

# **Home of Truth History**

Current Organizational Structure , Work and Writings of Annie and Harriet Rix, History of the Alameda Home of Truth, and Rix Family Ancestry

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Dedicated to: Founders Annie Rix Militz and Harriet Hale Rix

### Acknowledgements:

In appreciation for the initial work of various Ministers and Members throughout the last 30 years. including: Rev. Jesscie France, Rev. Monica Brown, Rev. Suji Fox, Rev. David Borglum, and Rev. Jasmine Schaeffer.

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### -I- PRINCIPLES

### INTRODUCTION

Annie Rix Militz, one of the Home of Truth Movement Founders, was also among the New Thought pioneers who created the International New Thought Alliance (INTA) in 1914. INTA is the oldest New Thought repository in the world, with hundreds of member individuals, churches, and organizations. The Home of Truth is a lifetime member.

Looking forward, it is our hope that by adopting the INTA Principles as our own, we are more able to honor the past, live in the present, and co-create the future.

#### The Home of Truth Principles (INTA Principles Adopted in 2013)

- 1. We affirm God as Mind, Infinite Being, Spirit, and Ultimate Reality.
- 2. We affirm that God, the Good, is supreme, universal, and everlasting.
- 3. We affirm the unity of God and humanity, in that the divine nature dwells within and expresses through each of us, by means of our acceptance of it, as health, supply, wisdom, love, life, truth, power, beauty, and peace.
- 4. We affirm the power of prayer and the capacity of each person to have mystical experience with God, and to enjoy the grace of God.
- 5. We affirm the freedom of all persons as to beliefs, and we honor the diversity of humanity by being open and affirming of all persons, affirming the dignity of human beings as founded on the presence of God within them, and, therefore, the principle of democracy.

- 6. We affirm that we are all spiritual beings, dwelling in a spiritual universe that is governed by spiritual law, and that in alignment with spiritual law, we can heal, prosper, and harmonize.
- We affirm that our mental states are carried forward into manifestation and become our experience in daily living.
- 8. We affirm the manifestation of the kingdom of heaven here and now.
- 9. We affirm expression of the highest spiritual principle in loving one another unconditionally, promoting the highest good for all, teaching and healing one another, ministering to one another, and living together in peace, in accordance with the teachings of Jesus and other enlightened teachers.
- 10. We affirm our evolving awareness of the nature of reality and our willingness to refine our beliefs accordingly.

### -II-ORGANIZATION

The Home of Truth (THOT) functions firstly as a spiritual unit with sharing of the spiritual a foremost priority. From this base, all Members cooperate to provide the many programs, events and services of THOT to promulgate spiritual principles in an atmosphere of peace, fun and enjoyment! This cooperative creativity strengthens our skills as builders of spiritual community and our community itself as a viable force for Love in the world.

As a spiritual community, we also function as a non-profit religious organization in order to facilitate our programs. This means we function also as a business. As a corporation, we operate with a Board of Directors and a budget of income and expenses. As each member of the community assumes responsibility for the success of this institution, we each and all flourish!

#### **Corporation:**

THOT functions as a legal corporation with all the applicable rights and stipulations.

**I.** Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws: These have been carefully drawn up and are reviewed and/or revised every three years to protect and empower THOT in maintaining consistent high quality in every area.

**2.** Ownership: The Corporation is the legal owner and its members are responsible for the well-being of the Center.

#### Management-Leadership-Participation:

THOT functions best when all aspects of the ministry are administered and supported effectively. The Pathways of

Service cover aspects needed to keep our Center running on course.

The Pathways of Service are:

Building and Grounds Community Care Community Outreach Education: Classes and Youth Education Expansion/Prosperity/Events Finance Committee Music Ministry Membership & Hospitality Public Relations/Advertising/Marketing Sunday Service Committee (Worship Team) Prayer Chaplaincy

Together with Divine guidance, we cause The Home of Truth to flourish in every way.

**Finances:** Our income depends on three main sources: I. Tithes/Offerings/Donations: These monies primarily come from Sunday Service offerings but include donations made during the week to the general operating fund and/or special renovation and other projects.

2. Income from Rentals/Classes/Events: Various groups rent space in any of our three available spaces: Sanctuary, Garden Cottage, and Meeting Rooms (upstairs); all classes or workshops must be in alignment with the Home of Truth Principles.

**3.** Fundraising and Expansion: This third means of generating income occurs when we have pledge drives, bake sales, rummage sales, concerts and other events designed to build revenue.

