

OFFICERS

1988-1989

President's Page;

August, 1989

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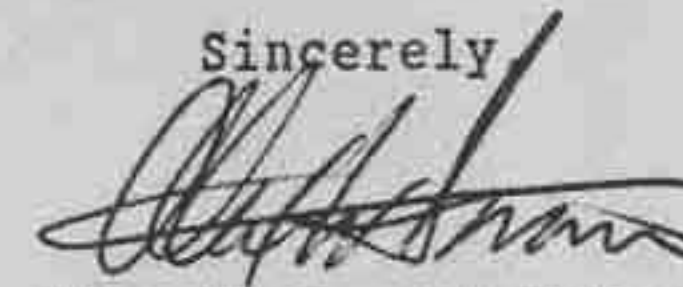
Dear Cousins,

It has been a busy Spring and Summer for many of us, and now, as you will see elsewhere in this issue, plans for the Annual Meeting and Reunion are being finalized. Thanks to one of our members an announcement of the Reunion was published in NEXUS, a genealogy magazine, and every day our mailbox has contained inquiries based on this announcement.

Fifteen of these correspondents have already become members, and many of them plan to attend the reunion. We welcome all of them, and urge the rest of you to make a special effort to come and meet them. Who knows what new and interesting information they will bring with them! They are certainly hoping to get new information from us.

Mainly, though, it will be a time for enjoyment, of meeting new people with similar interests, and renewing old friendships. So, we are looking forward to a great day in Amesbury, and to getting better acquainted with you all.

Sincerely



Alex Snow, president



*The
Annual
Meeting,
1989:*

Saturday, September 16,

at

Cousin Margaret Rice's,

Lion's Mouth Road,

Amesbury, Massachusetts.

Those of you who have been to Cousin Margaret's know what a delightful place it is for a "family picnic", and those who have not yet been there are in for a treat.

The day begins at 9:30 A.M., with registration and a social time, including coffee, finger-foods, such as doughnuts, and opportunity to meet and greet old friends and new ones.

The Directors meet during the morning, and after their meeting comes luncheon at noon. (\$10.00 per person) We hope the weather is good this year, so that we may eat out-doors!

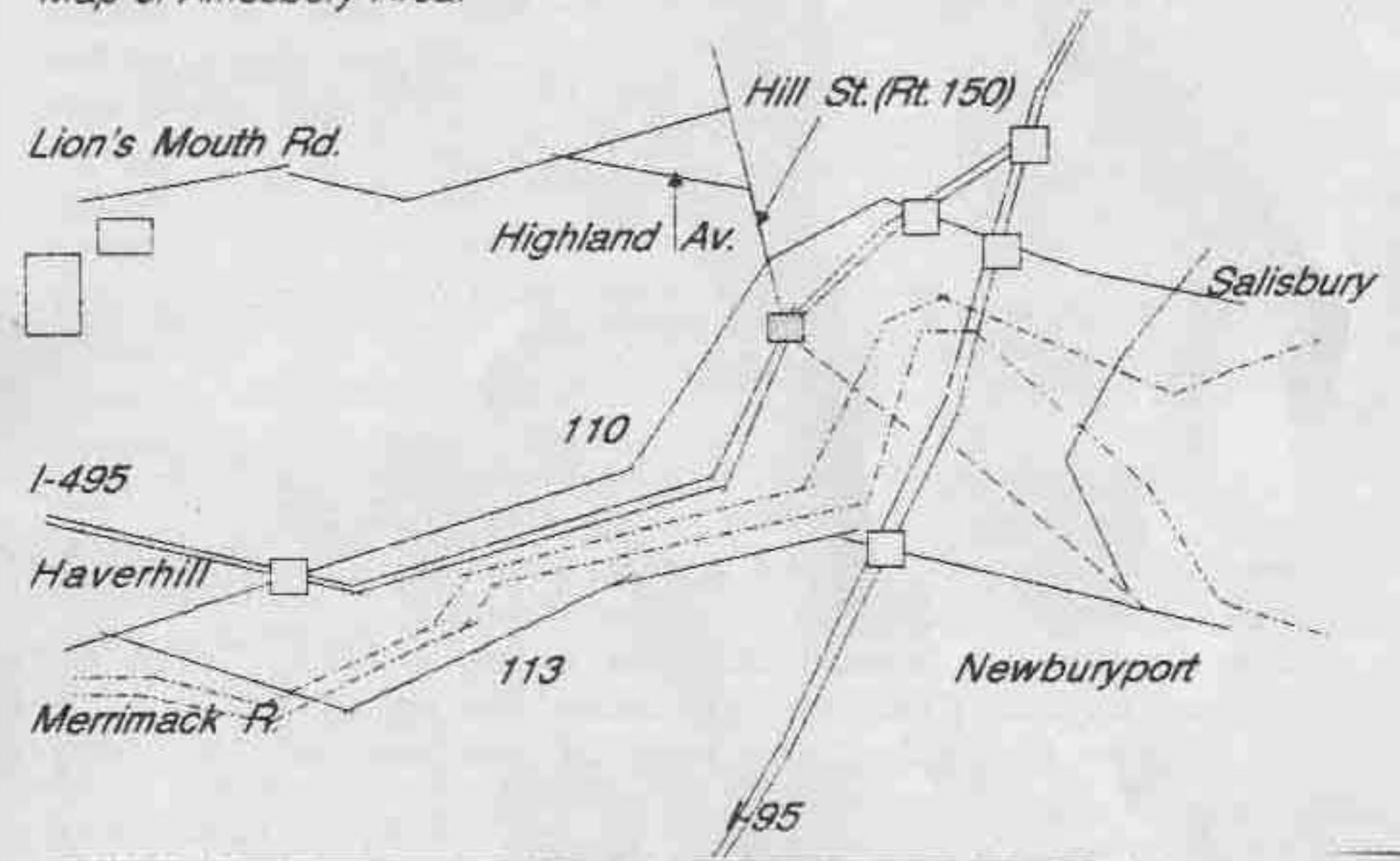
A short business meeting will begin at 1:30, and then Cousin Margaret will tell us something about the fascinating carriages which are stored in her barn. There will also be an opportunity to ask and answer questions regarding our common ancestors. (See editorial) So come prepared with questions and/or answers, as well as Rice family anecdotes to share.

