

A History

of the

First Presbyterian Church

Maysville, Kentucky

Compiled by
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And
MISS FLORENCE WILSON

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FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
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*To the TWELVE faithful ministers
who have guided this church through
133 years of its history, this book is
gratefully dedicated.*

PREFACE

*"Now go, write it before them, and note it in a book, that it may be for the time to come
forever and ever." Isa. 30:8*

In response to the expressed desire of many of its members that the records of the history of this Church should be put in a form convenient of access to all, this little volume has been compiled.

An Appreciation

From the carefully preserved records of the church, from the faithful editors of newspapers, both of the long ago and also of more recent years, from the cherished clippings of loyal members, and from others who were able to bring forth from the storehouse of memory many interesting bits of data, the information in this book has been obtained. The list follows:

The Daily Independent
The Maysville Tri-Weekly Eagle
The Maysville Republican
The Weekly Bulletin
The Public Ledger
Mrs. J. C. Rogers
Misses Rae and Mary L. Pecor
Miss Alice Gill
Miss Frances Barbour, New York
Miss Mary Pickett DeBell, Flemingsburg
Mrs. Philip Kemper, Cincinnati
Mrs. Martin Baker, Knoxville

For Typing:

Mrs. Ralph Evenburgh
Mrs. John Day
Miss Alberta Helmer
Mrs. Jeanne Trent

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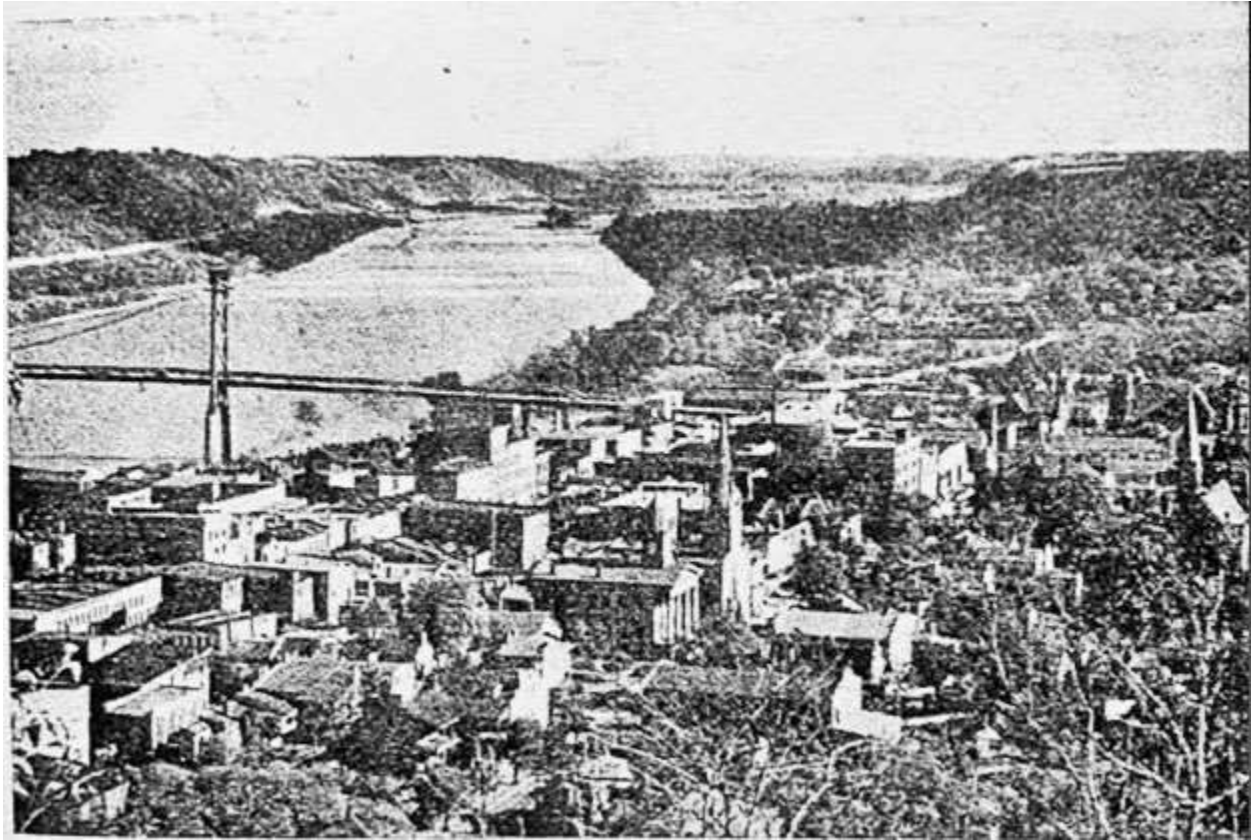
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MAYSVILLE

*"Often I think of the beautiful town
That is seated by the sea;
Often in thought go up and down
The pleasant streets of the dear old town,
And my youth comes back to me."*

"My Lost Youth" in Bird's of Passage
by Longfellow -- quoted by
Mr. John E. Blaine at Centennial -1917

CHAPTER ONE EBENEZER PRESBYTERY

In a history of the Maysville Presbyterian Church some information should be given about Ebenezer Presbytery to which the local church belongs. The following facts have been gleaned from the "History of Ebenezer Presbytery" read at Ludlow April 21, 1888. James Barbour, Esq., a former officer of this church, was a member of the committee appointed to prepare this history.

The Presbytery of Ebenezer is the legal successor of the two old Presbyteries of West Lexington and Ebenezer which were consolidated into one by the Synod of Kentucky in October 1870.

West Lexington, the elder of the two, held its first meeting in Lexington April 16, 1799. It was called West Lexington to distinguish it from Lexington Presbytery, Virginia.

The Presbytery began its history with ten ministers and a large number of but partially organized churches or congregations.

Three Presbyteries, Transylvania, West Lexington, and Washington (Mason County, Ky.) constituted the Synod of Kentucky in 1802. Among the orders made was one for each minister to spend at least two Sabbaths in Evangelistic work. And for each church to render a statement annually, at least, to Presbytery of the manner in which they discharged their obligations to their pastors. And also, in what manner their pastors performed the duties lying upon them.

At a meeting at Ash Ridge October 1, 1799 it was ordered that a Concert of Prayer for a General Revival of Religion be observed on the first Tuesday of November and first Tuesday of each quarter of the year following. And the remarkable fact must be noted that the memorable Revival of 1800 began before the time embraced in that order for prayer expired.

At a meeting in October people in Natchez Settlement (Miss.) asked for supplies and Rev. Barton Stone was sent to minister for a season. These facts within two years of its history, show that from the very beginning the principles and practices of the Presbytery on ministerial support were well-nigh what they are today.

In October 1806 steps were taken to raise a fund to educate pious young men. Thus early in its history were the germs of a Theological Seminary and a Board of Education existing in this Presbytery.

There are no records of Presbytery from May 27, 1814 to April 10, 1821, these having been lost. It has been learned from other sources that during that time the Presbytery was divided and Ebenezer held its first meeting in Carlisle November 29, 1820. It is recorded that the minutes in Vol. 6 and 7 were in the beautiful handwriting of Rev. Chas. A. Campbell. Mention is made of Dr. Hays as Stated Clerk Nov. 20.

EBENEZER PROPER

By order of the Synod made October 1820, West Lexington was divided and Ebenezer was formed to embrace the counties of: Bourbon, Harrison, Boone, Pendleton, Mason, Lewis, Campbell, Bracken, Fleming, Nicholas, Bath, Floyd, and Greenup.

At a meeting held in Maysville April 1822 the whole territory in the bounds of the Presbytery was divided into four preaching districts. At this meeting, according to a previous rule, Presbytery proceeded to examine the pastor, officers, and people

of the Maysville Church with respect to their mutual duties toward each other. It appeared that they had all been faithful with the exception that some had failed in the instruction of their children and servants. And some of the officers and heads of families had neglected their duty in not attending to family worship. Wherefore, on motion, resolved that the moderator deliver an admonition. Which duty he performed. The question also came up about a man marrying a deceased wife's sister. And it was ordered that they be suspended until they gave evidence of repentance by ceasing to live together as man and wife. In September 1866 the Synod of Kentucky divided into U.S. and U.S.A. Ebenezer Presbytery was the last of the Presbyteries to follow. It was divided in September 1867 at Falmouth. There were just three ministers left, George Coons, William C. Condit, and James B. Hendrick.

THE REUNION OF 1870

On October 15, 1870 West Lexington Presbytery and Ebenezer were united and given the name Ebenezer. Its territory to embrace the whole of Kentucky lying north and east of the Kentucky River.

During the ten years that followed, 1870 to 1880, steady, healthful progress was made in all departments. In these years we find the names of John Barbour and S.B. Alderson among the ministers in Kentucky Synod. In the early portion of 1883 Rev. S.B. Alderson and W.C. Condit made a tour through the Sandy Valley. This is now the seat of Pikeville College. Sunday School interests were greatly developed in every way. Almost every congregation had a Woman's Missionary Society, Mission Bands and other juvenile organizations.

The Presbytery now includes the following churches: Pikeville, McVey, Prestonburg, Greenup, Ashland, Maysville, Covington, Newport, Dayton, Ludlow, Mt. Sterling, Flemingsburg, Lexington.

Presbyteries Effect Merger

Lexington, Ky., June 14, 1950

The Ebenezer and Buckhorn Presbyteries were merged at a reorganizational meeting yesterday at Second Presbyterian Church.

The Rev. Edwin Dalstrom of Harlan and the Rev. W. H. Black of Prestonsburg were elected moderator and vice moderator, respectively.

Other officers elected are L. J. Horlacher, Lexington, stated clerk, and C. O. Hoskins, Harlan, treasurer.

Organization

"Here the great tawny river throws a caressing arm around the coming hills which jut out against the Southern sky like the fragments of enormous emeralds – at their feet nestles the little town of Maysville. Across the river lies the little village of Aberdeen, scarcely more than a quiet hamlet. A ferry plies between."

Thus wrote James Lane Allen many years ago.

Here in the year of 1817, the year of Monroe's presidency, the seed of Presbyterianism was planted.

How It Happened

The era of Peace had come and a tremendous tide of development and construction set in through all the West. The Presbyterian Church was not asleep. The Board of Home Missions was organized in 1816. The Board of Students for the Ministry in 1819. After the great revival in 1800 which swept through the Middle West, marked by such extravagancies and leaving such heresies and divisions, the Reverend Robert Wilson, who organized this church, was one of the eight young ministers who came out from the Valley of Virginia to meet these needs. A committee of four men was in charge of the organization of the Maysville Church. Reverend Robert Wilson, of Washington, Kentucky and Mr. William Rickey from the same church; also Messrs. Robert Robb and John Boyd, both elders of the Ebenezer Presbyterian Church of Lewis County. The latter church was organized in 1798. The exact date of the organization of the church at Maysville is given as June 14, 1817. It was on this date after public worship, the Rev. Robert Wilson, Pastor of the Presbyterian Church at Washington, Kentucky, met in session with William Rickey, ruling elder from the same church, and Robert Robb and John Boyd, ruling elders from the Cabin Creek Church (Ebenezer) and passed the following resolutions:

"Whereas the Presbytery of West Lexington has sanctioned the formation of a Presbyterian Church at Maysville, Kentucky, therefore be it resolved that those members of the Washington church who live in Maysville and its vicinity be, and are, hereby recommended to have their names transferred from the church at Washington to that of the First Presbyterian Church of Maysville."

Thus the following named persons were received: Margaret Lowry, Isabelle Alcorn, Mary Cochran, and Mary Woodrow. On the 20th of September, 1817, after the public worship the following persons were received on examination:

Mary Kerr, Elizabeth Hamilton and Margaret Brown.

On the 13th of January, 1819, John January and John Lowry were elected the first elders: and on the 9th of February, 1820, Valentine Peers was elected Ruling Elder and ordained at the same time. From the time of the organization of this church until March 1820, there had been received forty members. The religious services were conducted by Rev. Robert Wilson of the Washington Church. He also presided over the meetings of the Session.

These men from Washington and the Ebenezer Church of Lewis County were farmer folk accustomed to sowing and reaping, but from no seed that they planted did they reap a harvest of greater value than from the planting done on that day in June, 1817.

First Pastor

On the 29th of March, 1820, the Rev. John T. Edgar was elected Pastor of the church, and continued to exercise the duties of this office until December, 1827, when the pastoral relation was dissolved and he moved to Frankfort, Kentucky. Not much is known of his pastorate here. Dr. Edgar had come to the Maysville from the Flemingsburg Church. After leaving Maysville he went to Frankfort and then to the First Church of Nashville, Tennessee. While there he was elected Moderator of the General Assembly. Dr. Edgar is referred to in the History Ebenezer Presbytery as the orator among the ministers of State.

Conversion of Andrew Jackson

One of the interesting events of Dr. Edgar's career while in Nashville was receiving Andrew Jackson into his church. It was said that Dr. Edgar had quite a time getting "Old Hickory" to promise to forgive his enemies. He was as faithful and inexorable as Savonarola with Lorenzo de Medici in Florence, but with better success, for though hesitating for a time saying that he could not forgive the slanderers of his wife, Jackson finally relented and became a humble follower of Jesus Christ.

In "A HISTORICAL SKETCH OF MASON COUNTY"

by Miss Lucy Lee, is the following item:

"Lewisburg was called for Isaac Lewis, a prominent merchant there. His daughter Betsey married William McIlvain, a prominent farmer; some of their descendants are living in Maysville still."

In the court records it is stated that Dr. John T. Edgar married William McIlvain to Elizabeth Lewis, May 17, 1820.

This was no doubt the same couple referred to in Miss Lee's History, and as Dr. Edgar was the first pastor of the church; it was the first wedding in the Presbyterian Church. There was no building at that time and no record of where the ceremony was performed.

The following notes were taken from the history of the First Presbyterian Church of Nashville, Tennessee, "One Hundred Years of Service," published in 1915 by Foster and Parker Co., Nashville, Tennessee.



DR. JOHN T. EDGAR

Dr. Edgar was born in Delaware in 1792 and was taken with his father's family to Kentucky in 1795.

He studied theology at Princeton, graduating in 1816. He served churches in Kentucky (Flemingsburg, Maysville, and Frankfort) with increasing reputation. After serving six years in Frankfort he was called to Nashville where he died on November 13, 1860 at the age of 68 years, 7 months.

The elements that went to make the success of Dr. Edgar as a minister of the gospel were distinct and marked of all men. Physically he was a splendid type of virile, symmetrical manhood. His body was finely proportioned, being somewhat above the average height. His face, mobile and quick to respond to every change of feeling, with one eye of dark hazel that could flash with enthusiasm or melt in tenderness, was one of the most potent aids to his oratory. His voice of extraordinary compass and sweetness by its witchery and melody at once gained and held attention. When he was a young minister at Frankfort, Kentucky, Mr. Clay, prince of American orators, was asked, who of his contemporaries was the greatest orator. His answer was, "Go to the Presbyterian Church of Frankfort and you will hear him."

Dr. Edgar was wonderfully eloquent in the pulpit; in the pastorate he was tender and gracious; in all his relations with the world he was the accomplished genial gentleman; in his personal life he was the humble and devoted Christian.

It was under his preaching at the little Hermitage Church that the venerable hero of many hard fought battle-fields, General Jackson, with tears streaming down his withered cheeks, enrolled himself publicly as a soldier under the banner of the Prince of Peace and took his first communion. This was in 1838.

Dr. Edgar conducted the funeral of Andrew Jackson at the Hermitage, delivering a thoughtful eulogy before an array of 3,000 people, taking as his text that pillow of cloud for the unhappy - "These are they which came through great tribulation and washed their robes white in the blood of the Lamb."

LAFAYETTE WAS HERE

On Saturday, May 21, 1825, General Lafayette and his son, Col. George Washington Lafayette, and Governor Morrow of Ohio reached Maysville on the steamer, Herald. An enthusiastic reception and ovation was accorded him. He was met at the foot of Fish Street (now Wall St.) by the Committee on Reception among whom was Rev. John T. Edgar, pastor of the First Presbyterian Church. Other members were: Major Charles Pelham, Captain Maurice Langhorne, Johnson Armstrong, and Captain Stephen Lee of Maysville, and John Chambers Francis and Dr. James Taliaferro of Washington. When General Lafayette landed in the city, John Armstrong, a wealthy merchant, sent carpets down to the river bank for him to walk upon; a like compliment was paid him by lawyer Thomas Y. Payne for him to ascend the steps of the hotel. Captain James Byers of the Maysville Infantry was his escort. Major Charles Pelham of the Revolutionary War delivered the address of welcome. The procession was formed in the following order: General Lafayette and Honorable Jeremiah Morrow, Governor of Ohio, in a barouche; Colonel George Washington Lafayette, Major Pelham, and Lafayette's secretary in an open carriage; officers and soldiers of the Revolution; citizens and strangers on foot.

The above incident was related by Dr. John Barbour at the Centennial Celebration. Dr. Barbour also told members of the church that he had heard that Dr. Edgar lived in the house on Third Street owned by Mr. W.W. Archdeacon and now occupied by his daughter, Miss Stella Archdeacon. It is said that Dr. Edgar conducted a private school there. After Dr. Edgar left Maysville there were two stated supplies - Charles Phillips who served in September and October, 1828, and T.J.A. Mines from December 25, 1828 to August 25, 1829.

Second Pastor

William Lewis Breckinridge, D.D., LL.D., eighth child and fourth son of Hon. John and Mary Hopkins (nee Cabell) Breckinridge, was born at Cabell's Dale, near Lexington, Ky., on the 22nd of July, 1803. He became a follower of Christ at about the age of fifteen, and entered the ministry about 1831. His first pastorate was fulfilled at Maysville, Ky. When his brother John was made Secretary of the Board of Education, he was sought for to succeed him in the pastorate of the Second Presbyterian Church, Baltimore, but preferred a Professorship of Languages in Centre College, Ky. Thence he was called to the pastorate of the First Presbyterian Church of Louisville, Ky., where he began his work on the first Sabbath of January, 1836, and profitably preached for a period of three-and-twenty years. Subsequently he was President of two colleges; first of Oakland College, Miss., and then of Centre, Ky. At the time of his death he was residing on his farm in Cass county, Missouri, and laboring in the surrounding country, as minister at large. He died peacefully, December 26th, 1876.



