

# PASSING OF TWO EARLY SETTLERS

Sketches of the Lives of Lewis Harvey Young and His Wife, Mrs. Sarah Young.

(Written by Judge Basil S. Ramsey, assisted by their son, Jasper M. Young)

**DIED**—At his home in Plattsmouth, Cass county, Nebraska, on November 29, 1904, at 7 o'clock a. m., of a general breaking down of the system, incident to old age, Lewis Harvey Young, aged 80 years 5 months and 25 days.

For an octogenarian, Mr. Young has always been comparatively free from sickness until November 19, 1903, while temporarily visiting at Carroll, Wayne county, Neb., he suffered a stroke of paralysis. From this he partially recovered and in February, 1904, he was removed to Plattsmouth, in the hope of being benefited by a change in medical treatment. For a time his condition improved until he was able to walk around. But about the middle of last November he began to grow worse and it was soon apparent that from the effects of the paralytic stroke and his great weight of years, life with him was only a matter of a few days at most.



Lewis Harvey Young. His Early Life.

Lewis H. Young was born in Floyd county Kentucky, on June 4, 1824, being the seventh child of a family of fourteen children.

His father and mother were Charles and Margaret Young, and his early ancestors were among the first settlers of Virginia, in common with others, braving all the perils and dangers of pioneer life among wild animals and even more savage men—the Indians.

Mr. Young remained in the county of his birth until 1841, when 17 years old. In that year he accompanied his parents to Platte county, Missouri, where the family settled on land belonging to what is known as the Platte Purchase. Here he remained until the fall of 1844, when, in company with his mother and other children of the family, he removed to Nodaway county, Missouri, his father having died where the family first settled in that state, in the fall of 1843. At his home in Nodaway county, on a farm, Mr. Young remained until the year 1847, when he enlisted as a soldier in the war with Mexico and served until the fall of 1848, when he was mustered out of the service at Fort Leavenworth, Kas. He returned to Nodaway county, Missouri, where he improved and farmed a valuable tract of land near White Cloud.

### Affected With Gold Fever.

The California gold fever of 1849 had already affected the eastern states, causing many to take the overland trip to the Sacramento valley. It spread westward to Missouri and in 1850 caught Mr. Young, who, with an ox team, crossed the plains and mountains for the New Eldorado. It was an all summer's trip, more than half a century ago, but with old-fashioned, pioneer grit our subject, after months of "roughing it," finally landed on the golden shores of the Pacific in the early autumn of 1850. But the gold hope proved quite different from the realistic, and in July, 1851, Mr. Young turned homeward by sail boat, being on the ocean some twenty-eight days, landing at Acapulco, Mexico. At this place, with thirteen others, they chartered a pack train, then the principal means of convey-

ance across rough country, and went overland to the City of Mexico and from there to Vera Cruz by freight wagons. At the latter place Mr. Young, with his companions, took a sail boat, and after encountering numerous storms, finally crossed the Gulf of Mexico and landed at New Orleans.

From the latter place our subject traveled by steamboat up the Mississippi and Missouri rivers and finally arrived at Glenwood, Mills county, Iowa, on November 7, 1854.

During Mr. Young's absence, his family, in company with Isaac E. and Harvey McBroom, had removed from Nodaway county, Missouri, and located near Glenwood, Iowa. During Mr. Young's residence at the latter place—on March 15 and 16, 1854 the confederate tribes of Indians—the Omahas and Otoes ceded to the United States all their lands west of the Missouri river, except a small reservation on the waters of the Big Blue river. Our subject and his most estimable wife were present at Bellevue when this treaty was signed, having crossed the Missouri river on a flat boat, then owned and operated by Peter A. Sarpy, the noted French Indian trader. After the formalities of the treaty were concluded Mr. Young and his wife returned to their farm near Glenwood, where they remained until June of the same year—1854. At this time Mr. Young recrossed the Missouri river at old Kanosha, a point a short distance south of the present village of Rock Bluffs, and took up a timber claim some three miles from the river. During that summer—fifty years ago—our subject erected a log cabin and broke out a few acres of land on his claim. He returned to his family in Iowa, where he remained during the winter of 1854-5, and in March following—1855, removed his family to their new home, when he commenced improving his prairie pre-emption claim, known as "pre-emption certificate No. 33." Upon this he made permanent settlement and improvements, his first house being constructed of logs, the windows and doors and nearly all the building material being brought from Glenwood, as there were no saw mills then in operation on the west side of the Missouri river.

