# NEW ENGLAND REUNION

**September 19, 2009** 

once again we remind you that the Northeast Dodge Family Association Reunion will be held September 19 at the Tides Restaurant and Pub, Nahant, Massachusetts, from 11:30 AM - 4:00 PM.

This will be a wonderful time to meet other Dodge Family members and who knows? You may even meet a long lost relative! It has happened several times in the past at our reunions.

You will be able to choose from 12 menu items on the day of the reunion. No need to decide before then what you want to eat! The cost is a modest \$20 per person including soup or salad, entrée choice, and unlimited soda and coffee.

On the back of the cover letter, there is reunion information. There is also a form for you to fill out if you are coming. Be sure to let us know if you are planning to attend and mark your calendar now so that you will not miss this special time.

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# DODGE FAMILY JOURNAL

**V**olume 25 No. 5

Prick Walls! The ancestors who refuse to be found – we all have them. Most of you reading this are searching for just your family line. But the people who volunteer their time and effort for the Dodge Family Association do their research for people to whom they are not directly related.

This article will highlight some Brick Walls that have been recently solved. Quite a few people have been involved in this process of discovery including direct descendants. Numerous modalities have been used to solve these mysteries including, but not limited to, military, church, census and vital records as well as wills, deeds





and land grants. Family folklore, creative name spelling and educated theorizing were also incorporated along with the assistance of Internet genealogy sites and DNA testing.

The first mystery was solved in part by a DNA that which proved that Aaron Dodge (born 1791) and his sister Lydia Dodge (born 1794) were descendants of Richard Dodge (1602). However, their parents remained elusive, and the my stery has been the subject of Journal articles over the years. Land records and census data in Wiscasset Maine were also

### July-August 2009

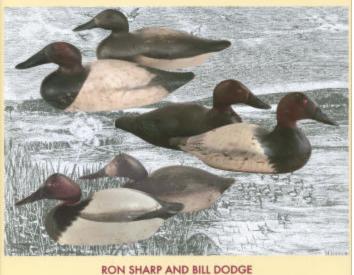
used to help determine that Thomas Dodge (1747) and his second wife, Sarah Ross, were the parents of Aaron and Lydia.

Two other mysteries involving DNA evidence were discovered to be brothers. Jesse Dodge (born 1770) married Margaret Waters. Asa Dodge (1771) married Mary Leach. Jesse and Asa were discovered to be the sons of Rufus Dodge (1735/6) and Elizabeth Dodge. Rufus was a descendant of Richard (1602) and Elizabeth was a descendant of William (1604). Census records played a big role in connecting Jesse and Asa to Rufus and Elizabeth. The

(Continued on page 4-Col. 3)

# DETROIT DECOY DYNASTY

THE FACTORY DECOYS OF PETERSEN, DODGE, AND MASON



Just as the above mystery was solved, how appropriate that we should receive in the mail a copy of the book pictured at the left.

Bill Dodge is a DFA me mber, and also the person who submitted DNA from the line of Jesse Dodge and Peggy Waters that helped to solve this mystery.

Jasper Newton Dodge, was b. 12 Nov 1829 in Watertown, Jefferson Co., New York, and d. 12 Nov 1909 in Bay City, Saginaw Co., Michigan.

It is he who is the Dodge of the Detroit Decoy Dynasty.

We are including some of the photos and text from the book which is beautifully done and very interesting to read even if you don't do duck hunting. It is full of photos of Duck decoys, many of them in color.

It was extremely difficult to decide which of the photos to use for this Journal.

(Continued on page 5)



# SAND IN MY

by Stephen Allen Dodge SDodge53@aol.com

#### The Catskill Mountain Resorts

During the 1800's, vacationing folks from New York City would board ships and ride up the Hudson River to summer at the many resorts located in the Catskill area. One of the popular resorts was the Catskill Mountain House, a large 180 room Hotel built in 1825 and located on a rock ledge the size of a football field called Pine Orchard. It was situated on the side and very close to the top of South Mountain with views as far as the eye can see.

Once travelers departed the ships at the town of Catskill, they would board stagecoaches for the 5 hour long, 20 mile ride to the Hotel, climbing South Mountain during the last 5 miles.

I have read books about the Catskill Mountain House and after visiting the ruins many times, I found it difficult to believe that a stagecoach could possibly climb South Mountain to bring the many city folks to the Mountain House during the 1800's.

