

“ for one W. Dodge of Salem riding in company with another friend, “ they hap’ned to meet with two Indians: the said Dodge being better horsed than his friend, made after the foremost, leaving his friend to deal with the hindmost: but his pistol missed firing: “ whereupon the Indian taking him by the leg, turned him off his horse, and getting upon him, was about killing him with his knife: “ which Mr. Dodge, by chance espied, and came time enough to do “ his business also: by that means he did three good offices at once, “ saved the life of one friend and slew two of his enemies.”

Surely, this early Chronicler—styled Historian—cannot be esteemed for perspicuous narrative.

Stone’s History of Beverly (1843) says:

“ The first Town Meeting of Beverly, subsequent to its Incorporation was held Nov. 23d, 1668: at which Capt. Thomas Lothrop, “ William Dixey, *William Dodge, Senior*, John West, and Paul “ Thorndike were chosen Selectmen.” And on almost every page of his History the family name appears. By the courtesy of Mr. John H. Stone of Salem, in 1850, I have the Genealogy of the family of this patriarch, William Dodge for six generations down to 1833.

I have also numerous, though not perfected Genealogies of the family of the first named Richard Dodge: and also of the family in Rhode Island and Block Island.

Farmer’s Genealogical Register of the First Settlers of New England (1839) gives:

“ George Dodge of Concord, 1645; John Dodge born in 1636 “ was an inhabitant of Beverly in 1666, and representative in the “ General Court for Rowley in 1664: William Dodge (2d) was admitted freeman in 1683, and representative in 1690; Daniel Dodge “ graduated at Harvard University in 1700.”

Careful research by a competent mind, in the records, both of the towns, and of our very numerous kinsfolk resident in Salem, Beverly, Wenham, Danvers and Hamilton; together with established Traditions there, would unveil the fountains of our Family in this country, and its digested record prove of enduring value.

Many in this lengthened roll yielded their lives at Bunker Hill; and their record of brave deeds at that American Thermopylae, is lost save to patriot memory. There are no lists of names of the American killed or wounded in that brave and bloody struggle. There was no regular army organization on their side.

On that day, their guns were heard with dismay far beyond the melting ranks of Howe, that sank as before a reaper. They sounded an alarm in Parliament, and throughout England, and reached the Cabinets of the Continent; who did not conceal their satisfaction, at the heavy losses and almost discomfiture, by simple American yeomen, of their boastful enemy.