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Autumn, 1993

Rice Newsletter

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PRESIDENT'S PAGE

Dear Rice Cousins,

Reading over the Summer issue of the Rice Newsletter and, in particular, our former president's page, I was impressed by John's message. John's message is not only to be persistent in our endeavors and use our talent well, but also to "press on" in whatever we are doing. This is what I will try to do in this coming year of the 400th anniversary of the birth of Edmund Rice.

Being married to the editor of the Rice Newsletter, I really know what "pressing on" means, for it takes much effort to sort through all the mail she receives and determine what to use and how to fit it into the eighteen pages of the Newsletter. It is a good feeling to see the job all finished and ready to mail. That is John's "persistence" in seeing a job carried through to the end and making sure it is done right to the best of one's ability.

That is one reason why I have taken the president's job for the coming year. Having seen the work that my wife does to get out each edition of the Newsletter, her "press on" attitude rubs off on me. I welcome this challenge and look forward to a fine year for all of our members.

For all those who plan to go on the 400th anniversary trip to England, please get your reservations in as soon as possible.

So press on for the future of all;

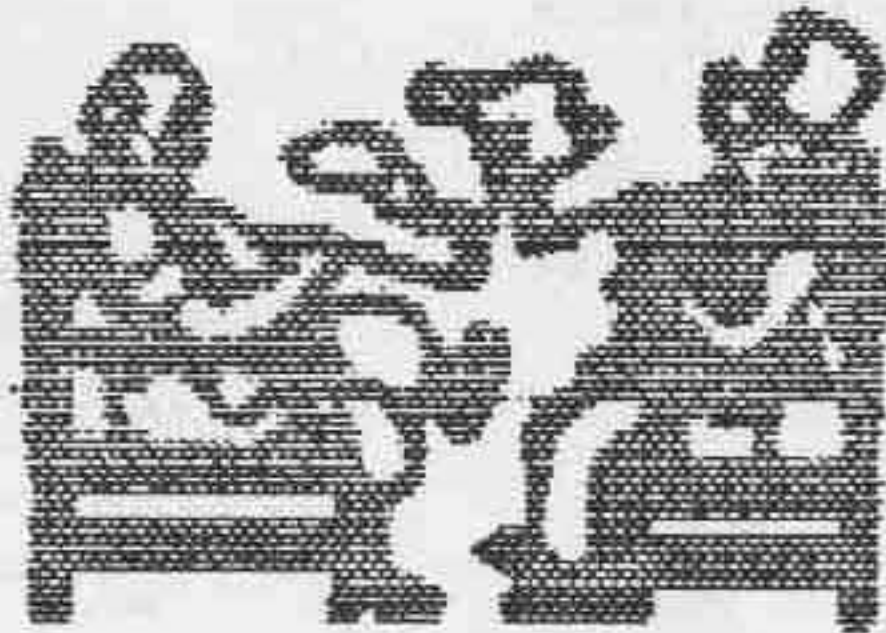


THE 1993 ANNUAL REUNION:

The 1993 Annual Meeting and Reunion was held on Saturday, September 18, 1993, at the Fitzwilliam Inn, Fitzwilliam, N. H.

Registration began at 9:00 A.M. in the large, white-clapboarded post-and-beam building has been well maintained as an Inn since colonial times. Toward the front are several "small" rooms, in one of which coffee and delicious muffins baked on the premises were served. A hall led past the bar, which was probably used as such and called the "pump room" when the Inn was new, to the public dining room, and through that to a commodious banquet room where our luncheon was served and the only formal part of our meeting was held.

During the entire morning we had the use of the entire space, and many delightful opportunities to meet friends, old and new, and talk about everything from shared lines to Edmund, the "Nova Scotia Rices", to the use of computers, E-mail and electronic bulletin boards. Right from the start the beautiful old Inn was humming with the sound of cousins greeting each other and exchanging a large amount of information.



