

and Love, and that all such acknowledgments be received in the same spirit, full and free forgiveness being extended to each other.

"4TH. That the present names of both churches be dropped and a new one be selected and adopted and that all the records of both churches be turned over to the clerk of the consolidated church, and be thereafter her property.

"5TH. That all members pledge themselves to each other to be faithful and vigilant in the discharge of every church duty, and in the maintenance and enforcement of strict and wholesome discipline in accordance with the teachings of the Eighteenth chapter of Matthew.

"6TH. That all promise to discontinue both public and private card playing, the excessive use of ardent spirits, attendance of dancing parties, circuses, etc. and avoiding as far as possible all appearance of evil.

J. G. Thomas
J. P. Pritchard
D. W. Steele."

"The pastors of the two organizations having called together their churches on Sabbath, April 9, 1871, Bro. D. W. Steele preached a very appropriate sermon for the occasion, and the church being filled to overflowing, and all seeming to take a deep interest, both Saint and Sinners. After the sermon Bro. Thomas presented the recommendations as above set forth which were unanimously adopted by both organizations, Bro. D. W. Steele then preached a church covenant, prepared by himself and Bro. Thomas which was unanimously adopted, and the church was to be known as the Baptist Church of Crockett. A clerk was then unanimously elected. Bro. Currie then presented a resolution that the Church retain the ministerial services of both the former pastors, to-wit: Bros. D. W. Steele and J. G. Thomas, for the remainder of the year, leaving it with them to appropriate their labors, for the benefit of the church, which resolution was unanimously adopted. Bro. Thomas then proposed to the Brethren and Sisters to meet at the altar and bury all past differences there, extending to each other the right hand of Christian fellowship and love. Then followed such a scene as was never before witnessd in this part of God's moral vineyard. The grayhaired brethren who had been estranged for long years wept tears of joy, for God was pouring out his spirit upon them, not only God's people, but the wayward sinners of that large congregation, were made to weep at the manifesta-

tion of his love and mercy. Thanks be to His holy name, our church is at peace and grant, O Lord, to continue their loving kindness.

"The congregation was then dismissed, but assembled in the evening around the sacramental board to commemorate the wonderful love of Christ in shedding his blood to atone for our sins. The church was waited upon by Deacons Jas. Cason and Jas. T. Heflin, Bros. Steele and Thomas officiating, after which they sang a hymn, and again extended to each other the right hand of fellowship, then went out. This was truly a most solemn and interesting occasion and we feel that we are under renewed obligation for the manifestation of God's loving kindness unto us. Although our estrangement has been of years' standing, God has been able to overcome hardness of heart with mercy and love. We beg that you will say to your many readers that the Baptists of Crockett are now a united people, determined with the help of Almighty God to do better in the cause of their blessed Master."

"Yours in bonds of Christian Love,

J. F. Arledge
E. Currie,
Committee."

The foregoing article published in The Baptist Standard, contains such a complete report of the proceedings relating to the reconciliation of the two Baptist Churches that it is not necessary to give further explanation.

Following the reconciliation a protracted revival meeting was held, the preaching being by Elder Thomas H. Pritchard, of Raleigh, N. C., a son of Rev. Joseph P. Pritchard, assisted by Elders J. G. Thomas and D. W. Steele. As a result the record shows that on May 5, 1871, Helena Lacy, Hattie Arledge, Andrew Shivers, Mary Atkinson, Lou Long, Rosa Dalton, F. H. Wagner, Jr., Herbert Wagner, J. M. Odell, Mr. E. Currie, Addie Dailey and M. A. Lacy were received into the church, the ordinance of baptism administered by Elder Thomas H. Pritchard. The Revival continued and on May 14, 1871, R. J. Blair, Thos. Matlock, Mary Dalton, Edward Currie, G. W. Leaverton and J. R. G. Heflin were received into membership and baptized by Elder J. G. Thomas.

On May 21, 1871, G. W. Leaverton, John Erwin, Ellen Simpson, W. B. Otts, Jennie Collins, Lutitia E. Heflin and John Lee were received and baptized by Elder Thos. H. Pritchard. J. J.