It was in this pioneer home—one of the first in Cass county, where Mr. Young lived so many years and where he reared his family, and, in fact, where all except the two eldest were born and grew to manhood and womanhood.

### Freighter on the Plains.

In 1859 Mr. Young, in company with a number of other pioneer settlers, started on a freighting expedition to Denver, Colorado, with horse teams. When fifty miles beyond old Fort Kearney—less than half way to Denver—the freighters became discouraged at the outlook ahead—the great danger of losing freight and teams, as well as lives, by marauding Indians and returned home.

During the winter of 1862-3, Mr. Young, with others, again attempted with horse teams to make Denver with freight, in which the parties were successful. Although hostile Indians were almost daily committing depredations on freight trains—murdering and robbing—yet our subject with his companions, after a number of bad scares and narrow escapes, safely completed the round trip of about 1,200 miles in two months.

### In the Indian War of 1864.

During the year 1864, and for some time previous, the Indians became so dangerous to settlers and freighters that the First Nebraska militia was organized for protection of the frontier. In the organization of the militia, Company B was made a part thereof, and Isaac Wiles, now residing near Plattsmouth at the advanced age of 74, was made its captain. Under Captain Wiles our subject served six months, when the Indian troubles having quieted down, the militia returned to their homes.

### Marriage.

On May 3, 1849, near Savannah, Missouri, Mr. Young was united in marriage to Miss Sarah McBroom, daughter of Mr. and Mrs.

Joseph McBroom, who were among the early pioneer settlers of Kentucky.

To this marriage seven children were born—Jasper M., born March 19, 1853; Byron E., born November 13, 1854, both sons born at Glenwood, Mills county, Iowa. Rosa B., born September 28, 1856; Joanna J., (now dead), born November 15, 1858; Eddie, born December 8, 1864; Luella A., born April 30, 1864; Jennie P., (now dead), born August 23, 1870. With the exception of the two children first named, all the others were born on the old pioneer homestead between Rock Bluffs and the place for many years known as "Three Groves."

Besides the five children named, Mr. Young left surviving, his widow, Mrs. Sarah Young; two sisters, Mrs. Mary Buster of Franklin, Franklin county, Nebraska, and Mrs. Clara Campbell of Blair, Washington county, Nebraska; and one brother, Mr. Francis Young of Murray, Cass county, Nebraska.

### Last Sad Obsequies.

On Thursday, December 1, 1904, at 11 o'clock a. m., at the family home in Plattsmouth, funeral services were held. The long residence of deceased in Cass county, his extended acquaintance and the universal esteem in which he was held, attracted large numbers, particularly of the old pioneer settlers, to pay their last tribute of respect and love to the honored dead.

The deceased had been for many years a member of the Ben Franklin post, Grand Army of the Republic, at Franklin, Neb., and the Relief Corps sent most beautiful floral tributes.

Services at the house were conducted by Rev. Charles W. Savidge of Omaha of the People's church, assisted by Rev. David A. Yontz of the Christian church of Plattsmouth. Rev. Savidge delivered a most appropriate and instructive sermon from Ephesians 5:16.

The Methodist choir, composed of Mrs. Hilt Wescott, Miss Edna Petersen, Messrs. C. S. Polk and C. C. Wescott, most touchingly and impressively rendered the following beautiful selections: "Gather Homeward, One by One," "It Is Well With My Soul," "I Love to Tell the Story."

The pall-bearers, consisting of old-time, intimate and pioneer friends of deceased, were Messrs. Basil S. Ramsey, Solomon Long, John Cory, Levi Churchhill, William T. Cole and Columbus G. Despain, who sadly bore to the Young cemetery—the family burial ground—all that remained mortal of their old friend.

