

Dodges at Lexington and Concord

by Earl F. Dodge

The battle known as that of Lexington and Concord began at the Concord Bridge, progressed to the Lexington Green, and then worked its way back through Arlington and other locations to Boston, eventually becoming a demoralizing retreat for the British Army. This was the first battle of the Revolutionary War.

Many farmers who fired from behind fieldstone walls will never be known by name. However, The Battle of April 19, 1775, does list the men who were in the various organized militia units. Many Dodges participated in the militia. Most were from the Beverly area and were part of the William/

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DODGE FAMILY JOURNAL

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A Letter to Jefferson

by William S. Dodge

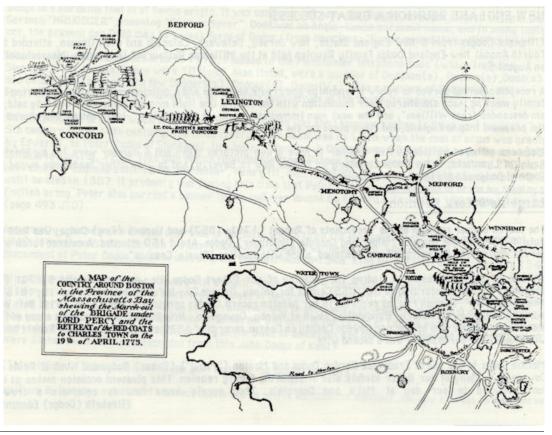
Two hundred years ago, on January 1, 1802, President Thomas Jefferson wrote a letter observing that the Amendment to the U.S. Constitution had built "a wall of separation between Church and State." In the 1947 case Everson v. Board of Education, the Supreme Court quoted Jefferson's phrase as expressing the intent of the Establishment Clause, and the "wall of separation" metaphor has been an important part of constitutional law ever since.

Jefferson's letter was addressed to Nehemiah Dodge (Tristram, Israel, John, John), Ephraim Robbins and Stephen S. Nelson, a committee of the Danbury Baptist Association, in response to a letter they had

sent him in October. The handwriting of this letter matches a later letter from Dodge to Jefferson, so it appears that Dodge drafted the Danbury Baptist's letter. He wrote, in part:

"Our Sentiments are uniformly on the side of Religious Liberty - That religion is at all times and places a matter between God and Individuals - That no man ought to suffer in Name, person or effects on account of his religious Opinions - That the legitimate Power of Civil Government extends no further than to punish the man who works ill to his neighbor. But, Sir our constitution of government is not specific. Our infant charter, together with the Laws made coincident therewith,

were adopted as the Basis of our government at the time of our revolution; and such had been our Laws and usages, and such still are; that religion is considered as the first object of Legislation; and therefore what religious privileges we enjoy (as a minor part of the State) we enjoy as favor granted, and not as inalienable rights: And these favors we receive at the expense of such degrading acknowledgements, as are inconsistent with the rights of freemen. It is not to be wondered at therefore; if those, who seek after power and gain under the pretence of government and Religion should reproach their fellow man - should Reproach (Continued on page 5)





Sand In My Shoes by Stephen Allen Dodge

In memory of my lifelong friends, Lieutenant Stephen Harrell & Lieutenant Harvey Harrell. Brothers and Firefighters who lost their lives on September 11, 2001.

Just this past April we received a very special gift while visiting the World Trade Center. After spending an hour and a half looking out the windows on the 107th floor as we did every time we visited, we noticed the stairway to the roof was open. This was the first time in my 23 years of visiting the Twin Towers that we were able to go outside to the Observation Deck.

Upon arriving on the roof, my first reaction was how quiet it was. The small planes flying below along the Hudson River could barely be heard and nothing at all could be heard of the noisy, busy city streets a quarter of a mile below us. My second reaction was how narrow this building was. After walking around the perimeter walkway twice, I was a bit wary that this building could be standing at its height. I felt like I did the first time I visited here, a bit of movement in my stomach area. I realized that this building had been here over 30 years and must have upset millions of stomachs. I continue looking over the edge at the tiny objects in view in the miles around us.

On September 27, 2001, I took my kids back to the Big City. We had to go back to see for ourselves what had happened.

