

TITUS RICE (1744/5 - abt. 1798) ae. abt. 53

(3) LOIS _____ (- abt. 1798)

Titus' identity has been a matter of much searching in the past years. In a patriarchal blessing given to his son, Ira, (1-6) 4 Aug. 1845, by Patriarch William Smith, Ira's parents are listed as Titus and Lois Rice. ¹ Donald Lines Jacobus, the New England genealogist of repute, made available his research in a letter to Mrs. Belle Aamodt in June of 1963, which furnished much needed data to prove that Titus was the son of Gideon and Mary (Dutton) Rice of Wallingford (Meriden) and reestablished the fact that the above Titus was the one referred to in his son's blessing. Thus the long debated link back to the immigrants, Robert and Mary (Sims) Royce, was finally verified and supported by authoritative fact. ² Since 1963, Dora (Rice) Duncan, genealogist for the 'Ira Rice Family Organization', has done a great deal of searching which furnished further details, all of which make for a more convincing array of evidence for this writing. ³

A documentation in "Families of Ancient New Haven" reads:

"Titus Rice, b. 4 Feb. 1744/5, Wallingford vital records; bp, 27 Jan. 1745/6, Church records of Meriden Parish, Wallingford; md. 7 Sep. 1770, Wallingford vital records, Lois Kellogg.

"Children: (1) Susanna Rice, b. 4 Nov. 1771; (2) Rachel, died 2 Oct. 1784." ⁴

The parents of Titus, Gideon and Mary (Dutton) Royce (Rice), were living in the rural area within the Parish of Meriden, near Wallingford, Conn., a beautiful and very fertile section in the northern portion of the land claimed by the New Haven Colony. It lay within the southern area of the Hartford Colony and was claimed also to be under its jurisdiction. This debatable question was finally settled when boundaries were laid and Hartford became the capital city of Connecticut. At that time, Meriden became a part of the County of New Haven. The Royce (Rice) Farms lay close to this particular area of boundary dispute. As the years passed, Meriden found itself a matter of dispute again over a boundary separating it from the mother town of Wallingford. Again the 'Royce Farms' lay in contended territory. The town of Meriden and its boundary lines were settled in 1806, when Meriden was incorporated as a separate town. The actual locations of the Royce farms, which included the portion that Titus inherited, then fell in Meriden, but this division occurred after Titus' time. These separate boundaries are evident on Map #13.

All vital records of the area of Meriden, up until the time of incorporation, were kept in Wallingford. It is well to remember this when recorded data is specified as Wallingford, but to locate the Royce farms today, we must concentrate our search in the area that is Meriden.

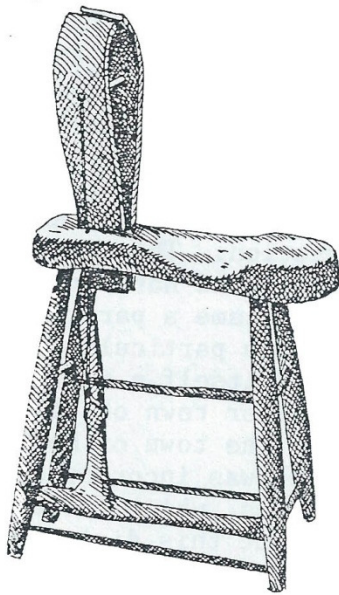
Jacobus furnished documented information in his "Families of Ancient New Haven" from the vital records of Wallingford and church records of Meriden. The birth of Mary, Titus' older sister, was Aug. 10, 1743, and her death, Sept. 27, 1745 at the age of two years. The mother, Mary (Dutton) Rice, died just seven months later, May 2, 1746, when her second child, Titus, was only a few months old.⁴ Ten months later, on the 20th of March, 1747, Gideon, his father, married second, Rebecca (Johnson) Abernathy, the widow of Wait

Abernathy, and they had seven children who were the half-brothers and half-sisters of Titus. Then on Jan. 30, 1761, when Titus was about 16 years of age, his father died. ⁵

Titus had spent his boyhood in Meriden on his father's extensive farm, but things became much different for him after his father's death. In the words of Dora Duncan, "Titus, a minor, received a guardian bond Nov. 16, 1761. Guardian--Charles Dutton." ⁶

There is reason to reflect the situation that Titus was facing. The security he needed as a youth was being threatened. Adulthood must be assumed whether he was ready or not and sorrows had preceded understandings. Titus must have ventured out on his own at this early age, for on the 18th of August, even before he was assigned a guardian, he is listed in the Assessors Tax roll in Pittsfield, Berkshire, Massachusetts. His guardian, Charles Dutton was his uncle, a brother of his mother, Mary Dutton.

The words of Dora Duncan suggests that, "Titus must have started a small business of his own in Pittsfield, perhaps as a cordwainer (shoemaker) to become subject for a tax."⁷(Map #14) The stitching horse pictured at the left was used



STITCHING HORSE

by leather-workers in Titus' time and later. The shoe-maker, harness or saddlemaker, straddled the stool; fastened the leather in the wooden vice, which is the upright portion of the seat, and then stitched back and forth.

