

BEAVER CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH
HAS AN INTERESTING HISTORY

Charles C. Adams

History of Beaver Creek Baptist Church written
by Charles C. Adams and read at the Sesquicen-
tenial celebration Sept. 21, 1947

Copy of Plat made by Martin Colvin
March 2nd 1844

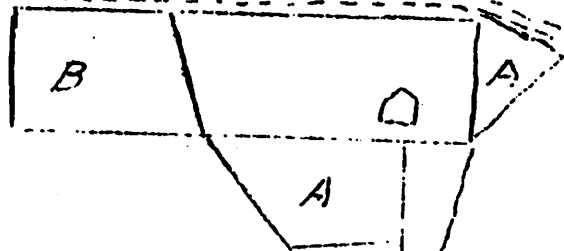
Wiley Coleman Land

Road

Road

Wiley Coleman Land

Wiley Coleman Land



Spring
Wiley Coleman Land

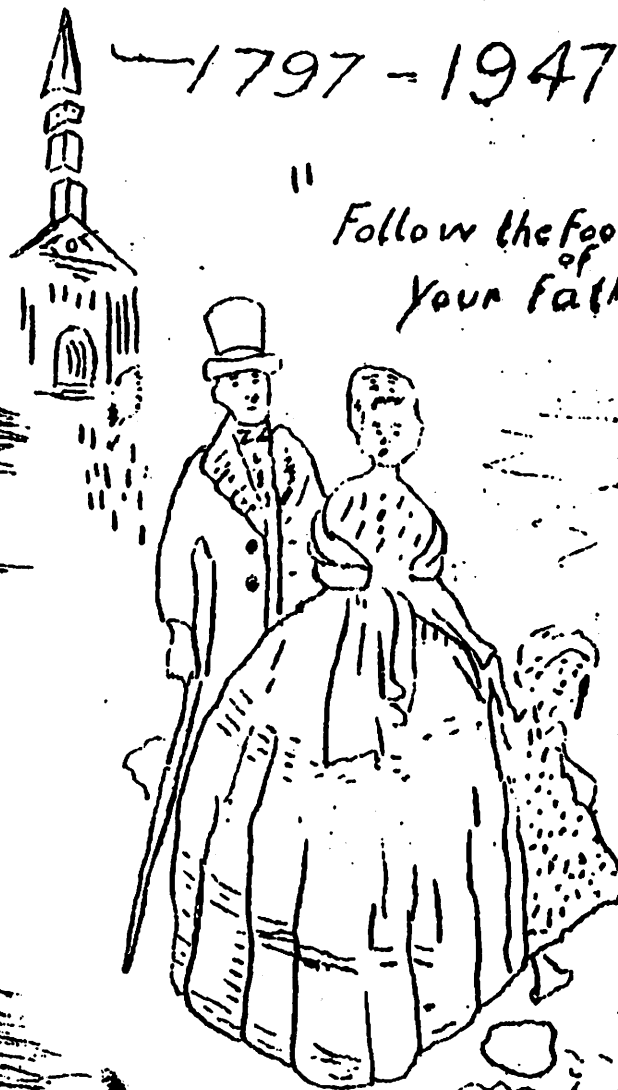
The two little pieces marked "A" were given by Lessee Gladden for the piece marked "B" in exchange. Making this change will show the shape of the land now belonging to said church, laid off the 23rd day of August, 1859.

Chasley Crosby
Surveyor

The Sesquicentennial Celebration of The Beaver Creek Baptist Church

1797 - 1947

"Follow the footsteps
of
Your fathers"



TO EACH AND EVERY ONE A WARM

W E L C O M E !

Sunday, September 21, 1947

PROGRAM

Morning Service -- 11:00 O'clock!

Doxology

Hymn No. 3 -- Faith of Our Fathers

Scripture and Prayer -- Rev. H. M. Hodgens

Historical Sketch -- Charles Adams

Solo ----- Edward Hodgens

Hymn No. 275 -- Onward Christian Soldiers
(congregation standing)

Address ----- Hon. T. C. Callison

Announcements

Benediction

Lunch ----- 1:00 O'clock

Afternoon Service -- 2:30

Prelude

Hymn No. 220 -- I Love Thy Kingdom, Lord

Prayer

Welcome --- Mrs. N. H. Stone

Recognition of Guests

Solo ----- Edward Hodgens

Sermon -- Rev. B. E. Wall

Hymn No. 208 -- Blest Be The Tie

Benediction

***** DEDICATION *****

WE DEDICATE THIS PROGRAM TO THE MEMORY
OF THOSE WHO HAD A PART SPIRITUALLY
AND MATERIALLY IN THE BUILDING OF THIS
CHURCH.

"The humblest spire in
mortal ken
Where God abides, was
built by men.
And if the church is
still to grow,
Is still the light of
hope to throw
Across the valley
of despair,
Men still must build God's
house of prayer.
God sends no churches
from the skies
Out of our hearts
must they arise!"

--Edgar A. Guest

This is the day which the Lord hath made: We
will rejoice and be glad in it. Psalm 118:24.

BEAVER CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH
HAD AN INTERESTING HISTORY

Seven score and ten years ago, the forefathers of this church assembled and organized themselves into a legally constituted body according to their religious beliefs and faith. This body they designated as a church of the Baptist faith, and this church because it stood at the headwaters of Beaver Creek, here in the hills of Northwestern Fairfield County, of South Carolina.

Today this twenty first day of September, nineteen hundred forty- seven, A. D. we, of several generations down, have come together in unison of spirit and purpose, not only to pay tribute to the ideals and accomplishments of our church founders, but to rejoice over the strides of progress our church has made in service to God and mankind for these one hundred and fifty years.

The auditoriums of Beaver Creek Baptist Church have not all stood on top of this red hill. This is the third church building, and the second in number, to stand on this site. As previously stated, the original building stood near the headwaters of Beaver Creek. This location can best be identified by saying that the first church stood approximately one mile, more or less, in a general southward direction from the home of the late John Simpson and Daisy Crosby Stone. The committee has been unable to locate any record whatsoever, on this first church, and there are verbal differences of opinions concerning the first building. To the best this committee has been able to do is to piece together that which has been handed down by mouth to ear for several generations.

Records of our church for the entire 150 years are scant and incomplete, and as a result, we find ourselves in the position of the five foolish virgins, who along with the five wise virgins, took their lamps and went forth to meet the bridegroom. The wise took oil in their vessels with their lamps, but the five foolish ones took none. And while the bridegroom tarried they all slumbered and slept. At midnight there was a cry made. "Behold the bridegroom cometh; go ye out to meet him." Then all the virgins arose, but the five foolish ones found themselves in the darkness of the night without oil for their lamps. So it was necessary for them to go to those who sold and buy oil. But upon their return they found the bridegroom had arrived and gone in, along with those who were ready, to the marriage, and the door was shut.

And so it is with us. There is much we would like to know about the church, and much we could have known. For only a few years back, there were those still among us who could have, and would have gladly told us. But now death has stilled those tongues and sealed those lips, and the knowledge which we so yearningly desire today lies buried with our loved ones here in the cemetery beside the church.

There are several periods during these 150 years in which the committee has found nothing. History records that sometime between 1758 and 1760 Edward Mobley, with six sons emigrated from Maryland to South Carolina and settled on Poplar Ridge on the east side of Beaver Creek in Fairfield County. As the Mobleys came through North Carolina near the Yadkin River, the caravan was joined by Hans Wagner, a Hollander, and his family which consisted of himself and his six daughters. Wagner and his daughters settled in Fairfield County near where Reedy Branch empties into Beaver Creek. The Richard Winn Chapter, D. A. R., has erected a marker on Highway 215. The inscription on this marker says Fort Wagner, built by Hans Wagner as a refuge from the Cherokee Indians, stood one mile east of the marker. History also records that a house of worship was built by these early settlers somewhere near Poplar Ridge on the east side of Beaver Creek. All denominations congregated in

that house to worship God in the Christian faith. (During the Revolutionary War the Patriots, under command of Major Winn, defeated a body of British and Tories who had assembled at Mobley Meeting House, in June 1780).

Since that was a house of worship for the settlers of all denominations, it is evident that as the various denominations grew larger in numbers they withdrew and built their own separate churches. Hence, within a few miles of the location of Mobley Meeting House there are Baptist, Methodist, Presbyterian, and Universalist churches, and it is very probable the Baptist from that house of worship were those who founded Beaver Creek Church that was built on the east side near the headwaters of Beaver Creek in 1797.

What this building was like, or how long it was used as a church, we do not know. We do know in the course of time the membership of the church drifted northward, and it was decided to move the church nearer the center of the membership. Consequently, the church was built on this location.

The land of the church lot was given by Robert Wylie Coleman, grandfather of the late John Wylie Coleman, in 1884 and consists of four acres. The plat shows a very narrow path-like strip of land running from the back of the lot down to the branch. When he gave this land Mr. Coleman said he included the narrow strip in order that the church might never be cut off from a water supply.

In the cemetery the earliest marker bears the name of Rhoda Colvin, who died October 25, 1848. From this date and the date the land was given we are led to believe the church was moved to this location about 1845 or 1846.

Mrs. Lizzie Wilkes Wright of Chester, informs us that she attended this church most of her girlhood days and she remembers the building. It was built largely of the lumber that was moved from the old church on Beaver Creek. It stood to the rear and north of the present one, and faced the south having two front entrances and one side door. Inside the building between the front doors was the pulpit, and one entered the church facing the congregation unless the door on the side was used. She does not remember the gallery but we have records that the Negroes attended services and held membership in the church.

One can picture their happy faces as they came to church dressed in their spotlessly clean homespun, the women having their heads tied up in turban fashion, and the men wearing one of "massa's old hats". There were Aunt Patience McLurkin and Uncle Anderson Simpson and others of whom stories have been handed down to preserve their memories. Uncle Anderson was a slave of John Simpson. It is said he remained a member of this church as long as he lived, attended service regularly, always sitting on the back seat. We have record of one colored member through 1886. Wherefore we presume Uncle Anderson must have died in 1887.

We know of two men who served as pastors of Beaver Creek before we have minutes to record. Rev. Ephriam Fant (Phant) was a minister of the gospel 17 years, and we are told he preached at Beaver Creek for some years during his ministry. He died in 1801, so probably was the first pastor of the first church built on this ground. He evidently died in the vicinity of Woodward, S.C. as he is buried in a church cemetery near there. Due to the heavy rains at the time of his death it was impossible to get to Beaver Creek with his body for burial. A few years ago one of his grandsons from Florida, had his remains moved to this cemetery.

Mr Randolph Grant remembers his mother speaking of the Rev. John Only who preached at Beaver Creek. She often quoted to him one of Rev. Only's favorite illustrations: "If you want to raise chickens, you have to save the eggs."

The first record we have in our church minutes was dated Saturday before the first Sabbath, April 1863. Until years later all church conferences were held on Saturdays. And all preachers, up to Mr. Mahon, were addressed in the church minutes as Elders. We speak of them as Elders in this sketch.

At that time Elder E. P. Fant, an uncle of the late Mr. C. E. Fant, was pastor and James Elliott Robinson, father of the late Mrs. Victoria Robinson Coleman, was church clerk. In November 1863, Mr. Robinson was at Fort Sumter, Charleston. Becoming ill, he was sent home on furlough. After recuperating he was planning to leave, his sad family walked from their home to attend services at Beaver Creek in the morning. That evening he had a congestive chill and died. A page in his memory is inscribed in the minute book of that period. Mr L. A. C. Estes, father of the late Mrs Nellie Estes Durham, was then elected to serve as church clerk and served in a most efficient way for a number of years.

Elder G. W. Phillips, who was the father of Mrs Lula Phillips Lee of Chester, supplied at Beaver Creek a number of times while Elder Fant was pastor.

During Elder Fant's pastorate, in December 1864, J. H. Crosby " requested the church to grant him the privilege of exhorting and beseeching sinners to God, which was granted."

The church roll at that time included 192 whites (64 males and 128 females) and 128 negroes (42 males and 76 females). They were listed as white males and white females, black males and black females.

We gather from the church minutes that deacons at that time were: L. A. C. Estes, J. B. Lee (great-grandfather of the late Mrs. S. M. Douglas), J. Neaves (father of the Mrs. Tabby Neaves Dye), John Simpson (Grandfather of N. H. Stone, Sr.), Stephen Crosby (father of the late Mrs. David P. Crosby).

A page in the minute book is inscribed to Mr. Crosby's memory and we quote, "meekness, humility and benevolence were prominent traits of his Christain character." Each of these men were earnest, loyal workers in the affairs of the church. Elder Fant was in failing health and resigned September 1865. On Sundays when he was not able to preach "Bro. J. Neaves read a chapter of the scripture and led the singing of a hymn, and Bro. J. B. Lee prayed."

The day Elder Fant's resignation was accepted by the church, Elder George Washington Pickett, who was preaching at Woodard Baptist Church was called. For some reason Elder Pickett did not accept the call, and Elder William Hilliard Hartin was extended the call to serve as pastor for one year. He seems to have led his people in the straight and narrow path. In a conference meeting presided over by Elder Hartin "A charge was preferred against Bro Robert Coleman for dancing. Bro. J. Neaves was appointed to cite him to attend the next conference meeting." At the same time a resolution was passed "that the church disapprove of "publick" plays and the membership to be notified thereof." At different times others were charged with misconduct, drunkenness, etc. Elder Hartin was the father of Mrs. Sara Hartin Clark, now residing in Winnsboro. For many years he filled the pulpits of several Fairfield and Richland County churches. His last years were spent on his farm near Ridgeway.

In September 1866 Elder George Washington Pickett was again called to Beaver Creek. This time he accepted and "the church pledged him an annual salary of \$150.00 in currency." His acceptance of this call united Beaver Creek, Cool Branch and Woodward churches into one field.

Mr Tyre Lee, grandfather of the late Mrs. S. M. Douglas, became church clerk at this time and served eight years. On the first Sunday in June 1870, Mose C. Stone and David P. Crosby were ordained deacons. Mr. Stone became one of the strong pillars of his church, serving faithfully as deacon until his death in 1921; and was Sunday School superintendent for 30 years.

He married Miss Amanda Timms and was the father of Mrs. Ella Cunningham, who was a member of this church for many years, and now lives in Chester.

We know of one marriage performed by Elder Pickett while here - that of the late Mr. and Mrs Jack F. Stone, parents of N. H. Stone, Sr. Mrs Stone was Miss Mattie Simpson.

While serving this church Elder Pickett was moderator of Bethel Baptist Association, to which Beaver Creek, Woodward, and Cool Branch churches belonged until 1878. Bethel Association minutes of 1868 closed with "on motion, by Rev. J. C. Furman, D. D., the association adjourned, to meet with Beaver Creek Church, 15 miles south of Chesterville, 11 o'clock Friday before the fourth Sunday in September 1869." Signed G. W. Pickett, Moderator.

Elder H. C. Hinton was the next pastor. He was born in Wake County, N. C., and was graduated at Wake Forest College. He came to Beaver Creek Church December 1872. After serving four years he was called to Brushy Fork Baptist Church, and for fifty years he preached in various churches in the Chester association. He died November 11, 1905, and is buried in Evergreen Cemetery at Chester.

While he preached at Beaver Creek the church began holding services twice a month - on the first and third Sundays--- a custom that has continued until recent years, except for a few months at the beginning of the year 1860, when it was unanimously decided, owing to the stringency of the times, we have preaching once a month.

Elder Tillman R. Gaines, pastor of Woodward Baptist Church, and Elder A. Hugh a young student whom Elder Gaines was assisting in educating, supplied her at different during Hinton's pastorate. Elder Gaines was the father of T. R. Gaines of Chester. For a number of years he served on the Baptist Courier staff as editor.

It was during August 1874, that Dr. C. C. Estes was made church clerk. From the minutes of July 1878 we quote, "It was ascertained that the constitution of the church has been lost, and a committee consisting of J. D. Mahon, L. A. C. Estes, Mose Stone, and D. P. Crosby were appointed to draw up a new constitution. It was also ascertained that the church was without by-laws, whereon a committee consisting C. C. Estes, John Simpson and W. S. Durham were instructed to frame a code of by-laws.

The Rev. John D. Mahon from near Winnsboro, (the first pastor to be addressed in the minutes as Reverend), was called as a supply one year before Elder Hinton's resignation. After that in 1877, he was given a call for an indefinite time.

Rev. Mahon was a graduate of Furman University. He married Mrs. Rebecca Shedd Durham of Ridgeway. They and their fine family seem to have brought new interest and enthusiasm into the church and community. For a short time they lived in the John Weir house on Cool Branch road, and later the old Boarding House of the Crosbyville Institute, still standing today on the right of the highway about one mile south of this church, was used for the parsonage.

On the first Sunday in May 1880 the church took a special collection to send

come back from that convention full of zeal and spirit, for we find on the first Sunday in July, the church met in conference to discuss which would be better-- to build a new house of worship or repair the old one. It was decided to build a new one.

Rev. Mahon was appointed a committee of one to solicit contributions. A month later, the first Sunday in August, he reported that enough money had been subscribed to build a new house. The building committee composed of L. A. C. Estes, Mose C. Stone and David P. Crosby, was appointed to buy lumber and employ workmen to build the house. It was also agreed that a correct record of all names and amount subscribed be recorded in the church book. The list has been preserved. The contract for labor and building was given to J. H. Crosby for \$349.50. The building, including labor, lumber, hardware, roofing, etc., was erected at a total cost of \$818.20, leaving a balance of \$14.80 in the building fund.

The cost seems low compared with prices today. Logs were given by people of the community and much of the lumber was sawed at David Crosby's sawmill by Sam Wright, a man whose memory is held in high regard by the people of this community, and who, during his active life supervised the digging of most of the graves in this cemetery. Much of the lumber inside the building was hand dressed. J. Nonroe Grant estimated the number of shingles it would take to cover the house. His family still has this estimate in its possession. The pillars of the house were built by B. F. Faley. Mr. Tom, as a boy eight or nine years, carried water from the branch at the foot of the hill to mix mortar. In those days lime came in big lumps in barrels and had to be dissolved. Mr. Tom says "it took a lot of water to melt that lime."

