

The Dodge Family

David DODGE = Eliza

Thomas	Arthur	Joseph	David	Albert	Percy	Evan
1875	1880	1883	1888	1890	1894	1897



Six sons of **Mr & Mrs David Dodge** of Ham Hill returned from the War. The seventh, Joseph, returned to England but died in hospital.

The eldest was **Thomas Dodge** who enlisted on 2nd September 1914 and went to France on 24th July 1915. He was discharged from the army because of sickness on 23rd July 1916. Before the War, Thomas was a crane driver in the quarry. He was married to Pollie and had five daughters.

Arthur Dodge was a stone quarryman who went to France on 3rd December 1914. In 1911 he was living in Norton sub Hamdon with his wife, Florence, and their three children.

David Dodge went to Canada with his friend, Albert Wilkinson and enlisted in 2nd Battalion Eastern Ontario Regiment when war broke out. He was wounded in action in France during the autumn of 1917. In 1918, when he was 30 years old, he was awarded the MM: **'The award is made for bravery in the field on August 1918. Please accept the congratulations of the officers of No 1 Company. Long may you be spared to wear at least the ribbon.'**

Albert Dodge enlisted into the West Somerset Yeomanry in August 1914 – at the very start of the War. In 1911 he was living in Montacute with his wife Laura and his son, John Clifford Dodge.

Percy Dodge went to France with the Somerset Light Infantry on 26th January 1915. He was wounded in July 1916. In 1911 he was 17 years old and living with his brother, Albert, in Montacute. He and Albert were both working as grooms.

Evan Dodge was working as a mason's labourer when he joined the Royal Navy aged 15 as a Boy Bugler in 1912. He served on many different ships before the war started. He had brown hair, blue eyes and a fresh complexion. Evan and Percy were very close and at one time their two families lived next door to each other in Berkshire. They died in the same week, one in England and one in Australia.

Joseph Dodge – contracted malaria in India and was nursed in a hospital in Liverpool. He died on 16th February 1919, aged 35, and is buried in Preston Road Cemetery in Yeovil.



THE TAYLOR BROTHERS

George James Taylor = Mary Elizabeth

Edward
1894

Allen
1895

Robert
1897



Left to right: Edward, Allen and Robert Taylor

Before the start of the war, Reverend Monck's Church Scouts used to walk from Stoke to Eype in Dorset for scout camp holidays.

Only **Edward** and one other boy in this photograph survived the war.

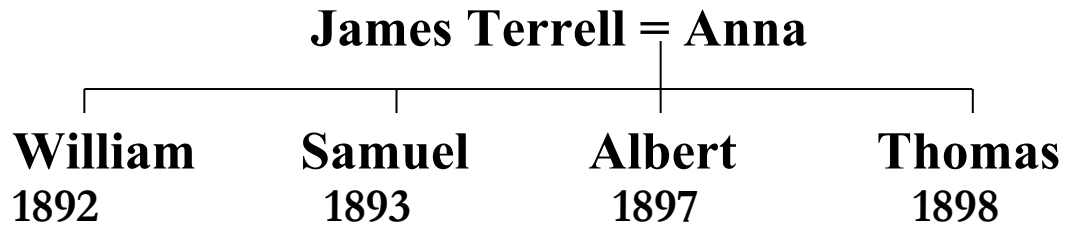


Edward Taylor lying down on left.

Edward Taylor fought on the Somme and came home with bits of shrapnel still lodged in his legs.

Allen Taylor was a prisoner of war in Germany in 1918, while the third brother, **Bob Taylor**, came home sick from Mesopotamia. When the boys eventually came home, they found that their mother had given away all their clothes to the poor of the parish! The war news had been so bad that she thought none of them would return.

THE TERRELL BROTHERS



Back row, left to right, Samuel, Albert ('Ed'), Thomas, William

All four Terrell boys fought in the war and came home safely.

William Terrell was a skilled mason. He was 23 when he joined the Royal Engineers in 1916, embarking for France in December of that year. He attended a cookery course in Cologne in 1919 where he was described as ‘a hard worker, clean and trustworthy’. He frequently wrote home to ask his mother’s advice on cooking. On one occasion, he wrote asking how he could prevent the custard from becoming lumpy.

William was the eldest of the four brothers and lived the longest of his parents’ ten children. He had a good sense of humour.

The next brother in age was **Samuel Terrell**. Samuel was a gaiter cutter with Southcombe’s before the war. 6’ tall and of ‘good physical development’, he enlisted as a gunner in the Royal Garrison Artillery on 10th December 1915, arriving in France with the 176th Heavy Battery on 1st September 1916.

A Heavy Battery of the RGA tows its 60-pounder guns along the roads of Northern France.





Samuel met his brother, William, by chance in France in 1917 and they had their photograph taken together.

Albert Terrell, the third brother, was a mason's apprentice, living with his brothers and sisters and parents, James and Anna Terrell, in North Street before the war. Like William, he enlisted as a Sapper in the Royal Engineers. He and Samuel moved to Spaxton after the War.





Thomas Terrell was the youngest. He lied about his age in order to be accepted in the Devonshire Light Infantry at the age of 16. During his training for the Front, he was involved in the carving of the regimental badge on Salisbury Plain. He was mentioned in a Despatch from Field Marshal Sir Douglas Haig on 16th March 1919 - for gallant and distinguished services in the field, having saved his wounded commanding officer whilst under fire.

THE BATSTONE BROTHERS, Ralph, Reginald, Herbert ('Bert') and George ('William')



All four brothers returned home safely. **Ralph** was in the Machine Gun Corps. **Reginald** was in the Somerset (afterwards the Shropshire) Light Infantry (he and his wife were killed by a bomb in Yeovil in 1940). **Herbert** was wounded. He served in the Gloucesters, the Welsh Fusiliers and the RAMC. **George** served with the Royal Warwickshires. [Photo: Ralph and George]