Sitting at a table in the bar and chatting with many interesting cousins, I could almost imagine two gentlemen sitting nearby, as in the Inn's logo, above, marveling at the strange conversations they were overhearing!

ANNUAL MEETING, cont.

After a well-prepared and pleasantly served luncheon, the formal meeting was called to order at 1:45 P.M.

Gifts were presented to:

the youngest person present, Olivia Noelle Wise of Bolton, Mass.
the oldest, Margaret S. Rice of Amesbury, Mass. and
those who had traveled the farthest, Vernon and Betty Allen, friends of Gail Sirse from Leicester, England.

Members also came from as far away as Oregon and Texas, and many other parts of the country.

Reports was accepted from the various officers, and Gail Sirse was introduced and welcomed as our new corresponding secretary. The most important information from the reports is two-fold. We now have 470 members, including some 73 who have joined the Association this year. And for those of you who have not yet completed your collection, or who joined in the hope of gaining access to the information available in the Association's publications, we have plenty of copies of books, waiting to be purchased. The Book List will be found on pages 9 and 10, complete with an order blank so that you can conveniently add to your collection of Rice material.

Lastly, the slate of officers for the coming year was presented and approved by the members. The names are listed on the inside front cover of this Newsletter. Alex Snow, as incoming president, thanked John Bates for his three years of service, which included organizing several working committees and launching the plans for a trip to England to celebrate the 400th anniversary of the birth of Edmund Rice.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 P.M., after which many of our members visited the Fitzwilliam Historical Society's Country Store, which remained open until 4:00 P.M. for our enjoyment. Others of us got together for a trek to Wayland and the pilgrimage to Edmund Rice's memorial. Everyone seemed to have a good time, and the meeting was, as usual, a great success.

ALL ABOARD!

Last call for reservations (and deposit money) for the trip to visit the places where Edmund Rice lived nearly 400 years ago!

This is a ten-day tour, scheduled for May 18 to 28, 1994. On May 18, participants will come to Boston, and the program will begin that evening with a get-acquainted banquet in Marlborough, Mass. The next day will be spent visiting Sudbury, Mass., returning to Boston for an evening departure.

The group will arrive in London on May 20 in the morning and motor to Bury St. Edmunds, with three full days there to explore and take part in various special events, including a Memorial Service in St. Mary's Church.

On May 24 "we explore Suffolk and Berkshire on our way to London." In London there will be three full days for independent sightseeing as well as planned activities, such as the Chelsea Flower Show and a farewell dinner the evening of the 27th. Departure for Boston will be on May 28.

The deadline for reservations has been set for November 15, 1993, less than a month away. It would be appreciated if your deposit of \$250 is sent in by that date, also.

The address and phone number to contact:

REX Travel

100 N. LaSalle St. Chicago, IL 60602

1-800-777-7739

QUERIES:

Note: The queries in this column are printed in the hope that one or more of our members may have relevant information. If you have such information, please correspond with the questioner directly. Also, if your query was not published, or if you wish to try a second time, do not hesitate to send it in again.

Mr. R.W. Shore, 106 Cameron Mews, Alexandria, VA 22314
is seeking documentation and further details about a part of his "family tradition." One of his ancestors, Cornelia Rice, supposedly the daughter of one Michael Rice, married James Brooke, born in 1771, probably in Pennsylvania but possibly Ohio. James and Cornelia had a son, Joseph Brooke, who was born on 19 Nov, 1797.

June Layton, 369 Avery Rd. E. Chehalis, WA 98532
"needs parents of Tamesin Rice and husband, Joseph L. Collins. Tamesine born 20 April, 1782, where? Fourteen children born at Groton, Tompkins Co., N.Y."

Wilbur D. Raymond, 60 Washington St., Newbury, NH 03255
would like to find the ancestry of Susan Rice who married Zaccheus Mallory (b.1699) in 1722 in New Haven, Ct. "Their daughter, Violella Mallory married Comfort Raymond (1736-1817), my 3g grandfather."

