Seaver M. Rice, Southbridge, MA
Henry E. Rice, Jr., Framingham, MA
C. Whiting Rice, Jr., Sheldonville, MA

President's Message

At the annual meeting of the Association in September 1980, it was voted to establish two committees. The Finance Committee consists of the President, Treasurer and two people appointed by the President. Eugene Trudeau and C. Whiting Rice have accepted appointments with the latter agreeing to chair the group. The Publications Committee consists of the News Letter Editor, Historian, Book Custodian, Treasurer and two people appointed by the President. Stanley Rice and Marjorie Field have agreed to serve on the Committee under the chairing of Margaret Rice.

A meeting of the Board of Directors was held March 8 to solidify plans for the Annual reunion. The meeting will be Saturday, September 26 at the Chelmsford Center Unitarian Church with a sit-down luncheon and a speaker who promises to be very interesting. Details will be sent out about September 1st. Several members who come a distance to our reunions have expressed an interest in information about accommodations and things to do in the area in order that they can make a weekend of it. The greater Lowell area is rich in unique history and includes the Lowell Urban National Park as well as a Massachusetts Urban Park, which offers several free tours and shows. We will make every effort to include as much information as possible in the September mailing.

Have a safe carefree summer and come to the reunion in the Fall.

William H. Drury, President

Editor's Note

Our members have again come through with some most interesting articles and valuable information for this issue for which I am most grateful. Keep the mail coming!

I have found the hours of the day not always long enough to do all the things one might like to do during the past few months. On the personal side, I became a grandmother for the first time! Son, James Howard Trudeau and Debra Austin Trudeau became the parents of a daughter, Sarah Marie Trudeau on 20 February 1981. That was an experience in itself!

Then when I got back to the news letter considerable time was spent trying to update our mailing list. Our "cousins" do move around and sometimes the P.O. can't always keep up with them either! If you know of any of our members who are not receiving their news letters please let us know their new address. If you have a winter and a summer address give both and the dates.

Our association president has been very helpful in supplying our computer labels for us but the computer can only produce what is given to us by YOU. If we have made mistakes please let us know that too. Correctness is a necessity in genealogical work.

Louise Rice Trudeau
Our Members Write...

"My DAR Chapter (Chicago Chapter) is placing an ancestor page in either the March or April issue of the DAR magazine - so ITHAMAR RICE will be listed."
Nancy E. Postma
Chicago, Illinois

"I have traced my lineage from Edmund Rice via his third son. Records show our family moved from Sudbury to Vermont, to New York and then to Michigan in 1833."
Herbert H. Rice
Byron Center, Michigan

"The Rice Family!!! There are many of us who have lived thousands of miles from Massachusetts. How would you love to attend the annual reunions? However, our only contact is through the News Letter."
Margie Rice Hazen
Jacksonville, Florida

"My grandparents were Asa F. Rice and Almira Richardson Davis on page 334 in the Ward Book. The reunions are always nice and a pleasure to see other members of the Edmund Rice family."
Lillian E. Doe
West Boylston, Massachusetts

"My cousin, Mrs. Doris Rice Barb of El Dorado, Kansas (author of poem “Time” used in the last newsletter) is a retired school teacher with 40 years service in the elementary grades of various Kansas schools. She is very active in her church and in a number of other organizations including AAUW, as well as the DAR. She literally lives the words of her printed verse."
Roger E. Rice
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

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GLEN RICE 60th WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

Mr. and Mrs. Glen Harold Rice celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary at their Greenwood County farm home southeast of Eureka, Kansas, on Sunday, November 30, 1980, by entertaining an invited group of close family and friends. The occasion (though unsuccessfully decreed to be giftless) was planned by Mr. Rice as a tribute to his wife Kathleen who he married at a church parsonage in Eureka six decades ago on a Sunday, November 28, 1920.

Those gathered were treated by Mr. Rice to a noon dinner at a restaurant in Eureka, following which the group returned to the ranch for an afternoon of entertainment of nostalgic interest and surprises. Highlights included a triad presentation by Mrs. Rice as a reciprocal tribute to her husband, and the reading of a poem on early day reminiscences written by a guest of long friendship standing. The day was capped off with refreshments and the traditional cutting of an appropriately decorated cake which had been baked by one of Mrs. Rice’s sisters.

