



DODGE FAMILY JOURNAL

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Richard Dodge, son of Samuel Dodge Jr., and Helena Amerman We need to find a living descendant!

Our office received a phone call September 26, from a member of a reenactment group in Johnstown, NY. We were told that the cemetery stone for Richard is missing from his burial place in Colonial Cemetery, Johnstown. They want to replace it but in order to do that, they need to have the permission of a family member.

Try as we might, we have been unable to find any living descendants of Richard. Our back up plan is to try to find a descendant of Samuel Dodge and Helena Amerman. Are YOU a descendant of this Dodge line? If so, would you please contact us so that we can put you in touch with the group that wants to replace the missing stone for Richard?

It is sad to think that someone who was such a patriot does not have a stone on his grave. It will not cost you anything. All the reenactment group needs is permission to replace the missing stone!

Richard Dodge, a descendant of Tristram through Samuel Dodge Jr., and Helena Amerman, was born 31 Dec. 1762, in New York City, New York, and died 3 Sep 1832, in Johnstown, Fulton County, New York, and is buried in Colonial Cemetery.

He enlisted in the 2nd Continental Regiment (Colonel Philip Van Cortland) when 13 years old, as a fifer. He later transferred to the 5th Regiment, where his brothers were lieutenants under Colonel Lew Duboys. He rose to the rank of Colonel.

April 10th, 1812, (War of 1812), Congress authorized the drafting of 100,000 men from the militia of the country, 13,500 being assigned as the quota for New York. A few days later the detached militia of the State were arranged in two divi-

sions and eight brigades. The fourth brigade comprised the 10th, 11th, 12th and 13th regiments in the Mohawk Valley, and was under the command of General Richard Dodge, of Johnstown."

He was Brigadier General who was in charge of Sackets Harbor in 1812. At this period, the State of New York along the Canadian frontier was to a great extent an almost unknown wilderness, and communications and transportation were still slow and laborious. The Mohawk River, slightly improved in its natural course by the Inland Lock Navigation Company, was the only route except the rough highways for the westward conveyance of cannon, which were loaded upon the Durham boats

After the war he returned to his schooling in New York, and became a sur-

veyor. During this time of study, he became a close friend of one William Irving, Jr., living at 128 William Street, New York.

After he completed his studies he left for the Mohawk Valley, and settled at Caughnawaga (now Fonda) where he pursued his profession. While at this work, he began trading with the Indians for fur. About this time, on one of his trips to New York, he found his friend, William Irving, in poor health, and induced him to return to the Mohawk Valley with him and the courtship of William's sister, Ann Sarah, began. Richard Dodge apparently gave up his surveying and devoted his time to mercantile pursuits. He became a prominent merchant in Johnstown and a highly respected citizen.



On page three, we are repeating Barbara's column that was in our Sept./Oct. 2001 journal. Below is part of just one of the messages received after Sept. 11, 2001. This was from Mike and Julie Wilson who live in Halliday Hill House, the Dodge ancestral home in Offerton, England.

Dear Barbara, On 11 September, Julie and I were having a lovely hot peaceful Spanish late summer afternoon by the pool when I decided to go into the villa for some cold water. I turned on the TV and tuned to CNN. What happened next will stay in my memory forever. Julie came in and sat next to me. I could not believe what I was seeing from NY. Julie just sobbed. We both found it difficult to sleep for several days. What had been a lovely holiday suddenly seemed to be a bit of an irrelevance against the backdrop of what appeared to be a world going mad. September 11, 2001 will stay with me for ever. A couple of days later I phoned my friend who lives in Connecticut, and was told that a number of his colleagues were missing and presumed dead. I also discovered that another English guy who lives in NY and travels over with my friend to the UK when they come over to watch our soccer team play, had been on the 40th floor of the first tower struck. He had been having a coffee when the building shook a little and he had then seen debris falling down the side of the building.

It was lovely and touching to be driving along a beautiful Spanish town's seafront promenade a couple of days later, and see that Spanish people had hung out the "Stars and Stripes" on their beflowered home balconies as a gesture of their solidarity and support. These were small gestures which many Americans would never see reported but I think mean quite a lot.

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In
Memory



DFA member, Hank Bauer, a descendant of John Dodge, died at home under hospice care on July 26th. We wish to extend our sympathy to Liz.