Now comes a real challenge - actually a double challenge!

Sandra F. McDonald, 4302 Chesapeake Ave. Hampton, VA 23669
is looking for a link between her 3-great grandmother, Lovisa Rice, born 1798 in Brattleboro, Vt., and Edmund Rice. Lovisa married Nathaniel Powers Allen and settled in St Lawrence County, N.Y. Cousin Sandra has been told that the line is through Thomas⁴, Ephraim³², Ephraim¹¹⁹, Amos²⁶⁶, to Daniel, who may have been Lovisa's father. This line can be traced in Ward's book through Amos (pg.118), but Amos does not appear in the *Register*. *Some of his children do, however (pg 267), but no Daniel.*

Margaret Landon, HC 62 - Box 30, Londonderry, VT 05148
is also interested in this line. Her great grandmother was Emma Ann Rice, who married Cheselton Romanzo Howe. Emma's parents are supposedly Betsey (Maynard) and Ephraim Rice, Jr. Indeed, this family lived in Wardsboro, Vt. and Ephraim Jr. (*Register* pg.439) appears to be a grandson of the above mentioned Amos Rice²⁶⁶. Emma Ann Rice is not listed among the children, however. *Can anyone shed light on this mystery?*

And an ANSWER, or at least a partial answer.

Cousin Jim Holmes, 244 Flanders Rd., Westborough, MA 01581

believes he has found a clue to the identity of "William Rice's little son", the little boy in Dedham who "strayed away" - for the third time - in August, 1878, as reported in the summer issue by Cousin Howland Taft from his great grandfather's diary.

Cousin Jim has found, in the Mass. State Archives, the following information:

"BIRTHS: Frank R. Rice. Born: 8 July 1867, Dedham. Parents: William R. and Mary G.(Stedman) Rice. Occupation father: Conductor. Father born: Maine. Mother born: Medfield, Mass." (Dedham 1867 Vol.197 p.281)

and "Cyrus Eben Rice. Born: 11 Sept 1870, Dedham. Father: William R. Rice, born Waterford, Maine. Occupation: Conductor. Mother: Maria G. (Stedman) born Medfield, Mass." (Dedham 1870 Vol.224 p.307)

So far so good; we have a William Rice living in Dedham, with two sons who would have been 11 and 8 years old in 1878. Either boy could have been the runaway, "only about ten years old", noted in great grandfather Calvin Gould's diary.

In the Medfield Vital Records Cousin Jim also found "Stedman, Mary Elizabeth, born 15 April 1837, daughter of Cyrus and Mary Stedman." And then (Medfield 1858 Vol. 118 p.213) a "marriage; Stedman, Mary E. res. and born Medfield, 20. Parents: Cyrus and Mary Stedman. 1st marriage. And John W. Stewart, res. W. Roxbury, 28, periodical dealer, born Boston. Parents: John and Rhoda (Stewart) Stewart. 1st marriage. Married: 29 April, 1858, Medfield, by Rev. Andrew Bigelow, Pastor, 2nd Cong. Society."

This Mary Stedman may or may not be the same person who no less than eight years later married William R. Rice - she has the wrong middle initial, for one minor point. Cousin Jim found no further information about any of these people, and suggests a search of Maine Vital Record, Waterford especially.

So the mystery continues. If anyone has an opportunity to do detective work in Maine, we might learn some more.

Cousin Howland Taft's address, by the way, is
210 New Street, New Bern, NC 28560

ITEMS RECEIVED:

From time to time we receive and report on items from other families and sources. One of these items is a book called *The Children of Elijah*, by Mary Lou Murphy Barrett, a compilation of the ancestors and descendants of one Elijah Rice born 1771 in Glastonbury, Ct. and died 1828 in Mentz, Cayuga Co. N.Y.

