



“Words from the war...Vermont Civil War letters”

Researching

By Diana Smith

While Dave and I were researching in Concord, New Hampshire a few weeks ago, I overheard a woman (Ann Eckert Brown) requesting archived information from the librarian at the historical library. She kept talking about the Dodge home, so, I approached the woman, Ann, introduced myself, and asked if she had ever heard about the Dodge Family Association. It turns out she is an author of colonial decorative arts books and is documenting the floor stenciling of a home now owned by the Andrew Wythe (yes, the painter) who reinstalled a floor that was once in a Dodge home into his home in Lisbon. The Wythe home is private and not open to the public but the New Hampshire Historical Library has slides and 'stuff' about this floor.

Ann gave me her card. She has already written

(Continued in column 3, page 3)

We receive many items at our Dodge office, and one item we received last year, was PERSPECTIVE from The Sunday Rutland Herald/The Sunday Times Argus by Peter Hirschfeld. It was entitled “Words from the war...Vermont Civil War letters”. The letters are from four Vermont men, delivered from battlefields to Barre, Vermont between 1862 and 1864. Until summer of 2005, the letters were kept in climate-controlled dormancy at the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American Studies in New York City. Sara Egge, a visiting scholar at the school, transcribed the letters, which were from Nelson Dodge,

John Blanchard, Nelson Whellock and James Eldridge. These men were all from central Vermont. These letters provide first hand accounts of that war which shaped the course of U.S. history.

Nelson was the son of Nathan Dodge and Fannie Rodgers and a descendant of Richard.

Sarah Egge says that it is almost like these soldiers are writing to her so she starts to get their personality. She said “Dodge was a really upbeat guy, actually towards the end of the war in 1864 he gets promoted to sergeant...you could see he was a good soldier” and then her voice becomes tinged

with sadness ... “He was captured after the Battle of Spotsylvania and taken to Andersonville, a very notorious prison. He died there.”

Don Wickman, a Civil War historian who published a book on the 9th Vermont Regiment, says “the Vermonters suffered disproportionately during the conflict. “Ten % of the population of Vermont served in the war and 15% of the men who did serve never came home. They died of disease in battle and in prison.”

Nelson’s letters were addressed to Esther Ann Kinney. He was under the command of George McLellan who was no-

(Continued in column 3 of page 3)

DNA Upgrades Explained

We received a phone call from Bennett Greenspan who is the president of Family Tree DNA responding to an email Barbara Dodge sent him regarding the value of upgrading from 37 markers to 67, a cost of \$99.

He explained that it is a valuable tool, especially when there are mystery lineages that, because of matching mutations, seem to belong to a particular ‘family group’. We have several of these ‘family groups’ and have encouraged several people in them to upgrade to 67. A number of these are mystery lines but we also have people in these groups who have paper trails to an immigrant Dodge.

Some of those mysteries that we believe would benefit from doing this upgrade are descendants of:

Daniel Dodge Jr/Mary Baker
Walter Dodge/Mary Reece
Obediah Dodge/Betsey Morrill
Richard Dodge/Hannah of KY
David Dodge/Maria Cole

We have an additional co-administrator for our DNA project. He is Harry Erwin, who presently lives in Sunderland, which is in the northeast section of England. He a lecturer at the University of Sunderland which is basically a teaching university like USC.

Harry comes from the United States and when his family first started researching their ancestral line believing it to be “Erwin”, they found out that they were actually Dodes. It seems that one of their ancestors changed his surname from Dodge to Erwin. Harry’s son, Jeff, has traced their line back to Walter Dodge and Mary Reece, and therein lies their brick wall. DNA has put Harry’s Dodge

ancestry into a large ‘family group’ of 9 people and a smaller ‘family group’ of 4, in the Tristram Dodge line.



Harry in front of Hadrian's Wall.

Harry is the person who has run the Majority Trees for our DNA project. He has a weblog with text and MANY interesting pictures from England at: <http://scat-he-g4.sunderland.ac.uk/~harryerw/blog/index.php> Welcome, Harry!

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SAND IN MY SHOES

by
Stephen Allen Dodge
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Colonel Stephen Augustus Dodge

(Tristram, William, Samuel, Jeremiah, John, Adam)

Stephen Augustus Dodge, born in 1822, was a painter living in Brooklyn, New York when he became involved in the Civil War. During the spring of 1862, he was sent to battle in Virginia. While he was away, his family had the misfortune of collecting information by the only means possible, letters, telegrams & newspapers. The following is the hardship this family had to endure.

