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MAINE DAR Genealogical Records Committee Report:

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PETER PATTEE, son of Deric and Marie (duPrie) Pattee, was baptized in the French Church on Threadneedle Street in London, England on 22 February 1646, and the following entry of the event was made: "Pety, Pierre, fils de Deric Pety et Marie duPrie, sa femme bpt. 11 Fev. 1646."

The family is of Flemish origin and the first reference to their life in England is to be found in the Walloon Registers of Canterbury Cathedral on 13 May 1586. Sometime thereafter the family removed to London where they were among the founders of the French Church on Threadneedle Street. This church building has long since been destroyed, but the Church Records are preserved in the files of the Huguenot Society of London. Deric Pattee (Pety) was born about 1600 in Bar-Le-Duc, France, then, as now, capital of the Department of Meuse, 125 miles southeast of Paris. Marie duPrie, whom he married in London, 25 March 1644, was his second wife. He died in London in 1665/66.

Peter died in Haverhill, Mass., 19 October 1724. He is buried in the Old Pentucket Cemetery in Haverhill, Mass., where his gravestone reads as follows:

"Here lyes buried ye body
of Mr. Peter Patee who
died October the 19 1724
aged 80 years."

In 1669, "on account of certain political opinions he entertained, he found it expedient to take a hasty departure from England." He settled first in Virginia where he married, and where his eldest son, Richard, was born, but the name of his wife, the date of her death, or the date of birth of their son, are not recorded.

He married (2), 8 November 1682, in Haverhill, Mass. (Essex County Court Records say the date was 3 November 1682), Sarah Gill, born 27 June 1654 in Salisbury, Mass., and who died before 1720, daughter of John and Phebe (Buswell) Gill of Salisbury.

He married (3), 19 November 1720, in Gloucester, Mass., Susanna (Davis) Hadley, widow of John Hadley. She was born about 1652, and died in Gloucester on 10 March 1736.

In 1676 he left Virginia and removed to Haverhill, Mass., where he spent the rest of his days.

He took the Oath of Citizenship and Allegiance there on November 28, 1677. (NEHG Society's "Register", Vol. 6, Page 203.)

We are told that he established the first ferry at Haverhill, and that the locality still bears his name. Somehow, and somewhere he had picked up the trade of "cord-wainer", and, at the annual meeting of the Town in the Spring of 1677, a year after the application of one William Thompson "to be accepted townsman, to dwell here and follow his trade of shoe-making" had been refused, Peter Pattee made a similar application, and met with a similar refusal.

He was a soldier in King Philip's War. (Records and Files of Quarterly Courts of Essex County, Mass., Vol. VII., 1678-1680, page 289.)

Chase's "History of Haverhill," page 130, records that "Peter Patie making a motion to the town to grant him a piece of land to settle upon, it not being 'till then known to the town that he was a married man and a stranger, having hitherto accounted of him as a journey-man shoe-maker, his motion according to law was rejected. And the Moderator declared to him before the public assembly that the town doth not own him, or allow of him for an inhabitant of Haverhill, and that it was the duty of the Grandjurymen to look after him."

His proposal to become an inhabitant of the town seems to have been lightly esteemed. But he was not so easily shaken off, and, in spite of the cool reception, he continued to reside there until his death in 1724.

He seems to have made a friend in the Honorable Samuel Symonds, Deputy Governor of the Colony, because, on 9 April 1668, he rendered a judgement as follows:

"Peter Patee, having lived neare there yeares in the Country, and bene in service in the warr, and somewhat wounded, and living without offence in the Town of Haverhill for some space of time, as I am informed, I doe allow him to dwell in the Country."

9 April 1678 (signed)

Samuel Symonds
Deputy Governor

He was undoubtedly of a different faith and standard of life from the stern old Puritans of Haverhill at the time, as there is no record of his ever having joined the Haverhill Church, although his sons and daughters all did.

In 1680 he was "presented" to the Court in Haverhill for being absent from his wife for several years." The records of the Quarterly Court of Essex County, Mass., Vol. VIII, 1680-1683, record, "Peter Pate, presented for absence from his wife, told what means he had used to get her to come and live with him. The Court ordered him to make arrangements with some master of a vessel that goes to Virginia to bring her and report to the Court under the master's hand what had been done. He was to pay costs to Andrew Greeley and a Mr. Aires.

James Pecker, Sr., of Boston, sometimes an inhabitant of Haverhill, certified on 17 January 1680 that upon request of Peter Patta of Haverhill in 1679 he took letters which Patta had written to be delivered to his wife, if alive, at Varganah. The letters were not sealed and he asked said Pecker to read and direct them to the places where she might be.

Patta earnestly desired her to come to him in New England, said he would pay her passage and gave her other encouragement.

Pecker delivered the letters to men who would be careful of them, but he never heard anything from them, although he had inquired of men who came from the same town to which the letters were directed.

George Browne deposed, on 27 March 1681, that when the Deputy Governor gave an order for Pate to remain in the Country, deponent told the Court that he had left his wife in Virginia and that he was a wounded man. Ens. Pecker engaged to send the letters to Virginia.

Nathaniel Ayer deposed that he heard Peter Patye say a year and a half or two years ago that he had left a wife and child in Virginia about two years before. (Sworn 26 March 1681 before Nathaniel Saltonstall.)

In the meantime (on 11 November 1679) we find his name on the list of men impressed for military service by the Court at Salisbury, Mass. He continued to live in Haverhill, and, in 1686, was one of several persons accused of trespassing on the town "ways" and "common lands" by fencing in some part of them.