We met Hank and Liz Bauer at a Florida Dodge Reunion a good number of years ago and a few years after that, they joined us on one of our England tours. While in Stockport, Liz, who plays the organ at her church, had the opportunity to play the theater organ at The Plaza, a theatre for which money was raised to save it from destruction. Now, it is a thriving icon of Stockport with a great venue.

Jean Louise Leonard Dodge passed away on August 2, 2012. She was the wife of Myron Arlen Dodge, a descendant of John Dodge thru his son, William. The funeral was held August 6 at Larkin Sunset Gardens in Sandy, Utah. Myron is the brother of DFA member, Brenton Dodge, Grants Pass, Oregon.

WALL OF HONOR

Editor National Tribune (year missing probably abt. 1933)

Another "Noblest Roman of them all" has answered the last roll call; Dr. Horace O. Dodge, b. Dec. 13, 1840, near Chicago, passed away Dec. 29, last, aged 93. Comrade Dodge enlisted in Co. E 8th Ill. Cav., in August 1862, and was mustered out April 1865, at Washington, D. C. He served with his regiment in the Army of the Potomac until September, 1863. He took part in most of the battles around Washington and vicinity, among them Fredericksburg, Antietam, Chancellorsville, Gettysburg, Winchester, and many others. In September 1863, he was detailed to serve as a scout and spy, first by Gen. Buford, under whose direction he operated until his death, and then under the direction of Gen. Phil Sheridan. Most of his time was spent within the Confederate lines, where he mingled with Confederate officers, always wearing the Confederate uniform. Much of his time was at the headquarters of Fitzhugh Lee, representing himself as a Confederate officer on detached service. He was always accompanied by his "aide", John Morgan. He had many close es-

capades from detection and capture. He returned to Gen. Sheridan's headquarters in early April, 1865, at which time, the general gave him his discharge and an order on the Secret Service for \$1,000 in gold for meritorious service.




Horace O. Dodge
Private Co. E
8th Illinois Cavalry

Carnegie Branch Library for Local History,
Boulder Historical Society Collection

Horace Oscar Dodge, M. D., professor of clinical medicine in the Colorado University and secretary of the board of education of Boulder, is, in point of years of practice, the oldest physician of the city now following the profession. He has been identified with many enterprises for the benefit of the people and the advancement of the state. In the organization of the Colorado School of Music he took a warm interest, was elected the first president of the institution, and has held the position from the time of its organization in 1894, his enterprise and excellent judgment doing much for the growth of the school.

The doctor's great-grandfather was a soldier in the Revolution. The grandfather, Zebulon, was born in Massachusetts and engaged in farming until his death. His father, Horace Dodge, was born in Belchertown, Mass., and removed to the west in 1836, settling as a pioneer in Du Page County, Ill., twenty miles from Chicago, where he secured a deed to land from the government and improved a farm. He was eighty-four at the time of his death.

The doctor's mother, Lucy A. Hickman, was born in Winchester, VA, in the Shenandoah Valley, and resides in Wheaton, Ill., at the age of eighty-three years. She is a member of the Baptist Church. Her father, W. Fielding Hickman, was born at Natural Bridge, a member of an old Virginia family, and removed to the Shenandoah Valley, where he engaged in farming. He started to remove to Indiana, traveling by team, but died while on his way west. One of his sons was in the navy during the war of 1812 and also accompanied Commodore Perry on his expedition for the opening of the Japanese ports. The Hickman family are lineal descendants of John Knox, the Reformer.

Horace O. Dodge was born on the home farm in Du Page County, December 13, 1840, and grew to manhood on the homestead where he was born. In 1861 he entered the freshman class of Wheaton College, but four weeks later he volunteered in Company E, Eighth Illinois Cavalry, and was mustered into service at St. Charles, Ill., as a private. Ordered to Washington, he remained there until December 13, 1861, when he went to camp in Virginia. In March, 1862, he marched to Centerville and Manassah, where he took part in a battle, then retreated to Alexandria, and went by transport to join in the Peninsular campaign of 1862. He took part in the engagements at Williamsburg and Mechanicsville and the seven days' battle, then retreated to Harrison's Landing, ordered back to Alexandria, and from there to Bull Run, in time for the second battle there; afterward participated in the battle of Antietam, spent the winter in picket duty and scouting, took part in the battle of Fredericksburg, and in the spring of 1863, was present at Chancellorsville, Beverly Ford, Brandy Station, Aldie, Upperville and Gettysburg, where his regiment opened the battle on the first day and continued at the front until the close of the third day. Soon after that battle he was detailed to the division headquarters as a scout, and in the winter of 1863-64 was occupied in scouting. In the spring of 1864 he was in the advance in the battles of the Wilderness and Spottsylvania, and after the latter engagement was transferred to Sheridan's headquarters as scout, taking part in Sheridan's raid on Richmond and continuing at his headquarters until the fall of 1864. In October he was mustered out and discharged in Chicago. 

