



Kerr Kronicles Volume X
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Peek into the Past: In the Spring of 1843, Mr. Angus Johnson resigned as pastorate of Philadelphia to join what was becoming a large exodus west. He recorded in the Session Book, "Feb 25, 1843 Revd Angus Johnson preached his farewell sermon at Philadelphia Church from Philippians 1st and 27, 'Only let your manner of life be worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that whether I come and see you or am absent, I may hear of you that you stand firm in one spirit, with one mind striving side by side for the faith of the gospel.'" From the notations in the register, it appears that members from the Philadelphia Church joined in the migration to what was later a new Philadelphia Church in Mississippi. Notes by the names on the roll often show, "Moved west" or "Moved away". Mr. Johnson served in Mississippi until 1870.

There was a severe economic panic in the 1830's and North Carolina, known as 'Rip Van Winkle State' was hit most severely. Thousands left the state permanently to travel west. (*The Presbyterian Gathering on Clear Creek*)

Interesting Fact: In March 1839, the increased interest in the services of the church demanded more room for hitching horses. The congregation voted to buy four acres of land at \$20 per acre from Sugar Dulin. (*The Presbyterian Gathering on Clear Creek*)

A Musical "Note": In 1906 when General Assembly met in Greenville, South Carolina, he (Angus Johnson) and his third wife were there as special guests and sang a duet in the meeting. (*The Presbyterian Gathering on Clear Creek*)

Important National Event: Summer 1843: "Oregon Fever" gripped America, beginning mass migration westward on the Oregon Trail and May 24, 1844: The first telegram was sent from the U.S. Capitol to Baltimore. Samuel F.B. Morse wrote, "what hath God wrought."