WILLIAM LEWIS BRECKINRIDGE

The following estimate of his character is from the pen of his life-long friend, Rev. Dr. Edward P. Humphrey:

"The grace of God, which took possession of his mind and heart when about fifteen years old, gave sweetness and dignity to his elevated nature, true love to Christ and to the souls of men, together with a spirit of self-sacrifice and unquestioning obedience to God. As a preacher he was instructive, lucid and thoroughly evangelical. He had a clear conception, an intelligent and experimental knowledge of the gospel, and expounded the saving truths with great simplicity, and often with an earnestness, a pathos, a persuasive power, that brought his hearers into captivity to the obedience of Christ.' And then a certain propulsive power was imparted by his discourses, by his manliness, his moral and physical courage, his profound conviction of the truth and glory of the gospel, and by the unspotted purity of his life. His character came with him into the pulpit; it robed his person with honor when he walked through the streets. What men thought of him strengthened all our ministers, of every church, in the confidence of the community. Few men have been so diligent and useful in pastoral visitation. His fine social qualities, his ready, even spontaneous sympathy, his sense of propriety and delicacy, made him welcome always to the families of his congregation. The sick and the dying and bereaved turned to him at once as a learner and a teacher in the school of Christ, the Consoler. His labors as a pastor were the most prominent, and, as he thought, the most fruitful branch of his ministry. Through these labors he reached a place in the love of the people which has not often been attained in our generation.

"In the Presbyterian Church at large he was a wise and trusted counsellor. He loved the Church; he consecrated himself, body and spirit, down to the end of his days, to its

welfare. His brethren throughout the land committed to him the most sacred trusts, and they bestowed upon him the highest honors of the profession."

This article is taken from "THE PRESBYTERIAN ENCYCLOPEDIA" by Alfred Nevin, DD., LL.D., Philadelphia, 1884.

In October 1830, Reverend W. L. Breckinridge came here as pastor, remaining until January 1832. It was his first charge upon leaving the Seminary. Dr. Breckinridge was afterwards a pastor in Louisville for 23 years, and later President of Centre College. One of the buildings on the Centre campus is called Breckinridge Hall in his honor. He was a brilliant man, states Dr. Barbour, but in his old age was a tiresome preacher. However, he was a dignified and courtly figure. One who always said and did things in good taste. He made a fine pastor. He became a Moderator of the General Assembly. After Dr. Breckinridge's departure L.D. Howell served as a supply from December 1832 to July 1833.

Alexander Logan was the next pastor. He served not quite a year before he died here. He is buried in the Maysville cemetery. Anyone desiring to see his grave can find it by entering the main driveway and continuing on it until reaching the last driveway running north and south. Here on the right will be found the lone grave with its quaint stone on which is carved a vase of roses. Although erected 116 years ago and discolored by the passing years it still stands firm and upright like a faithful sentinel guarding the remains of this minister of the Gospel. It is the only grave upon the lot and is typical of one who died among strangers, far away from home and loved ones. The fact that he was buried here and his body never removed would seem to indicate that he was an orphan and unmarried. The grave is situated just back of a vault overlooking the Infirmary. It faces the East awaiting the resurrection morn.

The letters on the old stone are still legible. They read:

Epitaph

In memory of Alexander Logan minister of the Gospel in the Presbyterian Church.

Born in Pennsylvania October 10, 1800

Died in Maysville, Kentucky March 8, 1834

His life was a beautiful example of the religion to which it was devoted. In every station to which he was called he performed his duties diligently, cheerfully and faithfully. As he lived, he died.

Called in November, 1834, Reverend John J. Rice served as Pastor for one year. There is no record of his ministry.

It is not known in what house the Presbyterian Church was organized nor where worship was held until a church was built.

It is said that the Reverend Robert Wilson who organized this church, after having preached at Washington on Sunday morning, walked to Maysville in the afternoon to hold services with this small group of Presbyterians. He did this from the day of the organization of the church in June, 1817, until the coming of Dr. Edgar on March 29, 1820.

In an article written by Mrs. William Weis, on the old graveyards of Maysville, she refers to a letter written in Jan. 1821, by a Maysville lady, a member of the Presbyterian Church in which she says, "A new church is now building and will be finished probably next season,"

This was the Blue Church which stood where the Opera House now stands. Back of the church was what was known as the Presbyterian Church graveyard. In an article written by Dr. Thomas E. Pickett and published in the Register of the Kentucky Historical Society, he states that the body of Peter Grant, father of Ulysses S. Grant was interred here.

Tradition says that Jacob Boone gave the ground for this graveyard and lies buried here. He was a cousin of Daniel Boone.

JOHN J. RICE
1834-1835

The following information was obtained from the Department of History of the Presbyterian Historical Society, Philadelphia:

He was licensed and ordained by Transylvania Presbytery in 1832 and 1833. He was pastor of the Presbyterian Church at Millersburg, Ky., in 1833 and 1834 before coming to Maysville.

There seems to be little information about him after he left Maysville. According to the record, he lived at Burlington, Ky., from 1838 to 1839 and was at Quincy, Florida, in 1840. There is no information about him after that date."

There has been some confusion about this minister; as there was another man, L. N. Rice, in Kentucky at the same time. He was at Bardstown at the time John J. Rice was here but he afterward preached in Paris and did mission work in Ebenezer Presbytery. It is probable that he may have been here at some time.

He was quite noted, a very brilliant man. He engaged in a debate with Alexander Campbell at which Henry Clay and many other noted lawyers were present. He was Moderator of the General Assembly in 1835 which met at Nashville.

CHAPTER TWO THE "OLD BLUE" CHURCH

This first church building was erected on the lot where the Washington Theater now stands. It was a beautiful structure, modeled on the plans of the stately Saint Clements Danes of London. It was painted a deep blue, and with its tall spire was a landmark to boats plying the Ohio River. Even at that early date the building was equipped with a bell and pipe organ. The pulpit was in the south end and sitting in a recess extending back into the lot.

Something of the history of the Blue Church is found in the register of the Kentucky State Historical Society (vol. 8, No. 27, pp 20-21) under the date of September, 1911, as follows:

"Just in front of this old grave yard rose at one time an imposing structure painted a deep blue, fashioned like an old English Structure with darkly stained galleries in front and on both sides. There were two entrances from the street, and the tall cupola and belfry were visible to the passing boats upon the river. In a word the old edifice was a miniature St. Clements Danes, a famous old ecclesiastical building which stands on the Strand and looks out on the Thames, erected many years ago for a community of Scandinavians. English sailing to every part of the world have looked upon St. Clements Danes. It is distinctly visible from the river and still stands with its front galleries intact. The two front doors opened into a vestibule and thence into Old Blue Church facing the erect and defiant Presbyterian pulpit occupied for many years by a succession of the ablest ministers in the state - John J. Rice, Robert Grundy, W.L. Breckinridge and others, men of distinction and leaders in the church. In the front gallery stood a pipe organ of excellent tones and upon it played with singular sweetness and expression a charming New England girl. The noble instrument still responding to the practical touch has cheered for many years the ardent Calvinistic admirers of the girl. Looking down from the galleries on the soft religious light, one noted the big pews and the old families - the Lees the Schultzes, the Januarys, the Hodges and Hustons - every group bearing the marks of a superior pioneer race - elevation, intelligence, dignity and distinction. Here in the galleries Sunday School was held.



These were the surroundings, the ethical or religious influence of the youthful Grant, and here, doubtless, he gathered some impressions which he never lost. His teacher, W.W. Richeson, was an officer in the Church. Indisputably, General Grant was what is known as a "believer." He believed in a power and intelligence at the heart of things, and that these great central forces were the controlling influences of his own singularly successful career.

(Note- It was from the pulpit of this Old Blue Church that John Quincy Adams, then visiting in Kentucky, proclaimed the innocence of Henry Clay from the charge of bargain and intrigue. Mr. Richeson heard the famous vindication and frequently referred to it in his talks to his school. He was profoundly impressed by the solemnity of Mr. Adams' appeal. It was, he said, as one speaking in the very presence of God.

In April, 1850, the Blue Church was destroyed by fire, while the pastor, Reverend Robert G. Grundy, was absent in attendance upon the meeting of General Assembly. This same fire destroyed all buildings from the old bank on Sutton Street around the corner of Second Street and Sutton and west of Graves Alley; there were two livery stables and other buildings and offices destroyed. Nothing was saved out of the fire except the pipe organ.

This was taken down by Mr. Michael Ryan and others and afterwards set up in the new church. It was later given to the church at Flemingsburg.

MEMBERS OF THE BLUE CHURCH

CERT.	John Lowry Elizabeth Lowry	May10, 1817 May 10, 1817
EX.	Lynch A. M. Ghee	May 10, 1817 (dis – Dec. 1, 1874)
CERT.	Margaret Lowry Isabella Alcorn Mary Cochran Mary Woodrow	June 14, 1817 June 14, 1817 June 14, 1817 June 14, 1817
EX.	Mary Kerr Elizabeth Hamilton Margaret Brown	Sept. 20, 1817 Sept. 20, 1817 Sept. 20, 1817
EX.	Samuel A. January Pamela January	Oct. 20, 1817 Oct. 20, 1817
CERT.	John and Susan January Margaret Smith Martha Gibson	Dec. 12, 1818 Dec. 12, 1818 Dec. 12, 1818
EX.	Luke W. Stanley	July 7, 1819
CERT.	Mary Walker Valentine Peers Miss Elinor Peers Harriet Peers Matilda Peers	July 21, 1819 March 21, 1819 March 21, 1819 March 21, 1819 March 21, 1819
EX.	Mary McCullough Margaret Gulick Margaret Sumrall Margaret Cox John Cox	July 18, 1819 Aug. 3, 1819 Sept. 18, 1819 Sept. 18, 1819 Sept. 18, 1819
CERT.	(Certificate)	
EX.	(Examination)	

Maysville Tri-Weekly Eagle April 20, 1850

A destructive fire broke out in the frame buildings on the upper side of Second Street, on Thursday afternoon, just after our paper went to press, which swept away the whole of the old wooden houses between the Bank on Sutton and the Presbyterian Church on Second Street and the church also.

The fire companies and indeed nearly the entire population, were promptly on the ground and labored hard to arrest the flames but their efforts were unavailing, until the venerable pile of the Presbyterian Church was consumed, the brick walls of which protected the frame buildings between it and the Southern Methodist Church from the flames, the Phoenix Engine House, Phister's Carpenter Shop and Bierbower's Carriage Factory, all wooden buildings situated between the two churches were a good deal injured, slightly by fire, but more by efforts to pull them down, but were eventually saved.

The roof of the Methodist Church was afire in two places at one time but received very slight damage. The Presbyterian Church and all the houses thence to the corner of Sutton and to the residence of Dr. Cross, next adjoining the bank were entirely consumed. Dr. Cross's residence, a brick, was so much damaged as to make it untenable. The house and all of those consumed were the property of Milton Culbertson of the Lee House. There was no insurance on any of them, but loss was inconsiderable as the houses were very old frame.

The Presbyterian Church was insured for \$4,000.00 in the Lexington Insurance Office. The Store of Hamilton Gray, on the opposite corner of Second was afire, but saved from any loss by the exertion of the citizens.

Several hundred barrels of salt owned by J.B. Davenport and of Kanawa were destroyed. There were eight tenements besides two livery stables and the church burnt out viz. Mr. Cross's residence, Drs. Bell and Murphys' Medical Offices, a salt shed, Hiram Outtens paint shop, a vacant tenement, Martin's Saddlery on the corner, vacant tenement and Culbertson's large stables.

The contents of all were principally secured.

Maysville Eagle May 9, 1850

The members and congregation of the Presbyterian Church will meet in the M. E. Church, South, to hear reports of the committee appointed at the last meeting and to determine upon further action in regard to the erection of a new church edifice.

Maysville Eagle June 29, 1850

The Southern Methodist Church being in process of renovation, the Rev. Mr. Cross will preach tomorrow morning of invitation by Dr Grundy in the City Hall and the congregations are respectfully invited to worship with our Presbyterian friends, also in the evening.



CHAPTER THREE PRESENT EDIFICE

On the return of Dr. Grundy just one week after the Old Blue Church burned, the officers met at the home of Mr. A. M. January (the house in which Mr. and Mrs. T.A. Duke now reside); the minutes of that meeting were kept by Mr. W. W. Richeson and were handed down by him to his daughters. The first subscription for a new building was \$1.00 made by Richard January (Mrs. Duke's great uncle), the little son of Mr. January.

So rapidly did they proceed and with such wisdom and taste that this beautiful house was made ready for occupancy of the basement December 26, 1850. It was not until 1852 that the upper room was finished. Before the basement was ready for worship, the Neptune Fire Company was given the use of the room and assisted by the ladies in a supper in response, no doubt, to their efforts to save the church that burned. Worship, meanwhile, was held in the Court House. The Sunday School being held in the Academy of Rand and Richeson on Fourth Street.

In this church you would have found upon ascending the stairway (there was one on each side as at present) a framed notice on each side proclaiming that "all seats in this church are free." Upon reaching the top of the stairs you entered a large hall with double doors leading into the sanctuary; (these doors correspond to those down stairs leading to the Sunday School room). A balcony extended across the southern end of the building. The pulpit opposite at the northern end was high and was reached by steps from each side (like the church at Alexandria).

The only pulpit furniture was a beautiful mahogany couch covered with red velvet (now in the home of Mrs. W. D. Cochran).

To the right and left of the pulpit, but on a lower level, there were groups of pews facing the pulpit. It seems that the organ and choir were located in the balcony at the southern end of the building. The windows were clear glass with small panes and inside shutters. There were three sections of seats, two aisles instead of the one center aisle. These seats were provided with warm crimson cushions. It was a source of regret to many when these cushions were removed. Younger members who liked to nap when the service became tiresome and those with rheumatic bones have uttered a protest ever since they were taken away.

Reclining upon these cushions and looking up, one could see the chandeliers. There were four of these coming down from the four corners of the stucco work which still adorns the room.

There were clusters of gas jets, each covered with a white globe.

By way of ornamentation, ropes of metal beads were draped among the clusters. A favorite pastime of the small fry was to count these beads while reposing on the cushioned pews.

Early in the history of the church, just four years after its erection, on August 13, 1854, some young men were out on a lark near a gun powder storage house in Smoky Hollow, (the powder was used in pre-Civil War days for blasting roads). In some manner 27,500 pounds of gun powder was discharged, hurling rock against the side of the church over a half mile away; and although improvements have been made to the building during the 92 years since, this hole has been preserved as a part of Maysville history. It has served also to show the damage which can result from a moment's reckless and thoughtless prank.

Some time afterward, the church was again tried by fire. The lower room and windows in the upper room were damaged. One young man who had drifted away from the church exclaimed that he certainly did regret that fire because it burned up an old roll of honor which had hung upon the wall. He said it was the only proof he had that he had ever been a good boy and gone to Sunday School and received honorable mention.

Centennial Address by John E. Blaine – 1917

The following from the address of Mr. John E. Blaine of Cincinnati, a former member of this church, and one time serving as deacon, then as elder and superintendent of the Sunday School, gives much interesting information about this church:

"Memories carry me through the activities of long, busy years and I stand a young boy in the streets of Maysville gazing in wonderment and awe at the great church that had been dedicated to the worship of God but a few years ago; how could there be a greater? Immense in its size; towering over all other buildings in the city; and then its graceful tapering spire of which there was none like it, capped by a giant gilded hand, the index finger extended and penetrating as it appears to the boyish gaze, into the very heavens above, and visible to all men far and near. And then its wonderful bell that rang out its call to service in rich melodious tones that caused echoes to sing for joy.

"It is the Sunday School hour, and entering the wide open doors of the beautiful and sacred building, I am at once attracted by the melody of little children's voices; it comes from the partly open door of the Infant Class room and without looking in I picture the

innocent little group, surrounding Mother Scudder, whose long, tender and loving service was an inspiration to many a young life. In fresh childish voices they sing in tones clear and sweet as the warbling of birds on a spring morning:

*Little drops of water, little grains of sand,
make the mighty ocean, and the beauteous land.
And the little moments humble though they be,
make the mighty ages of Eternity.*

Passing on, I enter the main room and join my class. The room is not particularly attractive; the seats are stiff and are permanently attached to the floor; the walls are bare, except the solid wall opposite the entrance on which are hanging maps illustrating the Missionary Journey of the Great Apostle. The Superintendent opens the school with prayer, singing and reading a scripture lesson. And to this day the form of Judge Lewis Collins stands before me as he reads his favorite lesson:

And he showed me a pure river of the water of life, clear as crystal proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb.

With a buzz of voices recitations began. The committing to memory of the Commandments, and the Shorter Catechism, is imperative; committing Bible verses is encouraged and three prizes, usually books, given the scholars who during the year committed to memory and recited to their teachers the largest number of verses. Recitations ended, books from the Library are obtained by all who want them. The Sunday School paper, 'The Visitor,' is distributed and after, a song, the school is dismissed.

Church service follows shortly after, and the teachers and many of the scholars, myself among them, remain to attend the larger service. Entering the auditorium, I see the familiar form of Rev. Robert C. Grundy, the beloved Pastor and friend, who for 22 years gave his strength, his love, and his services to the Maysville Church.

"The pews with their rich crimson upholstery are filled with quietly dressed familiar forms; and eager, expectant faces await the beginning of the service. An air of purity, and sweetness and quiet peace fills the house as with the fragrance of the morning dew. I lift my eyes to the organ loft. At the organ sits that accomplished scholar and gentleman, George W. Blatterman. And about him the members of the choir; prominent among them we see the talented singer, Miss Lucy Rand and Mr. Michael Rand. To the right and to the left the gallery seats occupied by family servants and faithful colored men and women members of the church and for whom seats in the main body of the church are provided on Communion Sundays.

"To the right of the pulpit are seated the young lady boarders from the Rand and Richeson Seminary with their notebooks prepared to take notes on the sermon (these are to be written out and handed to their teachers the next morning). On the opposite side are the young men students who instead of notes on the sermon are required to prepare and deliver speeches.

Before the pulpit and extending from wall to wall is the general congregation. Sitting in their accustomed and long occupied seats are the men and women whose faces had

become familiar to me as a boy by seeing them in my father's house and in the church; men and women whom I came to know intimately in later years, and whom I counted it a privilege to know and love as friends; men and women whose names are indelibly linked with the history of Maysville and with the Maysville Presbyterian Church.

"Here sits the family of William Hodge; there the family of William Huston; and there the family of Andrew M. January and his son-in-law, Robert A. Cochran; and there the families of my mother's brothers, Charles B. Coons and his sweet sister Hester; Rev. George W. Coons, who having retired from the ministry because of ill health made his home in Maysville; and the families of my father, Samuel L. Blaine and James Barbour and his wife's mother, Mrs. Foster, and Henry Waller, and Judge Lewis Collins, and his son, Richard H. Collins; and George W. Blatterman; and Jacob W. Rand; and Christian Schultz and his daughter, Mrs. Julia Chenoweth; and Mrs. John B. Poyntz and Mrs. Charles B. Pearce; and William Richeson; and Joseph Broderick; and Dr. W. H. McGranaghan and his wife's mother, Mrs. Jane Ellis; and Michael Ryan; and John Scudder; John H. Richeson and his sister, Miss Mollie; Thos. J. Pickett, W. H. Wadsworth, Francis T. Hord, James Smith, Henry H. Cox, Whiteman Wood, Dr. William Wood, Joseph Wallingford, John G. Hickman and his sister, Mrs. Ranson; and my own relative, John B. Harbin and his son-in-law, Joseph Boyd; J. James Wood and Miss Lottie Wood; Dr. S. M. Cartmell and Hamilton Gray; Chas. B. Ryan, Mrs. Jane Lee, Dr. John P. Phister, Mrs. Mackey and Mrs. Peers, John Ravencraft, Mrs. Ashton and her daughter, Julia; George Arthur, Reuben King, Miss Ary Ann Turner, Mrs. Pemberton and Mrs. Linn; Paul Hoeflich and Dr. Ambrose Seaton; Thos.. B. Matthews, Mrs. Dawson and Henry Ayres and Dr. Samuel K. Sharpe and his son, John R. Sharpe; and a host of others whose names are written not only in the books of the Maysville Presbyterian Church, but also in the Lamb's Book of Life, for these were faithful unto death.