The Rices reside on the same farm on which Glen was born and has himself lived for 83 years come October 4, 1981. He farmed and raised with his father, the late Ervin Leslie Rice, until the latter’s retirement in the late 30’s, at which time the younger Rice purchased the spread and continued its operation. Retired himself now for several years, and with grazing lands leased out, Glen does remain active in raising grain and legume crops.

Glen is a tenth generation descendant of Edmund Rice (1638) and is one of many Rice’s in the southwest and west who were propagated by seventh generation Oren D. Rice who migrated to Iowa and by three of his sons who later moved on to Kansas. His wife, Kate, 85 this past February 21, 1981, is a poet laureate in her own right. She is an Ixias formerly of Nebraska, and was a school teacher before her marriage. With her husband, the two of them have been vigorously active and held many offices in agriculture, community, lodge and political activities of their county and township. In later years they have been involved in camper associations and organized projects. have wintered several seasons in the Rio Grande Valley of Texas, and have found time to travel in Europe, to Hawaii and throughout the United States.

Guests at the 60th wedding anniversary gathering were Glen’s two sisters, Mrs. Josephine (Rice) Smith of Wichita, Kansas, and Mrs. Doris (Rice) Barb of El Dorado, Kansas; a cousin and wife, Roger and Fern Rice of Oklahoma City; Kate’s two sisters, Mrs. Jane Lunsford of Reading, Kansas, and Mrs. Lois Andrews and husband, Leonard, of rural Piedmont, Kansas; a niece and husband, Laura and George Schlobohn of Reading; and a lifetime girlhood friend, Mrs. Ola Lyon of Emporia, Kansas.

Roger E. Rice
Oklahoma City, OK

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VITAL STATISTICS

Extracts from material and data currently being gathered and prepared for a forthcoming update addendum to my “A Treatise on the Rice Family” genealogy (published October 1976).

Roger E. Rice, Oklahoma City

BIRTHS

Heather Elaine Burke, born 25 October 1979, son of Timothy O’Don Burke and Diane Elaine Campbell Burke; great granddaughter of the late Mrs. Leafie Lois Rice McClayland of Eureka, Kansas.

Sherman Ritchie Hicks, born 18 March 1978, son of Sherman Ritchie Hicks, Sr. and Lisa Francesca Garson; great grandson of Mrs. Nancy Nell Rice Hicks of Ponca City, Oklahoma.
Andrew John Pinegar, born 4 August 1980, son of Earl Thomas Pinegar and Dana Teresa Hicks Pinegar; great granddaughter of Mrs. Nancy Nell Rice Hicks of Ponca City, Oklahoma.

Eric Scott Rice (12th generation), born 25 January 1979, son of John Eugene Rice and Sandra Kay Reynolds-Davis Rice; grandson of the late George Sherman Rice of Port Arthur, Texas.

Sommer Jean Rice (11th generation), born 30 October 1977, daughter of Wayne Adrian Rice and Audrie Anne Rodriguez Rice; granddaughter of the late George Sherman Rice of Port Arthur, Texas.

Debbie Anita Lewis, born 22 September 1977, daughter of Larry Dale Lewis and Joan Anita Rice Lewis; granddaughter of the late George Sherman Rice of Port Arthur, Texas.

Charlene Marie Rice (12th generation), born 24 February 1980, daughter of Glenn Leroy Rice and Carolyn Lee Johnson Rice; granddaughter of Edwin Francis Rice of Rialto, California.

Natalie Eileen Hughes, born 4 February 1977, daughter of Edward Leon Hughes and Sharon Louise Rice Hughes; granddaughter of Edwin Francis Rice of Rialto, California.

Angela Marie Akin, born 18 May 1978, adopted daughter of William Edward Akin and Marilyn Louise Fullerton Akin; granddaughter of Mrs. Marian Alice Rice Akin of Wyandotte, Oklahoma.


Christopher Scott Haefke, born 1 March 1978, son of Charles Richard Haefke and Julia Ann Rice Haefke; grandson of Alvin Ira Rice of Tulsa, Oklahoma.

Chad Daniel Rice, born November 19, 1979, to Wayne Adrian Rice (11th generation) and Audrey Anne Rodriguez Rice.

Kenneth George Rutter, born February 27, 1977, to Maxine Kay Rice Rutter and Ronald Eugene Rutter.

DEATHS

Frank Jack Hicks, died 21 July 1978, at Wichita, Kansas; son of Nancy Nell Rice Hicks of Ponca City, Oklahoma.

Royal Judson Rice (10th generation), died 27 April 1978, at Perry, Oklahoma; great grandson of Oren D. Rice.