It seems possible that Titus had gone to Pittsfield to be with his uncle. However, he later returns to Meriden and Wallingford for the next record of him gives his marriage to Lois Kellogg, 7 Sept. 1770, the record of which was filed in Wallingford. "Apparently Titus came back to Connecticut, got married, intending to live upon the land that he had inherited from his father's estate." ⁸ Titus was 24 or 25 and Lois was 18 years of age.

Lois Kellogg was a great great granddaughter of Joseph Kellogg who emigrated to America from Great Leigh, England, and after living in Farmington, Conn., and then in Boston, Massachusetts, had removed to Hadley, Massachusetts, in 1661 and became one of the early proprietors there. The family remained in the area for several generations. The town of Hadley was a settlement in Massachusetts on the Connecticut River and was a cross-country point of an overland route west. Those traveling up river from Connecticut, as well as for those traveling from the east on their way to Berkshire County in Western Massachusetts, passed through Hadley. The story of the early days of Hadley is very interesting. The town was especially vulnerable to Indian attacks and for those who love hair-raising Indian stories, the account of Hadley, before and during the French and Indian Wars, would definitely be revealing reading.

The Kelloggs were well known and respected families, both in Massachusetts and Connecticut. Lois was born 4 March, 1752, in South Hadley, Hampshire, Mass. Her parents were Ebenezer and Sarah (Snow) Kellogg. It is very possible that Titus and Lois met in her home town of Hadley (Map #14), but their marriage took place, as recorded, in Wallingford. (Map #6)

Soon after marriage, it appears that Titus lost his wife Lois either by death or a separation. They had a daughter, Susannah, born November 4, 1771. A record appears in the "History of Wallingford" which tells us that Titus Rice of Meriden purchased grave sites in the Meriden Church Cemetery on March 11, 1771.⁹ Even though a record of a second marriage has not been found we do know that Titus was married to a Rachel _____ for the headstone marker inscription of their nine year old daughter who died in 1784 is recorded to read:

"Erected in Memory of Rachel, dau. of Titus and Rachel Rice Died 28 Oct, 1784, age 9 years". 10

From this inscription we realize that Titus had a daughter, born in 1775, and that her mother's name was Rachel. Ira Rice (1-6), youngest son of Titus, whose life story follows this discourse, was known to have said that he had a little sister, Rachel, who had died in the flames of a burning house. This fact was reiterated and passed on by word of mouth from one to another of Ira's descendants. It is supposed that Rachel's mother died since it had seemed expedient that Titus provide for the baby by putting her in the care of his half-sister, Rebecca Royce Mitchel, who was married to Jotham Mitchell and who lived in or near Meriden, Conn. The tragedy of the house burning in 1784 also took the life of the Mitchell's one year old baby daughter.

Major events in the life of Titus up to the time of his enlistment in the Revolutionary forces in 1780 had been marked with tragedies. He lost his only full sibling, Mary, in 1745; his mother had died in 1746 when he was a baby of 15 months; his father had passed away when he was about 16 years of age and he had experienced a situation of being separated from his half-brothers and sisters to receive a guardian's bond assigning him to his Uncle Charles Dutton. His first and second marriages had ended in tragedy adding to the sorrow of being necessarily separated from his children. He must have felt that his misfortunes were almost more than he could bear. Perhaps the military seemed a worthy way of biding time and circumstance.

The war did not last to the end of Titus' enlistment period (1784). He must have been released from duty at the specified conclusion of the war, April 18, 1783. We have no record that shows whether Titus was ever reunited with his daughter, Rachel, before she died in 1784, but we know that he did return to Berkshire County, Mass. His daughter, Susannah, whose mother was Lois Kellogg, Titus' first wife, married Isaac Burdon in 1794 in the same vicinity of Berkshire County so Susannah was no doubt living with her father at that time. This would seem to convey that perhaps Lois Kellogg had not died and that it was possible that a reconciliation between Titus and Susannah's mother had occurred and that they were the parents of children born after the war. We have no documents that would verify this assumption even though it is a possibility.

A land record of 1790 of New Ashford, Berkshire County, Mass. shows the signature of Titus' wife as Louis. Ira had claimed that his mother was Lois as found recorded on his patriarchal blessing. Though the spelling is different, the name is very similar. For lack of further documental proof we cannot be sure who it was that Titus married last.

For many years it was assumed that Ira's mother was Lois Kellogg. Then a snag seemed to close off that conclusion for Helen Elizabeth Royce of Hartford, Conn., who compiled a Royce genealogy in 1964, had stated that Lois Kellogg had married second, the widower, Isaac Parker. However, a more recent search done by Oriel Tracy of Salt Lake City has uncovered the fact that Isaac Parker did not marry Lois Kellogg. Rather, he was married to Lois (Tolles) Royce, the widow of Charles Royce. This leads us to wonder what really happened to Lois Kellogg.

It is feared that we know too little regarding the later years of Titus. A great deal of speculation has accompanied the facts that have been found recorded. Land transactions and census listings show that he did live in Berkshire County, Mass., and we know that his youngest son, Ira, was born in New Ashford of that County. It is hoped that further research will give some concrete information that will reveal the truth and clear away the doubts of Titus' third marriage.

Much of the information about Titus' whereabouts hinges upon land records.

