presented his book to the Town without any obligation.

In 1829, Mr. Ward received an appointment in the Custom House in Boston and removed to Boston, taking his family there in the autumn of 1829. He was an early member of the New England Historic-Genealogical Society, soon after its organization in 1845.

Some of his published works are:

A History of the Town of Shrewsbury from 1718 to 1847

A Genealogy of the Ward Family, 1603-1851 William Ward was born in 1603 and came to Sudbury, 1639.

A Genealogy of the Rice Family 1858. Edmund Rice settled in Sudbury, 1639.

History of Shrewsbury, A Genealogy of the People 1847.

Andrew Henshaw Ward (6th generation) was married, 1809 to Sarah, daughter of David and Sarah (Sargent) Henshaw of Leicester. She was born in Leicester, 10 April 1787. They had nine children (7th generation).

1. Sarah Ann, b. 28 Sept 1808; m Francis S. Carruth.
2. William, b. 16 July 1812; m Mary Leffingwell.
3. Joseph W., b 2 July 1814; m Catharine Appleton.
4. John T., b 14 June 1816; d 1840; unmarried
5. Eliza Maria, b 8 Feb 1818; d 1821.
6. Frances M. A., b 8 Feb 1820; d. 1821.
7. Frances A., b 19 Apr 1822; m Joseph L. Danforth.
8. Andrew Henshaw, b 28 Jan 1824; m Sarah A. Wolcott.
9. Daniel Henshaw, b 23 June 1830; m Julia Noble of N.Y.

GOOD LIFE RECIPE

One Rice's Recipe for a Good Life:

"Don't hurry — — Don't worry — — and Don't forget to smell the flowers." — Grantland Rice

RICE RECEIVES 'JOSEPH'S COAT'

We read in the Pittsfield, Mass., newspaper back in June that one of our members, William T. Rice of 443 South St., Pittsfield, Mass., Williams College class of '13 was given the annual Joseph's Coat award by his fellow alumni at the annual reunion ceremonies.

The award, described by a college spokesman as "the loudest, most colorful coat available on Spring Street," is given to an "Old Guard" alumnus of more than 50 years who is "held high in respect and affection of his colleagues."

Rice, former president of the A. H. Rice Co. and the Rice Investment Corp., is an active Williams Alumnus. He served as reunion chairman for his class 60th year gathering and participated in the annual parade with his son, Peter Van S. Rice, Williams '45 and his grandson Peter G. Rice, Williams '68.

RICE WORK IN SMITHSONIAN

Mrs. George A. Moore, a recently joined member of our Association, has sent in the following interesting information about her father, Frank A. Sylvester, through whom she is descended from Deacon Edmund Rice.

"From about 1878 and for several years following Frank Augustus Sylvester was a carpet designer. His art has recently been discovered and his designs have been put into the Smithsonian Textile Building in Washington, D.C., and listed in the Smithsonian catalog. The designs were found to be of interest because of the period in which they were popular, and because of the style of those days.

Mrs. Moore also speaks of a boyhood friend of her father, one Henry Rice, who was a well known Boston water color artist. Mrs. Moore has been unable to trace descent of Henry Rice from Edmund Rice. Can anyone help?

MAYFLOWER

Association member, Mrs. Gertrude A. Smith, has sent in the information that all descendants of William King Rice (No. 1583.7 in The Rice Register) are Mayflower descendants through his wife, Mary (Polly) Pettingell. The line would be: Mary (Polly) Pettingell and her husband, William King Rice (6th generation); Benjamin Pettingell and his wife, Mercy Briggs (5th generation); Mercy Lake and her husband, David Pettingell (4th generation); Mercy Eaton and her husband, Benjamin Lake (3rd generation); Benjamin Eaton and his wife, Sarah Hopkins (2nd generation); Francis Eaton of the Mayflower Company and his third wife, Christian Penn.

OLD HOUSE OF THE NORTH COUNTRY

From Watertown (N.Y.) Times Newspaper

Clarke Rice was a young printer from Brattleboro, Vt., who formed a partnership in 1824 with George W. Knowlton, a young merchant of that village, to purchase the two small paper mills Gurdon Caswell had established and unsuccessfully operated in this village of Watertown, N.Y. The two mills had a capacity of 125 pounds each of handmade paper per day, but still there was not an adequate market for it and Knowlton & Rice had to operate a print shop, book bindery and book store to dispose of this product. The story of the school text books, books of literature, blank books, etc., this firm produced and sold throughout the North Country is well known.

Clarke Rice came here in 1824 to take over the mills they had

purchased and was followed the next year by Mr. Knowlton. Oct. 6, 1828, Clarke Rice purchased a lot on the north side of Clinton street "(so-called) it being the street running westerly from Washington Street by the house of the Rev. George S. Boardman." Rev. Mr. Boardman was the second pastor of the First Presbyterian church and resided on the south side of Clinton street about two houses west of Miss Emma S. Lansing's residence. It was diagonally across the street from Boardman's that Clarke Rice built his own house on the lot he had bought from Judge Jabez Foster in October, 1828.

The Rice residence was at No. 16 Clinton street in those days and there he and his family lived until his death in the late summer of 1866. When the Watertown & Rome railroad was formed to bring the first train into Watertown Sept. 5, 1851, Mr. Rice, who had been prominent in the founding of the company, became its first secretary. He was an alert, aggressive, adventurous business man and became so deeply interested in railroading that he sold his interest in Knowlton & Rice in 1856.

Two years before, Knowlton & Rice turned solely to the manufacture of paper. In 1861 Mr. Knowlton disposed of his interest in the firm to his sons, George W. Knowlton, Jr., and John C. Knowlton and then was started the predecessor of the present Knowlton Brothers, Inc.

After Clarke Rice died, his son, John Holbrook Rice, Albany, as executor, sold the residence at 16 Clinton street to the Watertown Ecclesiastical society for \$4,000 and it became the parsonage of the First Presbyterian church. Rev. J. Jermain Porter was the first pastor to live there, and from 1882 to 1886 his successor, Rev. George B. Stevens, resided in this house. From 1886 to 1898 it was the home of Rev. Dr. Allen Macy Dulles and on Jan. 29, 1898, the Watertown Ecclesiastical society, which had acquired a parsonage on Mullin street, sold No. 16 Clinton street to Mrs. Alice Powers Smith. From that time until his death, March 25, 1943, Edward North Smith, late supreme court justice, resided there. Justice Smith for half a century had been one of the North Country's leading lawyers and jurists.

Following the death of Judge Smith his son, C. Powers Smith, Falls Village, Conn., well known author and novelist, Sept. 28, 1943, disposed of this residence now designated 162 Clinton street, to Albert B. and Katherine D. Scholl, the present occupants, Mr. Scholl being a principal in the local public schools.

The house of Georgian type has undergone a number of exterior modifications through the years. It has had a notable history and stands in an historic block of an excellent residential district, a block which for many years was almost solidly Presbyterian and still is strongly flavored that way.

WEDDING BELLS RING

Wedding congratulations are in order for one of our members, Marilyn J. Ward, Cunningham Rd., Boxborough, Mass. She became Mrs. Stephen McGovern 4 August 1973.

— 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 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 1639.

SUPPLEMENT TO RICE FAMILY — \$3.50. In 1967 the Rice Association published from its record 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.

ANNUAL NEWS LETTERS — \$2.00.

Write to: Miss Margaret S. Rice, Historian, Lion's Mouth
Massachusetts 01913. Make checks payable to
(1638) Association, Inc. and mail with orders to
Secretary and Historian. Send all correspondence,
Mrs. Margaret S. Rice, Historian.