This Elijah's ancestors are traced back to a John Rice, born 1624 in Stamstead, Suffolk, England, and died 1649 in Dedham, Mass. The suggestion is made that perhaps this John was a son of Edmund Rice, considering the date and the place of birth, but we have no knowledge of a son of Edmund by the name of John, and no connection to Dedham, Mass.

John had a son, Samuel, who moved to Woodstock, Mass. Samuel's son, John, in turn moved to Glastonbury, Ct., where he in turn had a son named Samuel. This second Samuel, who was born in Ashford, Ct. and died in Galstonbury, Ct. was the father of Elijah.

All of this, especially the name "Samuel", is tantalizingly close to our Edmund Rice line, but too far away to be related. The book continues with the main text of some 260 pages, a mixture of computer-generated family line charts and individual family group sheets indexing and annotating each of Elijah's descendants. There is a goodly amount of anecdotal material, which livens the text and makes it interesting. One point of interest, to us especially, is the fact that Elijah moved to and settled in New York State. Some of his children stayed there, while others moved on to Illinois and Michigan, as did so many others in the early 1800's. Perhaps some of you, whose link with Edmund is hidden somewhere in upstate New York, would find that you are linked, instead, to this family.

The book is well annotated and referenced, although the many footnotes and references to original sources make reading for information about any specific person a bit difficult. This might be overcome by familiarity with the material, but more variation in type size and style would make its use as a reference easier. This copy will remain in our collection, and may be used when indicated to try to get through "dead ends".

* * *

ITEMS RECEIVED, cont.:

From Cousin Ted Banvard we have received a copy of a quarterly newsletter, titled "Goodenow's Ghosts". Cousin Ted is also a Goodenow descendant and the corresponding secretary of the Goodenow Family Association. Any of you who are also Goodenow descendants might wish to write to Cousin Ted for further information. His address is Route 1, Box 781, Shepherdstown WV 25443.

* * *

From another old Sudbury family, the Parmenters, Cousin John Bates received the following letter, which he would like to share with you:

Dear John,

9/1/93

At our June reunion in Sudbury I read your letter of greeting from the Rices to the Parmenters present, and they were very pleased with your thoughtfulness. Recently I wrote to Glenn Wright in California, our new president, that I hoped he would reciprocate. He wrote back to me that when George Parmenter and I had recently met with you to discuss possible areas of interest and how the old families might cooperate, he wished I would convey our good wishes to the Rices in reunion this fall. We are a young organization that envy your many years of meeting together.

I think our recent meeting, John, with you, was a fortuitous occasion, that may strengthen all the possible interested original families of old Sudbury to cooperate actively in areas of mutual interest.

We hope that we can continue this dialogue in the months and years to come. Perhaps several of us can meet in Sudbury before the new year and continue our earlier summer discussion.

Read Parmenter
10 Broadway,
Suncook, N.H. 03275

NEW MEMBERS:

- Judith I. Adams, of Marshfield Hills, Mass. and
- Elizabeth L. Johnson, of Riverside, N.J.,
both daughters of one of our directors, Henry B. Adams.
- Shaun L. Kelly, of Greenwich, Conn. son of long-time member, Laura Rice Kelly.
- Richard W. Rice, of Portland, Oregon, son of member Myra M. Rice.
- Jeanette Bartholomew, of West Hartford, Conn.
- Nora G. Belfay, of Sutton, Mass.
- Robert Estabrook, of Rumney, N.H.
- Janet L. Koslouski, of Malden, Mass.
- Margaret E. Landon, of Londonderry, Vt.
- Richard F. Larkin, of Bethesda, Md.
- Sandra F. McDonald, of Hampton, Va.
- Edward M. Poe, of Titusville, Fla.
- Charles R. Rice, of Buffalo, N.Y.
- Mr. & Mrs. Clayton Rice, of Princeton, Mass.

OBITUARIES:

Notice has been received of the deaths of several of our cousins.