Annual Reunion, 1989. cont.

Directions to Margaret Rice's on Lion's Mouth Road:

From I-495: Take Amesbury Exit and go north on Rte.150, crossing Rte. 110 (pass a cemetery, a landfill, and into a street with big Victorian houses). Look for street sign for Highland Ave. on the left, and turn into it. This brings you onto Lion's Mouth Road. Turn left here, also, keep going to the first large white house on left.

Map of Amesbury Area:



Please:

fill out the other side of this card,
clip on dotted line and send it with your check
before Sept. 1, 1989, to:

Miss Margaret Rice
Lion's Mouth Road
Amesbury, MA 01913

Thank you.

This is planned as a one-day meeting. Some of us, however, are coming a long way, and will need a place to stay on Friday and/or Saturday night.

Some suggestions are:

Salisbury:

Susse Chalet: I-95 and rte.110. (508)388-3400 \$40-\$8

Newburyport:

** Essex Street 5 Essex St. (508)465-3148. \$65-\$90

** Garrison 11 Brown Sq. (508)465-0910. \$65-120

** Morrill Place 209 High St. (508)462-2808 \$55-\$70

Haverhill:

** Howard Johnson's I-495 exit 49, at jct 110 and 113.
(508)373-1511. \$54-\$80.

Price range: lowest cost single to highest double.

** the rating in the Mobil Travel Guide.

The places in Newburyport are historical inns; some shared baths, and no elevators to upper floors.

Susse Chalet and Howard Johnson's are modern, large motels. Your scribe and Alex and at least one more family plan to stay at the Susse Chalet; some of you may want to join us there.

EDMUND RICE (1638) ASSOCIATION
1989 Annual Reunion

RESERVATION BLANK

____ Yes, I/we will be coming to the Annual Rice Reunion

September 16, 1989. There will be (#) _____ of us.

Enclosed is my check for _____
(\$10.00 times number in group)

Name _____

Address _____

Stories

Mike King (one of our Canadian cousins) has sent us some pictures of Vermont history.

The Congregational Church at Westford, Vt. (right) was founded in 1801.

