



Kerr Kronicles Volume VI

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Peek into the Past: “In the year of 1801 or 1802 Philadelphia united with Rocky River in calling Dr. John Makemie Wilson of Burke Co. N.C. to become their pastor. Dr. Wilson preached one third of his time at Philadelphia for about 30 years. Under his ministry the church and congregation greatly increased. In 1826 the congregation built a new church one mile north of the last mention church, and a half mile North of the Cheraw and Charlotte road. After a laborious and faithful ministry Dr. Wilson died in 1831 deeply lamented by the church, many of whom will be stars in his crown of rejoicing in the day of the Lord Jesus.” (*History of Philadelphia Church written by Angus Johnson in 1837*)

A record of a congregational meeting on March 23, 1816 states “that John Wilson, David Stinson, be a committee to divide the congregation into quarters”. The term quarters referred to districts into which the congregation would be divided for the purpose of collecting pledges and carrying out other parts of the work. The districts, having been divided, were called the Upper Quarter, the Clear Creek Quarter, and the Goose Creek Quarter. (The History of Philadelphia Presbyterian Church by Rev. Russell Kerr-1970)

A Musical “Note”: By January, 1776 Governor Martin felt he was ready to execute his plans and sent out a call for the loyalists to rally. Sixteen hundred of the Scots Highlanders from around Fayetteville responded and marched toward Wilmington “broadswords at their side, in tartan garments and feathered bonnets, keeping step to the shrill music of bagpipes. (*The Presbyterian Gathering on Clear Creek*)

Important National Event: 1801- Thomas Jefferson takes seat as third U.S. President; 1803 - Jefferson buys Louisiana from France, doubling the size of the country in one barely-constitutional action; 1804 - U.S. explorers Lewis and Clark head west on their two year, 8,000 mile expedition, to explore the new Louisiana Purchase territory.