



# DODGE FAMILY JOURNAL

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## Honoring Our Great-Great-Grandmother with a DAR Grave Marker

by Andrea Dodge

### REUNION NEWS

The 60th John Dodge Reunion in Cambria Wisconsin will be held- Sunday, June 28th, 2015.

Those in charge of arranging for this reunion are getting some of the "younger generation" involved in this process.

It is important to instill in the younger generation, interest in their heritage and attending a reunion is one way that this can be done. Contact Ellie Layton for more info: elayton\_89820@yahoo.com

The reunion that was planned for Simi Valley, Ca, has been called off and Judy Ragan is trying to figure out when she can have that. Another reunion may not be held in Simi Valley until next year.

Judy and Bill will be traveling on the east coast during that time and you can see their tour plans in her column "Who Do You Descend From" that starts on page 4.



After becoming a DAR Member last year, to my surprise and delight I discovered a previous Member on my Dodge family tree, Melissa Phelps Dodge through Ancestor Lt. Thomas Phelps of Simsbury, CT. She is my 2nd great-grandmother, and she became a member on 10 October 1901 at the age of 92! She had long lived in Manhattan but joined the chapter in her Phelps family ancestral town of Simsbury, Conn, the Abigail Phelps Chapter #1002.



Melissa Phelps Dodge

plans grew when both the Woodlawn Historian and the Simsbury chapter brought it to our attention that one might attach a DAR emblem to a Member's grave. So this is indeed what we did....our little trip turned into an event. We got 'permission' from the chapter, ordered the bronze emblem through the DAR channels, arranged with the cemetery for installation, involved the Woodlawn Historian, herself DAR, made the trip, and accomplished this special DAR activity at Melissa's grave. The DAR means this to be small ceremony, and so it was, with a reading of the DAR "Grave Marker" dedications. So, on Tuesday, October 23, 2012, about 110 years late, I and my sister, her namesake, proudly honored our great-great grandmother for her DAR membership with a permanent bronze DAR medallion on her marble crypt.

\*\*\*\*\*

Melissa Phelps married William Earl Dodge in New York City, New York 1828 24 June, at the age of 19, at the home of her parents Anson Greene & Olivia Eggleston Phelps, 32 Cliff Street. They were close friends of his parents, David Low and Sarah Cleveland Dodge. This marriage connected the two families who went into business together, became the international behemoth, the Phelps-Dodge Corporation [copper and metals].

William Earl Dodge was a great Philanthropst in New York and helped to start the Young Men's Christian Association. YMCA. His statue stands outside the New York Public Library.

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Next came the fun part. I happen to have a sister named after her, Melissa Phelps Dodge [Vaughan], and so this news was priceless! She lives in the Simsbury, CT area and, long story short, we met with the Simsbury Registrar to submit the paperwork for completing Melissa's application, piggy-backed on to the earlier Melissa's!

After a long search, we found Melissa's grave at Woodlawn Cemetery [in the Bronx] and decided to visit this Fall. Our



*In Memory*



**R**ebecca "Becky" (Paulding) Dodge passed away Sep 27, 2014. She was the wife of John Everett Dodge of Greenlawn, New York. Rebecca and John were DFA members for years, and joined us on one of our tours to England. They also attended several of the New England Dodge Reunions and the photo above was taken at the 2006 NE Reunion.



**D**onald Prescott Dodge, a long time DFA member, passed away Nov. 17, 2014. He was born February 25, 1923 in Long Beach, CA and graduated from Long Beach High School. On August 14, 1956 he married Ula Grace Brown. They had three daughters. Don and Ula attended many of the San Diego Dodge Reunions before they moved to Michigan.

Initially, Don worked at McDonald Aircraft replicating model airplanes. He also served as property manager at Wynola Bible Camp in Julian, CA, the San Diego Rescue Mission and Scott Memorial Baptist Church, San

Diego. He started a boys Sunday School class at Trabucco Community Church and for several summers volunteered at the Kentucky Boy's Home. Over the years, he built several homes and small models of Noah's Ark. He and Ula opened their home to foster children, theological graduate students, pastors, missionaries and foreign exchange students. They made several trips overseas to visit missionaries that they had supported.



