

Dick,

We are working on SR Women's Program for Sept.

Deven Lewis has done a lot of work on John Rice as we will be doing Susie Spence Rice story in our program.

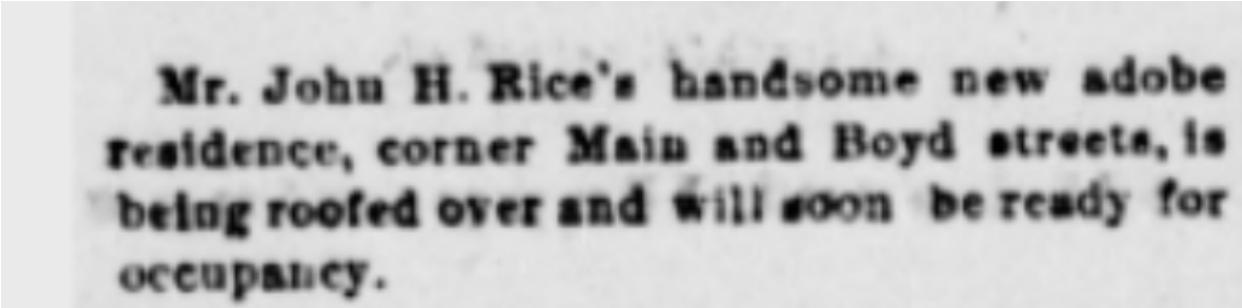
If I remember right you are doing a book on John Rice???

The following is some of Deven's research:

On Mon, Feb 24, 2020 at 10:48 AM Deven Lewis <deven7314@gmail.com> wrote:

In working on material for Kathy's portrayal of Susie Spencer Rice, I was looking through the Berkeley issues of the SR Miner and found this article:

Silver Reef Miner, Sept. 29, 1880, Local Intelligence Column



Mr. John H. Rice's handsome new adobe residence, corner Main and Boyd streets, is being roofed over and will soon be ready for occupancy.

Susie gave birth the following month, so it appears the location of their residence sometime after this article would have been what we refer to as the Rice Bank Building (!). I believe that has to be the case because the other corners of Main and Boyd were not owned by John as far as our records show: the northeast corner was the Sanford and Jacques property; the northwest corner was Lot 1 of Block 14 owned about that time by John P Quillan and then by the Miners Union of SR; and the southeast corner was Lot 11 of Block 14, which was never owned/occupied by anyone according to the records of Dr. S., the work done by Wyman, and the archaeologist study of Block 14.

We know once the sandstone building we call the Wells Fargo Building was completed in early 1878, John moved his Leeds Banking Company (with Wells Fargo of SLC as the correspondent

Bank) into the north side of the building; I've not been able to determine how what we call the "Rice Bank Building" was used. So, it makes sense that it was or became a residence for he and Susie in 1880.

I'd like Kathy (as Susie Spencer Rice) to be able to reference the building as her residence in her talk. But I'd like to be sure no one has other information that contradicts my conclusion? Okay, the building was originally cut stone and adobe per the information below:

https://issuu.com/utah10/docs/uhq_volume29_1961_number3/95

Today there is little left of the town which was once the largest in Washington County. The Wells Fargo Express Company Building of cut stone and the adobe house of John H. Rice remain unchanged, but everywhere else the desert has taken over. The land looks now much as it did before the Buckeye Reef, Bonanza Flat, Tecumseh Hill, and the thirty other mining claims were being operated. The reef, a white up-thrust, runs in an undulating line through the valley like the backbone of a gigantic fish lying a little on its side; the desert vegetation covers the ruins and scars, and except for a few skeletal walls, all traces of the busy life of Silver Reef have been wiped out.

<http://wchsutah.org/people/john-holt-rice.php>

John Holt Rice was born October 15, 1836 in Farmville, Prince Edward County, Virginia.

John moved to Silver Reef sometime in 1875 or 1876. **There he built a two-story building of mortared adobe brick and cut rock, with a full basement and wooden floors, on Main Street.** This building housed the Leeds Banking Company, where John served as cashier for several years. He also had a palatial residence in Toquerville where he intended to go soon.

John also built the Wells Fargo and Company building, which still stands in Silver Reef today. At the time, it was touted as one of the finest structures of its kind in southern Utah.

LoAnne

A couple of weeks ago John H. Rice, Wells, Fargo & Co's agent in Pioche, and Earl Hamilton, a highly respected saloon keeper of that town, engaged in a quarrel, when Rice cut Hamilton in the breast, from which wounding he died on Sunday, the 12th. The parties had been warm friends. The killing occasions much mourning, both on account of the slayer and slayed, in Pioche.