"Titus received three parcels of land from the distribution of his father's estate. . . Another land record (this one dated 24 Jan, 1772) states that Titus Rice 'sells all of his land to his half-brother, Waite Rice'. After this time no record of Titus is found in Connecticut." 11

The fact that Titus sold his property in Meriden in 1772 does not rule out the possibility that he may have remained in the area for a time, but it seems logical that his intentions were to leave Meriden after selling all of his land. It is my opinion that his sojourn to Berkshire County may have been the result of his guardianship bond (see p. 57). This opinion might be justified if it was known that his Uncle Charles Dutton had migrated from Wallingford or Meriden to Berkshire County.

Details are missing during the time lapse between 1776 and Titus' Revolutionary War record when he enlisted in 1781 for his three year term of military service. At the time of his enlistment he would have been 36 years of age.

During the lifetime of Titus, the country had been in a turmoil of fast change. The French and Indian Wars had been fought while Titus was a young man going into his teens. He was 29 years of age when such arousals as the 'Boston Tea Party' took place. He was beginning his 30's when Patrick Henry's words of "give me liberty or give me death" were reverberating across the land.

"The various campaigns of the French and Indian Wars (sometimes called the Seven Year Wars), in which the American people had played so glorious a part, taught them their strength as a military force. They had trained officers and men in the game of war, and they began to realize, dimly perhaps, the manifest destiny that the future had in store for the American people.

"Both England and the colonies had gone to great expense in prosecuting these campaigns, and although the Americans were already saddled with a great debt, England was determined to get their aid in assisting her to pay for a war, which, as her statesmen said, was waged purely for the benefit of the colonies. Consequently, the Stamp Act was passed, and everyone knows with what fury the news was received in this country." 12

Though Titus was in Berkshire Co., Mass., at the time of his enlistment in the Revolutionary War, it is interesting to note what had taken place prior to that time in his home town of Meriden. "On Jan. 13th, 1766, the Meriden freemen met in a town meeting and voted the following preamble and resolution:

"Whereas it appears from ancient Records and other Memorials of incontestable validity that our Ancestors with a great Sum purchased said Township at their own expense, planted with great Peril, possessed and defended the same (and we were free born) having never been in Bondage to any; an Inheritance of inestimable Value.

" 'Voted and Agreed, that if any of said Inhabitants shall introduce, use, or improve any stamp vellum parchment or Paper, for which Tax or Tribute is or may be demandable, such Person or Persons shall incur the Penalty of 20s—to be recovered by the Selectmen of said town for the Time being, for the use of the Poor of said town.

" 'This order to continue in Force until the next meeting of said Inhabitants in Town meeting.'

"This act was one of rebellion and Independence; it was not like a riot; it was the solemn vote of the freemen in Town meeting assembled.

"That this was a much bolder note than was sounded by any other town of the colony at that time seems certain, for Bancroft mentions it in his 'History of the United States' in a way that shows he thought it deserving of special notice, and the press of the period spread it broadcast through this and neighboring colonies." 13

A second stamp act was voted by England's Parliament in 1767:

"The rapid succession of events which followed, intensified the excitement and ripened the American people for armed resistance and independence. The 'Boston Harbor Tea Party', the 'Massachusetts Act' and 'Boston Port Bill', were fitting preludes to the coming drama, and at last the mutterings of the great Revolution began to be heard. What had been but a little fleck in the sky, now overcast the whole heavens and sorrow and anxiety filled the hearts of all." 14

Meetings and resolutions agitated all the people of New England and Hancock, Berkshire, Mass., where Titus was living in 1774, was no exception. The people of Meriden, Conn., too, were aroused to the point of formulating a statement that became a New England war cry, printed and distributed throughout the country. The statement appeared in the Connecticut Journal of Sept. 9, 1774, and it evidenced the feelings that existed in all of the communities:

"Although there are too many among us of Tory (loyal to England) principals; yet there are, God be thanked, not a few true sons of Constitutional Liberty..." 15

The situations, as here noted, showed the conditions of things all over

the country. Meetings were being held, resolutions passed and the line of cleavage between England and her America colonies was growing wider and wider. The date of July 4, 1776, is well remembered as the Colonies set forth their Declaration of Independence and war began. News of such events as those at Lexington and Concord spread like wildfire throughout the land.

Like others in Massachusetts and Connecticut, Titus faced these trying times of hard decisions. Titus' enlistment was rendered in the Commonwealth of Mass., from the town of Roxbury. However, Hancock, near New Ashford, Berkshire Co., Mass. was, no doubt, the place from where he enrolled. See maps 2, 14.