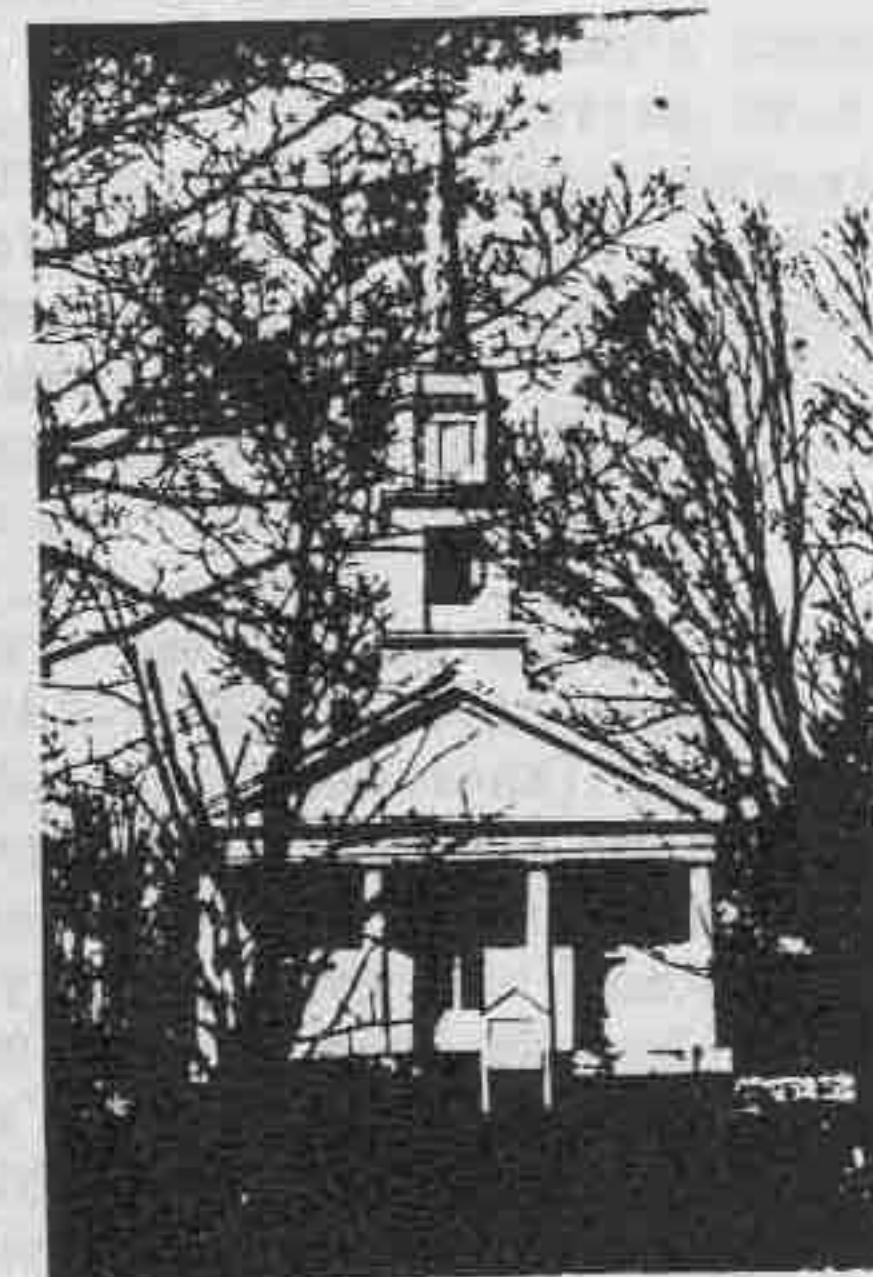
In 1800 one Samuel Rice (1773-1848; desc. thru Thomas, James, Jotham, Jotham, Jr.) moved from Barre, Mass. to Westford and married Electa Powell there on Dec. 27, 1800.

Electa's father, Martin Powell, was a Lieutenant in the Continental Army and a delegate to the Constitutional Convention of the Republic of Vermont. He became a life-long member of the church, as did Samuel Rice and his family. Probably both men were active in the founding of the church.

Samuel and Electa Rice lived in a homestead (right) built by her father. They raised eleven children there, and one, Martin Powell Rice, was a deacon of the church for many years.

The last Rice family to live in the homestead was

that of Archie Benton Rice, who was born there in 1887 and died there in 1980.



Thank you, Mike, for this bit of Americana, typical of Vermont, and also typical of many Rice families.

Stories, cont.

Another story comes from Cheryl Damon, whose husband, John C. Damon, Jr. is a Rice descendant. The story is about Thomas Damon, who married Abigail Rice¹⁴¹, daughter of Isaac⁴³, only son of Mathew⁵. It is repeated here almost exactly as it was received.

CAPT. THOMAS DAMON was born in Reading, Mass., on Christmas Day, Dec. 25, 1703, the ninth child of Thomas and Lucy Ann (Emerson) Damon. An older brother of the same name died the spring before his birth.

Thomas was about twenty years of age when his father died, and he left Reading shortly thereafter. He was in Charlestown the following winter, but soon bought a farm at Uxbridge, or Mendon. This land was mostly uncleared, but he took up residence there entirely alone, and began to clear and cultivate it.

