After his military service, for which he received a pension of eight dollars a month, John Read married Dicey T. Duke in Montgomery County, Tennessee, 4 January 1816. She was the daughter of John Duke, and his second wife, Martha "Patsy" Emmerson. Dicey's younger sister Catherine, married James Walter Trotter and moved to Lodi, Mississippi. (5)

Sometime in the early 1820s', the Read family moved to Alabama. Land office records at Cahawba (Cahaba) reflect that in November 1820, John Read purchased four Claiborne, Alabama town lots. (6) But, by 1828 the family was to move again, this time to Mississippi. (7) According to the 1828 Madison County Tax List, John settled with Dicey, and their seven children, in Madison County, Mississippi. (8) They later moved to Hinds County, near Edwards, Mississippi, (9) where they became members of the Old Liberty Church. John was followed to Mississippi by his brother Lemuel, and his wife Mary McMurry. On 28 December 1835, in Madison County, Lemuel signed a promissory note for two thousand four hundred sixty-seven dollars that is endorsed by John Read. (10)