In September of 1781, Titus' half-brother, Gideon, and two of his cousins, Samuel and Ezekiel Rice, had left Wallingford with 38 other men to go to Boston to fill quotas in armed forces. The three Rice boys were in the company under Captain John Couch. This company of men were out only seven days, hardly time to go to Boston and return. They doubtless received notice while on the march that their services were not needed at that time. ¹⁶

In Jacobus' report to Belle Rice Aamodt, June 28, 1963, he writes:

"I have made a very important discovery. Mass. Soldiers and Sailors in the War of the Revolution, vol. 13, p. 187, gives the following records:

RICE, TITUS, Roxbury (also given Hancock). Account rendered against the Commonwealth of Massachusetts by Selectmen of Roxbury of bounties paid said Rice and others to serve in the Continental Army for the term of 3 years, agreeable to resolve of Dec. 2, 1780; the date Jan. 1, 1782, appears against the name of said Rice and is probably the date when bounty was paid; also, descriptive list dated Feb. 20, 1782; Capt. Luke Day's co., Lieut. Col. John Brooks's (7th) regt.; age, 37 (also given 38) yrs.; stature, 5 ft. 9 (also given 5 ft. 7) in.; complexion, light; hair, light; occupation, cordwainer; birthplace, Wallingford, Conn.; residence, Roxbury (also given Hancock); enlisted for town of Roxbury; enlisted Sept. 1 (also given Sept. 3 and Sept. 21), 1781; enlistment 3 years..." ¹⁷

In Mark E. Petersen's "The Great Prologue", we read:

"On the eighth anniversary of Paul Revere's ride, April 18, 1783, Washington proclaimed hostilities at an end and sent his men home to their families and farms 'without a farthing in their pockets', but with faith that their new government eventually would pay them for their military service. The final articles of peace were signed September



The Constitution. For six years after the War, America was a confederation of 13 nearly independent states. With the adoption of our Constitution, we were at last a nation, one people. The Constitution forms the framework of our government and is the supreme law of the land.

3, 1783, and on the following November 23, the last of the British soldiers sailed out of New York harbor.

"A few days later Washington bade farewell to his officers and retired to his home at Mount Vernon..." 18

The war did not last to the end of Titus' enlistment period, 1784. He must have been released from duty at the specified conclusion of the war, April 18, 1783. Whether Titus returned to Wallingford after his term of military service or to Berkshire County, Mass., we do not know. As told earlier, his 9 year old daughter died 28 Oct. 1784. She was probably buried in the graveyard plot that he had purchased in Meriden in 1771.

Even though researches had seemed to cooperate and verify what Jacobus had written in 1963, which had been a declaration of the authenticity of Titus' identity, still there were those of the Ira Rice Family Organization who would not accept the findings as facts. For those who may yet surmise that the Titus being referred to here in his locale of Berkshire County, Mass., was a different Titus than the one who married Lois Kellogg in Wallingford, Conn., it would be well to repeat the words of Jacobus as he completed his report of all evidences to the contrary. He wrote the following on June 28, 1963:

"So Titus Rice went to Mass. and enlisted for the town of Roxbury in Sept. 1781; and the descriptive list of 20 Feb. 1782 states that he was then 37 or 38 years old and that he was born in Wallingford, Conn. Now then: Titus, son of Gideon, was born in Wallingford—his birthdate was 4 Feb. 1744/5 (1745 by modern calendar reckoning), hence was 37 or 38. This proves that there can be no differentiation and that they are one and the same person and proves that Titus was living as late as 1782. (He did not die earlier leaving a widow). Another point to notice is that Hancock is in Berkshire County, and adjacent to the town of New Ashford.

"We have therefore traced Titus of Wallingford, who had married Lois Kellogg, to Hancock, next door to New Ashford, Mass. I understand that your ancestor, Ira, gave his birthplace as New Ashford, and his parents as Titus and Lois. This really completes the chain of evidence if you accept the statement of Ira Rice as authentic, and I can see no reason to doubt it..." 19

These remarks, in a letter form, dated June 28, 1963, were signed, personally, by Donald L. Jacobus who is a very dependable New England genealogist.

Titus' son, Ira (1-6), was born Oct. 28, 1793 at New Ashford, Mass., and there were three brothers and three sisters older than he who were listed in the 1790 census of Berkshire County. This count would include Titus' daughter, Susannah, who may have been living with her father for in 1794 she married Issac Burdon of that same vicinity.

According to estimates arrived at from the 1790 census, it is possible that all or some of the children listed in the third family could have been children of Titus and his third wife. It has been speculated that they may have been step-children from a former marriage of Titus' wife. However,

they all went by the name of Rice which tends to convey an acceptance of the first reasoning.

Titus' children have been recorded on family group sheets and submitted to the Genealogical Library in Salt Lake City by Dora Duncan giving credence to three wives: (1) Lois Kellogg, (2) Rachel _____, (3) Lois or Louis _____.

Children by first wife, md. 7 Sept, 1770:

1. Susannah Rice, b. 4 Nov. 1771, Wallingford, New Haven, Conn.; md. 1794, Isaac Burdon.

Children by second wife, md. abt. 1772:

2. Jacob Rice, b. abt. 1773, Berkshire County, Mass.; md. abt. 1808, (1) Welthea McLouth; died 9 Dec. 1846, ae. 83.
3. Rachel Rice, b. 1775, Berkshire County, Mass; died 28 Oct. 1784, ae. 9.