The building had two entrances on the front, making two aisles. There were long seats between the aisles and short seats on each end. There were no rooms on the rear and no baptistry. For many years the church maintained a pool and dressing room at Coleman's Spring approximately a mile north of the church.

Sunday, July 1881, one year after the building was first discussed, Rev. Mahon preached the dedicatory sermon in the new building. The protracted meeting was held that year, beginning the first Sunday in August. A young student from the seminary, Rev. W. A. Williams, assisted Rev. Mahon.

The church experienced a great revival. The following were baptized: Misses Florence Chapman, Lily Estes, Minnie Castles, Minnie Halsell, Mrs. Bethany Woodward, J. B. Lee, Butler Weir, Thomas Wix, William Nix, and Edward Chapman.

Beaver Creek accepted an invitation from Mispah Presbyterian Church to hold services there while the church was under construction.

After using the new building two years the congregation painted it white, trimmed in red. In 1885, Rev. Mahon accepted for the church a beautiful silver communion set presented by the ladies of the church.

Three years later, 1888, new seats were made for the church, the ones in use today. Wilson Gibson and Edward Chapman hauled the lumber from Blackstock to make the seats. The roads were in bad condition and on one trip their wagon stalled on the McKeown hill, going up from the creek toward Bethlehem Church. Another wagon came along and the driver hitched his team to the rear of the loaded wagon and pulled it back down hill. Then he told Mr. Gibson and Mr. Chapman, "try it again boys, and see if you can make a better drive this time." The seats were made on the grounds and put in the church by Mr. John Clark, father of the late John W. Weir.

Soon the need for a musical instrument was felt, yet some considered a musical instrument a sacrilege. In September 1891 a committee was appointed to purchase an organ: David P. Crosby, H. R. Chapman, and D. T. Weir. The first organists were Miss Emmie Mahon, daughter of Rev. Mahon, now Mrs. T. W. Smith, and Miss Maggie Robinson, daughter of James Elliott Robinson, and who later married Talton E. Clark, son of John Clark.

In August 1887, Dr. C. C. Estes died and W. S. Durham, a step-son of Rev. Mahon, was appointed his successor as church clerk. Although he died in early life, Dr. Estes had lived a full life in service to his Lord and to humanity.

While Rev. Mahon was here the first wedding in this church took place. Prof. David Busbee and Miss Elizabeth Faucette were married one Sunday just after preaching services. Prof. Busbee was principal of Crosbyville Institute and Miss Faucette was the music teacher.

Mr. Jake H. Coleman and Miss Emma Cockerell of Alabama, were also married in the church by Rev. Mahon. Theirs was a quiet church wedding with only a few friends present. While visiting her uncle V. B. Wright, grandfather of Henry Wright, she met and married Mr. Coleman. (The exact dates of these weddings are not known.)

Mrs. Mahon died in 1885, and is buried beside this church. Rev. Mahon resigned in 1892, and moved to Union. While there he married Miss Gemima Crosby. In 1895 he was again called to Beaver Creek, and served as pastor for a year, going back and forth from Clinton, where he was living at that time.

During the period between Rev. Mahon's two pastorates at Beaver Creek, Rev. D. A. Swindler filled the pulpit. He also preached at Woodward Church. Rev. Swindler came from Maybington Baptist Church. Being a young man with a great personality, as well as fervor and devotion for his Lord's work, he endeared himself not only to his congregation, but to the community. He boarded in the vicinity until he married Miss Eugenia Lee of Whitnair.

When he returned with his bride they were met at the railroad station (Leeds) by a number of young people who escorted them to the home of Mr. and Mrs. Mose C. Stone where a reception was held for them that evening. Rev. and Mrs. Swindler kept house for a few months in the Crosbyville schoolhouse. Shortly after they set up housekeeping the church gave them a surprise pounding.

Mrs. J. Stone, whose marriage has already been mentioned, was being driven by her son John Simpson Stone, to the Swindlers for the pounding when they met Rev. Swindler on the road. After exchanging salutations, the preacher asked, "Where are you headed for?", to which Mr. Stone replied, "to the poor house," and drove on, much to the embarrassment of his mother. After two years of service Rev. Swindler resigned and went to Louisville, Ky., to complete his education.

Rev. A. M. Pittman, who was living at Blackstock and had been pastor of Blackstock Baptist Church for some years, was called to serve Beaver Creek also. Although Rev. Pittman's pastorate was not long, he was beloved and held in highest esteem by the congregation. While here he officiated at the wedding of Miss Daisy Crosby and Mr. John S. Stone. They were married at the home of the bride's parents, Mr. and Mrs. David P. Crosby, Sunday morning January 7th, 1894, just before preaching hour. They and all the wedding party attended services and then went back to her home for the reception afterwards. Rev. Pittman resigned in December 1894, and then Rev. Mahon was given his second call to Beaver Creek.

It was during Rev. Edward A. McDowell's ministry that the church held her Centennial celebration. Rev. McDowell borrowed the early minutes of the church to help prepare his historical sketch for that occasion and failed to return them. Not

Having a copy of his sketch, or the minutes, has left us without a recorded history.

Rev. McDowell married Miss Eva Scott, daughter of the late Dr. Scott, prominent physician of Fairfield County. She was a vocalist and musician and used her talents to enrich the church services.

Rev. McDowell never lived in the community, but came to pay pastoral visits and to hold services first from Strothers, and later from Monticello. Coming in 1896, he rendered faithful service for five years, resigning in 1901 to take up work elsewhere. He preached to some of the largest congregations ever assembled at Beaver Creek for preaching services. This section at that time was thickly populated and people came from miles around.

It was Rev. McDowell who instigated the building of a baptistry in the church. Hence the baptistry was built in and dressing rooms were added on the rear of the church. He was the first to administer baptismal rites in the baptistry and Miss Eunice Roberts (Mrs A. J. Taylor), Miss Leila Banks (Mrs S. T. Weir), Miss Mary Crosby (Mrs. J. T. Collins), Mr. N. H. Stone, Sr. Probably Hon. John W. Wise, and others, thirteen in all, were the first to be baptized in it.

Mr. Tillman R. Gaines held a singing school at Hopewell A. R. P. church in 1898. Widespread interest was taken in the school. Beaver Creek delegated Mr. Randolph Grant and Mr. C. M. Fant to go to Hopewell and engage Mr. Matthews to hold a singing school here. The school was held in September of that year, with old and young attending. It was so great a success that Mr. Matthews was engaged to return the next summer. The results of these singing schools were enjoyed for years in the song service of this church. Mr Grant still has one of the books he used at the school.

The church began to see the disadvantage of not having a home for the pastor to live in the community. Several times a committee had been appointed to look into the advisability of building a parsonage. It was either not advisable to build, or the committee would fail to report. Under Rev. McDowell's leadership the movement was started again.

In 1894 the church came into possession of what we know as the "Parsonage Land". The land belonged to Mr. John Dye, a great uncle of Mr. W. C. Taylor. Some years before, he had died, willing the land to his wife, Mrs Tabby Neaves Dye, for her life time, and after it was to be the property of Beaver Creek Church. Mrs Dye died in 1894, and the church appointed W. H. Banks to look after and rent out the property. This gift has been a help to the church financially in that the land was rented out for years, and a good bit of timber and pulpwood has been sold from it, and the proceeds being used in various church expenses. It has also furnished a home for the pastors of the church.

Having land of its own on which to build, the church decided to build a parsonage. We do not know who composed the building committee, but we have been told two Negroes, Henry Hickenbottom and the late Berry McLurkin built it. It was completed and ready for occupancy in 1901, but Rev. McDowell left just before it was finished.

On the afternoon of December 5, 1899, Mr Sam Stone and Miss Roberta Clowney were married in Beaver Creek by Rev. McDowell. Only a few friends and relatives were present.

Rev. and Mrs. E. D. Wells, who came here from Georgetown in 1901, were the first to live in the parsonage. Rev. Wells was a graduate of Wake Forest. Beaver Creek and Cool Branch became associated into one field at that time and Rev. Wells served twenty one years. It is said that he officiated at more weddings than any other pastor Beaver Creek had. He and Mrs Wells were always fond of young people.

Mrs. Wells had a hobby of taking and developing pictures. Many of her pictures are found in homes around here. Rev. Wells enjoyed fishing and hunting.

While he was pastor the second organ was bought for the church. Mrs Simp Stone, Miss Mattie Roberts, Mrs Ross Durham, Mrs N. H. Stone, Miss Eve Durham (Mrs Earl Steadman), and others served as organists.

In the winter of 1901-02, Mr L.A. C. Estes fell and fractured his hip. He never fully recovered and died in March 1902.

In 1911 Mr. William H. Banks, deacon and treasurer of the church for a number of years died. In December 1917, Mr. W. S. Durham, church clerk and deacon for 30 years, died. For years he was treasurer of Chester Baptist Association.

Mr. John W. Weir succeeded Mr. Durham as church clerk. Mr. Weir and Mr. Sam Henry Banks were elected deacons while Rev. Wells was here.

In February 1921, Mrs Wells died and was buried in the cemetery of the church.

Mrs. Wells and Mrs. Ida Stilley of Palisade, Colorado, were devoted friends and while in school made a pledge to each other, if in later life, either of them married and one died, and the other was not married or was a widow, that one would marry the living husband and take care of him. They never saw each other after leaving school, but kept up correspondence. Mr. Stilley died some years before Mrs. Wells died. In one of her last letters to Mrs. Stilley Mrs. Wells reminded her of their promise to take care of "The Boy", as she called Mr. Wells. After Mrs Wells death Mrs. Stilley wrote Mr. Wells and enclosed that part of Mrs Wells letter. After a year Rev. Wells resigned and went to Palisade where he married Mrs. Stilley. He died there February 12, 1940, and his body was brought to Beaver Creek for burial beside the first Mrs. Wells, who was Miss Grace Brownson of Toledo, Ohio.

The year that Rev. Wells resigned the Rev. J. S. Harris was called. He was a South Carolinian, but was holding a pastorate in Mason City, Nebraska, at that time. His coming joined Beaver Creek, Blackstock, Cool Branch and Woodward churches into one field.

Mrs. Harris was Miss Bertha Sanders of McCormick. Their three children: Elizabeth born in Nebraska, John S., Jr., and Bertha, born during his ministry at Beaver Creek.

Rev. and Mrs Harris were zealous workers and a number of new members were added to the church roll under their leadership. The Sunday School took on new life, and the largest attendance of Sunday school and church ever recorded was reached. The Women's Missionary Society was re-organized with Mrs. N. H. Stone, president, and is still serving. The regular monthly program was first used with meetings in the homes. A B. Y. P. U. was organized with Mrs. C. M. Adams (Now Mrs. Tennant) the first president. A Sunbeam Band was organized and Mrs. D. P. Crosby (Now Mrs. Heath) was leader. She was a person fitted for that particular work, and many look back with fond memories of our days in the Sunbeam Band under her capable leadership.

In 1924 the church building was remodeled as it stands today. The front entrance was changed from the old entrance and a new porch was added. The inside

walls were plastered, metal ceiling put up, the choir loft built, and the windows fixed. Mrs. Nora Cornwell gave the paint and the floor was painted. A new carpet was put down. Chester Machine and Lumber Company was given the contract for remodeling, but to the late Mrs. Daisy Crosby the church is indebted for her tireless efforts in planning and carrying out the remodeling. Mrs. Claude Crosby, at that time president of Chester Machine and Lumber Company, gave the pulpit stand in memory of his parents, the late Mr. and Mrs. David P. Crosby.

After the remodeling of the church a piano was bought. For some time piano and organ were used in services, Mrs. D. P. Crosby playing the piano and Mrs. Harris the organ. (The organ has in recent years been used by Blackstock Baptist Church.)

The first Sunday in October 1925, an election of deacons took place as follows: C. E. Fant, S. H. Banks, J. W. Weir, (who were already serving) and H. J. Hair, T. R. Varnadore, Harvey Weir. Miss Maude Durham was made church clerk and still serves in that capacity.

While Rev. Harris was here the individual communion set was bought and used.

Because of failing health Mr. Harris resigned in 1927, and moved his family to McCormick, where he died a few months later. In the associational minutes of 1927 a page is inscribed to his memory.

Rev. A. C. Odom and his family moved into the parsonage the year Mr. Harris left. They came from Saluda, S. C., and after serving two years moved to Landrum. It was with regret that the church gave up Mr. Odom and his fine family. Edith, Frances, and Ella May, took active parts in the B. Y. P. U., and Frank was a Sunbeam. Another daughter, Ruth, was studying in New York. Rev. and Mrs. Odom now live in Greenville.

Following the Rev. Odom, Rev. and Mrs. D. H. Owings from Dovesville, in Darlington County, took up the work here, July 1929. Rev. Owings had a number of years been a missionary in China. After his return to the States, while preaching near Spartanburg, he married Miss Alma Sandifer of Bamberg, who was teaching school there.

Rev. and Mrs. Owings were an inspiration to their churches. Mrs. Owings taught the ladies Sunday School class, and she started a movement to turn the dressing rooms on the rear into Sunday School rooms. She organized a W. Y. W. A. She died in 1934, and was buried in the cemetery at her home church in Bamberg County.

A few months later, Mr. Owings went to Florida to live. Some years later he returned to Bamberg and married Miss Nettie Sandifer, a sister of the first Mrs. Owings. Mr. Owings died a few months ago.

Rev. J. Ned Taylor supplied as pastor for a few months and then went to Winston-Salem, N. C., to become assistant pastor of a Baptist church there.

Rev. G. W. Gurley, who was serving churches in Edgefield and Greenwood counties, accepted a call here, April 1936. He and Mrs. Gurley did a good work in the young people's organization and the Sunday School. Mrs. Gurley taught both the Young People's class and Mr. Gurley the Bible class. They re-organized the B. Y. P. U., with Miss Mattie Stone becoming director of the organization. During their stay here the church entertained the Sunday School convention, the Chester Association, and the W. M. U., Chester Ass'n. Approximately 25 members were added to the church. Their daughter, Virginia, now Mrs. W. R. Funderburk, of Greenwood, a high school student, was pianist for the church. Mr. Gurley was really a pastor. While they were here electricity was installed in the church and parsonage. The Gurleys gave up their work in June 1941, and went to Callison, S. C.

In August 1941, the Rev. Jas. F. Moseley was called to Beaver Creek, Cool Branch, and Blackstock churches. Mrs. Moseley was Miss Dolly Stoney, daughter of a Baptist minister. Their family consisted of two daughters, Annie and Carol Ruth, two sons, Jimmy and Sherry. Mr. and Mrs. Moseley were the youngest couple to occupy the parsonage.

The church work was re-organized and a new system of finance was adopted which put the church on a cash basis and is proving successful. For the first time in the history of the church services were held every Sunday, and is continuing.

New teachers were elected in the Sunday school and Miss Mattie Stone was made superintendent. Mrs. Moseley taught the Adult Class and was pianist. One Sunday after attending her class Mr. N. H. Stone told her, "Look here, you are as good as a preacher. When your husband can't come to preach, tell him to send you."

Mr. H. J. Hair moved to Woodward church and Mr. T. R. Varnadore, who was serving as deacon and church treasurer, resigned leaving two vacancies for deacons: C. M. Banks and J. Simp Taylor were elected as deacons and John W. Weir became church treasurer.

Mr. Taylor died in 1944. Later his brother Walker C. Taylor, was elected to fill the vacancy.

The three churches sent the Rev. Moseley to San Antonio, Texas, to the Southern Baptist Convention, in May 1942.

After four years of service in this field Rev. Moseley resigned and accepted work at Flint Hill Baptist Church near Fort Mill.

An electric water system was put in the parsonage after the Moseleys came. The communion glass holders on the church pews were made and given by W. S. Durham, grandson of the Mrs. W. S. Durham mentioned above.

Miss Elizabeth Banks and Sgt. James Walters were married in the church by Rev. Moseley at noon, after the service, Sunday, July 19, 1943.

During Rev. Moseley's pastorate Beaver Creek lost four of her oldest and greatly beloved members: C. E. Fant, Mrs. Catherine Roberts, Mrs. Mollie Estes Durham and Mrs. Victoria Robinason Coleman. Mr. Fant served as deacon for over 50 years and served as superintendent of Sunday School for as many years. Due to ill health Mrs. Roberts was not able to attend services but kept a deep interest in her church. Mrs. Durham and Mrs. Coleman were charter members of the Beaver Creek W.M. S. They joined the church early in life and were baptized the same day. Through life theirs was a warm and unbroken friendship. All four of these had reached their four score years and more, and their Christain influence continues in our church.

Rev. and Mrs. H. M. Hodgens came to us from Townsville, in December 1945. The weather and roads were a hindrance to Rev. Hodgens in getting acquainted with his new field before spring, but when he did get started he covered ground. Since his coming all three churches have been painted. The parsonage has been painted and remodeled to some extent- the long porch on the front taken off and the stoop added. Just recently Miss Floride Durham had an underpinning curtain put around the north side of the church, in memory of her mother, Mrs. Mollie Estes Durham.

The improvement building committee now serving are Miss Floride Durham, W. C. Taylor and Mack Henry Banks.

There have been two church weddings since Rev. Hodgens came: Miss Klotze Weir and Victor Blanks, married Saturday evening, June 22, 1946; Miss June Hodgens and Sgt. Bryant Chapman, married at noon, May 15, 1947.

Mr. Hodgens held his own protracted meeting last year and gave the expense of a visiting minister to the improvement fund of the church. Several have been added to the membership and all financial apportionments have been met. Rev. Hodgens teaches the Adult Sunday School class and Mrs. Hodgens besides being Sunday school teacher, is active in all phases of the church work.

Miss Mary Alice Banks was pianist until she entered Winthrop College a year ago. Since then her sister, Miss Nettie Lee Banks, has rendered that service. In July 1946 Leslie B. Weir and Jake F. Stone were elected deacons.