Woodson was received by letter. At the evening service the Lord's Supper was celebrated—Elders Thos. H. Pritchard and S. G. Wall and Deacons J. L. Lipscomb and E. R. Helms, officiating.

On May 22, 1871, the following resolution was passed:

"We, the members composing the Baptist Church of Crockett, feeling the necessity of a more commodious and comfortable house of worship than the one we now have, RESOLVED, that we use our best efforts to procure the means and to erect a house of worship in which convenience, comfort and elegance will be so blended as to be an honor to the advancement of our Master's cause on earth." And J. F. Arledge, John McConnell and R. J. Blair were appointed to solicit funds, to which were added later James C. Wootters, John H. Burnett, B. W. Neal and J. T. Heflin, and the committee was authorized to purchase a lot and sell the old church property.

On August 6, 1871, a committee was appointed "to have such repairs made as will effectually prevent the nuisance we are now subject to from the cattle and hogs getting into the church lot."

On the First Lord's Day in October 1871, it was decided to connect the church with the Texas Baptist Association.

At this meeting resolutions were passed on the death of James Cason, a deacon in the church and E. R. Helms.

On November 28, 1871, Elder J. R. Jones of Tennessee preached.

First Lord's Day in December, 1871, Elders J. G. Thomas and J. P. Pritchard were elected pastors; Elder Thomas to preach on 1st and 3rd Sabbath and Elder Pritchard on the 4th and 5th Sabbath.

On the third Lord's Day in December 1872, it was agreed at a conference of the church to dispense with the services of a pastor, on account of the embarrassed condition of the church finances, and that the efforts of the church be centered on the erection of a house of worship, which was already under construction.

On the second Lord's Day in March, 1873, a resolution was passed to engage the services of Elder W. D. Beverly at a salary of \$600.00 for half his time which offer was accepted by Elder Beverly on the Fourth Lord's Day in January, 1874, and at that time Elder Beverly, Mrs. R. A. Beverly, Ella J. Beverly, Ida A. Beverly, Lula Beverly and Willie S. Beverly were received into the church.

On the Fourth Lord's Day in May 1874, a sermon was preached by the celebrated Dr. R. C. Burleson, who was the same minister who had received Gen. Sam Houston into the church and baptized him. Reliable information has come to

the author from Mr. John E. Monk that at the time of his baptism, General Houston saw a snake near by and made a characteristic remark about it.

There seems to be no record of the names of the pastors of this church from its organization in 1846 to about 1870. It is probable that it was served by a number of ministers during that period, but no minutes of the proceedings now exist and no person now living can be found to supply this information. It is fortunate that the records furnish authentic information of the names and terms of service from 1871 to date, as follows:

1871—J. G. Thomas and D. W. Steele, co-pastors.	1896-1900—R. E. Morris 1900 —N. B. Graves
1872—J. G. Thomas and J. P. Pritchard, co-pastors.	1901-1902—W. H. Sowell 1903-1904—J. A. Howard
1873—J. P. Pritchard	1905-1906—O. C. Payne
1874-1877—W. D. Beverly	1906—W. S. Roney
1878—W. W. Kone	1907—H. W. Harris
1878—W. A. Whipple	1909-1912—L. T. Grumbles
1878-1884—A. J. Hill	1912—E. M. Francis
1884-1886—W. D. Beverly	1914-1917—M. L. Sheppard
1888-1890—J. B. Armstrong	1918-1921—L. L. Sams
1891-1896—W. M. Gaddy	1921 to date—A. S. Lee

It is a matter of note that during the past 70 years, from 1871 to 1941, the present pastor had nineteen predecessors. So far he has served a period of twenty years constituting more than one-fourth of the seventy years. This speaks well both for the ability and popularity of Brother Lee. During his pastorate the church has probably doubled its membership and has progressed in many ways in the religious work in which it is engaged. His long pastorate will remind us of the pastorate of Rev. S. F. Tenney who was pastor of the Presbyterian Church for fifty-four years.