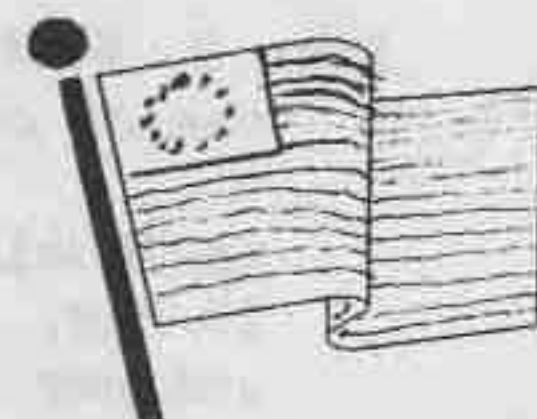
He soon became tired of this kind of life, sold his farm, moved back to Charlestown and married, at Woburn on Feb. 5, 1729/30, Abigail Rice, a great-granddaughter of Edmund Rice, one of the original settlers of that part of Sudbury which is now Wayland. The couple lived in Charlestown, and Thomas joined a friend in the currier business. As this did not prove lucrative, he moved to Sudbury and settled upon land which his wife had inherited from her father. The Damons had six children between 1729 and 1743. Three of them, Isaac, Thomas Jr. and William were Revolutionary soldiers and are buried near their parents in North Cemetery.

In 1757, at age 53, Thomas was Captain of the alarm list of Sudbury militia which responded to the Fort William Henry alarm of August, 1757, by mustering and marching westward. They had reached Springfield when they were ordered to return home because the threat from Montcalm's army had dissipated.

Capt. Thomas returned to Reading at some time prior to 1773. In that year he was in the "Reading Training Band". On April 19, 1775, he was a 71-year-old private in Capt. John Walton's Reading militia company, Col. David Green's Regt. This unit responded quickly to the Lexington-Concord alarm and arrived at Merriam's Corner in time to join the fight against the retreating British Troops.

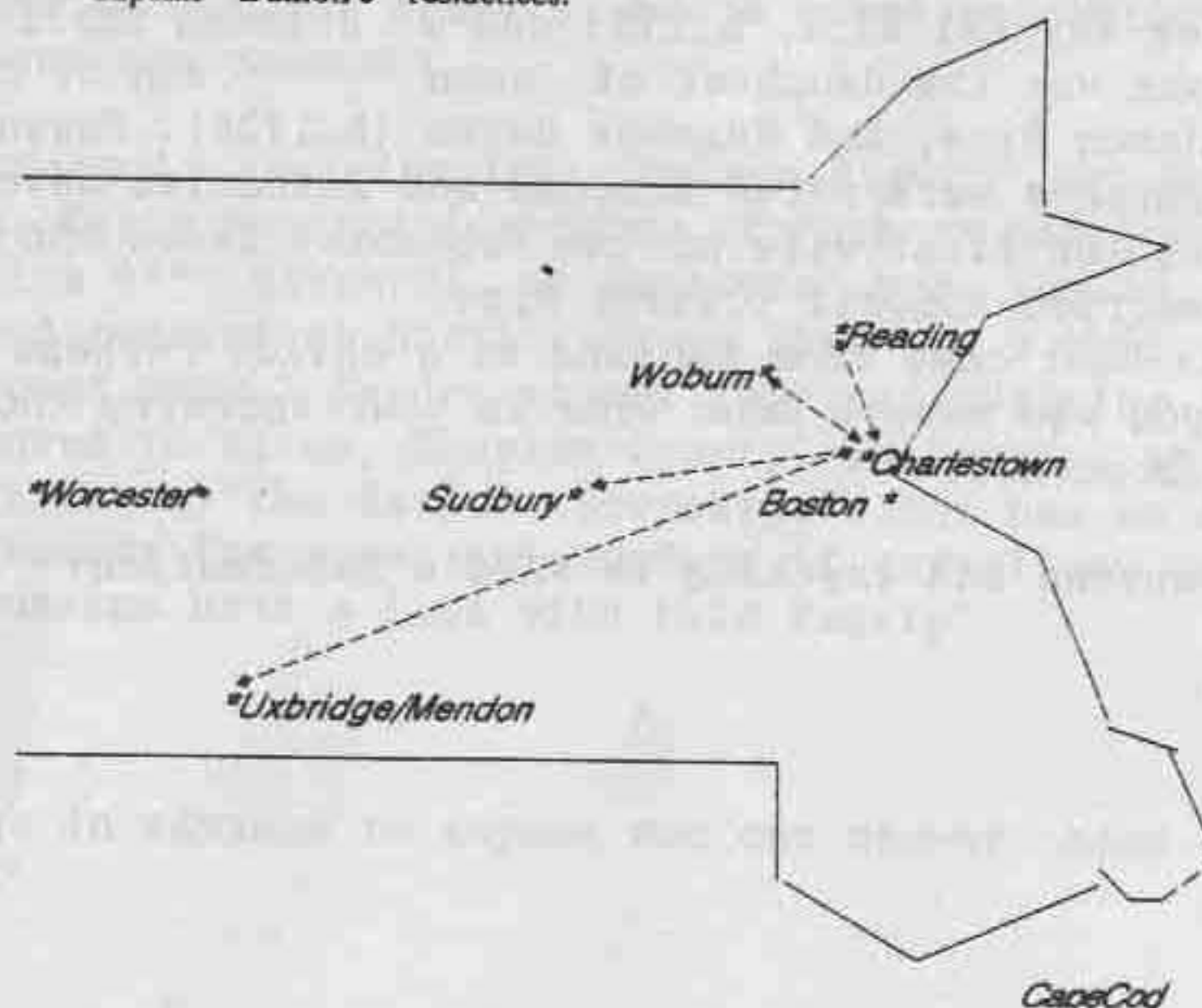
By 1778 Capt. Thomas was again in Sudbury, listed on the muster roll of Capt. Isaac Cutting's militia company, and was awarded £20 for his services in the war. He lived at that time on what is now Commonwealth Ave., at the intersection with Oak St. He was said to be a man of great courage and good natural abilities, and was never sick until his last sickness, which began at the end of his 92nd year.