Mrs. Mary Beam, the oldest member of Beaver Creek, died last year.

East December the church lost a most ardent worker in the death of John W. Weir. His son, J. D. Weir, has been elected his successor as deacon and treasurer of the church.

The minutes of 1883 record in the Digest of Letter from Beaver Creek that a Mary Harlem Mission Society had been organized. We know nothing of this organization or its officers.

In 1889 a Women's Missionary Society was organized with with Mrs. David P. Crosby, president, and Mrs Victoria R. Coleman, secretary.

As far as we are now able to learn the following ladies have served as presidents of the W. M. U. in the order given: Mrs. David P. Crosby, 1889-1895; Miss Mary Jane Weir, 1895-98; Miss Ella Stone (Mrs Cunningham), 1898-1900; Miss Clara Chapman (Mrs Agnew), 1900-03; Mrs W. H. Banks, 1903-04; Miss Ella Stone, 1904-?; Mrs V. R. Coleman, ?-1922; Mrs. N. H. Stone, Sr. 1922-the present.

The Willing Workers Society was reported in the minutes of 1891. While active the Society bought the first Bible for the church.

June 13, 1909, Mrs John S. Stone organized a young people's society under the name of Willing Workers. They had for their goal that of enclosing the cemetery, but after a year it dropped out. Funds raised before being dropped are \$55.70, are still available.

Different organization among the young people and children are _____ and Sunbeams. Mrs. Leslie B. Weir is leader of the only society the G. A.

The following ladies served as presidents of B.Y.P.U.: Mrs. C.M. Adams; Miss Leila Varnadore, Miss Sara Banks, Miss Mattie Stone, and Mrs. John S. Stone, Jr.

In May, 1869, during the pastorate of Rev. Pickett, the minutes record Sunday school being held near Halsellville Post Office, which was Chapman's store, where Mr. Leslie B. Weir now lives. We have been told that the building in which Sunday school was held stood somewhere between the Grant home and Mrs Ross Durham's. J. B. Lee, deacon at the time, or Nicholas Colvin, were superintendent of the Sunday school. Both names are remembered in connection with the Sunday school.

During Rev. Mahon's pastorate Sunday school was perhaps held in the church for the first time. The records show the following to serve as superintendents: J./D. Mahon, Mose C. Stone, C. E. Fant, W. S. Banks, N. H. Stone, Sr., S. H. Banks,

T. R. Varnadore, Miss Mattie Stone.

Since the history was written we learned : Another son of Beaver Creek, Mr. Thomas C. Faley, was licensed to preach in 1901 by the Board of Ministerial Education of South Carolina Baptist State Convention in Greenville, S. C. He joined Beaver Creek while Rev. Swindler was pastor and was baptized at Coleman's Spring.

Mr. Faley attended Furman University and also Shenandoah College in Virginia. He studied music and voice, and during his college life he sang in the choir of the various churches.

Taking up evangelistic work he preached and directed the music for revivals at a number of churches throughout South Carolina, Georgia, and Virginia. Quite often evangelists by directing the music, one of these being the noted Dr. N. W. Tracy of Boston, Mass, who held a five week's tent meeting in Columbia, S. C., on the ground where the Post Office now stands. He sang in the State Chautauqua of Louisiana, where the well known evangelists Sam Jones and DeWitt Talmadge were important lecturers, and he was in a series of meetings in Virginia with Dr. Brooks, of Louisville, Kentucky, who was a famous evangelist of the Christain Church. He served as assistant pastor of Southside Baptist Church in Columbia, S. C., and also of Second Baptist Church of that city. On several occasions he filled the pulpit at his home church.

Sometime during this work he edited a hymn book., "Revival Songs". No doubt many who read this article will remember that little book of soul-stirring hymns.

Mr. Faley married Miss Margaret Shannon. They and their fine family live at their home on Columbia road about five miles from Chester.

Beaver Creek was active in organizing the Chester Baptist Association in 1878. Mr. Nicky Colvin and Monroe Grant were the representatives at the organization. The third annual meeting of the Association was held at Beaver Creek.

At that time delegates came from all over the Association and were assigned to homes of the church for night lodging. Dinner was served on the church ground.

In India at a crossroads over which people from all parts of the world have traveled through the years, there stands an old tree whose age is estimated not in decades or scores, but in centuries. During the centuries as travelers have passed that way, they paused under the shade of its branches to quench their thirst and to refresh themselves from the burning heat of the sun. As this tree in its humble way has served humanity, so, from this church many people have gone out into the various walks of life using their talents and ability for the betterment of mankind.

The following answered the call to service for their country in World War I: Charlie Mack Banks, Robert S. Banks, John J. Clark, J. Elbert Roberts, S. Simp Taylor, Walker C. Taylor, Sr., Leslie B. Weir. In World War II: Mary Henry Banks, Wallace Banks, William Banks, Charles C. Adams, Elizabeth Weir, N. H. Stone, Jr. Jake Stone, W. C. Taylor, Jr. J. D. Weir, Walter Widener.

There have been four ministers of the Gospel- Mr. J. H. Crosby was licensed in December 1864. He supplied several Sundays at Beaver Creek during his ministerial years.

Mr. J. D. Crosby was licensed in the 1860's. He went West to preach. The W. M. S. ladies made a quilt and embroidered their names on the blocks they made. This quilt was given to the Rev. Crosby as a love gift, to take back with him.

Mr. Belton P. Estes was licensed on the third Sunday in July 1884, at Beaver Creek. He married Miss Etta Watkins from Honea Path.

Mr. Hartwell E. Chapman, who attended Wake Forest College and Furman University, was ordained at Brushy Fork Baptist Church with the Rev. L. C. Hinton, a former pastor, officiating. He went to Oklahoma where he was president of a College. He was twice married, first to Miss Palmer of Bullock Creek and second, to Miss Ficklin, Blackville. The Rev. Chapman died a few years ago in Aiken.

This church has two representatives of the medical profession and one lawyer.

Dr. C. C. Estes has already been mentioned in this history: Dr. John F. Coleman has practiced medicine for 45 years and is still active in his profession at Smoaks, S. C.; Hon. John M. Wise began practicing law in Chester about 45 years ago. Besides being successful in his profession, he represented Chester county in the State Senate for a number of years.

We mention one of the many business men who has gone out from Beaver Creek; Mr. David P. Crosby, whose name appears on almost every committee of which we have record from 1870, when he was made deacon, until he moved with his family to Chester in 1896, and joined Chester First Baptist Church. In Chester he became affiliated with Spratt Lumber Company. After some years he bought the establishment and changed the name to Chester Machine and Lumber Company. He married Miss Fanny Crosby, who was the first president of Beaver Creek's W.M.S. Mr Crosby was a man whose business included time and means for the Kingdom. He was the founder of Crosbyville Institute, a school of higher education than was received in the common schools of that time. He not only built the three-room school house, but also a three-story boarding house to be used as a dormitory for students who lived too far away to come to school from their homes each day.

There are many others whom we would like to mention in this history who labored faithfully and well in this church, and have meant much to the world.

Although it is impossible to mention all of them here, those who have passed on, and those who are still giving their best yet we trust that this church will stand throughout the ages as a monument to the men and women who have made it possible.

Mr. Adams closed his interesting history of Beaver Creek with an appropriate poem, "Church Building", by Edgar A. Guest.

"The humblest spire in
mortal ken
Where God abides, was
built by men.
And if the church is
still to grow,
Is still the light of
hope to throw
Across the valley
of despair,
Men still must build God's
house of prayer,
God sends no churches
from the skies
Out of our hearts
must they arise!

Compiled by -
Mary D. Boulware
Rt. 1, Box 227
Blair, S.C. 29015

BEAVER CREEK CHURCH

MALE MEMBERS

- 1828 James Myers deceased Jan. 27, 1870
- 1832 Reuben Coleman
- 1835 Nicholas Colvin appointed deacon 1841
- 1842 Aug. 19th
Elijah Shirley join Methodist dead
F. H. Land appointed deacon Oct. 1859 Excommunicated Aug. 15, 1867
- 1843 Apr. 1st
James B. Lee Died 1876
- 1847 Moses M. Stone
- 1851 July 16
Solomon Widner Died 1878 Feb. 5
- Oct. 2
Hezekiah Castles Deceased 1865
- 1852 July 12
Steven Crosby appointed deacon Oct. 1850, deceased Apr. 28, 1864
July 31st
Joseph Neaves Died 1883
John Pope Dec. Apr 1868
Elijah Wright Dec. Feb. 1865
John Simpson
- Aug. 29
Mabry Roberts Excommunicated
- Oct. 3
Robert Mobley
Thomas Mobley dec. 1864
- 1854 Sept. 3
Jacob H. Hoopaugh Dismissed by letter Oct. 1865
- Dec.
Tobias Phillips died May 28, 1864
Jason Hoopaugh died Apr. 1870
- 1856 Furman Gripton
Caleb Shirley dismissed by letter March 21st 1875
- 1857 Aug. 5
Washington A. Bolick Elected deacon Aug. 1866 - Dismissed by letter 1869
- Aug. 9
Sam Varnadore
L. E. Robinson appointed deacon 1859 died Nov. 4th 1863

1858 Sept 5
John Varnadore

Nov. 5
E. P. M. Robinson

1861 Aug. 8
Elijah Shirley

1862 May 3
Tire Lee dismissed by letter Mar 21, 1875

Sept. 6
L. H. Crosby by letter dismissed by letter

Nov. 1
W. G. L. Woodard by letter

M. A. C. Stone by letter Elected deacon May 1, 1870

1864 Aug. 7
Baxter Crosby appointed deacon Aug. 31, 1866 Dismissed by letter July 7, 1867
William Butler Estes Excluded for joining the Presbyterians
Robbert Coleman Dismissed Aug. 1866

Oct 5
Samuel Shurley
Joseph Robinson
David Weir, Jr.

Nov. 6
James Robinson by letter
David P. Crosby by letter Elected deacon May 1870
Thomas Dye Dismissed by letter June 6, 1874
William Price Excommunicated Aug. 1, 1862

1865 Sept 8
Henry Robinson
W. H. Hartin
C. C. Estes
Andrew Hoopaugh

1866 July 31
Monroe Grant

1867 June 2
P. B. Griffin by letter - dismissed by letter Dec. 7, 1873

July 15
William Hill by letter - dismissed by letter Apr. 13, 1876

1870 Aug. 7
Joseph H. Crosby - Received by letter

1871 March 5
Thomas Widner

1872 August
Preston Hallsell
William E. Hallsell
Thomas Wm. Estes
Columbus Phillips dismissed by letter Aug. 5, 1875

Oct.
Walter Weir
William Banks

1873 Richard Dove Rec'd by letter
Elmore Boney Dismissed by letter Mar. 21, 1875
John Nicholson Dismissed by letter Mar. 21, 1875
James Weir

1875 Aug. 2
Theodore McKeown dismissed by letter 1878

1876 Jan. 2
Jesse Beam by letter received
Aug. 11
John Wilson

Oct. 1
Jacob Varnadore by letter rec'd Excom. Jan. 15, 1888
Martin Beam

1877 August
Robert Clark
Eddie Fant
Robert Castles
Thomas Castles - Moved to Arkansas
Jacob R. Coleman Dismissed by letter June 16, 1891
Henry Varnadore
Albert A. Crosby
Winfield Smith
Thompson Roberts
Belton P. Estes dismissed by letter 1886
Woodard Alston

Sept. 2
Rev. J. D. Mahan by letter rec'd
William S. Durham by letter rec'd
Samuel Castles

1878 Feb. 3
N. P. Colvin by letter- Elected deacon Sept. 1878
Thomas Peay dismissed by letter 1889
Calvin Castles

1881 Sept.
Butler Weir
Edward Chapman dismissed by letter
J. B. Lee, Jr.
Thomas Wix
William Wix

- 1882 Aug. 20
Jessie Castles
John Chapman
William Gipson
William Franklin Ex. 1891
William Boney Excom.
Lewis R. Guthrie
James Percy Mahan
Matthew Weir
Samuel Weir
Samuel Price
Robert Carter
- 1883 Benjamin Castles
Jessie Castles, Jr. Died 1893
- 1884 C. S. Porter by letter
- 1885 J. F. McBride
Jason Pope
Wade Roberts
William Taylor
Isom Franklin Ex. 1891
John Clark
Samuel Weir
John D. Sanders
Samuel Hafner
- 1886 John Woodward
Book Wright
C. N. Hought dismissed by letter Sept. 1893
John Wix
S. B. Dove
John Gibson
Jacob Stone
Joseph Stone died Dec. 27, 1886
Joseph Price
James Edge
Hanter Chapman
Banks Dove
Sam Dove
John Dove
- 1887 Dec. 1
T. E. Clark by letter Woodward
- 1889 Aug. 7
Johnson Cameron
Fredie Weir
- Sept. 4
W. R. Wix by letter Calvary
R. R. Jeffares
- 1891 Edward Taylor
W. S. Weir Restored 1892

1892 David Dove
John S. Stone

FEMALE MEMBERS

1830 Mrs Sarah Fant

1832 Dorcas Banks

1836 Nancy Colvin Died 1887
Sophine Shirley

1838 June 7
Susannah Crosby Died May 1875

1842 Apr. 2,
Miss Margaret Halsell Died Jan. 1884

1844 July 6
Miss Mary Lee Died 1879

1850 May
Nancy Smith Dead

1851 Martha H. Mobley
Miss Jane Fant Died 1887
Mrs. Mary A. Pope

Aug. 2
Catherine Castles

Nov. 8
Caroline Price

1852 July 12
Susan Wright (alias) Faily Died
Elizabeth Robinson (alias) Grant died May 1888
Tabitha Neaves Died
Sarah Simpson Died June 1884
Permelia Wisner dism. by letter
Elizabeth Feaster
Elizabeth Wright alias O'Donnell Died July 27, 1889
Sara Shank Died
Adeline Phillips dism.
Sarah Wright Dead
Susan P. Tims dism. by letter 1876
Sallie Stone Dism. by letter 1877

1854 Jane Thomas dism. by letter
Jemima Hoopaugh died 1893
Susannah Beam
Sofiah Castles died 1879

1855 July
Elizabeth Weir

Elizabeth Roberts
Savilla Dye

Sept. 7
Nancy J. Peay

Oct. 4
Martha Clark
Jerusia Fant (alias Phillips)

1857 July
Susannah Weir

Dec. 2
Mary C. Robinson

Dec. 9
Harriet Fant
Miss C. G. Hartin
Elizabeth Price
Mrs. Caroline Mayfield

1860 Sept. 30
Elizabeth Hoopaugh
Lucy Ann Coleman

1861 Hester Shirley
Regina Shirley alias Beam
Martha Stone
Simpronia Crosby alias Roberson Died Sept 1891

Aug. 18
Mary E. Turner Dism. by letter
Margaret Varnadore Dead

1862 Oct. 2
Hannah Wright alias Grant by letter Jan. 18/88

1863 Aug 16
Dorcas Shirley alias Price
Sarah Robinson dism. by letter

1864 Jan. 1
Elizabeth T. Weir

Aug. 7
Amanda M. Stone
Miss Fannie Stone McAlily Huffman
Miss Mary McLain Died 1885
Miss Carrie Robinson alias Castles. dism.
Nancy Wisher

1865 Sept 8
Margaret V. Cornwell
Angeline Price Died 1877
Julia Dye Excom. 1888
Mrs Sallie Castles

1870 Sept 4
Miss Sallie Stone - Guthrie
Miss Lucinda Parks - Died 1885
Mrs Fannie Crosby
Miss Sallie Widner
Mrs. N. J. Colvin
Mrs. Nathan Simpson, Jr.
Miss Sallie Beam
Miss Nannie Robinson McKeown

October
Mrs Mary Whitlock
Miss Sallie Varnadore
Miss Ella Whitlock
Miss Mollie Gastles

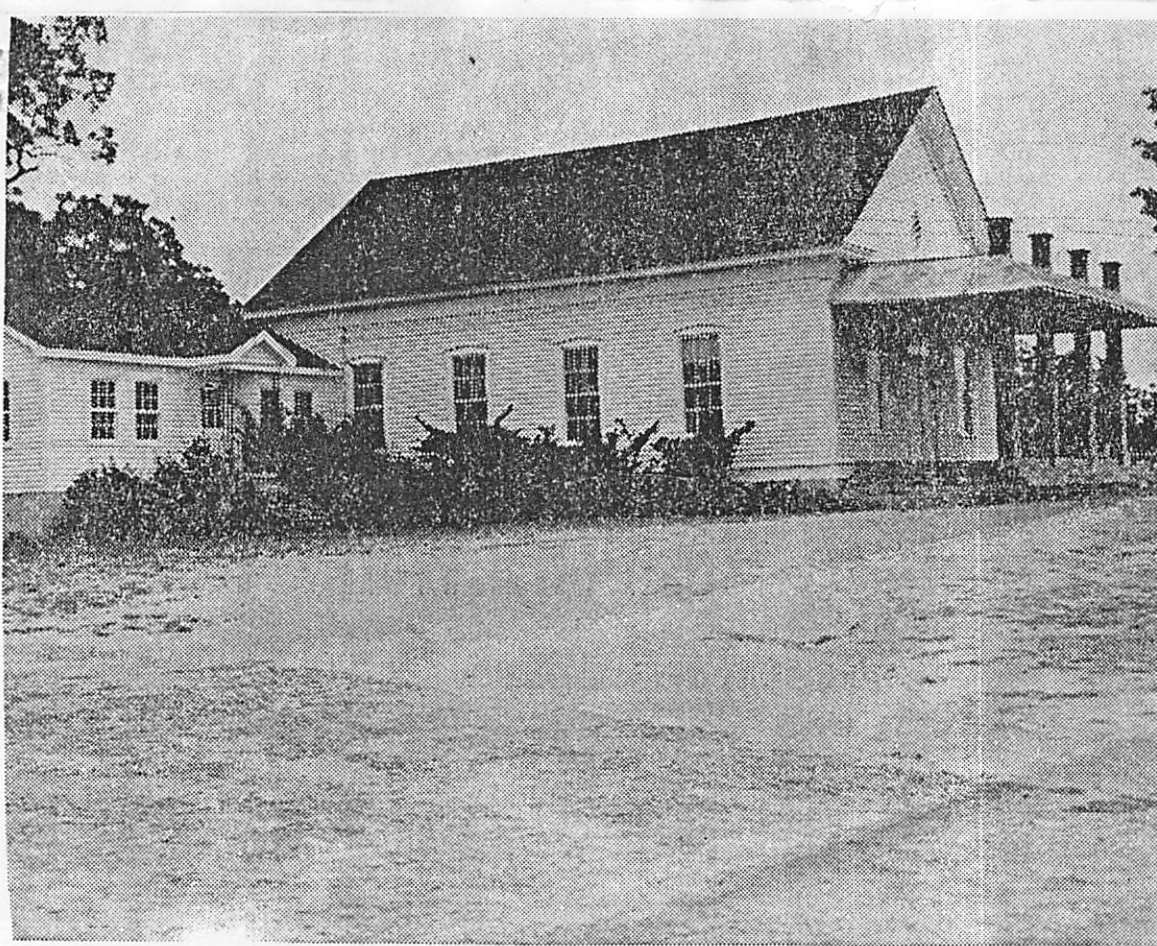
1877 August
Miss Minnie Mahan
Miss Victoria Weir alias Banks
Miss Martha Crowder
Miss Mary Easla
Miss Sallie Paulin
Miss Fannie McLain Mobley
Miss Elizabeth Weir
Miss Alis Crosby alias Wade
Miss Sallie Crosby Clowney
Mrs. Mary Varnadore
Mrs. Mattie Clark

Sept. 2
Rebecca Mahan by letter
Miss Cora Durham by letter

1880 August
Mrs Henry Varnadore
Miss Mattie E. Robinson

1881 Sept.
Miss Florence Chapman Died
Miss Lily Estes
Minnie Castles alias Pope
Minnie Halsell
Mrs. Bethany Woodward

1882 Aug. 2.
Miss Ida Castles alias Clark
Miss Sophia Shirley
Miss Minnie Robinson - Powell
Miss Minnie Pope Stone
Miss Ella Price alias Cameron



BEAVER CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH

HISTORY OF BEAVER CREEK ¹⁹⁴⁴ BAPTIST CHURCH IS INTERESTING

Beaver Creek Baptist Church situated in the hills of north-western Fairfield County was organized 161 years ago. It was so named because it stood at the headwaters of Beaver Creek.