This "presentation" seems to have had little effect on the esteem in which he was held because, in 1694, he was chosen to be Haverhill's Constable by a "plentiful, clear, and legal paper vote." This position was one of great responsibility in the seventeenth century.

Peter bought his 6-acre homestead of John and Cornelious Page on 8 March 1681/82. (Norfolk Registry of Deeds, Book III, leaf 275-275, Salem, Mass.)

At the annual meeting of the Town of Haverhill in 1695, Peter applied for permission to build a grist mill at East Meadow River, but was denied. For some reason, now unknown, there was great delay and difficulty in getting such a mill erected on that stream.

In 1696, perhaps incensed by the town's refusal to allow him to build his mill, he entered a strange motion for keeping a tavern in his house, and offered conditions which, if granted, would have greatly prejudiced the town. Being moved and fully agitated, the town declared "against his having any allowance for it." On 26 December 1696, Nathaniel Saltonstall wrote the Justices sitting at Salem, warning them against granting liquor licenses to men not personally known to them in remote places, and particularly to Peter Pattee of Haverhill, whom he said was so "cocksure" of getting one that he had already laid in "unaccountable store of cyder, rum, molasses and what not!"

As late as 1710 he was the regular ferryman at Pattee's Ferry, which property he deeded to his son, Richard, on 19 January 1719/20.

He was constable again in the year 1710.

He was long a stormy petrel in the town and only gradually fought his way to public favor. He was probably a man of considerable native ability and originality, but with a somewhat unconventional and un-diplomatic temperament for seventeenth century Haverhill. The salient facts of his life are revealed by the Haverhill records, quoted by the town historians, B. L. Mirick and George Wingate Chase, and the "Records and Files of the Quarterly Courts of Essex County, Mass."

His will, dated 11 September 1722, proved 2 November 1724, is recorded in the Probate Office of Essex County, Mass., Salem, Mass. in Book 315 of Wills on pages 146-147.

"The last Will and Testomony of Peter Patte of Haverhill in the County of Essex. I being through ye goodness of God in good health of body having ye (full) use of my reason and memory and not knowing ye time of my death, I having a desire to set my house in order before my death and to settle my outward estate, I desire to commit my spirit into ye hand of ye Lord Jesus Christ and my body unto decent burial.

IMPRIMIS: As for my outward estate I dispose of (it) as followeth:

Item : I give to my son Samuel Pate ye sum of Twenty pounds; as for my daughter Hannah Roberts, I give ye sum of five pounds; to my daughter Rolf I give her ye sum of five shillings. Also I give unto my grandson Peter Patte ye sum of twenty pounds, and Seth Patte five pounds, and John Pate five pounds, and Humphrey Pate twenty pounds and thirty pounds to be divided amongst ye rest of my son Richard Pate's Children to be disposed of according as my son Richard Pate shall see cause.

Also whereas I have given to my beloved wife Susanna two cows if I have them out of my own yt is to be understood in my owne possession at my death and my wife survive as may appear by an instrument I have given under my hand to my said wife bearing date with this my will; my will is yt she shall have ye cows delivered to her ye first of May next after my death, or if I be taken away in ye summer months yt then she shall have them delivered forthwith after my death. Also my will is yt all contained in ye said instrument given to my wife shall be fulfilled.

I also doe make an constitute my beloved son Richard Patte to be ye executor of this my will. All these legacys as above said to be paid when all my just and due debts are pd: and funeral charges.

The money for ye payment of these legacys is in my son Richard Patys hand which may appear by an instrument or mortgage given under his hand for ye payment of two hundred and fifty six pounds

which is put upon record in the County Records. For this my will is yt ye rest of ye money contained in ye instrument of two hundred and fifty-six pounds above said this I give my sd son Richard Patte. For the confirmation of this my will I have set my hand and seale September 11 Anna 1722.

Signed & sealed in
ye presence of

(Signed)

Peter Patee

Richard Palmer
Martha Gleason (Her (X) mark
Samuel Penny

CHILDREN (All but the first born in Haverhill, Mass.)

1. Richard, born in Virginia about 1677; died 1741/42 in Salem, N.H.; married Susanna Beale in Haverhill, before 1700
2. Moses, born 28 July 1683; died 11 November 1683.
3. Benjamin, born 4 September 1684; died 4 January 1685.
4. Jeremiah, born 3 November 1685; probably also died young.
5. Samuel, born 24 August 1687; died 16 September 1749; married Elizabeth Prince before 1712, daughter of Thomas and Elizabeth (Harrdaine) Prince, born 17 October 1690.
6. Hannah, born 13 June 1689; married 25 October 1712 in Ipswich, Mass., George Roberts. He was a fisherman of Ipswich, Mass., son of William and Ann (Crockett) Roberts of Kittery, Maine. (See the Roberts Family in "The Decendents of Edward Small pp. 928-991). They lived in Ipswich until 1727 and had two children surnamed Roberts: 1. Jeremy, born 12 January 1718, and 2. Hannah, born 22 May 1726, both in Ipswich.
7. Mary (or Mercy), born 29 October 1691; married Daniel Rolfe in 1718/19. He was born 14 February 1685.
8. Jemima, born 27 November 1693; died 28 March 1694.
9. Benjamin, born 15 May 1696; baptized 2 August 1696; died 15 December 1787 in Arrowsic, Maine; married Patience Collins of Gloucester, Mass.

REFERENCE:

PATTEE GENEALOGY
By LINWOOD MELVIN PATTEE
SOUTH BURLINGTON, VERMONT