He died on March 6, 1796. His widow, after 67 years of marriage, lived on until 1806, when she passed away at age 96. She had resided nearly all her life in one neighborhood, and died within half a mile of the spot where she was born.



* * *

Captain Damon's residences:



Queries

Queries are published in the next (usually) Newsletter after being received, and the full address of the questioner is given. We hope that at least one of our cousins may have an answer - if you do, please correspond with the questioner directly.

Lynn S. Watts, (Mrs. H.C.Watts, 18 Byard Lane,
one of our new members, Westborough, MA 01481)

is looking for information on Abigail Rice, born 10 May, 1753. Her mother's name was Susanna Haven, and her husband's, Solomon Snell.

Cousin Lynn also wants to know more about Abigail Clark, who was the wife of Jason Rice, and about Agnes Bent, wife of Edward Rice.

A partial answer can be found in Ward and its Supplement:

The Jason ⁸⁵ Rice in question is the son of Edmund ²³, son of Edward ³. He married Abigail Clark in 1722, had three children by her, and died in 1729/30.

Abigail married 2nd, in 1741, Nathaniel Haven.

As for Abigail Rice, b.1753 and m. Solomon Snell in 1772, she was the daughter of Jason (²⁰²), son of the above Jason Rice, and Susanna Haven (b.1726). Susanna's parents were Sarah Bridges and Nathaniel Haven, son by the first wife of the Nathaniel Haven who later married Abigail (Clark) Rice.

Agnes Bent came from England as a child. Perhaps some of you who have a Bent line in your ancestry know more about her.

Can anyone add anything to Ward's information?

Joseph B. Comstock, Jr.

(650 W. Harrison Ave.
Claremont, CA 91711)

has another Abigail, but he is looking for her descendants. Cousin Joe would like to correspond with any descendants of Zebulon and Abigail (Forbush, Forbes) Rice.

and

Sandra McMeekin Hewlett

(26 Fariston Road,
Wayne, PA 19087)

one of our new members, has a query referring to a Canadian emigrant.

According to Ward, (pg.185) "Calvin Rice⁴⁸⁰, of Northboro' m. Betty Maynard [daughter of Phineas and Dorothy Rice ³³⁵ Maynard], of Westboro' pub. Aug. 6, 1779, and resided at North., where they had 3 chil. and moved away." Sandra states that ca. 1799 the family moved to Eaton, Compton County, in Canada, an area known as "the Eastern Townships". She has no death records for them, and wonders if any of our Canadian cousins have a link with this family?

* * *

Thanks in advance to anyone who can answer these queries.

Scribbles from your Scribe

August, 1989

Dear Cousins;

Some words about the passage of time.

As dwellers in the twentieth century, we have grown accustomed to the fact of change as the ultimate reality. Like the weather in Vermont, "If you don't like it, wait a minute", the circumstances of our lives are constantly changing. Not only do changes occur from generation to generation, or from one stage of life to another, but they are noticeable from decade to decade, and from one year to the next.