The church buildings have not always stood on top of the red clay hill where the church is now. The original building stood near the headwaters of Beaver Creek, about one mile south of the home of the late John Simpson and Daisy Crosby Stone. Two buildings have been erected since on the present site.

Records of early years are scant. It is known that sometime between 1758 and 1760, Edward Mobley, with six sons emigrated from Maryland to South Carolina and settled on Poplar Ridge on the east side of Beaver Creek in Fairfield County.

As the Mobleys came through North Carolina near the Yadkin River, the caravan was joined by Hans Wagner, a Hollander, and his family which consisted of himself and his six daughters. Wagner and his daughters settled in Fairfield County near where Reedy Branch empties into Beaver Creek.

The Richard Winn Chapter D. A. R. has erected a marker on Highway 215 to commemorate Fort Wagner, built by Hans Wagner as a refuge from the Cherokee Indians. The old fort was one mile east of the marker.

History also records that a house of worship was built by these early settlers somewhere near Poplar Ridge on the east side of Beaver Creek. All denominations congregated in that house to worship God in the Christian faith. (During the Revolutionary War the Patriots, under the command of Major Winn, defeated a body of British and Tories who had assembled at Mobley Meeting House in June, 1780.)

Since that was originally a house of worship for the settlers of all denominations, the various denominations withdrew when they were larger in number and built their own separate churches. Hence, within a few miles of Mobley Meeting House there are Baptist, Methodist, Presbyterian, Covenant, A. R. P. and Universalist churches. It is very probable the Baptist from that house of worship were those who founded Beaver Creek Church in 1797.

What this original church was like or how long it was used is not known. In the course of time the membership of the church moved northward and the church was moved to the present location.

The land was given by Robert Wylie Coleman, grandfather of the late John Wylie Coleman, in 1884. It consists of four acres. The plat shows a narrow path-like strip of land running from the back of the lot down to the branch. When he gave this land Mr. Coleman said he included the narrow strip in order that the church might never be cut off from a water supply.

In the cemetery the earliest marker bears the name of Rhodia Colvin who died October 23, 1848. From this date and the date the land was given, it is believed the church was moved to this location about 1845.

The late Mrs. Lizzie Wilkes Wright of Chester said she attended this church most of her girlhood days and remembered the building. It was built largely of the lumber that was moved from the old church on Beaver Creek. It stood to the rear and south of the present one and faced south. It had two front and one side entrances. Records

show that Negroes attended services and held membership in the church. Among them were "Aunt" Patience McLurkin and "Uncle" Anderson Simpson whose names were on the roll until 1886.

Rev. Ephraim Fant (or Phant) is believed to have been the first pastor of the first church built on the present site. He was a minister for 17 years and preached during part of those years at Beaver Creek. He died in 1851 near Woodward and was buried in a church cemetery there. Due to heavy rains at the time of his death, it was impossible to get to Beaver Creek with his body for burial, but it was later moved there.

Mr. Randolph Grant remembered his mother speaking of Rev. John Only who preached at Beaver Creek. She often quoted one of Rev. Only's favorite sayings: "If you want to raise chickens, you have to save the eggs."

The first record in the church minutes is dated April, 1863. For many years, all church conferences were held on Saturdays. The preachers were addressed as Elders.

At that time Elder J. D. Fant was pastor and James Elliott Robinson was church clerk. Mr. Robinson died while on furlough from Fort Sumter, Charleston, and a page in the minute book is inscribed in his memory. Mr. L. A. C. Estes succeeded him as Clerk. Elder G. W. Phillips supplied at Beaver Creek many times during Elder Fant's pastorate.

In December, 1864, J. H. Crosby "requested the church to grant him the privilege of exhorting and beseeching sinners to God, which was granted."

The church roll at that time included 192 white (64 males, 128 females) and 128 Negroes (42 males and 78 females.) Deacons were L. A. C. Estes, J. B. Lee, J. Neaves, John Simpson and Stephen Crosby.

Elder William Hilliard Hartin served Beaver Creek one year. During that year, "a charge was preferred against Bro. Robert Coleman for dancing" and a resolution was passed "that the church disapprove of 'public' plays and the membership to be notified thereof." At different times others were charged with misconduct, drunkenness, etc.

In September 1866, Elder George Washington Pickett became pastor "at an annual salary of \$150 in currency." Beaver Creek, Cool Branch and Woodward churches were united into one field. Tyre Lee became church clerk and Mose C. Stone and David P. Crosby were ordained deacons. Mr. Stone became one of the strong pillars of the church and served as deacon until his death in 1921. He was superintendent of Sunday School for 30 years.

While serving this church, Elder Pickett was moderator of Bethel Baptist Association. The association met at Beaver Creek in 1869.

Elder H. C. Hinton served Beaver Creek Church for four years, 1872-1876. He served various churches in the Chester Baptist Association until his death in 1905. He is buried in Evergreen Cemetery in Chester.

In 1874, Dr. C. C. Estes was made church clerk. His minutes record that J. D. Mahaw, L. A. C. Estes, Mose Stone and D. P. Crosby were appointed to draw up a new constitution and C. C. Estes, John Simpson and W. S. Durham to frame a new code of laws for the church, since the original ones were lost.

The Rev. John D. Mahon of Winnsboro was called by the church in 1877. On the first Sunday in May, the church took a special collection to send Rev. Mahon to the Southern Baptist Convention in Louisville, Kentucky. He came back full of zeal and led the congregation in building a new church. Enough money was raised in one month and the names and amounts of contributions are carefully recorded.

The contract was let to J. H. Crosby for \$849.50. The building, labor, lumber, hardware and roofing cost \$812.20 leaving a balance of \$14.80 in the building fund.

Logs were given by members and lumber was sawed at David Crosby's saw mill by Sam Wright, a man held in high regard by the people of the community and who supervised the digging of the graves in the cemetery.

J. Monroe Grant estimated the number of shingles it would take to cover the house. The family still has this estimate in its possession. Tom C. Faley, as a boy of eight carried water from the branch to mix the mortar used by his father, B. F. Faley in making the pillars.

For many years the church maintained a pool and dressing room at Coleman's Spring, a mile north of the church, for baptizing.

In July 1881, Rev. Mahon preached the dedicatory sermon for the new building. In 1883,

a beautiful silver communion set was presented by the ladies of the church. In 1886, new seats, the ones still in use, were made on the grounds and put in the church by John Clark.

In 1891, an organ was purchased although some members considered a musical instrument a sacrilege. The first organists were Miss Ermie Mahon (Mrs. T. W. Smith) and Miss Maggie Robinson (Mrs. Talton E. Clark.)

While Rev. Mahon was pastor, the first wedding was performed at Beaver Creek Church. Prof. David Busbee and Miss Elizabeth Faucette were married on Sunday just after preaching. He was principal of Crosbyville Institute and she was the music teacher.

The Rev. D. A. Swindler and the Rev. A. M. Pittman each served the church for a short while. While the Rev. Edward A. McDowell was pastor, Beaver Creek held its Centennial celebration. Rev. McDowell borrowed the early minutes of the church to prepare an historical sketch and lost them. The section at that time was thickly populated and people came from miles around to church.

It was Rev. McDowell who instigated the building of a baptistry and dressing rooms in the rear of the church, and the first to administer baptismal rites there. Among 13 baptized in the first baptismal service were Eunice Roberts (Mrs. A. J. Taylor), Leila Banks (Mrs. S. T. Weir) Mary Crosby (Mrs. J. T. Collins), N. H. Stone, Sr. and Hon. John M. Wise.

A singing school was held at Beaver Creek in September 1898 and again in 1899 by a Mr. Matthews from Hopewell A. R. P. Church. The results of these schools were enjoyed for years in the song service of the church.

In 1894, the church inherited from Mrs. Tabby Neaves Dye land on which a parsonage was erected. The Rev. E. D. Wells first occupied it in 1901 when he became pastor.

Rev. John S. Harris and his

wife were zealous workers during his pastorate. The Sunday school took on new life, the largest attendance ever recorded was reached, and the Woman's Missionary Society was reorganized with Mrs. N. H. Stone as president.

A B. Y. P. U. was organized with Mrs. C. M. Adams (now Mrs. J. C. Tennant) as first president. Sunbeam Band was organized with Mrs. D. P. Crosby (now Mrs. G. B. Heath) as leader.

In 1924 the church building was extensively remodeled as it stands today. A piano was bought and Mrs. D. P. Crosby was pianist. Mrs. Harris was organist. In October 1925 deacons elected were C. F. Fant, S. H. Banks, J. W. Weir, H. J. Hare, T. R. Varnadore and Harvey Weir. Miss Maude Durham was made church clerk.

The Rev. A. C. Odom next served the church. He was succeeded by the Rev. D. Homer Owings, who had been a missionary to China. The Rev. George Washington Gurley accepted a call to Beaver Creek in April, 1936. That year the church entertained the Sunday School convention, the Chester Association, and the W. M. U. More than 25 new members were added.

In August 1941, the Rev. James F. Moseley became pastor. A new finance system was set up and for the first time in the history of the church, services were held every Sunday. Miss Mattie Stone became superintendent of the Sunday school. C. M. Banks and J. S. Taylor were elected deacons and John W. Weir became church treasurer.

Electricity was extended to the church and the parsonage about 1940. The communion glass holders on the church pews were made and given by W. S. Durham, grandson of the late Mrs. W. S. Durham.

The Rev. Henry Miller Hodgens came in December 1945. The parsonage was painted and remodeled and Miss Floride Durham and an underpinning curtain put around the church in memory of her mother, Mrs. Mollie Estes Durham.

Rev. Yates Bingham served as pastor for a short while. The Rev. A. L. Willis served from 1949-1957 and was succeeded by Rev. Warren Steppe

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pastor.

A link chair fence was erected around the cemetery in 1947. Chairmen of this project were Miss Floride Durham and R. W. Coleman.

A social hall and some class rooms were built onto the church in 1954. A well was dug in 1959. In 1957-58 the parsonage was completely renovated at a cost of about \$3500. Pulpit Bible was given by Miss Floride Durham in memory of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. S. Durham.

On September 21, 1947, Beaver Creek Church observed its Sesqui-Centennial with a large crowd present. Charles C. Adams wrote and read the church history. Attorney T. C. Callisonson of Lexington and the Rev. Broadus E. Wall of Chester's First Baptist Church were speakers. The Rev. H. M. Hodgens, pastor, presided.

Credits: History of Beaver Creek by Chas. C. Adams and Miss Floride Durham.

* * * * *

ORGANISTS AND OFFICERS

Among those who served as organists were Mrs. Simp Stone, Miss Mattie Roberts, Mrs. Ross Durham, Mrs. N. H. Stone, Miss Eva Durham (Mrs. Earl Steadman).

Serving as superintendents of Sunday School were J. D. Mahon, Mose C. Stone, C. E. Fant, W. S. Banks, N. H. Stone, Sr., S. H. Banks, T. R. Varnadore, Miss Mattie Stone.

W. S. Durham served as church clerk for 30 years and was succeeded by his daughter, Miss Maude Durham, who served from 1917-1961, until her death.

* * * * *

MINISTERS FROM BEAVER CREEK CHURCH

Rev. Thomas C. Faley, a son of Beaver Creek, was licensed to preach in 1901 by the Board of Ministerial Education of the South Carolina Baptist Convention.

Taking up evangelistic work, he preached and directed the music for revivals in a wide area. He directed the music with Dr. N. W. Tracy of Boston, Mass. when he held a five-week's tent meeting in Columbia on the grounds where the Post Office now stands. He sang in the state Chatauqua of Louisiana where the well-known evangelists Sam Jones and DeWitt Talmadge were speakers. He served in several Columbia churches, and edited a hymn book "Revival Songs."

Rev. J. H. Crosby was licensed to preach in December, 1864. Rev. J. D. Crosby was licensed in the 1860's and went to preach. The W. M. S. ladies of Beaver Creek made a quilt and embroidered their names in the squares. The quilt was given to Rev. Crosby as a love gift to take back with him.

Rev. Belton P. Estes was licensed on the third Sunday in July, 1884 at Beaver Creek.

Rev. Hartwell R. Chapman was ordained at Brushy Fork Baptist Church with the Rev. L. C. Hinton, a former pastor, officiating. He went to Oklahoma where he was president of a college.

* * * * *

OTHERS

Beaver Creek Church has furnished two medical doctors, Dr. C. C. Estes and Dr. John F. Coleman. Dr. Coleman practiced many years in Smoaks.

Hon. John M. Wise practiced law in Chester for many years and represented Chester County in the State Senate.

David P. Crosby whose name appears on almost every committee at Beaver Creek between 1870 and 1896 when he moved to Chester, was an outstanding businessman. He married Miss Fanny Crosby who was the first president of Beaver Creek Woman's Missionary Society.

Mr. Crosby was the founder of Crosbyville Institute, a school of high education than was received in the common schools at that time. He not only built the 30 room school house but also a three-story boarding house to be used as a dormitory for students who lived too far away to come to school from their homes each day.

The following from Beaver Creek served in World War I: Charlie Mack Banks, Robert S. Banks, John J. Clark, J. Elbert Roberts, S. Simp Taylor, Walker C. Taylor, Sr., Leslie B. Weir.

In World War II: Mary Elizabeth Weir (Mrs. W. W. Rogers), Redding, California, Charles C. Adams, Mack Henry Banks, Wallace Banks, William Banks, Charlie Stone, N. H. Stone, Jr., Jake Stone, W. C. Taylor, Jr., J. D. Weir, Walter Widener.

* * * * *

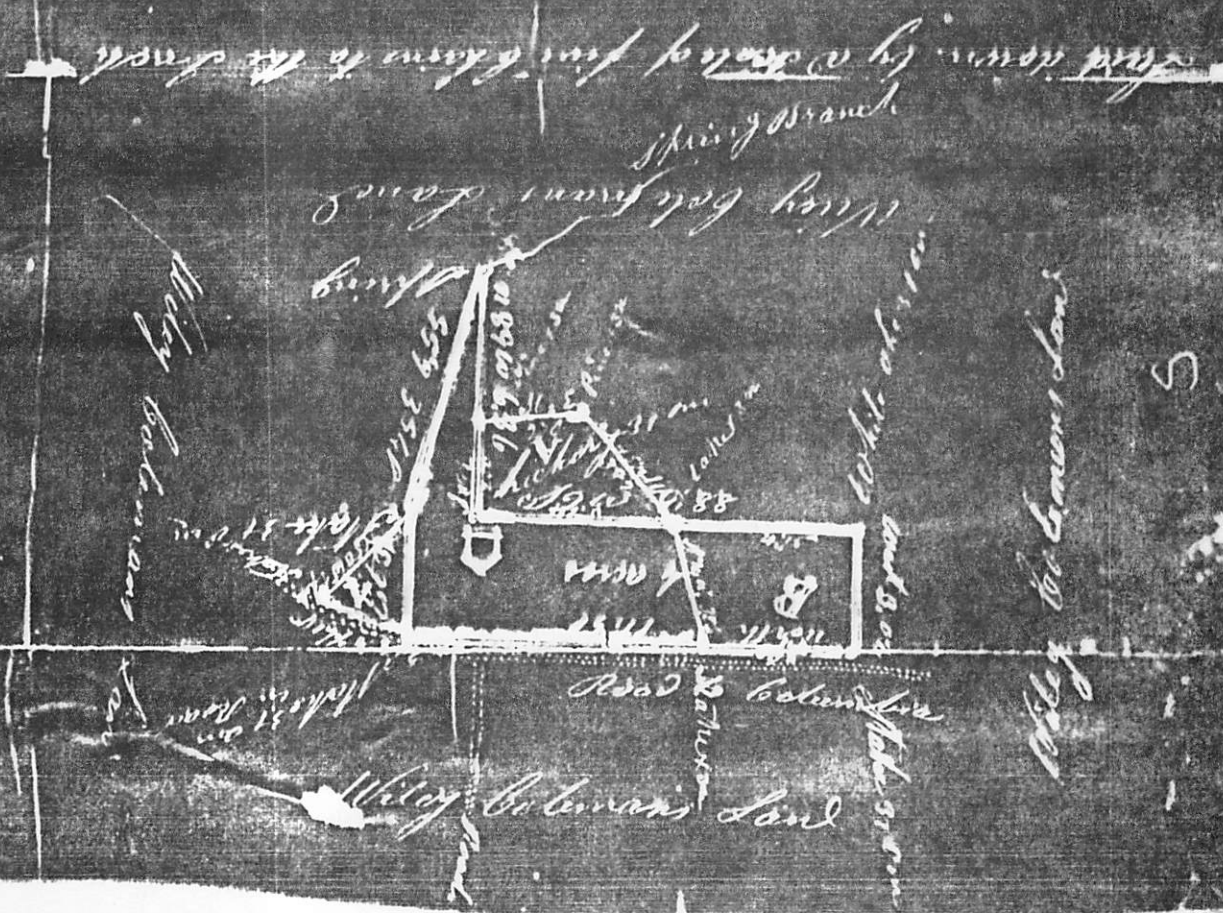
WOMEN'S WORK

In 1889 a Woman's Missionary Society was organized with Mrs. David P. Crosby, president, and Mrs. Victoria R. Coleman, secretary.