A year ago we reported the passing of Zelia Davis, in her 99th year. This year we must report the death of Zelia's twin sister, Zella Daily, on March 14, 1993, at McLeansboro, Ill. Zella married Paul Everett Daily on 21 May, 1911, in Blooming Grove, Ill. These venerable ladies were born on 13 October, 1893, twin daughters of James Presley Edington and Nellie (Rice) Edington. "Around Hamilton Co., Ill., these two wonderful, lively and beautiful ladies were known by one and all as 'the twins'." (Thank you, Cousin Shirley)

Edith Osborne Lea, of Fanwood, N.J. passed away on March 30, 1993. She is survived by her husband, Richard M. Lea, and her daughter, Mrs. Patricia L. Woodward, of Westfield, N.J.

Helen J. Popp, of Niagara Falls, NY, died suddenly, of a cerebral hemorrhage, on May 9, 1993. Active in church and local activities, Cousin Helen was a long-standing member of the Rice Association. She is survived by a son, Erik Popp, of Madison, Wisc.

Cousin Laura Lee Beyer has written to tell us of the death on October 31, 1992, of her daughter Linda, age 40, from a debilitating vascular disease. We do know how hard it is to lose a daughter, and we share the sorrow of your entire family.

Last but not least, we have learned indirectly of the death of Cousin Howard T. Maynard, but have no details.

We extend our sincere sympathy to the families of all of these people.

STORIES

The following interesting vignette was submitted by Cousin Margaret Smith King (104 Montclair Ct. E. Peoria IL 61611) It is presented here exactly as submitted.

JONATHAN W. RICE 1811-1865

UNDERGROUND RAILROAD

On the eleventh of January, 1811, in Marlboro, Middlesex County, Mass. a son was born to Martin and Sally Rice. Jonathan Rice came to Illinois as a young man of 26 years. He bought and improved a farm in Medina Township, Peoria County, in 1838 and soon married Sarah Dennis. They had issue two sons, Elisha, born 21 July 1843, and James, born 16 June 1845. Jonathan held many township offices during his life.

When the War of the Rebellion developed, Jonathan, being a person of Christian character, felt deeply for the plight of the Negro. He opened his house for their use as an underground railroad, risking his safety for the benefit of the slave. His son Elisha enlisted in 1861 in Co. A 47th I.V.I., forming part of the army of the Mississippi. He took part in the siege at Vicksburg and was mustered out in 1864. Jonathan was doing his part at home, but there was opposition. The Knights of the Golden Circle hoped to establish a ring of slave states around Mexico. They met on the court House square in 1864. The mayor of Peoria, Harry T. Baldwin ('65-'66) was the chairman of the assembly of Confederate sympathizers. They were later known as the Sons of Liberty. On 24 June 1865 they sought out Jonathan and hung him in a pear tree in a nearby orchard. Relatives and neighbors had participated in this awful deed, and it was with great sorrow and compassion that the family decided never to speak of it again for fear of others being hurt. They claimed it was a suicide and nothing was ever mentioned again.

Elisha was married after his father died to Elizabeth Stewart, and they had seven children, Jonathan W., born in 1869 and named for his grandfather; James Benjamin, born in 1871; Burton, born in 1874; Fred, born in 1876; Florence E., born in 1877; Sarah E., born in 1879, and Truitt.

STORIES, cont.

James Benjamin married Myra Shehan and had one daughter, Edna, who moved to Greenfield, Iowa, and married Arthur Bell of that area. They had a daughter, Clarita, who now lives in Morrison, wife of Douglas Vandermyde. She wishes to dedicate this to her descendants, PAUL-Lori-James Douglas, Aileen, SUE-Kent Graebert-Eli, Bethany Rose; KARL-Tina; LYLE.

sources: Johnson's Peoria History 1880, family members, by the printing of Peoria County Old Settlers' Association (since 1867), Sept. 12, 1992, 125 annual reunion booklet (to honor descendants of Early American settlers in the Peoria TriCentennial).

