



March, 2013

Muskogee County Genealogical Society Quarterly

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**Our
30th
Year**

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INDIAN PIONEER PAPERS

VOL. 67 page 212

LIFE AND EXPERIENCES OF AN Indian Territory NEWSPAPER MAN, MATTHEW MOORE

**INTERVIEW GIVEN BY SISTER, MRS. J. B. WHITE 21ST AND ELGIN, MUSKOGEE,
OKLAHOMA**

Ella M Robinson, interviewer, September 20, 1937

My brother was born at Hacket City, Sebastian County, Arkansas, September 2, 1859. He was the son of Reverend F. M. Moore, a Methodist Itinerant Minister, and Amanda Stephens Moore.

We lived in Hacket City as small children, and about 1868 our father was sent to a church at Booneville, Arkansas, where we lived for a number of years. Matthew attended the high school there, known as the Fort Smith district high school. Father had great hopes that he would go to college with the purpose of entering the ministry, but in that he was disappointed.

Father owned a newspaper at Booneville called the Booneville Enterprise and possessing a mechanical mind, Matthew became interested in the work of printing and learning to set type at an early age. Father also owned a drug store at Booneville where my brother spent some time, but the drug business did not appeal to him as did the newspaper work. Having arrived at the point where he felt that he was competent to edit a paper, Matthew bought a half interest in the Enterprise. Father later sold the other half interest in the paper and move to Winter Haven, Florida, where he bought an orange grove.

In 1884, while Matthew was living in Booneville, he married but his young wife died at the end of five years. As his health was not good, he too sold his interests in Booneville and went to Florida, hoping the warm climate would be beneficial to him, but was disappointed as the climate did not agree with him.

He then went to Nashville, Tennessee, where he again engaged in newspaper work.

In the fall of 1891, father was transferred to the Indian Mission Conference, now the Oklahoma Conference, and stationed at Eufaula. After staying there for two years, he came to Muskogee and took charge of the Brother in Red, a church paper published in the interest of the Methodist Church, South.

In 1895, Matthew came to Muskogee, recovering from several months severe illness at Nashville, Tennessee. He had had great trouble and suffered much from headache and during his illness had allowed his hair to grow long, he said as a protection and to keep his head warm. He wore his hair braided and wound around his head under his hat. Matthew was of a quiet and reserved nature, almost to the point of eccentricity, largely due to years of ill health and living alone.

FUNERAL OF M. R. MOORE TO BE HELD THIS MORNING

Well Known Directory Publisher to
Be Buried With Masonic
Rites

The funeral of Matthew R. Moore who died early yesterday morning will be held at 10 o'clock this morning at the Jobe Undertaking parlor, Masonic Lodge Number 28 will have charge of the funeral services and burial will be in Greenhill cemetery.

Mr. Moore, who was 59 years of age, was best known as founder and proprietor of the Muskogee City Directory which he established several years ago. He was an early settler in Muskogee coming here from Arkansas. His father was a prominent Methodist minister. Mr. Moore turned his hand to journalism in 1898 and for four years, he published the Muskogee Phoenix. It was while he was editor of the paper that the Century Edition which has since come to be regarded as the most comprehensive and authentic history of Muskogee published up to that time was issued. The edition contained a vast amount of information and covered the progress of the early settlers in most interesting fashion. Persons who own copies of the edition, value them very highly because only a few copies are available.

Mrs. J. B. White of Coweta, and Mrs. H. C. Warren of Muskogee are the only known near relatives.

On coming to Muskogee, his health was greatly improved and he at once secured employment on the Muskogee Phoenix, then a weekly, as head of the mechanical department and was known among the men as "the main guy" around the plant. When the Phoenix became a Daily in 1901, he served as editor for some time until Clarence B. Douglas became the owner. With him on the staff were Edwin Demming, who is still a member; Ed Melton, now of California; Joe Frishman; and John Dillard Wilson of Fort Smith. In 1903, Matthew contributed a notable feature when he compiled and published the first city directory ever gotten out in Muskogee. It was an alphabetically arranged list of business firms, citizens, schools and churches. It also contained an official, benevolent, and social directory. It was found to be indispensable to all business houses and had a ready sale of \$3.00 per copy. It was copyrighted by him in 1906.