#### Membership: A Spiritual Commitment

We are honored and delighted that you are considering becoming a member of The Home of Truth. We recognize that this is a step on your spiritual path that you do not take casually, and one that is filled with opportunities for increased love, truth, joy, creativity, self expression and peace as you join us in devotion, community and service. You become a partner with us as we grow and thrive. We welcome you with open hearts!

Being a member of The Home of Truth is a statement-both personal and public-- of your commitment to your own spiritual development and to learning about and celebrating your spiritual path with this group of people. It does not involve any commitment to or subjugation to any creed or individual leader. It is recommended that you take time and get to know us before you take this step. Attending classes, workshops, or Sunday Morning Services for one year is ideal.

Becoming a member does involve your making several important agreements, according to our By-Laws.

**1.** Attend an orientation which is based on this booklet as an introduction to Home of Truth History and basic membership requirements.

**2.** Regular announcements of how to schedule a session with the current Minister or volunteer committee member will be made at Sunday services and stated in a monthly bulletin.

**3.** Complete a new member application form (M-001), which you will give to the Board of Directors for consideration and acceptance of your membership.

**4.** Attendance at a New Member Honoring Sunday is also recommended.

**5.** Member Meetings - Attend the Annual Membership Meeting in February and other specially-called meetings. Your presence at the Membership

Meeting is preferred when exercising your voting privilege. However, if unavoidable circumstances keep you from attending, you may give your voting proxy to another member to present at the meeting.

#### **Privileges of Membership**

**1. Election of Directors:** Members elect the Board of Directors at the Annual Membership Meeting. Directors serve for a period of two years with up to three consecutive elected terms.

**2. Amending Articles and Bylaws:** Though our Bylaws are carefully thought out and worded, members have the right to approve, by majority vote, the amendments of Bylaws made by the Committees and the Board of Directors.

Ownership of Assets: All assets and property became subject to the California Corporation Code in 1926 and IRS regulation for 501c(3) exempt corporations. A Membership vote is required should it become necessary to dissolve the corporation. Within this process, all assets would be distributed to another 501c(3) nonprofit religious organization.
 Members receive reduced rates of facility rental

fees for personal or business use.

### -III-Home of Truth Beginnings

[1] The history of the movement in California dates from 1887, when Emma Curtis Hopkins, formerly one of Mrs. Eddy's students, went to San Francisco at the request of interested people and taught a class of 250 people, including Mrs. Sadie Gorie, Miss Harriet Hale Rix, and Annie Rix. \* The name for mental healing employed at first was Christian Science, but the first society was known as The Pacific Coast Metaphysical Bureau. This was later called the Christian Science Home, then the Home of Truth, the name that has been retained for mental-healing centers on the Pacific coast. The Home of Truth in Alameda was established in 1893. Later, similar centers were opened in Los Angeles, San Diego, Oakland, San Jose, Sacramento, Berkeley and Sierra Madre, California and also at Victoria, B. C. and Walla Walla, Washington.

The work of the original Home of Truth in San Francisco is typical of this work at its best. The location of the Home was changed several times, and in the great fire of 1906, the building with all its contents was destroyed. The constructive spirit of San Francisco showed itself in the activity of the Home, which almost immediately went to work arranging for its meetings in the homes of students until a suitable place could be found for its permanent housing.

Besides the thousands of adults who have been taught the true life and who have been freed from poverty and all manner of disease, especial attention has been given to children, the Sunday-school class-work for them forming an important feature in the Home. Several true visions have been launched, supported by free-will offerings for a few years, then passed into the invisible, there to be strengthened until the race is ready to receive them back in full force, such as a kindergarten, a woman's exchange, Homes of Truth for children, and centres where unhoused men may find the atmosphere of a true home and comfort.

A vital Men's Meeting conducted by men only found true devotion and highest results in aiding men to feel at home in the truth. There was one in the San Francisco Home and one in the Los Angeles Home, with weekly gatherings. As the Home idea may not be confined to a house with many rooms and servants, but may find expression in a flat, apartment, hotel, boat-house, cottage or room, so the Home of Truth idea has found ideal expression in many small centres of truth known by various names such as 'The Down Town Centre,' San Francisco, with its 'Noon-day Talks.

The idea of the Home of Truth was expressed by one of the early leaders as follows: "A presentation of Jesus Christ's teachings and practice is offered to the world in these Homes that is believed to be the primitive ministry of Christianity which was given to the world for man's healing or salvation of body, mind, soul, and estate. The chief teacher and founder is Jesus Christ; the great authority for our belief is the Holy Spirit within each one; and the church is the whole body of divine humanity everywhere, visible and invisible, all being brothers and sisters, with one Father-Mother whose name is God. [end-1] The name "Home of Truth" in the tradition of all that "Home" and "Mother" represented: "A Home of Truth is a composite, as it expresses both the individual and universal ideas of what a Home should be; and the mothering spirit there goes out not just to one household, one family, or one set of so-called religious people, but to all people, all families, all nations, all religions; in fact, to every creature who lives on this earth plane of consciousness or some other."