I decided to find out for myself and to walk the stagecoach route, called the Sleepy Hollow Trail. Actually, I planned to drive my car the first fifteen miles from Catskill to the base of the Mountain and then walk up the Sleepy Hollow Trail to the Hotel ruins.

It was a cool morning last March when I started my journey. I packed my peanut butter and jelly sandwiches and drove to my starting location, the Hudson River landing at the town of Catskill. Old postcards from the 1800's show a very busy ship landing, train station and a stagecoach depot at the location. There was nothing left of that. A park, many pleasure boat docks and a maritime museum now make up the property.

After leaving Catskill, travelers in the stagecoach would begin to see a white speck in the mountains before them. The coach driver would tell them that the speck in the mountain was the Mountain House, their destination. I'm sure they were very concerned about how they were going to get to it. I drove the 15 miles along a very wind-

ing road to the base of South Mountain. Along the way, I saw a few farmhouses scattered about and realize that not much has changed during the last 200 years. I park my truck at the end of the dirt road, grabbed my backpack, checked my cell phone battery and headed up the trail.

The first mile of the trail (photo below) was fairly flat with just a small incline. Lots of hardwood trees, mainly oak, keep the trail shaded. The trail was surely wide enough for a stage-coach to travel along but the many water runoffs crossing the trail created gaps and gullies that would make travel difficult for today's 4-wheelers.



At about the 2 mile mark, not a hardwood tree could be seen. I was suddenly in the middle of a pine tree forest. The trail followed a stream while climbing steadily uphill. A waterfall could be heard in the distance but the brush was to thick for me to explore it. I came to a wooden bridge where the trail crossed the stream. I was at the ruins of the old Sleepy Hollow Inn. The Inn was a stop for the stagecoach and its weary travelers. It was also a place to water and/or change the team and prepare them for the final leg of their long journey. Some books claim that this was a run down shack while others say it was welcoming site with refreshments for the travelers and beds for the rotating coach drivers.

The rocks that formed the foundation were all that I could find of the old Inn.

About 200 yards up a steep incline behind the ruins of this Inn, I found the large flat rock where Rip Van Wrinkle was suppose to have slept his 30 years. I laid down on the rock for awhile and then continued along the Sleepy Hollow Trail. The trail was still climbing a steady grade and after a few short breaks, I came to a large clearing called Little Pine Orchard, an area originally considered for the site of The Catskill Mountain House. The view from the clearing was spectacular, with the town of Catskill and the Hudson River in the distance. I noticed that I had climbed about 3/4 of the South Mountain. I continued on and came to an area on the trail known as Short Level, a straight level walk in the canapé of huge overhanging Oak and Maple trees. From a clearing along Short Level, the passengers in the stagecoach would have been able to see the Mountain House ahead and above them, a welcoming site if they traveled all the way from New York City. As I walk along, I noticed that the trail was much narrower and much vegetation has covered it. It surely was not wide enough for a stagecoach to travel today. I soon discover, that section of the trail was being used by a local horse farm for horseback riding activities.

I came to a steep area of the trail known as Dead Ox Hill, an ox supposedly died pulling an overloaded cart up it around 1800. According to the stories I have read, the passengers were ordered to get off the stagecoach and walk up Dead Ox hill because the grade was to steep for the horses. I sat on the side of the trail and had my lunch.

As I sat on a rock larger than my truck, I thought of the stories I have read about the ladies dressed in their best clothes who refused to get off the stage and walk at the very spot I was at. It was also an area where the travelers were

(Continued on page 4)

#### DODGE FAMILY JOURNAL

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The View From My Window



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IT WAS A DARK AND STORMY NIGHT... well...NOT when I went to bed!

July 20, would have been the 58th Anniversary of Earl's and my marriage. It had been a very hot day, and friends had asked me to go with them to the free day at the Denver Botanical Gardens. We spent close to 3 hours walking around and when I got home, I was really spent! I went to bed early, about 9 P.M.

At 10:30 P.M. I awoke with a start thinking 'How can a Freight Train be here??? I don't live near Railroad tracks' ... and then I realized that there were other loud bangs and that the wind was raging through my bedroom window and out my open patio door! It was then I realized that I was in the midst of a tornado. Terrified, I jumped out of bed and looked out the patio door where all I could see what a sheet of white! I ran into the dining room and was immediately hit by hail, wind, leaves, pine needles, and glass. I turned on the light and peered into my office. Before I lost electricity, I saw, to my dismay, that all the windows on the north side and the 4 skylights were blown out. The floor was a shambles of 'stuff' in the midst of broken glass, hail, leaves, etc.