"Many, very many, of these were permitted to continue their activities in the church through the years of which this paper treats, succeeding Dr. Grundy's ministry and these were strengthened by the families of their sons and daughters and other consecrated men and women among whom we mention the families of Thos. M. Green and Dr. G. W. Martin and Thomas J. Throop and Henry E. Pogue and Dr. W. S. Moores and W. B. Matthews and Hiram H. Collins and Mrs. Barr, Mrs. Thos. Wells and W. H. Wallingford, Mrs. Simpson, George H. Taylor and Josiah Wilson, and numerous others whose names, as well as those previously mentioned, are held in loving remembrance. A noble company of earnest, faithful men and women, true and loyal to their families, their friends and their church; their lives were a living testimony of their faith in the living God and in the saving grace of Jesus Christ, his well beloved son. They were ever ready to respond to the call of duty. They were leaders in the affairs of church and state; they commanded the respect of the community in which they lived; they stood for law and order, for righteousness, for all that was good and pure and helpful to men. They lived lives of service, the richness of which cannot be told in words. In all these days the social life of the church was beautiful beyond compare. A spirit of brotherhood prevailed, and religious and social life went hand-in-hand. Sociables that brought all the congregation together were frequently held in the homes of officers and members, and occasionally in the home of the Pastor. And as Maysville was noted for its many and interesting visitors these were often the occasion of welcome and rejoicings.

The women were famous for their strawberry festivals and oyster suppers, and every year these events were eagerly looked forward to, as regularly as the seasons came. Occasionally fairs for the sale of fancy work and articles, the work of our mothers and sisters, were held and what a busy time it was! Our mothers for days before, planning, directing, and often preparing with their own hands dishes they would not trust to the servants - most beautiful cakes, homemade candies, rich confections and all kinds of good things. And the servants busy making bread and rolls and tea biscuits and baking fine old Kentucky hams, preparing salads and all the other accessories for a feast. Washing china and glass, putting an extra polish on the silver, overhauling the table linen and preparing the lamps, and Ellis Chinn and Fielding Fant, our faithful and efficient sextons, busy getting tables and chairs and stoves and necessary cooking utensils. For mind you, the affairs were usually held in the Niagara or Neptune Halls. The largest public halls in the city and they were utterly destitute of the furnishings needed; and then the decoration of the hall, in which the boys and girls much to their delight had a part. And when all complete, what a scene of splendor! Evergreens, flowers, mistletoe, tables resplendent with the finest linen, weighted down with their rich furnishings and fragrant with delightful odors from the good things that mothers and sisters and their help created. It was a time of joy and happiness. Old and young, sweethearts and lads and lassies met and mingled and ate together as members of a great family. And how delicious it all was and what an evening of delight. "Primarily intended to raise money for the Women's Society, the event whether largely profitable or not, had served to kindle the fires and keep alive a spirit of brotherhood and love. And our mothers were happy.

"Thus by the baking, boiling and stewing done by the ladies, the suppers and bazaars which were held, the quantities of food consumed by the men for which they paid most generously, the church was built. All of these efforts were, of course, in addition to the many gifts of money.

"Methods change with the years. We no longer raise the funds for the upkeep of the church by suppers and bazaars, but the members obey the Scriptural injunction to lay aside each week as God has prospered them. This is a much better plan, but it seems the church has lost something of the joy and Christian fellowship which comes from working together."

JAMES KEMPER

There is no part of the Presbyterian Church so dear to its membership as the sweet-toned resonant bell which, for one hundred years, has called the faithful to worship. Some information about the giver will be of interest to all. In the Maysville Tri-Weekly Eagle of December 17, 1850, appears this item:

The undersigned Elders and Deacons of the Presbyterian Church of Maysville avail themselves of this medium of tendering to James Kemper, Esq., of the City of Cincinnati, their thanks as well as the thanks of the church of which they are officials for the present of a fine bell of 1400 lbs. weight for the church edifice now in course of construction.

*W. W. Richeson
W. Crittenden*

*C. B. Ryan
M. Ryan*

*C. B. Coons
A. M. January
Wm. Huston*

*Lewis Collins
J. W. Rand*

Maysville Tri-Weekly
January 18, 1851

The bell presented by James Kemper, Esq., of Cincinnati, Ohio to the Presbyterian Church of this City may be seen at the new church edifice. Weight 1394 lbs.

Mr. James Kemper of Cincinnati was the son of Rev. James Kemper whose ancestors were of the first group of Protestant Germans to come to this country. Rev. James Kemper was pastor at Flemingsburg from 1810 to 1814. The church at that time was in the cemetery and Reverend Kemper thought they should build a new one. As they refused he left. It is thought that he lived for a short time in Maysville, as it is stated - he left his home here under a guard of soldiers, because of hostile Indians, to take charge of the Pleasant Ridge Church of Cincinnati. He was a pupil of Rev. David Rice, called Father Rice, the "Father" of Presbyterianism in Kentucky. One of Rev. James Kemper's descendants married a daughter of Rev. James P. Hendrick, who was pastor of the Flemingsburg Church for forty-one years. The Misses Amos of that town are the present living descendants.

Mr. James Kemper, of Cincinnati, had a son Henry Anisley, who lived in Maysville where the Hayswood Hospital now stands. He was married to Miss Amy Armstrong, who after her husband's death married Mr. Lee Mannen, the father of Messrs. Percy and Frank Mannen.

Mr. James Kemper died in Maysville in 1856. It is thought he must have visited Maysville at the time of the erection of the church and because of his interest in it presented the bell. His father, Rev. James Kemper, had fifteen children. The home in which they lived now stands in the Cincinnati Zoological Gardens. Here is the cradle in which the children were rocked and a quilt which the mother made for her fifteenth child. It is the oldest house within the Miami Purchase, part of the Northwest Territory.

During those early years the most persuasive influence in the church was that of the Kemper brothers, the minister and his brother, the business man. Mr. Philip Kemper, a great nephew, lived in Maysville for a number of years and sang in the choir.

He was married here to Miss Addie Campbell, a member of one of Maysville's oldest families. They now live in Cincinnati and have one daughter, Shirley. The family is still prominent in the church at Cincinnati.

Mr. James Kemper's voice has been silent for 94 years but the old bell still witnesses in tones that have never grown dim to this man's faith in God. Thus, do material things outlast our frail bodies.

Thank you, James Kemper, for your beautiful gift.

CHRISTMAS EVE SUPPER
December 24, 1850 Maysville Eagle

A supper will be given by our Presbyterian friends this evening in the new church edifice, the avails of which will be devoted to liquidate the debt incurred in this erection. The occasion is an attractive one in every respect. The entertainment itself, prepared and conducted by the most estimable and lovely of the fairer portion of our population will richly repay every visitor.

But in addition to the joys of the passing hours every contributor will have the satisfaction to know that the proceeds will be devoted to a most praiseworthy object. Our Presbyterian friends have built a church for which they are still in debt, which is not only an ornament to the City, but worthy of the enlightened age in which we live. It is indeed a noble edifice on which neither citizen nor stranger can gaze into without seeing in its magnificent proportions much to excite a just pride and joy.

A contribution to this object will be an aid to the spread of Christianity, the best, noblest, wisest enterprise of man, because it is that which most contributes to his present and future happiness. We hope, therefore, that all our people will attend and enjoy the entertainment of our Presbyterian friends tonight.

June, 1850.

The Church property was conveyed to them by A. M. January and wife.

December 28, 1850

Maysville Eagle

The ladies of the City of Maysville intend holding a Fair on the eighth of January proxime, for the benefit of the Neptune Fire Company, in the Presbyterian Church edifice under the control of the following managers:

Mrs. Thomas Y. Payne
Mrs. Wm. McClanahan
Mrs. James Jacobs
Mrs. J. C. Dewees
Mrs. Wm. R. Wood
Mrs. Jno. Shackelford
Mrs. Emily Bascom
Mrs. T. B. Stevenson
Mrs. M. A. Hutchins
Mrs. J. Bierbower
Mrs. Eli C. Phister

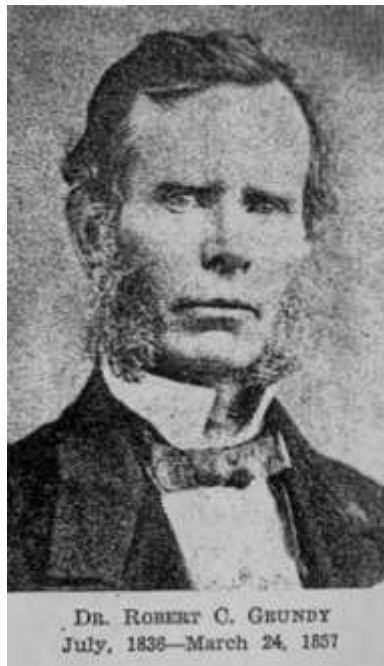
Mrs. J. Leach
Mrs. Crittenden
Mrs. John B. McIlvain
Mrs. John James Key
Mrs. John M. Duke
Mrs. Julia A. Parker
Mrs. H. T. Pearce
Mrs. M. Culbertson
Mrs. Chas. Phister
Mrs. Chas. Dodson

A meeting of the managers together with all other ladies feeling an interest in the object is requested at Mrs. Julia A. Parker's Thursday next at 3:00 o'clock.

MARTHA M. RYAN, Sec.

CHAPTER FOUR HALCYON DAYS

In an address during the Centennial Celebration of the Church, Mr. John E. Blaine said that the Maysville Church, through its intelligent membership and the wise counsels of its efficient Session, was peculiarly fortunate in its choice of pastors; men of power, of earnest convictions, of purity of life and enthusiasm in Christ's work, under whose pastorates the banner of Presbyterianism has been upheld, defended and carried forward, enriching the city and community life, lifting it to a higher standard of living. Through their ministry the Maysville Church has been made a tower of strength throughout the State, and the great Assembly of the Church, of which it is a part. Among the most noted of these men are. Dr. Robert Grundy and Rev. John A. McClung.



DR. ROBERT C. GRUNDY
July, 1836 - March 24, 1857

Dr. Grundy was called to the Pastorate in July 1836, and served until March 1857. He was the pastor of Mr. Blaine's boyhood. In fact, pastor many years before he was born. He had this to say about him:

"He was a most attractive man personally, a devoted and successful pastor, an eloquent and impressive preacher, a man of strong convictions, fearless in speech and tender and loving in character as a woman, he was respected and loved by old and young, and, yet because of exceptions taken by one of Maysville citizens to some pulpit remarks, was the victim of a dastardly street attack that left him bruised and bleeding from a cut on his face that left its indelible mark. An act that was, I am glad to say, condemned by all righteous Maysville."

Dr. Barbour said at this same Centennial Meeting:

"Dr. Grundy was a man who would have stood out in any community at any epoch."

Dr. Grundy was graduated from Centre College, Danville, and Princeton Theological Seminary and, coming from one of the most prominent families of his section and married into one of the most influential families in this community, he had every social and intellectual preparation for his work. Such surroundings might have quenched in a lesser man the energy of his protest against the wrongs and social abuses of his day. It only made him more independent and conscientious in the discharge of his ministry. He hewed to the line in his exposure of wrong and in his warning against social dissipation. If he was in any respect extreme, it was in the too great rigor of the discipline which he sat up in the Church. But the time called for courage and he had it in abundance. It should be a matter of pride to this Church that there stood a man in this pulpit, 70 years ago, who saw clearly the rise of the great Temperance Movement and led it unflinchingly when it took courage and forfeited popularity. The other side of Doctor Grundy came out in his faithful Pastoral work. He reminded the congregation in his farewell letter that the town has passed through three epidemics of cholera during his ministry and that he had never deserted his post but stayed to administer to the sick and bury the dead.

Mr. Foster Barbour said, "When Doctor Grundy was here there were large congregations day and night." A great many of the heads of families were not members of the church. They used to be jocularly referred to as "brothers-in-law of the church." It was surprising that they were so punctual in attendance when many of them were Club men, some liquor dealers, and all out of sympathy with Doctor Grundy's ideas. He was outspoken in his denunciation of dancing, wine and cards. Discipline was severe while he was here. At one time he expelled his own brother-in-law from the church, and his loyal wife, for whom there was much sympathy among the members, remarked that she was much embarrassed, not because her brother was turned out of church, but because he had behaved in such a way as to deserve expulsion.

"The church," said Mr. Barbour, "had its largest influence from 1850 to 1860." Times were hard and it was difficult to raise money for church and meeting expenses. Efforts to build two railroads, the Maysville and Lexington, and Maysville and Big Sandy, were disastrous failures, leaving the whole community stranded. Property shrank to nothing and the city was prostrated with a heavy debt. The whole taxable wealth was \$800,000 and debt \$240,000, a 30 percent liability. Due to strained condition of finance in the country, which culminated in the Panic of 1857, which was soon followed by the Civil War; then followed by an enterprise directly connected with this church which did not break down until a later day but, when it did, it broke a number of the prominent men of the church. This was the Union Coal and Oil Company, a company that owned extensive Cannel Coal Mines in West Virginia and made illuminating oils from the coal. Discovery of petroleum ruined their business.

There were no rich men in the congregation. Men, who later accumulated fortunes, were in moderate circumstances. Doctor Grundy came with \$20,000. He invested in building a handsome residence and a number of houses to rent in the West End. In twenty years, through high cost of living and decline of property, he lost it all. At the time

the present edifice was built, the congregation was poor in purse but it stands to this day a monument to their fidelity to the Master and their recognition of their duty to our Heavenly Father.

During Dr. Grundy's pastorate the Northern Kentucky Temperance Union was organized. In January, 1841, the Kentucky Temperance Banner was published with the motto, "In the name of our God we will set up Our Banners." Ps. XX 5 - "Total abstinence from all that intoxicates."

"The special object of the paper is to furnish our fellow citizens with all that is interesting and valuable relating to the temperance reformation, both in regard to its principles and progress."

The enterprise was started because there was no temperance paper in Kentucky. The subscription was 50 cents a year.

Executive Committee of the Temperance Union was:

Dr. Sam Sharp, President

Rev. J. H. Condit

Major M. Markland

Rev. J. T. Hendrik

J. W. Rand

W. M. McElvain

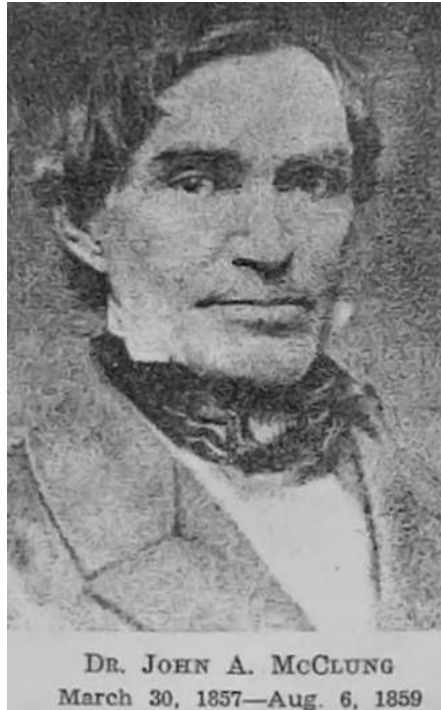
Treasurer Lewis Collins (Author of History of Kentucky)

Recording Secretary Wm. Richeson (Teacher in Rand and Richeson Seminary)

Corresponding Secretary Rev. Robert C. Grundy (Pastor of First Presbyterian Church)

Dr. Grundy was also one of the editors of the paper.

Within one month after Doctor Grundy's resignation, the Church called, by a very hearty vote, Rev. John A. McClung who served until August 1859. Doctor McClung was the son of Judge McClung of Washington. His mother was the sister of Chief Justice Marshall. He was a man of brilliant intellect, attending in his youth the celebrated school of his uncle, Dr. Louis Marshall at Buck Pond Farm near Versailles. There he was associated with his cousins, Thomas F. and Samuel Marshall, the Breckinridges, Lewis Warner Green, afterwards President of Centre College, Col. Charles Marshall of Washington, and others who afterwards reached distinction. His brother, Alexander McClung, was the noted orator and duelist of Mississippi. He was tall and impressive of stature. He never wrote his sermons but spoke with an elegance and freedom of ability that commanded attention.



DR. JOHN A. McCLUNG
March 30, 1857-Aug. 6, 1859

His sermons were never long. He never went beyond a set time, stopping even though not finished. He went to Princeton in 1823 and was licensed in 1828. He preached for several years in Washington, Kentucky.

Literary Pursuits –

While at Washington he became unsettled in his religious views and leaving the church retired to his large farm in the Ohio bottom, below Maysville. He was engaged in literary pursuits until 1835. In 1830 he published a novel entitled "Camden, a Tale of the South." This book brought him a worldwide reputation but was severely criticized for the profanity of some of its characters. In 1832, he wrote the "Western Adventure," a book of thrilling interest that has enjoyed extensive sale. He contributed largely to Collins first edition of the History of Kentucky, and was esteemed as one of the most chaste and forcible writers of his day. For a while he practiced law, becoming one of the leading lawyers of Mason County Bar, then an eminent one. This was in 1835.

Spiritual Darkness –

While at Washington Doctor McClung became spiritually unsettled. Mr. Henry Waller, a prominent lawyer at that time, said he knew Doctor McClung best while he was under the cloud of infidelity but he did not remember hearing from him an infidel sentiment. He regularly asked a blessing at his table and no man was more exemplary in his words and conduct. Hearing Doctor Grundy one Sabbath in February 1849 preach on "Prophecy," his doubts were removed. No one knew of his change of sentiment and there was sincere joy among his old friends when, at the close of the exercises, a call was made for applicants for church membership, he came forward and extended his

hand. With the congratulations of thousands and the discomfiture of disbelievers he was readmitted to the church. It was a triumph of Christianity when the most learned theologian, the most rigid logician, the most sincere searcher after truth, and the brightest intellect of the State, renounced infidelity and, as a long lost lamb, returned to the fold.

Later Activities –

He was ordained for a second time and preached for a few months to crowded houses in Louisville, then at Indianapolis. He was offered the Presidency of Hanover College but declined to accept. He was at the Central Presbyterian Church in Cincinnati, He went for a time to serve the church at Augusta, Georgia. During his nine years of ministry, he received, other calls, among them to the church of New Orleans, afterwards served by Doctor Palmer. During his ministry in Maysville, the church was largely attended by those who had felt his power in the Court House and were even more charmed by his wonderful preaching.