Here, surrounded by falling leaf, withered verdure and autumnal decay, typical of him who had just fallen in the shadows of great age, in the presence of a large concourse of friends of deceased, the last scene of life closed amid profound sorrow and falling tear.

### Closing Tribute.

Lewis H. Young had rounded out a venerable age. He had seen life in many of its various phases. A child pioneer in the wilds of Kentucky; a young man pioneer in Missouri and Iowa, and when near middle age, a pioneer settler in Cass county, Nebraska.

A half century ago he had seen the council of Omaha and Otae Indians at Bellevue, when Nebraska became the property of the pale face. During a half century he had lived to see the "old overland route to the Pacific," transplanted by numerous railway lines and the old overland trip to the ocean of months reduced to a few hours. He had seen Nebraska organized into territory—into statehood, and finally developed into one of the greatest states in wealth, intelligence and power in the American union.

Lewis H. Young was of a most genial and social nature, an ideal husband and father, and a devoted lover of home and family. As a neighbor and friend he was universally respected and loved. Scrupulously honest in all his dealings, he commanded implicit and universal confidence.

Mr. Young was a Christian by affiliation and profession, as well as by nature. For more than forty years he had been an exemplary and devout member of the Methodist Episcopal church, and passed into his final rest with most implicit confidence and faith in the tenets of that church.

**DIED**—At Carroll, Wayne county, Nebraska, on Wednesday, August 16th, 1911, at 8:30 p. m., of infirmities incident to old age, Mrs. Sarah Young, aged 86 years 5 months and 24 days.

Mrs. Young had been making

her home with her son, Byron E. Young, and for some time previous to her demise, at Carroll, Wayne county, Nebraska, and although several years past the octogenarian period, had generally enjoyed fairly good health until last February, when she was forced to surrender to the infirmities and weight of years. But with the aid of loving and devoted children, Mrs. Young was able to be up and around the house until August 11th, 1911, when she was compelled to take her bed, where five days afterward she calmly, peacefully and hopefully passed into that mysterious, dreamless slumber.



Mrs. Sarah Young. Biographical.

Mrs. Sarah Young was born near Prestonsburg, in Floyd county, Kentucky, on February 22nd, 1825, and her maiden name was Miss Sarah McBroom.

Her father, Joseph McBroom, was born December 29th, 1794, in Virginia, and died September 11th, 1838, at Crawfordsville, Indiana. Her mother, Mrs. Phoebe McBroom, was born in Virginia January 22nd, 1792, and died at the old Lewis Young farm, near Murray, Cass county, Nebraska, February 9th, 1865.

In the order of birth, Mrs. Young's brothers and sisters are as follows:

William McBroom, born April 28, 1815, and died October 25, 1893, at Danville, Illinois.

Rebecca Young, born September 11, 1817, died at the old William Young farm, near Murray, Cass county, Nebraska, February 19, 1865. (Mrs. Rebecca Young was the mother of David A. Young, now living near Murray, Cass county, Nebraska.)

Andrew McBroom, born December 4, 1819; died at Fort Laramie, Wyoming, September 2, 1851.

John McBroom, born July 26, 1822; died at Fort Logan, near Denver, Colorado, January 15, 1891.

Next in order of birth is Mrs. Sarah Young, the subject of this sketch.

Isaac McBroom, born April 22, 1830, and now resides near Denver, Colorado. He is the only child of this interesting Kentucky pioneer family now living.

James H. McBroom was born February 18, 1835; died at Fort Logan, near Denver, Colorado, September 18, 1888.

Joseph McBroom and wife, Mrs. Phoebe McBroom, as stated, were natives of Virginia and were born a few years after the close of the Revolutionary war. They grew up among the pioneer settlers of the dense forests and rugged hills of Old Virginia.

A new nation—the United States—had only been founded on the great western hemisphere a few years, but even then, "the star of empire was moving westward." Pioneer settlers of western Pennsylvania and of Virginia were pressing westward into Indiana, Illinois and Kentucky. The McBrooms left their pioneer home in Virginia, crossed over into eastern Kentucky and settled in Floyd county. Here the family located, braving all the perils and dangers from wild animals and even wilder and more bloodthirsty savage Indians.

