

# DODGE FAMILY JOURNAL

Volume 21 No. 6

September/October 2005

# Bishop Ralph Edward Dodge American Methodist missionary to Africa

By R. Edward Dodge

# NEEDED: A few good men and women

The Dodge Family Association is looking for those who would be interested in serving a term of 3 years on our Board of Directors. Each year a board meeting is held in Ipswich, Massachusetts in late September or early October, and another board meeting is held in California in January. It is necessary for board members to attend one of those meetings. If you are interested in serving the Association in this way, please send in a resume to our office at: 10105 W. 17th Place, Lakewood, Colorado, 80215, or via e-mail to barbdodge@dodgeoffice.net *ન્નુ* 

Tristram descendants:
This is your last opportunity to send in your information to be included in the new Tristram genealogy book. Please send information to Jim Bailey at dodgeri@cox.net, or to Jim at: 16 Andover St., North Providence, RI, 02904

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Bishop Ralph Edward Dodge, was the only American Methodist missionary ever elected Bishop by the African Methodist Church in the colonial territories of Angola, Mozambique, Rhodesia (now Zimbabwe) and Zaire (now the Democratic Republic of the Congo).

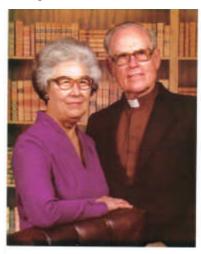
# News item: Taylor's ECHO - Feb 13. 1937

Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Dodge are located at Luanda, Angola, West Africa. Mrs. Dodge, nee Eunice Davis, writes:

"It's the day after Christmas now, but it feels like the day after the Fourth of July! Do you know what the Portuguese call Santa Claus? Papa Noel. Over here he has a black beard, glasses, cane, turbanlike hat, raggedy clothes, and a servant who stands and fans him!

"Yesterday at 9:00 A.M. came the Christmas service in

the church. The church was rather well filled. Probably eight hundred were there. Palm branches and red flowers had been carefully arranged, and the effect, even if unfamiliar, was pretty. The native pastor preached the Christmas



Bishop Ralph E. Dodge and Eunice Davis Dodge on their return from Africa after retirement.

message – partly in Portuguese and partly in Kimbundu. At the afternoon service there were about two thousand people.

"We are to go to Quessua on January 12 and they expect us to spend a month with them. That will give us a chance to get closer to real African life. We are looking forward to the visit very much."

The letter above, was written by the mother of Edward R. Dodge, a recent lifetime member of the Dodge Family Association. His father, Bishop Ralph E. Dodge, a young 98 years old, is also a new lifetime member.

Ed writes: To put the above letter in perspective, Mom must have written it on December 26, 1936, less than a month after the folks ar-

(Continued on page 5)

## THE MYSTERY OF BLOCK ISLAND

By Robert Bush

The few historians who have written in depth about the settlement of Block Island have done a reasonably good job of addressing the who, what, where and how of the venture. But the question of why was rarely if ever addressed. The leaders of the venture were, for the most part, respected men who were successful in business, agriculture and/or one of the professions. They were living in well ordered, secure and thriving communities such as Boston, Roxbury and Portsmouth. Overall, they had the best that

New England could offer during that era. Yet they were willing to give it up, and leave behind other family members, friends and neighbors, to go to a place where they had little opportunity to better themselves and were placing their families in harms way.

Block Island was small, at the most measuring about eight miles long by three miles wide. It was isolated, lying twelve miles south of the Rhode Island mainland and eighteen miles northeast of Long Island, which made the early settlers vulnerable to raids by Spanish, French or Dutch privateers. Moreover, the Island was populated by an extremely large number of hostile Indians. Given their background of success, it is also surprising that the leaders of the venture paid about twenty times its worth and obtained only a questionable title to the land. And not long after they established the initial settlement, they made a concerted attempted to detach the Island from its parent, the Massachusetts Bay Colony, their only source of support.

