



DODGE FAMILY JOURNAL

Volume 14 No. 3

April 1998

Exciting Things

are happening with the Dodge Family Association.

We have received information on a "lost" line from the Tristram branch and this line relates to our lead article in this Journal.

We cannot publish this line until it is checked and double checked **BUT** it looks very good.

You can be sure that once we are assured of the validity of Col. John's descendants, YOU will be the first to know.

This information, if it proves to be good, will connect many of our members who have come to a complete standstill at this point, to their tie with Tristram.

Also, we now have a member in Newfoundland. He is going to do some research there to see if he can find any information on Tristram who supposedly came from there to Block Island, via Taunton, Massachusetts, in 1661

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The Ever Elusive Col. John Dodge

by Carl Joe Klein, Centerville, Illinois

The ever elusive John Dodge is truly an enigma. So many Dodges looking for their tie to William, Richard, or Tristram, find that Col. John Dodge stands in the way of completing that tie.

I was interested in John Dodge because that is the name on a marriage bond index in Kentucky. The name on the bond itself was Malachi Dodge, my great - great - great grandfather who was born in New Boston NH.

The one thing we do know, is that Col. John descended from Tristram. We can follow him through a major part of his life, but he suddenly disappears from view. Suspicions abound as to the reason, but until the time comes that we find in someone's attic, or in some town record more about this man, he will remain ever elusive.

John was involved in a controversy over British warrants to the Indians for American scalps.

Governor Jefferson believed John Dodge, and British Lt. Col. Hamilton denied the charges brought by John.

George Rogers Clark later captured Lt. Col. Hamilton at the battle of

Vincennes, where the American forces walked across Indiana in February 1788 in ice water up to their waists.

This officer was then transported across the Colonies to Williamsburg where he was tried, convicted, and later traded for American prisoners.

He needed a lot of protection from the locals during the journey because of the charges of John Dodge.

Col. Dodge was later made commander of the Fort at Kaskaskia, where George Rogers Clark first surprised the British and turned the local French population to the American side.

Col. Dodge's brother, Israel, was quite famous and wealthy, and served with him at Kaskaskia. Israel's son Henry, and his grandson, Augustus Caesar served in the Senate together.*

To my knowledge, there is nothing known of the marriage or descendants of Col. John Dodge.

I read a book in the DAR library by a grandson of Israel Dodge around the turn of the Century that says the brothers are probably

buried in St Genevive, Missouri, but the graves are not marked. St. Genevive was where Israel made his fortune and it must be close to Kaskaskia.

John had two or three brothers who were Baptist ministers. One in New York City knew the bible by heart along with the hymnal. He must have been legendary. Another was a traveling minister in Ohio and Pennsylvania and was a legend also.

After his escape from the British at Quebec, John remained in Pittsburgh awaiting orders. He had a commission as a Captain. He was to testify at the trial of three British agents, Col. Hamilton (Lt. Governor of Detroit), Capt. Lamothe, and DeJean, who were captured by George Rogers Clark at Vincennes.

John was planning to travel to Williamsburg and was certain the British agents would be hanged for inciting the Indians to murder the settlers. The

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DODGE FAMILY JOURNAL

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Published by the Dodge Family Association

Membership \$10/yr. USA and Canada
\$15/yr. other countries

★ **DID YOU KNOW?** George Riker Dodge, ★
★ 1809-1866, Baltimore, MD, a prominent Unionist; ★
★ was appointed marshall of police by Gen. N. P. ★
★ Banks, July 1861. The following September, under ★
★ orders from Maj.-Gen. John Dix, he arrested the ★
★ mayor of Baltimore and a number of delegates to the ★
★ legislature, and saved the city and state in the Union. ★
★ *Tristram Genealogy by Theron Royal Woodward; Pg.86-15.(vi)* ★
★ *****

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or thereabouts.
Our Newfoundland member has also given us the internet address of an 1871 Census report in Ontario Canada.
As we have the time, we will be visiting that site, and getting the information there on listed Dodges.
Watch future Dodge Journals for more news regarding this Tristram line.

(Col. John - Continued from page 1)
agents were not hung, but were to be held until the end of the War.

John Dodge had met with Indians at Sandusky - probably before his captivity at the hands of Governor Hamilton.

He inquired why they had taken up the hatchet and was told that Hamilton said they would all be killed by the Americans and should join his cause. Further, that he, Hamilton, would pay them \$20 for each scalp.

There is considerable dispute about Dodge's account, including the letters of Hamilton who considered John Dodge to be untruthful. Indeed, the author of the source of this material considers it to be false.**

However, according to William Haden English*** the Executive Council of Virginia had possession of proclamations under the seal of Hamilton and found in the homes of people who were killed or captured by Indians.

The council and Jefferson believed that enormities had been committed by Indians acting under Hamilton's commission.

English's book also relates the cruelty of the

captivity of Dodge at the hands of Hamilton and the others.