Here, in the wild, dense forests of Floyd county, Kentucky, nearly 87 years ago, Mrs. Sarah Young, the fifth child of a family of seven children, first saw the light of day, and where she grew into that character of attractive and lovable young womanhood, which, as years passed away, developed into that good and noble type of mature womanhood which attracts and makes friends with everyone.

In her girlhood days Mrs. Young did not have the advantages of an education in the free public schools. At that time free public schools in any of the United States were almost unknown, and especially in Kentucky. But the few books owned by these pioneer

families were carefully read by parent and child, the McBroom family giving special attention to the very limited means of education, so that the children had only such educational advantages as were possible in a wild, sparsely settled and undeveloped country. But these limited educational advantages were well improved by the McBroom children to the extent that they were considered fairly well educated, considering their very limited advantages. Mrs. Young particularly showed in conversation how well she had improved her very limited educational advantages. She was not only a general reader, but a good reasoner as well.

The writer recalls with much pleasure his first acquaintance with Mr. and Mrs. Young and their estimable family. This was during the winter of 1866-67, when he was employed as teacher of the district school of the district in which Mr. Young had taken his timber claim in June, 1854, and upon which he had built a comfortable pioneer home and where the family resided at that time.

This old pioneer home is only a few miles southeast of Murray, Cass county, Nebraska, and about three miles from the old village of Kenosha, in the same county.

The teacher at that time was usually paid so much in cash and "board around" free of charge, or paid the same price and board himself. The writer chose the former, and thus, at least during the term of school, became a member of each family in the district, and where, without exception, he was always received and treated with the greatest kindness, courtesy and hospitality.

The home of the Young family was but a short distance from the old school house, and it is possible that the teacher boarded and lodged there more than the proportionate share of this family. But the teacher never heard any complaints and was always given a cordial and hearty welcome to this pioneer home, by both Mr. and Mrs. Young and the children. Of the latter, Jasper, Byron, Rosa, Joanna and Eddie were attending the school.

It was in this pioneer home in Cass county, Nebraska, 45 years ago, that the writer formed an acquaintance and friendship with this most estimable family that has remained unbroken, except by death. It was in this home that the writer first observed the noble traits of character, of womanhood, of wifehood, of motherhood, which adorned and made beautiful Mrs. Sarah Young, the subject of this sketch. The writer also recalls the many pleasant evenings spent with Mr. and Mrs. Young during the two winters—1866-67, 1867-68—he taught their district school and how he became deeply interested in listening to Mr. and Mrs. Young tell of their old respective pioneer homes in Floyd county, Kentucky, and in Cass county, Nebraska. Mrs. Young was especially interesting, as she seemed to have not only a retentive memory, but could describe old pioneer life, with its many trials and scenes, in a way that most deeply interested the listener. Of course, at this particular time, Mrs. Young was in the prime of life, being only about 41 years old, and her husband a year older.

### Marriage.

On May 3, 1849, at the age of 24, Miss Sarah McBroom, near Savannah, Andrew county, Missouri, was united in marriage to Mr. Lewis Harvey Young, who was then 25 years old, and who was also a pioneer of Floyd county, Kentucky, having been born in that county on June 4, 1824.

To this union seven children were born, in the order of birth as follows:

Jasper Marion, born March 19, 1853, near Glenwood, Mills county, Iowa; married Martha E. Estlack and resides at Plattsmouth, Cass county, Nebraska. No issue.

Byron E., born November 13, 1854, near Glenwood, Mills county, Iowa; unmarried and resides at Carroll, Wayne county, Nebraska.

Rosa B., born September 28, 1856, on the old Young homestead, near Murray, Cass county, Nebraska; married Edward E. Phipps and resides at Pierce, Pierce county, Nebraska; issue, Bertie, Harry, Herbert, Eva and Lessie.

Joanna J., born November 15, 1858, at the old Young home near Murray, Cass county, Nebraska; married Austin Johnson. Joanna has but one living child named Ora, who married Charles Manners and resides at Plattsmouth, Nebraska. Joanna departed this life September 22, 1903.