(Continued on page 4)



# SAND IN MY SHOES

by Stephen Allen Dodge SDodge53@aol.com

## From the Brooklyn Eagle, 1894 Death of Ikeelas Dodge, a Quaint Old Character

He was Lincoln's Friend and the only man on Long Island who entertained the Martyred President.

#### Satchogue, L.I., November 17, 1894

Ikeelas Dodge died today after a lingering sickness.

Mr. Dodge was a warm personal friend of Abraham Lincoln and felt proud of the fact that he was the only man on Long Island that ever entertained the President as a guest.

The deceased owned hundreds of acres of land and unfolded a plan to Lincoln in which he intended to furnish homes to hundreds of honest working men free of charge.

His idea was to lay the land out in small farms, each farm to have its complete outfit of houses, barns, crop lands and cattle. As long as a tenant behaved himself, he and his family were welcome to run the farm and keep all the produce without expense other than to pay the taxes and insurance on the farm.

Lincoln was very favorably impressed with the idea. One of the largest streets through the land was named Lincoln Avenue.

Ikeelas Dodge had some trouble with the towns people and local politicians about going forward with his planned farm and was never able to carry it out.

Mr. Dodge was a gold conveyer in New York City. His honesty among the money kings of the big city during the eighteen fifties was never questioned and though he carried millions in money for different merchants and shippers, he never gave a bond.

Mr. Dodge was born in New Jersey and inherited some of the eccentricities for which Jersey men are famous.

One of Mr. Dodge's hobbies was the admiration for wagons. He owned, at the time of his death, over 50 of them. The collection ran from the lightest

style of spindle road wagon to the heavy farm drays. Three fourths of them were never used and are kept in excellent condition.

Ikeelas Dodge had a rifle which was presented to him from President Lincoln. He thought a great deal of this rifle and with it, he could stand a penny on its edge on a post and hit it every time.

Ed Note: Satchogue is really Patchogue...whether this was a name change or a misspelling, we do not know. Several of our genealogists have looked for anything to further enlighten us as to who this Dodge was, to no avail. We think that this very strange first name may have been a pseudonym. We do not know where he is buried.

Another family from the same area was that of William Copeland Dodge who was a lawyer in New York. Perhaps they were related. We will have an article on William in the next Journal.



Russ Dodge of Findagrave. com.

R ussell Dodge (descendant of Tristram through David Britain Dodge) is an Administrator, Photographer, and Biographer for www. findagrave.com.

He was born in 1969 in Philadelphia. Pennsylvania, raised in southern New Jersey, lived in northern New Jersey (he considers himself a New Jersey Philadelphian with duel citizenship), and now has returned to the South Jersey-Philly area. His love of grave hunting and grave photography grew out of his passion for American History, a subject he hopes to teach someday. History to him is more than abstract names and dates in a colorless text book. It is thoughts, ideas, efforts and experiences of people - real, living, breathing people who pass on and become intangible words in a book. Visiting and photographing their graves, where their physical remains rest, does two things

for him. One, it allows him to honor them and, for at least a brief period of time, for them to be remembered by someone. He believes too many of past Figures have been forgotten, and have passed into obscurity. Two, it helps him with the realization that this Famous person from History was as alive as himself. Both of these have a profound effect on him that in some ways he can't describe to others. His two primary photography subjects are Civil War figures (especially Union and Confederate Generals) and Major League Baseball figures. These represent two of his passions. He knows that many people see his hobby as morbid, and it unnerves them sometimes. However, if asked, he likes to tell them it's his way of traveling back in time. As Benjamin Franklin once said "Show me your cemeteries, and I will tell you what kind of people you have."

Favorite Graves: Favorite cemeteries are Laurel Hill in Philadelphia, Arlington National Cemetery, The West Point Academy Cemetery and Green-Wood in Brooklyn.

Some of his favorite books are "Savage Wars of Peace: Small Wars and the Rise of American Power" by Max Boot, "Bury My Heart At Wounded Knee" by Dee Brown, any one of Harry Pfanz's three "Gettysburg" books.