As we walked along Broadway following the barricades, we found we were not dodging cars, taxis, buses or people that day. The Big City did not feel like the BIG city. The National Guard, United States Army and New York City Police Department personnel were patrolling the barricades; checking bags and ID of many passersby and occasionally yelling at someone to put their camera down.

We found that many family members of lost ones were around us, crying, praying and hoping that somehow the rescue workers would rescue their loved ones out of what had been the World Trade Towers. We stopped to remember our 2 buddies who were lost in this disaster as 2 Army soldiers asked us to move along. We walked away from the Towers, only to unexpectedly walk by a firehouse that lost 12 of its members.

During the ferry trip home my children were asking me many questions that I couldn't answer. It has also been a tough last 2 months as my children and I have been attending memorials and funerals for the people taken from us during this disaster.

We will Forever Remember Everyone Lost Sept. 11, 2001. We will Forever be Grateful to all the Rescue People for their Heroic Efforts, their Bravery & their Strength. We Pray Everyday for the Safety of our Troops Overseas and now here at Home. God Bless the Family, Wives, Husbands and especially the Children of our United States Military.

(Lexington & Concord - Cont. from page 1)
Richard branch of the family. One,
William Dodge III of Beverly, was
one of the 41 Americans wounded in
the battle. Forty-seven Americans
were killed in the battle, none of them
Dodges.

The following Dodges participated in America's first military battle according to the Official Archive at the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

Captain Joshua Walker's Company which entered the contest at Concord: **Andrew Dodge**

Captain Jonathon Minot's Company: **Job Dodge**

Captain David Dodge's Company of Beverly which entered the Contest at Arlington:

Captain David Dodge; Captain Caleb Dodge; Jacob Dodge; D. William Dodge; Mark Dodge, Jr.; Charles Dodge; Joshua Dodge; Robert Dodge; Jonathan Dodge Captain Peter Shaw's Company which entered the Contest at Arlington: Sergeant Samuel Dodge; Simeon Dodge; James Dodge (we believe that this is the James Dodge who later lost his life at the Battle of

that this is the James Dodge who later lost his life at the Battle of Bunker Hill); Dodge (first name unknown); Cornelius Dodge; Nehemiah Dodge; Edward Dodge

Captain Israel Hutchinson's Company entered the Contest at Arlington: Elisha Dodge, Beverly; John Dodge, Beverly; William Dodge Jr., Beverly; Nath. Dodge

Captain Samuel Flint's Company which entered the Contest at Arlington: **Joshua Dodge**

Thus, some 23 Dodges are known to have defended America in the first armed conflict as we sought independence. More than 200 Dodges from southern New England who fought in the Revolutionary war are listed in the Dodge Family Genealogy. This is a heritage of which every Dodge may be justly proud. May we love and defend our beloved country as did these brave men.

REUNIONS

Southern California Reunion - January 20 at the Miramar Naval Base. Contact: Col_RLDodge@juno.com

Wisconsin - the next reunion will be held on Saturday, June 23, 2002. Contact: pjslnger1@gbonline.com

Hesperia, Michigan -3rd Sunday in July

New England Reunion: Ipswich, Massachusetts - October 6, 2002

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The View From My Window



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Fall is soon here and in fall I think of New England. Little vases and bottles of brightly colored glass sit on my windowsill. This is a truly New England thing, and more specifically a Cape Cod thing!

In the early 1950s I bought my first little glass vase while visiting my mother who lived in Harwichport, Massachusetts. In ensuing years, I had been able to acquire a lot of these little vases, in red, blue, orange, yellow . . . virtually every color of the rainbow.

Sadly, with each move our family made, one or two were broken and now there are only 5 left. When we visit Earls sister and her husband, I view with envy her living room window that is alive with color from the light shining through her little vases and bottles. Somehow, she was able to keep her collection from breaking during their many moves.

The other day, as I was dusting my 5 vases, I was reminded how, as a child, I was fascinated with the bits of broken colored glass I would find in a certain area of our yard in Weston, Massachusetts. I would collect them and use them for playing hopscotch. Does ANYONE remember THAT game? This was before the days of television, when children were expected to amuse themselves, and we did that with great imagination!