Quoting from the Philadelphia Presbyterian "On the only occasion on which Doctor McClung was ever a member of the General Assembly, he made an impression by a brief and most telling speech which cannot be forgotten by those present. An hour had been fixed for the vote and the members were weary.

Doctor McClung, who was personally unknown, to most of the members, arose and asked to be heard. He plead for ten minutes which was reluctantly granted. He had no sooner begun than the attention of the Assembly was riveted. They were captivated by his remarkable combination of logic, humor, eloquence and courtesy. They saw that a new star had arisen. When his time had expired and he was about to yield the floor, the Moderator told him to go on. At the conclusion, his position was sustained by the vast majority, although thought to be in collision with a previous decision."

Dr. Robert A. Breckinridge said he never witnessed such an effect in such a short time on such a body of men in all his experience. His hearers were spellbound during the delivery and so fascinated by his downright sincerity and earnestness, his unusual powers of argument and oratory, and the sparkling playfulness of his wit, that they believed they were ready, when he concluded, to do anything he wished.

Characteristics of Doctor McClung –

Dr. McClung's health was bad and he required a peculiar diet and regular exercise. He would walk for miles daily, always taking the middle of the turnpike, and with three-foot strides he distanced all competitors.

This was his favorite time for reflection and meditation and the teams he met had to take care of themselves. He often sat in meditative mood for hours, twirling with his right hand the long lock of hair behind his ear, and clearing his throat at regular intervals. When aroused he was genial and polite but he cared little for company and had no intimate friend. Chess was his only pastime and at this game he seldom found his match.

Tragedy-

Doctor McClung was a great sufferer from dyspepsia and changed climate a number of times hoping for relief.

After he came to Maysville it returned in a more terrible form. His jaundiced complexion and countenance betrayed his suffering. He again went North for relief, announcing his purpose of trying a water cure. He was drowned in the Niagara River at Scholsser, New York, on August 6, 1859. His clothing was seen lying on the dock by a little girl who was passing. She thought nothing of it until the next day when passing she saw them again and gave the alarm. The clothing had been rifled of gold watch and money which has led some to suspicion of foul play. The church had sent Mr. Frank Miller to Cleveland to find him when he did not return for Sunday service. While continuing his search for him a letter was received from the hotel at Tonawanda, New York, saying that this preacher had registered there on Saturday evening, then disappeared leaving his baggage. Upon opening it and, finding his name, notice was sent to the Maysville Postmaster. Mr. Mike Ryan, a member of the church, went to Niagara Falls. The body was found in an eddy four days after he was drowned. Although God had taken the spirit home, the body had been preserved. It was brought back to Maysville and interred in the Maysville Cemetery on a lot purchased by the Church. It was given to Mrs. McClung that her entire family might be buried upon it. A monument was erected by the church and friends. It is a white marble shaft, with an open Bible resting upon the top, and bearing the following inscription:

"In memory of Rev. John A. McClung, late pastor of the Presbyterian Church at Maysville, Kentucky, born September 25, 1804 - Died August 6, 1859. How is the strong staff broken and the beautiful rod (Jer. XLVIII: 17)"

This monument is erected by members of the church and by friends of his youth and mature years to whom he was endeared by every quality that can sanctify friendship and dignify and adorn manly character. The pew rent from August to December was given to Mrs. McClung. The last words of his will were "May God bless the widow and orphans for Christ's sake."

Dr. John Worrall conducted the funeral assisted by Rev. Henry Scudder.

Following the death of Dr. McClung, in January, 1860, Rev. William T. McElroy of Louisville was called to the pastoral charge of the church. He continued to discharge the pastoral duties until the month of April, 1861, when he resigned.

Rev. McElroy was nominated for pastor by A.M. January, seconded by Lewis Collins; salary to be \$1,200.00 a year, payable quarterly. Elders and Deacons composed the committee to sign the call and the congregation was bound by this act. At this meeting of the officers a subscription was taken amounting to \$300.00 which freed the church of debt. The secretary was appointed to apprise Rev. McElroy of his choice.

Mrs. McElroy was received by letter on June 17, 1860, from the First Presbyterian Church of Louisville.

Not much is known of his pastorate which was just 16 months in duration. Some of the most prominent members of the church came into its fellowship during his ministry. Some of their descendants are workers in the church today. Mr. Wm. Hodge, a prominent member and officer, died during this period.

It seems that Rev. McElroy was a strict disciplinarian, as the minutes of the session during this period record the appearance before that body of those who had been guilty

of intemperance and unfaithfulness to church vows; all seemed to be penitent and were restored to the good fellowship of the church on promise not to offend again.

Rev. George W. Coons, a residential minister retired on account of illness, now supplied the church for a time; and in later years after the resignation of Rev. J. E. Spilman, he served again.

Dr. Barbour said of him that "he was much honored as a preacher and a man. He suffered for years from ill health which sometimes gave the impression of austerity but those who knew him best regarded him most highly. He came of a pious and devoted family. His brother, Rev. John F. Coons, often visited him and preached here. His brother, Charles B. Coons, one of the most prominent business men and largest dealers ever in our city, was an elder. He was much trusted for his piety and much loved for his gentle and amiable manners.

Another member of the family was Samuel L. Blaine, a leader in the religious life of the church.

The children and relatives of these devoted servants of Christ had a large place in the life of this church.

Celon H. Rout, afterwards life time pastor at Versailles, then a theological student, supplied in his delightful way for one summer.

Rev. R.L. Breck came in September, 1861, serving as pastor elect until March, 1865. He did not accept the invitation to be installed. Dr. Breck was said to have been a very attractive man personally and socially and preached very scholarly and intellectual sermons. For his farewell sermon he took for his text a verse from the song of Deborah, "Curse ye Meroz, Curse ye bitterly the inhabitants thereof." No one living today heard the sermon so it is not known whether anything personal was meant by the text.

CHAPTER FIVE SONG, SORROW, SECESSION

Rev. J. E. Spilman next served the church as Pastor from the spring of 1864 until September, 1867, when he resigned to serve the Southern Presbyterian Church formed of those retiring from this church. Doctor Spilman was a very strong and thoughtful preacher, acute and sagacious in the discussions of any subject. His sermons were carefully prepared and generally delivered from manuscript. He, like Dr. McClung, had been a lawyer for many years and spoke with the clearness and force of one trained at the bar. He had a rich vein of humor, too which made him a pleasant companion in the social circle and an underlying depth of feeling which he customarily controlled. After serving the Southern Church for several years he went to Illinois where he returned to the church from which he had retired.



REV. J. E. SPILMAN
Dec. 14, 1863-Sept. 1, 1867

Prof. Clement C. Moore was a Prof. of Biblical learning, and Interpretation of Scripture. He wrote many fine learned books, but the world remembers him only as the man who wrote, "Twas the Night Before Christmas." King David was a wonderful King and a fine soldier, but the small boy remembers him only as the boy who killed the Giant and the older folk as the author of the Twenty-Third Psalm.

Rev. James Spilman did many fine things during his ministry, but to the world he will always be the man who wrote the beautiful melody to "Flow Gently, Sweet Afton." Doctor Spilman was a fine singer and also a composer of music. It has been said that the beautiful melody to Burns' song, "Flow Gently, Sweet Afton" should immortalize him. Luther's well known Christmas Hymn, "Away In a Manger," is also often sung to this melody written by a former pastor of this church.

Tribute by Dr. John Barbour

The following article by Rev. John Barbour, Pastor of Maysville Presbyterian Church at the time, appeared in the Maysville Public Ledger, May 1929:

"Flow Gently, Sweet Afton' is very simple but it has made its way because it pleases and satisfies. This song, the only world famous melody known to the writer by a Kentuckian, was composed in the City of Lexington, as related to the writer, Rev. John Barbour, by the composer, J.E. Spilman. He was sitting one summer day under the trees reading Burns's poems. As he recalled the music to one after another of Burns' songs, he was surprised that he could think of no music to 'Flow Gently, Sweet Afton. Reading it over and over under the spell of its poetry the strains of a tune came into his mind, interpreting the beautiful words. Thus, simply was born a song which has satisfied the lovers of Burns' poems everywhere.

"Its simplicity proves it to be the highest art. The music perfectly mirrors the thought. Nothing in the scene calls for dramatic chords or striking transcriptions. Chanting his Mary's lullaby, it must not awaken the beloved. It is probable, as suggested by a

member of his family, that the name of 'Mary' in the song had charmed his ear for that was the name of the lady who became his wife.

"He was born in Greenville, Kentucky, April 15, 1812, became a student of law and was probably about 25 years when the song was written. He practiced law in Covington as partner of Judge Samuel M. More and John W. Menzies. Later he became a Presbyterian minister, having charges in Covington, Nicholasville, Maysville and also in Illinois. He was a tall and vigorous looking man and an able preacher. He wrote some other music but nothing equaling this song. He married a niece of General Zachary Taylor. Of this union were born several children, one of whom Mrs. Byrd Spilman Dewey now of Florida (May, 1829) is a gifted writer of light literature.

"Great things are done simply. Lindberg crossed the Atlantic and dropped down in Paris in a very casual way. Burns' words with their simple sentiment and heart touch fell one day into the hands of a man with a native taste for the beautiful and a capacity for affection and a great song was born. It is of a piece with many other great things produced in Lexington. It is probably that among the traditions of some older Lexington family is the knowledge of the home and the beautiful spot where the song was written. It has none of the local color but to the writer this is one of the most wonderful things about it. Foster's songs are steeped in Kentucky life and scenery. Mendelssohn's well known song, "O, Wert Thou in the Cauld Blast," was written after a trip to Scotland. His impressionable nature absorbed and reproduced the Scottish manner, but it is the opinion of the writer that his music does not more perfectly reflect the Scotch spirit than this song written by a Kentuckian who had never been to Scotland; but because 'One touch of nature makes the whole world kin', he produced a song full of the Scotch color, but which like "Annie Laurie" and "Robin Adair," because of its simple beauty, will always speak to the universal heart."

THE BURNING OF THE BOSTONA

(Maysville Eagle, Thursday, August 9, 1866)

Wednesday, August 8, fifteen minutes after eight, the elegant steamer, *Bostona*, No. 3, left the wharf of this city with a large list of passengers and a heavy load of freight. Soon after the boat left, the night watchman went back to the locker, underneath the ladies' cabin, to fill his lamp with coal-oil. The lamp was knocked out of his hand by some sheep, of which there were 200 on board. A barrel of coal-oil caught on fire and almost instantly the rear of the boat was wrapped in flame. Word spread and passengers were called on to save themselves. There was panic and terror. Providence so ordained that when the alarm was given the boat was but a short distance from the Ohio side and opposite a large bar about a mile below Maysville which runs into the river. The pilot and engineers acted with self-possession immediately running the boat to the shore, each standing at his post until heat grew too great. The boat, having taken fire in the stern, all the passengers rushed to the front and as the prow ran upon the bar nearly all were saved. But this whole community will be deeply grieved to learn that Mrs. Spilman, the wife of the beloved and excellent Presbyterian minister at Maysville, was so badly burned that recovery is almost impossible. This lady has been an almost helpless invalid for years and the shock was too much for her nervous system. She managed to make her way to the hurricane deck where she sank exhausted and was found by the

mate incapable of moving. He assisted her to the shore but before he could come to her she had received severe burns on the breast and stomach from which it is feared she will die.

(Maysville Eagle, August 11)

Mrs. Spilman Dead.

She died August 10. Circumstances connected with her fate make it peculiarly tragical. She had arranged with her husband and children that as the boat passed her residence on the hill each party would wave a handkerchief of farewell to the other. According to the agreement, Mrs. Spilman went out on the guards and waved to the dear ones at home, who saw her distinctly and also saw the boat on fire beneath her and knew at once the fearful peril in which the wife and mother was placed. A moment afterwards the alarm of fire was given and she had not the strength or presence of mind to save herself. Parties came to her assistance and carried her from the burning boat or threw her into the river (as we have heard) but this was not until she received injuries which proved fatal. She was immediately taken across the river to her home in a skiff through the drenching storm and with help walked up the steep hill to her home. Mrs. Spilman was alone on the boat, her son having promised to meet her in Cincinnati. She was the daughter of the late Hancock Taylor of Jefferson County, Kentucky.

(Maysville Weekly Bulletin, August 9, 1866)

The steamer *Bostona*, No. 3, took fire last night just after leaving our wharf and was totally destroyed. The fire originated in the stern and the boat was run on the bar opposite the Coal Oil Works. We are inclined to think that passengers and crew were all saved.

MRS. SPILMAN DEAD

Mrs. Spilman was a passenger on the ill-fated *Bostona* and from that calamity received the injuries which caused her death.

The melancholy event occurred after a short but painful struggle on Friday morning last (August 10) and the announcement was received with deep sorrow by all who knew her. She was a pure woman, beautiful in Christian character and noble in every impulse. The example of her life will be the highest inheritance of her children and the dearest memory to her husband and the best guide of her friends. The burial took place on Saturday morning and her remains were followed to the cemetery by a large concourse of friends.

Mrs. Spilman was laid to rest in the same plot of ground where the body of Rev. Alexander Logan, Presbyterian minister, who died in 1834, now lies. Like Rev. Logan, she, too, sleeps far away from home and loved ones. The slender, simple white stone marking her last resting place, is a fitting symbol of her pure and unpretentious life.

"Father, within Thy gracious keeping
We leave these Thy servants sleeping"

DIVISION

We come now to the separation of a large number of influential persons from the church in September 1867. This did not grow out of active dissension or contention in the congregation. It came about because the seceders objected to certain actions of the General Assembly. The members were simply divided in their conceptions of duty.

Division of Property

The churches continued by agreement to use the building on alternate Sundays until a settlement was effected.

From the Minutes of Session, September 7, 1868-

"Resolved that Mr. January be requested to purchase a lot of ground in the Fifth Ward from Mr. Patrick Breen at the price of \$375 from the parsonage fund. That it is our duty to build a chapel in the Fifth Ward for the use of the church at such time as our present building cannot be occupied by us and as a missionary enterprise looking to the probable increase of population in that portion of the city.

"This chapel was given to the Southern Church in addition to \$1300, one-half of the parsonage fund. This was a fraternal settlement and has been respected by both sides. The Chapel was occupied March, 1868. When the Southern Church held services in the present edifice, the other congregation used the Chapel and on alternate Sundays they used the Church, and the Southern Church used Neptune Hall. The two congregations maintained Sunday School morning and afternoon in the Church.

There was also an afternoon Sunday School at the Chapel. Prayer meetings were held by the two churches in the church, one on Wednesday and the other on Friday.

From Church Minutes, September 30, 1867-

"The Sabbath school shall be conducted as at present under the superintendence of James Barbour and any funds collected shall be expended for books for the Sunday School until either party shall desire a change. The treasurers of the respective churches, shall adjust the accounts and expenses and have special custody of the church building. The pulpit to be occupied by Rev. Mr. Spilman September 22, 1867 and on the following Sabbath by Rev. George Coons. The pews of the church being under control of that church whose minister or other officers shall for the time be entitled to the conduct of the religious services.

(The Maysville Republican, Saturday,
September 7, 1867)

Rev. J. E. Spilman, pastor of the Presbyterian Church in our city, resigned his charge at the close of his sermon on Sunday morning last. The cause was unpleasant differences between two factions of the church, which, we regret to say, are likely to create a split in the congregation. Mr. Spilman has been with us three and one-half years and his departure will be regretted by many.

(Thanksgiving Services, Saturday, November 23, 1867)

The pastors met November 20, in our city.

A motion was made and unanimously carried that a conjoint meeting be held on Thanksgiving Day at which all the pastors would officiate and to which the public generally would be invited. Closing prayer and benediction by Rev. J. E. Spilman. Services to be held at the Presbyterian Church at 10:30 a.m.

IN MEMORIAM

(Flora Democrat - July 2, 1896)

Rev. Johnathon Edwards Spilman, D.D., was born at Greenville, Kentucky, April 15, 1812, and died at Flora, Illinois, May 23, 1896, aged 84 years, one month and eight days.

He removed with his parents to Illinois during his boyhood and afterwards entered Illinois College at Jacksonville. He and the late ex-Governor Richard Yates formed the first graduating class from that institution and finished the course in 1835. Going to Lexington, Kentucky, he read law and graduated at Transylvania Law School. He became successful as a lawyer and was a partner of the late Judge Samuel M. Moore of Chicago, formerly of Kentucky, and of Judge J.W. Menzies of Covington, Kentucky, afterwards Congressman from that district.

Feeling the call of duty to the ministry he gave up his lucrative practice and, after proper preparation, he was licensed to preach by the Presbytery of West Lexington in 1858, and was called to the pastorate of the Second Presbyterian Church in Covington, Kentucky. He had helped to found this church while a resident of Covington in the practice of law and had been an elder of this church. He received the Degree of Doctor of Divinity from Central University at Richmond, Kentucky, in 1876. After about thirty-four years of active work in the ministry, during which time he had the care of churches at Covington, Nicholasville and Maysville, Kentucky; Canton, Mississippi; and Salem and Carmi, Illinois, he in 1892, being then over eighty years of age, asked to be honorably retired from active work on account of advancing years and removed to Flora, Illinois, to make his residence near members of his family.

After retirement from active work he still continued to preach most of the time until 1895, when failing health compelled him to desist, his last Sabbath service being a Communion service at the Presbyterian Church in Flora on the first Sabbath of November.

Music, in which he excelled, was a favorite recreation with him in his younger days and he was the composer of a number of songs, the most noted of which is "Flow Gently, Sweet Afton."

He was twice married, his first wife being Miss Mary B. J. Menefee, daughter of Major Menefee of Jessamine County, Kentucky. She died in 1843, after leaving an infant daughter who survived her by a few months. In 1845, he married Miss Eliza S. Taylor of Jefferson County, Kentucky, a niece of General Zachary Taylor, who died in August, 1866, leaving six children, all of whom are now living.

Four others had died in infancy or childhood.

In this notice, giving mainly the leading facts in his life and prepared by a member of his family at the request of the Editor of this paper, any eulogy would be out of place.

in the care of those he loved, and were it necessary his children would willingly and gladly bear witness that they would rather have the heritage of that life than any earthly possession he could have left them had he been possessed of untold wealth.



REV. GEORGE N. MCCAMPBELL
Nov. 19, 1871—Oct. 31, 1872

In October 1869 Rev. George M. McCampbell came as supply, afterwards pastor, remaining until October 1872, when the conditions in this valley not being favorable to his health as he was subject to hay fever, he removed to New York City. In the incipency of the new work the service of Mr. McCampbell was invaluable. He with his admirable and beloved wife brought to the congregation new energy and aggressiveness and large gatherings were made. After leaving here he served several important pastorates.

