

# HADLEY NEWSLETTER

(Hadley, Headley, Hadlee, Hadly, Hadleigh, etc and their related kin)

Vol. CCIV

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## Finding and tracing our English Hadley roots:

When our early English ancestors arrived on the shores of the North American Continent to establish a new life, those efforts first met with several failures, including the collapse of Colony Roanoke (Jamestown) in 1585. However, the Jamestown settlement did meet with some success in 1607.



When our ancestors left England, they left behind them *“Wrong and oppression, the intolerance of a cruel priesthood, the threats and taunts of a bigoted and stupid king, which drove them to these shores, and they brought with them little love for England or its ruling class.”* (Quote by Judge Samuel Page Hadley in his book *“Genealogy Record of Moses Hadley and Rebecca Page of Hudson, N H” 1887*). Judge Hadley’s lamenting caused him to start working on a book many years before it’s printing in 1887, and according to his notes, spent a good deal of time trying to establish his Hadley genealogical roots and biological connection to any Hadley (or Hadleigh) in England – all without success.

Judge Hadley scholarly researched three different Hadley lines in England and surmised the Hadley blood line likely went back to what is now the country of France sometime before the battle of Hastings in 1066. He further surmised our name likely had the prefix of **Le** or **De**, with **De** being the most likely. The use of a prefix was discontinued around the time of *King Edward IV*, who had been born in Normandy France, but ruled England from 1442 to 1483.

Judge Hadley, along with others for the past 150 +/- years, had researched three towns in England that carry the Hadley name. This has been done in an effort to determine, if possible, the source of our roots. All three of these places are rather close to each other, and our Hadley name very likely has some connection to, at least, one of the locations.

1. Hadleigh (also spelled Hadley) in Suffolk, England.
2. Hadley in Essex, England
3. Hadley (or Monken Hadley) in Middlesex, England

Judge Hadley did uncover notes from some disgusted English clergy who had been sent to the developing colonies in an attempt to “bring the colonists some religion.” Several unnamed English clergymen returned to England after spending time amongst the colonists trying to reacquaint them with a Christian life. They reported that the colonists, many of whom were alleged to be Quakers, “were a bunch of heathens” and they had little interest in pursuing any efforts that would save their souls.

We ask why was it the clergy had such little success in assisting our relatives to reconnect with their Christian heritage? I think it is fair to assume many of the Colonists were just too busy in trying to stay alive by growing/hunting for food and providing shelter from the elements and, in some instances, securing their personal safety by defending themselves from the marauding natives. I also suspect that our relatives may have had some suspicions as to the motives of the clergy as well.

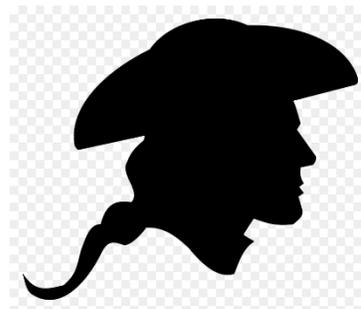
The Hadley Newsletter does not mean or wish to imply our relatives were without high moral and ethical values or lacking in a Christian home. Quite to the contrary -- in our research of the historical records, we have found NO suggestion our Hadley relatives were without a deep Christian faith – a faith that helped to bring them to an unexplored new world and to endure the extreme hardships and high probabilities that their lives would often be hanging on the edge of existence.

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## **Plummer & Parrott Hadleys:**

The Dec 2022 issue of the *Hadley Newsletter* talked about the name **Plummer** as being a bit unusual as a first name for a Hadley, although it has been found given to three different Hadleys. **Parrott** is also a bit of an unusual first name, yet it has been found given to four different Hadleys.

The first record where we can find the name of **Parrott** Hadley is to a son of Samuel and Dorothy (Colby) Hadley. This Parrott was born on 03 Sept 1716 in Amesbury, Essex, Massachusetts. Our research points to the book “*Genealogical Records of Moses Hadley and Rebecca Page*” by Judge Samuel Page Hadley printed in 1887. Samuel suggests the name Parrott can be found as the surname of Francis Parrott, a leading citizen in the town of Rowley, Essex, Mass. Rowley was an adjacent town to Nottingham West that underwent a name change to Hudson, New Hampshire. Another Parrott was born in an adjacent Massachusetts town (re- named of Amesbury) where we assume most area residents knew of Francis Parrott too.



This Parrott was too old to be an active participant in the American Revolution, although his son Stephen had played a role in that war.

The three additional Parrott Hadleys we have found were all related to the original Parrott. They were Parrott Hadley (1743 -?), Parrott Hadley (1763-1765?) and Parrott Hadley (1788-?)

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“Integrity is doing the right thing, even when no one is watching.” *C. S. Lewis*

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## **Future Hadley Reunion:**

Is there anyone interested in putting together a committee to plan another Hadley Reunion? If you are interested, please let Jim Hadley know of your interest and phone #. He will then contact you.

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