



DODGE FAMILY JOURNAL

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The Checkered Years – Part 6 August 1884

On page 5, we start 4 pages of a mystery Dodge family. The information was sent to us by Thomas Wilburn and there are 5 pages from a Bible and one census record.

The photo on page 5, encased in plastic, is of the DODGE names that were in the Bible. Some are difficult to read. I have used GIMP to make all the photos brighter and with more contrast in the hopes that it will be easier to make out the names and dates.

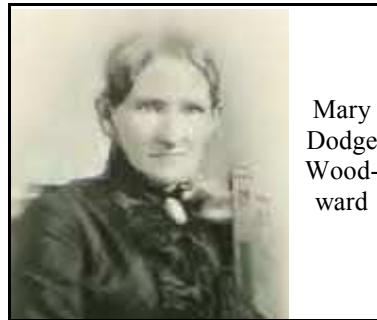
I have attempted to decipher what I can and you can see that below.

What is readable starts with “the 15th ——— 1757(?) was born Stephen Dodge ... (Novemb(?)) er the 30th day 1761 was born Elizabeth Dodge the 20th day 1764 was born ?John? & Samuel Dodge twinsthe 15th day 1766 was born Lydia Dodgethe 13 day 1768 was born Lydia Dodge.... August the 20th day 1771 was born Rebechah Dodge.....April ...day 1774 was born David Dodge and Jonathan.....Purlina White was born March the 20.....Wednesday Six o’Clock in the morning in the year 1805.

For the rest of the story see pages 5 thru 8.

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Mary Dodge Woodward

August 12—Walter went to Fargo for twine—went with a double wagon. He hired a man and his wife who were traveling and land-hunting. They came from Minneapolis in a covered democrat wagon* with one horse. He is French and she Yankee, named Pascal. I guess they would as soon stop one place as another.

When we first came here I saw an emigrant wagon going east bearing on one side the following inscription:

*“I’ve left my land of happy braves, Who are camped round Kampeska Lake**, to visit Wisconsin’s mortgaged slaves, and bring them west for Friendship’s sake.”*

On the opposite side were the words: *“Dakota – the poor man’s friend; the world’s granary”*

A Fargo veterinarian came out to see Geff-horse. He has been growing thin for some time. Walter examined his mouth and found that his teeth had become sharp and had cut his mouth and tongue until he was quite likely to starve to death. The doctor filed and fixed his teeth, and Walter poured oatmeal guel down him. I have been riding him after the binders of which there are eight running.

August 22 – Ah me, my wedding day! Thirty-Seven years ago I was married. We have fifteen in the family but the woman is a good one to work which is quite a help to me. The Pascals can stay only two or three weeks, as they want to get settled before cold weather. We had a hard shower last night which made the yard so wet that it just swam the rain will lessen the crop yield two or three bushels to the acre, for the water logged and shelled the ripest wheat.

The sloughs are pink and white and purple with daisies; and there are yellow marigolds, great quantities of them, just in front of our door. Some of our men went down to the Sheyenne and brought back nearly a bushel of plums, very nice ones too, large and red and sweet. They are sold in Fargo for one dollar a bushel, while wheat is sixty cents. There is a perfect tangle of brush, vines, and trees to the water’s edge where the fires have not destroyed them. Everything that can stand the cold grows luxuriantly in Dakota. Walter sowed turnips on the breaking which were the nicest ones I ever saw, just as smooth,

(Continued on page 2)

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(Continued from page 1)

and weighed four or five pounds on the average. Potatoes, beets, cabbages, carrots- all vegetables grow large and smooth.

August 27- Geff-horse wandered off into the slough and died. They had been feeding him on a bottle and he had gotten so thin and weak that he could hardly stand. Our boys finished harvesting all the wheat and oats. McKay, who is to thresh, with his crew of twenty men, his tents, and his cook-house are already on the grounds. The outfit looks very picturesque among the shocks of wheat. Many farmers are stacking and the fields are covered with shocks and stacks. The country teems with threshing machines. I could see eight this morning, each with a crew of from twenty to thirty men which makes lively times. Most farmers draw their wheat to the stockyards where they put it into cars that are shipped to Duluth. We have seven teams running. Walter flies all the time. He wants to be in several places at once.

