LEWIS Napoleon

GOODRICH - L. N. GOODRICH, of Missouri Valley, together with the genealogy of the GOODRICH family, will form the subject matter of this notice. It is not the desire of the author to consume the pages of the history of Harrison County in recounting the births and deaths of the GOODRICH family for the past five hundred years or more, who have their genealogy corroborated by English history from the earliest day. The following is an abridged sketch of the traditional and historical account of the GOODRICH family. Many volumes could be truthfully written, which would be but an abbreviated account of the family:

John and William GOODRICH immigrated to American in the forepart of the sixteenth century, form which nearly all bearing the name are descendants, as the history of America shows. Among the relatives of this family, is the late. S. C. GOODRICH, of New York, the great American writer and historian; Chancy A. GOODRICH, reviser of WEBSTER'S dictionary, also Chancy GOODRICH, Congressman, and later on Lieutenant Governor of Massachusetts; Judge Grant GOODRICH, of Chicago, and his brother, who was the late owner of the lake steamers, which has carried the farm products and commerce of the Western country to the Eastern seaboard for the last thirty years. And so on, until we find this family at Missouri Valley. Jesse GOODRICH, the grandfather, was born in 1757, was a Revolutionary soldier; voted for George Washington the first time, his last vote being cast for Zachariah TAYLOR.

One hundred and fifty years later, William and John GOODRICH, grandsons of Thomas, embarked for America and settled in Connecticut. We would go on and relate where, and when each one of the fathers was born and died up to the present date, but this would be of no interest to the reader who is hunting after the early history of Harrison County, Iowa. With this genealogy, we turn again to GOODWIN B. GOODRICH, born March 1, 1784; married first time Ruth BANE, at Clarksville, Pa. When the young couple had settled themselves for the beginning of in married life, and everything appeared as happy as could be, GOODWIN was drafted by the Government. His brother John volunteered to make him company. Goodwin bade his young wife good-bye, and the two brothers, with five others set off on foot, through the woods and snows of winter, for some camp near Niagara Falls. The hardships which they were called upon to endure, and the conflicts of shot and shell that they engaged in, could not be related in a reminiscence of this kind, but one of the thrilling engagements that the boys took part in, is known to all—the battle of PERRY'S Victory, on Lake Erie. A great many times have the children heard their fathers relate this bloody and awful event on the sea. There were a number of vessels on each side. The British seemed to think that by sinking the vessel where the commander was, would help their cause, so when that discovery was made, the shot and shell from more than two score of cannon was poured into the ship, until it sunk; but they were mistaken about drowning the brave commander, as the lifeboat saved most of the crew, though PERRY came near being lost; a cannon ball went through the bow of the skiff. All would have been lost in a moment, but the General snatched his coat from his shoulders which bore the gold epaulets and emblems of his rank, and with his knee crowed it into the ugly hole, where the water was spouting forth, with the cheering command, "one more pull and we will be safe!"

Goodwin had one son, Asher, and two daughters by his first marriage, Sarah and Elizabeth. It was some time in the '40s that Asher went to Tipton, Ind., and with his own hands he chopped the trees from a spot of ground large enough for a dwelling lot. Ten rods distant, where a street was indicated by the blaze on the trees he cut his timber, burned logs and brush, and here he erected a store-house, and was the pioneer merchant in Tipton. Later on he built a woolen factory in another part of the city; these buildings are to be seen at this time. He died in 1855, and has one living daughter. Her name is Belle PIKE. In 1876 the PIKES were removed to Peking in China, he being made supervisor over a portion of the Methodist Episcopal Missionary schools of that city, and up to date they have not had an hour's vacation.

In 1827 GOODWINN'S first wife died; in 1831 he married Kezia LLOYD. The family of LLOYD'S were from Hereford in England, near Ross, hence were acquainted with GOODRICH Castle, and the territory that had once belonged to the GOODRICH ESTATE. Kezia LLOYD had been very carefully educated. She brought up nine children without a physician and was a woman of more than ordinary ability, and was religious; her childhood home was Hagerstown, Md., her father being a merchant. Shortly after their marriage, Goodwin with his young wife located on a farm near Mt. Vernon, Ohio. The politics of the GOODRICHES from the Revolutionary war down, was the kind that supported WASHINGTON, JACKSON and POLK. In 1861 William, LLOYD and Lewis GOODRICH and their brother-in-law, Jacob BYERS, responded to Lincoln's call for five hundred thousand men to prevent the dissolution of States. Now the veteran grandfather of these boys,(Jesse Goodrich) at the age of eighteen, in the Revolution, had marched hundreds of miles through woods and over mountains, elbows out, feet tied in rags; most of the time no shoes or hat; occasionally days at a time passed without food. The only cause he knew was liberty, the only friend that Jesse knew was his dear old mother in Connecticut, who as often as opportunity presented, sent him a pair of shoes and socks, with other garments, always adding a bundle of bullets which she had moulded to help on the struggle for freedom later on. Their fathers, too, had spent many weeks and months in defending the rights of the new Republic against Britain and her pirates on the high seas. With this knowledge of the past, and the late disaster of Bull Run, the boys started, believing that one Republic, one Government, would be better in North America, than two. Lloyd, Lewis and Jacob were enrolled in Company F. Sixty-fifth Ohio Infantry, (SHERMAN' S Brigade) at Mansfield, Ohio. At the same time

William volunteered in the Fourth California Infantry, and was afterward killed by the Indians in Arizona Territory.