June 02, 1862. Brooklyn Daily Eagle

A telegram is received today with news of our soldiers involved in the Battle of the Pines on the Chickahominy River in Virginia. It states that Col. Stephen A. Dodge is in command of the 87th Brooklyn Rifles and is involved in great battle. A list of the killed and wounded is included.

June 03, 1862

It is learned today that as of early pm., fore night, the rebels are at a retreat with a strong following by the 87th of Col. Dodge. This is followed by a list of the killed and wounded.

June 04, 1862 Brooklyn Daily Eagle

A telegram arrives today and among the list of killed is the name, Col. Stephen A. Dodge. The following is from the Brooklyn Daily Eagle, June 04: As the smoke of the great battle clears away, the magnitude and importance of the victory gradually becomes apparent; and it is a satisfaction to know that our Brooklyn regiments behaved so nobly. Among them are the Eighty-seventh Brooklyn Rifles, which has suffered a severe extent, if the published reports are true. In the list of casualties of the 87th appears the name of Col. Stephen A. Dodge,

who was severely wounded and reported to have died. If this is so, then the regiment has suffered an irreparable loss, for he was as brave a soldier as ever drew a sword.

June 06, 1862 Brooklyn Daily Eagle

Telegram received from the Battle of the Pines reports Col. Stephen A. Dodge is alive, but informant is unable to give any particulars.

June 09, 1862 Brooklyn Daily Eagle

Col. Dodge Safe ----- We received a telegraphic dispatch from Hon. M. F. Odell this morning, which states positively that Col. Stephen A. Dodge was but slightly wounded at "The Pines" in the late battle and that he was taken prisoner and conveyed to Richmond. We are requested to inform his family to that effect.

July 23, 1862 The Brooklyn Eagle

Among the prisoners released by the Rebels who arrived here yesterday in the steamship Vanderbilt from Fortress Monroe, is Col. Stephen A. Dodge of the 87th regiment. Col. Dodge was wounded at Chickahominy during the Battle of the Pines and taken prisoner.

.....

Stephen returned to his family in Brooklyn and remained until 1917, when he died at age 95. Stephen Augustus Dodge & Family are in Greenwood Cemetery, Brooklyn, N.Y.

CORRECTION

In the last Journal, the surname of the 2nd author of the two books mentioned in Barbara's column, 'A View From My Window' was left out. That name was David Manuel, and you can get a copy of that Journal that contains that missing name by going to our member's only area of our website and printing that journal issue. You will even see it in color, which is especially nice for the photo of William that was on our front page.

Those who have fought for their country: Honoring Artemus T. Dodge

Although we do not know the parentage of Artemus, we know that he descended from Richard through DNA of a descendent.

Artemus T. Dodge was b. 1833, in New York and d. Mar 15, 1863, at Millikins Bend, Louisiana. He was serving on the Union side in the War Between the States and died in camp of chronic diarrhea and dropsy contracted while on duty at Chickasaw Bluffs, Mississippi on or about January, 1863. He was a Private in Company 'E', 23rd Regiment, Wisconsin Infantry Volunteers and in all probability he took part in the battle of Vicksburg. A statement from the Adjutant General's Office acknowledges:

January 11/63. Retreated from Vicksburg up the Mississippi river. January 13/63 took part in the capture of Arkansas Post.

January 18/63 Re-embarked on boat transport. dropped to the mouth of White River.

January 21/63 the fleet started down the Mississippi River

January 25/63 dis-embarked and encamped before Vicksburg

March/63 Co was stationed at Youngs Point and Millikins Bend.

When Artemus died, he left a wife, Euphemia Hamlin Dodge, and five young children: Harriet Amelia, Mary Salonea, Truman Gardner, John Artemas, and Julia.

Bobby Dodge of Renton, Washington is a descendant of Artemus. Can you help with this ancestry?