We have been reading in a Wisconsin paper of a man and his wife and three children who left New York City last May and have walked as far as Clifton, Wisconsin, on their way to Dakota. Their household

goods are loaded on a two-wheeled cart, which they have drawn the entire distance, but which needed repairing at this point. The man thought the far west would be rather dangerous, so he brought along a revolver with which to protect himself. The children's ages are nine, seven and four. The youngest has been drawn part of the way, but the others have walked every step of the distance. I hope they may find a home nice enough to justify their hard experience.

(To be continued)

Ed. Note: Being an animal lover who watches Houston Animal Cops, I knew why the horse could not eat before I read it. But then I felt terrible that the poor horse died.

**Democrat Wagon - A light, flat bed farm or ranch wagon, usually without a top, with a skeleton frame and two or more seats. It sometimes has a wire rack for a side. The term "Democrat" was not a partisan designation, but referred to the availability of this inexpensive, easy to handle, wagon to a wide range of people. A Democrat Wagon was so light that if it got stuck a single individual could often lift it out by hand.*



A Democrat wagon on the farm of Mr. Bertelson. Sheridan County, Montana. Photo by Russell Lee, November 1937. Courtesy Library of Congress, Prints & Photographs Division, FSA-OWI Collection, LC-USF34-030951-D DLC

***Lake Kampeska is a large natural lake within the city limits of Watertown, South Dakota. Lake Kampeska is connected to the Big Sioux River through a single inlet-outlet channel located on the northeast side.*

Dues due notices: If you receive this Journal via email, I will let you know if they were due in 2017. If you are concerned about when your dues are due, just email our office: barbvdodge@dodgeoffice.net

If you receive the Journal in the US Mail, your dues due date is displayed on the outside of your envelope.

NEW MEMBERS

Connie Varcasia, Latham, NY
Mmary Warinner, Beaverton OR

Member only area of our website
 User name: [dodgefamily](http://dodgefamily.org)
 Password: [uncoveringyourpast](http://uncoveringyourpast.org)

The View From My Window



One can find the strangest things when looking through old papers...things that one never knew, and never were told.

In my case, I was looking through a box of papers that had to do with my mother.

It took a lot longer than I thought it would to find what I was looking for because I became involved reading bits and pieces from the past.

Several years ago, I wrote a column about "Bits and Pieces" because I had been sent some small tin types and a sad poem about a little boy who had died. They were found in Massachusetts in someone's attic. On the sad little poem that had been cut from a newspaper, someone had written "Johnny". One of the little tin types was of a little boy and the other was of a little girl. I have often wondered if the little boy's picture was of Johnny.

At the time, it never occurred to me that one day I might be going through bits and pieces of my mother's life.

There were some old snapshots taken in the 1920s of people I did not know, a paid bill for my grandmother's burial in Cohasset, MA, a letter from the government to my mother about my father being promoted to Lt. Col. in the Air Force. I could go on and on, but the main thing I found was my baby book.

I had seen it many times over the years, whenever I would come across it while going thru a box of stuff.

I had opened it before but my mother did not write much in it and what she wrote was

in pencil, not dark, and difficult to read so I never looked through all the pages to see what she may have written there.

I do not know how she acquired that baby book for me because the inside of the book was upside down. It must have been less costly because of that.

I opened it, turned it around and de-



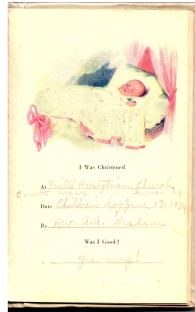
ecided to look through it a bit more than I had done before.

All of the pages had pretty pastel artwork at the top of babies in various positions.

My first visit was at 3 months and I was very good noted my mother.

I continued through the book not trying to read through every word she wrote when suddenly, something caught my eye. It was 'special events'.

My mother had written under that and what she wrote said that at the age of 5 1/2 months, I had been Christened in the Presbyterian Church on Children's day, July 15. I was totally shocked! I had never been told this. I only knew that as a little girl, my mother had gone to Sunday School at the Presbyterian Church.



I have no remembrance of going to any church other than the Baptist Church and as circumstances caused us to have to change churches, because of moves or other circumstances, my mother always chose a Baptist church for us to attend.

As I was growing up, she told me so many stories of her Presbyterian Sunday School teacher whom she loved dearly that I am left wondering why I was not told about being christened.

Baptists do not christen infants nor do they baptize infants.

Of course, the fact I was not told about this is not really important but it has left me mystified.

I thought the Doggie cartoon so appropriate. It is exactly what my dogs do!.