After his resigned from his work on the Phoenix he purchased a printing press and continued to publish the city directory until his death. He had established a clientele and continued to furnish them with copies, regardless of the fact that there was another company publishing directories.

His death occurred on July 11, 1918, at his home on South Cherokee Street, Muskogee

[transcribed by Barbara Downs]

GRANDVIEW HEIGHTS BAPTIST CHURCH HISTORY

Submitted by Alissa Hill

While rummaging through boxes of "stuff" acquired over the years, I ran across this little piece of local church history. Grandview Heights Baptist Church booklet "The Service of Constitution." It tells the story of how this little church started. In 1960 it was called Grandview Heights Baptist Church. You may recognize this church, south of town on Cherokee Street, between Peak Boulevard and Smith Ferry Road. It is now called Grandview Baptist Church, I'm not certain what year they dropped the Heights in the name.

My maternal great grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Hiram "Hi" H. Horton, my grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. John L. Stine and several of my great aunts and uncles started Grandview Heights Baptist Church. The first church services were held in at the home of my great uncle, Francis J. Taylor and my great aunt, Jo Helen Horton Taylor. Many of my relatives are listed in the directory in the back of the book. I guess you can say I have been a member of this church since before I was born. Hope you see a name you might recognize. Enjoy.

*Grandview Heights
Baptist Church*
Muskogee, Oklahoma

THE SERVICE OF CONSTITUTION

2:30 P. M.

JANUARY 10, 1960



There are at least four things which any organization should have if it is to be worthy of its place in the world today.

First, it should have a great leader. This we have in Jesus Christ, who is the head of our church. The one to whom we look as the one who organized the first church and who set up our program.

Second, it should have a great purpose. This we have in our recognition that it is our God given task to win and to train every individual for whom we are responsible.

Third, it should have a group which realizes their obligation and is devoted to their task. This we have in one of the most consecrated groups of Christian people it has been my privilege to work as a pastor.

Fourth, it should have people capable of making plans and the ability to carry out those plans. This we have in a remarkable way. Our work was begun by a group of Godly, consecrated, devoted and capable workers, not to get away from someone else, but because they saw a need for a church in its locality and they were willing to be pioneers, and suffer the heartbreaks of pioneers, but knowing they were in the hands of and under the leadership of a gracious and loving heavenly Father.

JAMES J. DOOLEY.

S E R V I C E O F C O N S T I T U T I N G

January 10, 1960

"....for the glory of the Lord hath filled the House
of God." II Chronicles 5:14b

Prelude Selected

Hymn "Onward, Christian Soldiers" No. 412

Devotional Brother Leroy Crawford

Prayer Brother H. H. Horton

Purpose of this Meeting Brother Wade L. Carver

Election of Temporary Moderator and Clerk

Enrollment of Members (Charter Members)

Adoption of Church Covenant

Adoption of Articles of Faith

Adoption of Preamble to Constitution and By-laws

Election of Church Officers
Report of Nominating Committee

Call of the Pastor
Report of Pulpit Committee

OFFERTORY

Special Music "The Church's One Foundation"
(Central Baptist and Grandview Heights Choirs)

Message Brother Wade L. Carver

Remarks Brother James Dooley, Pastor

Prayer of Dedication Brother E. R. Plunkett

Hymn "Lead On, O King Eternal" No. 417

Benediction

CHURCH COVENANT

Having been led, as we believe by the Spirit of God, to receive the Lord Jesus Christ as our Saviour and, on the profession of our faith, having been baptized in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, we do now, in the presence of God, and this assembly, most solemnly and joyfully enter into covenant with one another as one body in Christ.

We engage, therefore, by the aid of the Holy Spirit to walk together in Christian love; to strive for the advancement of this church, in knowledge, holiness, and comfort; to promote its prosperity and spirituality; to sustain its worship, ordinances, discipline, and doctrines; to contribute cheerfully and regularly to the support of the ministry, the expenses of the church, the relief of the poor, and the spread of the gospel through all nations.