His hobbies are finding graves, reading, dialectical conversations, eating Frosted Mini-Wheats, honing his extraordinary ability to quote Bugs Bunny Cartoons from memory, and ruling a small South American country as its benevolent dictator, with the title of "El Presidente for Life" ("My people.. They Love Me!"). His e-mail address is: russ@findagrave.com

#### DODGE FAMILY JOURNAL

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Published by the Dodge Family Association Membership \$20/yr. in all countries

# The View From My Window



## barbdodge@dodgefamily.org

Our membership is large enough now that I need help in the folding, stuffing, and stamping of our Journal mailing. Now, one of our grandsons, Caleb Thiessen, comes over for the better part of a day to help with that. I thought you might enjoy seeing a photo of Caleb at work. He is a big help and we can get the Journal out in one day's time once it is printed rather than the two days, and sometimes three, that it took before.



Blueberry season is about ended, at least for us here in Colorado who have to have blueberries shipped in. I tried twice to raise some blueberry bushes but the soil is very alkaline and I was totally unsuccessful. I even tried raising them in containers and adding Miracid as needed but they still died, so I gave up.

Blueberries are one of my favorite things to eat...in pie...on cereal...in muffins...and out of the hand.

When I was little, daddy, mama, and I rode in daddy's car to a forest a couple of miles away where we would spend the day picking blueberries. They were the wild ones on low bushes and you had to sit on the ground to pick them. It would take us all day to fill the many baskets that my parents brought with them. I can still remember the smells of the woods, the pine needles, and the sounds of the tree locusts as they buzzed high up in the branches.

We would take a break for lunch that we brought with us and then pick some more. Periodically, daddy told me that I was eating too many berries, or that I was moving around too much and needed to concentrate on the bushes where I sat and pick them clean...two ways...pick the bushes clean and pick the berries clean...in

# The Dodge Family Journal

other words, don't include leaves and sticks. Even as careful as he and mama were about picking clean berries, when they got home mama would 'pick over' the berries looking for stray sticks and leaves. She did not want those items in her pies. She canned blueberries for the winter because she made and sold pies to help us with our expenses.

After daddy left, mama, my brother and I would pull a wagon with the baskets, pails, etc., and walk that two plus miles to the woods where the blueberries were. We would take lunch, and pick berries all day and then walk home exhausted from our days work.

When Earl and I left New England for Indiana, and later for Michigan, one of the things I would do is go to a blueberry farm each late summer and pick pounds and pounds of blueberries. I never dreamed that I would live someplace where that would not be possible.

When we first came here, I looked for a blueberry farm and finding none, I had to wait to see if any of the stores would carry them. Then I waited until they were on sale and THEN I would purchase what I considered to be a year's supply for the freezer.

I made a blueberry pie last week and took a piece to my mother. Normally, she will not eat anything sweet that I bring her, and usually she does not even finish a meal. However, this time, she ate every bite of the pie and even scraped out all of the juice she could so as not to miss a single taste of blueberry.

Cranberries are another New England crop and here is a recipe 'From Our Hearth and Home" Dodge recipe book that you might like to try.

#### CRANBERRY COFFEECAKE

From Noni Dodge of Winnetka, Illinois 1/4 lb. Margerine

1/2 tsp. Salt

1 c. sugar

2 eggs

1 8-oz cranberry sauce

1/4 c. walnuts

1 tsp. Baking powder

1 tsp soda

2 c. flour

1/2 pt. Sour cream

1 tsp almond extract

#### Topping:

3/4 c. confectionary sugar

1/2 tsp. Salt

2-3 tsp. Water

Cream margarine and salt. Beat in sugar and then eggs one at a time. Add sifted dry ingredients alternately with sour cream. Add extract. Pour 1/2 batter into a greased tube pan. Swirl about 1/2 can cranberry sauce into batter in pan. Add rest of batter. Repeat with the sauce. Sprinkle with nuts. Bake at 350 degrees for 55 minutes. Remove from pan after 5 minutes.

Mix and spread topping over the cake and drizzle down the sides.