The View From My Window



The photo above and the article below, are taken from our Sept-Oct Journal of 2001. We thought it appropriate to publish this again.

Our spirit is not crushed! We are not beaten! We stand tall and free!

On Sept. 14, I started on a trip from Denver through Kansas, Missouri, Indiana, Ohio, New York, and all of the New England states, with Norman and Eileen Dodge of Seattle, Washington.

On every road, in every town, and on thousands of cars and trucks, the Stars and Stripes were waving in defiance of those who would try to destroy us.

In the towns, flags hung from every lamp post and from the majority of homes. Many lawns were ringed with small flags set every two or three feet apart. Flags were displayed every place road work was being done. Flags hung from many overpasses both over the interstates and on the back roads. The majority of people wore the 'red, white and blue' in some form. From Denver to New York I tried to find a flag or a flag decal for sale so that we might join the throng. Finally, in Niagara on the American side, I found a very small flag which I purchased and we put that inside the car in the middle of the front window.

The next day, in a fabric store, I found red, white, and blue ribbon to fly from our antenna. All of the ribbons that color were sitting on the cutting table rather than in the usual place, because the call for them was so great that they needed to be easily accessible.

Signs saying "United We Stand", "God Bless America", and "God Bless the USA" were in abundance in store windows and on signs along the roads and highways.

While traveling an interstate, we passed a group of eight big semi-trailers traveling one behind the other in caravan style at a steady 60 miles per hour. On the sides were messages such as "Hold on NY, we're on our way", and 'Disaster Relief for New York' and these trucks were covered with flags. It made us so proud to be a part of this great country

and to see how people were pulling together in the aftermath of the attack on September 11.

We received countless messages from Dodges who live in other parts of the world and also from many of our friends in England. A number of these are on our web site and one is being published in this Journal.(See bottom of page 1)

We visited Stephen Dodge (Sand In My Shoes columnist) and he took Norman and I to Manhattan via the Staten Island Ferry. For the 1st time I was able to see the Statue of Liberty with my own eyes. Boats anchored in the harbor flew the flag and once we were on the other side, I could see the flag flying on every kind of building and conveyance imaginable. On the front of the Stock Exchange, there was



a flag so big that it covered the building almost side to side

When we got off the ferry in Manhattan, my very first impression was the smell of something burning. As we got closer to ground zero, that smell was intermingled with the smell of iodine.

Battery Park, once filled with tourists was instead filled with army tents and vehicles. We walked the few blocks to Ground Zero and stood quietly trying to understand the views with which we were presented. We were kept back by at least a block so



only could see a very small portion of the devastation but it was enough to make us understand what the whole area would look like if we could see

that. We saw the many buildings that have had to be vacated, some many stories high, and they had been hung with netting and tarps to keep parts of them from falling on those below. We saw that ash still covered many of the buildings where it had rained down the sides, and many of the decorative ledges and window ledges still had ash several inches deep. In some cases, pieces of paper were seen protruding from the ash.

We saw several of the memorial areas where pictures of missing people were posted along with loving words describing them. I looked at these memorials and I looked at the heap of rubble that used to be the Twin Towers, and it suddenly became so real to me that intermingled with that rubble were the remains of almost 3000 people, including these whom I now viewed in the photos on the walls.

As we turned to walk back towards the ferry, I saw in a window of a small café, a young man and woman sitting at the counter which faced the window and which in turn presented a clear view of part of the rubble two blocks away. She had her head on his shoulder and they both were just staring up the street.

On our way back to Staten Island on the ferry, two gunboats, each filled with men in camouflage apparel, and each with a gun in the bow, sped by.

On September 11, 2001, our freedoms, for which our founding fathers fought, came under attack by people who thought they could destroy us. These

people used those very s a m e freedoms in our own country to lay t h e foundation that they t h o u g h t w o u l d accomplish their goal . . .



but they were wrong. Their actions, while causing much pain, suffering, and grief for thousands of people, did not rend us asunder. Instead, it brought us closer together . . . it made us a people with one mind . . .

