

Rev. Luther Rice's story:
DISPENSATIONS OF PROVIDENCE
(Third and last installment)

In the last issue we told you a little bit about Luther Rice's diaries, up to 1813, when he left India. It is his mission to India for which he is remembered, but the later, mature portion of his life is not without significance. Luther Rice returned from India convinced of the merits of adult baptism. He himself was baptised while in India, and upon his return whole-heartedly joined the Baptist Church.

The third portion of the diaries covers the subsequent three years; although Luther Rice lived for twenty years longer, until 1836. During this time he consulted influentially with the Baptist Board of Foreign Missions, and worked with other Baptist leaders to found Columbia College.

Meanwhile he traveled all over the United States, preaching. He preached along the Eastern Seaboard to raise money, and along the rapidly

expanding frontiers to bring his religion to the wilderness settlers. His mature concern for the welfare of others shines through every notation of a contact with an individual person. This concern was reflected by the fact that wherever he went he found friends who took him in, literally fed and clothed him, and cared for his physical needs.

Luther Rice, like other Rice descendants, was a man of his time, formed by the thinking of his time. Yet, also like other Rice descendants, his thinking was his own, and he did not accept the opinions of others without questioning. As a mature man he was a follower of Providence, following where he felt himself to be led. Paradoxically, in this following he showed himself to be a true leader. He set a precedent which made foreign and home missionary work a primary purpose of Protestant churches for over a century. Many more men and women than Luther Rice could have imagined have followed in his footsteps.

* * *

The Apple Butter Winter ©1982

The cover-picture for this issue is a copy of a sketch from the cover of a delightful little booklet, "THE APPLE BUTTER WINTER and Other Stories", by the gentleman pictured, Seaver Rice.

Seaver Rice, a gentleman in every sense of the word, has long been among the most active in the Edmund Rice (1638) Association, and is one of our past presidents. It is no secret that he has spent 93 years learning about this world, and has developed a philosophy which centers around "bringing out the best in it." As his share of "bringing out the best" in the world he knows so well, Seaver began (in 1974 at the age of 82) to write a regular column for the Southbridge NEWS. Eight years later some of these columns were collected and published in this booklet, a copy of which Seaver has been gracious enough to send to us.

There are twelve essays in this little book, starting with "Billy the Bugler" and, naturally,

"The Apple Butter Winter", and ending with "Christmas Past". Many are concerned with Christmas, but not all of them. All of the essays do reveal a rare ability to bring a character alive in three dimensions with a sentence or two, as well as a wit almost as sharp and well aimed as that of his hero, Mark Twain. (There is one essay about an encounter with the great American writer which brought chuckles from your scribe, so that I had to read it aloud to the family.)

Seaver Rice was born and raised in Saranac Lake, in the heart of New York's Adirondack Mountains. He served in World War I in France, and then moved to Southbridge, Massachusetts, where he worked for the American Optical Company. He lives in Apt. 201, Dresser Park Apts., 150 Main St., Southbridge, MA 01550. The price marked on the booklet is \$5.00, and if you are interested in a few chuckles at bed time, it is well worth while to send \$5.00 to Seaver Rice and ask for a copy of his booklet, "THE APPLE BUTTER WINTER and Other Stories."

Thank you, Seaver, for this opportunity to share in your efforts to "bring out the best" in this imperfect world.

Obituaries

We have been wishing for a long time that we had room in these pages to pay tribute to our cousins who have been a vital part of the Rice Association and have recently died. With this issue, at last, we do have space.

However, we realize that these notes are not only late, but also incomplete. If there is a Rice relative whom you feel should be remembered in an obituary note, do please tell us about him or her. (Don't assume that we already know; even if we do, your additional information may be helpful.)

* * *

Ralph H. Barton: Word came in July that Mr. Barton had passed away this past spring (1985). Ralph was the son of Frank and Hattie M. Pratt Barton, a Rice descendant on his mother's side. He lived in Sudbury (Mass.) and was very active in Grange and Church affairs, as well as the Rice Association. He will be greatly missed by many people in Sudbury.

Col. Allen Foster Rice: Suddenly, in Gainesville, Florida, on May 20, 1984. Col. Rice was born in Brattleboro, Vermont, on June 10, 1904, the son of Ernest W. and Lucia Foster Rice, and brother of Margaret S. Rice. In addition to Margaret, Col. Rice is survived by his widow, Edith Ruth Steere Rice, two daughters and seven grandchildren. He graduated from Norwich University (Vt.) with a degree in civil engineering, and spent his working career in the armed forces. During World War II, Col. Rice served in the Philippines and in occupied Japan. He also served in Korea, and received the Legion of Merit for "Exceptionally Meritorious Service" there. He was active in many organizations, including serving as president of the Edmund Rice(1638) Association from 1970 to 1974. Our belated but sincere sympathy to Edith, Margaret and the rest of his family.