We also engage to maintain family and private devotions; to religiously educate our children; to seek the salvation of our kindred and acquaintances; to walk circumspectly in the world; to be just in our dealings, faithful in our engagements, and exemplary in our deportment; to avoid all tattling, backbiting, and excessive anger; to abstain from the sale of, and use of, intoxicating drinks as a beverage; to be zealous in our efforts to advance the kingdom of our Saviour. We will maintain the defense of the truth against any and every form of error.

We further engage to watch over one another in brotherly love; to remember one another in prayer; to aid one another in sickness and distress; to cultivate Christian sympathy in feeling and Christian courtesy in speech; to be slow to take offense, but always ready for reconciliation and mindful of the rules of our Saviour to secure it without delay.

ARTICLES OF FAITH (CONT'D)

III The Trinity

God is revealed to us as Father, Son and Holy Spirit, each with distinct personal attributes, but without division of nature, essence or being.

IV Providence

God from eternity decrees or permits all things that come to pass, and perpetually upholds, directs and governs all creatures and all events; yet so as not in any wise to be the author or approve of sin nor to destroy the free will and responsibility of intelligent creatures.

V Election

Election is God's eternal choice of some persons unto everlasting life- not because of foreseen merit in them, but of his mere mercy in Christ - in consequence of which choice they are called, justified and glorified.

VI The Fall of Man

God originally created man in his own image, and free from sin; but through the temptation of Satan, he transgressed the command of God, and fell from his original holiness and righteousness; whereby his posterity inherit nature corrupt and wholly opposed to God and His law, are under condemnation, and as soon as they are capable of moral action, become actual transgressors.

VII The Mediator

Jesus Christ, the only begotten Son of God, is the divinely appointed mediator between God and man. Having taken upon Himself human nature, yet without sin, He perfectly fulfilled the law, suffered and died upon the cross for the salvation of sinners. He was buried, and rose again the third day, and ascended.

ARTICLES OF FAITH (CONT'D)

to His Father, at whose right hand He ever liveth to make intercession for His people. He is the only Mediator, the Prophet, Priest and King of the Church, and Sovereign of the Universe.

VIII Regeneration

Regeneration is a change of heart, wrought by the Holy Spirit, who quickeneth the dead in trespasses and sins, enlightening their minds spiritually and savingly to understand the Word of God, and renewing their whole nature, so that they love and practice holiness. It is a work of God's free and special grace alone.

IX Repentance

Repentance is an evangelical grace, wherein a person being, by the Holy Spirit, made sensible of the manifold evil of his sin, humbleth himself for it, with godly sorrow, detestation of it, and self-
abhorrence, with a purpose and endeavor to walk with God so as to please Him in all things.

X Faith

Saving faith is the belief, on God's authority, of whatsoever is revealed in His Word concerning Christ; accepting and resting upon Him alone for justification, sanctification and eternal life. It is wrought in the heart by the Holy Spirit, and is accompanied by all other saving graces, and leads to a life of holiness.

XI Justification

Justification is God's gracious and full acquittal of sinners, who believe in Christ, from all sin, through the satisfaction that Christ has made, not for anything wrought in them or done by them; but on account of the obedience and satisfaction of Christ, they receiving and resting on Him and His righteousness by faith.

ARTICLES OF FAITH (CONT'D)

XII Sanctification

Those who have been regenerated are also sanctified, by God's word and Spirit dwelling in them. This sanctification is progressive through the supply of Divine strength, which all saints seek to obtain, pressing after a heavenly life in cordial obedience to all Christ's commands.

XIII Perseverance of the Saints

Those whom God hath accepted in the Beloved, and sanctified by His Spirit, will never totally nor finally fall away from the state of grace, but shall certainly persevere to the end; and though they may fall, through neglect and temptation, into sin, whereby they grieve the Spirit, impair their graces and comforts, bring reproach on the Church, and temporal judgements on themselves, yet they shall be renewed again unto repentance, and be kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation.

XIV The Church

The Lord Jesus is the Head of the Church, which is composed of all his true disciples, and in Him is invested supremely all power for its government. According to his commandment, Christians are to associate themselves into particular societies or churches; and to each of these churches he hath given needful authority for administering that order, discipline and worship which he hath appointed. The regular officers of a Church are Bishops or Elders (Pastors) and Deacons.