Children by third wife:

4. Girl, doc. in 1790 census, b. in New Ashford, Berkshire Co., Mass.
5. Girl (Elizabeth), doc. in 1790 census, b. in New Ashford, Berkshire County, Mass; md. Benjamin Saunders.
6. Boy (Jacob), doc. in 1790 census (evidently same as (#2) Jacob, above.
7. Gideon Rice doc. in 1790 census, New Ashford, Berkshire, Mass.
8. Jotham Rice, doc. 1790, New Ashford, Berkshire, Mass.
9. Ira Rice, b. 28 Oct. 1793, New Ashford, Berkshire, Mass.; md. (1) 1814, Minerva Saxton; md. (2) Sarah Ann Harrington, dau. of Benjamin and Ruth (Inman) Harrington, abt. 1825; md. (3) 20 Nov. 1856, Elizabeth Ann (Morris) Butler. 20

We are inclined to believe that Ira (#9 above) was taken by his brothers into New York after he had been left with no family in Massachusetts. At the time of Titus' last sale of land (1797) in Berkshire Co., Mass., Titus would have been 52 or 53 years of age, and Ira would have been 4 years of age. In "Footprints of Ira" the death of Titus is given as 1798/9. 21 If this is true, his death came in the same year that George Washington died. John Adams was President of the United States at that time.

In 1972, the following land records were found and reported by Mrs. Duncan:

"Titus owned land in Berkshire County, Mass. He made a sale of 81 acres of unimproved land as early as 1785 and 1786...On the 13th of Dec. 1793, the year that his son Ira was born, Titus acquired land, by deed, from the Commonwealth of Mass. On the 10th Feb. 1794, Titus sold one parcel of land. On the 10th of May, 1797, he sold another parcel of land. This was the last recording of land sales found and he was not listed in Massachusetts Special Census of 1798. Probate Courts were checked. Titus did not leave a probate in Mass." 22

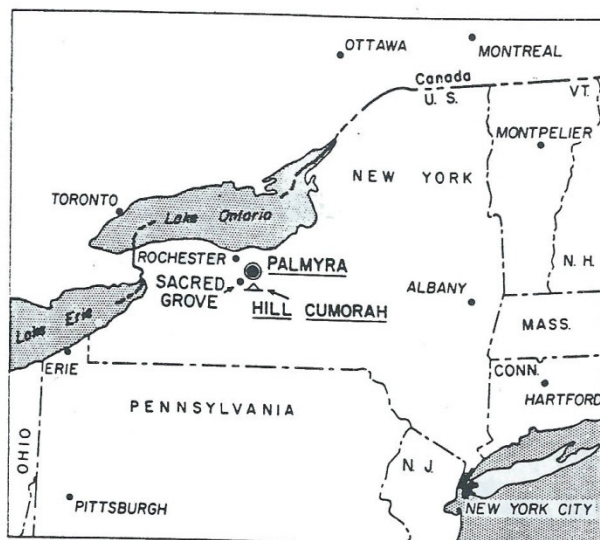
When Dora Duncan made her report to the Ira Rice Family Organization at Salt Lake City, Utah, 1976, she made this statement:

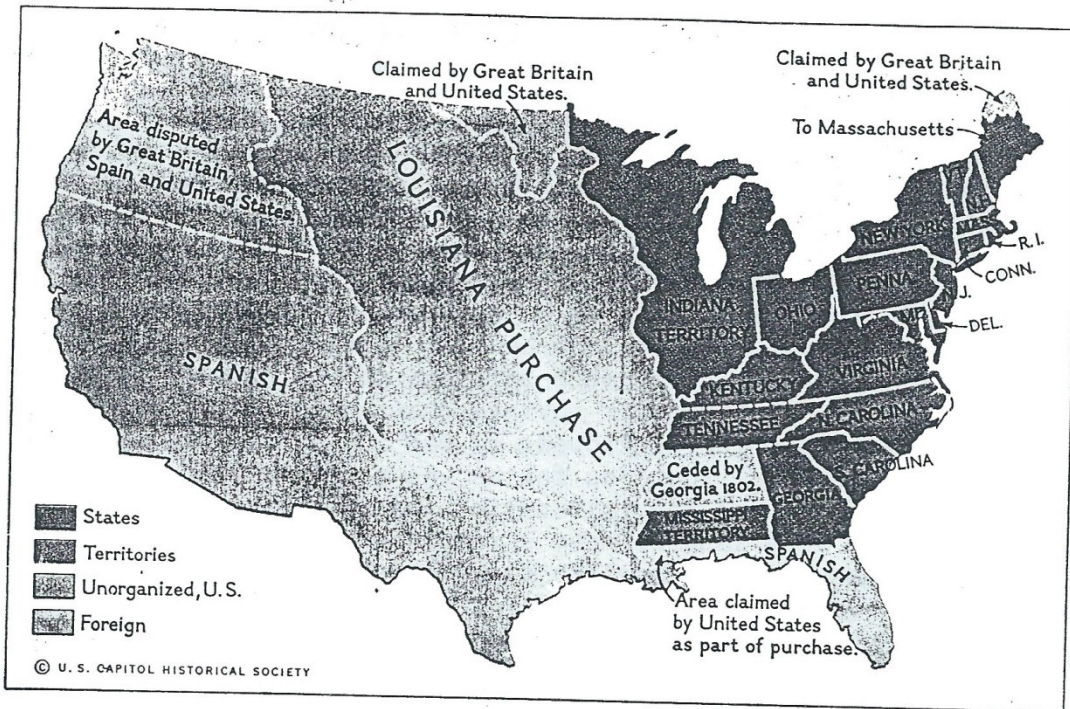
"The 1790 census of New Ashford finds Titus Rice and wife as head of a family of three boys and three girls" 23 (Ira was born in 1793)

There is no record that shows that Titus ever left Mass., but we do find notations showing that the sons crossed over the western boundary of Berkshire into the State of New York the great distance to the town of Manchester. Whether the three daughters removed from New Ashford, Mass., has not been found as a matter of record.