April 1876 Salt Lake Herald Republican

Wells, Fargo & Co. have a large place for bank and express office. The telegraph line is not yet completed to this place, but is doing a large business at Leeds.

Dec 1876 Salt Lake Herald Republican

In the absence of a banking institution, a savings and loan society has been organized by the prominent citizens of this town, each member paying \$1 per week until a capital is accumulated that may be obtained in cases of emergency, on thirty-day loans, by any of its members, by paying a good interest. The office of Judge W. T. Barbee has been removed from Bonanza to Silver Reef, occupying the building formerly used as Wells, Fargo & Co.'s express. The building has been re-

Aug 1877 Salt Lake Herald Republican

To-day Wells, Fargo & Co.'s office moves to Leeds, without any valid reason, and against the wishes of the community. This will prevent the stages from coming through here, a place where more business is done in a day than at Leeds in a month. Petitions will shortly be in order to the Union Pacific and other departments.

TELEPHONE.

July 1877 Salt Lake Tribune

Extension.— The Deseret Telegraph Company has completed an extension of line, from Leeds to Silver Reef, and yesterday opened an office in the last named place.

March 1877 Deseret News

Notes from Silver Reef.

SILVER REEF, April 4, 1878.

Editors Herald:

Weather delightful.

New buildings daily going up.

Barbee's mill works splendidly and is daily turning out \$500 of bullion.

Grain, butter and milk are scarce.

Hay is \$30 per ton.

There are fewer idlers than usual.

All looks prosperous and serene.

Rice is finishing up his fine stone block, and the roof is going on Clancy's.

Shade trees on the sidewalk, and flower gardens in the parlor and on the porch, which help to beautify.

The ice wagon is to be around next week and the silver Reef Echo is soon again to put in appearance.

J. E. J.

Apr 1878 Salt Lake Herald Republican

The block of stone buildings being erected by J. H. Rice has a good force of masons at work, as has also the large fireproof cellar of the Harrison house.

Jan 1878 Salt Lake Herald Republican

The new firm of Liddle & Co. have opened their large stock of ready-made clothing in the fire proof stone building on Main street, that was intended for an express office.

The restaurant owned by Miss L. Freudenthal has suspended and the building is for rent.

Rice's stone block is so far finished that Liddell & Bros. have moved in and are doing a dashing business.

May 1878 Salt Lake Herald Republican

Silver Reef.

From a gentleman just up from Silver Reef we learn that that is a mighty lively camp, in fact it is the most lively place in the whole southern country. New buildings are continually going up. Messrs. Woolf & Jordan have just moved into a fine new brick store, and John H. Rice's block, built of white sandstone, is completed and is being occupied. One store as soon as fitted up will be occupied by Wells, Fargo & Co's. express office. Their agent is now building one of the strongest vaults in the territory, in which to store the valuables entrusted to the company. The mining interest is flourishing, the mines looking better than ever before. Twenty eight stamps are running continuously, and the amount of bullion turned out may be judged by what is expressed over Gilmer & Salisbury's stage line alone, which amounts to about thirty bars per week, valued at over \$40,000. All the usual accompaniments of the successful mining camp are fast being developed in Silver Reef. John Chinaman is going in in full force, and shooting scrapes and street fights are not of unfrequent occurrence.

May 1878 Salt Lake Herald Republican

Married.

Elsewhere appears the notice of the marriage, at Silver Reef, on Sunday, April 4th, by Justice K. Phillips, of Mr. John H. Rice and Miss Susie Spencer, the former of Silver Reef, the latter of this city. Mr. Rice is the popular banker of Silver Reef, and Miss Spencer is one who is widely known and has delighted many theatre-goers in days gone by, but of late she has ceased to appear before the footlights. We congratulate both on the happy event, and with their many friends wish them unbounded joy.

Apr 1880 Salt Lake Herald Republican

REEF RACKET.

Financial Embarrassment of John H. Rice.

The Camp is Still "Expecting."

SILVER REEF, June 5, 1881.

Editors Herald:

We have, for a week or more, had a time of no little excitement and embarrassment. It was fully expected that the Stormont mill and mine would have been put in active, full operation on the 1st inst., but in this we have failed. Colonel Allen is reported to have been advised by the company's managers to delay for another month; then, our currency in the camp having been principally checks of J. H. Rice on a Salt Lake bank, and these having been refused at the said bank, quite a panic ensued. Mr. Rice was interviewed, and candidly admitted his present inability to provide for his paper, but said that his assets were ample, and liabilities would all be met within a reasonable time, and if not involved in suits at law, his financial trouble would soon be overcome. His creditors and neighbors, having great confidence in his honesty and integrity, accept his explanation, and in good faith bide their time and lay away the checks.