George Sherman Rice (10th generation), died 3 December 1979, at Port Arthur, Texas; great grandson of Oren D. Rice.

Ruth Olga Holland Rice Jorrell Jorgensen, died 19 February 1979, at Van Nuys, California; first wife of William Henry Rice (9th generation), and grandmother of Dennis Ray Rice (11th generation) presently living in Garland, Texas.

MARRIAGE

Larrie Dean Rice, Perry, Oklahoma, son of the late Royal Judson Rice and Mrs. Katharyn Rice, was married to Cynthia Ann Edwards on August 1, 1980, in a ceremony conducted at Oklahoma City.

(Larrie is the only present male eligible to carry on the Rice line which comes down through his great grandfather Jabez Judson Rice, who was a son of Oren D. Rice, pages 277 and 454 Rice Register).

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In Memoriam

We have received word that MRS. MELVA M. BACH of Lakeview, Oregon passed away 8 October 1979. She attended our annual reunion in September of 1977 held at the Naushatuck Country Club in Concord, Massachusetts. She was one of the distance winners from Oregon that year.

Steven J. Tully of Duluth, Georgia wrote us that his grandmother JANE RICE TULLY (Mrs. Owen Moore Tully) a member of our association for some years has passed away and he has inherited her Genealogical Records. Note — Steven has become a new member of our association. We are extremely pleased to have him carry on in the manner of all true Edmund descendants.

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NEW MEMBERS

The following people have joined our association since our last News Letter No. 40.

Mrs. Vera Baer — Sturtevant, Wisconsin
William Asher Barnard — Seattle, Washington
Mrs. Fay E. Bennett — Milford, Massachusetts
Walter Edward Bruno, Sr. — Puyallup, Washington
Mrs. Olivia L. Crawford — Manchester, Tennessee
Alfred G. Hough — North Chelmsford, Massachusetts
Mrs. Sandra A. Mills — Becket, Massachusetts
Mrs. Florence Randall Powers — Hinsdale, New Hampshire
Herbert H. Rice — Byron Center, Michigan
Herbert N. Rice — Coldwater, Michigan
Philip Martin Rice — Dundee, Illinois
Robert Steele — Sudbury, Massachusetts
Stephen J. Tully — Duluth, Georgia
Mrs. Ellen Urain — Racine, Wisconsin
Correction:
Amie Sabrina Stoddart, born 18 December 1979 is the daughter of Tammy (Sanford) Stoddart and granddaughter of Loretta (Rice) Sanford, not great-great-granddaughter as mentioned in No. 40 of News Letter, page 10. Amie's great-great-grandmother is Mrs. Laura Brown.

MEMBER GENEALOGIES

Mrs. Lucille B. Thorp Casby, 1429 Buena Vista, Springdale, Arkansas 72764

1. Edmund Rice m. Thomasine Frost
2. Thomas Rice m. Mary King
3. Thomas Rice m. Anna Rice
4. Charles Rice m. Rachel Wheeler (m. 26 Apr. 1711)
5. Adonijah Rice m. Hannah Crosby (m. 3 July 1751)
6. Anna Rice (No. 1470—Wards) m. Abel Tenney
7. Chloe Tenney m. Joseph Tabor
8. Maria Tabor m. Lewis Haynes
9. Edwin Haynes m. Amelia Wilder
10. Lillian Haynes m. Rolland Thorp
11. Harry Thorp m. Bertha Sinden
12. Luella Thorp m. John J. Casby

Mrs. Juanita Graham Creighton, 1507 Largo Rd., T-2, Richmond, Virginia 23233

1. Edmund Rice m. Thomasine Frost
2. Edward Rice m. Agnes Bent
3. John Rice m. Tabitha Stone
4. Prudence Rice m. Joseph Stevens
5. Phineas Stevens m. Elizabeth Stevens (married cousins)
6. Samuel Stevens m. Tabitha Bingham
7. Enos Stevens m. Martha Hunt
8. Mary Ellen Stevens m. Dr. John Swain
9. Sallie E. Swain m. Elijah Ray
10. Mary Swain Ray m. Howard Hinton Harlan
11. Ida Pearl Harlan m. Gerald Constant Graham
12. Juanita Graham m. 1. William Delmar Jenkins
      m. 2. George B. Creighton

Mrs. Margaret Eleanor Johnson Drake, 643 Park Drive, P. O. Box 455, Kenilworth, Illinois 60043