FINDING OBITUARIES

*By Eileen Dodge
Edodge1946@comcast.net*

Every now and again someone will write me with an obituary they found while looking for something else. It is usually sent to me because the person who sent it isn't related to the deceased, and they don't know who they are.

Such happened to me the other day when a cousin of mine through marriage, Judy Ragan, sent me an obituary for a Mary L. Dodge Shoultes.

Having read the obituary I found that she was born in Owego, Tioga County, New York on October 1, 1855 - it was thought her parents were James Dodge and Abigail Herrick, but the person who wrote the obit was unsure.

So, I put on my Sherlock Holmes hat and went to work. Knowing that Mary was born in 1855 I searched the 1860 US Census in Tioga County, New York, and found her living with her father, James W., (born about 1828 in New York), her mother, Abigail, (born about 1835 in New York), brother, Joseph, who was born that year.

I searched the John Genealogy File and found the family. Her father was James W. Dodge, son of Deacon Joseph Dodge, Jr. and his second wife, Charity Molineaux. James married Abigail McArthur (not Abigail Herrick).

Information from the obituary gave me her husband's name and her son's name. It was information we did not have. So I gave the obituary to Norman Dodge to add to Mary's file.

So please, any time you find an obituary of a Dodge, whether they are related to you or not, please send to either Norman Dodge at:

nedodge@aol.com

or myself, Eileen Dodge at:

edodge1946@comcast.net

We will see to it that the obituary is added to our files and if you don't know who the person is we will do our best to search out the information and add that person to our files.

Thank you, Judy, for your contribution.



WHO DO YOU DESCEND FROM?

*By Judy Prentice Ragan
raganje@aol.com*

VITAL RECORDS

Probably the most important information you need for each of your ancestors is their birth date and death date. When you are searching records these dates will help you identify the exact person who is your ancestor. If your ancestor has a very common name such as my great grandfather, William Carter, who was from Kentucky, you will often find dozens. If you know their birth date and death date you can pick your ancestor out of those dozen names.

Secondly, their marriage date, places where they were born, died and were married, are important also. To find this information you need to search state/county vital record files. Today you can find many vital records on some website. Type in the search window, "vital records, name of town & state". Or you can write to the state/county office to try to get a copy of the records. Many of the older birth records are church records because most states did not require citizens to file a record until the early 1900s. For death records for people who worked in the 1930s and beyond, you can easily go onto the Social Security Death Record file on FamilySearch.org, the Morman site. For further information about searching for these vital records, read chapter 4 of Megan Smolenyak's book, "Who Do You Think You Are?". Another excellent source of obtaining dates would be Ancestry.com and many other websites, some of which are fee-based as Ancestry.com is; but they are a good source to obtain dates which you then will want to verify by searching the vital records files to prove that those dates are the right ones.

Always remember that websites such as Ancestry.com and Familysearch.org are only as good as the folks who submit their family tree information. If a legitimate source is not included, do not assume it is correct until you have verified the information through vital records or documents. Often folks are so anxious to add another name to their database that they grab at names of people who do not fit. While searching on Ancestry one day, I was looking at my mother-in-law's grandfather's page, Fred Schultz. Out of curiosity I scrolled down to my mother-in-law's name only to discover that she died in Iowa in 1922. I found that very strange since I had had her over for dinner the night before! Someone had used the source of the 1930 census to prove that fact; however, they had another woman by the same name who lived and died in Iowa and just assumed her to be the granddaughter of Fred Schultz.

Another excellent source to find death records is the Find A Grave website. This is a fast growing site with volunteers who are walking cemeteries and taking photos of graves and then submitting them to this website. Or folks like me who have taken photos of so many of my ancestors for my files and now I can submit them to Find A Grave for others to look at. Many of the pages have lots of genealogy information included.

September's tip: Sources, sources, sources.

WHO DO YOU DESCEND FROM?

By Judy Prentice Ragan raganje@aol.com

For the past four journals I have submitted articles to help you organize and search for your ancestors. Are you listening? Are the articles helping you with your searches? Are you searching for ancestors beyond your Dodge lines? Barb says many of you have told her that you read the journal cover to cover. But does the journal encourage you to expand your family tree data base? Do you have questions about where to go next with your research?