Captain Lubbock returned last week and immediately took control of the Christy Company's business, paid off for the previous month, and this was a slight relief, financially.

It is now expected that all the three idle mills will be put in operation by the 1st of July. The Stormont Company are now working about fifty men in the mines, mostly prospecting for ore and making ready for a force of hands when wanted.

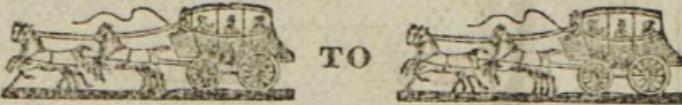
The weather has been quite hot and windy for a week past. Ripe fruits begin to make their appearance in the market. Hay is down to \$12 and \$15 per ton; butter and eggs go begging for an offer; chickens are scarce and in demand at advancing rates. The health here is good, and improving in St. George. O, the flies! J.

Jun 1881 Salt Lake Herald Republican

The Leeds Banking Company (at Southern Utah) has suspended payments. As the *S. R. Miner* states, the assurance, however, is given that all outstanding liabilities will be met as speedily as possible.

Jun 1881 Ogden Herald

DAILY STAGE LINE
.... FROM
SILVER REEF



Milford and Pioche

Connecting with tri-weekly lines to
Hot Creek, Tybo, Belmont, Morey,
Grantsville and Candelaria,
And half-daily lines to
Hamilton, Cherry Creek and Eureka.

FARE:

From Silver Reef to Cedar City.....	\$ 6
From Silver Reef to Milford.....	12
From Silver Reef to Beaver.....	12
From Silver Reef to Pioche.....	15
From Silver Reef to Eureka.....	45

JOHN H. RICE, Agent.

Apr 1882 Silver Reef Miner

DEATH OF JOHN H. RICE.

Another Mining Pioneer of Nevada and Utah Suddenly "Crosses the Divide."

The sad news was telegraphed Mr. D. S. Spencer yesterday that his brother-in-law, John H. Rice, had died in Tombstone, Arizona, that morning, from an attack of pneumonia.

Deceased was born in Texas, and at the time of his death was 51 years of age. When a young man he came to the West, went through many of the vicissitudes incidental to pioneer life, following the mining excitements from the Comstock, White Pine, Eureka, Pioche, down to Silver Reef, where he engaged in the banking business—made money and lost it—and about three years ago sought Arizona as a field for new operations in which to woo Fortune's favors back again. A letter received from him a few days ago left him in his usual health, and the first intimation that anything serious had occurred was the dispatch already referred to. The body will be brought to this city for interment beside the remains of his wife, and will arrive here during next week.

Throughout the West the name of John Rice was well known. Kinder to others than to himself, he failed to keep the gold his energy and industry brought him; and stronger in his friendship than in his love of lucre, he created a circle of friends who will learn with sincere regret of his sudden call.

In his social relations the deceased proved himself a loving and devoted husband and father, and leaves two children in this city to whom his death will be a sad bereavement. To his intimate companions he was a fellow of infinite jest; those appreciated him better who knew him best, and now that his memory is but left, his friends will treasure and hold it sacred.

THE INSURANCE SUIT.

The Two Children of Susie Rice Receive Equal Benefits.

The last difficulty concerning the payment of the insurance on the life of the late John H. Rice was settled yesterday by a decision of Judge Zane. Mr. Rice was a member in good standing of the A. O. U. W. of Nevada, and the \$2,000 policy he held in that organization had been made payable to his wife, the late Susie Spencer Rice. She died sometime before him, and he had the right of changing the name of the beneficiary; he neglected to do so, however, and his death found the policy still standing in his wife's name. She had left two children, one Judith Rice by him, and the other Frankie Rice by a former husband. The A. O. U. W. were inclined to hold that the entire \$2,000 should be paid to Mr. Rice's child, Judith, and the amount was tendered to her guardian, D. S. Spencer. He, however, declined to receive it, stating that he well knew that Mr. Rice had always looked upon Frankie as his own child, and that both he and his wife had intended that Frankie should inherit equally with Judith. To settle the matter beyond question, the A. O. U. W. trustees deposited the \$2,000 with the clerk of the court and brought suit nominally against D. S. Spencer, guardian for Judith and John Sharp, Jr., guardian for Frankie, asking for a decision of the court as to whom the money should go. Ransford Smith represented the trustees, and Legrande Young and S. W. Darke the guardians. Judge Zane yesterday decided that the \$2,000 should be divided equally between the two guardians for the benefit of the two children. The remainder of the insurance on Mr. Rice's life was in the shape of policies with regular companies, and was all paid some time ago. In this action the A. O. U. W. paid all costs.

Oct 1886 Salt Lake Herald Republican