



DODGE FAMILY JOURNAL

Volume 30 No. 6

September/October 2014

A Daughter's Reminiscing –Part II

By Barbara Farwell Dodge Pitman Bapitman@zoho.com

It was 1899, and promised to be an exciting year. This was the year I would graduate. I had studied, with six friends, the three year high school course. It was not easy, and many of our friends left school after completing primary grades. So we were thrilled to be almost done with this part of our lives, leaving our childhood behind and becoming adults. Of course, we already thought we were adults, but when we graduated, our parents would have to admit we were no longer children.

As we were preparing for our final exams, the world around us seemed to be falling apart. America and the

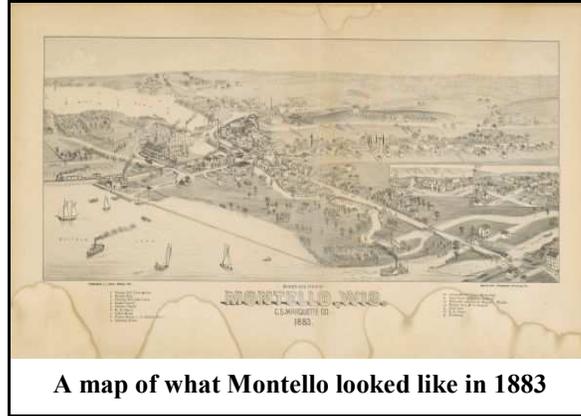
Philippines were at war with each other. At least the Spanish-American war ended just days after we declared war on the Philippines.

Then there was an awful fire in New York City. One of the fanciest hotels,

The Windsor, burned down to the ground and over 90 people were killed. It happened on St. Patrick's Day, and I can't ever think of March 17th without remembering the stories in our paper about the fire. President McKinley's brother had to run into the burning hotel to rescue his wife and daughter. He was able to get them out of the building, which was ashes and dust in less than two hours.

About the only good thing that happened that year, at least until graduation, was the discovery of a moon around Saturn. They named the moon "Phoebe." We thought it was a funny name for a moon, but then, Mr. Pickering, who discovered it, had every right to name it whatever he wanted. Oh, and I read about a temple being built, in Wisconsin, to promote higher education. It was in Dodge county! I knew papa was an important man, but I had no idea there was a whole county with our name.

About two months after the



A map of what Montello looked like in 1883

white lace covered the skirt. The bodice was modest, of course, and covered with hundreds of small yellow beads. Some local schools thought everyone should wear black at graduation as a sign of respect for the ceremony, but we decided to dress in accordance with the

beautiful stage at the Opera House. No black robes for us!

A huge crowd turned out for Commencement. The stage was hung with lace cur-



Montello School

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New York Fire, my father came to our school to make an announcement. He was talking to the whole assembly, but he was looking at me. He had this spark in his eyes almost all the time, and everyone felt honored to know him. I felt love for my father, and seeing that spark right before his announcement made me think something really big was about to happen.

Father announced, "Several years ago, when we built our new house, I made a promise to my daughter. I told her that someday she was going to appear on that enormous stage in the beautiful Opera House next door to our home. Well, I have a surprise for all of you who are ready to graduate and move on to the next part of your lives. Your commencement is going to take place in the opera house!"

Oh, we were so excited. We were going to progress across the stage, in our fanciest clothes to receive our diplomas.

My dress was butter-yellow with puffy sleeves, and layers of yellow and



Montello's movie theater is located in a historic opera house.

tains and decorated to look like a mansion parlor. I played a piano duet with my friend Gertrude Roskie. All of us who graduated gave speeches. Mine was about perseverance, and I used my father as an example of someone who never gives up and is always so positive. An orchestra played "Pomp and Circumstance" as we each crossed the stage to receive our diplomas. As an extra little surprise, fourteen tiny flower girls came down the aisles, bringing us graduation gifts!

(Continued on page 2)

(Continued from page 1)

It was such a lovely ceremony, and the place was packed! As we left the Opera House, we were surprised to see what looked like several hundred people who could not be admitted due to lack of space. They applauded us as we came down the steps of the Opera House and it was as if we were having a second ceremony! What a lovely day this was.