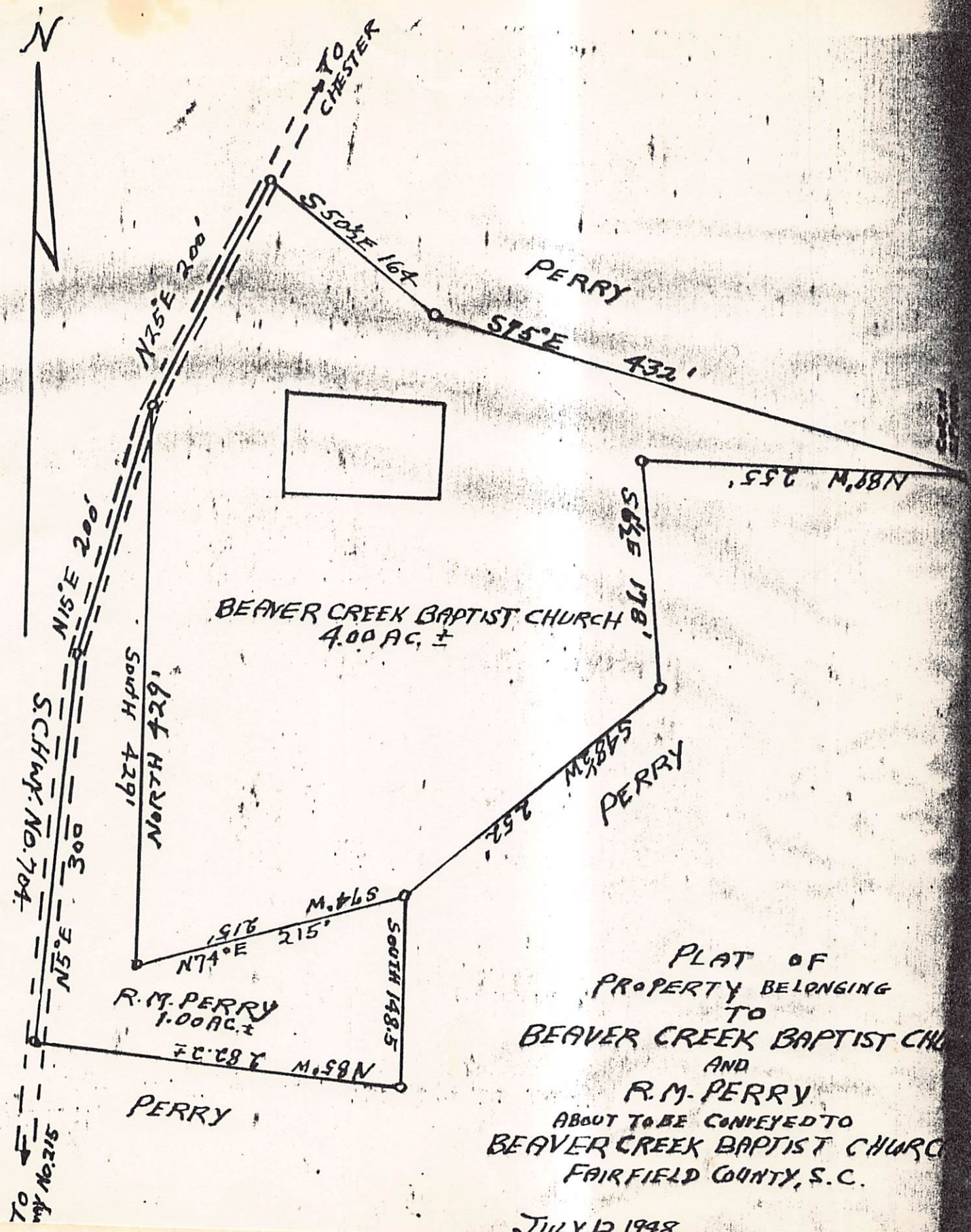
Among others who have served as president are Miss Mary Jane Weir, Miss Ella Stone

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 Surveyed March the 2nd Day 1844
 Martin Colman Esq.



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PLAT OF
PROPERTY BELONGING
TO
BEAVER CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH
AND
R.M. PERRY
ABOUT TO BE CONVEYED TO
BEAVER CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH
FAIRFIELD COUNTY, S.C.

JULY 12, 1948

BEAVER CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH

Beaver Creek Baptist Church situated in the hills of northwestern Fairfield County was organized in 1797. The original church building stood near the headwaters of Beaver Creek; hence the church's name.

Sometime between 1758 and 1760, Edward Mobley with his six sons emigrated from Maryland to South Carolina and settled on Poplar Ridge on the east side of Beaver Creek in Fairfield County.

As the Mobleys came through North Carolina the caravan was joined/^{by} Hans Wagoner, a Hollander, and his family which consisted of himself and his six daughters.

History records that a house of worship, the Mobley Meeting House, was built by these and other early settlers. In this house all denominations worshiped God together. Later the various denominations withdrew, when they were larger in number, and built their own separate churches. As a result, within a few miles of Mobley Meeting House, there are Baptist, Methodist, Presbyterian, Covenanters, A. R. P. and Universalist Churches. It is very probable that the Baptists from that house of worship were those who founded Beaver Creek Church in 1797.

What this original church was like or how long it was used is not known. In the course of time the membership of the church moved northward and the church was moved to the present location.

Four acres of land were given in 1884 by Robert Wylie Coleman, grandfather of the late John Wylie Coleman. The plat shows a narrow path-like strip of land running from the back of the lot down to the branch. Mr Coleman said he included the narrow strip in order that the church might never be cut off from a water supply.

In the cemetery the earliest marker bears the name of Rhoda Colvin who died October 23, 1843. From this date and the date the land was given, it is believed the church was moved to the present location about 1845. It was built largely of the lumber that was moved from the old church on Beaver Creek. It had two front doors and a side entrance. Records show that Negroes attended services and held membership in the church. Among them were "Aunt Patience McLurkin" and "Uncle" Anderson Simpson whose names were on the roll until 1886.

The Rev. Ephriam Fant(or Phant) is believed to have been the first pastor of the first church built on the present site. He was a minister for 17 years, and preached during part of those years at Beaver Creek. He died in 1851 near Woodward and was buried in a church cemetery there. The Rev. John Only also preached at Beaver Creek, but the date is not known.

The first record in the church minutes is dated April 1863. For many years all church conferences were held on Saturdays. The preachers were addressed as as Elders. While Elder J. D. Fant was pastor James Elliott Robinson died and a page in the minute book is inscribed in his memory.

In December 1864, J. H. Crosby "requested the church to grant him the privilege of exhorting and beseeching sinners to God, which was granted." The church roll at that time included 192 white members and 128 Negroes.

Elder William H. Hartin served Beaver Creek one year. During that year "a charge was preferred against Bro. Robert Coleman for dancing." At different times others were charged with misconduct, drunkenness, etc.

In September, 1866, Elder George Washington Pickett became pastor "at an annual salary of \$150.00 in currency." Beaver Creek, Cool Branch, and Woodward churches were united into one field, one pastor serving the three churches. Tyre Lee became church clerk and Mose C. Stone and David P. Crosby were ordained deacons. Mr. Stone became one of the stong pillars of the church and served as deacon until his death in 1921. He was superintendent of the Sunday School for 30 years.

In 1874 the minutes record that a committee was appointed to draw up a new constitution, and another committee to frame a new code of laws for the church since the original ones were lost.

On the first Sunday in May, 1877, the church took a special collection to send the Rev. John D. Mahon, pastor to the southern Baptist Convention which met in Louisville, Kentucky. He came back full of zeal and led the congregation in building a new church. Enough money was raised in one month and the names and amounts contributed are carefully recorded.

The contract was let to J. H. Crosby for \$849.50. The building, labor, lumber, hardware and roofing cost \$12.20, leaving a balance of \$14.80 in the building fund. Logs were given by members and lumber was sawed at David Crosby's saw mill by Sam Wright, a man held in high regard by the people of the community. He also supervised the digging of graves in the cemetery.

For many years the church maintained a pool and dressing room at Coleman's Spring, a mile north of the church, for baptizing.

In July, 1881, the Rev. Mahon preached the dedicatory sermon for the new church. In 1883, a beautiful silver communion set was presented by the ladies of the church. In 1886, new seats, the ones still in use, were made on the grounds and put in the church by John Clark.

In 1891, an organ was purchased although some members considered a musical instrument a sacrilege. The first organists were Miss Ermie Mahon (Mrs T. W. Smith) and Miss Maggie Robinson (Mrs Talton Clark).

While the Rev. Mahon was pastor the first wedding was performed at Beaver Creek Church. Prof. David Busbie and Miss Elizabeth Faucette were married on Sunday just after preaching.

While the Rev. Edward A. McDowell was pastor, Beaver Creek held its Centennial celebration. Rev. McDowell borrowed the early minutes of the church to prepare an historical sketch, and lost them.

It was the Rev. McDowell who instigated the building of a baptistry and dressing rooms in the rear of the church and was the first to administer baptismal rites there. At the first baptismal service in the church, 13 were baptized.

In 1894 the church inherited from Mrs. Tabby Neaves Dye, land on which a parsonage was erected. The Rev. E. D. Wells was the first to occupy it in 1901 when he became pastor.

Saturday before the first Lord's day in February 1866

Church met Brother J. Crosby preached. Elder H. Hartin closed by prayer. Conference convened. Charge preferred against Bro. Robert Coleman for dancing. Bro. J. Neaves appointed to cite him to attend on next conference meeting. A charge preferred against Sister Susan Dye for immoral conduct. Appointed Brother W. A. Bolick to cite her to attend the next conference meeting.

Resolved: That the church disapprove of all publick plays and the membership to be notified thereof.

L. A. C. Estes, C. C.

**Beaver Creek Baptist Church
has an interesting history**

The history of Beaver Creek Baptist Church, written by Charles C. Adams and read at the Sesquicentennial celebration September 21, 1947.

Mr. Adams gives the names (of those) who furnished the information which enabled him to compile the history. He is chairman of the historical committee and also gives names of this committee. These were read at the celebration, but space does not permit publishing them here. The history follows:

Seven score and ten years ago, the forefathers of this church assembled and organized themselves into a legally constituted body according to their religious beliefs and faith. This body they designated as a church of the Baptist faith, and this church was called Beaver Creek, here, in the hills of northwestern Fairfield County of South Carolina.

Today, this twenty-first day of September, nineteen hundred and forty seven, AD, we, of several generations down, have come together in unison of spirit and purpose, not only to pay tribute to the ideals and accomplishments of our church founders, but to rejoice over the strides of progress our church has made in service to God and mankind for these one hundred and fifty years.

The auditorium of Beaver Creek Baptist Church have not all stood on top of this red hill. This the third church building, and the second in number, to stand on this site. As previously stated, the original building stood near the headwaters of Beaver Creek. This location can best be identified by saying that the first church stood approximately one mile, more or less, in a general southward direction from the home the late John Simpson and Daisy Crosby Stone. The committee has been unable to locate any record whatsoever, on this first church, and there are verbal differences of opinions concerning the first building. So the best this committee has been able to do is to piece together that which has been handed down by mouth to ear for several generations.

Records of our church for the entire 150 years are scant and incomplete, and as a result, we find ourselves in the position of the five foolish virgins, who along with the five wise virgins, took their lamps and went forth to meet the bridegroom. The wise took oil in their vessels with their lamps, but the five foolish ones took none. And while the bridegroom tarried they all slumbered and slept. At midnight there was a cry made, "Behold the bridegroom cometh; go ye out to meet him." Then all the virgins arose, but the five foolish ones found themselves in the darkness of the night without oil for their lamps. So it was necessary for them to go to those who sold and buy oil. But upon their return, they found the bridegroom had arrived and gone in, along with those who were ready, to the marriage and the door was shut.

And so it is with us. There is much we would like to know about the church, and much we could have known. For only a few years back, there were those still among us who could have, and would have gladly, told us much. But now death has stilled those tongues and sealed those lips, and that knowledge which we so yearningly desire today lies buried with our loved ones here in the cemetery beside this church.

There are several periods during these 150 years in which the committee has found nothing. History records that sometimes between 1758 and 1760, Edward Mobley, with six sons emigrated from Maryland to South Carolina and settled in Poplar Ridge on the east side of Beaver Creek in Fairfield County. As the Mobleys came through North Carolina, near the Yadkin River, their caravan was joined by Hans Wagner, a Hollander, and his family, which consisted of himself and his six daughters. Wagner and his daughters settled in Fairfield County near where Reedy Branch empties into Beaver Creek. The Richard Winn Chapter, D.A.R. has erected a marker on Highway 215. The inscriptions on this marker says Fort Wagner, built by Hans Wagner as a refuge from the Cherokee Indians, stood one mile east of the marker. History also records that a house of worship was built by these early settlers somewhere near Poplar Ridge on the east side of Beaver Creek. All denominations congregated in that house to worship God in the Christian faith. (During the Revolutionary War the Patriots, under command of Major Winn, defeated a body of British and Tories who had assembled at Mobley Meetings House in June 1780.)

Since that was a house of worship for settlers of all denominations, it is evident that as the various denominations grew larger in number they withdrew and built their own separate churches. Hence, within a few miles of the location of the Mobley Meeting House there are Baptist, Methodist, Presbyterian and Universalist churches, and it is very probable the Baptist from that house of worship were those who founded Beaver Creek Church that was built on the east side near the head of Beaver Creek in 1797.

What this building was like, or how long it was used as a church, we do not know. We do know in the course of time the membership of the church drifted northward and it was decided to move the church nearer the center of the membership. Consequently, the church was built on this location.

The land of the church lot was given by Robert Wylie Coleman, grandfather of the late John Wylie Coleman, in 1884, consists of four acres. The plat shows a very narrow path like strip of land running from the back of the lot down to the branch. When he gave this land, Mr. Coleman said he included the narrow strip in order that the church might never be cut off from a water supply.

In the cemetery the earliest marker bears the name of Rhodia Colvin, who died October 13, 1848. From this date and the date the land was given we are led to believe the church was moved to this location about 1845 or 1846.

Mrs. Lizzie Wilkes Wright of Chester, informs us that she attended this church most of her girlhood days and she remembers the building. It was built largely of the lumber that was moved from the old church on Beaver Creek. It stood to the rear and south of the present one, and faced the south having two front entrances and one side door. Inside the building between the front doors was the pulpit, and one entered the church facing the congregation unless the door on the side was used. She does not remember the gallery, but we have records that the Negroes attended services and held membership in the church.

One can picture their happy faces as they came to church dressed in their spotlessly clean homespun, the women having their heads tied up in turban fashion, and the men wearing

one of "massa's old hats." There were Aunt Patience McLurkin and Uncle Anderson Simpson and others of whom stores have been handed down to preserve their memories. Uncle Anderson was a slave of Mr. John Simpson. It is said he remained a member of this church as long as he lived and attended service regularly, always sitting on the back seat. We have records of one colored member through 1886. Therefore, we presume Uncle Anderson must have died in 1887.

We know of two men who served as pastor of Beaver Creek before we have minutes to record. Rev. Ephriam Fant (Phant) was a minister of the gospel 17 years, and we are told he preached at Beaver Creek for some years during his ministry. He died in 1851, so he was probably the first pastor of the first church built on this ground. He evidently died in the vicinity of Woodward, S.C., as he is buried in a church cemetery near there. Due to heavy rains at the time of his death, it was impossible to get to Beaver Creek with his body for burial. A few years ago one of the grandsons from Florida had his remains moved to this cemetery.

Mr. Randolph Grant remembers his mother speaking of the Rev. John Only who preached at Beaver Creek. She often quoted to him one of Rev. Only's favorite illustrations: "If you want to raise chickens, you have to save the eggs."

The first record we have in our church minutes was dated Saturday before the first Sabbath April 1863. Until years later, all church conferences were held on Saturdays, and all preachers, up to Mr. Mahon, were addressed in the church minutes as Elders. So we speak of them as Elders in this sketch.