**Donald Prescott Dodge**

February 25, 1923 – November 14, 2014

For a day in your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere.  
I was glad to be a doorkeeper in the house of my God."  
Psalms 84:10



Above: Dodge, William Earl Birth 4 Sep 1805 in Hartford, Connecticut, death 9 Feb 1883 in New York, New York [2nd-great-grandfather of Andrea]

On the right is the Statue of William Earl Dodge in Bryant Park at the NYC Public Library square.



In Bryant Park

**NEW MEMBERS**

- Bonnie Dodge, Cedar Rapids, IA
- Clayton Larson, Arden Hills, MN
- Tina Grimes, Defiance, OH
- Tony Dodge, San Mateo, CA
- Martin Mcalwee, West Melbourne, FL
- Judi Dodge, Austin, TX
- Sheryl Dodge, Ewa Beach HI
- Leslie Dodge, Bozeman, MT
- Karen Sue Robinson, Lime OH

*We would love to know what you do or what your hobby is. Let us know and we will put it in our next Journal.*

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**Assistant Editor:** Judy Ragan  
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**Co-Administrators of DNA project:** Barbara Dodge Eileen Dodge

# The View From My Window



I will start with something that is rather important. We are going to go to 4 journals a year instead of the 6 that we have been producing for years now. Part of the reason is the cost of postage and printing to those who still get it via the U.S. Postal Service. The other reason is that it takes a huge amount of time and energy, and just having had a birthday, and as my 7 yr. old great grandsons wrote in a card he made me "Happy Birthday Grandma Dodge, 80 something", I really want to have a little more time to do other things.

I will still be fostering for Safe Harbor Lab Rescue, but right now am taking a break from that. My dog, Polly, has been what I would call 'sick'. She is finally back to normal, but about 4 months ago, it was obvious something was very wrong, as she started to chew

the frames from around doors, any cartons she found around the house, bookshelves, and even tried chewing her way through the front door which is a thick wood door. As you can see from the photos, she did quite a lot of damage.

She would keep me up at night whimpering, pacing, going out of my bedroom to find something else to destroy. She would get up on any couch I was sitting on and try to get in my lap. One night, my daughter, Barb Jr. came over to spend the night and take care of Polly so that I could get some sleep. She was up all night. Polly would not leave her alone. She finally took Polly out in her car abt. 4 AM and drove and drove and Polly was quiet all during that time, but as soon as Barb brought her back, she started in with the same frantic behavior.

She quit eating and weight started to drop. Her eyes were wild, and I finally realized she had to be in great pain. I took her to my vet, and told him that I was quite sure it was her ears. She had been prone to have hematomas on the inside and outside of her ears, but this

time, I was sure it was a very deep ear infection. The Dr. checked her over and could find nothing else wrong, so he agreed with me that it might be her ears. He has a great ointment that has been developed that is a combination of 3 things and it goes deep in the ear with a syringe.\* She had been shaking her head quite a lot, and almost as soon as he put this in her ears, she stopped that, stopped her whimpering, stopped her pacing, and chewing. That lasted for abt. 5-6 days, and then she started in again, but no where near as severe. However, 2 weeks later her behavior was escalating somewhat, so I took her in again, and she had another dose of that ointment in her ears. By this time, she had some learned behavior so she was put on TraZODone, PROZAC, and a Sedative. She was to have the TraZODone and Prozac twice a day and the sedative if needed.

Well...it seemed she needed it all but while it helped some, there still was some of the pacing and whimpering. I watched her carefully to see what might cause this and realized that whenever she had the Prozac, she started that behavior to some degree, so over a few days, I took away all Prozac. Then I noticed, that if I gave her a sedative at night, it seemed to do the opposite from what it was supposed to do. I found myself stroking her for up to 45 minutes before she would finally drop to the floor asleep.

I took away the sedative, and lo and behold, from that time on, she was a different dog & back to her old self.