That was so many years ago. After high school, I attended the University of Madison where I studied piano and drama. I have been married twice since then. Yet I often feel as if I am still that high school girl on stage in the butter-yellow gown.

I returned to the grand Opera House nineteen years later. It was not a joyous occasion that time, as with deep grief I said goodbye to my father, Frank J. Dodge, who passed away December 4, 1918. We had his service at the Opera House, the place he loved and used to serve the community. As I imagined whispers of our Commencement celebration floating through the air, curling around the curtains, Rev. Solner offered a prayer, Rev. Dowling delivered the sermon, and Rev. W. M. Ellis read a biography of my papa's life. His final words were perhaps the best description of this man who, with just one leg, faced the world with hope and faith that all would be well. Rev. Ellis said my father was "gentle but, like the still waters, deep."

He is still with me, deep in my mind, my heart. And that Commencement ceremony will always bring to mind the man, Frank J. Dodge, who kept his promise to his only child, who worked tirelessly to provide a place for community activities and help for the poor. My papa, Frank J. Dodge.



Below: The Montello Granite Quarry where Frank J. Dodge lost his leg.

In Memory



The day that the last Journal was printed, we received the notice of the death of a long time DFA member.



Kathleen Dodge was born in Rochester, NY on January 31, 1942, the first child of Frederick W. and Janet (Connolly) Mahaney.

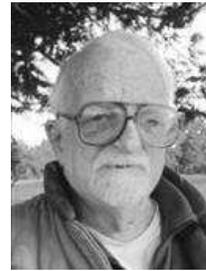
After the family moved to Vermont in 1957, Kathleen attended Cathedral High School until it was replaced with Rice Memorial High School where she was Valedictorian of the first graduating class in 1959. After studying Comparative Literature at Cornell University, Kathleen went on to obtain a Masters of Social Work from both McGill University and Florida State University. Kathleen spent the majority of her career as a Family and Child Therapist at the Josephine Baird Children's Center, with additional positions as a Counselor for the Blind and Visually Impaired with the State of Vermont and an Employee Assistance Program Developer for Fletcher Allen Health Care. An inspiration to many with her energy, her love of life and her generous spirit.

Kathleen married Neal Dodge in 1967 and their life together was full of many great adventures and people. Her interest in genealogy brought Kath and Neal to many parts of the U.S., visiting 49 state capitols and numerous long lost relatives along the way.

Since early 2013, following their diagnoses with cancer, Kath and Neal had many wonderful talks in which they recognized and reaffirmed their love for each other. Neal predeceased Kath on December 28, 2013. (see the Jan-Feb 2014 Journal)

**We are happy to welcome our
New members**

**D. Doucette, Harrisburg, VA
Debra Randolph, Hartford, WI**



Clyde Arnold Dodge, a long time-member of DFA passed away Sep. 14, 2014.

Clyde was born in Kansas City, June 23, 1919. He served in the Navy during WWII, then the Naval Reserve.

He graduated from UC Berkeley and worked for S.R.I. for over 30 years. He is survived by his wife, Natascha, three children, Clyde A. Dodge III, Lynelle Johnson, and Randy Dodge, one granddaughter, Melissa Mekediak, one step grandson, Paul Toney, and one step great granddaughter, Lucy Toney. A Memorial Service was held Sep. 20, at 4:00 PM at St. Luke's Chapel in the Hills, Los Altos Hills.

(Published in San Jose Mercury News/ San Mateo County Times on Sept. 19, 2014)

Ed. Note: The Dodge Family Association worked with Clyde to find his Ancestry, which proved to be Tristram

MAILBAG

The following was received from Kathy Burd, Genealogy Center, Periodicals, Allen County Public Library.

Thank you for the Jul/Aug 2014 issue of the Dodge Family Journal. Thank you, too, for sharing your story of "Frostie Dodge." I've added a note to my records to check each issue of the journal to see if there is a dog story.

Right now, I'm listening to an audio book entitled, "Dogtripping", by the author David Rosenfelt. He and his wife have an older dog rescue group. They moved their group of 25-30 dogs from southern California to Maine. The book is the story of the move, but also about each dog, how they acquired them and the love they have for each. Sounds like you have a tender heart for older dogs as we do.