At that time Elder J.D. Fant, an uncle of the late Mr. C.E. Fant, was pastor and James (John) Elliott Robinson, father of the late Mrs. Victoria Robinson Coleman, was church clerk. In November 1863, Mr. Robinson was at Fort Sumter, Charleston. Becoming ill, he was sent home on furlough. After recuperating he was planning to return to his post of duty. On Sunday before he planned to leave, he and his family walked from their home to attend services at Beaver Creek in the morning. That afternoon he took a congestive chill and died. A page to his memory is inscribed in the minute book of that period. Mr. L.A.C. Estes, father of the late Mrs. Mellie Kates Durham, was then elected to serve as church clerk and served in a most efficient way for a number of years.

Elder G.W. Phillips, who was the father of Mrs. Lula Phillips Lee of Chester, supplied at Beaver Creek a number of times while Elder Fant was pastor.

During Elder Fant's pastorate, in December 1864, J.M. Crosby requested the church to grant him the privilege of exhorting and beseeching sinners to God, which was granted.

The church roll at that time included 192 whites (64 males and 128 females) and 128 Negroes (42 males and 78 females.) They were listed as white males and white females, black males and black females.

We gather from the church minutes that deacons at that time were L.A.C. Estes, J.B. Lee, Great grandfather of the late Mrs. S.M. Douglas), J. Neavens (father of the late Mrs. Tabby Neavens Dye), John Simpson (grandfather of N. H. Stone, Jr.), Stephen Crosby (father of the late Mr. David F. Crosby.)

A page in the minute book is inscribed to Mr. Crosby's memory and we quote, "meekness, humility and benevolence were prominent traits of his Christian character." Each of these men were earnest loyal workers in the affairs of this church. Elder Fant was in failing health and resigned September 1965. On Sundays when he was unable to preach "Bro J. Neavens read a chapter of the scripture and led the singing of a hymn, and Bro. J.B. Lee prayed.

The day Elder Fant's resignation was accepted by the church, Elder George Washington Pickett, who was preaching at Woodward Baptist Church was called. For some reason Elder Pickett did not accept the call, and Elder William Hilliard Hartin was extended the call to serve as pastor for one year. He seems to have led his people in the straight and narrow path. In a conference meetings presided over by Elder Hartin "a charge was preferred against Bro. Robert Coleman for dancing. Bro. J. Neavens was appointed to cite him to attend the next conference meeting." At the same time, a resolution was passed 'that the church disapprove of 'publick' plays and the membership to be notified thereof." At different times others were charged with misconduct, drunkenness, etc. Elder Hartin was the father of Mrs. Sara Hartin Clark, now residing in Winnsboro. For many years he filled the pulpits of several Fairfield and Richland County churches. His last years were spent on his farm near Ridgeway.

In September 1866 Elder George Washington Pickett was again called to Beaver Creek. This time he accepted and "the church pledged him an annual salary of \$150.00 in currency." His acceptance of this call united Beaver Creek, Cool Branch and Woodward churches into one field.

Mr. Tyre Lee, grandfather of the late Mrs. S.M. Douglas, became church clerk at this time and served for eight years. On the first Sunday in June 1870, Moss C. Stone and David P. Crosby were ordained deacons. Mr. Stone became one of the strong pillars of this church, serving faithfully as deacon until his death in 1921, and was Sunday School superintendent for 30 years.

He married Miss Amanda Timms and was the father of Mrs. Ella Cunningham, who was a member of this church for many years, and now lives in Chester.

We know of one marriage performed by Elder Pickett here - that of the later Mr. and Mrs. Jack F. Stone, parents of N. H. Stone, Sr. Mrs. Stone was Miss Hattie Simpson.

While serving this church Elder Pickett was moderator of Bethel Baptist Association to which Beaver Creek, Woodward and Cool Branch churches belonged until 1878. Bethel association minutes of 1868 closed with 'on motion by Rev. J.C. Furman, D.D., the association adjourn, to meet with Beaver Creek Church, 15 miles south of Chesterville, 11 o'clock Friday before the fourth Sunday in September 1869." Signed G.W. Pickett, Moderator.

Elder H.C. Hinton was the next pastor. He was born in Wake County, N.C., and was graduated at Wake Forest College. He came to Beaver Creek Baptist Church, December 1872. After serving four years he was called to Brushy Fork Baptist Church, and for fifty years he preached in various churches in the Chester Association. He died November 11, 1905, and is buried in Evergreen Cemetery at Chester.

While he preached at Beaver Creek the church began holding services twice a month - on the first and third Sundays - a custom that has continued until recent years, except for a few months at the beginning of the year 1880, when 'it was unanimously decided, owing to the stringency of the times. to have preaching once a month.'"

Elder Tillman R. Gaines, a pastor of Woodward Baptist Church, and Elder A. Pugh, a young student whom Elder Gaines was assisting in educating, supplied here at different times during Hinton's pastorate. Elder Gaines was the father of T.R. Gaines of Chester. For a number of years he served on the Baptist Courier staff as editor.

It was during August 1874 that Dr. C.C. Estes was made church clerk. From his minutes of July 1878 we quote. "It was ascertained that the constitution of the church has been lost, and a committee consisting of J.D. Mahon, L.A.C. Estes, Mose Stone and D.P. Crosby were appointed to draw up a new constitution. It was also ascertained that the church was without by-laws, where on a committee consisting of C.C. Estes, John Simpson and _S. Durham were instructed to frame a code of by-laws."

The Rev. John D. Mahon from near Winnsboro, (the first pastor to be addressed in the minutes as Reverend) was called as a supply one year before Elder Hinton's resignation. After that in 1877, he was given a call for an indefinite time.

Rev. Mahon was a graduate of Furman University. He married Mrs. Rebecca Shedd Durham of Ridgeway. They and their fine family seem to have brought new interest and enthusiasm into the church and community. For a short time they lived in the John Weir house on Cool Branch Road, and later the old boarding house on the Crosbyville Institute, still standing today on the right of the highway about one mile south of this church, was used for the parsonage.

On the first Sunday in May 1880 the church took a special collection to send Rev. Mahon to Louisville, Ky., to attend the Southern Baptist convention. He must have come back from that convention full of zeal and spirit, for we find on the first Sunday in July, the church met in conference to discuss which would be better—to build a new house of worship or repair the old one. It was decided to build a new one.

Rev. Mahon was appointed a committee of one to solicit contributions. A month later, the first Sunday in August, re reported that enough money had been subscribed to build a new house. The building committee composed of L.A.C. Estes, Mose Stone and David Crosby, was appointed to buy lumber and employ workmen to build the house. It was also agreed that a correct record of all names and amount subscribed be recorded in the church book. The list has been reserved. The contract for labor and building was given to J.H. Crosby for \$349.50. The building, including labor, lumber, hardware, roofing, etc. was erected at a total cost of \$818.20, leaving a balance of \$14.80 in the building fund.

The cost seems very low compared with prices today. Logs were given by people of the community and much of the lumber was sawed at David Crosby's sawmill by Sam __right, a man whose memory is held in high regard by the people of this community, and who, during this active life supervised the digging of most of the graves in this cemetery. Much of the lumber inside the building was hand dressed. J. Monroe Grant estimated the number of shingles it would take to cover the house. His family still has this estimate in its

possession. The pillars of the house were built by B.F. Faley, father of Tom C. Faley. Mr. Tom, as a boy of eight or nine years, carried water from the branch at the foot of the hill to mix mortar. In those days lime came in big lumps in barrels and had to be dissolved. Mr. Toms says ' it took a lot of water to melt that lime.'

The building had two entrances on the front, making two aisles. There were long seats between the aisles and short seats on each end. There were no rooms on the rear and no baptistery. For many years the church maintained a pool and dressing room at Coleman's Spring approximately a mile north of the church.

Sunday, July 1881, one year after the building was first discussed, Rev. Mahon preached the dedicatory sermon in the new building. The protracted meeting was held that year, beginning the first Sunday in August. A young student from the seminary, Rev. W.A. Williams, assisted Rev. Mahon.

The church experienced a great revival. The following were baptized Misses Florence Coleman, Lily Estes, Minnie Castles, Minnie Halsell, Mrs. Bethaney Woodward, J.B. Lee, Butler Weir, Thomas Wix, William Wix, Edward Chapman.

Beaver Creek accepted an invitation from Mispah Presbyterian Church to hold services there while the church was under construction.

After using the new building two years the congregation painted it white, trimmed in red. In 1885, Rev. Mahon accepted for the church a beautiful silver communion set presented by the ladies of the church.

Three years later, 1886, new seats were made for the church, the ones in use today. Wilson Gibson and Edward Chapman hauled the lumber from Blackstock to make the seats. The roads were in bad condition and on one trip their wagon stalled on the McKeown Hill, going up from the creek toward Bethlehem Church. another wagon came along and the driver hitched his team to the rear of the loaded wagon and pulled it back down the hill. The he told Mr. Gibson and Mr. Chapman "try it again boys, and see if you can make a better drive this time." The seats were made on the grounds and put in the church by Mr. John Clark, father of the late Mrs. John W. Weir.

Soon the need for a musical instrument was felt, yet some considered a musical instrument in a church a sacrilege. In September 1891, a committee was appointed to purchase an organ: David P. Crosby, H.R. Chapman and D. T. Weir. The first organist were Miss Ernie Mahon, daughter of Rev. Mahon, now Mrs. T.W. Smith, and Miss Maggie Robinson, daughter of James (John) Elliott Robinson, who later married Talton E. Clark, son of John Clark.

In August 1887, Dr. C.C. Estes dies and W.S. Durham, a step-son of Rev. Mahon, was appointed his successor as church clerk. Although he died in early life , Dr. Estes had lived a full life in service to his Lord and to humanity.

While Rev. Mahon was here the first wedding in this church took place. Prof. David Busbee and Miss Elizabeth Faucette were married one Sunday just after preaching services. Prof. Busbee was principal of Crosbyville Institute and Miss Faucette was the music teacher.

Mr. Jake R. Coleman and Miss Emma Cocerell of Alabama, were also married in the church by Rev. Mahon. There was a quiet church wedding with only a few present. While visiting his uncle, V.B. Wright, grandfather of Henry Wright, she met and married Mr. Coleman. (The exact dates of these weddings are not known.)

Mrs. Mahon died in 1885, and is buried beside this church. Rev. Mahon resigned in 1892, and moved to Union. While there he married Miss Comina Crosby. In 1895 he was again called to Beaver Creek, and served as pastor for a year, going back and forth from Clinton, where he was living at that time.

During the period between Rev. Mahon's two pastorates at Beaver Creek, Rev. D. A. Swindler filled the pulpit. He also preached at Woodward Church. Rev. Swindler came from Maybington Baptist Church. Being a young man with a great personality, as well as fervor and devotion for his Lord's work, he endeared himself not only to his congregation, but to the community. He boarded in the vicinity until he married Miss Eugenia Lee of Whitmire.

When he returned with his bride they were met at the railroad station (Leeds) by a number of young people who escorted them to the home of Mr. and Mrs. Mose C. Stone where a reception was held for them that evening. Rev. and Mrs. Swindler kept house for a few months in the Crosbyville school house. Shortly after they set up housekeeping the church gave them a surprise pounding.

Mrs. J.F. Stone, whose marriage has already been mentioned, was being driven by her son, John Simpson Stone, to the Swindler's for the pounding when they met Rev. Swindler on the road. After exchanging salutations, the preacher asked, "Where are you headed for?" To which Mr. Stone replied, "to the poor house," and drove on much to the embarrassment of his mother. After two years of service Rev. Swindler resigned and went to Louisville, Ky. to complete his education.

Rev. A.M. Pittman, who was living at Blackstock and had been pastor of Blackstock Baptist Church for some years, was called to serve Beaver Creek also. Although Rev. Pittman's pastorate was not long, he was beloved and held in highest esteem by the congregation. While here he officiated at the wedding of Miss Daisy Crosby and Mr. John S. Stone. They were married at the home of the bride's parents, Mr. and Mrs. David P. Crosby, Sunday morning January 7th, 1894, just before the preaching hour. They and all the wedding party attended services and then went back to her home for the reception afterward. Rev. Pittman resigned in December 1894, and then Rev. Mahon was given his second call to Beaver Creek.

It was during Rev. Edward A. McDowell's ministry that the church held her centennial celebration. Rev. McDowell borrowed the early minutes of the church to help prepare his historical sketch for that occasion and failed to return them. Not having a copy of his sketch, or the minutes, has left us without a recorded history.

Rev. McDowell married Miss Eva Scott, daughter of the late Dr. Scott, prominent physician of Fairfield County. She was a vocalist and musician and used her talent to enrich the church services.

Rev. McDowell never lived in the community, but came to pay pastoral visits and to hold services first from Strothers and later from Monticello. coming in 1896, he rendered faithful service for five years, resigning in 1901 to take up work elsewhere. He preached to some of the largest congregations ever assembled at Beaver Creek for preaching services. This section at that time was thickly populated and people came from miles around.

It was Rev. McDowell who instigated the building of a baptistery in the church. Hence the baptistery was built in and dressing rooms were added on the rear of the church. He was the first to administer baptismal rites in the baptistery and Miss Eunice Roberts (Mrs. A.J. Taylor), Miss Lelia Banks (Mrs. S.T. Weir), Miss Mary Crosby (Mrs. J.T. Collins), Mr. N.H. Stone Sr., probably Hon. John W. Wise, and others, thirteen in all, were the first to be baptized in it.

Mr. Tillman R. Gaines held a singing school at Hopewell A.R.P. Church in 1898. Widespread interest was taken in the school. Beaver Creek delegated Mr. Randolph Grant and Mr. C.M. Fant to go to Hopewell and engage Mr. Matthews to hold a singing school here. The school was held in September of that year, with old and young attending. It was so great a success that Mr. Matthews was engaged to return the next summer. The results of these singing schools were enjoyed for years in the song service of this church. Mr. Grant still has on of the books he used at the school.

The church began to see the disadvantage of not having a home for the pastor to live in the community. Several times a committee had been appointed to look into the advisability to build a parsonage. It was either not advisable to build or the committee would fail to report. Under Rev. McDowell's leadership the movement was started again.

In 1894 the church came in possession of what we know as the "Parsonage Land." The land belonged to Mr. John Dye, a great uncle of Mr. W.C. Taylor. Some years before he had died, willing the land to his wife, Mrs. Tabby Neavers Dye, for her life time, and after it was to be the property of Beaver Creek Church. Mrs. Dye died in 1894, and the church appointed W.H. Banks to look after and rent out the property. This gift has been a help to the church financially in that the land was rented out for years, and a good bit of timber and pulpwood has been sold from it, and the proceeds being used in various church expenses. It has also furnished a home for the pastors of the church.

Having land of its own on which to build, the church decided to build a parsonage. We do not know who composed the building committee, but we have been told two Negroes, Henry Hickenbottom and the late Berry McLurkin, built it. It was completed and ready for occupancy in 1901, but Rev. McDowell left just before it was finished.

On the afternoon of December 5, 1899, Mr. Sam Stone and Mrs. Roberts Clowney were married in Beaver Creek by Rev. McDowell. Only a few friends and relatives were present.

Rev. and Mrs. E.D. Weils, who came here from Georgetown in 1901, were the first to live in the parsonage. Rev. Wells was a graduate of Wake Forest. Beaver Creek and Cool Branch became associated into one field at that time and Rev. Wells served twenty-one

years. It is said that he officiated at more weddings than any other pastor of Beaver Creek had. He and Mrs. Wells were always fond of young people.

Mrs. Wells had a hobby of taking and developing pictures. Many of her pictures are found in homes around here. Rev. Wells enjoyed fishing and hunting.

While he was pastor the second organ was bought for the church. Mrs. Simpson, Miss Mattie Roberts, Mrs. Ross Durham, Mrs. N.H. Stone, Miss Eve Durham (Mrs. Earl Steadman), and others served as organists.

In the winter of 1901-02, Mr. L.A.C. Estes fell and fractured his hip. He never fully recovered and died in March 1902.

In 1911 Mr. William H. Banks, deacon and treasurer of the church for a number of years died. In December 1917, Mr. W.S. Durham, church clerk and deacon for 30 years died. For years he was treasurer of Chester Baptist association.

Mr. John W. Weir succeeded Mr. Durham as church clerk. Mr. Weir and Mr. Sam Henry Banks were elected deacons while Rev. Wells was here.

In February 1921, Mrs. Wells died and was buried in the cemetery of the church.

Mrs. Wells and Mrs. Ida Stilley of Palisadi, Colorado, were devoted friends and while in school made a solemn pledge to each other. If in later life, either of them married and one died, and the other was not married or was a widow, that one would marry the living husband and take care of him. They never saw each other after leaving school, but kept up correspondence. Mr. Stilley died some years before Mrs. Wells died. In one of her last letters to Mrs. Stilley, Mrs. Wells reminded her of their promise to take care of "The Boy," as she called Mr. Wells. After Mrs. Wells' death Mrs. Stilley wrote Mr. Wells and enclosed that part of Mrs. Wells' letter. After a year Rev. Wells resigned and went to Palisade where he married Mrs. Stilley. He died there February 12, 1940, and his body was brought to Beaver Creek for burial beside the first Mrs. Wells, who was Miss Grace Brownson of Toledo, Ohio.

The year that Rev. Wells resigned, the Rev. J.S. Harris was called. He was a South Carolinian, but was holding a pastorate in Mason City, Nebraska, at that time. His coming joined Beaver Creek, Blackstock, Cool Branch and Woodward churches into one field.

Mrs. Harris was Miss Bertha Sanders of McCormick. Their three children: Elizabeth, born in Nebraska, John S. Jr., and Bertha, born during his ministry at Beaver Creek.

Rev. and Mrs. Harris were zealous workers and a number of new members were added to the church roll under their leadership. The Sunday School took on new life, and the largest attendance of Sunday School and church ever recorded was reached. The Women's Missionary Society was re-organized with Mrs. N.H. Stone, President and is still serving. The regular monthly program was first used with meetings in the homes. A BYPU was organized with Mrs. C.M. Adams (now Mrs. Tennant) the first president. A Sunbeam Band was organized and Mrs. D.P. Crosby (now Mrs. Heath) was leader. She was a person fitted for that particular work, and many of us look back with fond memories of our days in the Sunbeam Band under her capable leadership.