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The View From My Window



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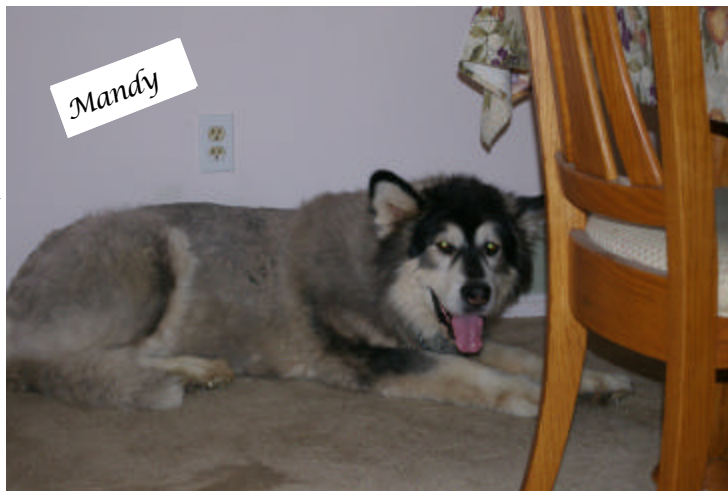
By now, all of our readers must know that Earl and I are big softies when it comes to rescuing dogs and cats. Our son, Earl Jr., rescued and raised several baby squirrels and a number of birds of different varieties.

All three of our dogs were 'rescued'. Sam, belonged to our son, Calvin, and when he married a few years ago, he could not keep Sam in his apartment so Sam became ours. When our two dogs, Kodiak, and Bear, eventually died, we ended up rescuing two collies. Lassie came from our local animal shelter and Dani came from Colorado Collie Rescue. We also foster Labrador retrievers until they are adopted.

It pleased me so much today, to receive a phone call from Nancy Laybourn who is the sister of Norman Dodge, our DFA president and author of our genealogy column on page 6. She called to tell me that she and her husband Leroy have adopted Mandy, a beautiful **BIG** Malamute that is about 6 years old. Mandy has been abused...the most recent abuse is that she was kept on a 6 foot chain with a choke collar. She is very afraid and they finally were able to get her to come in the house but she has staked out a corner of the dining room and will hardly venture from that spot. They have had her a week as of the middle of September. I told Nancy that I think with constant love and attention, in a couple of months Mandy will feel more at home. She is great with their grandchildren which is a really good sign.

Here is a picture of her that Nancy sent.

I wonder if any more of our members have rescued animals. I would like to hear those stories and if you have a photo of



the animal, I would like that also. It does not matter what kind of animal you rescued, I am interested in all of them and will include your story and photo in my column.

On another subject, Earl and I traveled by plane to New England for the Dodge reunion in Ipswich. We enjoyed ourselves while there and I even gave some thought to driving out to Weston to see the area where I grew up, but decided against that. The last time we went was about 5-6 years ago and I did a lot of videotaping of the area at that time. While my little home at 28 School Street, Weston, is still there and still looks the same, the yard where my dad patiently dug up with a pitchfork in order to plant a large garden is overgrown. The path to the brook is also overgrown with much poison ivy included. The bridge and the little dam with the shallow sandy area for wading that daddy built at the brook are gone. In fact, it was very difficult for me to make my way down to the brook when I was there. My little playhouse that daddy built for me is also gone and the driveway is now paved instead of being just gravel. The garage finally has a door, something that daddy never completed after his father died on July 4, 1938 while he was helping daddy pitchfork up a new area to enlarge the garden.

You can't go back in time and I think that my trip there 5 years ago will be my last. I plan to write a small book for my children about my memories.

I was thrilled to have my cousin, William Regan and his wife Beth, visit Earl and I the end of August. I had not seen him since I was 9. A photo of the 4 of us will be in the next Journal!

Barbara

(Research - Continued from left column, page 1) another book entitled "American Wall Stenciling 1790-1840"; University Press of New England, 2003.

She said the Dodge book on the floor will be done in about two years. I gave her a way to contact you but am also giving you her particulars in case you want to contact her.

Our time was limited in Concord or I would have waited a day, then gone back and tried to pull what she had so I could see what she was looking at, such as the slides. I reassured her I was not trying to mimic her idea of writing a book on this. My field is not decorative arts.

Ed Note: Diana has sent us a number of Dodge related items that she has found while doing her research.



(Words From the War - Cont'd from top of pg. 1) torious for getting troops into battle and not ever really fighting.

In one letter, Nelson talked about the combat in the Seven Days Battle, which began on June 25, 1862, and more specifically about the last day of that battle, the Battle of Malvern. The Union Army was on top of a hill, and the Confederate soldiers were sent up to take the hill. The Union positioned their artillery down the hill and it became a slaughter with Confederate soldiers killed in massive amounts as they tried to take the hill in wave after wave. Nelson wrote how all night they could hear the Confederates crying and calling for help. Here is an excerpt from Nelson's letter of Sept. 23, 1862.