Thanks again!
Kathy Burd

**User Name: dodgefamily
Password: englishheritage**

The View From My Window



A mental block.... That is what I have. What to write about is my quandary! Well...you all seem to like dog stories so I can tell you that my 10 year old foster dog, a yellow lab named Trooper, has been adopted.



I fostered him for close to 2 months. When I first got him, he was a real handful, getting into whatever he could that he thought might be edible.

The first night he got into my containers of dog food...I do not know HOW because they were well protected. I guess that he ate about 2-3 pounds.

A couple of days later, he pulled out from the bottom shelf of a 'pie safe' a 3 pound can of butter flavored Crisco, got the cover off, and ate about a pound of that. (I threw the rest away). Other food items seemed to be fairly easy marks for him so I was making sure that he could not reach anything on counters.

I had a craving for mixed berry pie, so I made one in one of my breakable pie

dishes. It contained blueberries, raspberries and blackberries. When It was done I pushed it to the back of the counter as far as it would go. A couple of hours later, I heard a bang and went to the kitchen to see what the noise was. Trooper, who was quite big, had stood up and had been able to reach the very back of the counter and had pulled the pie onto the floor (on the rug). The dish had shattered so I had to throw that out also and the contents!

I could hardly wait for him to be adopted, but the weeks rolled by and during that time, I grew to love him very much.

Each evening, I took Trooper, and my dogs, Polly and Roscoe, to a dog park so that they could romp leash free, and I could visit with other dog lovers.

Trooper had been trained to go quail hunting so he did not bark. I appreciated that as my dogs do not bark either.

If someone came to the door, all 3 dogs would go to the door with tails wagging and sit there waiting for the door to be opened.

Two people came to look at him, but he did not seem to tug their heart strings enough for them to want to take him home with them.

One day, Safe Harbor Lab Rescue, sent me information on a couple from

Buffalo, Wyoming, who wanted to drive down here to see and adopt Trooper. It was a 7 hour drive so we knew they were serious!

They LOVED Trooper on first sight! This was to be the husband's dog. They were an older couple and I believe the husband was about 80. They stayed in a motel over night with their dog, Katie, and came back the next day to get Trooper.

As they were leaving, the man said "Well, Troop, old boy, you and I have about 5 years left and we will spend it together." He planned to take long walks with Trooper and to take him fishing.

Every time I see a yellow lab, I think of Trooper and I miss him all over again.

Barbara



Trooper in his new home with new companion, Katie.



This Double Wedding Picture was set to us by Karen Howard Blood. Karen is the grand daughter of the little girl, Shirley Mae Overend.

The wedding took place Sunday, June 26, 1912 in Worcester, Worcester County, Massachusetts.

Karl Henry Dodge and Bessie Louise Overend are on the left. The couple on the right is unknown.

Karl was born 2 September 1882 in Stamford, Fairfield County, Connecticut and died October 1968 in St. Petersburg, Pinellas County, Florida, the son of William Adams Dodge in New York State and Lillian Isabel Day.

Bessie was born 18 March 1884 in Worcester, Worcester County, Massachusetts and died 10 March 1971 in Lee County, Florida, the daughter of Thomas A. Overend and Margaret Gorman.

There was no issue from this marriage.

Karl was a descendant of Richard Dodge who came to America in 1638, on the ship THE TALBOT. He was from East Coker, Somerset, England, the son of John Dodge of Middle Chinnock, Somerset, England. William, a younger brother of Richard was already here, arriving in 1629 on the ship THE LYONS WHELP.

WHO DO YOU DESCEND FROM? and WHERE CAN YOU FIND THEM?

By Judy Prentice Ragan raganje@aol.com

Sometimes it is hard to come up with a subject for my articles which are intended to help you find your ancestors. Today I was thinking about what will probably be our last long trip to the east coast. When you travel to your original home turf or where a group of your ancestors settled, there are many places where you can get some of the best information about your ancestors.

