## Walter Noah Basye - 1614

Written by Jennifer Nodwell Tuesday, 24 August 2010 04:16 - Last Updated Tuesday, 24 August 2010 21:29



The Basyes were originally French Huguenots, as the Protestants were known in France during the Reformation, and in the religious struggles in France in the 16th and 17th centuries. Many of these Protestants were executed or banished after having their property confiscated by fanatical Catholics. Many fled to Germany, Holland, Switzerland, England, and America between 1538 and 1789.

Walter Noah Basye was born around the year 1615, somewhere in England. Sometime around the year 1644, he married Susannah McFarland who was born around 1625, also in England. Together, they had a son named Edmond Basye in the year 1645. Edmond moved from England to Virginia, where he made out his will October 2, 1714, added a codicil on January 28, 1724, and it was probated on March 19, 1724.

Edmond Basye is first evident in documentation in Virginia on November 20, 1669 when he signed a deed as a witness. Edmond was an attorney by profession, and owned a considerable amount of land in Northumberland County, Virginia, numbering in the thousands of acres. It is probable that his wife, Eliza Taylor, died prior to 1714, as she is not named in his will. They had nine children, and were wealthy plantation-owners, raising tobacco and other crops common to the area. Edmond was a sailor in his youth, practiced hunting and fishing, and was a well-educated "country gentleman" of the day, as is surmised by the list of items named in his will. It would appear that Edmond also had a sister Adrienne Basye, who settled in Hartford, Connecticut and later was wed to John, Lord of Hartford.

Other Basyes settled early in the colonies, but their possible relationship to our family cannot be established. One John Basye settled in Hartford, Connecticut, prior to 1640. He was a weaver, and his house was located on the south side of the road from the mill to the south meadow, which is now Elm Street. He held a number of local public offices (Surveyor of Highways, 1652; Constable, 1656; and Townsman, 1669). He came from Wethersfield Parish, Essex, England. Other Basyes of the same period settled in Massachusetts, Pennsylvania, and Virginia.

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Edmond and his two brothers, John and Elizamond, came to Maryland in 1670. In 1673, he married Elizabeth "Eliza" Taylor. She was the daughter of John Taylor and Alice Gascoigne. Alice Gascoigne's lineage traces back to King Henry I of England, William the Conqueror, King of Normandy, Charlemagne and numerous other members of royal families from England, France, and Scandinavia (Skjald, King of the Danes).

Edmond and John were attorneys and overseers of roads in two Virginia counties. Elizamond, the third brother, returned to England and joined the crew of a pirate named "Dampier". They traveled to the present-day Philippine Islands, where he was abandoned by Dampier, along with the rest of the crew. He ran away with the daughter of a Malayan prince to the island of Samar, and settled there at the southern tip of the island. Today, there is a town at that location named Basey.

Edmond was a captain of soldiers who fought Indians prior to the American Revolution.

Much of this information taken from "The Basye Family in the United States", compiled and written by Otto Basye.

Descendants of Walter Noah Basye

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