XV Baptism

Baptism is an ordinance of the Lord Jesus, obligatory upon every believer, wherein he is immersed in water in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, as a sign of his fellowship with the death and resurrection of Christ,

ARTICLES OF FAITH (CONT'D)

of remission of sins, and of his giving himself up to God, to live and walk in newness of life. It is a prerequisite to church fellowship, and to participation in the Lord's supper.

XVI The Lord's Supper

The Lord's Supper is an ordinance of Jesus Christ, to be administered with the elements of bread and wine, (Fruit of the Vine), and to be observed by his churches till the end of the age. It is in no sense a sacrifice, but is designed to commemorate his death, to confirm the faith and other graces of Christians, and to be a bond, pledge and renewal of their communion with him, and of their church fellowship.

XVII The Lord's Day

The Lord's day is a Christian institution for regular observance, and should be employed in exercises of worship and spiritual devotion, both public and private, resting from worldly employments and amusements, works of necessity and mercy only excepted.

XVIII Liberty of Conscience

God alone is Lord of the conscience; and he hath left it free from the doctrines and commandments of men, which are in anything contrary to his word, or not contained in it. Civil magistrates, being ordained of God, subjection in all lawful things commanded by them ought to be yielded by us in the Lord, not only for wrath, but also for conscience sake.

XIX The Resurrection

The bodies of men after death return to dust, but their spirits return immediately to God - the

ARTICLES OF FAITH (CONT'D)

righteous to rest with him, the wicked, to be reserved under darkness to the judgement. At the last day, the bodies of all the dead, both just and unjust, will be raised.

XX Judgement

God hath appointed a day, wherein he will judge the world by Jesus Christ, when every one shall receive according to his deeds; the wicked shall go away into everlasting punishment; the righteous, into everlasting life.

~~XXI~~ Heaven

We believe that Heaven is a place Jesus came from and returned to upon His ascension, where He now intercedes and is preparing a place for all true believers who will join Him reigning throughout all eternity.

XXII Hell

We believe that Hell is a place prepared for the Devil and his angels and the wicked who have rejected Christ. It is a place of eternal torment.

CHARACTER

Section 1. Government- The government of this church is vested in the body of believers who compose it. It is subject to the control of no other ecclesiastical body, but it recognizes and sustains the obligations of mutual counsel and co-operation which are common among Baptist churches.

Section 2. Doctrine - This church receives the Scriptures as its authority in matters of faith and practices. Its understanding of Christian truth as contained therein is in essential accord with the belief of the Baptist Churches as indicated in the Articles of Faith herewith.

A BRIEF HISTORY

In March 1958 Reverend E. C. Sisk, of Lebanon, Tennessee made a survey of Grandview Heights territory for the purpose of beginning a new work. The survey showed a great need for a Baptist church.

On April 1, 1958 a group met in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Dick Dugger to discuss the possibility and advisability of starting an organized Baptist work in the community. Among those present were: Reverend E. C. Sisk; Reverend Wade L. Carver, Pastor Central Baptist, Muskogee; Reverend Leroy Crawford, Superintendent of Missions, Muskogee Association; and Reverend J. H. Rogers, Pastor of Immanuel Baptist Church, Muskogee. On April 3, 1958 Central Baptist Church adopted the work as a mission and agreed to supervise the work with Brother E. C. Sisk as pastor.

The first services were conducted in the home of Brother and Mrs. Francis J. Taylor, Sunday April 6, 1958. In April a four acre plot was purchased for \$1500.00. Central Baptist paid \$1000.00 and Muskogee Baptist Association \$500.00.

The first Mission Committee was H. H. Horton, Francis J. Taylor, Sam Bennett and B. R. Plunkett. The Fairview School was secured and the first services there were May 4, 1958.

The first revival was conducted by Reverend Wade L. Carver in the Fairview School building, also the first Vacation Bible School was held there.