As you can see, I have included my email address above. I would love to hear from lots of the Journal readers about how my articles have helped or not helped you search for your ancestors or how to get all those papers organized. If you do not have email you can write your comments and send them to the Dodge Family address and they will be forwarded to me.



PASSAGES THROUGH TIME

Tracing paths taken by our forefathers

In the last Journal, we presented information known about William, Richard, and their father John. The first two children born to Richard Dodge and Edith Brayne, died as infants. In this Journal we will continue in this line, with the 3rd child born to them, John Dodge. He was a Lieutenant in the Indian war and retained the title until his death. He was baptized 29 Dec 1631 in England. This John Dodge was mentioned in the will of his grandfather, John, who died in Somersetshire, England, in 1635. John most likely came to Salem with his father, Richard, in 1638. He settled in what was then included in Beverly, but later was annexed to Wenham. He built a saw mill and, perhaps, grist mill on Mill River at Wenham Neck, which was in use until about 1822, and he received from his father's estate about eighty acres lying about his mill, and five acres of meadow on the same side of Longham Brook where his house stood, near what was then the north line of Beverly. On 5th May, 1708, he deeded to his son, Andrew, his homestead of forty acres and other lands near by. Lieut. John Dodge was a man of more than ordinary standing in the community. He was elected deputy to the General Court, was often elected one of the selectmen of the town, and served in almost every public capacity where good sense and integrity were required. There are many bits of evidence preserved showing that he was on the side of temperance and good order. We cannot print that long list here because it takes up two pages, but you can see it by going to our web site, clicking on 'Genealogy', and then on the link that takes you to our John and Tristram branch data bases. You will need the user name and password, which you will find in this Journal at the bottom of page 6. We will print here, some of the highlights of John's life.

In 1679 and 1680 Wenham claimed a new boundary line between Beverly and Wenham, by which Wenham was to take from Beverly the following citizens, Rice and John Edwards. They, with Joseph Dodge, Joseph Eaton and John Wooden remonstrated (I.e. argued, protested, etc.) vigorously. Also in behalf of Beverly, MA, William Dixey, William Dodge, Sen., Samuel Corning, John West, Hugh Woodbery, John Dodge, Sen. John Hill, Paul Thorndike, William Woodbery and Andrew Elliot remonstrated.

The Wenham people, represented by Walter Fairfield, Thomas Fiske and Richard Hutton, undertook to collect taxes of Lt. John Dodge under this new boundary line; went there when he was not at home and took pewter platters, etc., for taxes, against the objections and resistance of his wife, Sarah, whom they so abused that they had to pay costs to the amount of 50 pounds. She was evidently spirited and resisted, but they threw her down and hurt her, when Rice Edwards, Sen., age 65, called out and his son, John, age 36, tripped them up and so saved her. Her sons, John, age 17 and Josias, age 15, also testified, as did John Dodge, Sen., 49; Richard Hutton, 59; Benj. Edwards, 18; Wm. Simmons, 20; Wm. Knowlton, 36; Charles Gott, 41 and Nathaniel Stone, 48. Thos. Hobbs, 48, who went there for Wenham said, she "took me by the hair of my head and did strike me." Zachariah Herrick, 43, saw her the night after the fray, when she complained much of a blow on the head, etc. Deborah Gove, age 33, saw Walter Fairfield have hold of her arm when John Edwards tripped him up.

This shows the resolute character of the people of those days. It is not known with certainty who Mrs. Sarah Dodge* was before marriage, but from the above incident we can comprehend the martial spirit which has shown itself conspicuously in the revolutionary and subsequent wars. *Merna Bennet supplied the last name for Sarah from the *American Ancestry Vol 7 pg 247 under the name of Dodge. Author's name is Munzel*

From records of Massachusetts, Vol. 5, we find that Mr. John Dodge was deputy to the General Court from Beverly at the following dates, viz: 3 May 1676, 9 Aug. 1676, 8 May 1678, 28 May 1769, 4 Feb. 1679-80, 19 May 1680, 4 Jan.

1680-1 and 7 Nov. 1683. In the last case he is styled Lieut. In "May, 1683, John Dodge, Sen., was appointed by the Gen. Court cornet, or standard bearer, of a squadron of troopers of Beverly and Wenham, of which Wm. Rayment was appointed Lieut., and William Dodge, son of Farmer William, Sen., to be quartermaster to the said troope." In Vol. 4, p. 583, John Dodge, Sen., Bass River, made Freeman 29 April 1668.