1. Edmund Rice m. Thomasine Frost
2. Henry Rice m. Elizabeth Moore
3. Elizabeth Rice m. John Brewer
4. Jonathan Brewer M. Arabella Goulding
5. Col. Jonathan Brewer m. Frances Buckminster
6. Susanah Brewer m. Jonathan Farnsworth
7. Sarah Farnsworth m. Michael Shaw
8. Laura Ann Shaw m. Chester Cadwaller
9. Martha Shaw Cadwallader m. John Edward Johnson
10. Margaret Eleanor Johnson m. Robert Taylor Drake

Mrs. Luella M. Evans, 120 East Cheltenham Road, Syracuse, New York 13205

1. Edmund Rice m. Thomasine Frost
2. Henry Rice m. Elizabeth Moore
3. Mary Rice m. Thomas Bramham, Jr.
4. David Bramham m. 2nd Mary (Leonard) Newton
5. Asa Bramham m. Mary Newton
6. Capt. Stephen Bramham m. Sarah Harrington
7. Deacon Sullivan Bramham m. Amanda Spaulding
8. Sarah Bramham m. James D. Marks
9. Charles F. Marks m. Jane Sitterly
10. Douglas C. Marks m. Margaret Hickey
11. Luella M. Marks m. James Evans

Mrs. Ruth E. Davis Holden, 12 Pleasant St., Brattleboro, VT 05301

1. Edmund Rice m. Thomasine Frost
2. Samuel Rice m. Elizabeth King
3. Jonathan Hubbard m. Hannah Rice
4. Daniel Davis m. Mary Hubbard
5. Nathaniel Davis m. Susanna Lane
6. Joshua Davis m. Rhoda Balcom
7. Calvin Davis m. Betsey Morse
8. Franklin Calvin Davis m. Lydia Ann Downs
9. Charles Henry Davis m. Susan Frances Colton
10. Ruth Elizabeth Davis m. Justin Aurelius Holden

Helen Joy Kilborn, 1600 E. Mitchell Rd., Petoskey, Michigan 49770

1. Edmund Rice m. Thomasine Frost
2. Thomas Rice m. Mary King
3. Jonas Rice m. Mary Stone
4. Jonas Rice m. Jane Hall
5. Mary Rice m. Jasper Partridge
6. Hannah Partridge m. David Joy
7. Comfort Joy m. Mary Breiner
8. Alonzo Joy m. Phoebe Burgess
9. Alice Joy m. Emory Ludlow
10. Olive Ludlow m. George Kilborn
11. Helen Joy Kilborn

Mrs. Nancy Jane Rice Martin, 976 Nagle Dr., Rockledge, Florida 32955

1. Edmund Rice m. Thomasine Frost
2. Edward Rice m. Agnes Bent
3. Edmund Rice m. Joyce Russell
4. William Rice, Sr. m. Martha Rice (dau. of Isaac 3; Mathew 2; Edmund 1)
5. William Rice, Jr. m. Abigail Willis
6. Isaac Rice m. Anna Balcom
7. Amon Rice m. Phila Tolles
8. Luther Rice m. Mary Skinner
9. Augustus Luther Rice m. Harriet A. Wilson
10. Ernest Wilson Rice m. Lucia M. Foster
11. Donald Stedman Rice, Sr. m. Helen Ironsides Jeffrey
12. Nancy Jane Rice m. Charles Allen Martin
Ernestine McCrillis, 3 Quinlan Lane, Hampton, New Hampshire 03842

1. Edmund Rice m. Thomasine Frost
2. Thomas Rice m. Mary King (dau. of Thomas\(^1\))
3. Thomas Rice m. 2nd Anna Rice (dau. of Edward\(^2\))
4. Charles Rice m. Rachel Wheeler
5. Elijah Rice m. Sarah Shattuck
6. Daniel Rice m. Sarah Childs
7. Elisha Rice m. Patty Wood
8. Patty Rice m. Asa W. Whitney
9. Jacob S. Whitney m. Susan L. Webster
10. Dora L. Whitney m. Ernest J. McCrillis
11. Ernestine McCrillis

Phillip Riter Thuma, 2005 N. 2nd St., Ironton, Ohio 45638

1. Edmund Rice m. Thomasine Frost
2. Samuel Rice m. Mary (Dix) Brown
3. Edward Rice m. Lydia Fairbanks
4. Tabitha Rice m. Nathaniel Oak (2)
5. Seth Oak m. Elizabeth Shevally
6. Thomas Oak m. Phoebe
7. Ebenezer Oakes m. Drusilla Drown
8. Allen Oakes m. Elizabeth Ann Smith
10. John C. Thuma m. Ora Alice Riter
11. Phillip Riter Thuma m. 1st Wilma Troutman
    m. 2nd Virginia (Cazin) Murray

(Sorry we spelled Phillip R. Thuma's name wrong in our last newsletter.)