Homes of Truth thrived under Harriet and Annie's ministry. Their years were called "The Golden Years" because of the growth and effectiveness of the ministry. The Alameda church building which currently houses the Home of Truth, was built by the Rix Sisters in 1905 with funds donated by their mother.

The spirit of Love and Truth truly abides here and in the hearts of all who come to this Alameda Home of Truth.

### -IV-

### Alameda Home of Truth Leadership History

(From the 86<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Research by: Glen Utterback-1979)

The Home of Truth of Alameda was established in 1893, by Harriet Hale Rix in a small flat over a bakery on the corner of Bay Street and Lincoln Avenue. Sister Harriet had been given a sum of \$100 by her father, Judge Hale Rix, for her to travel to the Chicago World Fair. Instead, she took the trip only as far as Alameda and began her own Home of Truth. Her father thought it a lost cause. He thought his "Harry" would starve as he couldn't see any money coming in on the "Love Offering Plan". To his and everyone's astonishment, the money came and the numbers grew until its first quarters were outgrown and it was necessary to move. All class work, services, interviews --everything was done freely and lovingly. Still each worker was always plentifully provided for; there was never lack. Harriet often said, "If I need a dollar, I find I have it and it would be the same if I needed \$100.00."

The Alameda Home moved to Park Avenue, then shortly to the old Barton home where the Alameda Hotel now stands. In 1905 the present Home was built, financed by Mother Rix and given to her daughters, Annie and Harriet, in support of their work.

(From Original Articles of Incorporation & Bylaws) The original Articles of Incorporation state its purposes to be: "to undertake, engage in, support, conduct and carry on enterprises for the physical, mental, moral, and spiritual welfare and betterment of ourselves and of our fellow men."

#### The Alameda Home of Truth Leadership History (From the 86th Anniversary Research by: Glen Utterback-1979 and later research by Rev. Carol Hanson) **1893 to 1918** Leader - Harriet Hale Rix (25 Years) Teachers/Workers: 1893-1918 - Mary B. DeWitt, Josephine Wilson. Faith Walsh, Alice Chapman, Carrie Blair Price, Fanny Gould, Grace Mininger, Edith Hast Donnelly, Lucy Beckham, Visiting Teachers: Paul Militz & Nellie Kemp, Lucy Beckham, Mr. & Mrs. Roheback, Gertrude Ledyard, Mollie Rankin, Edith Allen, Mr. Pringree, Fanny Speyer, Clara Lord (Bond), Mary & Daniel DeCamp, Benjamin Aspinall, Ida Mansfield Wilson, Francis Perry, William Farwell, George McConnell, Frances Perry, Florance O'Reilly, May A. Wiggin, Elsie Noonan, Sara Faulks, Elisabeth Mary Lewis, Eihelind Lord, Nina Walker, Clute Sproul **1918** Leader – Blanche M. Ayles (1 year) Teacher - Virginia Richards 1919-1920 Leader – Catherine Guthrie. (<2 years) Teacher – Mary Higgins 1920 Leader - Phobe Holms (< 1 year)Teachers – May Rowe & Martha Udell **1921** Leader - Florence Sullenberg (1 year) Teachers - William F. Lane & Margaret Abbott 1922-1934 Leader - Mary Deering (12 years) Teachers - Mrs. Ursula Loudenback, Elizabeth Keeler, Gussie Gardner, I. Virginia Richards, Grace Boake, Jessie Jackson, Gertrude Horner, Alice Hopkins, Alice Pennell Student Guests – Mary Sterling & Edith Buck **1934-1940** Leader – Alice Hopkins (6 years) Teachers – Rose Emery & Alma Morse 1940 – Leader - Mary Deering (<1 year) **1941-1948** - Leader – Jeanne Babbit (>7 years) 1948-1951 - Leader - Mary Deering (3 years) **1951-1968** - Leader - Gladys C. Grier (17 years) Teacher – Nelle Harris **1968-1976** Minister - Richard F. Kingsley (8 years)

