



Kerr Kronicles Volume XXV

July 12, 2020

Peek into the Past: A portion of a speech Prepared and read by A.M. McDonald August 13, 1925 at the Homecoming of Philadelphia congregation:

In summing up the history of this church we first find it was called Clear Creek in the year 1770. We also find that the church has had three different locations all in a few miles of each other and each one with a cemetery nearby. We further learn that the present church was built of bricks in the year 1825 during the Pastorate of Rev. John M. Wilson and that it was later remodeled in 1915 under the Pastorate of Rev. Geo. W. Cheek. We find that this has been an organized church for one hundred and fifty-five years (155). We are unable to say how much longer. We also learn that this church has enjoyed the services of twenty-seven (27) preachers of the gospel, either as Pastor or supply. In reviewing the history of this grand old church for a period of time extending from the year 1770 to the present year 1925 embracing the time three horrible wars, the American Revolution, the War between the states and the late World War, we are impressed with the fact that Philadelphia Church has not been without the services of a man of God to teach the people things spiritual for as long a period as two years at any one time. We also learn from the church records that when the first church building was destroyed, the congregation immediately proceeded to build a new church.

In closing the history of this grand old church, I wish to say to this congregation that it is an honor to be united with an institution with such a history and in the words of King David we say: "How amiable are thy tabernacles O Lord of hosts."

Interesting Fact: In 1925, the Homecoming lasted one week! August 9 to August 16. (Vol. VI, page 26 of Session Notes)

A Musical "Note": July, 1920, the Session voted to secure Mr. R.C. Freeman to teach a singing school and that the session back the committee in securing the money to pay him. (Vol. V, page 87 of Session Notes)

Important National Events: 1923 President Harding dies suddenly and is succeeded by his vice president, Calvin Coolidge. Teapot Dome scandal breaks, as Senate launches an investigation into improper leasing of naval oil reserves during the Harding administration.