Report of the Committee on Publications

The Committee working on lineages for corrections and additions to the Rice Genealogies already published needs your help.

If you would like to have your family record correct and up-to-date, please check The Register of Descendants of Edmund Rice, The Rice Family by A. H. Ward, and The Supplement to that book to learn the last generation of your family to be recorded. Then, on the accompanying form centerfold, give all information from that date to the present. One individual family to a form. Please be willing to help with the expenses by Xeroxing any additional forms needed.

The Committee already has some records complete through the 15th generation (from Edmund and Thomasine), and we are grateful to those who have contributed the information. We hope much more data may come to carry on the names of children who have been born in recent years, as well as marriages and deaths.

There is no specific deadline. When we receive enough material for a Supplement to The Register, through the 11th generation, we will publish that. Another Register, No. 2, will be published later carrying the lines through the 15th generation, or however far we may have them.

For those who do not have the several Rice publications noted above, they may be obtained from the Association (See Publications Listing), or they may be available in your public library or through inter-library loan.

Margaret S. Rice
Book Review of “The Deacons” by Corinne M. Snow

Too many people today seem to consider all history dull and boring. It must be that they have been exposed only to “dates of wars and names of kings” and not to the true wonder story that is real history. “The Deacons,” Corinne Snow's sympathetic and affectionate story of Edmund and Thomasine (Frost) Rice and their children, presents history as it should be told. Admittedly fiction in part, (but what history is not in one way or another?), the book gives a bit of America’s history that should be of major interest to all members of the Edmund Rice (1638) Association.

In the pages of Dr. Snow’s book, I have lived and loved, laughed and cried, with my grandparents of the eleventh and tenth generations of my family before me. But one of the beauties of the narrative is the fact that it is the story not only of the Rice, but also of so many others of those early settlers of our country. Whether you claim the Bent's, Drury's, the Howes, the Kings, the Parmenters, the Noyes, or hundreds more of those who laid the foundations of this United States of America, you can know that, if they were here in the 1600's, they had the same problems and opportunities, troubles and joys, and lived just about the same as the people of this book. They all endured the hardships of settlement in a dark and savage wilderness; suffered the horrors of Indian warfare; fought ignorance and greed and bigotry among their fellow settlers; and won through to comparative comfort and content. The good and the bad were mingled, just as they are today.

It seems sad to me that many can think of those early people who came before us -- “our fathers that begat us” -- as merely stage characters. They were real people -- as real as our own parents and near grandparents -- very much like us in many ways. Only the customs and occasions of the age differed -- not the thoughts and emotions of the individuals.

Three hundred and fifty years may seem like a long, long time to our Western cousins, but to us of New England, it is yesterday. The Old Yankees are a long-remembering race, and as we walk the roads they walked, muse by deserted cellar holes, or live in the lovely Colonial homes they built, our forefathers come very near to us. We know that we are blood of their blood and flesh of their flesh.

“The Deacons” will help convince you of these things. We urge you to read it for an interesting and enjoyable experience.

Margaret S. Rice

(Order blank in newsletter)
Excerpts from

“Grains of Rice from Riceburg”
by Lois Jewett Rice Jones
as told to D. J. LeMasters

To paraphrase Robert Louis Stevenson’s "Treasure Island", I take up my pen in the year 1976 and go back to the time when I was a child in Riceburg, Canada. As the last surviving member of the original Rice family of Riceburg, it seems proper that I record my memories of those days. I do this in the hope that posterity will find interest in the writing and that some will be able to increase their knowledge of their own family lineage.

Please bear in mind that I am in my 85th year and the cobwebs have begun to gather in the attic of my mind. I will rummage in the corners and try to bring back to its light, some of the dusty treasures of memory.

Lucy Wheeler and Martin Rice and their two children migrated from Massachusetts to a place just beyond the Northern border of Vermont but some forty miles southeast of Montreal. These two hardy and adventurous people were my Great grandparents. In all, eleven children were born to them. I cannot remember the persons of Martin or Lucy nor can I recall which of their children were born in Riceburg nor the matter of which was older or younger. I must vividly recall that some of them were to play a most important place in my life and the lives of my brother and three sisters.