One summer day, when I was 10 yrs. old, my mother suggested that I fill a canning jar with pieces of colored glass and bury it. She told me that in a couple of years, I could then dig it up and thus find 'buried treasure'. I thought this was a great idea and it was not long before I had that jar full. There was a predominance of pieces of blue glass because that color was my favorite but there were other colors also, that made one think of shining jewels

I buried it under a pine tree right near my sandbox so that I could 'find' it in a few years.

My life continued, and many things happened. WW II ended; Daddy did not come home; we tried living in Nogales, AZ and Albuquerque, NM, but both places were too hot for my mother so we moved back to our little 'house by the side of the road' in Weston. School years passed; in late summer I picked blueberries and blackberries which my mother canned for winter pies; my brother and I went sledding in the winter and I went ice skating on the school pond; I struggled through French, Algebra, Geometry, Chemistry, etc.

One summer day, when I was 15, I remembered that bottle of colored glass bits that I had buried under the little pine tree by my sandbox. The sandbox was still there and I still liked to dig there - (children back then were much more 'children' than they



are today). The little pine tree was not so little anymore.

I went to the cellar and brought out a shovel and begin to dig, and dig... and dig... I dug all around that tree and I never did find that jar of buried 'treasure'.

I still think about it from time to time and wonder how it could have migrated under the soil. Perhaps it is bound up in the roots of the tree that grew so high and which is still there. (I saw that tree about 5 years ago when I visited that little home where I grew up.) Perhaps it moved downhill with the years of snow, rain, and frost, and the resulting ground upheaval. I will never know.

Maybe at some future date, another child will live in that house, and perhaps they will be digging in the yard near where my sandbox used to be. Perhaps their shovel will strike something and eagerly they will pull the dirt away with their hands and will unearth an old canning jar that is filled with beautiful 'jewels'. I can hear them now as they run into the house 'Mom, look what I found!'

They may wonder how it got there. They will not know of the little girl who buried this treasure over 50 years ago and they will not know that she STILL remembers that old canning jar of glass bits everytime she looks at her remaining 5 colored vases.

Barbara



Kernels by The Colonel Col. Robert L. Dodge

Remember These Men, A Dedication

Through the history of world aviation, many names have come to the fore. Great deeds of the past in our memory will last, as they're joined by more and more.

When man first started in his quest to conquer the sky; He was designer, mechanic, and pilot, and he built the machine that would fly, but somehow the order got twisted, and then in the public eye, the only man that could be seen was the man who knew how to fly!

The pilot was everyone's hero, he was brave, he was bold, he was grand, as he stood by his battered old biplane with his goggles and helmet in hand.

To be sure, these pilots all earned it, to fly, you have to have guts, and they blazed their names in the hall of fame, on wings with baling wire struts; but for each of these heroes, there were thousands of little known, and these were the men who worked on the planes, but kept their feet on the ground.

We all know Lindbergh, and we've read of his flight to fame, but think if you can of his maintenance man, Can you remember his name?

Think of our WW II heroes, Gabreski, Jabara, and Scott. Can you tell me the names of their Crew Chiefs? A thousand to one you cannot!

Now pilots are highly trained people and their wings are not easily won, but without the work of the MAINTE-NANCE MEN, our pilots would march with a gun.

So when you see mighty aircraft as they make their way through the air, the greased-stained man with the wrench in his hand, is the man who put them up there.

....Author Unknown....

From the Pen of: Passepartout by Craig Dodge



craigdodge@hotmail.com

Our settlement in Australia continues at a pace that is, for us, quite astounding. Just this week we posted off a cheque for the deposit on our block of land, on which we intend to start building our own home as soon as reasonably possible. In fact I was making notes on a set of plans that the builder supplied me when I stopped to write this article.

Building one's own home is always an exciting thing and more so for us as it will, after 11 years of marriage, be the first place that will be ours as opposed to paying rent. Adding to our sense of excitement is the fact that this was a dream that was out of our reach as long as we lived in Africa and specifically in Zimbabwe. There, without any safety nets, one had to own one's own home to achieve any sense of security - and the costs of building one in a country where inflation is running at the official rate of 97.9% and unavailability of materials makes it impossible to work towards. Further, one would need a 25% deposit and at current interest rates the repayments exceed most peoples gross income. In Australia for what is less than 2 years this is a goal that is now easily within reach.

