



The Knickerbocker News Photos  
Mrs. Harriet Langdon Pruyn  
Rice, wife of William Gorham  
Rice, who died Monday.

## MRS. RICE GIVEN ROYAL HONORS

### Native Albanian Received by Reigning European Monarchs

Honors by royalty were among the many distinctions gathered during the lifetime of Mrs. William Gorham Rice.

As a girl Mrs. Rice and her sister were taken to Europe following her graduation from St. Agnes School in 1885. Abroad a year, they went to Paris, where Mrs. Rice was placed with the family of Eugene Bergier, pastor of a large Protestant church, so she could master French. Later her mother, Mrs. John V. L. Pruyn, took the house of Lady Rayleigh in Oslow Gardens, London, for the season and in 1886, at a May drawing room, Mrs. Rice was presented to Queen Victoria.

Returning to London in 1890, they occupied the home of Viscount Halifax, whose son, the present Viscount Halifax, later became Viceroy of India and is serving as foreign minister of Great Britain.

Aug. 30, 1924, there came another high honor to Mrs. Rice when she was presented with the Order of Orange-Nassau by Queen Wilhelmina of the Netherlands "in recognition of your faithfulness to the country of your ancestors and of your untiring efforts in maintaining Dutch tradition and spirit among Dutch colonists in Albany and in looking after their interests."

The presentation was made on behalf of the queen by Dr. DeGraeff after the tercentenary celebration of Albany's settlement by the Dutch.

Some time afterward both Colonel Rice and Mrs. Rice were granted audiences with the queen of the Netherlands and then with Elizabeth, queen of the Belgians. On Colonel Rice King Albert of the Belgians bestowed the Order of the Crown.

Mrs. Rice and her husband made it a point to take August holidays in Europe, often stretching their visits to six weeks.

Greatly fond of Holland and Belgium, they came to know both countries intimately during their many visits. Carillons of Belgium enchanted them and brought to them the hope, later realized through a public subscription conducted by The Knickerbocker News, that Albany also would have them

*Wed July 3, 1939*

## Albany Pays Tribute at Burial Of Mrs. William Gorham Rice

### Program on City Carillon, Which Her Husband Helped to Sponsor, Precedes Funeral in Historic St. Peter's Church

Mrs. William Gorham Rice was buried in Albany Rural Cemetery today beside ancestors who brought to America one of its most famous names.

At 1:30 p. m., a half hour before funeral services in historic St. Peter's Church, Albany's carillon, which her husband helped to sponsor several years ago, played a special program in her honor.

Born Harriet Langdon Pruyn, she was married to Colonel Rice in 1892 and became a leader in several organizations, including Mohawk Chapter, DAR, Dutch Settlers Society of Albany, Society of Colonial Dames, Albany Country Club, Society of Graduates of St. Agnes and Friday Morning Club and was first vice-president of the Albany Institute of History and Art and served as honorary president of the Alliance Francaise. She was decorated by Queen Wilhelmina with the Order of Orange of Nassau.

Renowned for her benefactions, which included erection of the John V. L. Pruyn Library on land she inherited from her father, the latest gift of Mr. and Mrs. Rice was deeding their home at Washington and Dove to the American Humane Association only a short time ago.

Besides her husband Mrs. Rice, who died Monday afternoon in her suite at the De Witt Clinton, is survived by a son, William Gorham Rice Jr., professor of law at the University of Wisconsin.

All branches of the Albany Public Library were closed from 1 to 6 p. m. today in tribute to Mrs. Rice, one of the library's trustees.

Intensely proud of her lineage, Mrs. Rice, member of the Pruyn family that came to America from Antwerp in 1660, sought always to carry out the traditions of her father, the late John V. L. Pruyn,

chancellor of the University of the State of New York.

The home at Washington and Dove was visited by some of the most distinguished men and women in America. Mrs. Rice entertained every governor and every member of the Court of Appeals since the day she and her husband occupied it.

Among her guests were Judge John Bassett Moore, Robert Underwood Johnson, once editor of Century Magazine; Judge Samuel Seabury and Mrs. Seabury, Mr. and Mrs. William Church Osborne, Thomas Mott Osborne, Mr. and Mrs. Henry W. Morgenthau, Prof. L. P. Jacks of England, Dr. John H. Finley, former state commissioner of education, and Mrs. Finley; Miss Mary Woolley, former president of Mount Holyoke College; Herbert Hoover, Ray Stannard White, George Foster Peabody and Franklin D. Roosevelt from 1910 until he went to Washington as President.

Her guests represented all walks of life, school teachers, librarians, bishops, priests, professors, regents, Colonial Dames of America and others.

In having all these people as her guests Mrs. Rice was carrying out a tradition of her father, who always was among interesting people. No. 13 Elk, where Mrs. Rice was born, was