In 1924, the church building was remodeled as it stands today. The front entrance was changed from two to one entrance and a cement porch was added. The inside walls were plastered, metal ceiling put up, the choir loft built and the windows fixed. Mrs. Nora Cornwell gave the paint and the floor was painted. A new carpet was put down. Chester Machine and Lumber Company was given the contract for remodeling, but to the late Mrs. Daisy Crosby the church is indebted for her tireless efforts in planning and carrying out the remodeling. Mr. Claud Crosby, at that time President of Chester Machine and Lumber Company, gave the pulpit stand in memory of his parents, the late Mr. and Mrs. David P. Crosby.

After remodeling the church a piano was bought. For some time piano and organ were used in the services, Mrs. D.P. Crosby playing the piano and Mrs. Harris the organ. (The organ has in recent years been used by Blackstock Baptist Church.)

The first Sunday in October 1925, an election of deacons took place as follows: C.E. Fant, S.H. Banks, J.W. Weir (who was already serving) and H.J. Hair, T.R. Vanadore, Harvey Weir. Miss Maude Durham was made church clerk and still serves in that capacity.

While Rev. Harris was here the individual communion set was bought and used.

Because of failing health Mr. Harris resigned in 1927, and moved his family to McCormick, where he died a few months later. In the Associational minutes of 1927 a page is inscribed to his memory.

Rev. A.C. Odom and his family moved into the parsonage the year Mr. Harris left. They came from Saluda, S.C. and after serving two years moved to Landrum. It was with regret that the church gave up Mr. Odum and his fine family. Edith, Frances and Ella May, took active parts in the B.Y.P.U. and Frank was a Sunbeam. Another daughter, Ruth, was studying in New York. Rev. and Mrs. Odom now live in Greenville.

Following the Rev. Odum, Rev. and Mrs. D.H. Owings from Dovesville, in Darlington County, took up the work here, July 1929. Rev. Owings had a number of years been a missionary in China. After his return to the states, while preaching near Spartanburg, he married Miss Alma Sandifer of Bamburg, who was teaching Sunday School there.

Rev. and Mrs. Owings were an inspiration to their churches. Mrs. Owings taught the Ladies' Sunday School class and she started a movement to turn the dressing room on the rear in Sunday School rooms. She organized a Y.W.A. She died in 1934 and was buried in the cemetery at her home church in Bamburg County.

A few months later Mr. Owings went to Florida to live. Some years later he returned to Bamburg and married Miss Hettie Sandifer, sister of the first Mrs. Owings. Mr. Owings died a few months ago.

Rev. J. Ned Taylor supplied as pastor for a few months and then went to Winston-Salem, N.C., to become assistant pastor of a Baptist church there.

Rev. G. W. Gurley, who was serving churches in Edgefield and Greenwood counties, accepted a call here, April 1936. He and Mrs. Gurley did good work in the Young People's Organization and the Sunday School. Mrs. Gurley taught the Young People's

class and Mr. Gurley the Bible class. They re-organized the B.Y.P.U., with Miss Mattie Stone becoming director of the organization. During their stay here the church entertained the Sunday School Convention, the Chester Association and the W.M.U., Chester Association. Approximately 25 members were added to the church. Their daughter, Virginia, now Mrs. W.R. Funderburk of Greenwood, a high school student, was pianist for the church. Mr. Gurley was really a pastor. While they were here electricity was installed in the church and parsonage. The Gurleys gave up their work in June 1941, and went to Callison, S.C.

In August 1941, the Rev. Jas. F. Moseley was called to Beaver Creek, Cool Branch and Blackstock churches. Mrs. Moseley was Miss Dolly Stoney, daughter of a Baptist minister. Their family consisted of two daughters, Annie and Carol Beth, two sons, Jimmy and Sherry. Mr. and Mrs. Moseley were the youngest couple to occupy the parsonage.

The church work was re-organized and a new system of finance was adopted which put the church on a cash basis and is proving successful. For the first time in the history of the church services were held every Sunday and is continuing.

New teachers were elected in the Sunday School and Miss Mattie Stone made superintendent. Mrs. Moseley taught the adult class and was pianist. One Sunday after attending her class Mr. N.H. Stone told her, "Look here you are as good as a preacher. When your husband can't come to preach, tell him to send you."

Mr. H.J. Hair moved to Woodward Church and Mr. T.N. Varnadore, who was serving as deacon and church treasurer, resigning leaving two vacancies for deacons. C.M. Banks and J. Simp Taylor were elected as deacons and John w. Weir became church treasurer.

Mr. Taylor died in 1944. Later his brother, Walker C. Taylor, was elected to fill the vacancy.

The three churches sent the Rev. Moseley to San Antonio, Texas, to the Southern Baptist Convention in May 1942.

After four years of service in this field Rev. Moseley resigned and accepted work at Flint Hill Baptist Church near Fort Mill.

An electric water system was put in the parsonage after the Moseys came. The communion glass holders on the church pews were made and given by W.S. Durham, grandson of the Mrs. W.S. Durham mentioned above and Miss Florida Durham.

Miss Elizabeth Banks and Sgt. James Welters were married in the church by Rev. Moseley at noon, after the service, Sunday, July 19, 1943.

During Rev. Moseley's pastorate Beaver Creek lost four of her oldest and greatly beloved members: C.E. Fant, Mrs. Catherine Roberts, Mrs. Mollie Estes Durham and Mrs. Victoria Robinson Coleman. Mr. Fant served as deacon for over 50 years and served as superintendent of Sunday School for as many years. Due to ill health Mrs. Roberts was not able to attend services but kept a deep interest in her church. Mrs. Durham and Mrs. Coleman were charter members of the Beaver Creek W.M.S. They joined the church early in life and were baptized the same day. Through life theirs was a warm and

unbroken friendship. All four of these had reached their four score years and more, and their Christian influence continues in our church.

Rev. And Mrs. H.M. Hodgens came to us from Townsville, in December, 1945. The weather and roads were a hindrance to Rev. Hodgens in getting acquainted with his new field before spring, but when he did get started he covered ground. Since his coming all three churches have been painted. The parsonage has been painted and remodeled to some extent—the long porch on the front taken off and the stoop added. Just recently Miss Florida Durham had an underpinning curtain put around the north side of the church, in memory of her mother, Mrs. Mollie Estes Durham.

The improvement committee now serving are Miss Florida Durham, W. C. Taylor and Mack Henry Banks.

There have been two church weddings since Rev. Hodgens came: Miss Eloise Weir and Victor Blanks, married Saturday evening, June 22, 1946; Miss June Hodgens and Sgt. Bryant Chapman, married at noon, May 15, 1947.

Rev. Hodgens held his own protracted meeting last year and gave the expense of a visiting minister to the improvement fund of the church. Several have been added to the membership and all financial apportionment's have been met. Rev. Hodgens teaches the Adult Sunday School class and Mrs. Hodgens, besides being Sunday School teacher, is active in all phases of the church work.

Miss Mary Alice Banks was pianist until she entered Winthrop College a year ago. Since then her sister, Miss Nettie Lee Banks, as rendered that service. In July 1946, Leslie B. Weir and Jake F. Stone were elected deacons.

Mrs. Mary Beam, the oldest member of Beaver Creek, died last year.

Last December the church lost a most ardent worker in the death of John W. Weir. His son, J.D. Weir, has been elected his successor as deacon and treasurer of the church.

The minutes of 1883 record in the Digest of Letter from Beaver Creek that a Mary Harlem Mission Society had been organized. We know nothing of this organization or its officers.

In 1889 a Women's Missionary Society was organized with Mrs. David P. Crosby, president. And Mrs. Victoria Coleman, secretary.

As far as we are able to learn the following ladies have served as presidents of the W.M.C. in the order given: Mrs. David P. Crosby, 1889-1895; Miss Mary Jane Weir, 1895-1898; Miss Elle Stone (Mrs. Cunningham), 1898-1900; Miss Clara Chapman (Mrs. Agnew), 1900-1903; Mrs. W.H. Banks, 1903-1904; Miss Ells Stone, 1904-1907; Mrs. V.R. Coleman, ?-1922; Mrs. H.H. Stone, Sr., 1922-the present.

The Willing Workers Society was reported in the minutes of 1891. While active the society bought the first Bible for the church.

June 13, 1909, Mrs. John S. Stone organized a young peoples society under the name of Willing Workers. They had for their goal that of enclosing the cemetery, but after a year, it dropped out. Funds raised before being dropped are \$55.70, are still available.

Different organizations among the young people and children are: Y.M.A., G.A.R and Sunbeams. Mrs. Leslie B. Wier is leader of the only society, the G.A.

The following ladies served as presidents of the B.Y.P.U.: Mrs. C.M. Adams (Mrs. Tennant); Miss Leila Varnadore, Miss Sara Banks, Miss Matter Stone and Mrs. John S. Stone, Jr.

In May, 1869, during the pastorate of Rev. Pickett, the minutes record Sunday School being held near Halsellville Post Office, which was Chapman's Store, where Mr. Leslie B. Weir now lives. We have been told that the building in which Sunday School was held stood somewhere between the Grant home and Mrs. Ross Durham's. J.B. Lee, deacon at the time or Nicholas Colvan, were superintendent of the Sunday School. Both names are remembered in connection with the Sunday School.

During Rev. Mahon's pastorate Sunday School was perhaps held in the church for the first time. The records show the following to serve as superintendents: J.D. Mahon, Mose C. Stone, C.E. Fant, W.S. Banks, N. H. Stone, Sr., S.H. Banks, T.R. Varnadore, Miss Minnie Stone

Since the history was written we learn: Another son of Beaver Creek, Mr. Thomas C. Faley, was licensed to preach in 1901 by the board of Ministerial Education of South Carolina Baptist State Convention in Greenville, S.C. He joined Beaver Creek while Rev. Swindler was pastor and was baptized at Coleman's Spring.

Mr. Failey attended Furman University and also Shenandoah College in Virginia. He studied music and voice, and during his college life he sang in the choir of the various churches.

Taking up evangelistic work he preached and directed the music for revivals at a number of churches throughout South Carolina, Georgia and Virginia. Quite often he assisted other evangelists by directing the music, one of them being the noted Dr. N.W. Tracy of Boston, Massachusetts, who held a five weeks tent meetings in Columbia, S.C. on the ground where the Post Office now stands. He sang in the State Chautauqua, of Louisville, Kentucky, who was a famous evangelist of the Christian Church. He served as assistant pastor of Southside Baptist Church in Columbia, S.C. and also of Second Baptist Church of that city. On several occasions he filled the pulpit at his home church.

Some time during this work he edited a hymn book, "Revival Songs." No doubt many who read this article will remember that little book of soul-stirring hymns.

Mr. Faley married Miss Margeret Shannon. They and their fine family live at their home on Columbia road about five miles from Chester.

Beaver Creek was active in organizing the Chester Baptist Association in 1878. Mr. Nicky Colvin and Monroe Grant were the representatives at the organization. The first annual meeting of the Association was held at Beaver Creek.

At that time delegates came from all over the Association and were assigned to homes of the church for night lodging. Dinner was served on the church ground.

In India, at a crossroads over which people from all parts of the world have traveled through the years, there stands an old tree whose age is estimated not in decade or scores,

but in centuries. During the centuries as travelers have passed that way, they paused under the shade of its branches to quench their thirst and to refresh themselves from the burning heat of the sun. As this tree in its humble way has served humanity, so from this church many people have gone out into the various walks of life using their talents and ability for the betterment of mankind.

The following answered the call to service for their country in World War I: Charlie Mack Banks, Robert S. Banks, John J. Clark, J. Elbert Roberts, S. Simp Taylor, Walker C. Taylor, Sr., Leslie B. Weir. In World War II: Mary Elizabeth Weir (Mrs. W.W. Rogers) Redding, California, Charles C. Adams, M. Henry Banks, Wallace Banks, William Banks, Charles Stone, N.H. Stone, Jr., Jake Stone, W.C. Taylor, Jr., J.D. Weir, Walter Widener.

There have four ministers of the Gospel—Mr. J.H. Crosby was licensed in December 1864. He supplied several Sundays at Beaver Creek during his ministerial years.

Mr. J.D. Crosby was licensed in the 1860's. He went west to preach. The W.M.S. ladies made a quilt and embroidered their names on the block which she made. This quilt was given to the Rev. Crosby as a love gift, to take back with him.

Mr. Belton P. Estes was licensed on the third Sunday in July 1884, at Beaver Creek. He married Miss Etta Watkins from Honea Path.

Mr. Hartwell R. Chapman, who attended Wake Forest College and Furman University, was ordained at Brushy Fork Baptist Church with the Rev. L.C. Hinton, a former pastor, officiating. He went to Oklahoma where he was president of a college. He was twice married, First to Miss Palmer of Bullock Creek and second to Miss Ficklin, Blackville. The Rev. Chapman died a few years ago in Aiken.

This church has furnished two representatives of the medical profession and one lawyer.

Dr. C.C. Estes has already been mentioned in this history. Dr. John F. Coleman has practiced medicine for 45 years and is still active in his profession at Smoak, S.C. Hon. John M. Wise began practicing law in Chester about 45 years ago. Besides being successful in his profession, he represented Chester County in the State Senate for a number of years.

We mention one of the many business men who has gone out from Beaver Creek: Mr. David P. Crosby whose name appears on almost every committee of which we have record from 1870, when he was made deacon, until he moved with his family to Chester in 1896, and joined Chester First Baptist Church. In Chester he became affiliated with Spratt Lumber Company. After some years he bought the establishment and changed the name to Chester Machine and Lumber Company. He married Miss Fanny Crosby, who was the first president of Beaver Creek Women's Missionary Society. Mr. Crosby was a man whose business included time and means for the Kingdom. He was the founder of Crosbyville Institute, a school of higher education than was received in the common schools of that time. He not only built the three-room school house, but also a three story boarding house to be used as a dormitory for students who lived too far away to come to school from their home each day.

There are many others whom we would like to mention in this history who labored faithfully and well in this church, and have meant much to the world.

Although it is impossible to mention all of them here those who have passed on, and those who are still giving their best yet we trust that this church will stand throughout the ages as a monument to the men and women who have made it possible.

Mr. Adams closed his interesting history of Beaver Creek Baptist Church with an appropriate poem, "Church Building," by Edgar A. Guest.

file
Beaver Creek

Beaver Creek Baptist Church

has an interesting history

The history of Beaver Creek Baptist Church, written by Charles C. Adams and read at the Sesquicentennial celebration September 21, 1947.

Mr. Adams gives the names (of those) who furnished the information which enabled him to compile the history. He is chairman of the historical committee and also gives names of this committee. These were read at the celebration, but space does not permit publishing them here. The history follows:

Seven score and ten years ago, the forefathers of this church assembled and organized themselves into a legally constituted body according to their religious beliefs and faith. This body they designated as a church of the Baptist faith, and this church was called Beaver Creek, here, in the hills of northwestern Fairfield County of South Carolina.

Today, this twenty-first day of September, nineteen hundred and forty seven, AD, we, of several generations down, have come together in unison of spirit and purpose, not only to pay tribute to the ideals and accomplishments of our church founders, but to rejoice over the strides of progress our church has made in service to God and mankind for these one hundred and fifty years.

The auditorium of Beaver Creek Baptist Church has not always stood on top of this red hill. This is the third church building, and the second in number, to stand on this site. As previously stated, the original building stood near the headwaters of Beaver Creek. This location can best be identified by saying that the first church stood approximately one mile, more or less, in a general southward direction from the home of the late John Simpson and Daisy Crosby Stone. The committee has been unable to locate any record whatsoever, on this first church, and there are verbal differences of opinions concerning the first building. So the best this committee has been able to do is to piece

together that which has been handed down by mouth to ear for several generations.

Records of our church for the entire 150 years are scant and incomplete, and as a result, we find ourselves in the position of the five foolish virgins, who along with the five wise virgins, took their lamps and went forth to meet the bridegroom. The wise took oil in their vessels with their lamps, but the five foolish ones took none. And while the bridegroom tarried they all slumbered and slept. At midnight there was a cry made, "Behold the bridegroom cometh; go ye out to meet him." Then all the virgins arose, but the five foolish ones found themselves in the darkness of the night without oil for their lamps. So it was necessary for them to go to those who sold and buy oil. But upon their return, they found the bridegroom had arrived and gone in, along with those who were ready, to the marriage and the door was shut.

And so it is with us. There is much we would like to know about the church, and much we could have known. For only a few years back, there were those still among us who could have, and would have gladly, told us much. But now death has stilled those tongues and sealed those lips, and that knowledge which we so yearningly desire today lies buried without loved ones here in the cemetery beside this church.

There are several periods during these 150 years in which the committee has found nothing. History records that sometimes between 1758 and 1760, Edward Mobley, with six sons emigrated from Maryland to South Carolina and settled in Poplar Ridge on the east side of Beaver Creek in Fairfield County. As the Mobleys came through North Carolina, near the Yadkin River, their caravan was joined by Hans Wagner, a Hollander, and his family, which consisted of himself and his six daughters. Wagner and his daughters settled in Fairfield County near where Reedy Branch empties into Beaver Creek. The Richard Winn Chapter, D.A.R. has erected a marker on Highway 215. The inscriptions on this marker says Fort Wagner, built by Hans Wagner as a refuge from the Cherokee Indians, stood one mile east of the marker. History also records that a house of worship was built by these early settlers somewhere near Poplar Ridge on the east side of Beaver Creek. All denominations congregated in that house to worship God in the Christian faith. (During the Revolutionary War the Patriots, under command of Major Winn, defeated a body of British and Tories who had assembled at Mobley Meetings House in June 1780.)

Since that was a house of worship for settlers of all denominations, it is evident that as the various denominations grew larger in number they withdrew and built their own separate churches. Hence, within a few miles of the location of the Mobley Meeting House there are Baptist, Methodist, Presbyterian and Universalist churches, and it is very probable the Baptist from that house of worship were those who founded Beaver Creek Church that was built on the east side near the head of Beaver Creek in 1797.