The names of some of Martin’s children were Charles, Olive Jane, Corlista, Loren, Gus, Martin (Jr.) and, I believe, James.

* * * * * * *

But I am getting ahead of myself. Martin, the Elder, was not content merely to find "a spot to call his own." He knew that he and his family, and their families to come, would require a means of support. The Pike River on whose banks Martin had so wisely selected his homestead, was to be a life stream for the community. A grist mill, a cabinet shop and a foundry were established. A dam was built and the mill pond formed. By the time my generation came along, something had happened to the foundry and only its ruins remained to attest to that earlier effort.

The Pike River and the Mill Pond not only had an influence on the livelihoods of the people of Riceburg and the surrounding communities. Boating on the river was a favorite pastime. The Mill Pond became the deliciously cool swimmin’ hole on hot summer days. Large, tasty pickerel and other fish came from the river and the depths of the pond to simmer in the frying pans of the Riceburg residents. And even in winter, the Mill Pond lost none of its charm for it became the favorite skating rink for the young and some of the not so young.

In time a small grocery store and post office was constructed adjoining the Grist Mill. Martin gave land for the establishment of a church, a school and a cemetery. And by now, Martin and Lucy were losing some of the space and privacy they had sought in their exit from Massachusetts. Their homestead had become Riceburg. Stanbridge was nearby, enough so to be virtually suburban to Riceburg. Bedford was three miles away. The church Martin had donated land for was built and was the Episcopal Church of Stanbridge. The Riceburg cemetery and school remained within the boundaries of Riceburg. There were eventually some fifty families in the little town and it was to flourish for a time.

* * * * * * *

Olive Jane Rice (Rice Reg, No. 1874.11), daughter of Martin, was born in 1826. She married Philo Lambkin and to them three children were born, Minnie, Alice and Ernest.

Uncle Philo, with his brother, Lyman Lambkin, operated the Cabinet Shop. Fine furniture and woodwork were to come from their shop and I am proud to count some of the furniture among my possessions today. The carvings and woodwork in the Stanbridge Episcopal Church were done by the brothers Philo and Lyman.

Aunt Jane, as she was lovingly known by us, was a woman of majestic bearing and gentle nature. She was destined to spend many of her later years in a wheelchair but this was never a matter of public grief to her and I can remember her sitting in it, bearing an amazing resemblance to Queen Victoria on her throne. Her home was spotless and her love of plants and flowers was evident, not only in her well groomed yard, but in the beautiful conservatory just off the dining room. I can see her yet as she quietly wheeled herself from plant to plant, picking off a dead flower or leaf and carefully watering each plant. She also had a great fondness for books and read extensively. Her gentleness was displayed with her fellow humans and I can remember that even her reprimand for a childish wrong-doing was gentle...

* * * * * * *

Another child of Martin and Lucy Rice was Charles. I can remember Charles (Rice Reg. 1874.9) only vaguely. His wife’s name was Lucy. I believe her maiden name was Chandler. Charles and Lucy lived in Bedford. Uncle Charles had great enthusiasm for horses and it was this interest which brought about his death. He had a penchant for driving a sulky and one day he drove his "rig" from Bedford to Riceburg to visit Aunt Jane and Uncle Philo. As he left to return to Bedford, something startled the horse as they drove across the bridge. A wreck resulted and Uncle Charles died of the injuries he received.

* * * * * * *
A Coat Tale

Jonathan Rice, lineage number 3814, may be found on page 240 of The Rice Family and on page 360 of The Register of Rice Descendants. The two daughters mentioned did not “die young,” for the Lowell, Mass., city records clearly indicate otherwise:

Jonathan Rice married Rebecca Smith on October 13, 1841.

Ellen F. Rice, daughter of Jonathan & Rebecca, born January 29, 1847; died May 11, 1911 at Westborough Hospital. She was single, aged 64 years, 8 months, 12 days. Saleswoman.

Edna C. Rice, daughter of Jonathan & Rebecca, born February 19, 1849; died February 27, 1912. She was single, aged 63 years, 9 days. At home.

The following account is condensed from articles appearing in The Lowell Daily Courier and The Lowell Daily Citizen.