Many look back upon "the old days" as times of stability, times when the sunrise was not the only thing you could be certain of for tomorrow. Those of us who "collect ancestors", especially Rice ancestors but others also, know that this concept is not entirely true. Trying to follow an ancestor who was born in Massachusetts, married in Vermont or New Hampshire, then moved to New York State and stayed long enough to have children die and be buried there but moved on to somewhere else is like trying to swat a mosquito in the dark. Even if the ancestor in question died in New York State, it is the surviving children, not the babies in the cemetery, who moved on to reappear in Ohio, Michigan, Nebraska and elsewhere. How to link these with their parents is the big question.

Often these changes took place so rapidly that the family never settled down to be counted in a census year. This complicates the problem, but is mentioned here only



as an example to show that in some ways rapid change is not peculiar to the twentieth century.

Time is like a moving path, carrying people along one portion of a huge, colorful, panoramic tapestry which represents the history of the human race. Each of the people participates in the embroidering of the tapestry and often one becomes so immersed in the detail that he doesn't see the picture at all. Genealogy, especially if we collect anecdotes as well as statistics, gives us the advantage of being able, at times, to stand back and see at least a large portion of the picture. We see older generations gradually being replaced by younger generations, and we see the picture change, sometimes subtly, sometimes dramatically, as new people go to work on it. In some ways we can see better than others exactly how our own lives fit into the larger picture.

The rapid changes of the twentieth century have occurred mainly in transportation and communication. Without the computer pictured on the previous page, this Newsletter would not be what it is, for better or for worse. Airplanes have replaced feet, horses, mules and railroad trains for traveling long distances quickly. The automobile and the Federal Highway System make private transportation a relatively simple undertaking.

Less than 100 years ago my great-great-grandmother, Eliza (Millis) Rice, wrote in her diary in Vermont, "Duane has been gone [to Baltimore, Md.] for 32 years, and hasn't been back to visit once". In the same diary is a newspaper clipping telling of the visit to Vermont of the son of a dear friend, a man who had gone off to Montana immediately after the Civil War and was just then (1892) returning east to visit his mother. This was a newsworthy event!

The important things, however, concern for family, friends and neighbors, do not change. The ability to communicate and to visit with others far away has made it possible to show this concern and act on it. And this is the primary reason for this Newsletter, and for the Rice Reunion which is coming up next month.

Our "extended family" is proud of its heritage, and happy to come together to strengthen the ties of friendship and family. Many have expressed a wish to know more about the origins of this Edmund Rice Family. At the reunion we hope to have a discussion period during which anyone may ask questions, and anyone who has any answers may give them. The discussion will be moderated so that it doesn't turn into bedlam, but it will be free and open to everyone. So brush up on your information and family anecdotes, or get your questions organized, and come along and have a great time!

Hope to see many of you there!

Your Scribe,

Mickey

Book List

- THE RICE FAMILY: by Andrew Henshaw Ward (1858)
379 pages. \$20.00 plus \$2.50 handling.
INDEX (computer printout, 34 pp.) \$4.00 postpaid
- SUPPLEMENT to THE RICE FAMILY: (1967) (soft cover)
110 pages. \$3.50 plus \$1.00 handling.
INDEX (computer printout, 18 pp.) \$2.50 postpaid
BOTH INDEXES TOGETHER: \$5.00 postpaid
- A GENEALOGICAL REGISTER of RICE DESCENDANTS: (1970)
1594 pages. \$25.00 plus \$2.50 handling.
- SUPPLEMENT #2, Part 1. (1983)
224 pages. \$12.50 plus \$2.50 handling.
SUPPLEMENT #2, Part 2. (1987)
663 pages. \$30.00 plus \$2.50 handling.
- EDMUND RICE & HIS FAMILY: (1938) Elsie Hawes Smith
WE SOUGHT THE WILDERNESS: (1949) Rev. Clayton Rice
357 pages. \$17.00 plus \$2.50 handling.
- MORE ABOUT THOSE RICES: (1954) Elsie Hawes Smith
109 pages. \$3.50 plus \$1.00 handling.

ORDER BLANK

<u>Book</u>	<u>Price</u>	<u>No. Copies</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Ward's THE RICE FAMILY:	\$22.50	_____	_____
Ward's SUPPLEMENT:	\$4.50	_____	_____
INDEXES:	\$5.00	_____	_____
"The" REGISTER:	\$27.50	_____	_____
SUPPLEMENT #2, Part 1:	\$15.00	_____	_____
SUPPLEMENT #2, Part 2:	\$32.50	_____	_____
EDMUND RICE & HIS FAMILY)			
WE SOUGHT THE WILDERNESS):	\$19.50	_____	_____
MORE ABOUT THOSE RICES:	\$4.50	_____	_____

Total: _____

Books. cont.