In the meantime, though, I was determined to not let her starve to death. (I had a collie who did starve to death because she could not keep anything down and the vet I was using for her could not find anything wrong. I do not use that vet anymore!) Because Polly refused to eat, she was dropping up to 3 lbs in a week, I started to hand feed her, which meant taking the food in my hand, opening her mouth, dropping in the food, and then holding her mouth shut so she would have to swallow. It took quite a bit of time and it was like feeding a baby...when you end up with food all over you, the floor and the baby...but at least she was getting some nourishment. She went from abt. 76 lbs. down to 61 lbs. and at that point I

started to force feed her 4 times a day.

Every time I fed her, I had to start with hand feeding, and then suddenly after a couple of weeks, she actually licked her lips when she saw me getting her food ready, so I put her dish down and she sniffed and then stared at me. I turned my back and she started to eat.

As for getting her food ready, I bought Blue Buffalo canned dog food and mixed it into her dry food and put on some warm water. I did this for over a month, and then I found a new dog food product made by NATURE'S RECIPE...(and I really like their dog food. I used to feed my Frostie Collie their Salmon & Sweet Potato grain free)...called PURE ESSENTIALS. It is a limited ingredient dog food of salmon, brown rice, carrot, cranberry, pea, apple and flaxseed. Right now, and I believe until sometime in March it is on sale, \$41 for 24 pounds. It will go up, I am sure, to over \$50 just like all the other premium dog foods. Roscoe gets Blue Buffalo and that is abt. \$54 for 30 lbs., so I plan to get several bags before the price soars.

Polly has now gained most of her lost weight back, and finally has energy so that she can actually enjoy walking and I have even seen her playing with Roscoe a few times.

Obviously, that illness took a lot of my attention and energy, but it was worth it, because now instead of having to put Polly down (as I thought might be necessary) I still have her as a loving companion to both myself and Roscoe dog.



**\*BCP BNT® is a unique formulation given to BCP Veterinarian Pharmacy by the late Texas Veterinarian, Dr. Larry Ehlund, DVM. BCP BNT® is used to treat Pseudomonas Resistant ear infections. BCP BNT® is a combination of Enrofloxacin, Ketoconazole, and Triamcinolone, with each component serving a different function.**

**User Name: dodgefamily  
Password: promotingfellowship**

# Who Do You Descend From?

Judy Ragan raganje@aol.com

## ON THE ROAD AGAIN

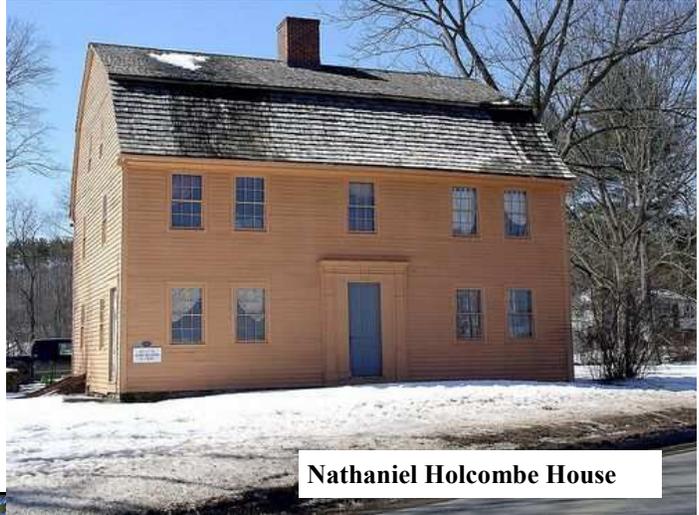


World's Largest Rocking Chair

My husband Bill and I will be traveling from California for one last trip to the East Coast starting in April and returning home in July. For the next few issues I would like to take you along with us as I search for places where our ancestors lived and died. I will be sharing research tips that help me find our elusive ancestors and the exciting stories of their lives. Perhaps my research efforts will help you with your searches. I will be visiting only the north east as that is where my ancestors spent their lives. But for those who live in the south, Midwest, north, or other areas, try to use the same tips I will be using in the areas where your ancestors roamed. So here we go.....a little taste of some of the places we will visit.