During these seventy years this church has had three church buildings. The first building was a wooden structure in which the members worshipped from the time that it was built in 1850 until about 1874, when a more pretentious building was erected on the site of the present church building. When the congregation had outgrown this building the present splendid brick church was built, about the year 1911, and the annex was built some time later. The present building will compare favorably with that of any other church in our community and, perhaps,

with any other church in any city in Texas, with no greater population.

* * * * *

HISTORY OF THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CROCKETT, ALSO KNOWN AS THE TENNEY MEMORIAL CHURCH

Rev. Samuel Fisher Tenney, D. D., who was pastor of this church for more than fifty-four years, during his life time prepared a history of the church which is so complete and satisfactory that I have adopted it as a history of the church and which is as follows:

"History of the First Presbyterian Church, Crockett, Texas."

"At an early day there was in Crockett a Cumberland Presbyterian Church, with a brick building as a House of worship. The said building was located near the present residence of Mr. James E. Downes, or nearly in front of the Lipscomb residence. Tradition says that the said brick Church became unsafe and was abandoned. The Cumberland Organization seems not to have grown much and was abandoned at an early date. A record in the old Sessional Record Book of the Cumberland Church (as seen by this writer, the said book being in the possession of Mr. Daniel Murchison, who lived near Crockett), indicated that some of the members of the Cumberland Church were Presbyterians, and that when an opportunity was afforded to organize a Presbyterian Church these members were granted letters of dismission from the Cumberland Church, to enter the new Presbyterian Church at Crockett. The said record also shows that these letters were granted in May, 1854.

"The First Presbyterian Church was organized by Rev. W. C. Dunlap, D. D. who for a time not only preached, but also taught school in Crockett. Tradition says that Dr. Dunlap for a time lived in a house that then stood on our present Church lot. Dr. Dunlap passed through much affliction during his stay in Crockett, losing his wife by death.

"Mrs. Dunlap was before her marriage a Miss Gregg. Her remains lie in our town cemetery. Some of our old citizens remember that Dr. Dunlap for a time preached in the Baptist house of worship, a building which is yet standing, as the residence of

Mr. G. W. Woodson on the opposite side of the street from our Church lot. Dr. Dunlap in a letter received by this writer in 1878, says that he organized the Church in 1854 or 1855, but he was persuaded that it was in 1854. Mr. A. C. King, one of the first ruling elders, in a letter written to the writer in 1878, states that he thinks the Church was organized in 1856 or 1857. But 1854 is according to Dr. Dunlap's recollection, and this agrees with the record of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church.

"This church was first organized as a New School Presbyterian Church, but in 1864 the New School and the Old School Presbyterian Church in the South, were united, and afterwards the Crockett Church was known only as a Presbyterian Church, or sometimes, popularly called Old School Presbyterian to distinguish it from the Cumberland Presbyterians.

The first records of the Church were probably burned in one of the destructive fires in the early history of the town. So we do not know certainly as to all the names of the first members of the Church. Mr. A. C. King and Col. W. A. Stewart were the first ruling elders. Mr. King remembers the following as the first members:

"A. C. King and wife, and two daughters; W. A. Stewart and wife; G. M. Hunter and wife; and John McGill and wife; ten persons in all. This so far as we know constituted the membership of the first organization. But it is probable that Mr. A. W. Bledsoe and his wife were either members in the first organization or were received into membership shortly afterwards. Mr. Bledsoe was a ruling elder in the Church at an early date. Not having any records we do not know as to what members were afterwards added to the Church in its early history. Mr. A. C. King states that Dr. Dunlap continued to supply the Church about two years. He was afterwards in charge of the Presbyterian Church at Marshall, Texas, and of a Presbyterian Church in New Orleans, and for many years was pastor to Shreveport, Louisiana, where he died. Mr. A. C. King also stated that Dr. S. A. King supplied the Crockett Church about two or three years, but he probably was mistaken as to the length of time, as Dr. King probably preached in Crockett a longer period than two or three years. It was during the ministry of Dr. King that the first house of worship of this Church was built, located near the present residence of Mr. A. W. McConnell. This house was a neat and substantial structure.