## Home of Truth History

<ul> <li>1976-1979 Leader - Brian Combs</li> <li>1979-1982 Leaders - Bill Parish &amp; Gloria Balter</li> <li>1982-1984 - Rev. Monica Brown &amp; Rev. Maggie Kerr</li> <li>1985-1989 - Rev. Jescie France &amp; Kelly Keller</li> <li>1990-1991- Rev. Wayne Stevenson</li> <li>1992-1993 - Community Led</li> <li>1993-1997 - Rev. Suji Heochenaur-Fox</li> <li>1997-1998 -Community Led</li> <li>1998-2004 - Rev. David Borglum</li> <li>2004-2005 - Rev. Jasmine Schaeffer</li> <li>2006 - Acting Minister - Rev. Carol Hanson.</li> <li>2007 - Ministerial Team</li> <li>Rev. Mary H. Dyer, Rev. Carol Hanson &amp; Rev. Betty Lue</li> <li>2007-2010 - , Community Led</li> <li>2010 - Rev. Katherine Harts</li> <li>2011 - 2012 - Community Led</li> </ul>	(3 years) (<1 yearr)	
2011 – 2012 – Community Led(1 year)2012 – Interim Minister, Rev. Ouida Joi Cooper-Rodriguez (1 year)2013 - Senior Minister, Rev. Ouida Joi Cooper-Rodriguez (<1 year)		
2013-Present – Community Led		

#### -V-

### **MORE ABOUT ANNIE & HARRIET RIX**

Each of these two sisters was a remarkable woman, inspired thinker, writer and healer. Although Annie Rix Militz was perhaps the more well-known founding mother of The Homes of Truth movement, both women spent their entire adult lives teaching and facilitating healing of the people around them, following their inner truth and influencing many spiritual movements of the time.

At that time (the turn of the century), with the advent of the Industrial Revolution and Women's Suffrage, the idea of a patriarchal God was becoming inappropriate, especially to women and others of awareness, who sensed a God that was more internal, impartial and universal. The "New Thought" movement was an organic response to an outer-directed, male-dominated concept of God and society.

[<sup>1</sup>] Annie taught classes in Chicago, 1898-1902, when she was leader of the Chicago Truth Centre and speaker for the Prentice Mulford Club. Here is where she met and married Paul Militz, a fellow Hopkins student.

She also taught classes in Boston, Brooklyn and New York City, and then began a two- year teaching tour of the world, spending seven months in Japan, four in India, and six in England. In 1913 Mrs. Militz made a second tour of the world accompanied by three students, Miss Grace Wilson, Mrs. Anna. C. Howlett and Miss Florence N. Johnson. During this tour, Mrs. Militz taught in Honolulu, in the four largest cities of Australia, in Paris and in England and Scotland. Historically, Annie and Harriet had a great influence on the Unity movement, being the primary teachers in Unity's earliest years. They were also involved in founding the International New Thought Alliance (INTA), an organization dedicated to networking among various New Thought organizations and churches.

Unity had not openly acknowledged the Rix Sister's involvement in their beginnings. This is revealed in more detail in [<sup>2</sup>] *The Forgotten Contribution of Annie Rix Militz to the Unity School of Christianity* by J. K. Simmons. The ordination certificates for Charles & Myrtle Fillmore were signed by Annie E. Rix and Emma Curtis Hopkins. These and other documents have been donated to the INTA archives and to the Huntington Library, Art Collections and Botanical Gardens, 1151 Oxford Road, San Marino, California 91108.



[<sup>3</sup>] & [<sup>4</sup>] Annie met Swami Vivekananda, a spiritually illuminated teacher from India, at the Chicago First World Parliament on Religion in 1893. In 1900 he was a guest in one of the San Francisco Homes and visited a few days in Alameda, where he stayed at

the Aspinell & Neilson homes. (Home of Truth teachers). He gave lectures and classes in San Francisco and a few lectures in Alameda and earlier in Los Angeles and Pasadena, California Homes of Truth..

The Sister's respected this Eastern philosophy as the 'Allness of God' agreed with their teaching. Annie stated, "Those who take the stand that the Real Self is God, give the most perfect liberty to each individual to carry out his idea of God, and do not dictate his method." Annie was the primary force behind the New Thought Convention at the Exposition of 1915 in San Francisco, being the main draw for people from all parts of the country to participate. Harriet originated and coordinated a worldwide prayer network during World War I; a feat incredible even today with our technological access to people around the planet. What faith and determination they both had!

Annie and Harriet were prolific writers as well as inspired ministers, teachers, speakers, and catalysts for the many Centers. They wrote the major articles for and edited their magazine called Master Mind, which was subscribed to across the country. This periodical contained uplifting and spiritually educational articles by many writers of the time. It also contained instruction and lesson plans for the Homes of Truth throughout the country.

