

# HADLEY NEWSLETTER

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

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## Hadleys and the American Revolution: Part I

Just about all our Hadleys relatives that were living in North America in 1776 were involved, in some way, with the American Revolution – some in support of the action and others not.

It has been estimated about 1/3 of those living in North America at the time of the American Revolution were in support of the revolution, 1/3 were NOT in favor of the revolution, and 1/3 were not concerned with what happened. Our research suggests it was likely a similar percentage of concern that existed for the Hadleys as well. In fact, in 1776, the “Americans had the highest standard of living and the lowest taxes in the Western World”

<https://revolutionarywar.us/facts/> and these attributes served as a discouragement to many from participation in the Revolution.

To show displeasure with the taxes imposed on the Colonies, we all know about the *Boston Tea Party* on 16 Dec 1773. Yet few realize there was a similar second dumping of tea on 17 Mar 1774 and unverified family records cite that [Plummer Hadley](#) (1737-1814) was present at that second tea-dumping. Also, he was at the *Battle of Bunker Hill* (actually Breed’s Hill), which happened just two months after the Battle at Lexington and Concord. Unfortunately, we will never be able to prove his involvement at the *Tea Party*, since an accurate list of the participants was never compiled.

The revolution of the Colonists continued for a number of years and by 1779, more Colonists were fighting with the British than were under the command of Gen. George Washington. Many historians consider it a near miracle that Colonists actually won the war and it is well acknowledged that victory would not have been possible had it not been for the French coming to their support. In fact, at the battle of Yorktown, which the Colonists won, the supporting French outnumbered the Colonists almost three- to-one.

Those Colonists who were in support of the British were known as Loyalists. It is understood both [Nehemiah Hadley](#) (1767-1835) as well as [Joseph Hadley](#) (1724-1801) were initially Loyalists at the opening of the war. Joseph Hadley, whose name is sometimes seen spelled as Headley, had the rank of Captain during the Revolution. Joseph was born in Massachusetts, which at the time of his birth, ascended in land all the way to the Canadian border. Joseph never returned to the live in the US after the war and is buried in Nova Scotia, Canada, along with his wife and eight of his children, (except for one son who was lost at sea).

It is interesting to note, the Island of Mount Desert, which includes the town of Bar Harbor and Acadia National Park, Maine, is actually a bit further north than the southern part of Nova Scotia, Canada. Some of the Hadley fishermen who made Mount Desert their home, actually headed a bit south when they fished the waters off of Nova Scotia, Canada. Joseph, besides being a farmer, also did some fishing, so it is likely he did return to the US via it territorial waters.

Nehemiah did return to the US, although it is uncertain if he returned before the actual end of the war.



## **Meet Rev. Dr. Henry Harrison Hadley II, (1875-1935)**

[Henry Harrison Hadley II](#) was born on June 6, 1875 in Brooklyn, NY, the second son of Col. Henry Harrison Hadley and Elizabeth Catherine (Anderson) Hadley. (*Editor's Note: Last month the Hadley Newsletter had an article on Henry Harrison Hadley I.*) He grew up in New York City, attended the Pennington School in Pennington, NJ and graduated from Princeton University Class of 1898. He enrolled at what was then the Cambridge Theological School in Massachusetts and was ordained to the Episcopal priesthood on December 22, 1901 at St. Michael's Church, New York City.

On June 1, 1904, he married Aurelia Moffat Roe of New York City at St. Michael's Church. Aurelia joined Henry in Richmond, Indiana where he was the Rector of St. Paul's Church. In 1906 he answered a call to be the Rector of St. Paul's Church in Newark, NJ. The Vestry at St. Paul's Church in Syracuse, NY called him to be their Rector in 1916.

A quote from a history of St. Paul's Church, Syracuse entitled The Great Gray Spire by John Philip Jones, gives an idea of how the parishioners viewed his ministry. *"What commended the Rector most to the Parish was his notable power of leadership, and his unusual ability to motivate the Parish membership to augment the Church's income when money was badly needed. There is no doubt whatsoever that it was Hadley who was in firm control of the Church's destiny during the whole of his ministry".*

In 1930, Henry was nominated as a candidate for Bishop of Harrisburg, PA. although that honor was bestowed on another. Jerome D. Barnum, the publisher of the Syracuse newspaper, the Post Standard, offered his thoughts about Henry's qualifications for the office of Bishop. *"Dr. Hadley is a natural leader of men. He finds time to carry his work beyond his own parish into the schools, hospitals, etc. His leadership in all civic movements has been readily given, and his opinions on community and state matters are sought for by representatives of both parties as well as by leaders in non-partisan movements".* Syracuse University also recognized his scholarly work and honored him with a Doctorate of Divinity in 1917.

Henry and Aurelia had two children, Henry Harrison III, born on November 19, 1907, and Amy Roe, born on February 13, 1912. We know very little about his personal life. We do know that he had an interest in learning about his ancestors, as he was a long-time member of the Sons of the American Revolution. He was also a Four-Minute Man – a group that gave patriotic speeches of four minutes duration during World War I.

His life was cut short on May 8, 1935. Henry was playing golf with three friends, including his personal physician, when he suffered a heart attack and died on the golf course. He is buried in Woodlawn Cemetery, New York City. Soon after his death, the chapel at St. Paul's Church was remodeled and named in honor of him. A life-sized portrait of Henry hangs on the wall outside the chapel.

*~ We thank Janna Hadley, wife of Henry Hadley IV, for this article.*

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