His eldest son, John, died at the age of 42, and the will, executed in July, 1703, about six months before his death, is preserved in the Probate Office at Salem, bearing in good plain characters the signature of the testator, and, as witnesses, the father and mother John and Sarah, and Thomas Fisk the father-in-law.



Tristram's son, Israel, Married Hannah Weeks and together they had five children. We say 'at least' because records were burned in New London, Connecticut, in 6 Sep 1781 by Benedict Arnold. In our notes we have Israel Dodge listed as Freeman, July, 1670, in Block Island. Some time between 1670 and 1694, Israel and his family moved to New London, Connecticut, for a record states that October 1, 1720, Israel Dodge of New London, late of Block Island, sold land located in Block Island, formerly belonging to his father Tristram, to his brothers John, Tristram and William of Block Island. He was on a farm in North Parish (Montville), New London, Connecticut, in 1694.

(Continued Column 1 on page 6)

(Passages in time—Continued from page 5)

In 1705, the Queen's Court reported him settled there on Indian Fields. As the New London records were burned by Benedict Arnold, September 6, 1781, it is difficult to give dates concerning his family. Baptisms by Reverend James Hillhouse, Second Congregational Church of North Parish, supply the following names of Israel's children and grandchildren. He appears to have disposed of all his real estate before his death. In 1707 he bought land in Montville of Samuel Rogers.

In 1719 he and wife Hannah gave his son John part of this land. In 1725 John sold some land to his brother Israel for L40. Israel Sr. gave some of this land to son Samuel, "all of his own farm except improved part," latter to fall to Samuel when Israel Sr. and wife die. In 1722 Israel gave some of this Montville land to son Thomas, "near John's portion," deed made out at Norwich.

In 1724 Israel gave son Israel more of this land. In 1730 Samuel Dodge sold land in Montville "where Israel Dodge now lives" (probably brother Israel) to Gideon Comstock for L 42, and this was doubtless after the death of his father and mother when the homestead had fallen to him, "said land beginning at the highway that goes to Colchester."

Benjamin Dodge of Colchester, who married Tabitha Dodge from the David Britain Dodge line, may have descended from Israel and Hannah Dodge. DNA from a descendant proves a Tristram line and is close enough to descendants in this Dodge line to be related is that way. However, we may never know because of the burned records. Perhaps, someday, someone will come forward with a family Bible that will have records in it that will solve this very big mystery.

"It's a Boy!"

Dodge Production Co.

330 S. Gilmore North Burnaby, B.C.

Announcing Model No. 1 in their new Series.

Officers of the Company:
 Designer & Engineer: Paul D. Dodge
 Production Manager: Marjorie E. Dodge
 Technical Assistant: Dr. L. A. Patterson

The new model was unveiled at an impressive ceremony in the Company's Branch Office on the 3rd floor of Mount St. Joseph's Hospital on Tuesday, November 20th, 1956 at 4:55 p.m.

Specifications are:

Type: Boy.
 Curbweight: 7 lbs. 4 oz.
 Overall Length: Bumper to Bumper, 19".
 Trade Mark: Daniel Brent.

This model has knee action, free squealing streamlined body, High fuel economy, changeable seat covers, two lung motor, single horn with variable pitch and water cooled exhaust are added features. Only 1 color is available. This model is on display in the Show Room for your inspection.

Company officials state this will be the only model for the balance of the year.

Questions With No Answers

By Marjorie E. Dodge

"You have a beautiful baby boy."

The music of the doctor's voice still vibrates in our ears.

"That dear little baby didn't smile when I smiled at him and he did not reach out to take the teddy bear I brought him. What's wrong?" our friend asked as she held him for the first time.

I pondered her question in silence and chose to ignore it while I focused on the joy of this birth.

Once home, routinely we charted his progress, and finally, my husband, Don, and I faced our friend's agonizing question: "What's wrong with his eyes?" I picked up the phone to make a doctor's appointment. This took just minutes but the decision had taken months.

I told the doctor, "Danny's eyes constantly move from side to side, and he does not focus on any object nor does he smile back at me. At six months shouldn't his eyes focus?"