"The field was all covered with dead and wounded all that night the wounded cride for help, but we could not help them. The next (day) we advanced. To see the dead field up it was enough to make any one sick. Some with out lages some armes gon some with there branes all shot out there was one with ten ball holes in him..." (sic)

Sadly, not only Nelson died in prison but his two brothers, Lewis and Luther also died...one in prison and the other of disease.

The entire article is posted on our website under 'Historical Archives', and is also linked from Nelson's military info.

User name:dodgefamily
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25TH ANNIVERSARY

The Dodge Family Association will be twenty-five years old on November 16. Since we have new members joining each month let me briefly mention our beginnings. Col. Robert L. Dodge of San Diego, a WW II Bomber Pilot and retired San Diego Police Detective called me in the fall of 1981 and asked what I would think of starting a Dodge Family Association. I told Robert, my dad's brother, that that was a great idea. I said he should be President and I would volunteer to be Secretary-Treasurer.

November 16 was when we opened our bank account and began the work in a formal way. Our first task was to re-print the two volumes of the Dodge Genealogy published in 1894 and 1896 by Joseph T. Dodge. One firm we worked with went out of business so we had to start again. Finally, Robert, his sister, my aunt Virginia, and I advanced the funds to publish the book.

We were repaid as the book orders came in and members were enlisted. In 1989 the family helped Barbara and I go to England to speak at a hearing to save Halliday Hill, a Dodge ancestral home dating back to the 1300's. A lot of news media attention helped boost a campaign to save the home under the leadership of Ray Preston who lives near that home.

When Halliday Hill was saved it sparked interest in Dodges going to England. Six tours have followed and the Seventh Tour is scheduled for May-June, 2007. The Dodge Family Journal and a number of books, ties, watches, coats of arms, etc. have helped family members to learn more of their heritage and display it to others.

Today some 825 memberships representing at least 1,300 adults in a number of countries comprise our Association. Family genealogists have been able to help many members find their family lines and many have found relatives they never knew even existed. Our Board of Directors meets twice yearly and works together by mail and phone between meetings.

If you are happy about our DFA and

want to see it grow in numbers and effectiveness why not send in one or more new memberships before November 16. That would be a great Anniversary Gift for our family.

DODGE TOUR



Pictured above is St. Margaret's, the parish church in Middle Chinnock and below is Halliday Hill, the Dodge ancestral home in Offerton, Stockport. In the picture is one of our groups visiting Halliday Hill when the commissioned painting of the house was being presented to us. The original painting hangs in our office and we have prints of that beautiful painting for sale.



These are just two of the many interesting and inspiring places we will visit on the Seventh Dodge Tour to England May 22 - June 4.

Those who have gone on past tours have called it the experience of a lifetime. If you want to come you can use the other side of the letter that accompanies this Journal, to sign up. We will send you all the information you need and help you get less expensive plane tickets if you wish.

The tour fee includes lodging, meals, travel in England, baggage handling, and admission to all sites we visit. If you need help in making a decision, feel free to call Barbara and I at (303) 237-4947 or Email us at: earldodge@dodgeoffice.net or barbdodge@dodgeoffice.net

Letters to the Editor

Dear Dodge Relatives, I am a descendant of Tristram through the line of Shubal Dodge. Several years ago I read an obituary of an (unknown to me) Rusaw lady. In the account was the mention that she had been the daughter of Ethel Dodge Demo. I boldly wrote to her husband, Edward (in his 90s) to ask if his mother-in-law might have been related to Mattie Dodge Rusaw. His son replied, directing me to Leslie Dodge in Massena. I visited Leslie, and we had a wonderful visit. He arranged for me to meet his sister Marne (Marty) Dodge Miles and my world of relatives exploded! Shortly after, I was approached by a lady at church who addressed me as "cousin". It was Irene Dodge, who with her sister, Barbara Dodge, also lives here in Ogdensburg. Such nice people (Of course!) They loaned me several years of the Dodge Family Journal to read.

I enjoyed reading the journals. It seems that history could be well taught just by teaching the family tree.

I am a retired Junior High teacher (15 years) and then an academic librarian for 30 years. I am now a volunteer, about half-time, re-organizing the archives of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Ogdensburg. (great job!) I like hearing about my relatives. We do not have any personal records, so when I receive requests about relatives, I send them on to an appropriate parish. However, sometimes there are questions that need considerable time. Sometimes I just can't help them—where ARE the archives or records from City Hospital and Asylum for the Aged organized in 1895? No one seems to know.