While one's home is the 'meat' of a family, there is also a large 'garnish' element. What I mean is that there are so many delectable extras:

What colour will we paint the rooms? What will we do with the garden?

What about themes for the rooms? How will I set up the office, etc, etc.

The frustrating part is the suddenly arising extra expenses that are also raising their heads: A runaway supermarket trolley rolled into the side of my car. A tyre has developed a gash and will have to be replaced. Dentist's bills. A dead PC and so the list goes on. But in a real sense it adds to the feeling of adventure and it will add to our feeling of being settled which while it is growing has not been helped by this being our 4th move in a little over 2 years and our (approx) 11th move in 11 years. Hopefully it will be our last move for many years, if not forever.

With Christmas fast approaching I am reminded that this is an event that always seems somewhat incongruous in the Southern hemisphere. The shops put fake snow everywhere

but the outside temp is 40 deg. C, and there isn't a reindeer for thousands of kilometres. Barbecues and outdoor sports are the order of the day and if we do go inside, the air conditioners will be working overtime.

Perth is a nice balance between a biggish city and yet small enough to feel not 'in amongst it all' and my early memories of Christmas in Africa are easy to recollect. Though we lived in the suburbs, the wildness of Africa was never faraway. One year, when we were still in Zambia, we finished decorating the tree and were sitting back admiring it when a large snake slithered out. My Dad woke me one day calling out to me to not to get out of bed, for though I lived in the furthest room from an outside door, there was a snake curled on the floor of my room.

Perth doesn't suffer with these dangers but I know other parts of the country do. The biggest threat we need to be aware of is the bite of the Red Back Spider; highly toxic, it will kill a child and put an adult in hospital. I have seen (and killed) several.

All of this adds to our different Christmas celebrations that I have grown up with and it was a fascinating contrast to have spent a few in England and get the feel for the two - both with merit, both with drawbacks. One snuck up unnoticed and the other slipped by too



Happy Holidays from the Dodge Family Association.

fast (In the North, I found the period after Christmas till the weather warmed up to be very long and bleak).

Every year I hear people complain that it is too commercial; I'm not sure what that means. I like the way the shops pretty themselves up and I love looking for presents for the ones that I love, wrapping them and watching their wide eyed excitement as they open them. We could get the shops to do nothing and Christmas would become a bland affair and for many it would slip by unnoticed, people and relationships forgotten, no interest taken in a special time together. So, all things considered, this will be probably our finest Christmas so far, with our next being the first in our new home.



This is the family of **Albion Dodge** who was the son of **William Dodge**, Bootmaker, of **East Coker**, England, and his wife, **Catherine Arnold**. Catherine was b. Yetminster, and died aged 88. William died aged 86. Albion and his family lived in Fareham, and this photo was taken at the studio of J. T. See in Fareham.. Received from DFA member, **David Dodge** of Warminster, Wiltshire, England. This family descended from **Michael Dodge**, brother of William and Richard, who stayed in England.

((Letter to Jefferson - Continued from page 1) their Chief Magistrate, as an enemy of Religion, Law and good order because he will not, dare not assume the prerogative of Jehovah and make Laws to govern the kingdom of Christ."

Jefferson wrote in reply: "Believing with you that religion is a matter which lies solely between man and his God, that he owes account to none other for his faith or his worship, that the legislative powers of government reach actions only, and not opinions, I contemplate with sovereign reverence that act of the whole American people which declared that their legislature would 'make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof,' thus building a wall of separation between Church and State."

"The constitution of government" about which Dodge complained was Connecticut's. That state had long taxed its citizens to support the Congregational Church. Although the certificate act of 1791 allowed Baptists and other dissenters to avoid such taxes by certifying that they attended another church, dissenters who failed to file certificates continued to be taxed and were sometimes imprisoned for failing to pay taxes. From 1800 to 1807, the Baptists petitioned Connecticut's Federalist legislature repeatedly but unsuccessfully, seeking disestablishment of the Congregational Church. Disestablishment came only in 1818, after the Republican Party gained power in Connecticut and the state adopted a new constitution.