The doctor told us that it was too early to give him a diagnostic exam, and to go home and don't worry about it. He said that Danny would probably outgrow any problems that might exist and gave us a checklist for his development. We left the doctor's office with the brochure in hand and were

relieved that we had not received a medical diagnosis but we still had nagging doubts that Danny's eyesight was not developing normally.

The following six months, we used the doctor's chart and had ample opportunity to evaluate Danny's eyesight.

We walked into the medical building with the Progress Report in hand which told the story. He asked "how much improvement has their been?" Holding back tears, I handed him a blank sheet of paper and said "None." "What is our son's problem?"

After an exam of Danny's eyes, we were told that he had Nystagmus. The doctor pulled down a large medical journal and explained "The condition of the eye called, Nystagmus, is an involuntary movement of the eyes. This constant movement is like an electrical short circuit in the optic nerve that prevents Danny's eyesight from developing. There is no prescription for this. I suggest that you make an appointment for counseling and begin to explore ways to help Danny learn to live without sight."

"Blind!" The one word I had avoided using, now echoed in my ears and struck my spirit with the force of a clap of thunder. Reality had set in.

A misty, tear-drenched curtain fell over our hopes for Danny's future that day. I went to bed that night with tears in my eyes as I put my hand in Don's, and my faith in God.— (Colossians 3:3 For you died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God.)

(to be continued)

New Members

Gerald Dodge, Kentucky
 Carol Greene, Virginia
 David Dodge, New Hampshire
 Cindy Madsen, New Mexico

Below are the user name and password for the part of our website that is for member's only/ Here you can see past Journals, and find your ancestry in our Genealogy files.

User Name: dodgefamily
 Password: rivertweed

DODGE FAMILY JOURNAL

10105 W. 17th Place
 Lakewood, Colorado 80215
 Tel: (303) 237-4947

WEB SITE: www.dodgefamily.org

Editor: Barbara V. Dodge
 Assistant Editor: Eileen Dodge
 Assistant Editor: Judy Ragan



Left: the front cover.

Directly under that is the next 'page'. Third is the page that contains the love letter written by Edward Blanchard Dodge to his wife Laura with their wedding photo in the top right corner.

At the bottom of the page is the photo of their 50th wedding anniversary.



There are a number of members of DFA who descend from Edward and Laura Dodge. Two of their sons, Charles and Lewis, Farwell sisters, Edith and Mabel. Our DFA president, Norman Dodge descends from Charles and Mabel and Robert Livingston Dodge of San Diego, descends from Lewis and Edith, as did Earl Dodge and Virginia Murphy Dodge, our three founders.

Aside from Judy Ragan, and the three people mentioned directly above, there are others in DFA who descend from this large family.

If you receive this Journal via email, you will be able to see this amazing work of love in color. This is a QUILTED memory book-made by Judy Ragan who is a quilter par excellence. She also writes the column for us, 'Who Do You Descend From'.



Name: Love Letter
 Made by: Judy Prentice Ragan
 Great granddaughter
 Summer of 2012
 Simi Valley, CA

My great grandparents, Edward Blanchard & Laura Woods Dodge, were married in 1861 in Stoddard, New Hampshire.. By 1864 Edward was serving in Washington DC during the Civil War as a builder of many of the buildings needed including the forts there, and he had to make runs to procure bread from the local bakery for the troops each day. On several occasions he met personally with President Abraham Lincoln and claims that these were some of the most important memories of his life. This is one of the letters he wrote home to Laura mentioning two of the fifteen children they eventually had and telling her about his experiences there in Washington DC. The love they must have shared is felt as you read this letter and I have always cherished the copy of it. On the last page is shown their fiftieth wedding anniversary picture with many family members in 1911, just months before Laura's death. In the upper left hand corner are my grandparents, Harper and Myra Dodge Prentice who is holding my father, Ralph W. Prentice, age 6 months old.



I wish you could see this in person, as I did when Judy and Bill came to Colorado a month ago.

If you attend the upcoming California reunion in January of 2013, you will be able to see this because Judy will be taking it with her to that reunion.





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

Summer has come and gone. It did not arrive in Olympia until about the 1st week of July and the rain quit about the 20th of July and since then we have not had a drop of rain. Very unusual.