User Name: dodgefamily Password: villages



Oval Office that has been built in Texas ... See Earl's Pearls on page 5

(Block Island Mystery—Cont'd from page 1)
Considering all of these factors, one is tempted to conclude that the leaders of the venture had collectively taken leave of their senses. Hence the mystery that surrounds their motivation for settling on Block Island.

In doing research on Tristram Dodge, I stumbled across a rather obscure paper entitled "The Real Mystery of Block Island. The Origins of the Island Colony," researched and written by Arthur Kinov in 1961 for presentation to a meeting of the Block Island Historical Society. To my knowledge, it has never been published, so it is likely that only a very small number of Tristram Dodge's descendants are aware of the paper or have had the opportunity to read it. The author's objective was to answer the question as to why the settlement of Block Island took place. Kinoy provides a strong argument that the leaders of the settlement were followers or at least sympathizers of the religious dissenter Anne Hutchison and that they went to Block Island to escape the oppression of the theocratic government of the Massachusetts Bay Colony.

Was our Tristram Dodge one of these religious dissenters? Maybe! But then again, maybe not! Given what little we know about Tristram Dodge, there is no apparent connection between our ancestor and the leaders of the venture. And Tristram's occupation made him a bit of an outsider in the Massachusetts Bay Colony. Despite the importance of the fishing trade in New England, the Puritans were not fishermen. According to one noted historian, they considered such work as 'hard, cold, dirty and poorly paid.' Moreover, they regarded fishermen as 'the sort of rowdy and defiant folk whom they had hoped to leave behind in England.' While it is true that fishermen appeared disproportionately in Puritan Courts to face charges of public drunkenness, assault and battery, blasphemy, Sabbath breaking and other offenses, there is no reason to assume that our Tristram Dodge fit this stereotype.

Fishing would be a critical element in the survival of the early settlement and in its longer term financial success. Clearly, leaders of the venture would not have willingly placed their wellbeing in the hands of someone who

would commit the transgressions that many of the fishermen were prone to. If they had any questions as to his character, they would have made a purely commercial arrangement with Tristram Dodge to provide them with fish during the early days of the settlement and to teach them how to fish for themselves. As soon as was practical, they would have paid him off and encouraged him to leave. But this the leaders did not do. So, they obviously felt they could depend on him. In addition, Tristram Dodge was given a substantial plot of land in the initial allocation of town lots, clearly indicating that they were comfortable having him as a neighbor. And within a very few years, he was made a freeman of the community, giving him the right to vote and otherwise have a say in the local government. Therefore, it is far more likely that Tristram Dodge did not feel that he was welcomed in the Massachusetts Bay Colony and not being as well off as the others involved in the venture, he regarded the opportunity to settle on Block Island as an opportunity to make a better life for himself and for his family. What ever his motivation, it is clear that this was the result.

Is the mystery solved? Maybe! And then again, maybe not! Those who are interested knowing more about the Massachusetts Bay Colony and the nature of fishermen, the above quotes were taken from the very well written "American Colonies," by Alan Taylor, Penguin Books, 2001. More about religious dissent in that Colony can be found in "American Jezebel, The Uncommon Life of Anne Hutchison, The Woman who Defied the Puritans" by her descendant Eve LaPlante, Harper-Collins, 2004.

Ed. Note: From "A HISTORY OF THE BAPTISTS" by Thomas Armitage, we find the following statement: "James Sands, one of the first settlers and the first representative from Block Island in the Rhode Island Assembly, was an 'Anabaptist,' and Niles, his grandson, the historian of the Island, says that 'he did not differ in religious belief from the other settlers."

In the next Journal there will be more information on this subject.



Eileen's Trivia Corner EDodge1946@aol.

## Timeline of Thanksgiving in the United States

1621: The Pilgrims held a feast in 1621 near Plymouth, Massachusetts, after their first harvest. This is the feast often refered to as "the First Thanksgiving." This feast was never repeated, nor did the colonists or Pilgrims call it a Thanksgiving Feast. To these devoutly religious people, a day of thanksgiving was a day of prayer and fasting.