Barbara



In Memory

Phil Slinger was an asset to DFA and we are sad at his passing. When DFA was first formed in 1980, He was asked if he would be willing to be our Historian.

Phil encouraged us to start a DNA project and he was the first one to give DNA. He was interested to see the results of the DNA from the two different Dodge lines, John and Tristram.

Phillip John Slinger, 83, beloved husband, dad, brother, and grandpa, died December 11, 2017, at Wyndemere Care Center, Allouez. He was born September 16, 1934, in the town of Springvale, Columbia County, WI, to Marion (Dodge) and Chester Slinger. Phil grew up in Cambria, WI, graduating from Cambria High School in 1952. In 1957, he received his degree in Industrial Arts from UW-Platteville, followed by six months of active duty in the U.S. Army Reserves. Phil accepted a teaching opportunity at the Wisconsin State Reformatory (name later changed to GBCI) in 1958. He received his master's degree in Industrial Education in 1964 from UW-Stout, leading to subsequent positions at the Reformatory as guidance counselor and Education Director. Phil often joked that he served a lifetime sentence at the Reformatory. He attempted to retire in 1993; his announcement took his co-workers by surprise, and no one was prepared for his departure. Ensuing requests for his expertise persuaded him to stay on a bit longer until a replacement director could be found.

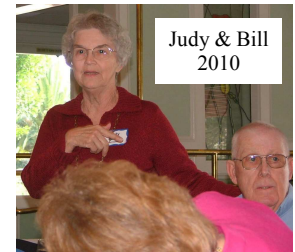
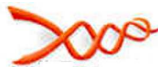
His passion was genealogy, and he became the family historian. Phil and Marilyn spent much of the 1960s and 1970s researching and compiling the history of the Dodge family, culminating in the 1976 publication of Ancestors and Descendants of John Dodge. A second volume followed in 1979. Cemeteries, courthouses and historical societies around the country were frequent destinations for Phil in his quest for family information. He was thrilled with recent advances in DNA testing that validated his work linking ancestors and descendants. A favorite phrase of his was "So many ancestors, so little time."



WHO DO YOU DESCEND FROM?

January 2018

By Judy Prentice Ragan
raganje@aol.com



Breaking down those brick walls with DNA:

For many years, more than 20 years, I have been searching for my great grandfather, William Carter's parents. They lived in Kentucky where William's daughter, my Grandma Maggie, was born. In 2014 I had been corresponding with Mary who was a descendant of Grandma's sister Eva; and that same year I got an email from Mary's daughter, Aina, who found my name in her mother's genealogy files. She said her mother had passed away and she would like to continue her mother's search of our ancestors. In 2015 my husband and I took a trip to the east coast and visited Aina in Virginia. We spent 3 days sharing information and getting to know each other.

That was the beginning of a wonderful, long distance, relationship. First, let me say, that Aina is one very smart lady. She is college educated and a young mother with 2 daughters still in school. Of course, that means that she is computer literate way beyond anything I could ever understand! We have both had our DNA taken, me because I wanted to see if it could lead me to a cousin who knew info about our gr grandfather. Aina later took her DNA because she wanted to see if we could find cousins via the matches DNA would give us. She requested that I send her my password to access my DNA file, which I did and made her a collaborator giving her the ability to write notes in my DNA matches file. She has found another cousin, Cindy, who was able to do the same thing.

Now, like I said, Aina is very intelligent and has been able to find a likely match for parents to William by comparing the matches of all 3 of us cousins and then using a lot of common sense when viewing the lineages of 'our new cousins'. Don't ask me how. Remember I am way beyond being able to understand anything to do with DNA. She has provided me with several documents that give me information about William's life; nothing that says "Blank and Blank for his parents", but enough other things that make it likely she is right. Now I am trying to help confirm her reasoning is right by searching the lineages of all my new DNA matched cousins. Very time-consuming, but fun.

Ways to search to find the right person/family:

Verify years they were born and where

Verify the names in families as they often are frequently repeated

Census records often find families living nearby to their family

Very often you can find tips by searching through the siblings' lives and families

Read death certificates or marriage applications as they will sometimes have the parent's names

Too often the census taker was hard of hearing or did not ask how a name was spelled

Aina believes that the census taker may have heard the homeowner say William B rather than William T as their son's name. You must realize that the census takers had been taking info from people all day and often just assumed what they heard was right. But B does sound like T right???! Will our research take us to a complete destruction of our brick wall? It is likely with all of the documents found in all of the many digitized records on the internet today. But given the commonness of William's name and the disappearance of the 1890 census records by fire, a devastating record loss for our hunt, it could help keep William's secret of who his parents were, a secret for life. And so the search goes on.....

