

PERLEY DODGE

Was born in New Boston, N. H., May 17, 1799.

He is the son of William and Rachel (Poland) Dodge. His father was a farmer, and the boyhood of Mr. Dodge was spent on the farm until his sixteenth year. He then fitted for college, and finally graduated from Union College, Schenectady, N. Y., in the Class of 1824. He chose the law as his profession and studied with Titus Brown, of Frances-town, and Nehemiah Eastman, of Farrington, N. H. October, 1827 he was admitted to the bar, and began practice with his former instructor, Titus Brown, at Francestown and New Boston. This copartnership was continued until 1832, in March of which year Mr. Dodge removed to Amherst, N. H., where he now resides at the advanced age of 86 years. He continued the practice of law at Amherst until 1839, when, in October of that year, he was appointed Clerk of the Courts of Hillsborough County, the multifarious duties of which position he faithfully discharged until March, 1857. He then returned to the practice of law, which he has since continued to the present time, though for the past few years he has practically retired from the active duties of his profession. Mr. Dodge has been a wise and safe counselor and a successful practitioner, and is regarded as one of the oldest and most honored members of the New Hampshire bar.

In 1837 he was elected as representative from Amherst to the General Court, and again in 1853 and 1854 he was re-elected to the same position. He was chairman of the committee on banks in 1853 and of railroads in 1854.

It may be stated as a remarkable fact, that Mr. Dodge has attended every court of record in Hillsborough County since his admission to the bar, and during all the years he was clerk of the court, he took every verdict from the jury except one (and that omission was occasioned by his illness). Mr. Dodge is a calm, dignified, plain-spoken man, of clear judgment and comprehensive intelligence; conservative in his views, yet in hearty sympathy with whatever in his judgment tends to the elevation of the mental or moral tone of the community in which he lives or of mankind in general. In politics he has always been a Democrat.

He married May 31, 1831, Harriet, daughter of Hon. Peter Woodbury, of Francestown, and a sister of Hon. Levi Woodbury. Their children were:

1. Perley Woodbury, born March 28, 1839; married Sophia E. Phelps, Aug. 13, 1863, and resides in Amherst. They have one child, Charles Perley, born Sept. 3, 1869, now a student at Sherburn Falls, Mass.

CLASS OF 1824--Perley Dodge---2

2. Charles William, born Sept. 4, 1842; married (1) Rebecca C. Christy, of New Boston, Sept. 4, 1869. She died Jan. 2, 1873. He married second, Lelia J. Small, Mar. 11, 1878. She died April 4, 1885, in Amherst. They have one child living, Martha Belle, born July 10, 1882. Maurice Whipple, born July 31, 1881; died June 25, 1883.
3. Martha W. born June 25, 1846; married James B. Whipple, of New Boston, June 25, 1877, and died July 21, 1881.

History of Hillsborough Co., N. H. pp. 35-36
D. Hamilton Hurd
J. W. Lewis & Co.,
Philadelphia
1885

PERLEY DODGE, '24,

was born at New Boston, N. H., May 17th, 1799. His boyhood was spent on a farm. He read law at Francestown and Farmington, N. H., and was admitted to the Bar in 1827. Settling in Amherst in 1832 he resided there till his death. He was clerk of the Hillsboro County Court from 1839 to 1857, and represented Amherst in the Legislature in 1837, 1853 and 1854, being Chairman of the Committee on Banks, in the years last mentioned. He was a trustee in the Nashua Savings Bank from its organization till his death, and held many positions of honor and trust, besides practicing his profession steadily till within a few years. He was a courteous and dignified man and greatly respected. He was a Democrat and a Unitarian. He died at Amherst, N. Y., April 1st, 1888, leaving two sons.

1824 Perley Dodge

Listed as a graduate of Union College in
History of New Boston, Mass.

PEARLEY DODGE, 1824, of New Preston, N.H., was member of the Philomathean Society.
(Died: 1888)

Philomathean Catalogue 1830