When we traveled to Hoopston, Illinois, we went to the local cemetery where I found, not only my great grandparents, but a whole family plot of ancestors. I was invited to go into the shed/barn where they kept all of the maintenance machines and a file cabinet where there was a card index of burials in the cemetery. The cards had the name of the purchaser of the plot, often it had relationships, and all kinds of dates. Since they were filed alphabetically, I was able to find other family members buried in other parts of the cemetery. I found a William Carter (my thickest brick wall) but by reading his index card I was able to determine that he was not MY William Carter. Darn! I remember one cemetery we went to in another town and the burials were listed on a huge piece of cardboard nailed to a wall and covered with a sheet. I lifted the sheet and ducked under to try to read the information with a flashlight! I think that might have been Fort Benton, Montana. Hmmm, where was that?

In Newark Valley, New York, the Historical Society office has a huge map on the wall that shows the family homesteads with the family names during the middle 1800s. How cool it was to drive by those locations to see my ancestral homes. In Francestown, New Hampshire, the Historical Society sent us to some homes that are now on the Registry of Historical



*The Issachar Dodge Place,
an Historical Home, Francistown, NH*

Landmarks and have plaques on the homes with the name of the builder, my ancestor. Get the camera ready!!

In Berkshire, New York, I was able to find my ancestor's home by comparing the details on a house and the neighboring houses in a snapshot I had inherited from my grandmother.

City Directories which can be found on the internet or in public libraries are extremely valuable. Again, we enjoyed driving by the houses in Fort Wayne, Indiana, where my husband's ancestors lived because the city directory gives the address of both residences and businesses and sometimes the wife's name. Often their adult children would live next door or nearby. These directories are usually published every year or two and I have been able to trace my ancestors as they moved from address to address as they were probably renting at that stage of their lives.

In Peterborough, New Hampshire, my first cousin, Pat, took us to the town clerk's office to find where our great grandmother, Mary Woods, was buried. When the book of cemetery records was opened Pat discovered that she was the one who, while working at that office, had recorded ALL of the burials in the cemetery by walking the grounds and recording the information. She had actually recorded her

great grandma's burial information and didn't even know it until I came to search for the grave.

Public libraries in small towns often have a section of genealogy books which pertain to families in that area. We found a book containing the history of Grandma Mary Wood's son which also contained information about his mother. Since she had been adopted, this information was new to me.

One day we stopped at a post office in Wyoming because we were trying to

find the town of RAGAN that we had found on an old State Farm Atlas we had. We were curious about how it had gotten its name. The postmistress told us the town no longer existed and there were no records as it was just a stopping place along the railroad while they were building it. Since we know my husband's great grandfather, William Ragan, worked on the railroad as he traveled from Fort Wayne, Indiana, to Big Sandy, Montana, we wonder if they named this town for him. Maybe other towns got their names that way too. We have never seen that name on any map since.

Tip for October/November 2014:
Check the sources in your home towns....you'll be surprised what you will find. If you can't go there, try searching on the internet. The information just might be right there beneath your fingertips.



Sign: Issachar Dodge Place 1820

**PRIVATE RICHARD DODGE "Hero of Two Wars" is recognized
Dedication for Private Richard Dodge July 30th, 2014
by Whitney Maxfield, Barre, Vermont**

A new memorial for Private Richard Dodge of Montpelier, Vermont was dedicated on Friday July 25, 2014 at 10:30 AM in Green Mount Cemetery in Montpelier. Dodge's original marble tombstone had been broken into several pieces. He died February 6, 1907. He was a veteran of the Mexican War, in which he was wounded 5 times, and the Civil War when he was wounded again. Even after recovering from that wound, he still wasn't done. He re-enlisted in the Veteran Reserve Corp shortly after the battle of Gettysburg, and again for active duty in Company K of the 17th Vermont Infantry at Petersburg, Virginia.

Richard Dodge was born on February 16, 1825 in Montpelier, Vermont, the 5th son and 11th child of Jared and Naomi Dodge. He was first apprenticed as a blacksmith, but his sense of adventure caused him to enlist on April 15, 1847 in Company D of the 9th U.S. Infantry for the Mexican War.