Dodge was a Baptist minister, who preached in Hampton, Southington, Berlin, Middletown, and Lebanon, before moving to New London, and was a strong proponent of disestablishment. He was active in the petition movement, but also became a supporter of Jefferson's Republican Party earlier than most Baptists. He spoke at Republican Fourth of July celebrations in 1801 and 1802 and delivered a sermon on church and state in 1805 to celebrate Jefferson's reelection. See 2 William G. McLoughlin, New England Dissent,

1630-1833: The Baptists and the Separation of Church and State 1006-08, 1017-18 (1971). Professor McLoughlin describes Dodge as a "liberal Baptist . . . evangelical in temper, but far more liberal theologically than the average Baptist." *Id.* at 1024.

Several of Dodge's published sermons were quite political, which was delicate for a believer in church-state separation. In the preface to a 1802 sermon, Dodge explained "that ministerial influence in political affairs has done much more hurt than good in the world for a long time" and "that gospel ministers, as such, have nothing to do with political matters, except being set for the defense of the gospel of Christ, are sometimes called to defend it from political invasions." Dodge believed that God would support the church and ridiculed "the common complaint of many in the New England states . . . that religion will come to naught, and religious privileges be abolished, unless supported by civil power, and the fostering hand of legislative bodies!!" As explained in a 1805 sermon, Dodge also believed that the separation of church and state had a religious basis. He admitted that they had been united under the Covenant of Abraham, but "Christ came and fulfilled that Covenant, and reformed the Christians, from a national church state, into gospel churches, founded upon a new constitution, which forbid their blending church and state, as formerly." Connecticut's certificate act was not just a blending of church and state but also an invasion of religious freedom, for "[i]f rulers say we many worship God . . . by lodging a certificate, does it not imply that we may not without their liberty?" And Dodge defended Jefferson against the Federalist charge that he was an enemy of religion, a charge of which there was no proof "except his being unwilling to encourage, support, and vindicate such abominable hypocritical regulations."

Dodge appears to have been most actively politically from 1801-08, during Jefferson's administration. He does not seem to have helped frame Connecticut's new constitution in 1818. Shortly after disestablishment,

Dodge exercised his own religious liberty and became a Universalist, no small step for a man over 50 who had been a Baptist preacher for more than 30 years. Ironically, he was persecuted by his former associates and moved to New York City, where he continued to preach. A sermon delivered at a state prison in 1825 reflects a change in tone. He told the inmates that "[a]ll mankind are the children of God" and that "God loves them all impartially." He continued: "It is in the power of any criminal, or prisoner in this place, to render his own condition less painful and gloomy Give none offence to Jew or gentile, or the church of God. . . . Do good to all according to your opportunity. Treat every person you see with due respect, according to their place and standing in society. Commend yourselves to every man's conscience in the sight of God."

Nehemiah Dodge both advocated and practiced religious freedom. And his letter to Jefferson contributed in a small way to the birth of a metaphor -- the "wall of separation between Church and State" -- that helps guard that freedom today.

Further Reading: Photographic reproductions of Dodge's letter to Jefferson and Jefferson's reply can be found by searching for the word "Danbury" in the Thomas Jefferson Papers at the Library of Congress, <memory.loc.gov/ammem/mtjhtml/mtjhome.html>. The texts of these letters are transcribed at <www.wallbuilders.com/et_danbury.html>. An interesting article on the drafting of Jefferson's reply may be found at <www.loc.gov/loc/lcib/9806/danbury.html>.

The author, a descendant of Nehemiah Dodge, is a Professor of Law at the University of California, Hastings College of the Law, in San Francisco, California.

We have received a number of obituaries from our members over the past several months. We do not have room to list them in our Journal, but we wish those families to know that we grieve with you about the loss of your loved ones.

Barbara



GENEALOGY REQUESTS

If you have information on any of these genealogy requests, please contact us here at our office.

Tel. No. 303-237-4947.

E-Mail: barbdodge@dodgeoffice.net

Norma Keel is searching for ancestry of **John Dodge**, b. supposedly in either Fulton or McDonough County, Illinois. He m. Eliza Jane Antil. They had one son, Thomas Josiah, b. July 1, 1861. Date of death is unknown the 1870 census shows Eliza Dodge, widow, with one son, Thomas, 9 yrs. old. Eliza later married George Lemmon. Thomas m. Laura Etta Copeland. Their children were Orel **Ross,** b. 7-25-1895 in Walnut Grove, Fulton Co.l Illinois; Hazel, Harold Jay, Faye, Eston and Ruby.