Ray Lowther Ellis: On October 9, 1982, in Revere, Mass. Ray Ellis was born May 30, 1901, in Wisconsin, the son of Charles S. and Julia Loker Ellis. He had a deep and abiding interest in the Rice Association, serving as its president in 1965-1966 and as editor of the 1967 Rice Supplement. He was also the managing editor of the "big book"; the GENEALOGICAL REGISTER of EDMUND RICE DESCENDANTS, published in 1970. In the preface to the REGISTER, on page iv, is printed "our sincere thanks for...a truly masterful job of administration, organization and production." We say "Amen" to that, as it applies to Ray Ellis's entire life.

Henry E. Rice, Jr: On June 12, 1984, in Framingham, Massachusetts after a long illness. Henry was born in 1908 in Sudbury, Mass., the son of Henry E. and Gertrude Worley Rice. He was a design engineer for the Raytheon Co., and an active member of the Rice Association, having served as president in 1976-1977. He is survived by a daughter, Joanne Rice of Windsor, Ontario, a son, Stanley E. Rice of Florida, four grandchildren and three great-grand children. Joanne and Stanley are both interested members of the Association, and we extend our sympathy to them.

* * *

On the other side of this page is a "genealogy blank".

Please use it if you have any new information to submit about your ancestors or descendants.

Send completed sheets to:

Miss Margaret S. Rice,

Lion's Mouth Road, Amesbury, MA 01913

* * *

To receive your copy of the Newsletter whenever it is published, you must be a DUES-PAYING member of the Edmund Rice(1638) Association. Members include individuals who can trace their ancestors to Edmund Rice, and their spouses. Annual dues per member per year are \$5.00 for those under the age of 70, \$3.00 for those aged 70 to 75, and a note showing continuing interest (no money) for those over 75.

For anyone who is not yet a member, for you members who have not yet paid your dues, and for ordering any of the books listed on page 14:

Membership applications may be obtained from and checks made out to Edmund Rice(1638) Association should be sent to:

Mr. William H. Drury,

24 Buckman Dr., Chelmsford, MA 01824.

RICE FAMILY INFORMATION

Generation # _____

Most recent ancestor already in Register or Supplements:

Name:.....Number:.....

DESCENDANT's Full Name.....

Date Born.....Where.....

Date Deceased.....Where.....

Father's Name.....

Mother's Maiden Name.....

Spouse's Full Name.....

Married..Date.....Where.....

Date Born.....Where.....

Date Deceased.....Where.....

Father's Name.....

Mother's Maiden Name.....

Names of Children	Born			Place	Died			Place or Current Res.
	Day	Month	Year		Day	Month	Year	
1.								
2.								
3.								
4.								
5.								
6.								
7.								
8.								

Marriages of These Children	To Whom Married	Date			Place	Present or Last Address
		Day	Month	Year		
1.						
2.						
3.						
4.						
5.						
6.						
7.						
8.						

Note: A. On reverse side list subsequent marriages and children, also any military record and/or other outstanding honors. B. Please fill out a separate copy of this form for each individual not already in publications.

PUBLICATIONS AVAILABLE THROUGH THE ASSOCIATION:

THE RICE FAMILY: by Andrew Henshaw Ward (1858).

A genealogical history of descendants of Deacon Edmund Rice who came from Berkhamsted, England, and settled at Sudbury, Massachusetts in 1638.
(\$20.00 plus \$2.50 postage and packing.)

SUPPLEMENT TO THE RICE FAMILY: Published by the Association in 1967.

Additions and corrections bringing the 1858 edition up to date (soft cover).
(\$3.50 plus \$1.00 postage and packing.)

INDEX TO RICE FAMILY: (computer printout) 34 pages.
(\$4.00 postpaid.)INDEX TO SUPPLEMENT: (computer printout) 18 pages.
(\$2.50 postpaid.)BOTH INDEXES together:
(\$5.00 postpaid.)

A GENEALOGICAL REGISTER OF EDMUND RICE DESCENDANTS:

Published in 1970 by the Association.
A continuation of A.H.Ward's RICE FAMILY and the Supplement to that book.
(\$25.00 plus \$2.50 postage and packing.)

SUPPLEMENT #2, Part 1 - Additional lines of descent through the first eight generations which were unknown at the time of publication of the above book.
Published by the Association in 1983.
(\$25.00 plus \$2.50 postage and packing.)MORE ABOUT THOSE RICES: by Elsie Hawes Smith (1954).
(\$3.50 plus \$1.00 postage and packing.)YOU ARE HEIR TO MILLIONS! by Margaret S. Rice.
This seven page speech was delivered by the author at the 1971 Rice Reunion.
(\$1.50 postpaid.)