Tip for May of 2018: It's on the internet, or it's on Ancestry, or it's on Family Search, so it must be right. Remember that what you read or see on any of these excellent sites has been submitted by ordinary people just like you and me. And don't we often make mistakes? Find proof and add the sources to your database.



Dodge Genealogy Brick Walls

by Eileen Dodge:
Edodge1946@comcast.net



Rebekah White, nee Dodge VS Rebekah Waite, nee Dodge and the Confusion

There is a great deal of misinformation out on the net regarding Rebekah Dodge who married Joseph White. It is often stated that Rebekah and Joseph were married in 1802 in Ipswich. It is also often stated that Rebekah was the daughter of Captain Abraham Dodge.

Let me explain the problems with this scenario.

Rebekah Dodge, baptized on 26 Oct 1873 in Ipswich was the daughter of Abraham Dodge and his second wife, Bethiah (Patch) Staniford. Rebekah Dodge married on 25 Sep 1802 at Ipswich to Joseph Waite, son of John Waite and Eunice Hale.

Rebekah and Joseph Waite had several children, all born, lived and died in Ipswich as follows: Abigail, John, Abram, Rebecca, Joseph, Luther, William, Nathaniel, and Frances.

Additionally, Rebekah and Joseph Waite are buried in the Locust Grove Cemetery in Ipswich. Their family line is proven by Ipswich birth, marriage, and death records as well as documented family genealogy books printed from the late 1800s to more recent times.

So I think you can see that the Rebekah Dodge who married Joseph White is not related at all to Captain Abraham Dodge.

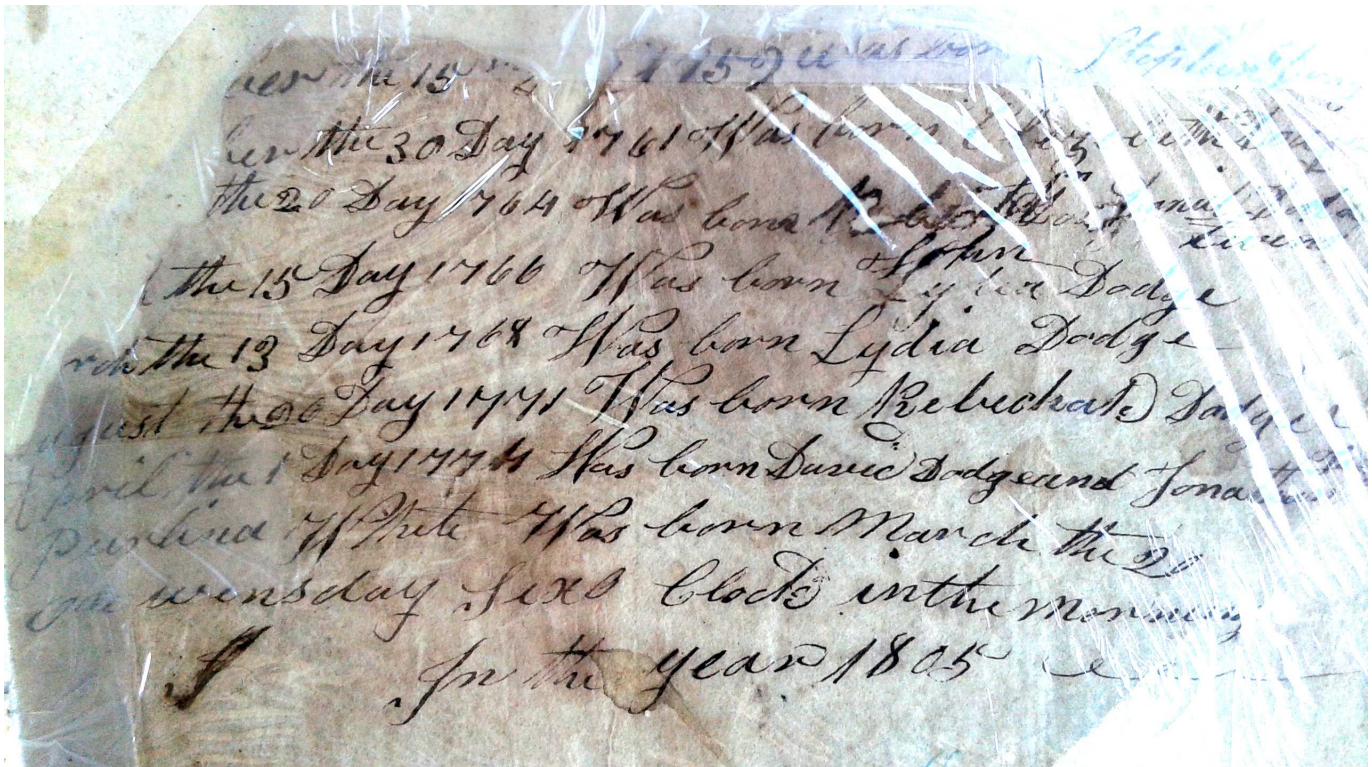
So, who is this Rebekah Dodge, born out 1771 in New York, who married Joseph White? That is the mystery.