Within 2 minutes, the electricity was gone which also meant no phone because our phone is through the internet. I remembered where my cell phone was, and used the light from it to find my way around. I checked on my son,

my way around. I checked on my son,

Calvin to see if he was OK, and he was sleeping soundly in his room on the East side of the house. I called my son, Earl Jr. who lives in Arvada, about 7 miles north east of me. He drove to the home of my daughter, Karen, to see if all was OK there, and then he came over here.

By that time, I had remembered where my Kerosene lamp was, and using my cell phone as a light, I found it down in the basement on a shelf. Once that was lit, it was much easier to see where I was going!



Before Earl Jr. arrived, I noticed two of the neighbors out in the street talking, so I put on a jacket and went out to join them (feeling the need for some human companionship). There was easily 6 inches of hail in the street. The leaves on many of the trees were totally gone, and gardens??? They no longer existed! We had a hail storm 4 weeks ago, and gardens had just recovered from that storm, but this time, I don't think they can recover, although I have sprayed with Miracle Grow ... in hopes!

It was a couple of days before all the hail packed against my house was to-

tally gone, and in fact, we had to shovel it away from the house and put it in a barrel that had holes so that it could melt and drain leaving the glass in the barrel

Earl did come over about 40 minutes after the storm ended and he brought a battery powered radio so that we could listen to the weather reports, and people calling about damage.

Calvin finally woke up because the dogs started barking when Earl arrived. Oh...to be able to sleep like that again! I did as a young girl but no more!

Calvin's wife, Deb was in Arizona finishing up the cleaning of their apartment, and getting items ready for the final move to Colorado.

Calvin flew down there on the Thursday after the storm and arrived back here with Deb this past Saturday after driving for 16 hours straight.

The Insurance Adjuster arrived Sunday, July 26, and my carpeting will have to be replaced in the office and the main part of the house because of the glass. Other things that were glass covered like a sofa, chair, political items, etc. all have to be itemized and turned into the insurance company with pictures.

Gutters, fascia, roof, fence...these are just some of the things outside that need replacing.

Thankfully, no one was hurt and I think that is true for the whole path of the tornado. If you google 'tornado lake wood colorado' you will find pictures and other info.

The picture at the bottom of Col. 1 is of my shipping table covered in glass some of which is actually embedded in the wood. The picture in the middle column shows a bit of the office turmoil.

The Tornado...I hope I never experience that again! Barbara

In Memory



DFA member, Janeen Peters wrote to us concerning the death of her husband, Charles:

'Just to inform you that my beloved died the 31st of May from the brain tumor that invaded his brain, resulting in terribly poor health all over.

He was diagnosed 11 months ago and we were able to keep him with us.

Our youngest son is strong and did the physical work. I am a retired RN and did the health care, with love.

I hope to get back to my genealogy work soon and maybe can help the Dodge Association once again. It will take time.

SAR had a wonderful memorial service for him, and there were Navy rites at the burial.

With love Janeen

### WILLIS DODGE, TRISTRAM DESCENDANT

Willis Dodge, was born in Oneida County, NY, and grew up there until he was 20 years of age. At that time Willis Dodge made a trip to Wisconsin on foot and passed through Janesville, Rock County, Illinois, when there was but one house there. He traveled all the way from New York to Fond du Lac, Wisconsin, and studied the country. He was so pleased with the appearance around the area where Janesville now stands that he bought land there and paid some upon his purchase, then returned to New York.

Nathaniel Dodge, his father, had not seen the land and naturally distrusting the judgment of youth, dissuaded him from either returning to Wisconsin or paying more upon the land, and to induce him to remain he bought him a farm in his home vicinity, paying for it \$4,000, and there Willis Dodge remained until the death of his father.

Willis received a fair education in the common schools, and when his father died he immediately made his way to the state which had so taken his boyish fancy. He bought a farm on section 23 in Dane County, Wisconsin, improved it, and added to it until he had 320 acres.

He found the land fine for wheat and could raise great crops of that cereal, but he had to haul it a long distance to Milwaukee and then sell it for 25 to 50 cents per bushel. After a few years he built a better house, hauling the lumber from Nickeljohn's mills, a distance of 112 miles by team, and this same house is still standing.