**Cuba, MO** – See the **World's Largest Rocking Chair** on Old Route 66. Bill's brother & his wife will be traveling along with us in their car as far as New York as they want to drive the old Route 66 and

then we'll both go our separate ways, they to visit car museums and family in Iowa and us to search for ancestors in the east.



Nathaniel Holcombe House

**Granby, CT** – Visit the **Nathaniel Holcombe House** (1648-1740).

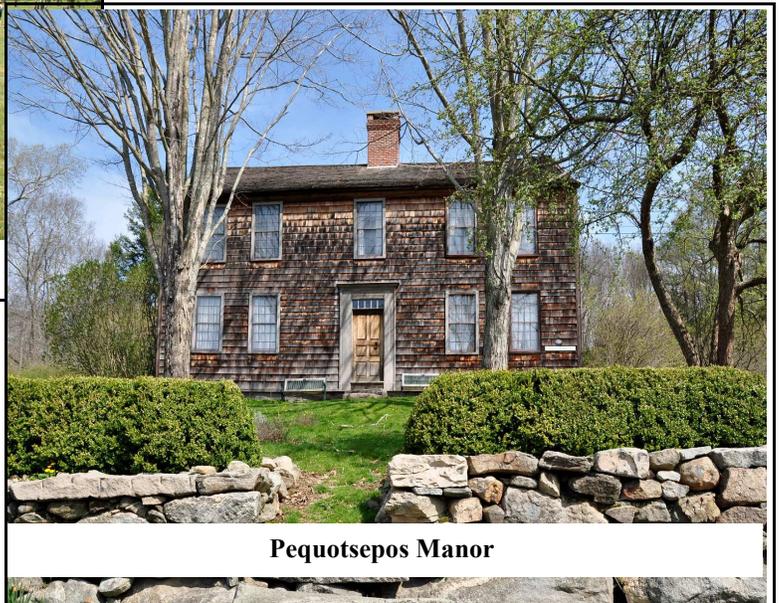


Hop Meadow: Forefather's Burying Ground

**Hartford, CT** – **George Denison, Sr. graveyard** – **Old Center Church in Hartford**, wife Ann in Elm Grove Cemetery in Mystic, and tour his home, **Pequotsepos Manor**, also in Mystic.

**Windsor, Simsbury (now Canton), CT** – Since this area was largely founded and settled by my ancestors, I need to walk

the ground they walked. We'll visit the Congregational Church in Windsor, and the Old cemetery to find the grave of John Owen (1622-1698). Thomas Barber built the first church in 1683 and the first gristmill, now a restaurant which was restored in 1985, called the Hop Brook Restaurant (got to have dinner there!). See the cemetery where Samuel Barber's



Pequotsepos Manor

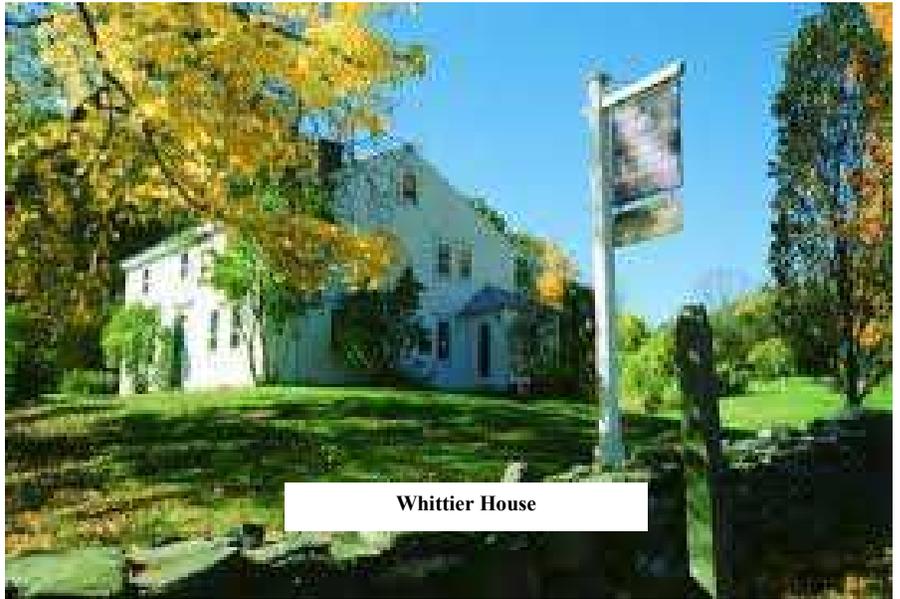
wife, Tryphena, has the oldest grave monument there. I believe East Granby is nearby where Elijah Owen (1706-1741) and his wife Hannah Higley (1717-1806) Owen Mills settled in Turkey Hills, now East Granby. It is said their farm is still pointed out to tourists. We'll visit the Simsbury Newgate historic copper mine, Higley Town, and grave of Capt. Higley in Hop Meadow Burying Ground.

