

HADLEY NEWSLETTER

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

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Hadley Reunion: July 15 & 16 2011

Work is progressing smoothly with the development of the Summer Hadley reunion. The dates and location have been fixed. **Friday July 15, 2011** will be an optional day, filled with activities exploring the historic areas of Lexington and Concord, MA, culminating with a welcome dinner. **Saturday July 16, 2011** will see all workshops taking place in the conference facilities of the historic Trinitarian Congregational Church, Concord, MA. The reunion will conclude with a buffet dinner at the Bradford Plaza Hotel, Bedford, MA. (The Bedford Plaza has made available to us a block of rooms at a very special price for that needing lodging. See the *Question & Answer* document)

A Genealogy Oddity:

What is the probability of having two different Jessie Hadleys whose fathers were named George Hadley and whose grandfathers were named William Hadley? I would guess that probability is not very high and yet that situation exists within those with the sir name of Hadley. To make matters a bit more confusing both these lineages of families lived about the same time in the nineteenth century and relatively close to each other in New England, although they apparently are from two different and unrelated Hadley lines.

The Genealogist

“My feelings are that in each family there is one who seems called to find the ancestors. To put flesh on their bones and make them live again, to tell the family story and to feel that somehow they know and approve. To me, doing genealogy is not a cold gathering of facts but, instead, breathing life into all who have gone before. We are the story tellers of the tribe. All tribes have one. We have been called as it were, by our genes. The bones here are bones of my bone and flesh of my flesh. It goes to doing something about it. So, as a scribe called, I tell the story of my family. It is up to that one called in the next generation to answer the call and take their place in the long line of family storytellers. That, is why I do my family genealogy, and that is what calls those young and old to step up and put flesh on the bones.”

*By: Della M. Cummings Wright - Re-written by her Granddaughter, Della JoAnn McGinnis Johnson
Edited and Reworded By: Tom Dunn.”*

The Female Hadley Line:

Mona Podgurski, Canton, MA monop@aol.com has submitted the following as part of her efforts to follow the female line. As part of the many workshops that are being contemplated or are under development for our 2011 reunion, Mona will be presenting the workshop, *“Following the Colonial Hadley Women”*

“Following the Female Line”

Mary Proctor married George Hadley in Ipswich about 1650. Now she was a Hadley for the rest of her life. Does this mean she was no longer a Proctor?

My name is Podgurski, but I was born Rothfuchs. My mother’s name was Rothfuchs, but she was born Lee. Her mother’s name was Lee, but she was born Hadley. The names change, but the blood and genes remain.

Balthazar Willix came to Exeter, New Hampshire in 1635; married Hannah (known only as Hannah Mrs. Willix) and they had three girls. Then Hannah was murdered in 1648. The murderer was never brought to justice, and Balthazar remarried twice but had no other children. One of the girls, Hazelelponi Willix, married John Gee, a sailor, in 1660, and they moved to Martha’s Vineyard. John drowned, and Hazelelponi came back to Ipswich, where her daughter Mary Gee married Thomas Pickering. Several generations later, Rosamonde Pickering married Samuel Drew, and they had, among their eight children, Sarah Drew, who married Moses Pickering. Their daughter Harriet Pickering married Dana Hadley. Dana Hadley begat Dana Hadley who begat Harriet Hadley, who had Mona Lee, and now here I am. From Hannah Willix to me, 400 years of blood and genes.

My brother, my daughter and I are descended from Willixes and Gees and Pickering and Drews, and a myriad of other names, but we never would have known this, or Hannah’s tragic tale, without knowledge of our female line. Take your mother’s or your grandmother’s name and research it. You are as connected to her ancestors as you are to your father’s, and they may tell you some interesting stories.

Last summer a group of Hadleys from the reunion went to Lyndeborough, NH, to visit the Hadley homestead. Had they but known, the Proctor homestead was just down the road.”



Happy New Year!

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