Eddie, born at the old Young home near Murray, on December 8,

1864; married Emma Heath and resides at Carroll, Wayne county, Nebraska. Issue, Jody and Bernice, who are twins; Bernard, Ernest and Edgar.

Luella A., born April 30, 1864, at the old Young home near Murray; married William R. Olmstead and resides at Carroll, Wayne county, Nebraska. No issue.

Jennie P., born August 23, 1870, at the old Young home near Murray. Died September 9, 1872.

### Funeral Services at Carroll.

On Friday, August 18, 1911, at 12 o'clock m., short funeral services were held at the home of her son, Byron, at Carroll. Rev. Shacklock of the Methodist church at that place, delivered an interesting and instructive address on the life and character of deceased. The singing was by four little girls from 12 to 16 years old, and selections made by Eddie Young and Mrs. W. R. Olmstead, consisted of "Rock of Ages" and "It Is Well With My Soul."

Many sorrowing friends attended and beautiful wreaths of flowers were placed upon the casket by four different lodges, of which the sons and daughters of deceased respectively were members. These lodges were: The Odd Fellows, Modern Woodmen, Rebeccas and Royal Neighbors.

The pall-bearers at Carroll consisted of Odd Fellows and personal friends of deceased and her children. They were: John Kesterson, Robert Prichard, William Jones, Phillip Barris, Cass Bedford and William Thomas; and they conveyed the casket to the train for shipment to Plattsmouth, and from thence to Murray, Cass county, Nebraska.

### Funeral Services at Murray.

On Saturday, August 19, 1911, Undertaker Michael Hild of Plattsmouth, and family of deceased met the train at Murray, from which the casket was taken to the Presbyterian church at that place for final services over the loved, old form of mother, grandmother, friend.

At 11 o'clock a. m. of that day services were conducted by Rev. W. L. Austin, pastor of the M. E. church of Plattsmouth, assisted by Rev. Williamson, pastor of the Presbyterian church at Murray.

The addresses of these clergymen were highly edifying, instructive and comforting to the sorrowing relatives and friends. The long, beautiful life-history of deceased was portrayed in well chosen words, and many useful lessons drawn therefrom.

A large number attended the obsequies at Murray, among whom were a number who had known Mrs. Young since early settlement on the old Lewis Young homestead, near Murray.

A quartet composed of Mrs. James W. Holmes, Mrs. Laura V. Kennedy and Messrs. O. A. Davis and Samuel G. Latta, with Mrs. Dr. Gilmore at the piano, most beautifully, touchingly and impressively, rendered the following: "Rock of Ages," "Jesus Lover of My Soul" and "Abide With Me."

The pall-bearers, selected from old neighbors and friends, who had known Mrs. Young for many years, consisted of Humphrey L. Oldham, William A. Dull, Oscar Gopin, Charles H. Boedeker, Frank Moore and Henry Creamer.

After the conclusion of the ceremonies at the church the funeral cortege slowly moved to the Young cemetery, near Murray, where so many of that honored and pioneer name quietly rest in that long, dreamless sleep. Here, beside the husband, Lewis Harvey Young, who had preceded her to the Great Beyond on November 29, 1904, all that remained mortal of an aged and noble womanhood, of a devoted wife, a loved and loving mother and grandmother and of a true and faithful friend, were solemnly and sorrowfully laid to rest beneath verdure, vine and flower.

### Went to Mynard.

A party of ten went to Mynard yesterday for special services in the evening at the Methodist church. Andy Moore and Jessie Perry gave a special duet, and Miss Mollie Godwin contributed several musical numbers. The others in the party were: Mr. and Mrs. Trimpe, Miss Ethel Balance, Miss Hildred Cook, Miss Amy Cook, Hugh Cecil and Will Glock.

William Otterstein and son, Richard, former residents of this city, but now residing on a farm in Eight Mile Grove precinct, were Plattsmouth visitors Saturday. Mr. Otterstein took time to call at this office and renew his subscription to the Daily Journal for a year.