Association Officers, 1985

President: Janice R. Parmenter (Phone: 617-393 8277)
- 15 Hudson St, Northborough, MA 01532

1st Vice President:
Margaret S. Rice (Phone: 617-388 1420)
- Lion's Mouth Road, Amesbury, MA 01913

2nd Vice President:
Henry A. Sawin
- 21 Buckingham Rd. Worcester, MA

Secretary: Calista H. Vickery (Phone: 617-464 2618)
- 258 Mountain Road, Princeton, MA 01541

Treasurer: William H. Drury (Phone: 617-256 7469)
- 24 Buckman Drive, Chelmsford, MA 01824

Historian-News Editor:
Corinne M. Snow (Phone: 518-439 5387)
- 47 Sunset Drive, Delmar, NY 12054

Directors: Cynthia Blomstrom
- 38 Indian Hill Drive, Worcester, MA 01606
John E. Rice
- 4 Pleasant St. Marlborough, MA 01752
Larisa L. Rice
- Box 298F, Sheldonville, MA 02070
Alex W. Snow
- 47 Sunset Drive, Delmar, NY 12054
Louise R. Trudeau
- William St. Chester, MA 01011
Alfred G. Hough
- 15 Columbia St. No. Chelmsford, MA 01863

Some Special Notes

We have received a note from Mr. E. Allen Royce III, president of the Royce Family Association, descendants of Robert Rice, or Royce. There will be more about Robert Royce (Rice) in the next issue; suffice it to say here that a number of the Rices found in Genealogy Libraries turn out to be descended from Robert, rather than Edmund. So if you have difficulty finding a connection between your ancestor and Edmund, try Robert, by contacting Mr. Royce at

6136 Woodthrush Drive,
Charlotte, North Carolina 28212.

Good hunting!

* * *

A Special Project

One of our Canadian cousins, Timothy Sanford, has done a masterful job of tracing many of the descendants of the three young Rice men who went to Nova Scotia on the "Charming Molly" in 1760. They were Beriah Rice Jr. (#670 - from Beriah Sr.⁴, Thomas³, Thomas²), John Rice (#777 - from Matthias⁴, Gershom³, Thomas²), and Ebenezer Rice⁰ (#997 - from Ebenezer⁴, Ebenezer³, Benjamin²,

and Anna, dau. of Charles⁰, Thomas⁰ Thomas⁰). These men were among 45 who went to Annapolis Royal, Nova Scotia, after the French and Indian War, apparently to replace the French settlers (the Acadians) who had been driven out by the English earlier in the century.

Sometimes these people are forgotten in our preoccupation with the many Rice cousins still living in Massachusetts, and with the many descendants who took part and are still taking part in the Westward Migration. Although, unfortunately, Timothy's papers did not arrive in time for inclusion in the newest Supplements (#2, parts I and II), your scribe hopes to organize all of this information into a booklet for anyone who is interested.

Many thanks, Timothy, for the large amount of work involved in this project. Meanwhile, we offer you and your family our heart-felt sympathy on the death of your grandmother.

* * *

LAST BUT NOT LEAST: Remember the Annual Meeting on September 28; hope to see as many of you as possible there.

LETTERS to the EDITOR

Mrs. Natalie Eaton, of 24 Church St., Sudbury, Mass. (01776) found the following "pencilled on a scrap of paper amongst family information:"

"The following resolve was passed by the Gen. Court - June 16, 1825.

"Resolved that there be allowed out of the treasury of the Commonwealth to such officers and soldiers who were in the B of BH [Battle of Bunker Hill] on the 17th of June 1775 and who may be [found?] in the Town of Charlestown or City of Boston on the approaching anniversary of that event - the sum of three dollars each and also the the sum of \$1.00 for every 20 miles of travel to and from said Town or City.

"2. Resolved that the acting quartermaster general be directed to prepare a roll of all such officers and soldiers as may report themselves to him for the procession aforesaid and that his excellency the gov. with the advice of the council be requested to draw his warrant on the treasury for the amt. in favor of each person who may be on the roll.

"The payroll thus prepared was signed by each officer and soldier on his (re?)presentation and is preserved in the Adj. Gen's office.

"The list - by sig. is as follows:

SUDBURY

Jones, Samuel 67, Private Doolittle's
Capt. A Wheeler's Company
Parmenter, Abel
70, Private Brewer's

EAST SUDBURY

Rice, Edmund 69, Private Brewer's,
Capt. J. Russell's Company
Rice, Nathaniel
75, Private, Nixon's Company"

Thank you, Natalie. Your "pencilled note" conjures images of star-spangled flags waving gently in a sun-dappled June breeze, bands playing on Boston Common, and old men, bent but proud, marching down Beacon St. toward Louisburg Square while their ladies, in long silk and satin dresses, cheer them onward.