The first two marriages of Willis Dodge, took place in New York.

Children from the first marriage were; Eunice; Amarilla, who married O. Carskaden; Emily, who married John Johnson and Adelia, who died in Iowa and left three children.

Children from the second marriage were: Roxy who died in Ksansas and left one child; Eliza, who married Malford H. Carskaden; Jane, the mother of two children, married Philander Perkins; Maria, married Fren Horaehe; George W., who died in York Township and Luraney, deceased, who married Eben Perkins in New York.

In Wisconsin he found his third wife, Miss Harriet Closs, a native of New York. From this marriage came a fa mily of four children: Ella, who married S. D. Smith; John W.; Ida May, who married George E. Graham; and Hattie, who lived at home.

Willis Dodge died in 1882. The farm which Willis owned was rented at the time of his death, and as soon as the lease time was over, John W. Dodge, who was born on 05 Jul 1864, took charge of the place and rented 320 acres for a cash rent. His aged mother found a pleasant home with him. He was interested in creameries, conducting one in York Township, Dane County, Wisconsin, and with a partner, who owned a half interest, conducted one in the town of Bristol, Dane County, Wisconsin.

(Sand In My Shoes-Continued from page 2) starting to get a little frustrated. From the last clearing, the Mountain House could clearly be seen. It seemed as if it was taking a long time to get there. The driver would explain to them that because of the steepness of the mountain and the rock ledges that were scattered about the mountainside, the trail zigzaged back and forth securing the flattest most possible route available. I finished my lunch and continued on.

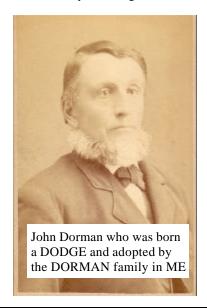
After another steep horseshoe turn, the travelers were able to get back on the stagecoach. I soon came to an area known as Long Level, where the trail leveled out and actually headed downhill for a while. Long Level continued on for over a mile in a straight line. From there, it was just one more half mile uphill walk before I arrived at the Mountain House ruins. If the travelers were lucky enough to arrived at night, they had a unbelievable and spectacular sight awaiting them in the morning. The view is indescribable. Today, our readers can google "The Catskill Mountain House" and visit the many web sites available. If you are in the area of Greene County, New York, be sure to visit this absolutely wonderful historical location.

After walking this trail I believe a stagecoach could have conquered this mountain with the exception of the area know as Dead Ox Hill, but I'm sure the area has changed a lot in the last 175 years and somehow the stage made it up that section.

(Brick Wall -Continued from page 1) children were born in Worcester County, Mass achusetts and about 1800 moved to New York with Jesse settling down first in Herkimer County, then Jefferson County and Asa settling down in Montgomery County. Rufus and Elizabeth also moved to Montgomery County, New York and are buried in the Glen Rural Grove Cemetery.

Another long-standing mystery solved by DNA was that of John Freeman Dodge (1827). This is another mystery that has been published in several journal articles over the years. We believe he was born in Burnham, Waldo County, Maine. Abner Dodge III (1807) and Viana Myrick were married there in 1825 and we have concluded that they are John Freeman's parents. Abner Dodge III was a descendant of William Dodge (1604).

atthew Dorman, emailed us photos of his family. Below, is a photo of the original John Dorman (DODGE). If you recall, John, Matthew's ggg-grandfather, was adopted as a baby by the Dorman family. Matthew knew that, so had his DNA tested. The results showed that he was a DODGE from the John Branch line, and most likely descended from Richard. We hope that one of you will see a resemblance to a photo you might have of one of your Dodge ancestors.



Passwords for members: User Name: dodgefamily Password: salemshoreham (Duck Decoys—Continued from page 1)

# The Early Factory Period

In addition to the ad for Dodge decoys placed by William Mason's sporting goods store (see page 91), we have found two ads from this Early Factory time frame (1883-1884). The following ad was found in AMERICAN FIELD, October, 1883.

## J.N.DODGE, Man'f'r of Decoy Ducks, Duck and Turkey Calls. SUCCESSOR TO GEO. PETERSEN. 276 and 278 DIVISION STREET, DETROIT, MICH.



PRICE, \$9.00 PER DOZ.

I have constantly on hand a large stacked No. 1 Quality CANVAS BACKS, MALLARDS, RED HEADS, BLUE BILLS, TEAL DUCKS, and BUTTER BALL DECOYS.

