DESTINATION LODI

A HISTORICAL JOURNEY

OUR HEROES

Let us celebrate two of our heroes.

Benjamin Vandemark Sr. (1810-1862) served In the Civil War. He served in Company F, 72 Regiment of the Ohio Infantry. , I called Don Vandemark to ask how his great- grandfather died; I knew it was during the year 1962. Private Vandemark passed away while serving in the Civil War of dysentery. Dysentery is a type of gastroenteritis that is common in poor living conditions, contaminated food and water. I am afraid many of our soldiers died this painful death. His wife Elizabeth filed for his pension on January 8, 1863.

Benjamin Sr. was the son of Henry Schoonhaven Vandemark and Margaret Dayly. He was born in New Jersey on August 27. 1810. He married Elizabeth Haines. They had one son, Benjamin Jr. born October 11, 1846. Benjamin Jr. married Mary Jane Burholder in 1867 and had five children.

I resigned up with Ancestry and for fun; I traced the Vandemark Family Tree to 1600 to Reusel-de Mierder Noord-Brabant, Netherlands. If I counted right, it was Benjamin Sr. fifth grandfather Pieter Willemsz Vandemark.

Frank Richardson (7/27/1834-1934) was born in Grafton to William and Mary Dalton Richardson.

Frank was a carpenter by trade. On September 22, 1861, he enlisted in the army serving as a private in Company B, 42 Infantry Regiment at Camp Chase, Ohio. Frank honorably discharged for an illness on December 13, 1861.

 He married Margaret (Maggie) Minns 2/8/1866. Seven children were born in 18 years.

Frank Richardson was a prominate farmer and listed in the History of Medina County and Ohio. His farm was located ½ mile north of Lodi. The farm no longer stands. He belonged to the Masonic Fraternity Harrisville Lodge and a republican.

Through Ancestry, I could only go back to his father William. William (1793-1870) and his mother Mary (1799-1875) were born and married in England. His parent lived, died and buried in Grafton. Frank was an only child.