He was thrown into a dungeon in the dead of winter without bedding, straw, or fire. When near death, he was taken out and somewhat attended to, until a little mended, and before he had recovered ability to walk was again returned to the dungeon.

This material comes from a small number of pages that I copied out of the books listed at the end.

The material is not complete, but you get the story and the controversy.

It was a severe time which brought on many hardships, and John and Israel were begging for supplies and funds to support their community. The local traders were demanding immediate payment for goods and services.

**from the Tristram Dodge genealogy by Theron Royall Woodward - 1904; pg.16-18, no. 20, ii.*

***("George Rogers Clark's Conquest of the Illinois and the Wabash Towns 1778 and 1779" by Consul Wilshire Butterfield, Columbus OH, 1904)*

****"Conquest of the Country Northwest of the River Ohio*

and Life of Gen. George Rogers Clark", Indianapolis and Kansas City, 1896.

Look for another article next month on this Dodge line because one of our members may have at last uncovered the mystery of the descendants of the elusive Col. John Dodge.

For those of you with internet access, WATCH for an announcement regarding this line on the NEWS page which hopefully will be up and running before the end of May.



Genealogical Help Column

As fast as we are able to do it, we are putting all of our genealogical requests on our Web site.



The above picture of Charles Dodge, "brother to Zilp", comes from the old photo album that was found in Florida. (Story featured in our last Journal)

The photos in this album came from families in Montpelier, VT.

DOES ANYONE RECOGNIZE HIM?

Richard Dodge, 515 Overlook Drive, Flat Rock, NC 28731; E-MAIL: RCDODGE@a-o.com requests help in finding a connection to one of the early Dodges. Nathan I. or J. Dodge m. Dolly Burnham in Massachusetts. Children b. in Johnson, LeMoille Co., Vermont were: Rachael Augusta, b.12-24-1830, Sylvester, b. Dec. 1832; Zebina Burnham, b. 10-12-1834; William, b. 6-26-1841.

The family moved to Waupon, Wisconsin in the early 1840s.

Most likely, the connection lies in the William or Richard line. The name "Burnham" occurs manytimes in the JTD Genealogy.



Barbara's
Byline

Spring - What is it about seasons that make a person nostalgic? SPRING brings to me very special memories.

I was brought up in New England and came from a long line of true, blue yankees on my mother's side.

My father was from Mobile, Alabama, and I loved his soft spoken southern drawl.

I was brought up on grits and biscuits, corn pone and black molasses, greens boiled with bacon, and Boston Baked Beans, New England Boiled Dinner, corn chowder, and fish chowder. To this day, I dearly love all those things. Earl cannot understand the grits, corn pone, molasses, or boiled greens, but he does indeed love the biscuits and all of the 'regular' types of food!

My fondest springtime memory is one from my 15th year. That was the year my father sent money for a piano.

What a day that was when my very own piano arrived. Never mind that it was so beat up that the keys all had to be removed and sent away to be refinished. Each morning before I set off for school, I would look into the 'front' room where that beautiful (in my eyes) instrument waited for its new keys.

Finally the day arrived when the piano repair man came back with the newly covered keys. My excitement reached fever pitch as I watched him put everything back together.

I had been teaching myself on our church piano for about a year and I had stopped in at the **BOSTON MUSIC STORE** many times to pour over music and purchase a piece now and then. I pulled out my supply of music, sat down, and for the next two hours I was lost in my own world. Two of the pieces of music were *When its Springtime in the Rockies (In the Rockies far away)* and *My Little Grey Home in the West*. How many of you remember these words?

*When the golden sun sinks in the hills,
And the toil of a long day is o'er -
Though the road may be long, in the lilt of
a song
I forget I was weary before.*

*Far ahead, where the blue shadows fall,
I shall come to contentment and rest;
And the toils of the day will be all
charmed away
In my little grey home in the west..*

*There are hands that will welcome me in.
There are lips that I am burning to kiss -
There are two eyes that shine just because
they are mine,
And a thousand things other men miss.
It's a corner of heaven itself
Though it's only a tumble-down nest -
But with love brooding there, why, no
place can compare
With my little grey home in the west.*

For a brief period of time when I was 11-12 yrs. old, Mama, myself, and my brother moved to Nogales, Arizona.

Spring in Virginia

*When the graceful dogwood
wears her most innocent
white gown
With a bright red cardinal
perched in her branches high
When pussy willows appear in
finest fur
When gentle breeze
and noble rain cleanse
both mountain and valley
When a morning robin sings a
happy awakening song
Waste no time -
for it is spring in Virginia
and "Virginia is for lovers."*

*Norman Dodge
Springfield, Virginia*

How I loved it there. The vast stretches of desert, the cactus, the gorgeous sunsets; I was enthralled with the beauty and the "romance" of it all.

We had to move back to Massachusetts because mama could not take the heat, but I **NEVER** forgot the west, and it was always my dream to go back.

I remember telling Earl that I wanted to live in a "*Little Grey House in the West*". When we finally were able to move from Michigan to Colorado, I felt I had truly died and gone to heaven. I was **FINALLY** living in the west.