In response to a question in the last issue from Mr. Joseph Neff, Mrs. Eaton also has information on the early Howe family, which goes down as far as Eliphalet How, born 23 March 1761, the son of Col. Ezekiel Howe and Bathsheba (Stone) Howe, who were married on 19 Jan., 1743/44. Eliphalet How (wife's name unknown) had 5 children: Johnathan, Sally, David, Phebe and Thankful. Mrs. Eaton does not give birth dates for these children, but wonders if this Johnathan Howe could be the one Mr. Neff was asking about. If you are interested, Mr. Neff, please write to Mrs. Eaton directly, and she will send you the rest of her information.

* * *

Mr. and Mrs. Chester Carlton (Chet and Marge), of 32512 Bertram Dr., Westland, Michigan 48185, are looking for the roots of his great-grandmother, Elizabeth "Betsy" Rice, b.prb. in Kingsville, Ashtabula County, Ohio. She married Chauncey Tinker in 1818, and d.prb. in 1831, after bearing Chet's grandmother. The Carltons have searched graveyards, Town records and libraries, including the Latter Day Saints.

In the Kingsville Cemetery they found Samuel Rice, 1772-1853, and his wife, Corinna, d.1851. In Mantua Center, Portage County, Ohio, they found Cyrus Rice, 1757-1832, and his wife, Abigail, 1752-1831.

Marge asks, "How could a woman live in an area, marry and have her family there---and no one know of her"? My answer is that it was easy, then - record keeping was poor, and women weren't considered important; to some, at least, they were less important than a man's favorite horse, for instance.

Unfortunately, Marge, although there are a lot of Samuel Rices in our records, there is none that matches your Samuel's dates or place of death. However, there is in the Register one Cyrus Rice, Jr. (Generation VI: 4-32-120-724.4) b. 10 Aug. 1759, in Barre, Mass., m. Abigail Rice. The family lived in Conway, Mass. and had 3 sons and 5 daughters.

One of these sons, William King Rice, (17?-1839) moved to Portage County, Ohio, where his children were born, including one son, Horace (1829-1915). Here his parents (Cyrus and Abigail) might have joined him in their old age. Cyrus and Abigail's other two sons were named Roswell and Jeremiah, born 1786 and 1787 resp., and their daughters were Sophia, Philana, Beulah, Fidelia and Cynthia (no Elizabeth listed). This may identify your Cyrus, but admittedly is not of much help in finding "Betsy's" parents. Does anyone have any more information on this family?

Shortly before press time, letters arrived from Mrs. Geraldine Winczner of Beulah, Michigan, and Mrs. Mary Austin of Naples, Texas, inquiring about membership in the Edmund Rice (1638) Association. Cousins Geraldine and Mary, I am forwarding your letters to our membership chairman, William Drury, and sending you complimentary copies of this newsletter. The answers to most of your questions can be found on other pages. Incidentally, Mary, Jonas Rice was the son of Thomas Rice, and the GRANDson of Edmund.

* * *

Marlea Rice Warren (Mrs. Richard E. Warren) of 8015 W. 26th St., Minneapolis, MN 55426, asks:

"I am searching for information about my great-great-grandparents, Silas and Debra Rice who went to Bradford Co., Pa, about 1830, we believe from Northern Ireland. Their children were Jackson, Nathaniel, William, Welcome, Mary, Orson, and my great grandfather, Almiram Herrick Rice. Silas had a brother, name unknown, with a wife, Nancy, born in Conn., and children Mary Ann, Trissa and George. If any member of the Edmund Rice family comes upon my Rices, I would appreciate being notified. Thank you for your help."

* * *

Dear Cousins,

As you will see from the dates in some of these articles, this is not a "NEWS" letter, but rather a "catch-up" letter. Much of what is in this issue was received when there was too little time or space to use it immediately; your scribe's lack of expertise is to blame for most of the delays.

Having apologized, let me assure all of you readers that whatever you send for publication WILL be published eventually, and hopefully more promptly in the future. The next issue will be devoted mainly to the events of the Annual Meeting, plus whatever news you readers send to us.

EDMUND

RICE (1638) ASSOCIATION

Organized
1851

Incorporated
1933

NEWSLETTER



Seaver Rice

(see page 5.)

FALL, 1985

EDMUND RICE (1638) ASSOCIATION

Corinne M. Snow, editor

47 Sunset Drive

Delmar, NY 12054

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED