

### History of Mary King

Mary was born 12 February 1630 in Dorset, England. She was a daughter of Thomas King Jr. and Anne Collins.

Mary came to New England with her parents and one brother and four sisters. Even though she was probably only about twelve years old when they left, she was old enough to experience the thrills a child receives from leaving a country like England where they had many friends and relatives and coming to a wilderness country. Then experiencing the loss of their dear mother not long after their arrival. Anne died 24 November 1642. They remembered her teachings, as they went on serving the Lord and trying to keep his Commandments.

Mary being 12 years old when her mother passed away was old enough to help her father and older sister Anna and brother Peter with the work including the care of her younger sisters. Then sorrow came again by the loss of her baby sister who passed away about a month after her mother's death.

Mary chose a nice man by the name of Thomas Rice for her groom. They were both living in Sudbury, Middlesex, Massachusetts at the time of their marriage which was about 1651. Thomas Rice was the son of Edmund Rice and Thomasine Frost. They were blessed with 13 children.

Thomas Rice must have proved to Mary's sisters to be a good husband as two of her younger sisters married Thomas' brothers. Elizabeth King married Samuel Rice and Mercy King married Joseph Rice.

One would think Mary would have enough work to do caring for five children, her oldest daughter about 7 years old and her oldest son 9. But lo and behold we find her taking in a boarder who evidently could not care for himself, as he was sick part of the time while staying with them.

There just doesn't seem to be any end to the amount of work this ambitious lady would do.

Mary's husband Thomas was a deacon in the church so the children had good upbringing.

Thomas Rice was a petitioner in May 1656 for the new town of Marlborough, Massachusetts, so moved his family there after he got a house built for them; which house was probably burned down along with the other houses of Marlborough during the Philip's War in 1675 and 1676.

When Mary and Thomas Rice's thirteenth child was almost two years old, Thomas passed away on 16 November 1681 leaving Mary with the responsibility of raising most of their children by herself.

Mary had thus proved her worth, so did a marvelous job teaching her children the way God would want them to live. She also worked hard with her older children in the home and on the farm and with God's help all went well.

The Puritans were a prayful people. This family must have thanked the Lord every day for their many blessings.

After Mary had her family raised, she was about 74 years old when an incident happened on 8 August 1704 that saddened her heart once more. Two of her grandchildren, her son Thomas Rice's children, were kidnapped by the Indians and taken to Canada.

Mary withstood this trial as she had the other trials in her life. A few years later she passed away. Mary's will was written 10 May 1710 and proved 11 April 1715.