Monday, January 1, 1877

Ashtabula, Ohio, Dec. 31, 1876 - Last Friday at about 8 o’clock the village was aroused by a general fire alarm, and word soon spread that passenger train No. 5 had gone through the high bridge over Ashtabula River with a large number of passengers and that the whole train was on fire. A lurid glare in that vicinity confirmed the report and, in spite of the terrible stormy night, nearly the whole village and all the fire engines were soon on the way to the depot. The train was due at Ashtabula at quarter past five and was nearly three hours late. It had 11 cars, including one drawing-room car, 3 sleepers, one smoking car and 2 first class coaches. The span is about 100 feet wide, and into this space were 11 cars and one engine and tender precipitated. The fall of 60 feet, breaking through the icy covering, shivered the cars as if a magazine of nitro-glycerine had exploded beneath them. The 7 passenger coaches altogether contained about 165 adults and a number of children. Within a few minutes after the crash, the flames burst out simultaneously from nearly every car. A crowd soon made their way to the burning debris, and with axes and ropes, many of the passengers were extricated, placed on stretchers, and taken to the top of the hill where the best of assistance awaited them. The hotels and depot were soon filled, and private houses were thrown open throughout the town. The surgeons of the town rendered all the assistance in their power, but many perished during the night. The bridge was an iron truss bridge, and had been in use about 11 years.

Monday, January 1, 1877

There seems to be but little doubt that Mr. Jonathan Rice of this city was on the ill-fated train that broke through the bridge at Ashtabula on the Lake Shore Railroad Friday night. Mr. Edward Hoesmer, a partner of Mr. Rice, and Mr. George Cheney, left Boston on the 5 o’clock train last evening for Ashtabula to learn the fate of Mr. Rice, if possible. Mr. Rice was born in Sudbury and was 58 years of age. He came to Lowell in 1839 and has been in the provision business ever since. For 29 years he has been in company with his brother, Mr. Henry M. Rice, the firm occupying their present quarters on East Merrimack Street for 21 years. Mr. Rice is an active member in the Masonic, Odd Fellows and other associations of this City. He has a wife and two daughters who are in great distress over his supposed fate.

January 10, 1877

Mr. Edward S. Hosmer and Mr. George A. Cheney, who have been in Ashtabula the past week to obtain information of Mr. Jonathan Rice, supposed to be killed in the late accident, have returned. On their arrival at the wreck a large number of persons were looking after parents and friends, and the scene is described as being most heart-rending. The searches of Messrs. Hosmer and Cheney was considerably facilitated by a singular occurrence at the Fiske House. They had been there but a few minutes when they overheard a survivor of the accident remark that he had an overcoat upstairs belonging to a Massachusetts gentleman, who he thought was among the killed. Of course the Lowell friends introduced themselves at once, and readily learned that the overcoat was that of Mr. Jonathan Rice, whose name was on the inside. The gentleman with whom they became thus acquainted was Mr. H. A. White of Wethersfield, Connecticut, who gave a graphic account of the accident and of his escape with a broken arm. He said that he was in the same seat with Mr. Rice during the day, and that at the time of the accident in the “City of Buffalo” car, every berth was occupied. All in this car perished but himself and a Mrs. Bradley from Chicago. When he made his way out of the debris he took Mr. Rice’s coat, thinking it to be his, and expressed himself as certain that Mr. Rice had been burned to ashes, as were the others in the same car. When the train went down Mr. White was asked by a passenger in the ruins of the car, who he had no doubt was Mr. Rice, if the cars were on fire, and endeavor to extricate him from the ruins. Mr. White endeavored for some time unsuccessfully to do so, when Mr. Rice urged him to make no more effort, but to save himself. Mr. White made his escape through the door at the upper end of the car.

William H. Drury
March, 1881

Heritage

"Haste makes waste," my grandsire said,
And all his work was sure and slow.
He never went beyond these hills –
What was there to make him go?

I was the child of another day,
And I have traveled far and fast.
But I have learned, for Yankee hearts,
The longest roads lead home at last.

by Margaret S. Rice
Indexes to Rice Publications

When trying to glean genealogical information from Ward’s *Rice Family*, I am frequently frustrated by the index which Ward provided. I am sure he had good reason for listing people the way he did and not indexing spouses except after their Rice partner’s names. The compilers of the *Supplement* to Ward’s book kept the same form of index in an effort to be consistent, so that it too suffers from the same shortcomings.

During the winter I assembled a new and complete index for each of these books which list every name in the books in alphabetical order with page number where they occurred. Computers are a great help in this sort of task and perhaps if Mr. Ward had access to one he might have done the job himself! The indexes are Xeroxed from computer printout and are available for the cost of copying and postage.

