

HADLEY NEWSLETTER

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

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Col. Henry H Hadley and his “Colored Troop” Regiment:

In 1862, the United States was deep into its Civil War. On 18 April 1862 the Corps d’Afrique created the 119th Kentucky Regiments and was redesignated on 22 May 1862 the *United States Colored Troops* (USCT). These men were the forerunners of the famous *Buffalo Soldiers*.



In June of 1862, construction began on Camp Nelson, Kentucky, which was designated to be the recruiting and training center for the “Colored Troops” from Kentucky. These troops were mostly freed slaves. These “Colored Troops” numbered in excess of 23,000 men. They initially served in garrison duty although later became active in a number of battles and served with distinction.

Henry Harrison Hadley (1841-1903) <http://www.hadleygenealogy.net/ghtout/grf538.html> then a Captain in the Union Army Signal Corps, was sent by Special Order of the Quartermaster’s Department to take charge of the 119th Regiment. Captain Hadley, who by the end of the war had gained respect and admiration for his character and leadership ability from his troops, had been promoted to the rank of Lieutenant Colonel.

The “Colored Soldiers” who came to Camp Nelson also brought their families with them in the hope they would become free from slavery. As a result, a refugee camp was established at Camp Nelson and Captain Hadley was instrumental in arranging food and housing for many of these families. While there, some of the refugees made an *American flag* from scraps of cloth which they presented to Captain Hadley in appreciation for his assistance. Such a gift is a testament to the respect and esteem the residents of the Camp had for our relative, Colonel Henry Harrison Hadley. It is thought this flag might have been carried into battle by his troops, although there are no photographs to substantiate this claim.

The flag, since its gift to Col. Hadley, has remained in his direct family care and is now held by Henry Harrison Hadley IV. The flag will remain in the Hadley family ownership. We are now looking for a museum that will accept this flag on extended loan since the Narragansett Historical Society, Templeton, MA will not accept any Hadley items on extended loan or does not have a direct connection with the town of Templeton.



Henry Harrison Hadleys VI, IV, & V

NOTE TO OUR HISTORY BUFFS: You will note the flag has 35 stars consisting of two circles plus a center star along with 13 stripes. We suspect, as with most flags, there is a reason/symbolism behind elements in the flag. We believe the 35 stars represent the number of States that existed when the flag was created and the 13 stripes represent the initial 13 colonies.

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The Truth about our Forebearers



As we delve into the recorded history of our Hadley family, we often read about the many wonderful things that had been done by our ancestors, along with testimonials of what great individuals they were and some without recorded faults. Their obituaries will reinforce the good lives that were led.

We sometimes pause and ask, what were these folks really like, knowing it is the custom for most families to record only the good in their forebearers. We maintain that our Hadley relatives were just like the rest of us, prone to sin and responsible for deeds they hoped would never be revealed.

In spite of efforts to not record unpleasant deeds, some of those deeds, nevertheless, have been recorded, and often by sources outside the family such as newspapers, neighbors, town and church records, court transcript, etc. The current genealogical database www.hadleygenealogy.com has the names of more than 29,700 Hadleys and their immediate kin. We are proud to be a Hadley and usually have immense pride in 99% of the Hadleys who have gone before us. They were, for the most part, hard-working, responsible, loving, God-fearing folks.

We will not use names, but will list some of the unsavory deeds that are attributed to a very few of our Hadley relatives. We have found, what the *Hadley Newsletters* believed to be true, some of the following details. . .

1. We know of six Hadleys, five of whom were men, who have lost their lives in circumstances that have been classified as a homicide.
2. We know of seven Hadleys, five of whom were men, deserting their family.
3. There are records indicating several Hadley men were classified as alcoholics.
4. Sadly, we know of a number, perhaps a dozen or so, Hadley men who have taken their own life.
5. We have seen a few records for several Hadleys who died in debt and financial straits, and were classified as "paupers."
6. Many Hadleys have gone through a divorce, and not just those living in the 20th and 21st centuries.
7. We have seen one record of a Hadley man who was classified as a deserter from military service.
8. We have seen records for a very few Hadley men being sent to a jail or a prison.
9. There is a California record of a male Hadley, age 78, fatally shooting his 37 years old son.

We need to reiterate, in the strongest of terms, how successful most of the hard-working Hadleys relatives have been, while being responsibility to themselves, their families, their God, and to society.

"When nothing is going right – go left"

James R. Hadley 65 Rondout Harbor, Port Ewen, NY 12466 (845) 339-5363
Email: Jim@HadleyGenealogy.net or Jags@hvc.rr.com
Website: www.HadleyGenealogy.net or www.HadleyGenealogy.com

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