

## Asaph Rice of Northboro, Massachusetts

Born: 11 November 1768. Asaph Rice was 81 years old at the time of the 1850 National Woman's Rights Convention held in Worcester, Massachusetts.

Died:

Married: To Hannah Rice, who was 73 years old at the time of the 1850 convention.

Mr. Rice was a farmer and prominent citizen of the town of Northboro. He served as town assessor from 1799-1800, 1822, and 1830. In 1814, he helped form the Northboro Manufacturing Company. In 1818, he served on the committee who superintended the erection of a new meeting house. In 1821, He was Chairman of the committee to build a new town hall.

On 6 June 1817, Mr. Rice joined the Baptist Society of Westboro. On 12 April 1832, the Evangelical Congregational Church was organized in Northboro. Mr. and Mrs. Rice joined the church.

Mr. Rice was involved in both temperance reform and anti slavery activities. He was on a committee against the annexation of Texas. His name was on a petition calling for a new political party that would nominate a candidate "KNOWN to be opposed to the further extension of slavery."

On 23 October 1850, Asaph "arose early and walked eleven miles 'before breakfast' to ensure a good seat " at the convention, according to Lawes.

Sources:

1850 Massachusetts Census

Kent, Josiah Coleman, *Northborough History* (206)

Lawes, Carolyn Jo. *Public Women, Public Lives: Women in Worcester, Massachusetts, 1818-1869* (164)