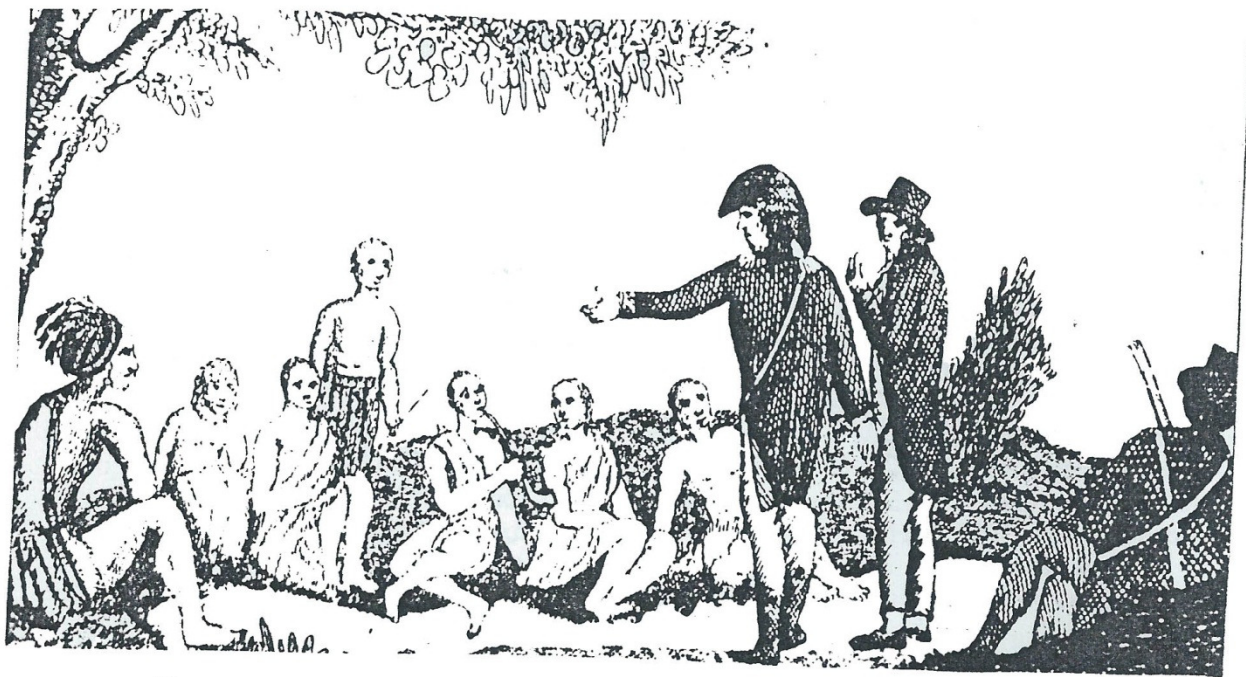
The Rice boys had to be men of bravery and valor, not afraid of the elements or the hardships of pioneering to have ventured the cross-country of rough terrain or the river navigation necessary at that time of primitive traveling. They crossed the formidable barriers of the Appalachian Mountains through the routes of the river ravines that had cut the natural range into navigable waterways. They followed, as was the custom of the frontiersmen of that day, the natural route as far as was possible on rafts and flat boats of the Hudson River and its tributaries and then going overland to Manchester. New York is a land of many streams and lakes and the journey was encountered by the Rices before the time that the Erie Canal had been constructed (1825). They were not the first to make this journey, but they were frontiersmen none-the-less. (Map #15)

Jacob, the oldest son of Titus, traveled the route with the Oliver Phelps Company in 1794. Many families from the East were traveling the familiar route across Berkshire County, Mass., to Ontario County, New York. A westward movement was pushing into new lands. The Louisiana Purchase of 1803, upon Thomas Jefferson's initiative, nearly doubled the nation's size.





An awareness of the great resource potential of the west was becoming a matter of interest, motivating the legislators to lay claim to land even beyond the area of the Louisiana Purchase. Congress voted \$2,500.00 to assist Lewis and Clark to make a journey to the Pacific Ocean which was accomplished by them during 1804-6.



This print of Lewis and Clark with Indian friends came from an 1810 account of the trek

These events were taking place at a time when frontiersmen were becoming anxious to be a part of a great colonizing effort. The future seemed to be ready to open up opportunities unbounded, and virgin lands lay ahead inviting the courageous to face new challenges. The Rice men had answered this call of the wilderness.

"The 1800 census of Manchester, New York, lists Jacob, his wife and family of small children. The 1810 census lists Jacob's family again and also Gideon close by. Gideon is between 26-45, his wife, between 16-26. They have a boy with them between 16-26. Ira was 17 years old in 1810. It is assumed that the boy with Gideon was his younger brother, our ancestor, Ira Rice.