The 9th was known as the "9th New England Regiment" because the companies all came from New England, and it was commanded by Colonel Truman B. Ransom from Norwich University then in Norwich, Vermont. Colonel Ransom was killed in the taking of the castle of Chapultepec outside of Mexico City.

Private Dodge was involved in Winfield's Scott's campaign from Vera Cruz to Mexico City, including the battles of Contreras, Churubusco, and Chapultepec. He was gunshot twice, once in the left leg at Churubusco, sabered across the left wrist and head once, and bayoneted twice at Chapultepec in the left foot and left cheek and jaw.

He was described as an excellent shot by his captain. At Churubusco, while sighting in on a sniper, his lieutenant urged him to fire low (this was with a smoothbore musket). Without changing his sight or direction, he fired bringing down the sniper and scattering some other Mexican soldiers. Turning to the lieutenant he said, "Was that low enough?"

Before the charge at Chapultepec, he snuck out of the hospital and reported to his company with no musket or cartridge box. He was ordered to the rear by his

captain but refused the order saying, "He was sure some would be available soon. They were and he was bayoneted going over the castle wall, and returned to the hospital directly after the battle due to loss of blood and teeth."

Private Dodge was discharged with the regiment at Ft. Adams, Castle Island, Boston, on August 2, 1848. He returned to Montpelier to take up the house painting trade with an uncle, William Storrs. After the firing on Ft. Sumter and Lincoln's call for troops, Richard was one of the first to enlist on May 7, 1861 in Company D of the 2nd Vermont Infantry, as a private, for 3 years at the age of 36. He stated that he would have enlisted in Company F, the Montpelier company, but someone he had served with in Mexico, and whom he disliked

intensely already signed up in Company F, so he signed with the Waterbury and Barre Company. It should have been called Dodge company because at one time or other there were 4 Dodges in it.

He served through 9 major engagements including 1st Bull Run, VA.; Lee's Mill, VA.; Williamsburg, VA.; Goulding's Farm, VA.; Savage Station, VA.; White Oak Swamp, VA.; Crampton's Gap, MD.; Antietam, MD. (the bloodiest day in American history), and Fredericksburg, VA.

At 1st Bull Run, during the retreat from Chinn Ridge, he discovered his cousin Charles Storrs of Company F wounded on the field, picked him up, and carried him several miles before he could get him medical aid.

(Continued on page 6)



Honor guard and participants at the dedication of a new Barre granite tombstone for Private Richard Dodge, a Hero of two Wars, the Mexican War and the Civil war. The ceremony was held on Friday July 25th, 2014, in Green Mount Cemetery in Montpelier, Vermont, at the direction of Whitney Maxfield, a distant cousin and Vermont Department Commander of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War. From left to right are Maurice Cerutti, Camp Commander of the William Scott Camp #302, and also a distant cousin of Private Dodge, Whitney Maxfield. Daniel Whitcher, Senior Vice Camp Commander, also a 3rd Vermont Infantry re-enactor, First Sergeant Johnathan Croft of the 2nd Vermont Infantry reenactors, and Chaplain Errol Briggs of Camp #302.

"Shack", his nick name, referred to the Civil War many times as, "the grass war," because unlike the Mexican war, the infantry spent a lot of time in action lying face down in the grass to avoid bullets and shells passing overhead. In fact, his wound at Fredericksburg on December 13, 1862 in the right shoulder while in the picket line, was a direct result of disobeying an order from his captain to "lie down". He turned and stated, "We didn't fight this way in Mexico," and a Confederate lieutenant shot with his pistol. The lieutenant was immediately killed by another Vermonter laying in the picket line. As a result of this wound "Shack" was discharged as disabled on March 29, 1863.



"From the Halls of Montezuma" the beginning refrain of the Marine's hymn, is taken from the battle of Chapultepec.

You'd think that that would be enough for a 33 year old soldier returning to Montpelier to recuperate. However, on July 13, 1863, he re-enlisted as a Private in Company G, 13th regiment of the Veteran Reserve Corp, probably as a direct result of the battle of Gettysburg. This unit was likely doing guard duty, clerical, and support duty (cooking and cleaning) at the hospital in Brattleboro, Vermont. It was from there on February 5, 1864 that he was again discharged disabled at his request.

