



## **Kerr Kronicles Volume XII**

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*Peek into the Past:* In 1850 at 24 years old, P. Tinsley Penick was ordained and installed as pastor of Philadelphia and Union churches. A recent graduate of Davidson College, Mr. Penick was known as an energetic worker and intense earnestness as a preacher. The congregation respected the pastoral card represented in the emphasis on discipline and responded enthusiastically to the personality and preaching of their young minister. Under the leadership of this active young pastor, the church had made very substantial progress and had its hopes for the future raised. He resigned in 1853 after receiving a call from a church in Concord, N.C. promising him \$600 a year. (*The Presbyterian Gathering on Clear Creek*)

*Interesting Fact:* In 1851, the Session ordered a member who was accused of horse racing to meet with them. The committee reported that the member had been brought to confess that he was in error and professed his penitence which the Session agreed to accept. (*The Presbyterian Gathering on Clear Creek*)

*A Musical "Note":* He (Mr. Penick) was also known as a musician. One of the first times of emphasis on congregational singing likely took place under his leadership. The historian of the Concord Presbyterian Church writes: "Mr. Penick was gifted with a great voice of wonderful compass and power; he could sing from bass to soprano, believed in keeping good time, and if the choir got to lagging, would join in with his trumpet tones and lead the congregation himself. On Sabbath nights in summer when the windows were up, his voice could be heard for blocks around rising above the singing of the congregation." (*The Presbyterian Gathering on Clear Creek*)

*Important National Event:* December 1848: U.S. President James K. Polk confirms that quantities of gold have been discovered and Gold Fever strikes thousands who rush to California.