"In the 1820 census, Jotham is listed, along with his brothers, Jacob and Gideon, as head of a household in the same area of Manchester, New York...Jacob and Gideon and their families are in this location as late as 1850." 24

However, Jotham and Ira, in the 1840 census, are found listed in Wayne County, Michigan:

"Jotham Rice, age between 50-60, his wife between 40-50. They had four boys.

"Ira Rice age 47, wife, Sarah, 40. They had 7 boys and 5 girls" 25

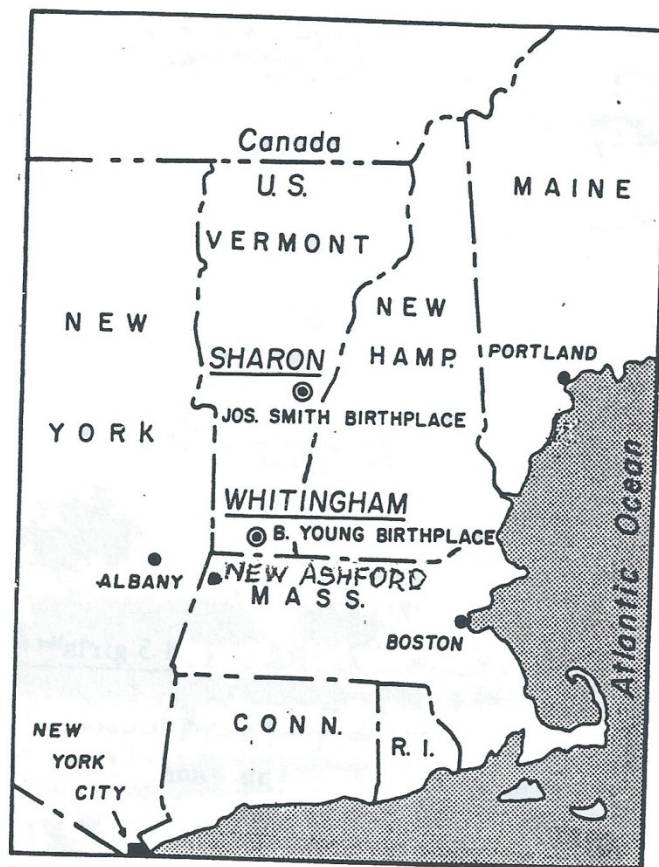
In the land records of Ontario County, N.Y., Jacob was found receiving land as early as May 1805. The probate of his estate was also found.

"Gideon received three parcels of land; 50 acres each, 1 May 1811, 8 Apr. 1812, 11 Apr. 1812..." 25

Jotham and Ira were among the first land owners in Plymouth or Northville township of Wayne County, Michigan and in Washtenau County, Superior Township. "Tax lists, 1827, shows the location of these properties. Ira received his first Patent for 160 acres on 26 July 1826. Second Patent of 80 acres on 6 July 1827." 27

A further discourse of the activities and migratory movements of Ira and his family is found in his own story (1-6) which follows this narrative of his father.

It will be noted in Ira's account that he and his family came in contact with missionaries of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (Mormons) while living in Michigan, but it is most likely that this was not their first contact with the Church. Manchester, New York, is in the area of Palmyra and the hill "Cumorah" where Joseph Smith, Jr. received the golden plates from which the "Book of Mormon" was translated. What the Rices knew about this event is speculative, but at least no one could have been in the area without having heard the news of such an alarming report. There is a possibility that the Rices had heard of Joseph's vision as a lad even before Joseph had moved with his parents from Sharon, Vermont, to Palmyra, New York, at the time the Rices were still in New Ashford, Mass., in which case, Titus, himself, may have heard about the boy, Joseph Smith. This, too, is only speculative. The location of Sharon Vermont is not far distant from New Ashford, Mass. (see map)



This brings us to a period of time in New England's history when great religious controversies were arousing conflicts among neighbors and churches. The striving for the truth was evidenced in far less than serene contemplations. This spirit of dissent caused much disunity in the churches and revilement among the people. Ministers of the gospel competed to increase their church membership and friends often became enemies.

