Charles Goodyear

The Brunswick News; Wednesday 19 February 1919; pg. 1 col. 1 & pg. 8 col. 2

DEATH CALLS A TRULY WELL LOVED CITIZEN-Col. Charles Porter Goodyear Passed Away Early Yesterday Morning-Was Brunswick's Truest Friend-His Long Life in Brunswick Was One of Continual Sacrifice to the Interest of the City-Funeral Will Occur This Afternoon-Body to Be In State at Elks' Home.

Col. Charles Porter Goodyear, well beloved citizen, Brunswick's best friend, after an illness covering several months passed away at the family residence at five o'clock yesterday morning. Col. Goodyear has been ill for three months suffering with a complication of heart troubles, but is has only been within the past few weeks that his condition grew alarming and that physicians felt that the end was in sight.

He grew some better during the Christmas holidays and was strong enough to visit the home of his daughter, Mrs. W.E. Mitchell, who resides near the city, but on returning he grew worse again, was forced to his bed and has gradually grown weaker until the end came and quietly and peacefully in the early hours of yesterday morning, the great soul returned to the God from whence it came.

Than Col. Goodyear Brunswick had no better citizen, no abler champion and no more eloquent or powerful advocate. He came to this city from his home in Washington, Conn., in 1869, just after the Civil war had left a defeated people with a bitter sting in their hearts. From the moment of his arrival, he made it his duty to endeavor to heal the wounds of war, to unite the people again and to scatter the doctrine of brotherly love. On every occasion he preached this creed and it was finally fruitful of happy results. He was elected clerk of Glynn Superior court in the middle seventies and was while engaged in this work that he studied law and was admitted to the bar. He formed the firm of Goodyear and Kay and for many years it was one of the leading law firms of this entire section of the state. Many years later the firm was broadened into that of Goodyear, Kay and Brantley, composed of the deceased, Col. W.E. Kay, now of Jacksonville and former Congressman W.G. Brantley.

At this period in his life Col. Goodyear made up his mind that Brunswick would never be a seaport unless greater channel depths were secured on the outer harbor. The federal government had, up to that time refused to make appropriations for the harbor and Col. Goodyear sacrificing his immense and lucrative law practice, worked for and finally obtained a government contract for the deepening of the bar.

This proved to be the greatest sacrifice of his life, for while he obtained certain depths and really benefited the harbor, the venture was a final failure and cost him a small fortune. The work he did there, however, was the nucleus for government aid and there is no memorial more fitting to him, than the great silent, expanse of water on the outer bar of the Brunswick harbor.

Col. Goodyear was always a believer in the future of Brunswick; he saw with a clear vision the things of the future and it was his eloquent voice and powerful logic that first pointed the way for direct trade with the countries to the South of us. Many years before the world's great war made the use of all harbors a necessity, Col. Goodyear argued for direct steamship lines to the port of South and Central America. He visited the great inland cities of the South preaching his faith in this commerce and it is a compensating fact to his friends that he lived long enough to see at least a portion of his dreams come true!

In all of the vicissitudes that have befallen Brunswick on all of the years of his residence here he has ever been her true and devoted champion and his untimely death will be deeply mourned by the entire people of the country.

Col. Goodyear was seventy-six years old on December 2nd last. He was married to

Miss Ella Flint of this city on September 5, 1871 and to that union four children have been born, all of whom together with Mrs. Goodyear, survive him. They are Messrs. C.P. Goodyear, Jr., Stephen W. Goodyear and Mrs. W.E. Mitchell, all of this city and Benjamin W. Goodyear of Jacksonville.

The funeral arrangements include a simple service at the family residence at 9 o'clock, conducted by Rev. O.P. Gilbert, of the First Baptist church. The remains will then be removed to the Elks' Lodge, where they will lie in state, until two o'clock this afternoon when the interment will occur at Oak Grove cemetery. Rev. L.J. Ballard, of the First Methodist church officiating.

The Brunswick Bar association held a meeting at noon yesterday to take action on the death of Col. Goodyear and among there things the association named the following active pall bearers, Col. W.E. Kay, Judge J.W. Bennet, Judge C.B. Conyers, Judge Max Isaac, Judge D.W. Krauss, Col. F.H. Harris and Col. J.T. Colson. In accordance with the request of the deceased, the other members of the local bar were requested to act as honorary pall bearers.

At the Bar association, a committee consisting of Judge J.W. Bennet, Judge C.B. Conyers and Col. F.H. Harris were named to prepare resolutions on the death of Col. Goodyear and present them to Glynn Superior court on such occasion as will suit the convenience of Judge J.P. Highsmith.

The death of Col. Goodyear has occasioned sincere sorrow not only in this city, but all over Georgia, as a flood of telegrams from various sections of the state to the members of the family, received yesterday indicated.

The News joins with thousands of others in extending to the members of the family, its sincere sympathy.

Published: 2/19/1919