CHEAP DECOY DUCKS as \$5 and \$7 per decora, made to order. Any desired model of DECOYS made to order per receipt of sample without exits charge.

These Decoys (see cuts) are all made of best quality of white ceds; thus combining the greatest damability with the least possible weight of material.

But Quality No. 1 White Cedsy Decoys.

Aperica and easy bloowing lands call.

Hos to least possible works of material.

But Quality No. 1 White Coder Decoys. \$9.00 per dos.

Aperict and easy blowing Duck call. 75 cents.

Duck and Tarkoy Call combined. 81.00.

Turkey Call made of polished white ceder 5.00.

Tarkey Call made of polished Horn 50 cents.

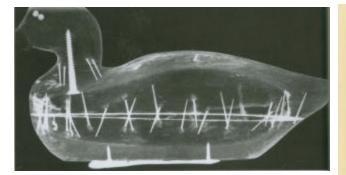
Golds cent by mail on receipt of price. No charge for boxing, etc.

Goods sent to any address C. O. D., or on receipt of money, draft, or P. O. order, distingtion Camponical.

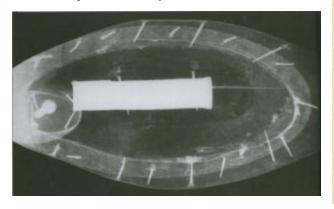
J. N. DODGE, PR & 278 Dittaion St., Satisfaction Quaranteed.



NEW MCDEL NO. 1 MALLARD DECOY (MALE PRICE, \$9.00 PER DOZ.



The intriguing construction of this hollow redhead shows clearly in these X-ray images. The body was cut horizontally through the center and hollowed with a gouge. The head is attached with a wood screw from inside the decoy. Square cut nails were inserted from both top and bottom directions to hold the halves together. Two square cut nails were also used to secure a crack in the middle of the back, and four more help hold the head in place. No neck filler was used.





William A. (Bill) Dodge collected his first decoy forty years ago, and soon developed an appreciation for the workmanship that went into the early birds. When he "discovered" Dodge decoys, they quickly became the target of both collecting and study. Bill and his wife Ellen have been looking for the works of Jasper Dodge and related information ever since. After growing up in rural Indiana and earning a Chemical Engineering degree from Rose-Hulman, Bill began a career in Operations Management, first at General Electric, and then with Coke and Pepsi franchises. Now retired and living in northwestern Illinois, Bill and Ellen are active participants in decoys shows as well as the antique doll business.

(Duck Decoys - Cont'd from page 1)

Another Dodge in this line, was Professor Charles W. Dodge, who arrived at Rochester with his own microscope, because the University didn't have one. He established the Dept. of Biology in 1890. He introduced animal dissection to the classroom and is also remembered for successfully producing an antitoxin serum that took control over an 1893 diphtheria epidemic in Rochester, N.Y. We have had, for several years, a picture of Charles along with the text given here. It is under 'This and That' on our web site.

Those of us who take care of the Dodge Association office, web site, Journal, Genealogy and Genealogy research, always have a great sense of accomplishment when the solution to a mystery that we have worked on for years, seems to suddenly appear! But in reality, it takes hundreds of hours for each mystery solved.



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

Summer has finally arrived in the Northwest. The amount of Genealogy changes daily and has sometimes reached over 100 names, dates and places.

One person I have been trying to get in contact with for years was once helped by Barbara and Earl. His name was Dana Dodge. About 20 years ago, he, his wife Nancy and children arrived from the East to Denver where they met and stayed with Barbara and Earl for a week until they found a house. I just discovered that Dana and Nancy are living across the street from Eileen's brother in Centennial Colorado. His Dodge linage has been very hard for him to research, but Eileen and I solved it in a few minutes. I am hoping that with his knowledge and ours we will be able to clear up some more mysteries. If you know a Dodge family living close to you, introduce yourself - you never know whom you will find.

