

HADLEY NEWSLETTER

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

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Glory and Honor to the Hadley Women:

It is likely you have heard the expression: “*Behind every successful man is a successful woman*”.

In researching our Hadley roots, we tend to focus primarily on the Hadley men. It is time we change that focus and to now try and focus equally on the Hadley women.

The known and acknowledged success of many men simply would not have been possible had they not have the support and strength from their wives. This positive attitude of support was often handed down through multiple generations.

Also, we need to acknowledge that behind the success of a man may be his same sex partner/husband as is the success of women with their same sex partner/wife.

In our western culture, it is the common practice for a woman, upon her marriage, to assume her husband's surname. When we researched the married Hadley women, we have found countless husbands who have found success. Usually the accolades are laid at the feet of the husbands and often little or no mention is made of their Hadley wives. We will cite some successful Hadley men and their extended families whose wives, no doubt, played a major roll behind the scenes of their husbands' success. Some examples are:



Chester Alan Arthur, was the 20th vice president of the United States and then became the 21st president. He was born in Fairfield, Vermont, in 1830, and his Hadley roots extend to his grandmother, **Hepzibah Hadley**
<http://www.hadleygenealogy.net/ghtout/grpf987.html>.

Lynford A Lardner, PhD Princeton University, was a code specialist during WW2, college professor and then worked with the US State Dept dealing with African affairs. His wife of 38 years, **Adelma J Hadley**,
<http://www.hadleygenealogy.net/ghtout/grpf317.html> herself highly educated, raised three children while supporting her husband; she thus became the co-backbone of their family. while allowing her husband the time to excel professionally.

Earl B Keller, MD, father of two children and husband to **Frances Elizabeth Hadley** (1913-1957)
<http://www.hadleygenealogy.net/ghtout/grpf7691.html>.

Nicholas R Richardson, Capt. father of three children and husband to **Harriet A Hadley** (1839-1920)
<http://www.hadleygenealogy.net/ghtout/grpf3537.html>

John Rogers, Col. father of four children and husband to **Mary Hadley** (1805-1842)
<http://www.hadleygenealogy.net/ghtout/grpf8859.html>

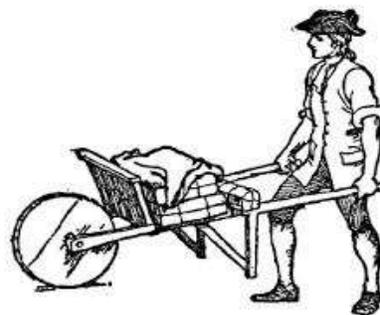
Sir William Campbell, Chief Justice of Upper Canada and Knighted in 1829. **Hannah Hadley** (1768-1843)
<http://www.hadleygenealogy.net/ghtout/grpf5369.html>

There are many more such examples of men who had a title. However, having a title was just one example of identifying a successful man, even though a title did not guarantee he was an honorable person. Often those without a title were equally major contributors to society and who held occupations such as farmers, merchants, politicians, labors, etc.

We invite you, our readers, to send us the name of a non-Hadley man you feel was an important individual and who was married to a Hadley woman. That man is to have been a contributing individual to our society by his character, work ethic and spousal/parenting skills, irrespective of his having a “title.”

Primogeniture Law:

We make the assumption that our **Patriarch George Hadley** was born in England and was subjected to the English Primogeniture Law – the feudal system. That law states the first-born male child will inherit all the real estate of his father. We can thus assume our Patriarch George was not the first-born son and likely came to “The New World” to fend for himself. Had he stayed in England he would have been forced to rely on handouts from his older brother and forced to establish for his own livelihood because of this despicable primogeniture law. (*The primogeniture law was abolished in England in 1925*).



It is evident our George had an independent spirit and made his way to a seaport to indenture himself to a ship captain for three years to compensate for his passage. (*Research has been done on all the ship manifests of passengers between 1620 to 1628 in an attempt to find his name. None could be found and we can thus assume he was not a paying passenger*).

The idea of living under the dole of an older brother was likely not an appealing life. We suspect George was about 14-15 years old when he contracted himself and, based upon his first know time in Boston, that would establish his birth about 1612-14.

We know our George arrived in the crude port of Boston and there is a record of him being there in 1628, where we assume his indentured contract was sold. We also know our George had the responsibility of caring for a small herd of about 12 English cattle owned by a widow who apparently had purchased his indentured contract. In 1638, George became a “Common Man.” It was a privilege to be voted into the class of being a common man. This gave George the right to graze his livestock on common land, cut fire wood from the common forest, and live inside a common fenced compound.

Little additional information in know about George prior to 1654, except we find a lawsuit he had with Jonathan Wade of Ipswich, MA between 1646 and 1654.

In 1657, we find our George mortgaged his home and barn along with 100 acres of land for fifth-five pounds. In 1659 George brought a lawsuit against a neighbor John Hazeltine, “for fencing and feeding forty or fifty acres of his farm with receiving ‘to ye due value’.”

There is much more we know about George’s later years, including the death of his daughter Elizabeth on 02 March 1660 and the death of his daughter Abigail on 12 Sept. 1661. These deaths are recorded in the town records of Topsfield, MA. These were but two of his seven known children born to George and his wife Mary Proctor.

George died on 29 Sept 1686 and no marker remains for his grave. Most grave markers, if used, were usually made from wood, and virtually no wooded grave markers exist today from that time period.

"When we get piled upon one another in large cities, as in Europe, we shall become as corrupt as Europe." ~ Thomas Jefferson

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