The Best to You. Sally E. Rusaw,
rusawse@potsdam.edu

Ed note: a descendant of Shubal Dodge agreed to join our DNA project and that is why we know that Shubal belongs in the Tristram Dodge line. His dna has a mutation which matches 3 others who have done DNA, therefore, we have them as a 'family group'. Only upgrading to 67 markers would let us know just how much more closely they are related.

NEW ENGLAND REUNION

The 21st Annual New England Dodge Reunion was held on September 16 at the historic 1640 Hart House in Ipswich, Massachusetts. Attendees came from California, Colorado, Massachusetts, Missouri, New Hampshire, New York, Ohio, Vermont, Washington State, West Virginia and England. Family mementos were displayed and a great time of visiting preceded the luncheon at noon. The 2007 N.E. Dodge reunion will again be at the Hart House next September. The date has not yet been solidified.



The enjoyment of visiting with other Dodes is a reunion treat. The four whose faces you can see are, from the left, Charla Winnett, Missouri, Cathy Dodge, California and Cabot Dodge and Frederick Young, both from Massachusetts,

On the 15th a meeting of the Board of Directors of the Association was held at the Wenham-Hamilton Library. Ten of the thirteen members participated either in person or by mail votes. Slight changes were made to the Association by-laws regarding proxy votes and a procedure for board elections when there is more than one nominee for any office. President Norman E. Dodge (picture at beginning of his genealogy column on page 6) announced a target date of January one to complete all the proofreading on the Tristram Dodge book and send it to the printer.



above with nephew, Michael Skiotis of

Danvers, reported a membership total of 820 as of September 12. Treasurer C. Joseph Klein, (in photo below on the right with Dick Smith on the left) re-



ported all bills paid, a healthy bank balance and an increase in assets.

Mrs. Blanche Dodge Day, pictured below visiting with her brother, Albert Winslow Dodge, at the reunion, resigned from the board after many years of faithful service. Blanche is now concentrating on helping her husband Wendell who is receiving therapy treatment at a Gloucester, Mass. facility after suffering a severe fall. The Board voted to recognize Blanche's past service by making her an honorary lifetime member of the Board. Well done, Blanche!



Pictured below is Andrea Dodge of Cambridge, on the left, visiting with our newest Board of Director's member, Martha Altemus who was written about in our last Journal. Martha's daughter, Betsey Craumer is on the right. Both Martha, and Betsey and her family live in New Hampshire.



Attending for the first time were Cabot Dodge and his mother Elizabeth of Swampscott., pictured above and Ellen Dodge Pryor, left.

We do not have room in this Journal for photos of everyone who attended the Ipswich Reunion, but you can find them on our web site; www.dodgefamily.org Click on 'Reunions', then 'New England', and finally on the link that specifies the New England 2006 Reunion.



Ogdensburg City Library's Children's Room receives \$50G Grant

(from an article sent to us by Sally Rusaw—see column at left and written by Matthew Curatolo, 8/18/06 in the Ogdensburg Journal)

The Isabella Dodge Children's Room at the Ogdensburg Public Library is getting some much needed help thanks to a foundation run by his granddaughter. The grant has been received from the Avenir Foundation and will help to improve services, equipment and materials for the younger users of the library.

Alice Dodge Wallace (a member of DFA) is the granddaughter of Isabella Donaghue Dodge for whom the children's room is named. Isabella Dodge helped organize and later served as librarian from 1908-1936 in the Mary D. Bean Library. She was also instrumental in stimulating interest in reading among children in the fourth ward.. Her father, Homer Dodge, was instrumental in refurbishing the Children's room in 1978 and the Dodge family has a small endowment to keep the Children's room running.



**GENEALOGY
REQUESTS
COLUMN**
by Norman Dodge
nedodge@aol.com

Eileen and I have now moved to Olympia, Washington, about 60 miles to the South of Seattle. The weather is much like Seattle, however it averages about 10 degrees hotter in the Summer and about 10 degrees colder in the Winter. This month I write this column on the road as we travel through the states of Virginia, Tennessee, Missouri and Oklahoma.