Beverly, MA – Gravestones in old graveyard of Nicholas (1618-1686) and Anna Palgrave (1626-1701) Woodbury. Lots of Dodge family history here too as you all know.

**Chelmsford, MA – Samuel Adams** built the first mill here. With over 200 descendants of Henry Adams, "Father of the Presidents", who were born and died here, this will be a very rich area for Bill and I as we both descend from Henry Adams. We'll visit the Forefather's Burying Ground.

**Haverhill, MA – Visit Whittier Homestead**, home of Thomas Whittier (1620-1696), on the bank of East Meadow Brook in the East Parrish of Haverhill.

**Hingham, MA – Visit the Old Pentucket Burial Ground** in Haverhill, MA where John (1614-1687) and Mary Marsh (1622-1697) Page are buried, see 'Page Bridge' and 'Page Meadow' and check out the History of Hingham and Haverhill for more about John Page.



Whittier House



Pentucket Burial Ground

**Topsfield, MA –** Visit the historical homestead site of William (1598-1673) & Joanna Blessing Towne (1598-1682) and walk on the **Towne/Treadwell Walking Path**.

**Tyngsboro, MA -** Try to find the ancestry of my gr gr grandmother, Mary Ann McMellen/Warren/Wyman (1823-1894) who was adopted. Her family is descended from a son of the Tyng's who founded Tyngsboro. Her history fascinates me and I hope I can find more about her.

If you have any tips to share to help my research efforts, please email me at raganje@aol.com. (Some of the dates contained in this

article are approximate). We will also be visiting Virginia to meet a new cousin on my mother's side, to North East, PA, for a family reunion with my Prentice cousins, Fort Wayne, Indiana, to do research in the library there, Maryland to visit family, and Kentucky to try to break my solid brick wall, my great grandfather, William Carter's ancestry (my mother's side).

**Tip for February 2015 – The best genealogical finds are at the site of your ancestor's home. Visit them and feel the warm fuzzies or goose bumps you get when you walk the land where they walked.**