Eileen & I plan to go east traveling, among other places, to Maine. We hope to solve Capt. Jim Dodge's genealogical problem. He has researched this line very thoroughly backward from him to Lincoln County, Maine. The problem is there are no birth records in Maine in the years 1800 to 1820. That was due to the fact that Maine was created as a separate state in 1820. Further, very few records were kept because the Maine Legislature never provided or mandated that they be kept until the 1890s. Jim can trace his line directly back to 1873 to a cemetery stone for William Dodge showing up in the Hunter Mountain cemetery in the vicinity of Farmington & Strong, Maine. One of William's grandsons stated in a biography that his grandfather (William's father) was Benjamin. Jim's DNA has proven that he descends from Richard Dodge. We will give a report in the next journal. Maybe you can solve the riddle of who William Dodge's father is. William was born about 1801 in Lincoln County, Maine. You can find this information on page 726 in Dodge Genealogy edition 1998 authored by Robert Livingston Dodge.

Please read the following three Dodge Mysteries to see if you can help us connect these people to either the John or Tristram database. If so, please send an e-mail to me at nedodge@aol.com

Burvine Dodge was born 4 August 1818 most likely in Kentucky. He died 18 April 1856 in Hopkins County, Kentucky. Through civil records and census records his name has been listed as Burvine, Burris, Burrine, and Berrind R. His parents are unknown.

On 22 February 1839 in Hopkins County, Kentucky, Burvine married

Mary 'Polly' Crowley. She was born 19 November 1819 in Kentucky and died 5 February 1880 in Webster County, Kentucky. She was the daughter of Prior Crowley and Susanna Lunsford.

Burvine and Polly raised six children born and raised in Kentucky: Elizabeth S., born about 1840, married Byrum Owen - they had one daughter

Benjamin Franklin, born 17 August 1842 and died 19 May 1913, married Nancy A. Todd - they had one son and one daughter

George Dallas, born about 1845 and died about 1908, married first, Martha Evelyn Kelly - they had six sons and three daughters. George married second, Jennie Vickers - they had no children

James Prior, born about 1846 and died about 1878, married Sophia Jane Watson - they had one son and one daughter

John B., born 20 November 1848 and died 10 May 1906, married first, Lucinda Brewer - they had five sons and four daughters. John married second, Belle Zosie Wallace - they had a son

Sarah Catherine, born about 1851, married Robert Alec Stubblefield - they had two sons and one daughter.

Robert Dodge was born in Vermont 1 January 1780 and died about 1825. His parents are unknown.

About 1810 Robert married Mercy Atwell Thayer, widow of Joseph Thayer. She was born 17 September 1781 in Connecticut and died 21 June 1852 in Pennsylvania.

Robert and Mercy lived for a while in Ohio. It is unknown where their six children were born:

Clarinda, born 8 March 1811 and died unmarried 23 July 1833

An unnamed son who lived 1813-1818, John Elliott, born 8 April 1819 and died 13 February 1908, married first, Elinor Skelton and had two sons and two daughters. John married second,

Sarah A. Osgood and had one son and one daughter

Mary E., born 1824 and died 1870, married Ephraim Rockwell - they had three sons and one daughter

Lydia S., birth and death unknown, married George Upham - they had three sons and four daughters

Ruth Dodge, birth and death unknown, married Orestus Beech



Stephen A. Dodge was born about 1818 in Ohio and died 26 June 1902 in Grand Rapids, Michigan. His parents are unknown.

On 9 August 1837 Stephen married Rhoda A. Coper in Summit County, Ohio. She was born 24 February 1817 in Dutchess County, New York, and died 28 July 1894 in Grand Rapids, Michigan.

Stephen and Rhoda are both buried in the Fulton Street Cemetery, Grand Rapids.

The 1850 census shows the family living in Portage, Summit County, Ohio; 1870 in Milford, Lagrange County, Indiana; 1860 in Greenbush, Clinton County, Michigan; 1870 in Saint Louis, Gratiot County, Michigan and 1880 in Grand Rapids, Kent County, Michigan.

Stephen and Rhoda raised five children:

James Porter, born 1838 and died 22 August 1879 in Kansas - served in the Civil War - married Hannah Isbell - they had three sons

LeRoy M., born 1839 and died 16 June 1862 in James Island, South Carolina - he served in the Civil War and was killed as a result of the war

Mary Jane born 1841, married Jonas P. Jewett

Daniel C. born 1844 and died 8 March 1895 in Michigan - served in the Civil War - married Hannah Ware - they had three daughters and one son

Persis Artie, born 1850 and died 18 January 1933, married Nicholas van Dine