On August 2, 1864, he married Alvira D. Stoddard Wakefield at Jericho, Vermont. They had no children. Two days later on August 4, 1864, he convinced a recruiter and surgeon of the 17th Vermont Infantry that he was again able to serve on active duty. He joined Company K of that regiment at Petersburg, Virginia, which by that time, was involved in trench warfare. He was present for the battles of Poplar Spring Church, Poplar Spring, VA; Hatchers Run, VA; the breakthrough at Petersburg on April 2, 1865, and finally the running march after the Army of Northern Virginia as far west as Farmville, VA before Lee surrendered on April 2, 1865. He was mus-

tered out with the regiment on July 14, 1865. Coming back to Montpelier again, he went back to house painting, but he was a binge alcoholic, probably to cope with what we today would call PTSD. In July 1891 at the age of 66 he was granted a monthly pension of \$12. After his wife died in 1892, he supposedly swore off alcohol. On February 6, 1907, he passed away just 4 days short of his 82nd birthday.

His new Barre granite memorial stone was designed by the G. Tosi Co., cut and sand blasted by the Houle Granite Co. and erected by order of a distant cousin, Whitney Maxfield who is currently the Vermont Department Commander of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War.

The ceremony of dedication included firing a salute and the playing of Taps by members of the William Scott Camp #302 of Barre, Vermont, and reenacting members of Company A, 2nd Vermont Infantry of the Champlain Valley Historical Reenactors, and Company A 3rd Vermont Infantry of the Vermont Civil War Hemlocks. Present Camp Commander Maurice Cerutti is also a distant cousin of Private Dodge. 

While genealogy research can be very rewarding, it can also be a daunting task.

I have found the following free web sites useful in interpreting documents, checking dates, and figuring out nicknames.

Dictionary of Genealogy & Archaic Terms - This file contains many of the common "buzzwords", terminology and legal words found in genealogy work

<http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~randyj2222/gendict.html>

Genealogy Quest – Genealogical Terminology - Genealogy researchers encounter many terms which are rarely used except in legal documents, or genealogical reports, this list is intended to aid with interpreting those terms.

<http://genealogy-quest.com/glossary-terms/terminology/useful-terminology-beginning-letter/>

Military Acronyms, Initialisms, and Abbreviations

<http://www.fas.org/news/reference/lexicon/acronym.htm>

Old Occupation Names

<http://rmhh.co.uk/occup/a.html>

Birth Date Calculator - This is designed to calculate the birth date when the age at death and the date of death are the only known facts

Perpetual Calendar - A perpetual calendar is designed to allow the calculation of the day of the week for a given date in the past or the future

<http://www.searchforancestors.com/utility/perpetualcalendar.html>

Nicknames common in the 18th and 19th centuries

<http://www.ctstatelibrary.org/node/2329>



Dodge Genealogy Brick Walls

by Eileen Dodge:
 Edodge1946@comcast.net

Rufus and Sarah Dodge



The origins and lives of Rufus and Sarah Dodge probably make them one of the most mysterious, confusing, and intriguing couples in my family tree. They have definitely caused me the most grief in my digging.

Rufus Dodge was born on 16 Dec 1825 in what is believed to be Harpersfield, Ashtabula, Ohio (a few Dodge families were living there in the early 1800's). His parents are unknown and Harpersfield is based off a mysterious entry in a long passed relative's family tree. (Death record lists Parkersfield, Ohio as his birthplace, but no such town seems to have ever existed and daughter's death record further lists Pennsylvania. I believe Ohio is accurate based on multiple census records and a civil war draft registration claiming such. Parkersfield seems to be a misunderstanding or mishearing or mistranscribing of Harpersfield.)

Sarah C. Bryant was born on 2 Apr 1827 in New York. Her parents and specifics are also unknown. (Her daughter's death record references her maiden name yet lists her birthplace as North Ridgeville, Ohio. An uncited local obituary also lists her maiden name and provides a nickname "Sally" as well.)