I have checked extensively all available online sources and cannot find Rebekah White, nee Dodge in connection to any Dodge family that we currently know of.

Generally speaking, New York statewide registration of vital statistics began about 1880 for deaths and 1915 for births. Various churches kept records of early marriages, but that seems to be a bit of hit and miss until about 1880.

Thomas Wilburn contacted Barbara and I regarding his Rebecca Dodge who married Joseph Waite. There may be some clues in copies of Bible pages he sent - they are included here for you to see.

If you have any information about this family, please contact Eileen edodge1946@comcast.net



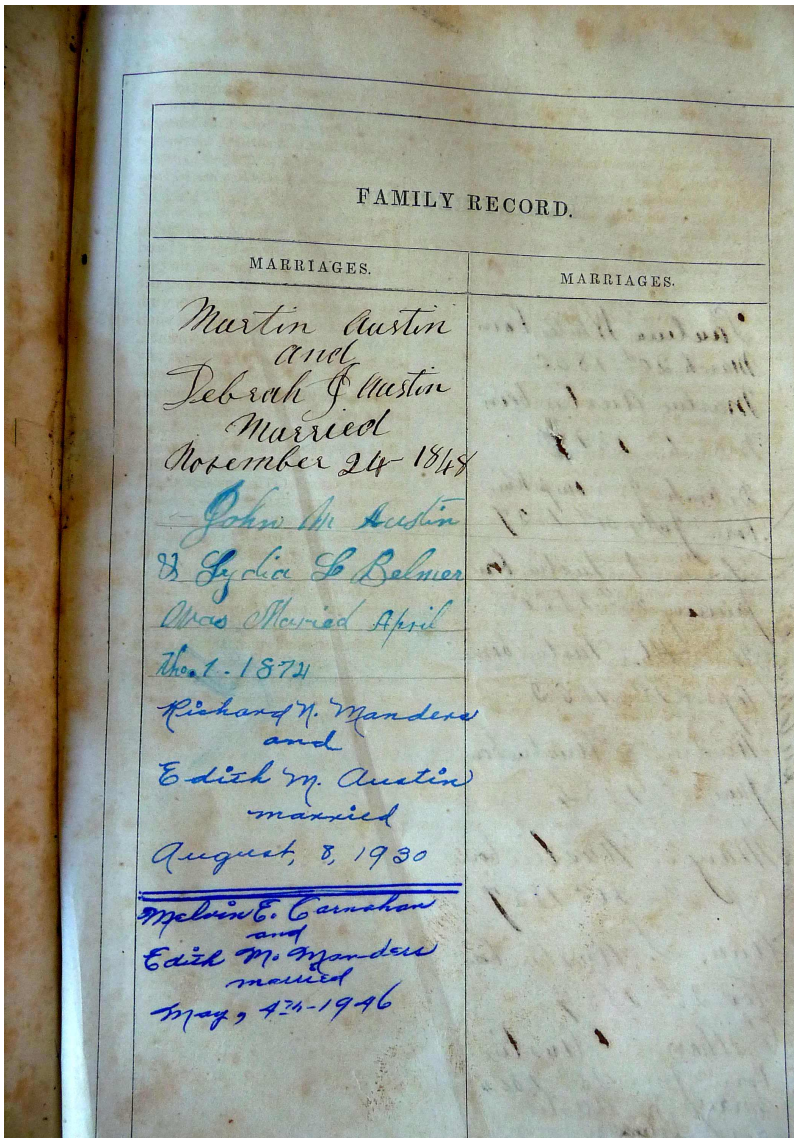
Bible pages from Thomas Wilburn, starting with his original emails to us.
 On 3/7/2018 7:03 PM, tom wilburn wrote:

“ I am Thomas Wilburn and am trying to find information that may help connect me to my ancestors. My family has a very old Bible that lists many births, deaths, & marriages. The latest dates in the book are people I recognize as my second great grand parents and it goes back a couple generations and then includes a damaged page that seems to be torn from another older Bible. There is one name from this page that exists on the newer pages so there is little doubt they are related. The name that exists on both is Paulina White but the names that predominate on the older page are all Dodes.