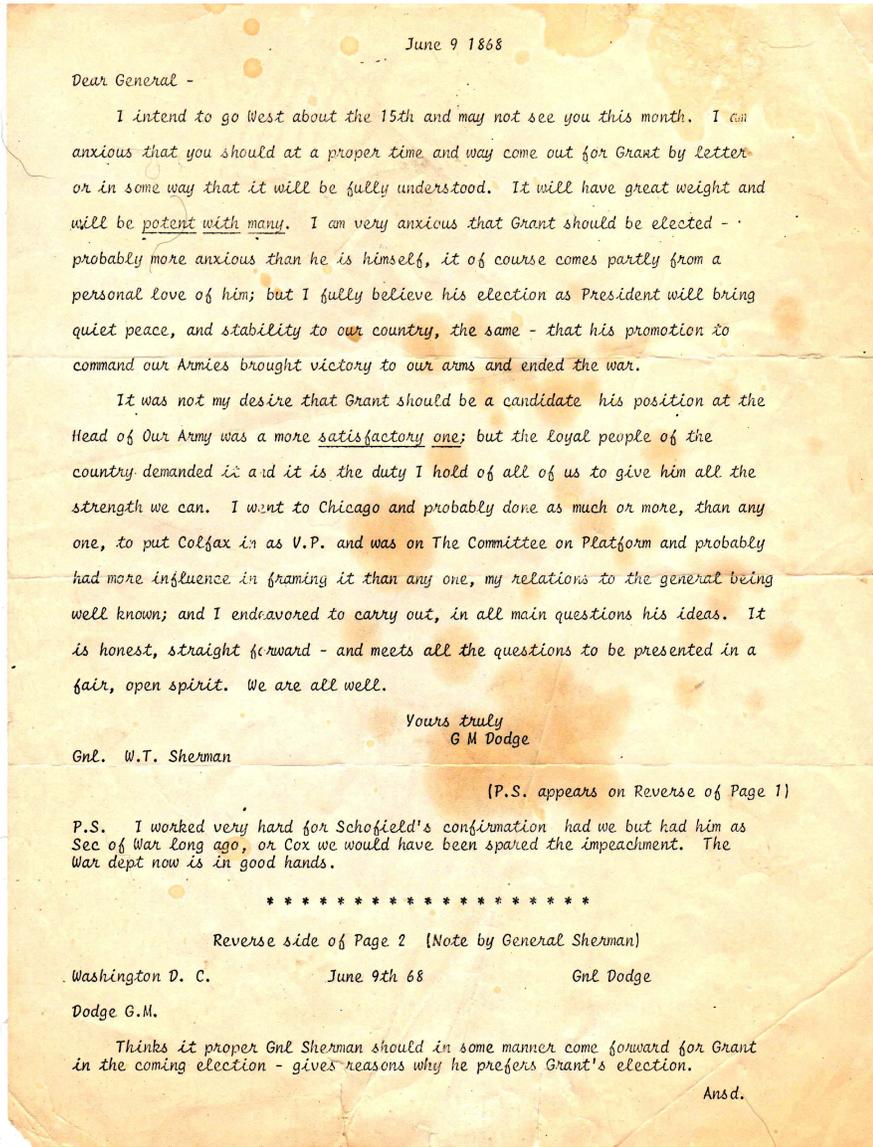


Recently, while going through papers that belonged to my husband, Earl F. Dodge, who died in 2007, I found the following copy of a letter. I do not know from whence he got this letter, but it had to have been mailed to him from some member of DFA many years ago. The letter is a retype of what is supposedly the original. I have retyped it from the paper I found, and neither inserted, not took out any punctuation. The General Dodge House in Council Bluffs receive a copy of each of our Journals and we may hear from them as to the veracity of this letter. If we do hear from them, we will include it in our next journal.

LETTER from GEN. GRENVILLE M. DODGE to Gen. W. T. Sherman DATED June 8, 1868

Dear General -

I intend to go West about the 15th and may not see you this month. I am anxious that you should at a proper time and way come out for Grant by letter or in some way that it will be fully understood. It will have great weight and will be potent with many. I am very anxious that Grant should be elected—probably more anxious than he is himself, it of course comes partly from a personal love of him; but I fully believe his elections as President will bring quiet peace, and stability to our country, the same—that his promotion to command our Armies brought victory to our arms and ended the war.



June 9 1868

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It was not my desire that Grant should be a candidate his position at the Head of Our Army was a more satisfactory one; but the loyal people of the country demanded it and it is the duty I hold of all of us to give him all the strength we can. I went to Chicago and probably done as much or more, than any one, to put Colfax in as V.P. and was on The Committee on Platform and probably had more influence in framing it than any one, my relations to the general being well known; and I endeavored to carry out, in all main questions his ideas. It is honest, straight forward - and meets all the questions to be presented in a fair, open spirit. We are all well.

Yours truly G M Dodge

Gnl. W.T. Sherman

(P.S. appears on Reverse of Page 1)

P.S. I worked very hard for Schofield's confirmation had we but had him as Sec of War long ago, or Cox we would have been spared the impeachment. The War dept now is in good hands.

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Reverse side of Page 2 (Note by General Sherman)

Washington D. C. June 9th 68 Gnl Dodge

Dodge G.M.

