



## FOUNDING FEMALES Female Qualifying Ancestor Index

**Female Ancestor Number: 013**

**Name:** O'Neil, Grace

**Dates:** (—-bf 2 Mar 1682/3)

**Colonial Society:** VA

**Date added to ROA:** 12-20-2009

**Service:** Historic Founder – arrived on the *Diana* in 1618

**Authority:** Adventurers of Purse & Person - VA - 1607 - 1624/5, Fourth Edition, Frederick Dorman; The Muster Listings, p. 59, pp. 702 - 703

### **Biography:**

Grace (Neale) was born circa 1603 in Brackley, Northamptonshire, England as the daughter of Edmund and Elizabeth Neale.

In 1618 Grace sailed to Virginia on the *Diana* with Sir George Yeardley. In 1621, she married Lt. Edward Waters who was the son of William and Alice (Cannon). They were married in Elizabeth City, Virginia where they were living as of the Muster of 1624/5 when Grace was recorded as being 21 years of age. Grace and Edward had at least two children - Willam and Margaret.

After the 1622 Massacre, it was believed that Grace and Edward were “missing and believed dead”. However, they showed up alive and well after being held hostage by the Nansemond tribe. It is unknown if they escaped or were ransomed along with other colonists. The Waters family appear to have prospered during their marriage.

In 1634/5, Grace married Colonel Obedience Robins, the son of Richard and Dorothy (Goodman), who was born about 1600 in Northamptonshire, England. It appears that this marriage occurred in England, because that same year Obedience was deeded patents for land for the transportation of 10 persons, from England to Virginia. The list included himself, Grace and her daughter Margaret. Grace and Obedience had six children.

In Accomack County, Obedience served as a Burgess in 1630, 1639, 1642 and 1644, was appointed a Justice in 1634, and served as a member of Council.

Obedience died around December 30, 1662 in Northamptonshire, Virginia.

Grace died before March 2, 1683/3 in Northampton County, Virginia.