Douglas Dodge of Northampton, PA is searching for information on the ancestry of Arnold A. Dodge, of Rochester, NY. His son was Charles Dodge, whose son was Charles A. Dodge, born Jan. 3, 1872, and his son was Charles William Dodge.

We are looking for a Royal Dodge who married Molly (Mollie) Whitney in Halifax, Vermont in 1812. They had a son David. Nothing more is know about Royal or Molly and yet they have descendents.

Otis F. Hall, ofhall@vt.edu,/816 McBryde Dr., Blacksburg, VA, would like to have contact with anyone who has family records tracing back to ALEXANDER Dodge, son of David Britain Dodge, and his son Alexander Dodge. This is in the Tristram Dodge line.

William Henry Dodge was born in Towanda, Pennsylvania. His parents died while he was an infant and he lived with an aunt and uncle until he was 13 yrs. old. At that age, he left and went to Nebraska as a field hand. As an adult he was in Horton, Kansas. He had two sisters who were teachers and who taught school in Horton.

Earl's Pearls

earldodge@ dodgeoffice.net



In the enclosed letter I make mention of the fact that I just discovered I am a distant cousin of the late President Calvin Coolidge. Years ago when I spoke to the Colorado Mayflower Society I told them I could not join because the Dodges waited for nine more years to be sure the plumbing was installed. The Governor, Mary Johnson, a dear friend of ours, took this as a challenge and researched all the lines of females who married Dodges in my line from William. She found Huguenot ancestry into the 1400's and many other lines going back to England.

As pleased as I am with all the data I find, my Dodge heritage means the most to me. My dad, his father Lewis Henry Dodge, and others going back to William, were men of good character who loved their God, their country and their family. They chose good women with whom to raise their families. As I often say at our Reunions "don't ever say I am not a Dodge, I just married one". Unless others married Dodges there would be few of us around.

On the day that the Korean War began, June 25, 1950, I went into Boston to attend a Gospel meeting in Boston Garden and go to church in Boston at night (many New England churches discontinue evening services and Sunday School during the summer) I noticed a young lady who sang a duet with her cousin. It turned out that she was a member at the church I planned to attend. We got acquainted and about two weeks later I asked her to marry me. She agreed though more than a year passed before that happened (by then we were a mature 18 and 17 respectively). Though born a Regan, Barbara has always enjoyed the Dodge Family. Some years ago she offered to take over the work I was doing of receiving and acknowledging dues payments and handling book orders. Soon she was taking calls and helping people find other family members. When a computer joined the family she established a Dodge Family Website, and trained herself to do genealogical work. She and my cousin Norman now spend many hours each week working on Dodge Genealogy. She is assistant editor of our Journal and writes the majority of the material we use.

I appreciate Barbara so much. When we were married I literally had \$1 in the bank. At one time we had no bath facilities and took baths in a large pan in the kitchen of a Boston basement apartment. Trips to the market district in Boston on Saturdays when prices were low helped to keep our growing family fed. When I see some people getting divorced in just a few months after tying the knot I am thankful for a good wife and my children. The family is the basic unit of our nation and strong families mean a strong nation.

Americans think they know all about the Revolution simply because they are Americans. In fact, the real story - not the one in most textbooks - is crammed with little-known facts. Here is the first of 13 points to ponder.

The Americans of 1776 had the highest standard of living and lowest taxes in the Western World. Farmers, lawyers and business owners in the Colonies were thriving, with some plantation owners and merchants making the equivalent of \$500,000 a year. Times were good for many others too. (The vast majority of business owners and professionals were white males.) The British wanted a slice of the cash flow and tried to tax the Colonists. They resisted violently, convince that their prosperity and their liberty were at stake. Virginia's Patrick Henry summed up their stance with his cry: "Give me liberty or give me death!"

Errata available.

Those of you who own the **1998** Genealogy Update and History that was compiled by Col. Robert L. Dodge, may get a copy of the errata for that book by browsing to: http://www.dodgeoffice.net

There are a number of items at that site for downloading including the Errata for the above mentioned book, back issues of our Dodge Journal in color, the latest Dodge Roster, and other things which might be of interest including some photos of beautiful Colorado