Lloyd GOODRICH was twenty-one years old, light complexion, blue eyes, about six feet high, and rather heavy set. There was not a soldier in the regiment who could, or did endure more hardships, of war or battle than he. Lewis was seventeen years old, smaller than Lloyd and appeared altogether too young and too much of a lad to undertake the brunt and burden of army life. But he did stand it with Lloyd's help, without a falter or a furlough, until the battle of Stone River, in 1863. After the battle of Shiloh in 1862, Jacob BYERS was made Regimental Bugler, his place being at headquarters always on duty night or day, and he knows full well, to this day, how to sound the commands "Advanced" "Charge" or "Retreat." The times were not few during the five years of his service, when in the awful din from the fire of death, Jacob watching his opportunity, sounded the call, which led the gallant command to many a victory. January 2, 1863, at the battle of Stone River, Company F was supporting a battery, while the position of one of the cannon was being shifted; four of the horses took fright from the bursting shell that was poured into the gunners. Just at that time the terrified beasts went plunging down the hill, through the flank. Lloyd sprang aside to let them pass. A shell dropped at that instant, killing Lloyd GOODRICH, with two of the horses, life lasting but a few minutes. Lloyd said, "It will kill mother, when she knows that I am dead, but we have gained the day." They buried him. With fifteen hundred more who perished on that day.

At the time of the battle of Shiloh, Lewis was wounded a little above the knee, which destroyed his locomotion for a number of days, and for a short following this, he with others, was sent north to inspect railroad bridges. Some days after the battle of Perryville, he had the diphtheria, from which a distressing cough lingered, and in the early part of 1863, completely broken down by the hardships of army life, young GOODRICH was discharged and taken home by his brother George, who by the kindness of Gov. BROUGH (BRUFF) was permitted to go after him. In the spring of 1863 the health of Lewis was far from a satisfactory condition. Dr. HAYES, of Mt. Vernon, recommended a change of climate; hence it was decided to send the invalid to Magnolia, Iowa, to his two sisters. In pursuance the lad was directed by his mother and brother George to go to a relative in Cleveland, and was owner of a steamship line and get transportation for the West. The elegantly equipped ship anchored at Cleveland, looked inviting, but the dangers from ice and winds caused him to take a different route. It was a warm Sunday morning in the last of March, 1863. Everything was quiet at John DALLY'S house, no one expected visitors; Aunt Lucy and the children were at church, when the stage-coach halted at the door. A thin, pale young man alighted; there were two bullet-holes in his clothes, and two wounds that were not entirely healed. Mrs. DALLY had noticed the hackman's halt, and with tears of joy ran to welcome her unexpected brother. At this time Mr. and Mrs. DALLY had lived in the State about twelve years, most of the time near Ft. Dodge. Lucy GOODRICH (now Mrs. WRIGHT, of Dunlap) had been in the State but two years, and was one of the pioneer school teachers. Upon his arrival, Lewis was compelled to go to bed; Dr. J. H. RICE was called with his excellent prescriptions and by a sister's care, the middle of April found him nearly every day at the store of DALLY & PERLY, busy making new acquaintances. At this time Magnolia probably contained the population of four hundred people; had a good school; one church (Congregational) and other church organizations. One Free Mason Lodge and another order called Union League. Among the young people, who resided in this little city could be found George McDUFFY, Newton and Henry LORENZ, William EATON, James HARDY, John BLY and others. Among the young ladies were Betty and Amelia HARD, Lucy GOODRICH, Helen LORENZ, May DOWNS, Mollie HARVEY, Cynthia SCOFIELD. John WILLIAMS kept the livery stable, the den where he kept his vicious broncos, and other apparently wild beasts were under a straw pile. There were no signs of vehicles in the vicinity of this stack, except a hay-rack, one sled with something like the tope story of a band-wagon for a box and an ugly lop-eared hound which kept all customers at a distance until John came to the front and called off the dogs. At this particular period of frontier life John's customers had to go either on foot or horseback, on account of the high price asked for other modes of conveyance. Magnolia was the county seat, and the court room was used for a city hall. William FALLON owned the stately tavern stand on the hill, but William RAYMOND was the landlord. Here the stage-coach halted twice a day, with her crew of land-hunters and mail-bags. Prior to Raymonds hotel life he had been a freighter on the plains between Omaha and Denver, and a man by the name of McKINNEY kept the place. Mac was said to be some what profane in his common conversation. Al BENJAMIN and numerous others catered here to the wants of the lawyers and travelers during the '60s. Deer were quite plentiful in the country and several times fawns were offered for sale in the town by PURCELL brothers. The first piano, fireproof safe, fine carriage and sleigh were brought into Harrison County, by Mr. OLMSTED of Harrison Township. He was very wealthy and was killed by accident in 1862. Judge HARDY owned the flourmill on the Willow, and Judge CHATBURN the saw-mill; there were great quantities of flour made at the grist-mill. In the winter of 1865, times were lively on account of high prices occasioned by the war. Two years prior, however, corn sold at ten cents per bushel and was used for fuel. During the last of 1863 and early in 1864, young GOODRICH'S health seemed to be gaining, but when warm weather came, he seemed to break down entirely, and his life was despaired of, "what a horrible cough," was the talk by all. Dr. RICE was again called; his sisters, Lucy and Ruth, never ceased their effort and care to restore their brother to health; they succeeded to a great degree. In the following autumn he took his place in the store in which he had worked previous to his relapse. When RUDASILL & WOOD succeeded DALLY he engaged with the new firm, remaining with them until 1871. We next find Lewis GOODRICH at Missouri Valley, to which place he went to live with his mother, and three brothers who had located there a short time prior. Within a year or two after this, the brothers, George and Frank,