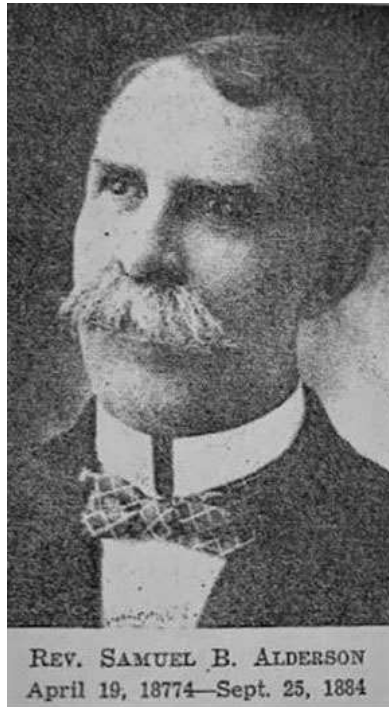
REV. GEORGE N. MCCAMPBELL
Nov. 19, 1871-Oct. 31, 1872

LATER MINISTERS

Rev. Samuel B. Alderson came direct from the Seminary at Danville April 16, 1873. He served as a supply until April 19, 1874, when he became the regular ordained minister at a salary of \$1200 a year. On July 13, 1873, Mrs. Alderson was received by letter from the Methodist Episcopal Church, Danville, Kentucky.

Rev. Alderson was faithful in both his preaching and also his ministerial work. He was particularly active and efficient as a pastor and many were received into the church membership during his administration. It is recorded in the minutes of the Session that -

Without intermission he rendered faithful service. He officiated with grace at the bridal altar - he administered the holy ordinance of baptism to the children and to new converts – he preached the gospel of the grace of God.



REV. SAMUEL B. ALDERSON
April 19, 1874 - Sept. 25, 1884

In season and out of season he visited the sick, prayed with the dying, and comforted the bereaved.

All these duties he discharged most perfectly.

He was most ably assisted by his wife. Both she and her husband were noted for their friendliness. No pastor and his wife were more greatly loved not only by the church but by the entire community.

During his administration Mr. A.M. January, an elder of the church and a member for 57 years, passed away. In June 1850, Mr. January and his wife had conveyed the church property to the church.

While pastor here Rev. Alderson took a trip up the Big Sandy with Dr. Condit where later Pikeville College was established.

In the church records of January 6, 1878 voted that notices which the minister thinks should not be read before the congregation, be submitted to the Session.

In the church records of December 30, 1881 it was stated that at a meeting of the Session it was moved that the Supt., Assist. Supt., Sec. and Treasurer of the Sunday School be elected each Dec. by the Session. These officers to constitute the Board of Managers for the Sunday School.

CHURCH RECORD

October 8, 1869

Resolutions - That the regular contributions for church expenses be placed in charge of the Ladies Sewing Society and that they be requested to see to providing Sexton, lights, and other necessary things for church expense with the assurance that if the regular contributions and resources of their society do not provide a sum sufficient, they shall have the full liberty of soliciting the deficit from the gentlemen of the congregation.

October 20, 1870

A system of contributing weekly to support of the minister and expenses by deposit of envelopes.

1872 First Sabbath of each month collection for special causes.

June 20, 1877

At a meeting of the Session of the Presbyterian Church, all the members present, including Rev. S.B. Alderson, pastor; the following minutes was adopted. The recent decease of our brother, Andrew M. January, which occurred at his residence in this city on the 11th day of June, 1877 is an event of such importance in the history of this church that special mention should be made of it.

He was born in Fayette, now Jessamine County, Kentucky, August 3rd, 1794, and was baptized in infancy. He joined this church in June 1820, just 57 years ago, and no other member of this church has been so long a member.

Soon thereafter in December, 1820, he was ordained a Deacon and served the church in that office until January, 1853, when he was ordained an Elder and served in that office until his death.

During these years he contributed to the support of the church much more than any other one person; indeed it is doubtful if in any one of all these years anyone of its members contributed so much to the funds of the church.

During his whole life, since he settled in Maysville in 1817, he has constantly acted as though the interests of this church were his interests, contributing during the years when his means were limited, always liberally and perhaps more so in proportion to his ability than when his resources were increased. Indeed the measure of his gifts seemed not to be his ability but the wants of the church.

Mr. January was a regular and constant attendant upon all the religious services of the sanctuary. He was always present, when his health allowed, at the meetings of the officers. Wise in counsel, prompt in action, he was a most valuable church officer. The Pastor of the church was always sustained by him in all things. He held up his hands and his heart was always open to the sympathy which a Pastor so much needs in the trials of his office.

Mr. January loved the house of God. He loved its ordinances, its worship, its songs of praise and seasons of prayer, and we believe that the strong character which he had in all the departments of human obligation was chiefly formed and afterwards more fully developed by the life of faith and trust in Christ which he led in this church.

We cannot here write the history of his life. We must bring this memorial to a close.

We mourn his loss with grief. We shall miss him from our communion table, but he will not be absent from our memories.

We mourn not as those who have no hope. We thank God for his life, for all the good he enabled his servant to do for his cause, and rejoice in the confident belief that he has been removed from this world of sorrow to the bright fields of joy.

Resolved - That this minute be recorded in the records of this session; that it be read to the congregation by the Pastor and that the newspapers of the city be requested to publish it.

JOSIAH WILSON, Clerk

CHAPTER SIX LATER PASTORATES



Rev. John Smith Hays, D.D., was born at Plum Run, Washington County, Pa., four miles from Canonsburg, in 1830, and died at his home in Maysville, Kentucky, January 7, 1899. He belonged to a large family connection of Scotch descent, noted for piety, faithfulness, and Christian zeal. His brothers, Rev. I.N. Hays, D.D., and Rev. George P. Hays, D.D., L.L.D., were, well and favorably known all over the Presbyterian Church. His sister, Mrs. McFarland, with her husband, Dr. McFarland, spent years in mission work in Siam where Dr. McFarland was for many years President of the College at Bangkok. Five of Dr. Hays' nephews are now in the ministry of the Presbyterian Church. His only son was preparing for the ministry at the time of his death. The family in which Dr. Hays was brought up was in many respects remarkable. Whatever else might be omitted, the duties arising from their Christian profession was never neglected. The influence of such a home was felt by all; the blessed results of which were manifested by their early earnest and faithful service in the church.

Education and Pastorates

Dr. Hays' early education was such as could be had at the common school in the neighborhood. When prepared according to the standard of that time, he entered Jefferson College from which he was graduated in 1850. In the autumn of that same Year, he entered the Theological Seminary, Allegheny City. Having completed the course in that institution, he was licensed in 1853 by the Presbytery of Pittsburg, and not long afterwards he was ordained by the Presbytery of New Albany and entered

Upon the work of Pastor in the Church at Charleston, Indiana, where he labored faithfully as Pastor and teacher until 1857. Having resigned his charge at Charleston, he accepted a call to the Second Church in Nashville, Tennessee, where he remained until 1861. Owing to complications arising from the Civil War he thought best to resign, which he did to the great regret of the majority of his congregation. Having supplied the Central Church, Cincinnati, six months, he accepted a call to the Presbyterian Church, Frankfort, Kentucky, where he continued to labor in troublous times until 1867. He resigned the charge at Frankfort and accepted a call to the Walnut Street Church, Louisville, Kentucky, where he labored from 1867 to 1875.

During his pastorate in that church, perplexing complications arose regarding property rights. With his usual ability and energy, he devoted his best efforts to the settlement of the difficulties, which resulted in a decision of the United States Supreme Court in favor of the congregation, which decision is regarded as an authoritative rule for the settlement of all similar questions.

In 1873, Dr. Hays received the title of D.D. from Centre College, Kentucky, and in 1875 he was elected Professor of Church History in the Danville Theological Seminary where he continued with great earnestness and efficiency, giving full satisfaction to his classes until 1883, when the work of the Seminary was suspended in order to secure larger endowment and more 'suitable buildings.

Having spent some time at Quincy, Illinois, and Leadville, Colorado, he returned to Kentucky and took the pastorate of the First Presbyterian Church of Maysville.

Hayswood Seminary

Dr. Hays had five daughters, all very brilliant and highly educated women. Shortly after coming to Maysville, assisted by his daughters, he established Hayswood Seminary. It stood on the site now occupied by Hayswood Hospital. The hall and upper rooms of the annex are all that remain of the original building.

Many of the women of this community were educated at this school. In addition to the elementary and high school grades, music and art and physical culture were also taught.

Tribute by Dr. John Barbour

Dr. Hays was a man of power. Few men have had clearer perceptions of the truth, or were able more logically and convincingly to present them. He was a preacher of varied gifts. In all his discourses there was a doctrine or duty held forth with great distinctiveness and urged upon his hearers with great and earnest persistency. He was in the best sense a doctrinal preacher. He revered the truth, renouncing his own speculations in the presence of God's authoritative word. He believed that God had revealed a system of truth in the Scriptures and he set himself to learn just what God has left on record for salvation and for character. In the proclamation of that truth no man was ever more faithful or more fearless. The tenor of his mind made him a valuable defender of the Faith. He had gifts of debate of a high order. More than one community like this has felt the power of his testimony beyond his pulpit in rebuking error and in maintaining the simplicity of the Gospel. His style was not distinctively evaneglistic, but inasmuch as the highest eloquence is logic set on fire; his addresses sometimes attained to great and powerful eloquence. He was a strong Presbyter, valued in the

councils of the church, having been a member of all its courts up to the General Assembly.

His mind was the storehouse of accurate and varied learning. His tastes were cultured. He knew the flowers of the pathway. He called the birds by name, pursuing his studies of them even after his blindness at his beautiful Hayswood. He had been a practical bee culturist. His information in scientific matters was ample. He was clear-headed and prompt in his business dealings. He watched the affairs of the Nation, and had his own opinion as a citizen. And in all proper ways, set them forth. His relation to the church was as a father and a friend.

Few have been his equal as a Pastor.

Blindness

While here suddenly, he was deprived of sight, first of one eye, then of the other. All efforts to restore sight failed and he realized that he was permanently and hopelessly blind. Under this, the severest of all his trials, how was it possible to perform his duties, too much for most persons with the use of all their senses?

The blow was crushing and a man of ordinary faith and energy would have succumbed, but Dr. Hays committed his way to God and prayed for mercy and grace to enable him to submit to the manifest will of Him without whose care the sparrow does not fall to the ground and by whom the hairs of our head are all numbered. The mercy and grace prayed for came and from that time until the end of his life he lived a cheerful and busy life.

It was remarked by some who heard him that he never preached so well. Under this great affliction he continued to teach and preach. He was endowed by power with the Holy Spirit.

He was always attended by his faithful companion, Calvin, a young colored lad. It was a familiar sight to see his tall form supported by a stout cane, his arm on Calvin's shoulder, going through the streets. On Sunday, Calvin led him up to his place in the pulpit, then retired to the balcony to remain until the service was over and then led Dr. Hays home. Dr. Hays called often on his parishioners. He used to remark laughingly that he never had any trouble getting an entrance into the homes. The housewife did not mind if she were not dressed to receive callers, nor did she mind if the house was not in order. If there was no fire in the living room she would take him to the kitchen.

"What did it matter," he would say, "I could not see."

He had memorized much scripture and each week his secretary would get out the list of passages and select the one for the Sunday service. The date of its use was put at the side of the passage so it would not be repeated too often. For fear he would preach too long he had one of the elders ring a bell near closing time.

Defender of the Faith

Dr. Hays believed implicitly in the inspiration of the Scriptures. Those who sat under his preaching can still hear his voice as he thundered forth these words, "Forever, oh Lord, thy word is settled in Heaven." He excelled in debate and was always ready to expose error.

One of his great services to the church was in the training of the young men to pray. He held frequent meetings with them at which each took his turn leading in prayer. During his pastorate a young people's organization was formed called, "The Westminster League," but when the Christian Endeavor movement swept over the land, a committee appointed by the League of three young women: Elizabeth Wilson, Sallie Rains and Katie Heiser, waited upon the Pastor and asked that the League be changed into a C.E. society. After some opposition from members of the session, the request was granted. For years, it was a strong flourishing organization.

The learning of the Shorter Catechism was stressed during his pastorate. When one of the members of the Sunday School recited it to him, he remarked, "My child, it makes no difference if you should go into another church when you grow older; you will always be a Presbyterian, have the Shorter Catechism in your heart."

During Dr. Hays' pastorate, the Sunday School boasted of a fine library of 700 volumes. The young men of the church acted as librarians.

During his ministry, successful revivals were held, one of the most successful being conducted by a Rev. Dawson of Louisville.

There were 51 conversions, many of them still active members.

One entered the ministry. There was also a Sunday School conducted in the German Church on each Sunday afternoon by Mr. Robert A. Cochran, assisted by a number of people from this church. Only eternity will reveal the good done by this school.

In the church records of August 2, 1897, we find the following:

"Resolved that the use of our house of worship will not be granted for any purposes outside of our regular church work, except on a vote of the Session at a regular meeting or a meeting called for that purpose.

R. K. Hoeflich, Clerk

(In 1892 or 1893 the high pulpit of the church was removed and a platform built to extend across the church. The western end was used for organ and choir. At this time, new windows were put in.)

It was said of Dr. Hays that he preached an inspired Bible and a pure gospel. Only eternity will disclose the good he has done in households and this whole community by his powerful championship of the truth and his fearless exposure of error.

Wonderful the Christian fortitude and cheerfulness with which he struggled on when bereft of sight by his Heavenly Father.

Affording a testimony of Divine Grace which was the most powerful illustration of his preaching.

He died with his head literally resting upon the promises and was buried according to his directions with the word of God in his hand. His funeral was conducted by Dr. John Barbour assisted by Dr. Maurice Waller. For thirty days the pulpit of the church was draped in mourning.

A Soliloquy

The writer of the following stanzas has been so frequently questioned concerning the thoughts, feelings, sorrows and joys of the blind that he has been tempted to attempt an expression of some of his own in verse.

Enveloped in darkness, imprisoned in night,
Shut in from the sunshine, secluded from light;
For years I have beat on the bars of the cell,
Where blindness, alas! has compelled me to dwell.

They tell me the vale, in its beauty, still lies
Where once it incessantly feasted my eyes;
They tell me the shadows and sunlight still glide
O'er the plain' at my feet and along the hillside.

They tell me the stars, in their glory, still shine,
That on the horizon the clouds still recline;
They tell me the flowers, in beauty, still bloom,
Exhaling their fragrance from midnight to noon.

But eyes, now in ruin, refuse me their aid;
I'm left to believe just what others have said.
I longingly look, but 'tis only to find
My vision has left me, and now I am blind.

But hush these complainings so bitter, so wild!
So little becoming a creature, a child.
How dare I to question the justice, the love
Of God, my Creator and Father above!

No; thanks to his goodness for giving me sight;
'Twas his by creation and his, too, by right.
He gave it, He took it, and blest be His name
For giving so long — and the gifts that remain.

The hand of affection I grasp on the street,
The voices of love I continually meet,
Sweet childhood and youth swiftly fly to my aid
And lovingly beg me to be not afraid.

The music of nature I also can hear,
The notes of her songsters, so sweet and so clear,
The roar of her thunder, the voice of her breeze,
As it swiftly or slowly sweeps through the trees.

And memory, too, like an angel of light,
Attends me by day and awaits me by night,
To Profit my mind and my fancy to please
With all it has gathered in childhood and years.

Ah, yes; and from under the darkness about

By faith I can calmly, serenely, look out,
And just "over there" in its glory can see
The light of eternity waiting for me.

Then thanks to God's goodness for giving me sight,
'Twas His by creation and His, too, by right.
He gave it, He took it, and blest be His name
For giving so long - and the gifts that remain.

- a. A beautiful valley, in full view of the writer's favorite seat on his veranda in Hayswood.
- b. On which Maysville is situated.
- c. On the opposite side of the Ohio River.
- d. A tribute to the pupils of Hayswood.
- e. Notably an oriole, a robin and a red bird.
- f. Maysville, Kentucky, June 27, 1891

J.S.H.

THE MAYSVILLE SEMINARY

The "Maysville," or better known as the "Rand and Richeson Seminary," was closely connected with the Presbyterian Church as both men, Mr. Jacob W. Rand and W.W. Richeson, were elders in this church. In the school, one room was used for the girls and the other for the boys. In some classes the girls and boys were together, each of the principals teaching in turn the mixed classes which were called to one or the other rooms. Mr. Rand had the girl boarders with a few boys, while Mr. Richeson had a number of boys boarding with him at Rosemont. In church the boys and girls sat on opposite sides of the pulpit. Distinguished graduates of this school were Ulysses S. Grant, William H. Wadsworth, Hon. E. C. Phister, Dr. Thomas E. Pickett and others. The Seminary was located on Fourth Street in the house later owned by Mr. Joseph H. Dodson. Mr. Dodson had the belfry removed and put in the backyard to be used as a playhouse by his children. It can be seen from Third Street just back of the jail. Dr. Thomas E. Pickett, in an article in the register of the Kentucky State Historical Society (vol. 8, no. 27, pp. 20-21) under the date September, 1911 as follows: "States that as Mr. Richeson taught his classes, he would look out of his window at the Southern hills and dream of the day when he might build a home like Monticello upon one of these hills." He lived to see at least a part of his dream come true. He did have a home on the hills (Rosemont) but not like Monticello.

It is said that two of the cedars in the yard at "Rosemont" were sent to Mr. Richeson by U.S. Grant from Monticello.

This home has been occupied by a number of people, among them Mr. Montgomery Pickett, who bought it for his daughter, Elizabeth, who is the author of "Drivin' Woman." She afterwards married Chevalier, attorney and writer, and is living in California. The Maysville Tri-Weekly Eagle, June 20, 1850, pays this tribute to the school - "Its reputation is inferior to no school of the same class in the West and, there are probably

but few of the incorporated colleges of the country where the facilities for imparting a finished education to the student are superior to those of this Seminary."

From the Tri-Weekly Eagle, December 23, 1888, occurs this notice on the occasion of Mr. Richeson's death:

"Mr. William Richeson was born in 1813 in King William County, Virginia. He moved to Kentucky in 1831, locating with his father at Washington, Mason County. They soon afterward moved to Maysville where a school was conducted by them for several years. Afterward he became associated with the Seminary of Rand and Richeson where his reputation as a Christian teacher became almost national. He impressed himself upon all under his charge as a thorough scholar and able teacher. His chief aim in all his teaching was to teach his pupils to recognize God as the source of all wisdom and happiness. His wife was Miss Mary Triplett, a lovely Christian character. They had two daughters, Misses Isabel and Minnie, the latter for a number of years an assistant in the Maysville Public Library."



DR. JOHN BARBOUR
Feb. 6, 1899—July 5, 1925

DR. JOHN BARBOUR

Feb. 6, 1899-July 5, 1925

During the illness of Doctor Hays, Dr. John Barbour supplied the pulpit and upon the death of Doctor Hays was called to the pastorate, February 16, 1899. He was installed May 21, 1899, and served the church until July 5, 1925, more than a quarter of a century. From Maysville he went to Prestonsburg, Kentucky. He died at the age of eighty, November 14, 1929, in the Methodist Hospital, Pikeville, Kentucky, after a few days illness pneumonia. The funeral was held in the First Presbyterian Church of Maysville on November 15, conducted by Rev. J.F. Record, D.D., President of Pikeville College, assisted by the Rev. Robert vonThurn. A short memorial service was held during the hour of public worship, Sunday morning, November 17, 1929.