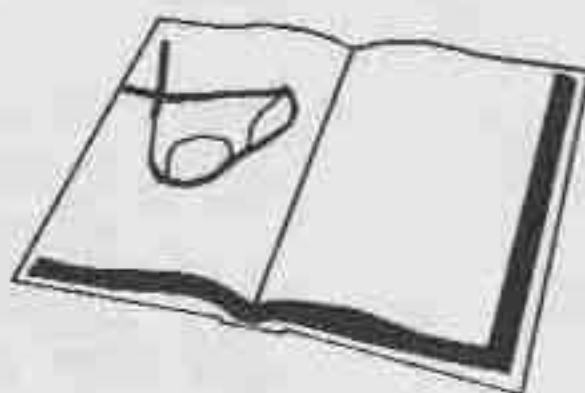
Because so many of you have recently asked about Edmund Rice himself and the first few generations, we shall use this space to discuss the books which contain the desired information. Ward's original book is the basis for all subsequent information, and is essential as a "starter" book for all Edmund Rice descendants. It is not complete, however, especially in the third and fourth generations, when some people had moved too far away from Marlborough for Ward to find them. The paper-back "Supplement" fills in many of these gaps.

This Supplement is necessary to fill in many similar gaps in the 1968 *Register* also, but the latter book follows the families well for a century after Ward's book stops. All three books, then, are needed by anyone looking for a proven link between his own recent genealogy and the Edmund Rice family.

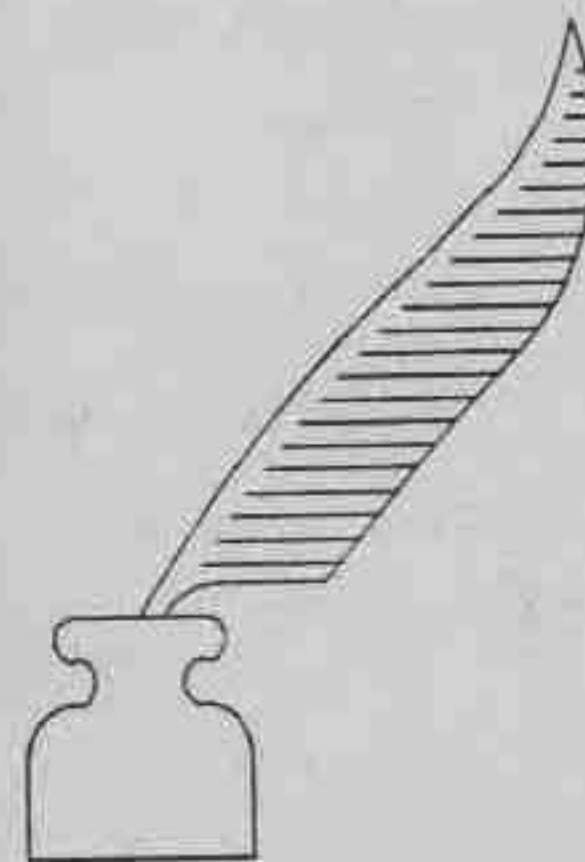
For those who cannot find their "missing link" here, *Supplement 2 Part 1* has new information about the earlier generations. In addition, local histories of Towns, written in the nineteenth century, usually include genealogies of the inhabitants. (Twentieth century histories don't, usually, probably because of the increased mobility of the population and consequent complexity.) If you know where your ancestor lived, your local librarian may be able to find an appropriate history for you, if one exists.

ORDER BLANK

All of the Genealogy books are available to Association members from the Association, and may be purchased at the Annual Meeting. To order books, please fill out the other side of this blank, clip and send, with your check for the total, to:



William H. Drury, Book Custodian
EDMUND RICE (1638) ASSOCIATION
24 Buckman Drive,
Chelmsford, MA 01824 (over)

Introducing---

This summer we have had the delightful experience of having so many people phone or write for information about the Rice Association that we have been almost overwhelmed. It is rather like diving into an ocean wave - you feel the water engulf you, you stroke hard, and suddenly your head breaks out into the air and the wave has passed.

This wave consisted of at least sixteen inquiries about the Association in the space of two weeks. All of them were answered, and all will receive copies of this issue of the Newsletter. Moreover, nearly all have responded to our letters and we now have fifteen new members.

The new members are:

John Sherman Bates,
of Ashland, N.H.

