Hadley Chest:

   We thought you might like to see a picture of a Hadley Chest, made in the Hadley, Massachusetts area circa 1715. This joined oak and pine polychrome chest with drawers recently sold in New York City at Christie's auction for $1,025,000.
   Even though this Hadley chest was named after the town of Hadley MA, its name could well have a connection to us.
   Hadley MA was named after the town of Hadley in England. The genesis of the Hadley name in England is thought to have been derived from the name of the Hadley family first living there.   Assuming the origin of the town's (Hadley) name is correct, we then ask if our George Hadley's lineage originally came from that town?   Stay tuned as we try and validate that assumption.

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Unusual Hadley Family History:

        As we research the Hadley family records we often uncover unusual facts – or at least they are unusual to us. We often find where a man, after death of his wife, then marries the wife's sister.
     It is also not unusual for a man to have married three different women and all the women are buried with this same gentleman.   We have also found, and we guess it is really not all that unusual for a man upon the death of his wife, to "give away" a young daughter to a member of his family while choosing to keep a young son(s).
     We have uncovered multiple cases of several young children within the same family dying on or within a day or two of each other - likely due to the same sickness.
    Another unusual records exists within the family of **Enoch Hadley** (1764-1830) and his wife, A**bigail George** (1764-1846).   They had eight children. The first four were girls and we believed they all lived to become adults. The next four were all boys and only the last lived to adulthood. What makes this record unusual is the first three boys died as infants and all had the same first name. They were **Worthen Hadley** #1, (27 April 1797-15 Dec 1797), **Worthen Hadley** #2, (27 Sept 1788-01 Oct 1799) and **Worthen Hadley** #3, (04 Nov 1800 – 04 Feb 1801).   These three young boys are all buried beside each other in the Hillside Cemetery, South Weare, Hillsborough, County, New Hampshire. (*Editor's Note: The numbers of #1, #2 and #3 at the ends of the names are NOT part of their official names).*

Hadley Room Renovation:

        As many know, we are in the midst of a fund raising campaign which is designed to raise enough money to get the ***Hadley Room*** into a condition to accept records of our Hadley family history.   We have already received the files of the late **Brad Hadley** and **Michael (Hadley) Kelly**. Those records are

being stored in a safe environment, although they are not yet accessible to the public and will likely not be accessible until the *Hadley Room* has its renovation completed.   The actual costs associated with the room renovation **must** be covered by us, the extended Hadley family. (Note that there are no administrative costs associated with the fund-raising efforts.)

   We have raised $4725 towards our room renovation costs of $10,000.   Additional money is needed to make the *Hadley Room* environmentally compatible with the storage of our documents, old family bibles, daguerreotype and tin type photographs, to name but a few of the types of Hadley family records we now have and will continue to accept from you.   By way of example, we have a dated 1800 Hadley family bible that has hand-written genealogy records.   The bible pages are fragile and will deteriorate if the environment where it will be stored is not properly controlled.   An example of another old record, is the actual discharge document of **Norman Hadley** for his service during the war of 1812.   These are just two example of the many types of very old records we now have. And, yes, we do have newer records too, such as the death certificate of a Hadley who died in 1977. Most of what we now have is the genealogical research done by family members about our Hadley families.

   Your tax deductible gift should be mailed to: Narragansett Historical Society, c/o Ms. Debra Caisse, Treasurer, PO Box 354, Templeton, MA 01468.   Please indicate your gift is for our ***Hadley Room***. Our *Hadley Room* is for our history and to collect and preserve our records for you, your relatives, and for those Hadleys yet to be born.   Sadly some of our Hadley history has already been lost. NOW is the time to prevent the records we still have from deterioration and to preserve future records we will be acquiring.   The type of records we can receive from you can be found under the attachment: *Hadley Room Guidelines*. Once our Hadley records are lost, part of our history will be gone forever.
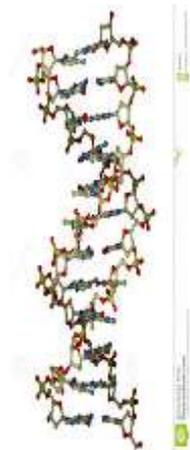
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DNA Primer: Part 1

   We suspect many may have an element of confusion about DNA.   Over the next several months we will be providing our readers with a series of short DNA tutorials with the goal of helping you understand what genetic genealogy DNA testing will and will not tell us.

   What is DNA (deoxyribonucleic acid)?   It is a molecule that contains our genetic data.   It is mostly found in the control center of our cells.   It consists of two long chains that contain millions of base pairs of molecules that form a double helix in structure.   It can be analyzed to tell us something about our ancestors through bits and pieces of their DNA which we have inherited.   Examples of that analysis defines, in part, who we are. It may tell us where we likely obtained some physical features such as curly hair, whether our ear lobes hang free or are attached, and perhaps the basic shape and size of our teeth, nose cheek bones, hands, fingers and much more.

   DNA, coupled with traditional genealogy research, can add greatly to our understanding of our ancestors. And yet, DNA is not yet an exact science and may be open to different interpretations.   *More on this subject next month.*

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   "I am an old man and have known a great many troubles, but most of them never happened"

<p align="right">*Mark Twain*</p>

<p align="center">******************</p>

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