The rolling hills, the mountains, the bright blue sky, and viewing 50-75 miles

distance on a clear day; I cherish them all.

When we lived in Indiana, and Earl decided we would pack up the children (5 at the time) and travel to California to meet the rest of his family whom he had never seen, I played *Sons of the Pioneer* records every day during the preceding 4 weeks.

Now, I am here in my beloved west, and it is Springtime in the Rockies, but they are not far away anymore.

We have a very fickle spring. One day the sun is shining with a temperature of 75, and the next day we are having a snowstorm.

However, the signs of spring are all around, and most noticeable is the chirping of the birds (every morning at 4:30 a.m.)

The Magpies are back; another sign. Two very fat Magpies have been roosting in an evergreen tree right outside our office window. I am sure that they are thinking of building a nest there. That thought will not at all delight Earl. Magpies are his bane, and unfortunately for him, they are protected in Colorado.

Spring will surely bring visitors to our home, and memories will continue to be made. The things that happen this spring will become the fodder for the nostalgia in years to come.

I hope that all of your springtime happenings will become very good memories for you in future years.

Barbara

**NEW ADDITION TO THE
DODGE FAMILY LIBRARY**

The Dodge Family Library now contains a book entitled "Sands Family - T. Prime - 1886"

This book contains "Descent of Comfort Sands and of His Children, with notes on the families of RAY, ALCOCK, DODGE, THOMAS, PALGRAVE, HUNT, GUTHRIE, CORNELL, JESSUP." The Dodge line that this connects with is Tristram. G-g-g-g-grand -daughter of Tristram m. Comfort Sands.

Dodges and the Titanic

Dr. Washington Dodge, his wife and 5-year old son were passengers on the maiden voyage of the Titanic.

Washington was born at Jamestown, CA, about 1856. He and his sister, Adelaide, were the children of Dr. Mark Tyler Dodge and Eliza Rogers Dodge.

Adelaide married Frank Nicol who was a Columbia native and assemblyman from 1882 to 1884.

Washington graduated from the medical school of the University of California in 1884 and practiced in the Bay Area until he entered politics. He was serving as the assessor of the City and County of San Francisco at the time of the Titanic tragedy.

He did not like to talk about the tragedy, but did say that Mrs. Dodge did not want to go on the Titanic. She begged to go on some other boat but he insisted on their going on that one.

“A number of men on the Carpathia (the rescue ship) told me their wives had tried to induce them to choose other liners. It seemed as though their womanly intuition had warned them against the Titanic.”

He insisted that he did not take lifeboat space from any woman or child since many women elected to stay beside their husbands.

In spite of that, he was plagued with persistent questions regarding his survival and seven years after the Titanic disaster, he was so distressed over this, that the committed suicide.

His wife spoke at length to a reporter in San Francisco, and that report was published in The Union Democrat, May 4, 1912.

“I think it is foolish to speak of the heroism displayed. There was non that I witnessed. It was merely a matter of waiting your turn for a lifeboat, and there was no keen anxiety to enter the boats, because everyone had such confidence in that wretched ship. The officers told us that they had wireless communication with seven vessels, which were on their way to relieve us, and the men believed themselves as safe on board as in the boats. It seemed the vaguest possibility that the ship might

sink before one of the seven vessels arrived.

“Of course, I left the Titanic before it began to settle into the water. The steerage passengers had not come up on deck. In fact, there were but few on the deck from which we left and more men than women.”

The next Journal will carry the text of Mrs. Dodge’s very interesting interview.

Ed. note: I must confess that I have mislaid the name of the person who sent in this very interesting newspaper article. If that person will please let us know

Has Anyone Heard This Name?

A couple of years ago, one of our members sent in a request for our genealogy corner. At the time, we published that request but no information was forthcoming from our members.

However, I am continually intrigued by this particular request, because of two of the names in this line; those names are Thomas Jefferson Dodge, and his son, Sherman Tecumseh Dodge.

They were the son and grandson of Henry Dodge, born in Elizabethtown, Harden Co., Kentucky; married Lourene Jolly, in Beardstown, Illinois, in 1833. Henry was the oldest of four brothers and he and Lourene had nine

children.

Thomas and Sherman were physicians and had “The Dodge Sanatorium” in Keokuk, Iowa but lived in Hamilton, Illinois.

Sherman moved his family to Corpus Christi, Texas, where he had a large medical practice.

He was a horticulturist at heart and grew exotic plants, trees, and gardens year round.

I have a “hunch” that they are from the Tristram line - why? Just call it womanly intuition, and then if I am proved wrong, all you men can have a jovial time at my expense. I give you permission!

Barbara

Reunions and 1999 Tour

Be sure to read the enclosed flyers that have the information about the various reunions.



From the right:

Col. R. L. Dodge,
president emeritus
of the
Dodge Family
Association,

the late Sony Bono,

and Hilda Dodge,
wife of Col. Dodge.