Note: Jonathan W. Rice was descended from Edmund through both of his parents. Martin's and Sally's grandfathers were brother, Nathan and Jabez Rice, grandsons of Edmund's son Joseph.

Thank you, Cousin Margaret, for this insight into an important aspect of our heritage.

* * *

One of our new members, Shaun Kelly, son of Laurie (Rice) Kelly, and a sixth grade teacher at the Greenwich (Ct.) Country Day School, has spent this summer doing research under a Fellowship for Independent Studies in Humanities. His topic was "Willa Cather and the American Prairie", and included an overview of the influence of the American Prairie on cultural and creative expression. An appropriate topic for one who shares our heritage! We congratulate Cousin Shaun and welcome him to our membership.

Last but not least, Cousin Phyllis Tyler Chilman, age 87, of 3431 Portsmouth St., Rocklin, CA 95765, has a request.

She hopes someone on the trip to England "would kindly send me a couple of color photos of that which is closely connected to our Rice ancestors. I would gladly pay cost of same and postage." Incidentally, Phyllis's husband, Arthur Chilman, is "now in a nursing home for what remains of his life."

Cousin Phyllis, we wish you the best, and trust that several people will send you photos from the trip.

COVER STORY

On the brochure you received announcing the trip to England there was a silhouette of a Rice coat of arms. Several people have commented that they believed there was a different coat of arms, in which ravens were prominent, rather than the heads of deer. I have also been informed that both coats of arms are legitimate. Leaning to the side of those who feel that Edmund's ancestry, especially any royal or noble ancestry, has not been proven, I felt that either version was equally appropriate.

Now Cousin Bill Mustatia sends us a copy of the "raven" coat of arms, which is reproduced on this issue's cover. Cousin Bill has also taken the time to copy out a description of this coat of arms, along with a translation, both of which follow.

RICE

SHIELD: Argent a chevron erminois cotised sable between three ravens of the last.

CREST: A lion rampant proper holding in the paw a bar shot sable.

MOTTO: Cadarn-yw-fy-ffydd-y-portha-duw-y-gigfrain.

REFERENCE SOURCE: Burke's General Armory

Abstracted, the explanation is:

COLORS:

OR: Means "gold", a metal of all others most brilliant and valuable. As this metal exceeds all others in value, purity and fineness, so ought the bearer to exceed all others in worth, prowess and virtue. This metal is said to betoken to the bearer wisdom, riches and an elevation of mind.

ARGENT: Means "silver", and implies purity, innocence, chastity, truth, justice and humility.

SABLE: Black occurs very generally in heraldry. However gloomy in appearance, it is not to be looked upon as implying anything despicable or base in the bearer, but representing much worthiness. This color imports wisdom, riches, prudence, honesty, constancy, veneration and piety.

When argent (silver) is combined with sable (black) it signifies the rejecting of the pleasures of this life for the study and contemplation of divine things.

COVER STORY, cont.

FIGURES:

CHEVRON: A figure formed by two strips extending upwards from the *dexter* and *sinister* base to the *honor point*, and is intended to represent the rafters of a house. As such it implies that the bearer has accomplished some business of moment, assimilated to the completion of buildings by covering them with a roof. By others it is said to represent a saddle, symbol of a mounted man of chivalrous and brave character.

DEXTER: The right side of the shield from the position of the bearer.

SINISTER: The left side of the shield from the position of the bearer.

ERMINE: A variation of ermine that is OR (gold or yellow) with its spots of sable (black).

COTISED: The honorable ordinaries are often accompanied by their diminutives on either side. This is called "cotised".

RAVEN: The raven is said to be symbolic of one who has been successful in his life pursuits in spite of the fact that he inherited very little from his forebears.

LION: Ranked first among beasts as the most noble and heroic, the lion is an emblem of strength, courage and generosity.