Family record believes that Rufus Dodge and Sarah C. "Sally" Bryant were married on 11 Jun 1844 in Sharon, Mercer, Pennsylvania. (No state records exist to back this up as marriage records weren't kept in Mercer County until 1880's). Together they lived in Springfield, Mahoning, Ohio in 1860 where Rufus was working as a day laborer. They would have 3 daughters, Harriet Adaline, Frances Jane and Georgia Anna. Rufus and Sarah liked to use nicknames and nicknamed their daughters Hattie, Frankie, and Georgie. (Occasionally I see records listing Petersberg instead of Springfield, it appears Petersberg is another small town about 3 miles south of Springfield along the Pennsylvania border. I find it common that a slightly larger town that may have jurisdiction over the smaller village or township will get listed in some records instead of the actual location of residence.)

Teamster, Rufus, would drive supply wagons pulled by horses from town to town. He was the original trucker or semi-truck driver of the 1800's. It is believed he held this profession much longer than noted. Stage coach driving was dying by the mid 1860's as the railroad was taking the passenger market away from stage coaches. Thus, the logical transformation to teamster. I believe it to be this profession that led him to leave Springfield and move to (North) Ridgeville, Lorain, Ohio. The Dodge family was living here by the summer of 1865, when his eldest daughter, Harriet, married Joseph Wilford. In the summer of 1868, Harriet would pass away and her daughter, Adela Harriet Wilford, would come to live with her grandparents Rufus and Sarah.

In 1884, daughter Georgiana would also pass away of Erysipelas in what the local paper called a "painful sickness of 3 or 4 days" at the young age of 12. The paper went on to say "She was a favorite in school, and her schoolmates draped her desk and seat in mourning, and erected a beautiful arch of flowers over them."

Sarah Dodge died on 18 Jan 1897 in North Ridgeville, Lorain, Ohio and was buried on 20 Jan 1897 in what is believed to be Ridgeville Center Cemetery in North Ridgeville, Lorain, Ohio. (Ridgeville is unable to verify a burial plot, even with my certificate of purchase, as their map died with the original sexton and no headstone can be found. This most likely means Sarah was buried without a headstone in an unmarked grave on the cemetery grounds.)

After Sarah passed away, Rufus moved to Cleveland, Cuyahoga, Ohio, also mentioned in Sarah's obituary. Here he joined his daughter Frances & her husband George Christian, and his 7 grandchildren at their house on 11 Gregg Street. Sometime between 1900 and 1907 the Christian family, relocated to Medina, Ohio and bought a home at 240 North Huntington Street. Here Rufus lived out the final years of his life surrounded by his daughter and grandchildren.

Rufus died of pneumonia on 23 Feb 1907 in what his death record listed as Granger, Medina, Ohio. The local paper, The Medina Gazette, listed Rufus as being buried in Weymouth, Medina, Ohio, at Weymouth Cemetery. (I have traveled to Weymouth Cemetery multiple times and, in the same fashion as his wife, I have been unable to locate a grave site for Rufus Dodge. I contacted the township hall and they were unable to help as someone walked out with the cemetery grave map in the 1960's and never returned it. In the same vein as his wife, it is most likely he is also buried in an unmarked grave on cemetery property.)

Children of Rufus & Sarah Dodge

1. Harriet Adeline "Hattie" Dodge, 29 Mar 1847 – 31 Jul 1868
2. Francis Jane "Frankie" Dodge, 29 Jun 1862 – 9 Jul 1943
3. Georgia Anna "Georgie" Dodge, 21 Jun 1872 – 25 Oct 1884

UPDATE: Continuing research has discovered a family date book with many name and dates of previously unknown family. Included in this list are previously unknown members of Sarah Bryant's family: Frances Amelia "Fanny" Judkins (Bryant) and Helen L. Burns (Bryant). Fanny is believed to be a sister of Sarah's. Helen is the daughter of are Benjamin Franklin "Frank" Bryant and Elizabeth Gilbreath. Frank was born in NY 5 years before Sarah and is believed to be her & Fanny's brother. Like Rufus, Frank was also a stage coach driver.



The following mystery has been in our Mystery File for a long time. If you can help solve this mystery, please contact me edodge1946@comcast.net.