Thinks it proper Gnl Sherman should in some manner come forward for Grant in the coming election - gives reasons why he prefers Grant's election.

Ans'd.

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**Dodge Genealogy Brick Walls**  
by Eileen Dodge:  
Edodge1946@comcast.net



If you have any information that could help us solve Dodge Mysteries listed below please contact Norman Dodge ne-dodge@aol.com or Eileen Dodge edodge1946@aol.com

**Dodge Mystery #1 – Norwich County, Connecticut**

Ezra Backus Jr. was born on 3 Jan 1759 in Norwich, New London County, Connecticut. Ezra died on 15 Aug 1836. His parents are unknown.

On 8 Apr 1780 Ezra married Rhoda Dodge in Norwich, New London County, Connecticut. Her parents are unknown.

Rhoda was born in 1755. Rhoda died in Norwich, New London County, Connecticut, on 7 Nov 1793.

They had the following children:

- John. Born on 11 Aug 1781 in Norwich, New London County, Connecticut. John died on 17 Mar 1842.
- Clarissa. Born on 21 Mar 1784 in Norwich, New London County, Connecticut.
- William. Born on 5 Nov 1787 in Norwich, New London County, Connecticut. William died in Mar 1810.
- Nancy. Born on 17 Oct 1789 in Norwich, New London County, Connecticut. Nancy died on 8 May 1803.



**Dodge Mystery #2 – Hancock County, Maine**

**First Generation**

David Dodge was born circa 1770 and 1780. His parents re unknown

In Aug 1794 David married Mehitable 'Hitty' Pressy in Deer Isle, Hancock County, Maine.

Mehitable was born circa 1770 and 1780. Her parents are unknown.

They had the following children:

- i Molly, born on 22 Dec 1794 in Orland, Hancock County, Maine.
- ii. Mehitable, born on 29 Jan 1797 in Orland, Hancock County, Maine.
- iii. Sophia, born on 29 Jun 1799 in Orland, Hancock County, Maine.
- v. John, born on 25 Dec 1801 in Orland, Hancock County, Maine.

**Second Generation**

John Dodge. Born on 25 Dec 1801 in Orland, Hancock County, Maine. John died in Bucksport, Hancock County, Maine, on 30 Mar 1885. Buried in Oak Hill Cemetery, Bucksport, Hancock County, Maine.

On 11 Sep 1831 John married Nancy Blaisdell in Bucksport, Hancock County, Maine.

Nancy, daughter of Robert Blaisdell & Jane Saunders, was born Sep 1813 in Bucksport, Hancock County, Maine. Nancy died in Bucksport, Hancock County, Maine, on 29 Apr 1887. Buried in Oak Hill Cemetery, Bucksport, Hancock County, Maine.

They had the following children:

- i. John Dudley. Born on 9 Oct 1832 in Bucksport, Hancock County, Maine. John Dudley died in Bucksport, Hancock County, Maine, on 1 Jan 1833. Buried in Oak Hill Cemetery, Bucksport, Hancock County, Maine.
- ii. James Henry B. Born on 30 Nov 1833 in Bucksport, Hancock County, Maine. James Henry B. died in Bucksport, Hancock County, Maine, on 11 Feb 1847. Buried in Oak Hill Cemetery, Bucksport, Hancock County, Maine.
- iii. Lucretia Wood. Born on 23 Jun 1836 in Bucksport, Hancock County, Maine. Lucretia Wood died in Bucksport, Hancock County, Maine, on 18 Jul 1916. Buried in Oak Hill Cemetery, Bucksport, Hancock County, Maine.

Lucretia Wood married Jonathan Randall Higgins, son of Herman Higgins & Mary Gross. Born in Oct 1828 in Orland, Hancock County, Maine. Jonathan Randall died in Bucksport, Hancock County, Maine, in Aug 1887. Buried in Oak Hill Cemetery, Bucksport, Hancock County, Maine.

- iv. Nancy Sophia B. Born on 25 Nov 1838 in Bucksport, Hancock County, Maine. Nancy Sophia B. died in Beverly, Essex County, Massachusetts, on 15 Apr 1925.