Doctor Barbour held pastorates at Louisville, Kentucky; Bennet, Illinois; Mankato, Minnesota and Birmingham, Alabama, from which place he came to Maysville.

During his pastorate the auditorium was redecorated, a new chandelier (the gift of R.K. Hoflich) and pulpit lights, also lights in back of the church. A pipe organ was installed and the old organ given to the church at Flemingsburg, September 12, 1900. Ten thousand dollars was subscribed for the redecorating, of which a debt of \$4,000 remained. In the second year (1900) the congregation took hold of this raising \$600 every spring, giving in the meantime to all the church benevolences, giving largely to Y.M.C.A. City Mission and the American Bible Society than any other church. All of this

was done without any outside help. The church gave liberally to Centre College, Danville Theological Seminary and several thousand dollars for mountain education through Pikeville College.

In 1917, the one hundredth anniversary of the beginning of the Presbyterian Church in Maysville was celebrated. Two former pastors, Dr. George M. McCampbell and Rev. S.B. Alderson were present, also Mr. John E. Blaine of Cincinnati, a former elder and Sunday School Superintendent and Rev. Horace Cady Wilson, a former member of the church.

One of the most important events of Doctor Barbour's ministry was the reunion of the two branches of the church separated in September 1867. It was a happy occasion celebrated by an interesting program and reception. It was referred to as the "Wedding of the Churches."

Doctor Barbour was most ably assisted in his work by his wife. She was a talented musician and for years was the church organist. The church was fortunate during these years in having several members who could preside at the organ. Doctor Barbour himself was a musician of no mean ability. He was a great lover of music of which he possessed a keen appreciation. One of his greatest contributions to the church was along this line. Music of the highest order was used in all the services. He always stressed the use of the right hymns in the right place. During his administration, the church was noted for its beautiful music.

Doctor Barbour was also a fine Shakespearian scholar. His chief diversion was walking and many can remember seeing his familiar figure upon the streets swinging his cane which he seldom went without.

Items from Church Records - September 25, 1921 – "The Woman's Club was allowed the use of the church for Thursday, October 6, for lecture and social gathering - granted providing no restricted invitations."

Nov. 11, 1924- "During the night following a Football Game between Maysville and Flemingsburg some rowdy defaced the east side of the church by painting the score of the game upon it. It was evidently done by Flemingsburg as the Principal of the school sent a blank check to cover damages."

A flourishing young woman's circle, known as the "Young Ladies' Band," was organized by Mrs. Barbour. There were 23 members and for many years, they did splendid work helping in more than one project. Their most outstanding achievement was the purchase of a grand piano for the Sunday School, replacing the old cabinet organ. The money for this they earned in many ways. Delightful social meetings were held and the deep affection of the members for each other and their leader time has never effaced. Mrs. Barbour was the teacher of the "Primary Department" to which belonged all children below the Junior Grade. She was not only an excellent teacher but also won the hearts of the little ones by delightful parties and picnics. She was a most useful person in all community projects, especially the work of the City Mission. Doctor and Mrs. Barbour were most generous with their home.

At this time the church had a very strong Christian Endeavor Society - at first just the Senior Society but later a Junior Society led by Miss Lettie Wood.

A Home Department in the Sunday School was organized in 1900. In 1904, there were 32 members. An "every member" canvass was started in 1919. An attempt was made to

use graded lessons but they were not received with enthusiasm and were dropped. At a later date they were accepted for the elementary grades.

Excerpt from Public Ledger, 1925 - "Plenteously endowed with intellect and musical and artistic tastes, Doctor Barbour was held as one of the most learned and scholarly men ever in Maysville. He was a profound student of the Bible and was a recognized authority on the interpretation of the Scriptures. While he was not fulsome in his expressions, he had at his command a remarkably extensive vocabulary. Though his words were not ornate, his thoughts touched the depths of the human heart and reached to touch the highest aspirations of the human soul. It was the deep thought and knowledge behind his sermons that made them so powerful. In every aspect of his life, Dr. Barbour stood revealed as one of nature's noblemen. If it might be permissible to use the good old classic word 'aristocracy' without inferring personal superiority, no man was ever more entitled to membership in the 'Aristocracy of Nature' than this exemplary gentleman. Doctor Barbour manifested an integrity in life that was a sermon without the pulpit, and in his personal fellowship, he bore himself as a man of dignity, reserve and finest courtesy.

DR. MAURICE WALLER

Dr. Maurice Waller came to Maysville from Lebanon, Kentucky, after his retirement from the ministry and remained here until his death.

Dr. Waller and his wife, who was Miss Phoebe Marshall, were descendants of one of Mason County's oldest families. Both were born in Washington, Kentucky, and have many relatives in town and county. Dr. Waller and his interesting and talented family of



THE CENTRAL PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

four daughters and one son were a great asset to Maysville. Highly educated, gentle, dignified but courteous, Dr. Waller was admired and respected by the entire community. He was never Pastor of this Church, but assisted in its services whenever needed; also in many movements in the community. He was of much assistance in the work of the Mason County S.S. Association. At the Centennial Celebration in 1917, regret was expressed that he did not live to take part on the program that we might have enjoyed and been enlightened by his fine and delightful reminiscences.

THE CENTRAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
On May 19, 1918, Mr. James B. Wood of the Central Presbyterian Church made a statement and presented a petition signed by 155 members of the Central Presbyterian Church of this city for membership in this

church and it was received by the session. Of these 155 members just 46 are now associated with the church; the other 109 having either died or moved away. Some of their descendants are still with us.

It is to be regretted that the records of the Southern Church have been lost, so no history of its work can be given. After the division of the churches, the two congregations worshiped in the First Church on alternate Sundays. In

1884, the Southern Church erected a beautiful building just next to the place where the Maysville-Aberdeen bridge enters. The site is now occupied by a service station. The church was given the name of the Central Presbyterian Church, and for 51 years, did a splendid work in the community. Being a newly established church, it was necessary for its success that all members should work together. For this reason it was more aggressive than the parent church.

The names of all the ministers and officers cannot be recalled. The following is at least a partial list:

Rev. James E. Spilman

Rev. John Hendrick

Rev. Russell Cecil

Rev. W. E. Mehane

Rev. W. W. Akers.

Rev. J. C. Molloy

Rev. R. L. Benn

Rev. H. Kerr Taylor

Rev. Locke White

No family contributed more in every way to the up building of this section of the church universal than the family of Mr. James J. Wood, for many years a popular druggist in our city. It was a source of great satisfaction to Mr. James J. Wood, that having led the Southern members away from the church, he had lived to bring them back into the parent church.

The relationship of the two churches was always most friendly. It was said that the controversy affected much less their personal and social relations than might be thought at this distance.

Dr. Barbour said in his address at the centennial:

"Division itself cannot be defended but Providence often overrules and even uses such emulation to develop the work. Considering the large work that has been done by these two Presbyterian churches, the large number trained to work and official responsibility, the effort made by these two organizations to reach out into the community for members, it is a question whether God has not over-ruled the separation to the increase and progress of his kingdom."

Mr. J.J. Wood sold his beautiful home, "Woodleigh," to the County Board of Education to be used as a school. Here his son, James B. Wood, conducted a Sunday School each Sunday afternoon. In this, he was assisted by his wife and sisters, Misses Lettie and Mary and some of the members of the various churches in the community. Much good was accomplished by this work.

Mrs. Katharine Poyntz was one of the most faithful members of this church, also the Sulser family; Judge Purnell was also a member there.

Eleanor Duncan Wood

At the reunion of the two Presbyterian Churches, the members of the Central Church requested that they be permitted to retain their adult class and their teacher, Eleanor Duncan Wood, which request was granted. For many years, Mrs. Wood remained their faithful and brilliant teacher.

She died in June 1936.

Her daughter, Eleanor, is married to James Moose, who has served in the diplomatic service of our country in Salonica, Teheran, Bagdad and Damascus. He opened the American Legation in Saudi, Arabia.

In a contest sponsored by the State Federation of Women's Clubs, Mrs. Wood was declared the "Poet Laureate" of Kentucky. The following two verses from her winning poem, "America," are most applicable today:

"Ours that best heritage, dear native land
Of Liberty wrung from the tyrant sway!
Oh, may there be no Judas in our land
To kiss and kill, to barter and betray
But sons and foster sons alike stand fast
To guard our Mother from an old world's chains
And hurl the Stout defiance of the Past,
Freemen we are - Freemen we shall remain."

MEMBERS OF THE CENTRAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

1917

Atherton, Mrs. George H.
Baldwin, Miss Lucy R.
Barkley, Mrs. Roberta R.
Barkley, Eugene R.
Barkley, Frank O.
Bartlett, Mrs. Jessie
Bartlett, Malcolm
Bland, Winchester
Bland, Mrs. Winchester
Bradford, P. N.
Bradford, Mrs. P. N.
Browning, Mrs. S. P.
Browning, S., P.
Browning, John N.
Browning, Lawrence L.
Browning, G. C.
Cobb, Harold S..
Darnall, Mrs. C. W.
Daugherty, Wm.
Daugherty, Mrs. Wm.
Daugherty, H. B.
Hart, Miss Mary
Haucke, Mrs. A. B.
Haucke, L. J.
Haucke, Sylvester
Holstein, C. B.
Holstein, Mrs. C. B.
Howland, Mrs. H. S.
Hughes, Miss Addie N.
Jenkins, Mrs. D. B.
Johnson, Mrs. Mary P.
King, Wm. M.
King, Mrs. Wm. M.
King, Mrs. Sarah
King, Miss Jennie
Kirk, James M.
Lee, Mr. E. P.
Lee, Mrs. E. P.
Lee, Mrs. Anna
Manchester, Mrs. Ed
Martin, C. E.
Martin, Mrs. C. E.

Davis, Mrs. Ella R.
Dobyns, Mrs. Hattie K.
Dobyns, Miss Nettie C.
Dobyns, Miss Jennie D.
Elliott, Miss Margaret
Ellis, Wm. C.
Fitzgerald, George H.
Fitzgerald, J. W.
Fleming, Ben
Fleming, Mrs. Ben
Forman, Edward
Franklin, Mrs. D. C.
Franklin, Miss Elizabeth C.
Frakes, Miss Eleanor
Gibbons, Miss Elizabeth
Goodman, Buckner
Goodman, Mrs. B. W.
Greenwood, Mrs. Lillie
Hall, W. F..
Hall, Mrs. W. F.
Hart, Miss Emma
Martin, Edwin P.
Martin, Willis J.
McKibben, Mrs Mary
Mefford, Mrs. Elizabeth
Nelson, Simon
Nelson, Mrs. Simon
Newdigate, Mrs. James
Newell, Miss Lizzie
Newell, Miss Nettie
Nimmo, Charles
Nimmo, Mrs. Charles
Orr, Miss Lulu
Orr, Miss Mec.
Owens, R. B.
Owens, Mrs. Julia W.
Owens, R. B. Jr..
Owens, Frank S.
Owens, G. Wood
Peers, Miss Elizabeth
Pierpont, Willie W.
Piper, J. W.

Purnell, H. P. .
Purnell, Mrs. Lenn P.
Quigley, A. R.
Quigley, Mrs. A. R.
Redden, R. F.
Redden, Mrs. R. F.
Riggs, Mrs. Jessie
Robinson, John
Robinson, Miss Addie
Rogers, Mrs. Josephine

Ross, Miss Ria
Rice, Mrs. T. H.
Rudy, Walter
Rudy, Mrs. Walter
Rudy Howard
Rudy, Elizabeth
Rudy, Gordon
Sharp, H. C.
Sharp, H. C. Jr.
Sharp, Miss Martha Green
Smithers, Miss Cora
Stevenson, Mrs. Emma C.
Stevenson, Miss Amelia
Stevenson, Miss Richie
Stevenson, Miss Margaret
Stevenson, John
Stevenson, Thomas
Stevenson, Emery
Stevenson, J. C.
Strode, Mrs. W. H.
Strode, John T.
Strode, Bill Hall
Sulser, A. G.
Sulser, Ethel
Sulser, Harry

Coming a week later were Miss Lucy and Miss Fannie Lee,
and Miss Mary Elizabeth and Miss Sue Richeson.

Taulbee, Mrs. Eddie Knight
Taulbee, Evelyn
Taulbee, Woodson H.
Tully, W. B.
Tully, Mrs. W. B.
Tully, W. B. Jr.
Tully, Miss Nannie C.
Tully, Roy T.
Walker, Mrs. J. D.
Walker, John D. Jr.
Walker, Miss Margaret
Wallace, James A.
Wallace, Mrs. James A.
Wallace, Miss Annie M.
Wallace, Miss Eleanor P.
Wallace, Thomas
Wallace, Leonadas
Wheeler, P. W.
Wheeler, Mrs. P. W.
Williams, Mrs. M. F.
Wilson, Miss Anna Kate
Wood, J. James
Wood, James B.
Wood, Mrs. James B..
Wood, James Brent Jr.
Wood, Miss Letitia
Wood, Miss Mary M.
Wood, Clarence Jr.
Wood, Mrs. Clarence L.
Wood, Miss Eleanor
Wood, Donald
Worthington, Jesse
Worthington, Mrs. Jesse
Worthington, W. J.
Worthington; Mrs. Lillian E
Young, Mrs. A. S.

CHAPTER SEVEN THE LAST OF THE TWELVE

Rev. Robert von Thurn was born on a farm at Helena, Ohio, March 3, 1885. His parents were Jacob and Lydia Opperman von Thurn. He attended a one room, red brick country school house but received his High School and College education at Alma, Michigan, where his parents had moved. He took his theological training at Auburn Seminary, Auburn, New York.

He has held pastorates in Coleraine, Bovey, Morgan Park, Duluth and Hibbing, Minnesota and Anadarko, Oklahoma.

From there he came to Maysville on January 17, 1926. For ten years he served as Chaplain in the Officers Reserve Corps and on the local Draft Board during World War II. He was Chaplain at Fort Bragg, North Carolina, for a period of time during World War II. He served as Chairman of the Committee for young Peoples' conference at Danville, doing active work at the Conference for a number of years. He is at present the moderator of Ebenezer Presbytery. He has been of great help in ministering to the patients of all faiths at the hospital and has often sat with patients as they submitted to spinal surgery.

His wife was Miss Almyra Dewey Lewis of Ft. Wayne, Indiana. They have two children, Robert and Ann (Mrs. Donald Clarke).

Since he assumed the pastorate here the church has been redecorated - the pipe organ replaced by a Hammond organ; new pews have been put in, with one center aisle instead of two aisles.

Lights have been taken from the front of the church and six lights placed in the ceiling.

The clusters of lights in the central chandelier have been removed and candle shaped lights, with shades, put in their place, making a softer light. The choir seating arranged on one side of the platform and the organ on the other.

Choir seats face the altar. New pulpit furniture, consisting of pulpit, reading desk, two chairs, and altar on which are a cross, and two bronze vases, placed there in memory of Mrs. Harriet Caldwell by her family. The frescoing of the church is plain except for the border and the tapestry behind the altar, thus making the altar the center of worship. Two walnut pedestals, one on each of the steps leading to the altar - one holding an attractive flower container, the other the baptismal font; both of these the gift of Mrs. William D. Cochran. In the lecture room an asbestos tile floor has been laid, replacing the old carpet. In 1932, the church purchased of Judge William Rees his law office just north of the church. This has afforded more rooms for the



REV. ROBERT VON THURN

Jan. 17, 1926—April 9, 1950

Sunday School and a meeting place for the Boy Scouts. Mr. vonThurn has secured a number of copies of fine religious paintings which hang in the lecture room. The small rooms, one at right and the other at left of main lecture room were converted, one into Pastor's study, where new bookcases were installed and now hold the books formerly belonging to Judge A.M.J. Cochran, for many years Superintendent of the Sunday School and teacher of the adult class. Dr. von Thurn was the first minister to have a study or as it is called in this day, an office in the church, where all of any faith has been welcomed. It is well equipped with typewriter, mimeograph, telephone, yes, and even a pencil sharpener for the convenience of its members. The other room has been fitted with closets and is used by the choir, who during Rev. von Thurn's pastorate have acquired robes.

Two new rest rooms have been placed on the lower floor and radiators installed to heat the halls. A new stove has recently been-purchased for the kitchen and new folding tables, given by Dr. and Mrs. Morgan, have proven a great convenience for church suppers. Mr. Von Thurn started the custom of pot-luck or "covered-dish" suppers which have added much to the social life of the church. A cooling system has been installed and a moving picture machine with sound attachment.

Since coming to Maysville, Rev. von Thurn has been honored with the degree of D.D. conferred by Alma College, Alma, Michigan. No minister of this or any other church has been more useful in the community, responding to every call made him by the various organizations. Through him the church has given help to many in their hour of need, and there is a great company who could tell of help and renewed strength and courage after a visit to his study.

Twice during his pastorate, the community has been visited by-disastrous floods (one in 1937, the largest in history) and the church has been opened, first for the Red Cross to distribute clothing and bedding, and the second time for the refugees themselves. Several organizations have used the church for meetings and the Red Cross used it for some time. The Red Cross Blood Bank used the first floor of the Church on six occasions, for a week each time.

Dr. von Thurn, much interested in color photography, has taken many beautiful pictures which have given pleasure not only to our own congregation but to others. He has assisted the church at Ebenezer and Charters with their services and during his pastorate the S.S. has taken the S.S. at Long Shoals, Kentucky, under its wing, assisting them very materially in building their church. Each year at Christmas, candy and gifts have been sent. The Missionary society, divided into circles since he came, has now four flourishing circles.

During Mr. von Thurn's pastorate, a Boy Scout Troop (No. 106) has been organized. Mr. Clyde Barnes, one of the teachers in our High School, is the present Scout Master. The introduction of the devotional book, "Today," has done much for the spiritual life of the church.

Mrs. von Thurn in her quiet, unobtrusive way has helped her husband in his ministry. Many can testify of her helpful ministrations. After they had been living for some time in the home on Jersey Ridge, a colored woman was heard to remark, "She's the angel of the Ridge." Mrs. von Thurn would be the last person to think of herself in an angelic role, but as the good book says, "angels are ministering spirits sent forth to minister to

those who shall be heirs of salvation." There are many who will testify that she can qualify.

1,181 couples, living both in Kentucky and Ohio, will always have a tender place in their hearts for "The First Presbyterian Church," at Maysville, for it was here they plighted their troth, and they will not soon forget the friendly minister who did all he could to make their wedding day a memorable one, presenting each bride with a wedding book and often, for a couple in humble circumstances and during the war for the soldiers, returning the wedding fee.

The church now numbers 351 members. Nineteen new members were received on Easter Sunday.