were married; July 1881 his mother died and in January the same year, he was married to Georgie ETTINGER, who resided with her parents at Boone, Iowa. She has one sister married (Eugenia) who is a great student, her mother being much given to books and literature, while her father is a contractor. In May, 1881, Lewis GOODRICH began business at Missouri Valley for himself and is still thus engaged, but does not enjoy good health. Mr. and Mrs. GOODRICH are the parents of two sons, John and Grover, aged respectively, ten and seven years.

Source: 1891 Harrison County Iowa History, pp. 506-507-507-508-509-510-511-512

BYERS - Jacob BYERS, a mechanic in the employ of the railroad repair shops, at Missouri Valley, will form the subject of this notice.

He was born in Wayne County, Ohio, February 1, 1835, and is the son of Andrew and Saphronia (SPIDLE) BYERS, the former a descendant of German stock, and the latter of German-English origin. They had a family of nine children, our subject being the fifth child of the family. One brother, Thomas BYERS, is a farmer of Neosho County, Kan. Of his sister, he knows nothing definitely, but supposes that four of them are living in Indiana. The father followed farming and cabinetmaking. Both parents are dead. The father died in Ohio, and the mother in Indiana.

Our subject learned the carriage blacksmithing trade, in Hartford, Knox County, Ohio, but had only just completed the same when the Civil War broke out and threatened to dissolve the union of States. In the autumn of 1861 he enlisted in Company F, Sixty-fifth Regiment Ohio Infantry, and for three years carried a musket, and was in all the battles and marches which his Company took part in. He was assigned to the Army of the Cumberland, and was with Gen. William T. SHERMAN on his famous "March to the Sea." At the expiration of three years our subject re-enlisted, becoming a member of the Veteran Corps, and continued to wear the Loyal Blue until the close of the conflict. Thirty days' leave of absence was granted him in which to visit his old home, and at the expiration of this time he joined his comrades, and was at once made Bugler in his own regiment- the Sixty-fifth Ohio. The only wound he received was a slight one in the side, which, however, did not prove permanent.

At the close of the war Mr. BYERS returned to the Buckeye State, and soon joined his family at Magnolia, Iowa, to which point they had removed two years previous. Here our subject remained four years, following blacksmithing. He next located at Missouri Valley, where he has remained ever since, with the exception of four years near Creighton, Neb., where he farmed. He has been in the employ of the North-Western Railroad Company for seventeen years, working in the capacity of a blacksmith in the repair shops.

He was united in marriage October 18, 1857, in Knox County, Ohio, to Miss Matilda GOODRICH, by which marriage union three children were born- Josephine, wife of Henry RAINBOW, of Missouri Valley; Annie, deceased in infancy; and Charley W., who married Ella BUTLER, a native of Carson, Iowa. He is engaged at railroading. Henry RAINBOY and wife are the parents of one son.

Mrs. BYERS is a sister of L. M. GOODRICH of Missouri Valley, and for the family history we refer the reader to Mr. GOODRICH'S sketch. Both our subject and his wife are members of the Christian Church, and politically, he has always been a Republican. He belongs to the Grand Army of the Republic at Missouri Valley, and takes much interest in the Post. It will be remembered that he saw his share of hard-fought battlefields during the days of the Rebellion, including Stone River, Chickamauga, Corinth, Winchester, Pea Ridge, and Lookout Mountain, being in nineteen engagements in all.

Source: 1891 Harrison County Iowa History, pp.482-483