What this building was like, or how long it was used as a church, we do not know. We do know in the course of time the membership of the church drifted northward and it was decided to move the church nearer the center of the membership. Consequently, the church was built on this location.

The land of the church lot was given by Robert Wylie Coleman, grandfather of the late John Wylie Coleman, in 1884, consists of four acres. The plat shows a very narrow path like strip of land running from the back of the lot down to the branch. When he gave this land, Mr. Coleman said he included the narrow strip in order that the church might never be cut off from a water supply.

In the cemetery the earliest marker bears the name of Rhodia Colvin, who died October 13, 1848. From this date and the date the land was given we are led to believe the church was moved to this location about 1845 or 1846.

Mrs. Lizzie Wilkes Wright of Chester, informs us that she attended this church most of her girlhood days and she remembers the building. It was built largely of the lumber that was moved from the old church on Beaver Creek. It stood to the rear and south of the present one, and faced the south having two front entrances and one side door. Inside the building between the front doors was the pulpit, and one entered the church facing the congregation unless the door on the side was used. She does not remember the gallery, but we have records that the Negroes attended services and held membership in the church.

One can picture their happy faces as they came to church dressed in their spotlessly clean homespun, the women having their heads tied up in turban fashion, and the men wearing one of "massa's old hats." There were Aunt Patience McLurkin and Uncle Anderson Simpson and others of whom stories have been handed down to preserve their memories. Uncle Anderson was a slave of Mr. John Simpson. It is said he remained a member of this church

as long as he lived and attended service regularly, always sitting on the back seat. We have records of one colored member through 1886. Therefore, we presume Uncle Anderson must have died in 1887.

We know of two men who served as pastor of Beaver Creek before we have minutes to record. Rev. Ephriam Fant (Phant) was a minister of the gospel 17 years, and we are told he preached at Beaver Creek for some years during his ministry. He died in 1851, so he was probably the first pastor of the first church built on this ground. He evidently died in the vicinity of Woodward, S.C., as he is buried in a church cemetery near there. Due to heavy rains at the time of his death, it was impossible to get to Beaver Creek with his body for burial. A few years ago one of the grandsons from Florida had his remains moved to this cemetery.

BEAVER CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH *
 Fairfield County, South Carolina
 Submitted by Mary Dickey Boulware

The following is a List of Marriages performed by Reverend Ephriam Fant (born November 2, 1797, died June 7, 1851). Pastor of Beaver Creek Baptist Church in Fairfield County, South Carolina.

	<u>1833</u>	
John T. Robinson	and	Mary Woodward
Alexander Swan	and	Catherine McBride
Edward Shannon	and	Margrate Robinson
Andrew McKeown	and	Rebecker Holsell
John Wager	and	Mary Smith
John W. Robinson	and	Rebecker Coleman
Andrew Young	and	Nancy Robinson
Samuel C. Murple	and	Mary DeCasmee
Simson Mobly	and	Addiline Gibson
John Allbright	and	Maner Darby
Mabre Trusel	and	Elizabeth Stone
Jefferson Mitchel	and	Mary Triplet
Jesse Cartier	and	Darcy Sand
Edmond Corter	and	Elizabeth Woods
John Woods	and	Martha Hardwick
George Wise	and	Mary Procter
William Corder	and	Rebecker Wages
George Nighet	and	Nancy Nawden
Jacom Greer	and	Nancy Guin
Richard T. Kennedy	and	Sarah DeGrafinreid
Robert Hambleton	and	Sarah Darby
Fred Mobly	and	Mary Mobly
Louie Roberts	and	Sally Wages
George Thomas	and	Millesa Alberson
Malichi Tree	and	Barbary Young

	<u>1835</u>	
Abner Wilkes	and	Lucender Hardwick
John Satinwhite	and	Mary Woodward
Martin Williams	and	Luise Attlebery
Edward Price	and	Sarah Tolephero
Elder Nicholas Roberts	and	Mary Roger
John W. Ellia	and	Ann Banneden
Samuel Mobley	and	Martha Wilkes

	<u>1839</u>	
Benjamin N. Turner	and	Elizah Carter
Andrew Vinson	and	Ann Watson
Robert West	and	Sarah Woolard
Thomas Wilkes	and	Sarah Crosby
Ansly Darby	and	Sarah Hardin
John Ware	and	Mary Robinson
Coleman Crosby	and	Addiline Walker
Robert McBride	and	Elizabeth Tenant

* Copy: "The Bulletin" Volume XIII March 1990 Number 1

Rev. James P. Jeter	and	Elizabeth Mobly
Jonathan Mickle	and	Sarah Montgomery
Joseph Fry	and	Clarisa Curry
Greenberry Hagen	and	Frances Smith
Rev. W. W. Guinn	and	Sarah Watson
Samuel Robinson	and	Rode Cornwell
Elihu More	and	Elizah Huttin
Alexander Tenant	and	Ellen Ferguson
Caleb Shirley	and	Maryann Curry
William Colvin	and	Jane Estes
John Thomson	and	Sarah McLurkin
Moses Shannon	and	Elmira Wilkes
James Harden	and	Joanna Smith
Joseph Haddon Carter, Jr.	and	Hannah B. Harden

* * *

BECKHAM

William Beckham was born ca. 1734. His wife, who did not survive him was Nancy. Thought to have been nee Green, but no verification of this has been found. Since his son William, as shown in the Chester County, S. C. records, was named William Chisholm Beckham and since this man is buried in the Chisholm Family Graveyard in Chester County, there is also the possibility that the wife of William Beckham may have been nee Nancy Chisholm.

William Beckham who came from Granville Co., N. C. to Kershaw Co., S. C. was probably born about 1730-1731. He signed his will on 22 July 1796. It was proven 7 August 1799. No marked grave has been found for him, so his actual birth and death dates are at this time unknown. His wife, as proven by the gravestone of his son William Chisholm Beckham, was Nancy _____. She is not named in his will, so she did not survive him.

His children: DATES NOT VERIFIED

1. John Beckham, who predeceased his father, was probably born ca. 1753 and died 1779 in Warren County, N. C. In his will he names his wife Naomi, his brother Philemon and his children. The will was proven July 1780. The names of the children are not known at this time, but it is possible that further research in Warren Co., N. C. would reveal them, and prove of value to the records of Beckham.
2. Abner Beckham was born in July 1755 and died 1835. His wife was named Dildy. He removed to Georgia, probably following his uncle Thomas Beckham. This man fought in the Revolution as a Captain and moved on to Louisiana where he was pensioned as a Revolutionary War Veteran. He died in Covington, La. In some way the name in this branch of the family was corrupted to Bickham (it appears thus in Pension & War

BEAVER CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH

Mary D. Boulware

There were two groups of Baptists, the Tunkers and Seventh Day Baptists who mingled and exchanged ministers to such an extent that a distinct division was not necessary.

A group of Tunkers, originally from French Creek in Pennsylvania settled in the area of Beaver Creek in 1748 and by 1759 had associated for religious purposes.

Morgan Edwards, one of the earliest and most respected Baptist historians, traveled through the back country of the middle and southern colonies gathering material for a history of the Southern Baptists. In 1772 he wrote - "Beaver, a little branch running into Broad River - They hold their worship from house to house. The families number about 25, whereof 50 persons are baptized. They had their beginning in this manner. About the year 1748 Micheal Miller, Jacob Conomore and Laurence Free, with their wives arrived hither from Connecocheaque; after them came Rev. George Martin and Hans Waggoner and their wives. These united in communion the month of July 1759."

Edwards said of Rev. George Martin that he bore an excellent character and had the happy cast of mind, in that he was facetious and devout at the same time.

Hans Wagner, one of the founding fathers of the Beaver Creek congregation did not come directly from Connecocheaque. As he migrated southward he spent several years on the Yadkin River in N. C. In a journal kept by the Moravians who settled Wachovia he is mentioned several times. One entry dated Feb. 21, 1754 states that one of the Brothers returned from the Yadkin where he had ordered some meal from Hans Wagoner. Upon his arrival in S. C. he settled on the west side of Beaver Creek at the junction of Reedy Branch.

Here he constructed a fort for the protection of his family and the other settlers of the area. He continued to pursue his trade as a miller.

It is interesting here to note that at least one present member of Beaver Creek Church is descended from Hans Wagner.

The Beaver Creek Baptist Church was organized in 1797. There are no early official church records. The earliest records surviving start in 1863, consequently, information regarding the first building is traditional. It is thought to have been 2 or 3 miles south of the present location.

On Feb. 21, 1832 a deed was executed from which I quote, "I, Enoch Griggs, Sr. in consideration of the sum of \$20.00, to me paid by the Beaver Creek Baptist Church, which is composed of members of Chester and Fairfield Districts have sold unto the aforesaid Baptists a tract of land containing 4 acres for the purpose of building a church thereon." The boundaries are described as beginning at the spring. The deed was proved by William Halsee and delivered to Samuel Fant and William Jenkins.

There was no plat recorded with the deed, but a resurvey was done March 2, 1844. However, the plat was not recorded until 104 years later in 1948.

In 1877 plans were made to construct a new building. The money needed was raised in one month. The names of the donors and amounts contributed are recorded in the church minutes. Logs were donated by members and the lumber sawed locally. The contract was let for \$849.50, leaving a balance in the Building Fund of \$14.80. The dedication service was held in July 1881.

A few years later a Bapistry and dressing rooms were built at the rear of the church. Prior to this time baptisms were performed at a pool maintained at a spring north of the church.

A tract of land was inherited by the church in 1894 and a parsonage

erected. It was first occupied by a pastor in 1901.

During the period of 1971-1985 the following projects were undertaken and completed. A pastorium was build jointly with Blackstock First Baptist, the rear of the church was redone, the interior painted, new pews, carpet, a heating system and air conditioning installed, the exterior was brick veneered, 90 acres of land cleared and replanted with pine trees and the roof rebuilt.

One writer has said, "Trace the history of Baptist of any place or time and you will find that we are a unique people with a rich heritage." The Beaver Creek Congregation has a heritage of which we can be proud. If we follow the example set for us by our forebears and exercise faith, diligence and perserverance we will have a bright future.

References:

Morgan Edwards Manuscript - Furman University Library
History of Wachovia - Clewell
Mills Statistics
Colonial Land Grants - S. C. Dept. of Archives and History
Fairfield County Records - Plat Book 4, Page 152
Chester County Deeds - Book Y, Page 447

BEAVER CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH
and
THE FEASTERVILLE ACADEMY

The following is a list of marriages performed by the Reverend Ephriam Fant (born November 2, 1797, died June 7, 1851) who was the pastor of Beaver Creek Church. This information was taken from the Chester Genealogical Society Journal and the work was submitted by Mrs. Mary Dickey Boulware of Blair, South Carolina, who also submitted the story on the Feasterville Academy.

	<u>1833</u>	
John T. Robinson	and	Mary Woodward
Alexander Swan	and	Catherine McBride
Edward Shannon	and	Margrate Robinson
Andrew McKeown	and	Rebecker Holsell
John Wager	and	Mary Smith
John W. Robinson	and	Rebecker Coleman
Andrew Young	and	Nancy Robinson
Samuel C. Murple	and	Mary DeCasmeeet
Simson Mobly	and	Addiline Gibson
John Allbright	and	Maner Darby
Mabre Trusel	and	Elizabeth Stone
Jefferson Mitchel	and	Mary Triplet
Jesse Cartier	and	Darcy Sand
Edmond Corter	and	Elizabeth Woods
John Woods	and	Martha Hardwick
George Wise	and	Mary Procter
William Corder	and	Rebecker Wages
George Nighet	and	Nancy Nawden
Jacom Greer	and	Nancy Guin
Richard T. Kennedy	and	Sarah DeGrafinreid
Robert Hambleton	and	Sarah Darby
Fred Mobly	and	Mary Mobly
Louie Roberts	and	Sally Wages
George Thomas	and	Millesa Alberson
Malichi Tree	and	Barbary Young
	<u>1835</u>	
Abner Wilkes	and	Lucender Hardwick
John Satinwhite	and	Mary Woodward
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Elder Nicholas Roberts	and	Mary Roger
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Ansly Darby	and	Sarah Hardin
John Ware	and	Mary Robinson
Coleman Crosby	and	Addiline Walker
Robert McBride	and	Elizabeth Tenant

Rev. James P. Jeter	and	Elizabeth Mobly
Jonathan Mickle	and	Sarah Montgomery
Joseph Fry	and	Clarisa Curry
Greenberry Hagen	and	Frances Smith
Rev. W. W. Guinn	and	Sarah Watson
Samuel Robinson	and	Rode Cornwell
Elihu More	and	Elizah Huttin
Alexander Tenant	and	Ellen Ferguson
Caleb Shirley	and	Maryann Curry
William Colvin	and	Jane Estes
John Thomson	and	Sarah McLurkin
Moses Shannon	and	Elmira Wilkes
James Harden	and	Joanna Smith
Joseph Haddon Carter, Jr.	and	Hannah B. Harden

* * *

FEASTERVILLE FEMALE SEMINARY
Mrs. C. Ladd, Principal

"The Trustees of this institution take pleasure in announcing to the Public that the Seminary will be opened on Monday the 2nd day of January 1845, under the direction of Mrs. C. Ladd, a lady generally known throughout the state as a teacher of high qualifications."

"The Institution is situated in the Northwestern section of Fairfield District, about 4 miles from Buckhead, in a high, healthy situation. Large and commodious buildings have been erected for the accomodation of boarders and the funds of the Institution will be appropriated to the purchase of apperatuses and everything necessary to render this Seminary worthy of patronage."

"The Scholastic year of ten months will be divided into two Sessions of five months each."

"Board, washing, lights, and c. \$8.00 per month."

A variety of subjects were offered varying in price from \$6.00 to \$25.00 per five month session. Later on this school became known as the Feasterville Male and Female Academy.

1850 Census - Fairfield District

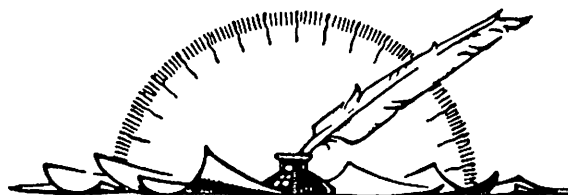
Teachers and students of Feasterville Academy

<u>Name</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Sex</u>	<u>Occupation</u>	<u>Birthplace</u>
George W. Ladd	40	M	Teacher	New Hampshire
Celia C. Ladd	40	F	Teacher	Virginia
Washington Ladd	14	M		Chester, S. C.
Charles Ladd	12	M		Georgia
Josephine	7	F		Fairfield
George D.	5	M		Fairfield
Catherine	3	F		Fairfield
Louisa F. DeCosta	25	F	Teacher	Virginia
Anne Stratton	60	F	Teacher	Virginia
Martha Holmes	18	F	Teacher	Fairfield
Isabelle Coleman	18	F	Teacher	Fairfield
Jane White	19	F		Chester, S. C.
Emily Culp	15	F		Chester, S. C.
Sarah Cook	15			Fairfield
Victoria Rawls	12	F		Columbia, S. C.
Julia Feaster	15	F		Fairfield
Elizabeth Johnson	13	F		Fairfield
Sarah Feaster	14	F		Fairfield
Elizabeth Caldwell	16	F		Fairfield
Jane McCanse	16	F		Fairfield
Sarah Robinson	16	F		Fairfield

<u>Name</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Sex</u>	<u>Birthplace</u>
Caroline Beard	15	F	Fairfield
Mary Yarborough	18	F	Fairfield
Martha Pickett	19	F	Fairfield
Mary Hammond	19	F	Lancaster, S. C.
Ann Hammond	17	F	Lancaster, S. C.
Mary Feaster	14	F	Fairfield
Sarah Smith	16	F	Fairfield
Eliza Nelson	16	F	Richland, S. C.
Martha Shed	13	F	Fairfield
Brooks Nevitt	16	F	Fairfield
Ann Crankfield	16	F	Richland, S. C.
Mary Durham	16	F	Fairfield
Emma Durham	14	F	Fairfield
Caroline Feaster	17	F	Fairfield
Emmaline Roberson	16	F	Fairfield
Mary Boyd	16	F	N. Carolina
Allina Watson	16	F	Fairfield
Rebecca Dawkins	14	F	Fairfield
Martha Tucker	15	F	Union, S. C.
Margaret Simpson	19	F	Chester, S. C.
Margaret Robinson	12	F	Fairfield
Harriett Robinson	14	F	Fairfield
Sarah Davis	14	F	Fairfield
Sarah Cason	15	F	Fairfield
Sarah Cameron	14	F	Fairfield
Frances Lyles	14	F	Fairfield
Eliza Martin	14	F	Fairfield
Agnes Martin	12	F	Fairfield
Elizabeth Tidwell	13	F	Fairfield
Lucinda Tidwell	15	F	Fairfield
Mary Crane	15	F	Fairfield



QUERIES



Surching for anyone with a NIX / NICKS connection in S.C. I have lots of Nix/Nicks data from other states I will share. Please write : Mrs. Frank Gregory, 1606 Bancroft Rd. S.W., McDonald, TN. 37353

In the late 1790's or early 1800's, Jesse PERRY lived in the Old Pendleton District of S.C. and was married to Hanna Jo COOPER. We can establish that his sons were Lemuel A. Perry, W. H. Perry, L. R. Perry and his four daughters married to Wilkenson JEMESON, Elijah PILGRAM, Nathaneil JOHNSTON and James MAULDIN. As Jessie Perry, Lemuel Perry and William Perry are historic Fairfield names, is Jessie Perry related to the Fairfield Perrys? Is the middle name of Lemual A. Perry, Austin? If so, he is my GGG grandfather. Can anyone help me identify Jesse Perry and his son Lemuel A. Perry and tie them into the Fairfield PERRY line? I will gladly exchange information about other PERRYS. Write: John E. Nettles, 524 Feemster Lane, Rock Hill, S.C. 29730-9091 or call: (803) 324-7848