



Kerr Kronicles Volume VI

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Peek into the Past: “About or before the year 1770 there was a house of worship erected at Rokey (sic) Spring on the waters of Clear Creek. During the continuance of this building which was destroyed by fire some ten years afterwards there was not regular preaching held here but only a transient minister visited the church and administered the ordinance. About the year 1780 the congregation erected a new church three miles south of the former and about a half mile south of the Cheraw and Charlotte road. Now the Reverend David Barr from Virginia became the pastor of the church and named it Philadelphia. The church was small when the Reverend Mr. Barr commenced his labors and its increase under his ministry was more gradual than rapid. He preached to this congregation until the year 1800, when through infirmity and age he had to cease laboring, having purchased to himself double honor having ruled in the house of God well.” (*History of Philadelphia Church written by Angus Johnson in 1837*)

A Musical “Note”: The log meeting house would not be familiar, but you would be very familiar with the Psalm the congregation was singing to start the morning worship, “Old Hundredth”, “All people that on earth do dwell, Sing to the Lord with cheerful voice Him serve with mirth, His praise forth tell, Come ye, before Him and rejoice.” Through the centuries, this Psalm sung to the long meter tune from the Genevan Psalter of 1551 has been the opening praise of Presbyterian congregations throughout the world. Familiar to those who had gathered at Clear Creek, it is now familiar as printed in the hymn books of the twentieth century. The Doxology used at the time of the offering in most congregations is sung to the same tune. (*The Presbyterian Gathering on Clear Creek*)

Important National Event of 1776: The United States Declaration of Independence is the pronouncement adopted by the Second Continental Congress meeting at the Pennsylvania State House in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, on July 4, 1776. The Declaration explained why the Thirteen Colonies at war with the Kingdom of Great Britain regarded themselves as thirteen independent sovereign states, no longer under British rule.