Index to *Rice Family*, 34 pages. $4.00
Index to *Supplement*, 18 pages 2.50
Both in same envelope 6.00

Send requests to William H. Drury, 24 Buckman Drive, Chelmsford, MA 01824. I place no restrictions whatever on the reproduction of these indexes. If someone wishes to make copies available at a lower cost, they have my blessing. My only purpose is to get them into the hands of people who want to use them.

William H. Drury

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Dues Reminder – New System

With this edition of our News Letter we are starting a dot system as a reminder to those who have not sent their current dues of $3.00 per member for the fiscal year, September 1980 to September 1981. (The new rates mentioned in the last news letter do not go into effect until our fiscal year September 81-82).

If our records show that you have not paid your current dues, you will find a red dot on your address mailing label of this news letter as a reminder. If you find a discrepancy in what our records show please feel free to write to our corresponding secretary about it.

After this issue we will deem it necessary to delete those members names who have not paid their dues from our mailing list.

Make checks payable to The Edmund Rice (1638) Association, Inc. and mail to the Corresponding Secretary and Historian, Miss Margaret S. Rice, Lion’s Mouth Road, Amesbury, Massachusetts 01913.

It is very important when making checks out for dues and publications that they are made payable to The Edmund Rice (1638) Association, Inc. not the people in charge. There is undue delay when folks fail to do this and your check may become stale dated in the process.

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PUBLICATIONS AVAILABLE THROUGH THE ASSOCIATION

*A Genealogical Register of Edmund Rice Descendants*  
(Published in 1970 by the Association. A continuation of Ward’s “Rice Family” and the Supplement. $25.00

*The Rice Family* by Andrew Henshaw Ward (1858)  
(A genealogical history of descendants of Deacon Edmund Rice, Sudbury, 1638–1858). reprint

Supplement to “The Rice Family”, published by the Association in 1967, additions and corrections bringing the 1858 edition up-to-date. $3.50

*More About the Rices* by Elsie Hawes Smith (just a few left). $3.50

*You Are Heir To Millions!* by Margaret S. Rice  
(A seven-page speech made at the 1971 Rice Reunion) $1.50

Checks, payable to The Edmund Rice (1638) Association, Inc., should be sent with orders to Miss Margaret S. Rice, Lion’s Mouth Road, Amesbury, MA 01913.

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Ruth Rasey Simpson Books Available

If your forefathers came from Vermont (as many Rices did) you will want to read these two books written by Ruth Rasey Simpson, a member of our association. Both books have been taken by the Library of Congress for reproduction in materials for the blind and handicapped. Also both books were chosen by the American Folklore Society for registry in their “Legacy Books.”

“Hand Hewn in Old Vermont” is available in hard cover at $9.00 plus 85 cents for mailing single copies, $1.10 for mailing two copies. The paper cover book is $5.00 plus 63 cents for mailing single copies or 85 cents postage for two.

“Out of the Saltbox” is now available in paperback at $6.00 plus 85 cents for mailing one copy or $1.10 postage for two.

Checks should be made payable to Mrs. Ruth Rasey Simpson and mailed with orders to her address – 286 Goulding Street, North Tonawanda, NY 14120.

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Additional news letters may be acquired from your News Letter Editor, Mrs. Louise Rice Trudeau, William Street, Chester, Massachusetts 01011 at a cost of $2.00 each. Be sure check is payable to The Edmund Rice (1638) Association, Inc.

After a recent thorough inventory we can now offer original copies of the following news letters on a first come, first serve basis; numbers 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 23, 24, 25, 27, 28, 29, 31, 33, 36, 38, and 40 at a cost of $2.00 each.

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RICE FAMILY INFORMATION

Husband’s Full Name

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

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

Father’s Name

Mother’s Maiden Name

Husband Married wife ... Date .......................... Where.

Wife’s Maiden Name

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

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

Father’s Name

Mother’s Maiden Name

On reverse side list subsequent marriages and children, also any military record and/or other outstanding honors.

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<th>Names of Children</th>
<th>Born</th>
<th>Died</th>
<th>Place of Death or Present Residence</th>
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<th>Marriages of These Children</th>
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<th>Date</th>
<th>Present or Last Address</th>
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A view of Dutton Street, Lowell, Massachusetts, in the 1830's showing the mills and boarding houses of the Merrimack Manufacturing Company, where some of our Rice cousins worked and lived. These buildings were all razed in 1960.

Courtesy University of Lowell Special Collections

Edmund Rice (1638)

Association, Inc.