**1630:** The voyage of John Winthrop's ships from England was difficult and stormy. On July 8<sup>th</sup> of that year a Thanksgiving Day was kept on account of the safe arrival. Governor Winthrop recorded: "We kept a daye of thanksgivinge in all the plantations."

**1777:** General George Washington and his army, as instructed by the Continental Congress, stopped in bitter weather in the open fields on their way to Valley Forge to mark the occasion of the first Thanksgiving.

**1789:** President Washington's first proclamation after his inauguration declared November 26, 1789 as a national day of "thanksgiving and prayer."

**1800s:** The annual presidential thanksgiving proclamations cease for more than 45 years.

**1863:** President Abraham Lincoln issued the first thanksgiving proclamation in many years; since then, every president has issued at least one per year.

1941: President Roosevelt signed a bill establishing the fourth Thursday in November as Thanksgiving Day. Because two years out of every seven have five Thursdays in November, some states for the next 15 years celebrated on their own on the last Thursday. Since 1956, the fourth Thursday in November has been observed by every state.

Ed. Note: Although the United States had a gap in proclaiming a day of Thanksgiving, the New England states observed it with out a break.

(Bishop Ralph E. Dodge - Cont'd from page 1) rived in Angola. It would have been a few weeks before my first birthday, and a little over a year before Lois was born in Quessua. I must have celebrated my first birthday in Quessua! I had never known that nor seen this letter before, so it's a bit of our family history that I especially appreciate learning about! I always thought my first birthday was in Luanda.

My father, Ralph Dodge, was the youngest of four children. He was born on January 25, 1907 to Ernest and Lizzie Longshore Dodge of Dickenson County, Iowa. After high school he happily followed his father and older brother into farming. The family attended the Methodist Episcopal church in Terril, Iowa, where his pastor suggested that God might be calling him to preach.

In spite of scoffing at this idea, Ralph wrestled with the possibility of a call to ministry for several years. Finally, he decided to pursue this call, trusting that if it was God's will, seemingly impossible doors would be opened. He put himself through Taylor University in Upland, Indiana by working for the university greenhouse and farm.

At Taylor, Ralph met Eunice Davis, a pretty coed from Little Valley, New York. They married in June 1934, after Ralph completed seminary at Boston University. They served small churches in Massachusetts and North Dakota, but felt called to foreign missions. In 1935 they were accepted as candidates for an opening in Angola, then Portuguese West Africa.

The birth of their first child in January 1936 delayed their departure, but a few months later they were in language school in Lisbon, Portugal. They arrived in Angola in December 1936. The letter from Eunice at the beginning of this article, written the day after Christmas, reveals her initial thoughts.

This was the beginning of a long and distinguished career in Africa. Ralph Dodge was elected Bishop in 1956, the first Methodist Bishop to be elected by the Africa Central Conference. Previously, bishops to the Africa Central Conference had been appointed to Africa from America. He served as its Bishop from 1956 through 1968, leading the African church through turbulent years from colonial control to Afri-

can leadership.

Bishop Dodge's life work was characterized by a spirit of humility, fellowship with his coworkers in Christ, and obedience to the leading of the Holy Spirit. A fuller account of his life and work is can be read in his autobiography, *The Revolutionary Bishop*.

Ed. Note: Bishop Dodge's son, Ed Dodge, sent us a copy of this book.



Carl's

Pearls

earldodge@

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#### **OVAL OFFICE**

Pictured on page three is the Oval Office-not the one in Washington, D.C. but the one in Longview, Texas. My close friend, Ron Wade, had this exact replica of the Oval Office and its entry hall added to his home there.

Every detail is exactly as the real one and it even has furniture from the White House including one of Kennedy's rocking chairs. Built at a cost of \$250,000, this site will be available for schools. Ron, a close friend of President Bush and former President Bush, served as an intern at the White House decades ago.

