

# Goodwin, John Noble

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GOODWIN, JOHN NOBLE, born at South Berwick, York County, Maine, October 18, 1824; son of John and Mary (Noble) Goodwin; married, Susan Howard Robinson, daughter of George and Alveria (Emery) Robinson, at Augusta, Maine, October 27, 1857, children, Richard Emery, Howard Robinson, and Susan Robinson (Mrs. Lewis Curtis Taylor).

Attended the public schools and the Academy at Berwick; graduated at Dartmouth College, Hanover, New Hampshire, 1844, and then returned home to read law in the office of John Hubbard; admitted to the bar in 1848; member from York County, Maine State Senate, 1854; appointed special commissioner to revise the laws of Maine, 1855.

Elected as a Republican from Maine to the 37th Congress, and served from March 4, 1861 to March 3, 1863, but was defeated by a Democrat for re-election in 1862 by only 127 votes; on the recommendation of James G. Blaine he was appointed by President Lincoln as Chief Justice of the United States Court for the Territory of Arizona, March 6, 1863; on August 21, he was given a recess appointment as Governor of Arizona by the President in place of John A. Gurley, deceased; his appointment as Governor was confirmed by the Senate, February 2, 1864.

Left New York City for Cincinnati and the far West in August 27, 1863; accompanied by a military escort he departed from Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, with other Territorial officials, September 25, and traveled via Forts, Riley, Larned, Lyon and Union, arriving in Santa Fe, New Mexico, November 14; here he

decided, on the advice of General J. H. Carleton, to establish the Territorial Government near the new gold discoveries in northern Arizona rather than at Tucson; the party left Santa Fe November 26, Albuquerque, December 8, Fort Wingate, December 20 and crossed the 109th Meridian into Arizona, December 27; the Government of the Territory of Arizona was formally organized at Navajo Springs on Tuesday, December 29, 1863, by a proclamation which he issued; Fort Whipple, in the Little Chino Valley, which he had designated as the seat of government, was reached on January 22, 1864.

On February 25 he gave instructions to M. B. Duffield, the United States Marshal, to take a census of the white population as a basis for representation in the Legislature and, on April 9, issued a proclamation dividing the Territory into 3 Judicial Districts; he first visited the nearby placer mining districts and then, with a military escort, toured the Verde and Salt River valleys during the course of which an Apache rancheria was surprised by the troops when 5 Indians were killed and 2 wounded; in April he began a tour of the Territory stopping at La Paz, Arizona City (Yuma) and thence to Tucson where on May 11, 1864, by proclamation, he established a municipality and appointed W. S. Oury, as Mayor, and 5 Councilors; he returned to Fort Whipple, which had been moved 22 miles south during his absence to a new location on the east bank of Granite Creek, where he issued a proclamation, on May 26, directing that an election be

held on Monday, July 18, to choose a Delegate to Congress and members of the Legislature; he then made the new town of Prescott, established on May 30, the seat of government.

In June, 1864, he made a second visit to southern Arizona and went with General John S. Mason to Fort Bowie and thence to Fort Goodwin which had just been established on the Gila River; on August 20 he proclaimed the election of C. D. Poston as Delegate to Congress, named those who had been elected to the Legislature and directed them to assemble at Prescott on September 26, 1864; in a message delivered before a joint session of the 1st. Legislative Assembly at 3 P.M. on September 30, Governor Goodwin said in part:

"We are here clothed with the power to make laws which may forever shape the destiny of the Territory, to lay the foundations of a new State, and to build a new commonwealth. We are entrusted not only with the present interests of a small constituency and amendable to them alone, but we are the trustees of posterity and responsible to the millions who in all time shall come after us. \* \* \* \* \*

Where the foot of the Anglo-Saxon is once firmly planted, he stands secure, and before the clang of his labor the Indian and the antelope disappear together. The tide of our civilization has no reflux wave but rolls steadily on over ocean and continent. \* \* \* \*

Hereafter, when the trials of the hour are forgotten, we may boast that in the performance of our duties, in the day of peril, when dangers encircled our path, we followed the flag of the Republic to the most remote region of its domain; that under its folds we established the principles for which it has waved in the battle and storm, and that by our efforts another has been added to the Commonwealth of States."

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After praising the Pima, Papago and Maricopa Indians as well tried and faithful allies, the Governor said in his message:

· On the other hand, to the Apache has been transmitted for a century an inheritance of hate and hostility to the white man. He is a murderer by hereditary descent--a thief by prescription. He and his ancestors have subsisted on the stock they have stolen and the trains they have plundered. They have exhausted the ingenuity of fiends to invent more excruciating tortures for the unfortunate prisoners they may take, so that the traveller acquainted with their warfare, surprised and unable to escape, reserves the last shot in his revolver for his own head.

When the troops were removed from this territory at the commencement of the rebellion, it was nearly depopulated by their murders. They have made southern Arizona and northern Mexico a wilderness and a desolation. But for them mines would be worked, innumerable sheep and cattle would cover these plains, and some of the bravest and most energetic men that were ever the pioneers of a new country, and who now fill bloody and unmarked graves would be living to see their brightest anticipations realized.

It is useless to speculate on the origin of this feeling--or inquire which party was in the right or wrong. It is enough to know that it is relentless and unchangeable. They respect no flag of truce, ask and give no quarter, and make a treaty only that, under the guise of friendship, they may rob and steal more extensively and with greater impunity. As to them one policy only can be adopted. A war must be prosecuted until they are compelled to submit and go upon a reservation.

Elected Delegate to Congress from Arizona Territory in 1864, receiving 707 votes to 381 for Joseph P. Allyn and 206 for Charles D. Poston; served in the 39th Congress from March 4, 1865 to March 3, 1867; was not a candidate for re-election but established a law

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office in New York City where, among other clients, he represented the northern Pacific Railroad Company.

Went to Paraiso Springs, Monterey County, California to seek relief from the gout where he died on April 29, 1887, aged 62; buried, Forest Grove Cemetery, Augusta, Maine.

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