#### Commentary by Rev. Carol A. Hanson:

Sadly, based on my 18 years of study and research of the Rix sisters writings and searching the Unity, INTA and the Online New Thought Library sources; and trusting my own "Higher Self/Soul, It is my honest and heartfelt opinion that; Annie's later years of practice and teaching created a cultlike group that sincerely and wholly believed that it is our human potential to be resurrected in the physical body, after death and further, that humans could transfigure the physical body to have eternal life here on earth. Her last books, "Bread From Heaven" 1920 and "All the Way" 1922, provided 'The Way' for students to follow the path that took Jesus to his transfiguration and stating that if followed they could achieve the same ascension.

I reveal this opinion in an effort to be open and transparent and to express this rational possibility; That belief can become a fixation on only one possibility and thus can block one's continuing spiritual evolution in this amazing Creation that is All Life. It is like saying there is only blue in the spectrum of color. [Spectrum (plural spectra) is a condition that is not limited to a specific set of values but can vary, without steps, across a continuum.]

#### Commentary, continued:

Harriet, on the other hand was tending to the Los Angeles Home at 1975 West Washington Street, having left the Alameda Home in 1918 with her students, Leader, Blanche M. Ayles, and Teacher, Virginia Richards. According to the original Articles of Incorporation, Harriet remained in Los Angeles until shortly before her death in 1931.

There is no evidence that she continued her sister's teaching of resurrection. Harriet's writings, "Christian Mind Healing" and "Rich Mentality" revealed a much more practical interpretation of New Thought Principles.

In 1924 Harriet deeded the Alameda Home of Truth property to the students, and two years later, in 1926, she established the Alameda Home of Truth as a Corporation, transferring ownership of the property to the Corporation.

It may be that this very practical, worldly act allowed this one Home of Truth to survive. For, without the protection of Incorporation, the property would likely have been sold by students or ministers in leadership, prior to their departure and thus, many of us would never have crossed Paths or knew that Annie & Harriet ever existed. ~Rev. Carol A. Hanson~

#### -VI-

### Writings by Annie & Harriet Rix

A Prayer from Lesson I of "*First Principles*" of **Primary Lessons In Christian Living & Healing** by Annie Rix Militz - The instruction was to mentally repeat it every night and morning

God is Health, Life, Love, Truth, Substance, Intelligence - God is All

God is Omnipresence, Omnipotence, and Omniscience. I am the Thought of God, the Idea of the Divine Mind. In Him I live, move, and have my being.

I am spiritual, harmonious, fearless, and free. I am governed by the law of God, the everlasting Good And I am not subject to the law of sin, sickness, and death.

*I know the Truth, and the Truth makes me free from evil in every form and from* 

All material bondage, now and forever.

God works through me to will and to do whatever ought to be done by me.

I am happy. I am holy. I am loving. I am wise. I and the Father are one. Amen

This prayer was identified as the 12 Home of Truth Principles, however, it is uncertain at what point in history or under what leadership this was begun. Rev. Jasmine Schaeffer expanded on them, with commentary, in 2004 and they remained in use until 2013.

### The Atonement Understood

by Annie Rix Militz (An Address Given Before the Boston Class of 1918)

The absolute truth is, that there is but One Being in the universe, and that one is God; that man is nothing of himself, separate from God; that it is a delusion, a false belief, that there is any separation that is real.

There is but one Man, and that Man is God. There is but one God of the whole earth, the God of all nations, and it shall be proven as it is prophesied: " And the Lord shall be king over all the earth: in that day shall there be one Lord, and his name one." - Zech. 14:19.

According to appearances, there have been many gods as well as many men - many things and men separate from God. And the great delusion of mankind consists in this belief, that there is another being besides God, "man," quite separate from God; another substance besides God called "matter" and another power besides God the good, called "evil."

The doctrine that destroys this delusion of separateness and proves the unity between God and Man; between God and His world; between God and the one Power, Good, is that called The Atonement. The word atonement defines itself, when it is divided into its syllables: the first syllable is "at," the second is "one," the last syllable is "ment," this Latin ending meaning "state of being." The whole word means "the state of being at one." This is the simple, direct definition of the word "atonement"-the state of being at one. The same state in which Jesus Christ was when he said, "I and the Father are one." The Atonement is the process and the truth and the state of being ("the Way, the Truth and the Life") that heal the sense of separation such as belief in the first place, that man is separate from God; in the second place, that man is separate from his fellow-beings; and third, that man can be separate from himself. All three of these are healed by the Way, the Truth and the Life, Jesus Christ, who came walking the Way, announcing the Truth and living the Life that heals every sense of separation.