RAMPANT: Means standing erect on the hind feet ready for combat, and is the most estimable of all positions.

PROPER: A plant, bird or animal shown in its natural color instead of the various colors, metals or furs of heraldry.

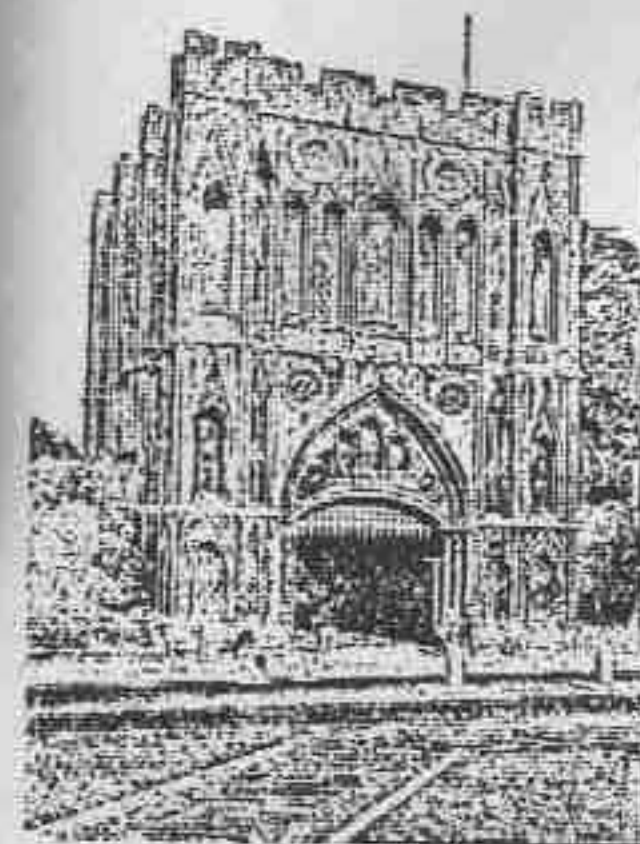
MOTTO: The name RICE is Welsh, and because of the difference in the way Welsh was spoken hundreds of years ago and the way it is spoken now, "NO" true translation is possible.

Many thanks to Cousin Bill Mustatia, and we hope you enjoyed this little excursion into the days of chivalry and heraldry.

POST SCRIPT

Elsewhere in this issue (page 6) is a reminder that those of you who plan to help celebrate Edmund Rice's 400th birthday in England should hasten to send in your reservation and deposit.

Here we have a picture of St. Mary's Church, where Edmund and Thomasine were married, and where the memorial service will be held. We hope you all enjoy the trip greatly, do do send us some photos too! (see page 16)



BURY
ST. EDMUNDS

Scene of a King, Cradle of the Law

Bury St. Edmunds has been a resort town since the signing of the *magna carta*, and it is still relatively unspoiled despite modern tourism.

Daniel Defoe said, "It is a town famed for its pleasant situation and wholesome air, the Montpelier of Suffolk and perhaps of England."

Enjoy!

A REMINDER; ADDRESSES for KEEPING in TOUCH:

Communications regarding dues, membership and book purchases:
William H. Drury, 24 Buckman Dr. Chelmsford, MA 01824

Material for the Newsletter and genealogical information:
Corinne M. Snow, P.O. Box 440, West Dover, VT 05356

For the 400th Birthday Tour:
REX Travel, 100 N. LaSalle St. Chicago, IL 60602

All other correspondence:
Gail M. Sirse, 45569 Russia Road, Oberlin, OH 44074

Affectionately,

Mickey

Edmund Rice (1638) Association

ESTABLISHED 1851

INCORPORATED 1934



Newsletter

Volume 59 #4 Autumn, 1993

Corinne M. Snow, editor

NEWSLETTER

EDMUND RICE (1638) ASSOCIATION

P.O. Box 440

West Dover, VT 05356