On 8 Apr 1865 Nancy Sophia B. married George Washington Gray, son of Aaron Gray & Mary Ann Pomeroy, in South Danvers, Essex County, Massachusetts. Born in 1834 in Saint. Stephens, New Brunswick, Canada. George Washington died in Beverly, Essex County, Massachusetts, in Apr 1891.

(Continued on page 8)

*(Continued from page 7)*

- v. John Howard. Born on 23 Jan 1839 in Bucksport, Hancock County, Maine. John Howard died in Bucksport, Hancock County, Maine, on 21 Nov 1855. Buried in Oak Hill Cemetery, Bucksport, Hancock County, Maine.
- vi. Malinda Jane. Born on 22 Nov 1842 in Bucksport, Hancock County, Maine. Malinda Jane died in Boston, Suffolk County, Massachusetts, on 29 Oct 1918.; Buried in Central Cemetery, Beverly, Essex County, Massachusetts. On 31 Mar 1862 Malinda Jane married William Calvin Tingley, son of William Tingley & Elizabeth Margaret Dobson, in Peabody, Essex County, Massachusetts. Born on 22 May 1839 in New Brunswick, Canada. William Calvin died in Beverly, Essex County, Massachusetts, on 6 Aug 1895. Buried in Central Cemetery, Beverly, Essex County, Massachusetts.
- vii. William F. Born in Feb 1845 in Bucksport, Hancock County, Maine. William F. died in Bucksport, Hancock County, Maine, on 12 Jan 1846. Buried in Oak Hill Cemetery, Bucksport, Hancock County, Maine.
- viii. James H. Born on 16 Sep 1850 in Bucksport, Hancock County, Maine. James H. died on 29 Jan 1919. Buried in Oak Hill Cemetery, Bucksport, Hancock County, Maine.



**Dodge Mystery #3 – Ohio and Indiana**

**First Generation**

Hamilton Dodge was born on 23 Jun 1823 in Ohio. Hamilton died in Mercer County, Ohio, on 8 Sep 1905. Buried in Kessler Cemetery, Chattanooga, Ohio. His parents are unknown.

On 20 Aug 1854 Hamilton married Mary Jane Sparks in Fairfield County, Ohio.

Mary Jane was born on 14 Apr 1828 in Ohio. Mary Jane died in Mercer County, Ohio, in Sep 1895. Buried in Kessler Cemetery, Chattanooga, Ohio. Her parents are unknown.

**They had the following children:**

- i. Sarah Rose Ann (1855-1947)
- ii. Sylvester E. Born on 11 May 1858 in Jefferson Twp., Adams County, Indiana. Sylvester E. died in Mercer County, Ohio, on 2 May 1881. Buried in Kessler Cemetery, Chattanooga, Ohio
- iii. Mary A. (~1862-1931)
- iv. Eli H. (1863-1933)

**Second Generation**

Sarah Rose Ann Dodge was born on 12 Feb 1855 in Jefferson Twp., Adams County, Indiana. Sarah Rose Ann died in Ft. Wayne, Allen County, Indiana, on 4 Apr 1947.

1. Sarah Rose Ann married George Ferdinand Huffman

George was born on 29 Jan 1853 in Mercer County, Ohio. George Ferdinand died in Mercer County, Ohio, on 18 Jan 1937. He was the son of Ferdinand Huffman & Elizabeth Hoffman.

3. Mary A. Dodge was born in 1862 in Jefferson Twp., Adams County, Indiana. Mary A. died in Jefferson Twp., Adams County, Indiana, on 26 Dec 1931.

On 21 May 1883 when Mary A. married Charles Woodward.

Charles was born in 1862 in Columbiana County, Ohio. He was the son of William Woodward & Lucinda Rash.

4. Eli H. Dodge was born on 29 Mar 1863 in Jefferson Twp., Adams County, Indiana. Eli H. died in Black Creek, Mercer County, Ohio, on 19 Dec 1933. Buried in Kessler Cemetery, Chattanooga, OH.

Eli H. married Clarinda J. Hunter.