#### From a Lecture on "The Rich Mentality"

by Harriet Hale Rix Delivered at Hotel Brighton, Washington, D. C., September 4, 1914

#### **Opening:**

I WILL take up tonight the second subject of my course, The Rich Mentality. The world is being educated, as never before, to recognize the truth, the whole truth, about prosperity. The world is demanding more today of the noble and ideal, of honesty in all financial dealings, than ever before. We are going through a very critical time and those who know most about the truth in connection with prosperity, success and kindred subjects will pass through this crisis with the least proportion of unrest and sense of loss. The more materialistic, those of the commercial world, who must have money in order to feel rich, will suffer most from panic, the disturbance and pressure. But as we go through these critical times, we are purified and cleansed, especially if we try to think correctly of that which appears to our disadvantage. I would like to make a statement here at the very beginning and have you entertain it tonight in the silence, and plant this statement, this idea, in your heart as you would a seed, to grow. It is this:

That the more difficult the situation is, the higher you will rise if you think correctly about it. Let us make a familiar and close communication with the heart of it, so that in the future when we may need to be strong under great pressure or temptation we may through this correct thinking about it be blessed and comforted.

#### Closing:

Let us be silent for a moment and entertain these statements. Let us relax and open our hearts to the Greater Self, to the Self more abundant, to the One Self of us which is not duality nor multiplicity nor division, but One Self, radiantly beautiful and divine, the Self that is described only in deific terms.

I am rich in God's love.

I give my best to the world and the best the world has comes back to me.

I am Prosperity. I am Success. God made me so.

I claim my own freely and fearlessly.

My Prosperity is based upon the true foundation,

therefore is changeless, is GOD,

and the Spirit, overshadowing and indwelling, my one and everlasting good.

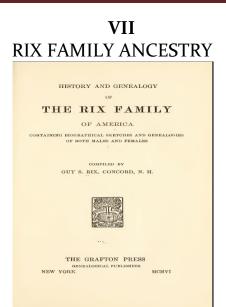
Amen!

#### Other Books:

Books, Lectures, and Master Mind Excerpts available at: http://babel.hathitrust.org/cgi/pt?id=uc1.\$b274238;view=1 up;seq=1

Title	Published
Sermon on the Mount - Annie Rix Militz	1904
All Things Are Possible To Them That Believe	1905
Spiritual Housekeeping - Annie Rix Militz	1910
Primary Lessens in Christian Living & Healing	1912
Prosperity: Lectures 1900-1913 - Annie Rix Militz	1913
Christian Mind Healing – Harriet Hale Rix	1914
Rich Mentality - Harriet Hale Rix	1914
Alive Forevermore (Master Mind magazine) A.R.M	. 1916
Concentration - Annie Rix Militz	1918
Renewal of the Body - Annie Rix Militz	1913
Bread From Heaven - Annie Rix Militz	1920
All The Way - Annie Rix Militz	1922
Child Enfoldment- Annie Rix Militz	1924
The Protecting Presence - Annie Rix Militz	1924

### Home of Truth History



**[Excerpt from The Rix Family of America]** This genealogy treatise of William and Thomas Rix, sons of Robert Rix, of Canninghall, England, the only ones coming to this country spelling their name "Rix." The following letter from Mrs. H. L. M. Fry, of

Washington, D. C, will explain itself.

It has been impossible to obtain, or even see the manuscript now in possession of Mrs. Fry because, as she informs the writer, she intends to publish it in connection with other matters she has about Old Brancaster Castle. Guy S. Rix Washington, D. C, Sept. 26, 1894.

**[Excerpt from] Letter to Guy S. Rix from Mrs. H. L. M. Fry** In 1868 I went to England and visited my birthplace, and arriving at the station, Thorp Burnum, the guard, pointed out to us the house where Admiral Lord Nelson was born. Reaching the village of Brancaster we were met by my cousin, William Rix, whose house overlooks the German Ocean. Brancaster Castle was once England's bulwarks. It is situated on a high cliff on the coast of

Norfolk, battlemented and flanked by four high towers, east, north, west and south, the northern tower looking out on the German Ocean. The walls of the castle are washed by the sea, and a deep moat is filled by water from the sea. The fortifications extend along the road for a great distance. It has withstood the Norseman, the Danes and French invaders in its glory and power. The hundred dungeons were once filled with prisoners who listened to the notes of the Troubadour. Of later times the castle has been a refuge for oppressed, wayfaring, persecuted believers of the faith of Christ of all lands. But like Dudley Castle, Wiek Castle, Carew Castle, Doncaster Castle, Woodcraft Castle and others, the glory has departed. The quaint church in the village of Brancaster has a beautifully carved altar, the work of one of our ancestors who was a prisoner in his own castle. It is a wonder that it escaped Cromwell's heavy hand. The church is within the walls of the Castle and in a good state of preservation. The Castle was built by one of the early Dukes of Norfolk, and came into possession of the Earl of Offord and the Rix family.