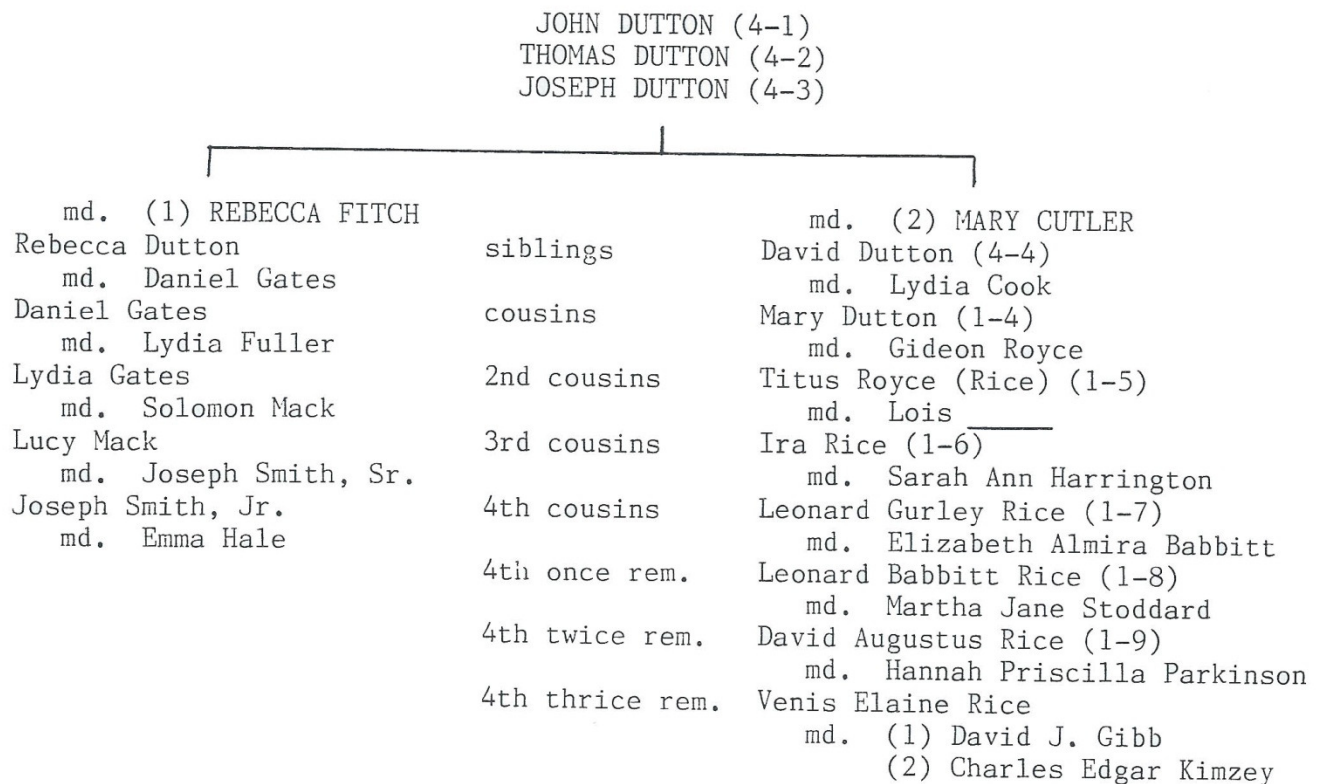
Whenever the contentions became pronounced the religious differences played a part in group migrations to new areas. Many of our New England ancestors lived during this period of ripening confusion over issues of religion.

Titus' great grandfather, Joseph Dutton (4-3) had become the progenitor of many lines of descendants but two of these lines were to figure significantly into one of the greatest religious migrations that the world has ever seen--The Mormon 'Exodus to Utah'. Joseph Smith Jr., a young lad, living in Sharon, Vermont, was caught up in the religious confusion that had persisted to his time and place. Joseph eventually was instrumental in the restoration of the Gospel of Jesus Christ to the earth. This restoration was something the world had been waiting for ever since the time of the 'Great Apostasy'. Both the apostasy and the res-

toration had been predicted by prophecy and recorded in the scripture. (see appendix #1.) The occurrence of the restoration set in motion a chain of events that actuated the exodus of thousands of members of the divinely organized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints. Religious persecution pervaded to such an extent that a migration was the only alternative left for the church.

These events are of interest to us, the descendants of Utah pioneers. Little did Joseph Dutton realize the significant part that some of his posterity would play in the role of helping to build up a Zion in the West. Little did Titus realize that his youngest son, Ira (1-7), and a grandson, Leonard Gurley, (1-8) were to be pioneers of such a great movement.

Joseph Smith was a descendant of Joseph Dutton (4-3). His grandmother, Lydia Gates, was a second cousin of our Titus Rice. The fact remains that Joseph Smith, the latter day prophet, was Joseph Dutton's third great grandson and so, also, was Leonard Gurley Rice. These two descendants, Joseph Smith and Leonard Gurley Rice were fourth cousins. The chart shown here illustrates the merging of these two lines to a common Dutton ancestry.



The story of Titus has been a patch-work of many detached items of research, the seams of which have been in blocks that could resemble a crazy-patch quilt like some our mothers and grandmothers used to make--beautiful satin and velvet pieces with a multiple of embroidered stitches to hold it together. It is comforting, like the warmth of mother's quilts, to know that we have a story of Titus, such as it is, patch-work or not.

- | | |
|--------------------------------|------------------|
| 1. #158 p. 1 | 17. ibid p. 268 |
| 2. #156 | 18. ibid |
| 3. #158 and 159 | 19. ibid p. 270 |
| 4. #3, Vol. 7, p. 1557 | 20. #156 p. 2 |
| 5. ibid | 21. #184 p. 57 |
| 6. #158 p. 3 | 22. #158 p. 2 |
| 7. ibid | 23. #156 p. 2 |
| 8. ibid | 24. #170 p.(1-5) |
| 9. ibid | 25. #162 |
| 10. #7 p. 381 | 26. #158 p. 3 |
| 11. #156 | 27. ibid p. 2 |
| 12. #158 p. 4, items 22 and 23 | 28. ibid |
| 13. ibid p. 4 | 29. ibid |
| 14. ibid | 30. ibid |
| 15. #123 p. 267 | 31. ibid |
| 16. ibid pp. 267-8 | |