First Generation

1. Hiram Ray Dodge. Born on 17 Aug 1814 in New York. Hiram Ray died in North Adams, Hillsdale County, Michigan, on 22 Mar 1896; he was 81. Buried in Northlawn Cemetery, North Adams, Hillsdale County, Michigan. Find A Grave Memorial # 103043392

Abt 1840 when Hiram Ray was 25, he married **Dorcas Tallman**, daughter of Ebenezer Akin Tallman & Hannah Barker. Born on 9 Feb 1816 in Schuyler, Herkimer County, New York. Dorcas died in North Adams, Hillsdale County, Michigan, on 6 Aug 1891; she was 75. Find A Grave Memorial # 103043763

They had the following children:

i. Aurilia Cynthia 'Lillie'. Born in 1841 in Adams, Hillsdale County, Michigan.

Aurilia Cynthia 'Lillie' first married **Unknown Cooley**.

On 8 Aug 1908 when Aurilia Cynthia 'Lillie' was 67, she second married **Leander Saxton**, son of Daniel Saxton & Eliza Stutson, in Hillsdale County, Michigan.

ii. Ezilda Matilda. Born in 1843 in Adams, Hillsdale County, Michigan. Ezilda Matilda died in Reading, Hillsdale County, Michigan, on 4 Oct 1915; she was 72.

iii. Marinda. Born in 1847 in Adams, Hillsdale County, Michigan.

Marinda married **Unknown Schuyler**.

iv. Betsey Almira. Born on 17 Apr 1850 in Adams, Hillsdale County, Michigan. Betsey Almira died in Hillsdale, Hillsdale County, Michigan, on 23 May 1933; she was 83.

2 v. John T. (1851-1925)

Second Generation

2. John T. Dodge. Born on 17 Nov 1851 in Adams, Hillsdale County, Michigan. John T. died in Hillsdale, Hillsdale County, Michigan, on 31 Dec 1925; he was 74. Buried in Oak Grove Cemetery, Hillsdale, Hillsdale County, Michigan. Find A Grave Memorial # 115305332

Abt 1878 when John T. was 26, he married **Anna F. Abers**. Born in May 1857 in Iowa. Anna F. died in Hillsdale, Hillsdale County, Michigan, in 1925; she was 67. Find A Grave Memorial # 115305333

They had the following children:

i. Nellie L. Born on 11 Aug 1879 in Adams, Hillsdale County, Michigan.

On 24 Nov 1897 when Nellie L. was 18, she married **Elonzo Brandon**, son of Thomas Brandon & Matilda Parker, in Jonesville, Hillsdale County, Michigan. Born in 1875 in Montpelier, Williams County, Ohio.

3 ii. Earl Frederick (1896-1966)

Third Generation

3. Earl Frederick Dodge. Born on 27 Jun 1896 in Adams, Hillsdale County, Michigan. Earl Frederick died in Hillsdale, Hillsdale County, Michigan, in Oct 1966; he was 70. Buried in Oak Grove Cemetery, Hillsdale, Hillsdale County, Michigan. Find A Grave Memorial # 115305334

On 15 Feb 1915 when Earl Frederick was 18, he married **Gladys Marie Beattie**, daughter of Charles C. Beattie & Ada Myers, in Hillsdale, Hillsdale County, Michigan. Born in 1896 in Ohio. Gladys Marie died in Hillsdale, Hillsdale County, Michigan, in 1973; she was 77. Find A Grave Memorial # 115305331

They had the following children:

i. Robert E. Born on 1 Apr 1921 in Adams, Hillsdale County, Michigan. Robert E. died in Hillsdale, Hillsdale County, Michigan, on 11 Oct 1982; he was 61. Buried in Oak Grove Cemetery, Hillsdale, Hillsdale County, Michigan. Find A Grave Memorial # 115305291

ii. Dorothy. Born in 1924 in Adams, Hillsdale County, Michigan. Dorothy died in Hillsdale, Hillsdale County, Michigan, in 1970; she was 46. Buried in Oak Grove Cemetery, Hillsdale, Hillsdale County, Michigan. Find A Grave Memorial # 115305290