The arms of the house of Norfolk are quartered with the arms of Offord, the Rix family, on one of the old tablets on the walls over the altar in the old Brancaster church, also on two or three

of the slabs on the floor of the church over the vault. In the church of the Castle, is an iron chest fastened into the walls, in fact it is a part of the church, and in which was kept the family records of births, marriages and deaths. It not only contained these records but often private papers. Brancaster Castle has gone out of the Rix family, and as no one there now is interested in the family, I secured many valuable papers and family records, from which I have gleaned some items which may be of interest. But little is known of the private life and actions of Henry VIII, but there is a written account of his visit to Brancaster Castle Dukes of Offord. At the time of the trial of the unfortunate Queen Anne Boleyn, queen, because of his long friendship for her father. Sir Thomas Boleyn gave his support to the King against the Pope, and urged the breaking asunder the bond that bound England to Rome. The bond was broken, and Henry constituted himself the head of the church, and England rejoiced and Protestantism was in a manner protected. But the good Earl of Offord had to pay the forfeit of his head for his firm friendship to Sir Thomas Boleyn. They died together, Sir Thomas being the first victim. As they walked out to the block, they stood and embraced each other. "Earl Offord" said Sir Thomas. "we have seen the fetters broken, the kingdom saved from popish power, the people may have to suffer, bleed and die for many years, but England will be the bulwark of Protestantism. Farewell my friend in the body, but our souls will be this night with Our Reedeemer and Lord."

#### Commentary by Rev. Carol A. Hanson:

[<sup>5</sup>] Though this story may have been told to generations of Rix children, it was later discovered that no such castle ever existed. An article about several people traveling to England in search of this castle was published by – © David Sapsted and The Daily Telegraph.

So was this family from nobility or were they simply like many others who came to America in search of religious and personal freedom? What we believe about ourselves carries much power regardless if it is actual fact or simply what we have been taught about ourselves.

#### [Excerpt from History and Genealogy of the Rix Family in America, Page 95/96]

**413.** Hale Rix<sup>7</sup> (Hale<sup>6</sup>, Nathaniel<sup>5</sup>, Nathaniel<sup>4</sup>, James<sup>3</sup>, James<sup>2</sup>, Thomas<sup>1</sup>), born in Stanstead, Canada, Jan. 8, 1828: married. Jan. 6. 1855. Alice F. Locke, daughter of David and Florinda Locke, of Lyman, N. H. He left Stanstead with his parents when he was about three months old, they brought up at Littleton, N. H., where they remained one year, when they removed to Dalton, the next town north, where they lived till death. Mr. Rix received his education in the public schools of Dalton, at Newbury Seminary, Newbury, Vt., and at Peacham Academy, Peacham, Vt. As usual with young men of that period he was brought up on the farm, working sometimes in the mill, and teaching school in the winter. In December, 1850, he started for California via the Isthmus of Panama, arriving in San Francisco in March, 1851. He worked at mining, studied law, was admitted to the bar, and held the office of Police Judge in San Francisco for nine years. From 1880 he practiced law in San Francisco up to his death, which occurred in 1903-4. Children:

**862.** i. Annie Laura », b. Nov. 13, 1855; m. P. Militz; resides in San Francisco, Cal.

863. ii. Alice Florinda », b. Aug. 4, 1857;

d. Jan. 6, 1861. (Age 3)

864.\* iii. Abbie Louisa », b. Dec. 10, 1861.

865. iv. Hattie H.s, b. Nov. 10, 1863.

866.\* V. Ella Frances, b. May 31, 1868.