When Mr. von Thurn came to us the town was still in its horse and buggy days. He has told of standing on Third Street when the stable of Mr. James stood next to the jail and counting fifty buggies parked there; and now to paraphrase "The Light Brigade," it is "autos to the right of them, autos to the left of them," and alas autos so often in front of them that into this Valley of Death each day walk not the 400 but 14,000 inhabitants. Since he came here, the bridge has been built across the Ohio. The Kehoe viaduct connecting east and west Maysville, has been built, necessitated by the frequent floods dividing the two sections of the city. At present a flood wall is being built, all efforts to protect the town from the rampages of Old Man River. The suburb of Eastland has been annexed and three new sub-divisions added - Deerfield, Hill Crest and Indian Hills, besides many new homes have been built on Edgemont.

A lovely playground for the children has been opened up at Beechwood Park in memory of Dorah H. Merz, whose chief joy was to help underprivileged children. During the past year, community has been aroused to the necessity of a playground for the colored children and funds are being collected for that purpose. The site has already been obtained.

Four funeral homes have been added to the many new buildings in the community and also a Chapel in the cemetery.

Maysville within this period has become one of the largest tobacco markets in the country, bringing to our city each year a large colony of people who are temporarily affiliated with our church. One of the buyers said he was glad it had been his privilege to worship with this church, because it was such a friendly church and because of his fellowship here, he would go home to be a better worker in his own church.

Mr. von Thurn's training has been not only from schools and colleges but also from life. He, being of an inquiring mind, has accumulated a fund of information on many subjects which he seems to keep well tabulated, for he can always tell you something about most everything. There are few ministers who have been called upon oftener to officiate at funerals. He has not only preached on Sundays but has been known while making a call on the sick to take off his coat and put down the linoleum in the kitchen for this parishioner who was unable to do it, and could get no one to do it for her. This is quite characteristic of him.

He is the only living Pastor of this Church.

"Well Done, Thou Good and Faithful Servant"

The Independent is genuinely sorry to learn that Dr. Robert von Thurn is concluding his ministry here and transferring his energies and talents to another field.

For almost a quarter century this able man has served our community diligently and effectively. Through years of war and peace, periods of storm and stress, good times and bad, he has maintained with simple dignity an intellectual and spiritual consistency that have brought him general esteem and affection.

Throughout his long ministry here, Dr. von Thurn has had a lively concern for everything that bore upon the lives of the people about him - not only their spiritual lives but their emotional, intellectual and physical lives. His civic activities for the accomplishment of these several ends are beyond counting.

These compelling concerns never lured him into forgetting that he was first of all a minister in a great Protestant faith and in his approach to and contact with every problem, spiritual or secular, he sought its solution through the application of Christian principles, a search that through the years brought forth abundant fruit.

In leaving this city which he has served so faithfully, The Independent is happy to cry, "Well done! To wish him long life, health and joy - joy in continued service, joy in accomplishment, joy in an abiding faith, joy in alert conscience, shackled only to the will of his Lord and Saviour."

After being without a parsonage for a number of years, the church on April 6, 1950, purchased the beautiful home of Mr. Russell Roden at 1018 East Second Street, to be used for this purpose.

Built in 1930, the home is generally regarded as one of the most attractive and most desirable pieces of residential property in the city - an 18th century English type house, it is two stories of brick construction and contains 8 rooms.

THE DAILY INDEPENDENT - MARCH 3

Dr. Robert von Thurn Resigns Pastorate Here After 24 Years

Dr. Robert von Thurn at a meeting of the elders of the First Presbyterian Church last night resigned his post as pastor of the church, to become effective April 15.

The clergyman came to the church in 1926, from Anadarko, Oklahoma. He is to assume the minister's office of the Presbyterian Church at Mowrystown, Ohio, on April 15.

A meeting of the congregation is called for Monday, March 13, to take action on the resignation.

Having spent 24 of his 35 years in the ministry among the people of this community, Dr. von Thurn and his charming wife cherish Maysville as their "home," and it is satisfying to know that it is a reciprocal feeling. This is so since the community regards them as two of their finest citizens whose achievements have effected a permanent good here.

Dr. von Thurn, aside from his pastoral duties which he has always filled with the sense of consecrated service that they demand, performed a creditable service to Mason County as wartime chairman of the Selective Board. It was a difficult and often a thankless job, but one that nevertheless he did exceedingly well.

Among the happiest of the von Thurn's memories are that their years here encompass the life of their daughter, Mrs. Donald Clark (Anne von Thurn) now of Paintsville. Their son, Robert, now of San Francisco, was two years old when they came here and their daughter was born here.

\$1,000 GIFT-CHECK PRESENTED RESIGNED
PRESBYTERIAN MINISTER

Congregational Token Precedes Public Tribute

Recognition Given DR. ROBERT VON THURN, In Ministerial Field Here 24 Years

It will be many years, very many, before a service comparable to the one taking place last night is held again in First Presbyterian Church. Never before within the confines of this edifice, or possibly any other church sanctuary in Maysville, had there ever been such an outpouring of hearts, such a simple yet eloquent manner of saying, "Well done, thou good and faithful servant."

Nor was the outpouring confined to words of tribute to Dr. Robert von Thurn and the wife of this minister who on Easter Sunday will conclude more than 24 years as the Presbyterian pastor here.

At a congregational potluck supper, with nearly 200 members of his "flock" gathered about him, Dr. von Thurn was presented a check in the amount of \$1,000. Bestowing this token of gratitude on behalf of the membership was one of the deacons, Ralph L. Evenburgh.

Afterwards the upstairs sanctuary was the scene of a testimonial service arranged by the Maysville Ministerial Association and open to the public. Here Dr. von Thurn was lauded as the minister, the man, the friend of many, the community builder, the intellect, the cultured gentleman. Climaxing these moving tributes, offered in behalf of Dr. von Thurn's fellow clergymen, the Boy Scout organization, the Lions club, the press - a handsome billfold was presented the honored pastor by Rev. James A. Moak of First Christian Church as the ministerial association's gift.

Dr. and Mrs. von Thurn, who came to Maysville early in 1926, will leave here April 23, to make the one hour's drive to Mowrystown, O., there to continue the rich and noble Christian service that has distinguished their stay here.

Dr. Homer L. Moore, pastor of Trinity Methodist Church and president of the ministerial group, introduced the evening's speakers and paid his own heartfelt tribute to Dr. von Thurn and his helpmate through the fruitful years of his ministry.

Offering the first tribute was Eugene F. Wright, who spoke on behalf of the Boy Scout organization, reactivated in this self-same church in 1931, when no troop was existent here. With great feeling, this young man enumerated the personal experiences for which he would always remember Dr. von Thurn, who had given him kindly counsel during his own Boy Scout days; had seen him off to the Army and welcomed him home; had christened his children; over the coffee cup had talked over the destinies of the Maysville Bulldogs, the Cincinnati Reds and the state of world affairs. "I speak in the first person," said Mr. Wright, "because every member of the congregation will remember him for all this and much more." The former Scout talked of Dr. von Thurn's thousands of sick calls to hospital and homes; recalled that the door of his study has always been open to anyone in need of help or advice, and paid fitting tribute to the woman who has so ably helped him in his Christian service."

Summarizing this service, Mr. Wright stated that Dr. von Thurn had delivered over a thousand sermons from the Presbyterian pulpit here; that the church had gained sizably in membership as well as financial status; that the sanctuary had been completely remodeled and refurnished during his pastorate; that a new Hammond organ had been

installed in the church auditorium; that Sunday School methods had been modernized and religious art introduced; that Dr. von Thurn has also ministered to two small rural churches – Ebenezer and Charters; that he had served as Moderator of the Presbytery, served on the state mission board, and had been superintendent of the Young People's Conference at Danville. "You have marked us all, individually and collectively. Your work will never be forgotten, Mr. Wright concluded.

"You know him as Dr. von Thurn, the minister; we know him as just plain 'Bob,'" said Chris D. Russell as he voiced the sentiments of the Lions club. "We know him, too," he stated, "as a willing and able worker who could always be counted on to do his part and a little bit more." Mr. Russell recalled that Dr. von Thurn was sixth president of the service club, in 1934-35, and he termed him, the original Lion in this community. Over 21 years ago, the speaker said, an organizational meeting was held in Dr. von Thurn's church and from that get-together local Lionism was born in 1929. "Through the years," he went on, "we have learned to lean on him for ideas, advice, constructive criticism - and he has never failed us." For a long time, Mr. Russell said, Dr. von Thurn was the only source of program material and entertainment. "If the Lions club has helped to make Maysville a better place to live," he continued, "it is due in large measure to Bob von Thurn." Telling briefly of the Lions' sight conservation program, now carried on in every school of city and county, white and colored, Mr. Russell said that every school child is examined at least every other year, that glasses are furnished the indigents and sometimes even corrective surgery provided. It was Dr. von Thurn, he asserted, who saw the need for such a program in this community and was responsible for its adoption as a major project of the Maysville Lions Club. For many years the minister chairmanned the sight conservation program, Mr. Russell added.

Closing his sincerely spoken tribute, Mr. Russell said, "our loss is some one's else gain. In our hearts there will always be a place for Bob von Thurn."

In introducing Mrs. P.W. Comer, Dr. Moore said he felt a representative of the press was best suited to present a picture of Dr. von Thurn's labors here from a community perspective. "I think of him in two different realms," the only woman speaker of the evening began. "To me he suggests Longfellow's poem, 'Michael Angelo,' which delineates a painter as ceaselessly striving to work while knowing there never would be time to do the things he must." Then she placed Dr. von Thurn in the realm of music, thinking of him there as of Brahms's Second Symphony: tender, melodic, full of dignity, strength and majesty.

Mrs. Comer further spoke of the level of his culture and the measure of his intellect; of how he inculcated in young people a desire for learning and self-improvement. She applied to Dr. von Thurn someone's definition of a gentleman - one who never inflicts pain. The newspaper editor also spoke of Dr. von Thurn's service as wartime chairman of the Mason County Selective Service Board.

Including Mrs. von Thurn in her tribute, Mrs. Comer again quoted from Longfellow, this time a passage from "Evangeline," the one that goes, "Ye who believe in affection, that hopes and endures and is patient; Ye who believe in the beauty and strength of a woman's devotion."

Mentioned, too, during the appreciation program were the two children of the von Thurns - Bob, a tow-headed lad of two when the family took up residence here, and Anne, now Mrs. Donald K. Clark, who was born in Maysville. The son will come from San Francisco and the daughter and son-in-law from Paintsville to be with their parents at "Barra," on the Jersey Ridge road, before they transfer their residence to Mowrystown.

Last to speak was Dr. A.D. Odom, pastor of the First Baptist church, whose seniority in the ministerial field here is second only to Dr. von Thurn's. When he came to Mason County nearly 20 years ago, he said, the first minister to greet him was Dr. von Thurn "He possesses one of the superior intellects of our community," the speaker asserted. In the light of the Presbyterian clergyman's participation in the affairs of the ministerial association, Dr. Odom paid tribute to his spirit of cooperativeness and the fact that action directed or suggested by him was always forward-looking. Recognized were Dr. von Thurn's "multitude of mercies" and his simple desire to do where he knew help was needed.

Humbly acknowledging the tributes so glowingly and feelingly spoken, Dr. von Thurn said simply, "We've never faced anything like this. We don't feel at all worthy. Our only plan and purpose has been to walk along with the strange Man of Galilee - that's all." He continued, "This is a community with a heart. One who could not love and be proud of this place and this church would be a queer minister." Dr. von Thurn, who has performed 1,181 marriage ceremonies since he came to Maysville and has conducted 400 funerals, ended his expression of gratitude by saying, "We shall never forget your love, friendship, personal thoughtfulness and devotion."

The testimonial service opened with prayer by Rev. Andrew D. Milstead, rector of the Church of the Nativity. Dr. Moore made the prayer that closed the impressive program. The potluck supper beforehand was significant for the reason that the first such affair ever held in Maysville took place in the Presbyterian church shortly after Dr. von Thurn accepted the call here. "It was supposed to be a failure," the minister reminisced, but so successful did it prove to be that it became a part of community life in this town. "I am glad," he said, "that our joy and friendship shine out through the windows of our church to reach others."

Arrangements for the supper were in the hands of the Westminster Guild of the church. Tables were placed to seat 10 at each one and all were centered with great clusters of jonquils.

IN MEMORIAM

JUDGE ANDREW MCCONNELL JANUARY COCHRAN

Inasmuch as God has removed from our midst His faithful servant, and our brother in Christ, Judge Andrew McConnell January Cochran, we, the officers and Pastor of the Church, unite in this expression of our deep appreciation of his life and of our sincere sympathy with the members of the family.

In the passing of Judge Cochran, the Church loses one of the most faithful of its members in all its history, the community one of its most devoted citizens, and the state an outstanding servant.

For many years Judge Cochran served as Superintendent of the Sunday School, as teacher of a Bible Class, and as an Elder in the Church, to which he gave a large place

in his life. None were more faithful than he in attendance upon his duties in connection with every phase of the life of the Church; none gave more generously of time, energy and means to every good cause.

We are blessed in the memory of his quiet, unassuming Christian life and spirit; his deep humanity that understood and sympathized with all with whom he was associated; what he gave to the State as a Federal Judge of the highest ability and practice; his many warm personal friendships; and above all, his daily life unswervingly loyal to Christ.

We are deeply grateful to God for the gift of a life that so exemplified the teachings and spirit of Christ, that makes it easier to believe in God, and that makes immortality seem more sure and heaven nearer.

"So when a good man dies
For years beyond our ken
The light he leaves behind him
Lies across the paths of men."

CHAPTER EIGHT PASTORS

"And he ordained Twelve, that they should be with him, and that he might send them forth to preach."

1. John T. Edgar, March 29, 1820 - December 1, 1827
2. William I. Breckinridge, January 16, 1831 - January 1, 1832
3. John J. Rice, November, 1834 - November, 1835
4. Robert C. Grundy, July 1836 - March 24, 1857.
5. John A. McClung, March 30, 1857 - August 6, 1859
6. William T. McElroy, January 1860 - April, 1861
7. James E. Spilman, December 14, 1863 - September 1, 1867
8. George M. McCampbell, Supply October 8, 1869 - November 19, 1871. Pastor November 19, 1871-October 31, 1872
9. Samuel B. Alderson, Supply April 16, 1873 - April 19, 1874. Pastor April 19, 1874 - September 25, 1884
10. John Smith Hays, Supply September 1, 1885 – September 1, 1886. Pastor September 1, 1886 - January 19, 1899
11. John Barbour, February 16, 1899 - July 5, 1925.
12. Robert von Thurn, January 17, 1926 - April 9, 1950

SUPPLIES

1. Clarence Phillips, September and October, 1828
2. T.A. Mines, December 25, 1828 - August 25, 1829
3. L.D. Howell, December 1832 - July, 1833
4. Alexander Logan, latter part of 1833
5. George W. Coons, May to September, 1861; also September 9, 1867 to November 9, 1869.

John January
John Lowry

Valentine Peers

6. Robert L. Breck, September 9, 1861 - August 1862

7. Celon H. Rout, 1 summer

James Chambers
Thomas H. January
Aaron Quinn
David Morrison
Jacob Corwin
John Sumrall
William Huston
William Hodge
Lewis Collins
J. W. Rand
Chas. B. Coons
Wm. Crittenden
Andrew. M. January
James Barbour
Thomas N. Ayers
William Hodge
John Scudder
Wm. W. Richeson
Thomas J. Throop
John G. Hickman
George W. Martin
M. J. Chase
James H. Rains
John E. Blaine
Josiah Wilson
A. M. J. Cochran
John C. Pecor
Rudolph K. Hoeflich
Robert A. Cochran, Jr.
John H. Wright
Thomas Y. Nesbit
James Childs
John H. Bryant
J. James Wood
James B. Wood
J. C. Stevenson
Chas. B. Holstein
Henry N. Helmer
Omer Boggs
Charles F. Wright
E. Stanley Lee

T. H. N. Smith
Homer Ellis
John C. Rains
Robt. N. Adair
J. M. Cochran
E. H. Maas
F. H. Wright
H. P. Cunning
H. P. Purnell
Verner Dryden
R. A. Cochran III
Andrew M. January
John Haldeman
George Campbell
James Martin
William Huston
Lewis Collins
William Tinker
Larkin Thompson
Charles B. Coons
Michall Ryan
Shelby Campbell
Joseph F. Broderick
Richard H. Collins
William M. Murphy
Henry H. Cox

Jacob O. Phister
Christopher Leavitt
John Scudder
Geo. W. Blatterman
John R. Sharpe
James Smith
John Seaton
A. January Grundy
Joseph Sumrall
Josiah Wilson
John E. Blaine
Rudolph K. Hoeflich
John C. Pecor
A. M. J. Cochran
D. E. Roberts

W. B. Mathews
Hiram H. Collins
T. H. N. Smith
James Childs
Orlando P. Cox
James M. Rains
Conrad P. Traxel
Thomas Y. Nesbit
Clarence
Matthews
J. Linden Woods
John T. Martin
Verner Dryden
Frank H. Wright
Horace J. Cochran
Francis F. Gerbrich
Charles F. Wright
Henry N. Helmer
Robt. B. Owens
James W. Piper
J. W. McNeil
Edward H. Maas
J. M. Cochran
A. G. Sulser
George Fitzgerald
Leonidas. Wallace
Harry Purnell
Horace J. Cochran
Robt. A. Cochran III
Alex Parker
Houston Wood
Jesse L. Collins
John C. Stevenson
Raymond Hirschfeld
Harold Cuning'
Berry Spence
R. R. Anderson
Dr. H. N. Parker
J. W. McNeil, Jr.

"The Faithful Who Did Not Become Famous" - George Elliot

As the writer of Hebrews said, time would fail to tell of all the Gideons and Baraks, the many faithful souls who have served in the army of the Lord in this church during the 133 years of its history.

Mention should be made of Mr. James Barbour, adult class teacher; also Mrs. Broderick, Mrs. Foster Barbour, Mrs. John Barbour, the Misses Fannie and Carrie Hays, Mr. R.A. Cochran, Miss Eleanor Wallace and Miss Mary Wood.

Mr. Lewis Collins, seems to have been the first Superintendent of the Sunday School, followed by Mr. John Blaine, Mr. Josiah Wilson, Judge A.M.J. Cochran, and upon the union of the churches by Mr. James B. Wood under whose efficient leadership the Sunday School reached its greatest height in numbers and efficiency. After Mr. Wood's retirement, because of ill health, Mrs. Harriet Caldwell, with her brilliant mind and gracious manner, served most acceptably for a few years. Mr. J. L. Luman is now acting Superintendent, Mr. Berry Spence, Secretary, Miss Lillie Rae Pecor, Treasurer.

Adult teachers - Mrs. Robert von Thurn, Mrs. Arthur Kehoe, and Miss Mary Wilson.

Intermediate Teachers - Mrs. J.M. Cochran, Miss Lettie Wood.