"Mr. A. C. King stated that the first house of worship cost about sixteen hundred dollars, and that a large part of the money was raised by Dr. S. A. King when he attended the Gen-

eral Assembly and visited some of the Northern Cities, and also by help from the General Assembly's Church Erection Fund. It seems however that a debt was left on the Church, and it was about to be sold for this debt, but in 1870, was saved by the liberality of a few members and friends. This first house of worship was used for a time during the Civil War as barracks for Confederate Soldiers, and was considerably abused. The old house, however, still exists and stands on one of our hills as one of the Mary Allen Seminary buildings, and is still used in the service of Christ's Kingdom.

"After Dr. S. A. King removed to another field of labor the Church was left without any regular preacher for many months. In 1870, Rev. A. P. Silliman preached on fifth Sabbaths at Crockett (living at Rusk). During that year he was assisted in a protracted meeting by Rev. Hillery Mosely (then living at Cotton Gin, near Mexia). The result of that meeting was a glorious revival, leaving the Church with forty-five members, besides there were additions to the Methodist and Baptist Churches. Rev. A. P. Silliman and Rev. H. Mosely have long since gone to their reward.

"When the present pastor took charge of the Church in January 1871, there were forty-five members on the Church roll. Only two of these now remain as members: Mrs. Mary Douglas and Mrs. Hattie Collins, though about ten or twelve of these are still living. During the thirty-three years there have been added to this Church 397 members, more than half of them by profession. Sixteen other Presbyterian Churches have been organized in this County, mainly through the instrumentality of the Crockett First Presbyterian Church. Two of these Churches have been dissolved, but fifteen Presbyterian Churches yet remain in the County.

Our present house of worship was build in 1886. Of all those who constituted the Church when it was first organized so far as is known none are living except Mrs. King, wife of Rev. S. A. King, D. D.

"Three of its former members are now ministers of the Gospel, and many of its former members are now useful members in other churches in many places.

"Through the instrumentality of this Church the Mary Allen Seminary was established at this place, an Institution for the Christian education of colored girls, under the care of the Northern Presbyterian Church. There is also a Presbyterian Church in connection with the same institution. Several other Presbyterian Churches for colored people have been organized

through the efforts proceeding from the instrumentality of the First Presbyterian Church.

"Rev. S. A. King, D. D. who ministered to this Church in its early history, and lived in Crockett, was then just beginning the work of the ministry. After serving the Church at Milford for several years, and the First Presbyterian Church at Waco for forty years, he is now Professor of Theology in the Austin Theological Seminary at Austin, Texas. (From sketch written and read at Centennial of Crockett Church, May 22, 1904, by S. F. Tenney).

"The foregoing sketch brings the history of this Church down to May 22nd, 1904. Dr. Samuel Fisher Tenney continued his fruitful ministry as pastor of this church until old age and infirmity induced him to be released from active duty, and he tendered his resignation as pastor of the church in the early part of the year 1925, after a continuous pastorate of 54 years. The pastoral relation was then dissolved by Presbytery, but Dr. Tenney continued to preach as long as his health would permit. In 1926, Rev. J. L. Spears accepted a call from this church and served as pastor acceptably for ten years, when he accepted a call from the First Presbyterian Church in Marlin, where he still holds the pastorate.

"In 1936 this church called its present pastor, Rev. R. Gage Lloyd, who has carried on a faithful and successful ministry up to this time and is still very dear to his flock.

"In this brief history, it is impossible to give the full story of the long and faithful pastorate of Dr. Tenney. In recognition of his eminent services, the name of the church was changed to 'Tenney Memorial Church' and so it will continue for all future time."

THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Prior to 1899 or 1900, there was no organized Christian Church in Crockett. About that time a small band of members of this denomination were accustomed to meet first in the Opera House and later in the District Court room in the courthouse and hold religious services, which were conducted by Rev. Virgil Graves. During the year 1901 Rev. Harry H. Hamilton, of Lovelady, began to visit this little flock and soon gathered quite a number of followers into a congregation that undertook the erection of a church building. Too much credit cannot be given Mr. and Mrs. W. V. Berry for their share in infusing new life into

the church at this time. It is hardly an over statement to say that had it not been for the efficient efforts of Mr. Berry, at that time, it is probable that the present attractive church building would never have been erected. The following ministers have served this church since the erection of the church building:

Rev. J. A. Arnold, Rev. B. F. Trimble, Rev. Edmund S. Allhands, Rev. W. B. Parks, Rev. I. N. Jett, Rev. Albert T. Pitts, Rev. W. H. Marler, Rev. John A. Stephens, Rev. J. W. Walton and the present pastor, Rev Marion Browning.