**867.** vi. Edward Hale<sup>^</sup>, b. Dec. 15, 1872; resides in San Francisco, at No. 142 Twelfth St.

From: www.archives.com & www.ancestry.com Judge Hale<sup>7</sup> Rix & Alice Locke: **Children:** (8<sup>th</sup> Generation in America) (862)Annie Laura Rix - 1855 – 1924 – Married Paul Militz - [No Children] (863) Alice Florinda Rix - 1857 - 1861 - (d. age 3) (864) Abigail Louise Rix - 1861 - 1932 (Alameda) Married: Fredrick Maurer Children: Alice Clara 1887-1967 Married: William Bacon Children: Betty Bacon -1910-1991 [4xMarried, [NC] Robert M. Bacon -1913-1991 [3xMarried, NC] Gene Maurer 1891-1897 (d. age 6) Mildred 1898-1979 Married: Bradley Brown Children: Clayton M. Brown, 1925-1999 [NC] Robert B. Brown, 1927-1979 [N C] Rix Maurer 1887-1962 (SF) Children: Rix Maurer, Jr. 1918-1962 (No Children) William R. Maurer, 1919-1927 (d.age-8) (865) Harriet Hale Rix - 1863 - 1931 [No marriage, N C] (866) Francis Ella Rix - 1868 - 1934 Married: Myron B. Hickok Children: Frank H. Harrison 1888-1915 Children: Francis M, Harrison (no info) Edna Hickok 1891-Married Fredrick Johnson [N0 Children] (867) Edward Hale Rix - 1871-1953 (Alameda) Married: Emma Niles [No Children]

#### San Francisco Call, Volume 114, Number 25, 25 June 1913 "Miss Edna Hickok Married to F. M. Johnson Last Evening –

Alameda, June 24 – Christ Episcopal church was the scene of a wedding this evening when Miss Edna Hickok became the bride of Fredrick Monroe Johnson. The prominence of both families made the event an interesting one for numerous friends. Mrs. Johnson is a granddaughter of the late Judge Hale Rix, one of San Francisco's pioneers, and a daughter of Mrs. Francis Hickok. Her aunts are Miss Harriet Rix and Mrs. Anna Militz. She is a graduate of Stanford University. Mr. Johnson is a son of Mrs. James W. Ward of San Francisco. He has large business interests in Napa, where the pair will live."

#### Commentary by Rev. Carol A. Hanson:

The inclusion of the fancestry of the Rix family reveals that they grew up in a prominent and privileged, San Francisco family. Perhaps this 8th generation family also accepted the history of Brancaster Castle as truth.

Our beliefs shape our personality and character to a great degree. What we believe about the physical, mental and metaphysical triune of being human, shapes what we become. In that way it may have been what gave the Rix sisters the strength of will to achieve all that they did.

It is likely that they had a very high opinion of their value and worth in the world, and in spite of the rigid social and political limits that women faced in that era, they were undaunted in their belief and works as New Thought Pioneers. Left blank for your Notes:

### End Notes:

[1] http://horatiodresser.wwwhubs.com/ahotntm11.htm

[2] University of California Press

http://www.jstor.org/stable/10.1525/nr.1998.2.1.76

[3 http://vedanta.org/vs/wp-content/uploads/2012/07/Reminiscences-of-Sw-Vivekananda-6.pdf

[4] http://www.vivekananda.net/Lectures.html

[5]

Why Americans Besiege Norfolk's Fantasy Castle The mystery of why Americans keep turning up in a quiet seaside village demanding to see a medieval castle that has never existed has been solved. The tourists know the history of Brancaster Castle, on the Norfolk coast, and are familiar with the nobles who lived and fought there. Until now, villagers in the resort have only been able to smile and explain that the only thing approaching a castle in Brancaster is a ditch marking the boundary of a Roman fort that fell to pieces almost 2,000 years ago.

Now, Bernard Lock, a civil servant living in the village near King's Lynn, has uncovered the reason for the procession of visitors. The culprit turns out to be an American called Guy S Rix, a descendant of a 17th century emigrant from the village who, in 1906, wrote a book, now in the Library of Congress, entitled The History and Genealogy of the Rix Family of America. In it, the late Mr. Rix embellishes his family's life and standing in Britain by inventing a titled past and life in Brancaster Castle. The fad among Americans for tracing family roots prompted the pilgrimages to Brancaster Castle. Mr. Rix's book gives what is believed to be an accurate history of the family since Isaac Rix a Quaker, sailed into Jamestown, Virginia, after his marriage in Brancaster in 1668. Only the bits before that are bogus.

He quotes a letter, supposedly written in 1894 by a Mrs. HLM Fry - "daughter of Sir John Rix, son of the Earl of Offord, an ancient family, a branch of the house of Norfolk" - in which the castle comes alive. It is described as having once been "one of England's bulwarks" and "battlemented and flanked by four high towers, the northern tower looking out on the German Ocean".

Mr. Lock, 65, decided to uncover the truth after being approached by four American couples hunting for the castle last year. He said: "It is quite amusing that so many Americans appear to have been taken in." Mr. Lock has written to the Library of Congress, which has agreed to include a correction about the castle, as has a Massachusetts publishing company, which is re-issuing Mr. Rix's book this year.

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http://apling.freeservers.com/Villages/BrancasterCastle.htm Copied for information purposes, with acknowledgement to the copyright holders by E/C/ ("Paddy) Paddy Apling, 4th April, 2001; links updated Feb. 2011.