He has kindly invited any members of our Dodge Association to visit this lovely building. You can reach him at (903) 236-9615 or Email him at Ron-WadeGop@aol.com.

#### **DODGE TOUR**

Our next Dodge Family Tour will take place September 25-October 9. 2006. We will leave on the 25<sup>th</sup>-arrive on the 26<sup>th</sup> and spend the first day at a nice hotel to rest up and get acquainted. We will then have two weeks of enjoyment and wonder culminating in our visit to Stockport. We fly home on October 9.

We hope to have details and costs very soon. If you wish to be kept informed as we make arrangements, please let us know. Those who have come on the previous six tours have enjoyed them. Some have come back on two, three and even five of the tours. We will see Somerset, the county where William and Richard lived, and Stockport where the Dodges played a

major role in the history of England's largest town. We will visit many interesting places including one of England's small islands. It is a never-to-beforgotten experience. You can order video tapes or DVD'S of our 2003 trip to get an idea of what we do. Contact Barbara at barbdodge@dodgeoffice.net or by phone (303) 237-4947 to order.

#### **REUNIONS**

We are close to the 20<sup>th</sup> Annual N.E. Dodge reunion on October 1 in Ipswich, Massachusetts. Our California reunion will be at Miramar Naval Base near San Diego on January 21. We hope you can attend one of these friendly events. As other reunions are planned we will keep you informed.

#### **MEMBERSHIPS**

We continue to remind our members that as we grow in numbers we can do more for the family. As you plan for Christmas giving, why not make a list of your loved ones who are not yet members. Send us their names, addresses, and \$20 per family. We will send them their membership certificate, issues of the Journal and other materials. We will also help insure the future of our family association by bringing in new members.

#### **FAMILY BONDS**

One of the joys in this Association is meeting new relations all the time. A nice couple from Utah stopped by recently to buy the JTD Dodge Genealogy and join as members. The wife and I found that we were 7<sup>th</sup> cousins.

We sadly report the loss of another long-time member, Wilhelmina Morris of the North Shore in Massachusetts. She attended just about every N.E. Dodge reunion and was supportive of our family in every way. My Aunt Gertrude, Uncle Clarence's wife, always said you cannot choose your relatives but you can pick your friends. Virtually all the family we have met are friends as well as family.

## YOU ARE THE ASSOCIATION

It is nice when people commend Board Members for their work. Yet, without the membership we would not exist. Much of our genealogy information and (Continued on page 6)



GENEALOGY REQUESTS COLUMN by Norman Dodge nedodge@aol.com

September-October brings new Challenges. Eileen helped me clean out a large amount of duplicates from our Mystery File. If your family was listed in the Mystery File and is no longer listed there, it means we have probably tied it in to either Tristram or John. We would like to connect each of the Dodges in our request column to one of our known Dodge lines.

After removing the duplicates mentioned above, I think I found a brother for Rufus Clemons Dodge named William b. in 1813 or 1818, but Rosemary Stein, a descendent of Rufus, disagrees. For now I will leave William in the Mystery File. Perhaps others can either prove or disprove my hypothesis.

**&&&** 

We received a request from Joe Jackson of Leland, North Carolina. He is looking for information on Encel H. Dodge who lived near Philadelphia in the 1960s. Encel worked at the Franklin Institute and the University of Pennsylvania. Please contact Joe at 8716 North Fork Way, N.E., Leland, NC 28451-9714 or phone 910-655-3517.

&&&

A new mystery is Joseph Dodge b. ca. 1813 in Kentucky and his wife Ann M., b, ca. 1817. They had three children: Isaac Newton, James W. & Martha T. Please contact Norman E. Dodge at nedodge@aol.com.

Lewie Julius Dodge, b. 15 Aug 1882 in Missouri d. Aug 1974 in Mexico, Audrain County, Missouri, m. 1905 Florence Ethel Lester, b. Dec. 1887 in MO. They had 9 children. Can you help with this?

We also need help with Alpheus Dodge b. 1806 and d. 30 May 1867 in Hallowell, Maine and married Emeline Childs 5 Apr 1834. They had 4 children Anna, Eugene, Isabel & Emma.