Charles C. Jamison,
of Newtown Square, Penn.

James and Sara Blondin,
and their son, Christian,
of Bedford, Mass.

Charles C. Lockwood,
of Dover, Mass.

Phyllis Chilman,
of San Diego, Cal.

Dottie Marshall,
of Omaha, Neb.

Leila Eldridge D'Aiutolo,
of Ridgewood, N.J.

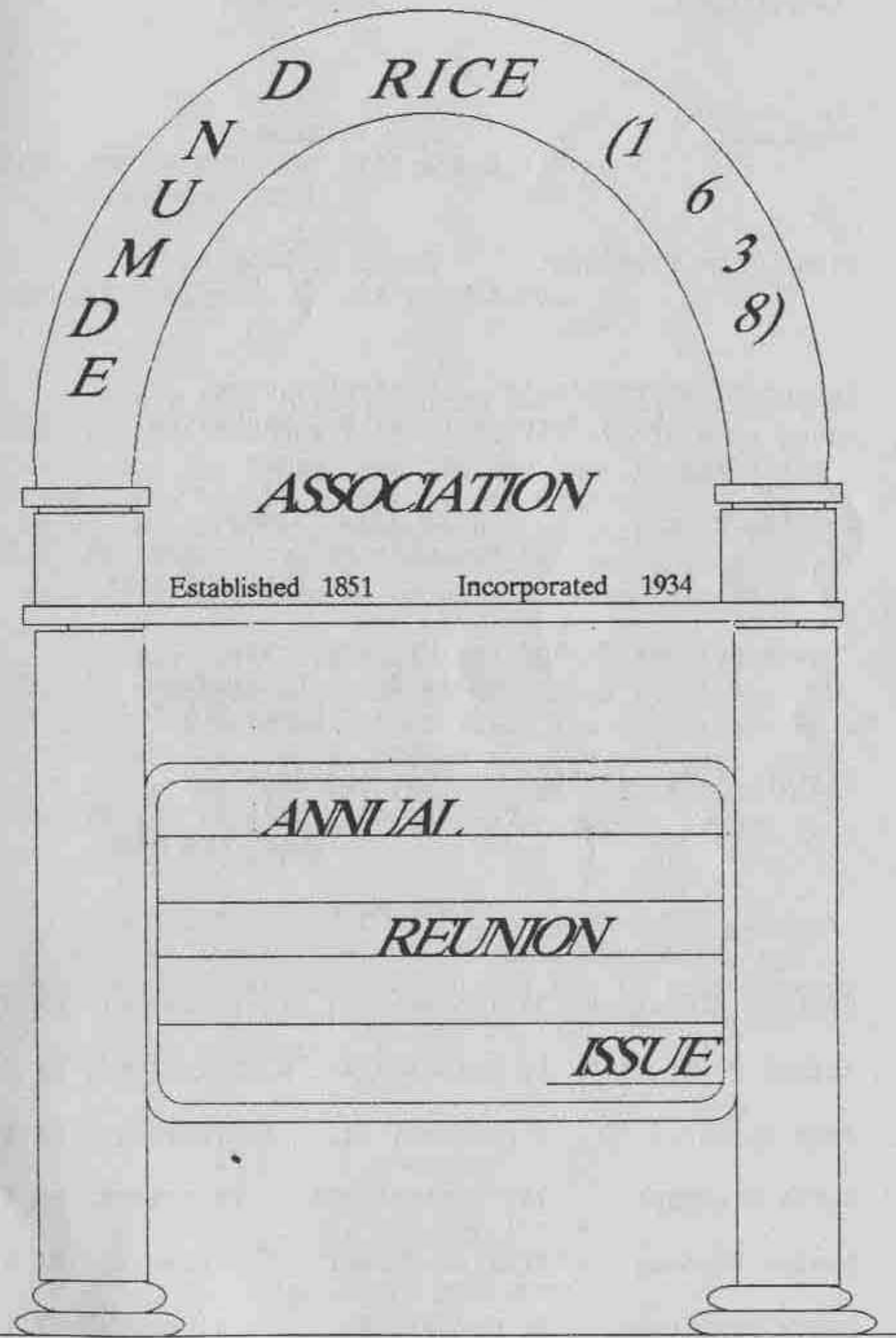
Peter S. Meigs,
of Danville, N.H.

Sandra M. Hewlett,
of Wayne, Penn.

Bergetta Monroe,
of Burnsville, Minn.

(cont.)

NEWSLETTER
EDMUND RICE (1638) ASSOCIATION
P.O. Box 151
West Dover, VT 05356



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Corinne M. Snow, Editor