Specifically, I have a	Rebecha Dodge	26th	Unk month	1771
	Elizabeth Dodge	30th	Unk month	1761
	Lydia Dodge	13th	Unk month	1768
	Paulina White	20th	March	1805
	Buril Dodge(?)	1st	April	1774(?) (This is DAVID DODGE)

These are all birth-dates by the way. I have enclosed this page for you to use as you wish.

Family legend has it that we are connected to Captain Abraham Dodge through his daughter Rebekah...looking for any help you may provide or a path to take to solve this mystery...Thank you for your time, Thomas Wilburn”



We asked Tom for photos of all the Bible pages. He responded:

Photo one (on the left) is from the Bible and shows at the top my second great grand parents wedding date being recorded.

Photo five on page 8 shows the 1850 census of Perlina Tompkins nee White. Notice she has her Mother living with her, Rebecah White nee Dodge. Also, the siblings match our records.

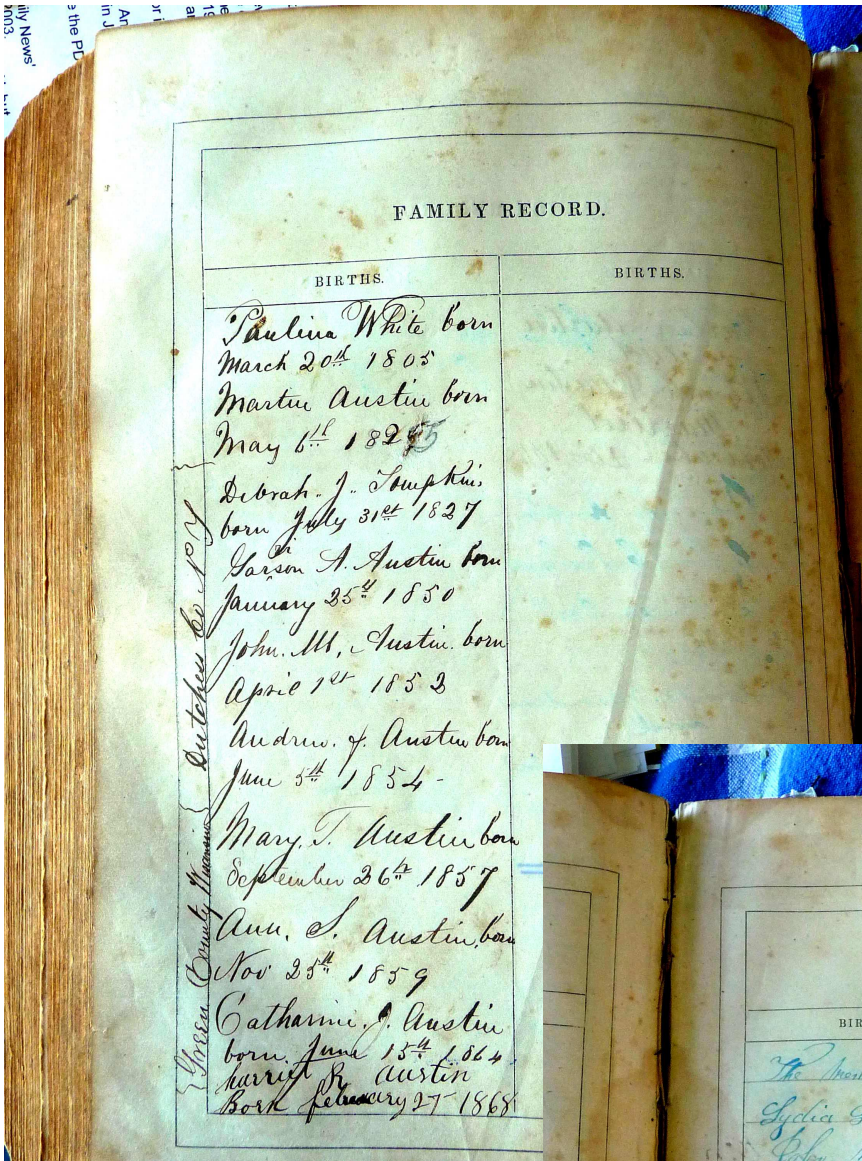


Photo two is from the Bible and shows an important list to my family...at the top is my 3rd great grandmother Paulina White followed by my 2nd great grand parents Martin and Debra Austin and their children including my great grandmother Mary T Austin. Since it is orderly instead of by date, it indicates to me this Bible page was written on far after these dates, as if it was a gift Bible.

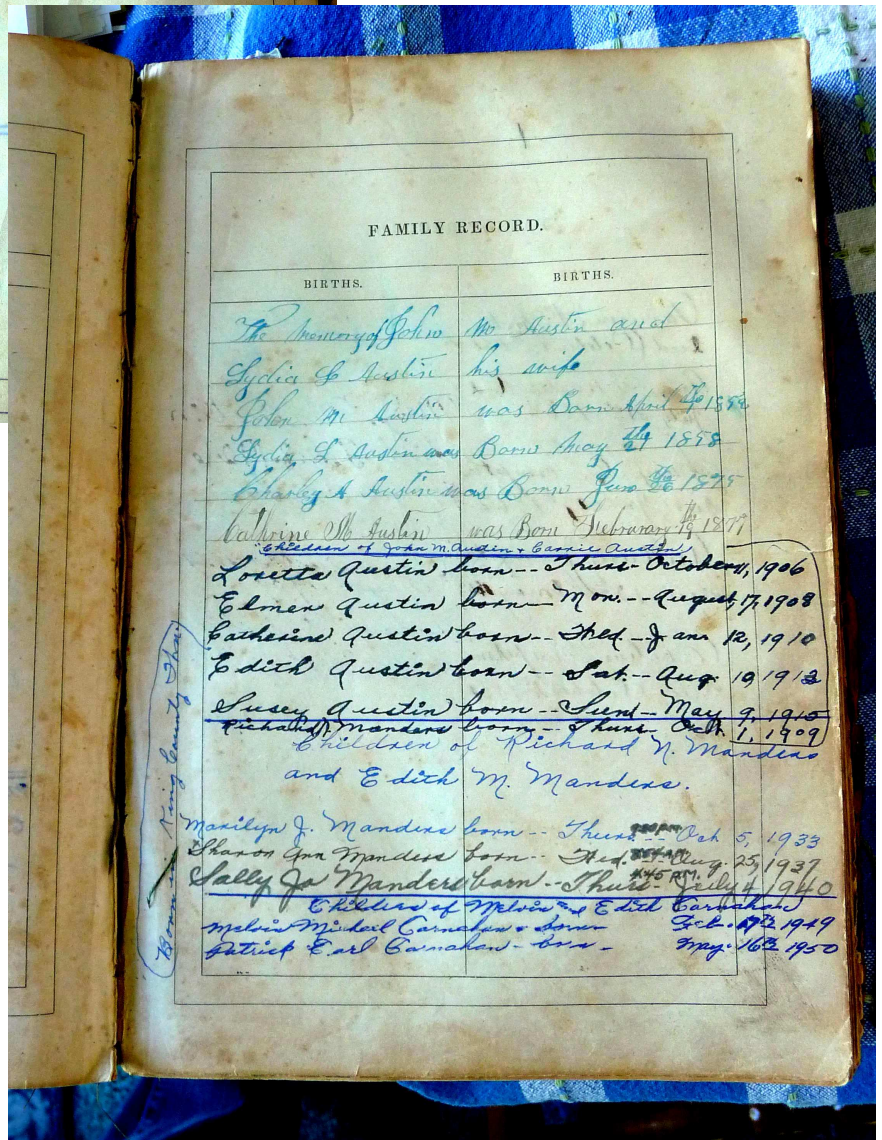
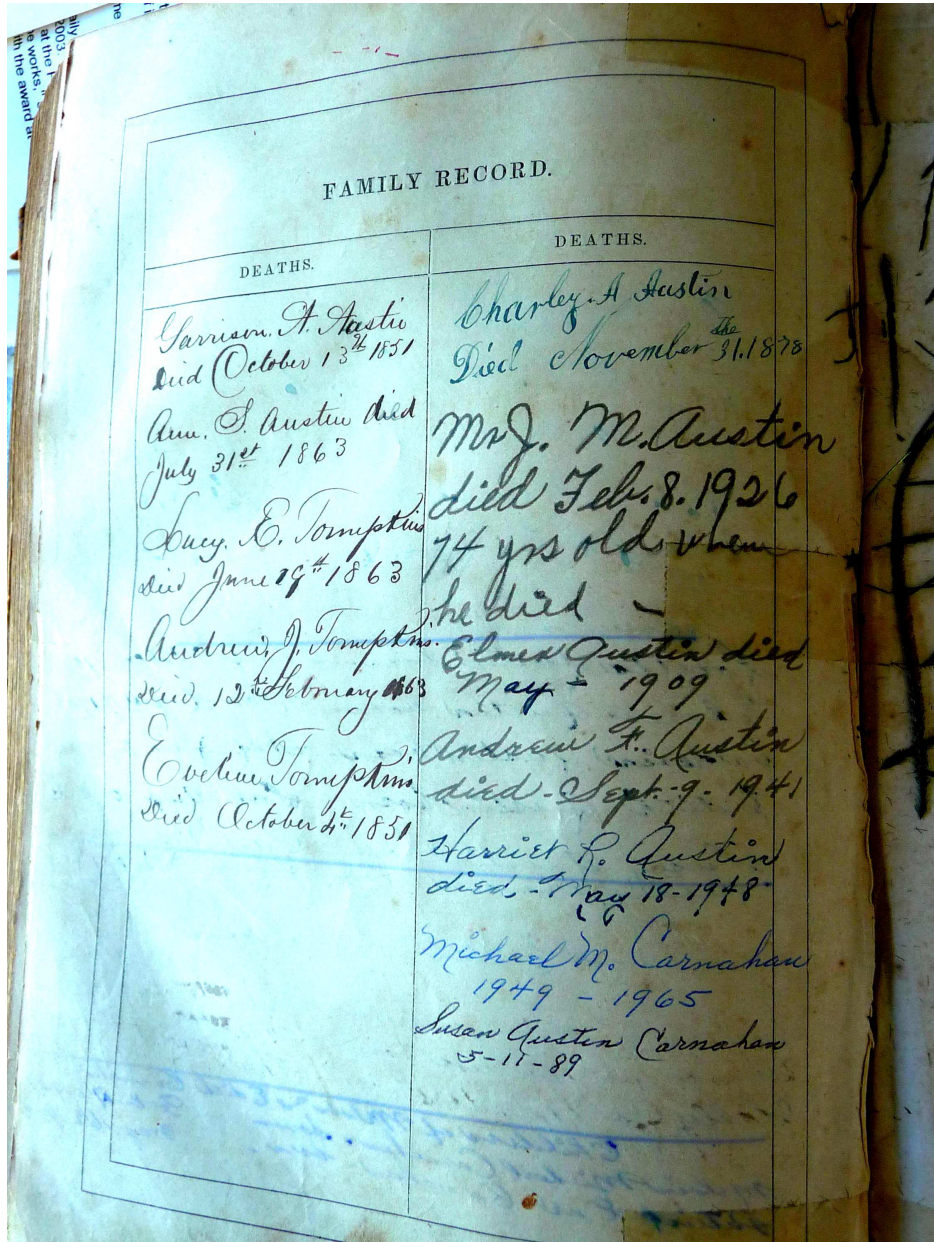


Photo three (on the right) & photo four (on the next page) from the Bible show more significant family dates which may be of help identifying people.

Ed. Note:

There are a lot of surnamed AUSTIN, MANDERS and THOMPCKINS on the Bible pages.



On the left is photo 4.

Below is the census record for Paulina/Perlina (nee WHITE) Thompkins

Ed. Note: As genealogists know, names could be spelled many different ways depending on what a census taker heard or what someone wrote. Everyone in the early 1900s and going back, did not necessarily spell things correctly.

Example: My maternal grandmother had atrocious spelling because she never learned how to spell correctly.

1850 United States Federal Census for Perlina Tompkins
New York > Dutchess > Beekman

	Dwelling No.	Family No.	Name	Age	Sex	Race	Occupation
0			John	4	M		
1			Thomas	2	M		
2	205-261		Perlina Tompkins	44	F		
3			Lucy E	23	F		
4			Eveline	21	F		
5			Rebecca White	78	F		