If you have any information that could help us solve these mysteries please contact either Norman Dodge at nedodge@aol.com or Eileen Dodge at edodge1946@comcast.net

## QUEBEC CANADA TO USA MYSTERY

Jacob Dodge was born in October 1842 in Quebec, Canada. On Jacob's death record his father was listed as James, but that is all we know about his lineage. About 1868 he married Malvina Gagnon, born July 1853 in Quebec. Jacob and Malvina had ten children, all born in Quebec: Malvina in 1871, William in 1871, Rose in 1872, Virginie in 1874, Louisa in 1878, Emma in 1879, Alma in 1881, Gerald Neal in 1882 and Joseph Edmund in 1883. The Jacob Dodge fa mily can be found in the 1881 Canadian Census. The family immigrated to the US in 1883 after the last child was born. They can be found in Nashua, New Hampshire in the 1900 US Census, Derry, New Hampshire in the 1910 US Census, and Worcester Massachusetts in the 1920 US Census. Jacob died in Hudson, New Hampshire in 1924 and Malvina died in Worcester, Massachusetts in 1925.

# NEW HAMPSHIRE TO VERMONT MYSTERY

William P. Dodge was born 16 March 1812 in Lyme, New Hampshire. His ancestry is unknown. In May 1832 William married Nancy B. Locke, born 26 May 1806 in Lyme, the daughter of William Locke and Esther Knowles. Shortly after their marriage William and Nancy moved to Irasburg, Vermo nt where their four children were born: John Locke, in 12 October 1833, George Sullivan, in 3 August 1838, Salmon, in 12 January 1841, and Emaline, in 13 February 1847.

## IOWA TO KANSAS TO MISSOURI MYSTERY

Calvin H. Dodge was born about 1839 and his sister, Amanda, was born about 1842, both in Iowa. Though census records show that Calvin and Amanda stated their father was born in Ohio and their mother in North Carolina, their parents remain unknown. Calvin married Nancy Ga llimore, born about 1841 in Missouri, daughter of Francis Gallimore. Calvin and Nancy raised five children: William P. was born about 1859 in Missouri. The other four children were born in Kansas: Violet Elizabeth in 1865, Mary Ellen in 1868, Sarah H. in 1869, and George F. in 1871.

#### MASSACHUSETTS TO VERMONT TO NEW YORK MYSTERY

Isaac Dodge was born about 1779 in Pittsfield, Massachusetts. His parents are unknown. He moved to Vermont where, in 1799 he married Eunice Wilson. Their first three children were born in Vermont: Philinda in 1800, Eunice in 1801, and Laura in 1803. The family then moved to Chenango, Broome County, New York where the other nine children were born: Olive in 1805, Mary in 1807, Isaac Jr. in 1809, Archibald in 1812, Daniel in 1814, Sarah in 1817, Nathan in 1819 and Ira R. in 1823.

#### **OHIO TO MICHIGAN MYSTERY**

Stephen A. Dodge was born about 1818 in Ohio. His parents are unknown. He stated on census records that both of his parents were born in Vermont. On 9 August 1837 in Knox County, Ohio he married Rhoda A. Cosper, who was born 24 February 1817 in Havannah, New York, the daughter of David Cosper and Elizabeth Erway. Stephen and Rhoda moved from Summit County, Ohio to Lagrange County, Indiana to Clinton County, to Gratiot County and finally Kent County Michigan. Their first two children were born in Ohio: James Porter about 1838 and Lerov M. about 1839. The other three children were born in Michigan: Mary Jane about 1841, Daniel C. about 1844 and Persis about 1850.

# NEW HAMPSHIRE TO MASSACHUSETTS MYSTERY

Charles Dodge was born 16 Aug 1806 in Derry, New Hampshire. His parents are unknown. On 25 December 1836 in Lowell, Massachusetts he married Martha Ann Sargent, who was born 12 April 1817 in Saco, Maine. Their first two children were born in Derry: Henry S. in 18137 and Harriet in 1839. The family moved to Lowell where the other five children were born: Charles E. in 1840, Mary Agnes in 1842, Alfred in 1844, Eugene Alfred in 1847, and Clara Ellen in 1850. Charles and Martha divorced 4 December 1867 in New Hampshire.

#### QUINCY MASSACHUSETTS MYSTERY

Benjamin Dodge was born about 1785. The place of his birth and his parents remain a mystery. He married first, Jane Goodwin in 1822 in Beverly, Massachusetts. Jane died in 1825. Benjamin married second, Sarah Ann Fowles on 16 December 1827 in Quincy, Massachusetts. She was born July 1806, the daughter of Jacob Fowles Jr. and Mary Miller. Benjamin and Sarah Ann had four daughters, all born in Quincy. Sarah Jane in 1829, Elizabeth Fowels in 1832, Mary Abigail in 1834 and Frances Adeline in 1837.