Among the members of this church who have had a large share in its organization and success are the following:

Mr. and Mrs. W. V. Berry, Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Brightman, Mr. and Mrs. S. E. Jensen, Mr. and Mrs. Major Sharp, Mr. John R. Sheridan, Mrs. M. J. Kelley, Mrs. E. Currie, Judge Porter Newman, Mr. and Mrs. Cal Beeson, Dr. M. A. Thomas, Mr. C. D. Towery, Mr. W. H. Long and many others who have been faithful and loyal members.

THE CONCORD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

The following history of the Concord Presbyterian Church was prepared by Dr. Sam M. Tenney, Curator of the Historical Foundation at Montreat, N. C.

About the first of the year 1875, S. M. Thompson, a ruling Elder of the Crockett Presbyterian Church removed with his family (six of whom were members of the above named church) to what is now known as the neighborhood of Concord Church, Houston County, Texas. At his request his pastor, Rev. S. F. Tenney, preached occasionally at his house, and afterwards monthly. Preaching was thus kept up about two years, and during which time a protracted meeting was held, lasting a few days, in which much interest was manifested, but resulted in no additions to the Presbyterian Church. Rev. J. D. Porter assisted in the meeting. About the first of the year, 1877, a Church building was erected and occupied for preaching early in Spring. Being furnished afterwards, it was dedicated on the first Sabbath of November, 1877, Rev. H. B. Boude preaching the sermon.

Soon after this house was occupied, a Sabbath School was commenced, of which S. M. Thompson was chosen Superin-

tendent. This school "having obtained help of God" continued to the time of this writing, and is intimately connected with the history of the organization which is hereby recorded.

At this Church, a protracted meeting was held in the summer of 1877, in which Rev. Robt. Bell assisted and also Rev. D. P. Cullen, of the M. Episcopal Church South. This meeting resulted in two additions to the Presbyterian Church: Mr. John M. Simms and Mrs. Dolly Tunstall, the latter 83 years old, and the former a young man.

At the fall meeting of the Presbytery of Eastern Texas, 1878, Rev. S. F. Tenney and Elder S. M. Thompson obtained permission to organize a Church in this neighborhood, should the way be clear.

On Sabbath, November 10th, 1878, Rev. S. F. Tenney, commenced a protracted meeting, and was afterwards assisted by Rev. J. D. Porter and Rev. W. M. McElwee. God poured out His Spirit, Souls were converted. On Sabbath the 17th of November, the Lord's Supper was administered, four adults were baptized on profession of faith, and at the close of the afternoon service, a Presbyterian Church was organized, with seventeen members, the members answering affirmatively by rising, the following questions: "Do you, in reliance on God for strength, solemnly promise and covenant that you will walk together as an organized Church, on the principles of the faith and order of the Presbyterian Church, and that you will study the purity and harmony of the whole body?"

The presiding minister then said "I now pronounce and declare that you are constituted a church, according to the work of God and the faith and order of the Presbyterian Church in the United States. In the name of the Father and of the Son and of The Holy Ghost, Amen."

The following persons were included in the above organization:—

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| 1. S. M. Thompson | 10. Miss L. C. Thompson |
| 2. Mrs. C. R. Thompson | 11. Edward L. Thompson |
| 3. Miss Sally M. Thompson | 12. John M. Simms |
| 4. Miss Dolly V. Thompson | 13. Jefferson Simms |
| 5. Miss Emma T. Thompson | 14. Miss Allie Simms |
| 6. Thomas W. Thompson | 15. Miss Augusta Daniel |
| 7. Mrs. Dolly Tunstall | 16. Miss Eugene Hale |
| 8. Mr. N. O. Thompson | 17. Mrs. Angeline Craddock |
| 9. Mrs. E. A. Thompson | |