Junior Department - Mrs. Louis Cablish, Superintendent, Assistant, Miss Rae Davis.

Primary Department - Mrs. Arthur Hyman, Assistants, Misses Laura Lou Rogers and Lillian Hutchison.

Beginners - Mrs. Madison Lindsay, Miss Norma Rains.

Nursery - Mrs. Marshall Fields.

In the Missionary Society, mention should be made of Miss Margaret Pickett and Miss Mary L. Pecor, both of whom served so long and so faithfully. Miss Pecor was honored a few years ago by being made a life member of Ebenezer Presbyterial. Mention should also be made of Mrs. Belle Bland, a most efficient treasurer for many years, and of Mrs. W.D. Cochran, who for several years has been a most faithful leader of the Spiritual Life Group. The present officers are: President, Mrs. Ralph Evenburgh; Vice-Presidents, Mrs. J.M. Cochran and Mrs. H.H. Morgan; Secretary, Miss Fannie Case; Treasurer, Miss Florence Wilson. For many years Mrs. John Barbour presided at the organ, followed by Mrs. Will Rees, Miss Stella Archdeacon and Mrs. Evelyn Carpenter, who is now the organist. The choir for years was a quartet composed of Mr. and Mrs. Foster Barbour, Miss Florence Hays and Mr. R.A. Cochran. After Miss Hays left and Mr. and Mrs. Barbour resigned, Doctor Smoot, Miss Maude Rains, Miss Amy King and Mr. R.A. Cochran composed the choir. After them, Miss Maude Rains organized a chorus choir. Under her faithful and efficient leadership, a splendid chorus was developed. Mrs. Evelyn Carpenter, serves not only as organist but choir director. During the past year, Mrs. Louis Cablish has organized a Junior Choir.

For many years, Miss Stella Archdeacon has served as pianist at Sunday School following Mrs. James Childs. She has also played at Prayer and Auxiliary Meetings; in fact, whenever and wherever needed, all without remuneration. In Miss Archdeacon's absence, which has been seldom, Mrs. Newton Haughaboo has taken her place.

Space will not permit the mention of the many others who have merited the Master's "Well Done."

A TRIBUTE

The history of this church would not be complete without tribute being paid to the faithful colored folks who have made it possible for us to worship in comfort throughout the years. The older members will recall Fielding Fant and Ellis Chinn, and Jack Crouch, the latter who, until the electric motor was installed, furnished the hand power to run the organ. Then there were Walter Scott and his wife, Sarah.

Special mention should be made of Sarah Scott who served the church most faithfully and efficiently for 34 years. She served with a real interest in and love for the church. She would speak with pride of her scouts, her Sunday School, her missionary society. They really were hers, for she had taken them to her heart. If decorations for a meeting had not been furnished, Sarah would search around til she found some bit of green or a blossom with which to decorate. She very carefully preserved the flowers from one service to another. Nothing gave her greater pleasure than to have the church clean and beautiful.

The Apostle Paul said that "it is required in stewards that a man be found faithful." Sarah Scott was a faithful steward. A bond of affection has always existed between the membership and these faithful ones.

Katharine Haly served for a short time after Sarah Scott resigned.

There was also Aunt Lizzie Gaston, than whom there was no member more loyal - always in her place each Sunday unless prevented by illness, giving and doing what she could. After she died her funeral was held in the church and was attended by both white and colored. In the absence of the Pastor, Rev. H. Kerr Taylor, Pastor of the Central Presbyterian Church, officiated at the services.

CONCLUSION

"And they rehearsed all that God had done with them."

Acts 14:27

One hundred and thirty-three years since the seed of Presbyterianism was planted in the little town nestling at the feet of the Southern hills, caressed by the great tawny river. The river still caresses the hills, the hills still stand as sentinels guarding the town at their feet, but the town no longer nestles. It has grown big and strong and has climbed the hills to make room for its growing population and also to escape the caresses of "Old Man River," growing a little too familiar for comfort. From a town of less than 2,000 it has become a small city of 14,000.* A ferry no longer plies between. In the memory of those living will linger long the sound of its departing whistle as it rounded the western bend, thus passing out of our lives forever. In its place a graceful, slender bridge, like a silver ribbon ties together the Kentucky and Ohio shores, facilitating travel and increasing the friendliness and neighborliness of those dwelling along these shores. Farewell, Ferry, you served us well and added much to the picturesqueness and romance of the little town. But picturesqueness, romance and even beauty must give way to progress.

* According to religious census taken 1949

One hundred years have passed since the first brick was laid for the present stately edifice, the first floor of which was occupied by December, 1850, and the entire structure completed by 1852. For 100 years, this building has stood in the center of town just opposite the Old Court House, twin temples of justice. For God and Native Land they stand guard over the moral and spiritual life of the community. The old spire still points upward and the old bell still swings in the belfry proclaiming in tones undimmed by years, its message of spiritual liberty.

What has been the witness of this church during the hundred years of its history? For what has it stood?. It is to be regretted that it has not been more of the evangelistic or aggressive type. Its ministers have been teachers rather than evangelists but they have laid a firm foundation of faith in the over-ruling Providence of God and faith in and love for His inspired word. It has ever been a "giving" church, carrying out the Master's injunction, "Freely ye have received, freely give." A helping hand has always been held out to those in need. Never has it turned a deaf ear to any plea for help, either from its own or others, "Bearing one another's burdens it has fulfilled the law of Christ." It has given generously, both in money and service, to every good cause. The Y.M.C.A., Bible Society, City Mission and every other worthwhile organization has benefited by its gifts and interests. For years Mr. R.A. Cochran conducted a Sunday School in the German Church on Sunday afternoons. In this he was assisted by many members of this church. Miss Anna M. Bauer should be especially mentioned for her great help and interest. As this was before the passing of the Child Labor Law, many children did not attend school, so a school was held at the same church on Friday night.

This church has given the following young men to the ministry: James Skinner, Lorin Andrews, who became a great foreign missionary, Henry M. Scudder, Arthur Chase, Lewis Collins, Maurice Waller, John Barbour, Horace Wilson, Brent Wood, and also Sallie N. Rains, a home missionary who served in Pikeville College, as a supervisor of the Girls' Dormitory, at Neah Bay, Washington, in work for the Indians and as a Supervisor of the Boys' Dormitory at Ganado, Arizona.

The church has always been connected with the educational work of the community. Two of its elders, Mr. Rand and Mr. Richeson, conducted the Maysville Seminary where so many, not only from this church but from others and also from other towns, received their education. There was also Hayswood Female Seminary which was taught for so many years by the Pastor, Dr. John S. Hays, and his daughters. It is said that the first Pastor, Dr. John Edgar, conducted a school in the house now owned and occupied by Miss Stella Archdeacon. In late years the parish house has been used by young women of the church as a kindergarten.

At the time the old Blue Church burned, Mr. John Brosee had a confectionery store where Traxel's now stands. While the family was out viewing the fire the small son of the house was seen running down the street with his toy fire engine, from which real water could be forced. When asked where he was going, he said to help put out the Presbyterian Church fire. Just one week later, the small son of Mr. Andrew January gave the first dollar to build the present church. Destructive fires must be put out and new fires must be kindled. On both of these occasions the Master's words were true, "A little child shall lead them."

There is no greater nor more important task of the church than the training and teaching of its children. Not only civilization but the church advances on the feet of little children. It is to be hoped that the church will feel keenly this responsibility and give more freely of its time, money and talents to this great work. The future of all churches lies in the hands of the children.

From the pulpit of this church great orators have spoken; in its Bible School, profound students have opened up the Word; sweet singers and fine musicians have given the gospel in music. But had no word ever been spoken, taught or sung, this old building itself with its simple, unpretentious lines, its impressive height towering over all other buildings, its old spire ever pointing upward, the soft light from its beautiful windows radiating the darkness about, stands as a silent witness to faith in God.

*We love the place, O God
Wherein Thine honour dwells
The joy of Thine abode
All other joy excels.
We love the house of prayer,
Wherein Thy servants meet,
For Thou, O Lord, art there,
Thy chosen ones to greet.*

Members
First Presbyterian Church - July 1950

Adair, Robert N.	Christine, Mrs. C. W..
Adair, Mrs. Robert N.	Christine, Patricia Dorsey
Adair, William C.	Christine, Shelley
Adair, Clarissa Duffield	Christine, Chadwick
Anderson, Mrs. Robert	C.ark, Mrs. Anna Klipp
Archdeacon, Stella	Clift, Mrs. Charles
Members	Cochran, Mrs. Gertrude
Atkinson, Walter Edward Jr.	Cochran, John McEiroy Jr.
Atkinson, Mrs. W. E.	Cochran, Horace
Baber, Cecil	Cochran, Mrs. Horace
Baber, Mrs. Cecil	Cochran, Robert A. III
Baldwin, Lucy R.	Cochran, Mrs. Robert A. III
Barret, Olivia Dieterich	Cochran, William Duffield
Barkley, Frank O.	Cochran, Mrs. William Duffield
Barkley, Mrs. Frank O.	Cochran, Mrs. Zorayda
Barkley, Nancy Rust	Collins, Jesse L.
Beckett, Charles Edward	Collins, Mrs. Jesse L.
Beckett, Mrs. Charles E.	Cunning, Harold
Bissett, Robert J.	Cunning, Mrs. Harold
Boyd, Mary Leslie	Davenport, Mrs. W. W.
Bradford, Samuel N.	Davenport, Robert Scott
Bradford, Mrs. Samuel N.	Davenport, Mrs. Robert Scott
Brand, Mrs. Alberta G.	Davenport, Robert Arvid
Browning, John N.	Davis, Maurice
Browning, Mrs. John N.	Davis, Mrs. Maurice
Browning, Lawrence	Davis, Ray Winder
Burgess, Mrs. John	Davis, Arthur
Burrows, Mrs. James	Davis, Mary
Burrows, James Bradford	Davis, Edith
Cablish, Louis	Davis, Mrs. Ella
Cablish, Mrs. Louis	Day, John F.
Cablish, Wayne	Day, Mrs. John F.
Calvert, Margaret Strode	DeBold, Mrs. Elizabeth
Caproni, Mrs. Jewel Cliff	Denham, Mrs. Mitchel B.
Carter, John L.	Dickson, Mellie
Carter, Mrs. John L.	Dieterich, Elizabeth
Case, Mrs. McAtee	Dietrich, Mrs. Charles
Case, Miss Fannie	Dobyns, Hattie K.
Case, Robert C.	Dobyns, Jennie D.
Case, Mrs. Robert C.	Duke, Mrs. Harriet Cochran
Childs, Sudie	Duke, Andrew C.
Christine, Dr. C. W.	Duke, Mrs. Andrew C.

Alice Engle
Mrs. Fannie Grilla
Evenburgh, Ralph L.
Evenburgh, Mrs. Ralph L.
Faurest, Dr. John
Feeback, Mrs. Carrie Madge
Fitzgerald, George
Fitzgerald, Mrs. George
Fitzgerald, George Habeson
Fields, Marshall
Fields, Mrs. Marshall
Ford, Mrs. Mary Duke
Fox, Andrew
Fulton, Mrs. June Diener
Gibson, Frank H.
Gibson, Mrs. Frank H.
Gibson, Samuel Beecher
Gilp, Mrs. Katherine Simpson
Gilp, Elmer Frederick Jr.
Hardy, John N.
Hardy, Mrs. John N.
Hannah, William M.
Hannah, Mrs. William M.
-Haughaboo, Mrs. Newton
Helmer, Alberta
Helmer, Viola
Helmer, George A.
Helmer, Henry N.
Helmer, Pickett
Helmer, Lillian
Helmer, Lulu
Hendrickson, Mrs. Anna
Hendrickson, Frank L.
Hendrickson, Mrs. Frank L.
Hendrickson, Bill B.
Hirschfeld, Raymond M.
Hirschfeld, Mrs. Raymond M.
Hirschfeld, William Ernst
Hirschfeld, Gera Louise
Holt, Edgar
Holt, Mrs. Edgar
Huber, Mrs. Helen Holt
Hughart, Samuel
Hughart, Mrs. Samuel
Hutchison, Robert

Hutchison, Mrs. Robert
Hutchison, Lillian Coral
Hughes, Ronald Davis
Hill, Mrs. Julia Jackson
Hyman, Mrs. Arthur
Ingram, Norma Wilson
Johnson, Mrs. Charles William
Kehoe, Mrs. James Arthur
Kehoe, Sue Ann
Kirk, Mrs. Harriet Cochran
King, William M.
Lindsay, Richard Madison
Lindsay, Mrs. Richard Madison
Lindsay, Madison Sr.
Lukens, Mrs. Anna M.
Lukens, Alfred Peed
Lundergan, Jane Day
Luman, William H.
Luman, Mrs. William H.
Luman, John T.
Luman, John King
Maas, Edward Henry
Maas, Mrs. Edward Henry
Marsh, William W.
Marsh, Mrs. William W.
Marsh, Catherine Jane
Mathews, Clarence
Mathews, Mrs. Clarence
Mathews, William Burgess
Mathews, Mrs. William Burgesu
Matthews, Mrs. Charles
McClanahan, Mrs. M. T.
McClanahan, James
McClanahan, Henry Clay
McClanahan, Mrs. James
McDonald, Mrs. Anna
McDonald, Thomas Texas
McNeil, J. W.
McNeil, Mrs. J. W.
McNeil, John W. Jr.
McDowell, Mrs. Anna Rovon
Mitchell, Raymond H.
Mitchell, Mrs. R. H.
Miles, Harry
Miles, Mrs. Harry
Molloy, Mrs. J. C.

Moore, Mrs. Francis Klipp
Moore, Mrs. John
Moore, Mary Ruth
Morgan, Dr. Hermann H.
Morgan, Mrs. Hermann H.
Morgan, Hermann H. Jr.
Moses, Mrs. Jane
Mulliken, June (Mrs. Maher)
Oldham, Mary
Ort, Ernest Stewart
Owens, Mrs. Mary E.
Owens, Mrs. Robert B. Sr.
Owens, Robert B. Jr.
Owens, Mrs. George Wood
Parker, Alex
Parker, Mrs. Alex
Parker, Alex Jr.
Parker, Ellen (Mrs. Hillenmeyer)
Parker, Zoe
Parker, Dr. Harold N.
Parker, Mrs. Harold N.
Parker, Harold N. Jr.
Parker, Ann Evans
Pecor, Lillie Rae
Pecor, Mary Leland
Pecor, Sarah Evans
Pecor, James S.
Peed, Mrs. Gayle
Perrine, Ann
Perrine, Jean
Perrine, William Everett
Perrine, John Dixon
Poor, Mrs. L. D.
Purnell, H. P.
Quigley, Mrs. A. R.
Quigley, Frank Douglas
Rains, Mrs. J. Curtis
Rains, Harriet
Rains, Norma
Rhodes, David
Rhodes, Mrs. David
Rogers, Mrs. James Clark
Rogers, James Hampton
Rogers, Laura Lou
Roper, Dorothy
Rozan, Mrs. Anna

Rudy, Mrs. Katherine
Russell, Mrs. Mary Taulbee
Schatzmann, Julia
Schatzmann, Richard Browning
Schwartz, Emma
Schwab, Mrs. Jennie
Sharon, Mrs. Mary
Sharon, Jane
Skaggs, Nancy Jane
Slattery, Mrs. Jennie Sidwell
Smith, Lillie Pickett
Smith, Peter R.
Smith, Harry R.
Smith, Mrs. Harry R.
Smith, Robert T.
Smith, Fannie Belle
Smoot, Mrs. Helen Rozan
Spence, Mrs. Alice
Spence, Berry W. Jr.
Spence, Adelia
Stevenson, John C. Jr.
Stiles, Allen
Stiles, Mrs. Allen
Stiles, Robert, Allen Jr.
Strode, John T.
Adair, Robert N., Jr.
Allison, Mrs. Kittye Glasscock
Strode, Mrs. John T.
Strode, Mary January
Sulser, A. G.
Sulser, Mrs. A. G.
Sunier, Mrs. Marion Young
Sunier, Mrs. Margaret Kennedy
Taulbee, Mrs. Woodson
Thedeman, Carrie
Tolle, Mrs. Dola Dersch
Traber, William M.
Traber, Mrs. William M.
Trouts, Florence
Tully, Nancy
Tully, William J.
Tully, Mrs. William J.
Tully, William Boyd
Wallace, Mrs. James A.
Wallace, Leonidas
Wallace, Eleanor

Walker, Henry M. Sr. .
Walker, Mrs. Henry M. Sr.
Walker, Henry M. Jr.
Weller, Albert
Weller, Mrs. Albert
Weller, Carol
Members
Out of City
Wilson, Florence
Wilson, Mary
Wilson, Mrs. James
Winter, Mary
Withrow, Mrs. Virginia Atkinson
Wood, Houston , done
Wood, Mary M.
Wood, Letitia
Anderson, Shirley
Ashenhurst, Julius
Ovel Mellen
Wood, Evelyn Taulbee
Wood, Woodson Taulbee
Wood, Donald L. Jr.
Wood, Eleanor Duncan
Wood, Dorothy Lee
Wright, Frank H.
Wright, Charles F.
Wright, Mrs. Charles F.
Wright, Eugene
Wright, Mrs. Eugene
Worthington, Elizabeth Helmer
Workman, Charles
Young, Mrs. Scott
Zeigler, Jane Dimmitt
Zeigler, Roy
Zeisler, Mary Groom
Zeisler, George Edward
Brood
Bacon, Mrs. Louise Sproemberg
Bess, Mrs. Marion-
Bower, Mrs. Julia Wallingford
Bible, Dr. Leanard A.
Bible, Mrs. Leanard A.
Browning, Thomas Chenault
Caden, Millie
Conrad, Mrs. Anna Wilhelmina
Clift, Robert
Clift, Mrs. Robert
Clift, Margaret Ann
Clift, Charles Lawson
Day, John F. Jr.
Davenport, Lewis
Durrett, Mrs. Richard
Ellis, Mrs. Homer
Enders, Mrs. Thelma Maas
Forman, Edward
Forman, Mrs. Edward
Haynes, Mrs. Virginia Frank
Hirschfeld, Mrs. M. R.
Key, Mrs. Henry
Lyons, Mrs. Nancy Poor
Maas, Edward
Maas, Frank
Martin, Mrs. C. E.
Matthews, Charles
Manion, Mrs. Doloris King
Marshall, Charles
Marshall, Mrs. Charles
Moore, Mrs. Ann Owens
Otto, Miss Margaret
Orr, Mrs. J. B.
Quigley, Austin
Randolph, Mrs. Jane Russell
Roberts, Mrs. Bonnie Lee
Russell, Mrs. Caroline Quigley
Rudy, Gordon
Spence, Lawrence
Stevenson, Mrs. John
Stewart, Gladys
Throckmorton, James
Throckmorton, Mrs. James
VanMeter, Mrs. Laura Browning
von Thurn, Robert Jr.
von Thurn, Barbara Ann
(Mrs. Donald Clark)



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
1950