Eileen and I traveled by car from our home in Washington to the Northeast Dodge Reunion in Ipswich, Massachusetts. After the reunion we drove to New Hampshire where, with our newest Board Member, Martha Altemus, we scoured several cemeteries finding many Dodge gravestones and taking pictures for the website. We also spent a day in the New Hampshire Vital Records Archives collecting data on marriages. Next, we traveled to Maine where we went to the Vital Records Archives and Genealogy section of the State Library in Augusta. We spent a day with Neil Dodge checking out many cemeteries in Edgecomb. Neil arranged a special appointment for us at the Edgecomb Historical Society where we were able to obtain a copy of an old map of Edgecomb's landowners and a book on Edgecomb's history, both of which contain the names of many Dodes. We also went to the Genealogy section of the Library in Damariscotta, Maine and was able to get a great deal of additional data on many Dodge families. We hope this new information will help to solve some of our Maine Genealogy mysteries.

DNA testing is more and more being used by Genealogists. Several of our members have signed up for the additional 67 marker test, updating their 37 markers. We need more males with the Dodge surname to take a DNA test even though they may have paper trail to either John or Tristram. And we need more who have had a 37 marker test taken to upgrade to the 67

marker test. Those who test with a known paper trail help those who do not know their lineage back to the immigrants.

We are still looking for the Ancestry of William Dodge whom we record as being born about 1777 in Kentucky and died in Posey County, Indiana in November 1849. This is a DNA proven Tristram line.

I continue this month's column with the Double Dodge mystery mentioned in the last two Journals. To our knowledge John and Sarah had eight children. This information comes from a Biographical History of their son, Sumner Dodge, stating he was the youngest of eight children. Currently we only have information on three of their children. The newest information we have on this family is that of oldest of the known children, Joseph Dodge, born about 1823 in Edgecomb. Joseph married Sarah Pinkham. They had four children – Ossian born about 1850; Florence born 1853; Hattie born about 1856; and Cora born about 1858. Joseph died in 1860 and Sarah married Nathaniel Knight. Joseph, Sarah, and Florence are buried in the North Edgecomb Cemetery, route 27. Gardiner Dodge is the next child, born about 1825 in Edgecomb. Gardiner moved to California where he died, apparently unmarried, in 1851 at the age of 26; a memorial stone for him is in the North Edgecomb Cemetery, route 27 along with his father and mother. The youngest child, Sumner Dodge, was born about 1829, also in Edgecomb. In 1854 Sumner moved to Massachusetts where married Eliza Pratt, born 1829 in Vermont. Their first child, Ella was born in 1854 in Massachusetts. Their other six children were born in Wisconsin – George, born 1857; Hattie, born 1859; Wendall, born 1862; Everett, born 1864; Anna, born 1867; Clarence, born 1870.

Who is the John Dodge Jr. who married Lydia Pettingel/Pettingill? His lineage remains a mystery. I suspect he was born in Massachusetts, in or around Gloucester.

Another mystery is that of Joseph Stanley Dodge, born 1822 in Beverly or Danvers, Massachusetts and died in 1903 in Salem, Massachusetts. Joseph Stanley Dodge married twice, first to Lovicey Chandler Holland with whom he had five children – Joseph, born 1845; Augusta, born 1849; Mary Jane, born 1854; Walter, born 1859; and Alice, born 1861. Lovicey died in 1863 and in 1865 Joseph married Charity L. Burgess. Joseph and Charity had a daughter Jessie, born about 1869. Joseph's father is thought to be Joseph Dodge, the name of his mother is unknown. If anyone can shed some light on this mystery please let me or Eileen know.

An old mystery is that of John Dodge and our best info is that he was born about 1808 in Utica, Oneida County, New York, and married Sarah Banks Ives. We can trace this family all the way to Oregon and Washington. John and Sarah came west in a covered wagon on the Oregon Trail. They settled in Thurston County, Washington. Sarah was from Connecticut and they were married in Pennsylvania. Anyone knowing about the parents of this John Dodge, please let Eileen or I know.

Another Mystery is Josiah Dodge born about 1799 in New Hampshire and married Abigail Wilbur on 29 December 1846 in Chesterfield, New Hampshire. Anyone knowing the ancestry of Josiah should contact Eileen or Norman and Kenneth Boardman - loken409@juno.com

A DFA member, Linda Scott, has been sleuthing around in our mystery data base and found several snippets of Dodes. One was of Erwin Dodge, son of Amos Dodge and Sarah Ritterbush. Go to the John Dodge data base to see the biographical history of Erwin Dodge. Linda also uncovered a snippet of John B. Dodge and William F. Dodge. She found John B. in our Mystery File and connected these up to Dodes in our Tristram File. Thank you for all your good work Linda.