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Hezekiah Dodge shown on Pg. 101 in TRW was stated as b. on Long Island in 1731. We believe this is an error. Jim Bailey made this discovery about two years ago. We connected Hezekiah (b.

1731) to Hezekiah Dodge b. 1790 & Patience Rathbun. This line is now in our Tristram File. A descendent of this family tested Tristram through DNA.

We are looking for the parents of Cresey/Cressey Dodge, born 1799/1800 in NH. In 1819 he married Deborah Marston in Parsonsfield, York Co. Maine. All six of their children were born in Parsonsfield. They were Annette, John, Edwin, Mary, Caroline & Daniel.

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We are also trying to find a connection for John Dodge b. ca 1801 in Bath, New Hampshire who married Vasta. They had 9 children in Bath. One child, George Nelson Dodge married Cora and moved his family to Vermont. Here they had a child Ralph Silsby Dodge b. 4 Sep 1896, Lunenburg, Essex Co., Vermont and d. per SSDI, Nov 1974, St. Johnsbury, Caledonia Co., Vermont. Ralph & his wife had two boys.

Another Vermont Mystery is Daniel D. Dodge b. 1820 who married Betsey, born 1820 from New York and they had 4 children; Wallace, Henry, Jesse William, b. 1845 in Illinois, and Edwin H. b. Sept 1851 in Wisconsin.

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We continue to look for the parents of Aaron Dodge b. 11 Jan 1791, in Wiscasset, Lincoln Co., Maine. Anyone with information should contact Janeen at: res038yp@verizon.net.

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Perry Dodge m. Elizabeth and they had a son William b. 1861 in Iowa, who d. 1959 in Des Moines Polk Co., Iowa. William married Henrietta "Etta" Trowbridge. They had 4 children: Tena, Charles, Lizze and Lea.

Another recent mystery is Emily Disbrow Calkings who married David Dodge. They were both b. about 1814. David was b. in Onondaga Co., NY and Emily was b. elsewhere in New York.

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Becky Rutledge, long time DFA member, sent me family data sheets on her Dodge line from Vermont which she could only trace back as far as Bath New Hampshire, her brick wall. Chuck and I with a little help from Massachusetts VR's in Wenham tied her Dodge line into Richard several years ago. She solved the parents of Alba Richard

Dodge b. in Lunenburg, Vermont and his wife we now know was Mary Jane "Mamie" King. They had two sons. RRR

Stephen Allen Dodge (Sand in My Shoes Column) sent information that provides much more on the family of Andrew Dodge and Ruth Blackmar of the Richard Dodge line. If you will go to our cemetery pages and browse to the area for New York and click on 'Cairo and Ashland Cemeteries', you will see cemetery stones and find links to interesting information about this family. *જ્*જ્

the last Journal we had a photo of the Lincoln Dodge House in Maine. We received two e-mails from 2 descendents of brothers of Lincoln George Dodge, who told us that this house belonged to Lincoln, (born 7/7/1857, died 5/23/1944, and married Emma Cunningham on 11/29/1885). Lincoln and their great grandfather were 2 of the 9 children of Benjamin Dodge and Margaret Wilson.

(Earl's Pearls - Continued from page 5) our growth in membership is secured by our members both in the United States and in other lands. We appreciate so much all you do. We are here to serve you and hope you will let us know when we may be of help.

## **THANKSGIVING**

In case our next issue is sent after Thanksgiving Day we want to express the hope from all twelve dodge Family Board members that you and your family will have a blessed Thanksgiving. We have much to thank God for, not the least of which is being in a free nation where we have been able to grow from three men to more than 45,000 today

#### **BLOGGERS**

As you may know, a new word in the English language is 'blogger' which refers to those who have a page on the world wide web where they write expressing their views on various subjects. Our daughter, Karen Theissen, who has home schooled her children, has joined the ranks of bloggers. Her blog can be found at: www.homeschoolblogger.com/