There were continuous additions as the work progressed. Plans began immediately toward getting a building on the four acre plot. With the help of the Architectural Department of the Sunday School Board and the securing of Mr. H. H. Neiman as architect agreement was reached to build a stone structure 40 x 104. Cash and pledges were sought along with a \$15,000.00 loan from Commercial National Bank through

Mr. Obal Laster. Construction began in August of 1958 and even though not quite finished the first services were held in the new building February 1, 1959.

The first revival in the new building was conducted by Reverend A. T. Willis, of Tulsa, with 16 additions. From May, 1959 to September Brother Carver was the interim-pastor and directing the work following the resignation of Brother Sisk. Brother James Dooley was called in September as pastor.

With rapid growth the chapel has reached the place to become a fully organized church. It has a graded Sunday School, Training Union and Womans' Missionary Society. The first unit is complete with an overall value of \$35,000.00. Many have contributed their time and labor to this for which God has taken note and only eternity will reveal where full credit belongs.

On December 9, 1959 the chapel petitioned Central Baptist Church for the privilege of organization. It was granted and on this day, January 10, 1960, a great dream has been realized.

This is just the beginning of our story. Ahead of us we have the challenge of a glorious future in promoting the work of our Lord in a growing community until He comes again.

Editor's Note: Due to privacy concerns, the following list of members has been edited to eliminate the addresses and phone numbers on the original.

Bennett, Sam O.	Hines, Mrs. J. C.	Marshall, Mrs. Tom
Bennett, Mrs. Sam O.	Horton, Mr. A. A.	Miller, Marvin
Brazile, C. H.	Horton, Hiram H.	Miller, Mrs. Marvin
	Horton, Mrs. H. H.	Miller, Marvin Jr.
Chaney, Bill	Huffstedtler, Lee D	Neisler, Mae E.
Chaney, Joyce	Huffstedtler, Mrs. L. D.	
Culver, Pete		Penix, Mrs. Dorothy
Culver, Mrs. Pete	Jackson, Pat	Pitman, Laurel
	Jenkins, Allen M.	Pitman, Mrs. Ethel
Dooley, James J.	Jenkins, Mrs. Allen M.	Poplin, Ross
Dooley, Mrs. James J.	Jenkins, Carol	Poplin, Mrs. Ross
Dooley, Charlotte	Jenkins, J. T.	
Downs, James		Sanders, Sequoyah
Downs, Mrs. James	Kub, Lonnie	Sanders, Rachel
	Kub, Mrs. Lonnie	Sanders, Delilah
Downs, James Michael		Schneberger, Mrs. M. E.
	Larkins, Esther	Shepard, Robert L.
Ganther, Forest		Shepard, Mrs. R. L.
Ganther, Mrs. Forest	McCarter, Thomas	Smith, Elmer Lewis
	McCarter, Mrs. Thomas	Spain, Forest
Harris, Lester	McCarter, Walter	Spain, Mrs. Forest
Harris, Virginia	McCarter, Mrs. Walter	

Our 30th Year

Please visit these Muskogee County Websites:

[Muskogee County-UsGenWeb](#); [Muskogee County History and Genealogy](#); [Three Rivers Museum](#); [Five Civilized Tribes Museum](#); [USS Batfish](#); [Boynton Historical Society](#); Webmaster: Sue Tolbert

Steely, Ferman	Taylor, Francis J.	Webb, Thomas
Steely, Mrs. Ferman	Taylor, Mrs. F. J.	Webb, Mrs. Thomas
Stine, John L.	Taylor, Harry Joe	Wells, Mrs. Melba
Stine, Mrs. John L.	Taylor, Pat	Wells, Billy
Stine, Cherry	Tillman, George Hubert	Wood, Cecil E.
Stine, Melissa Jo	Tillman, Ruth Ann	Wood, Mrs. Cecil
Stine, Paul		Wood, Mrs. Imogene
Swart, Albert Charles	Wallace, Dewey	White, O. M.
Swart, Mrs. A. C.	Wallace, Mrs. Dewey	White, Mrs. O. M.
Swart, Carolyn Sue		Hall, Mrs. Myrtle C.

CHURCH OFFICERS

Church Moderator	Reverend James Dooley
Church Clerk	Ferman Steely
Church Treasurer	Francis J. Taylor
Education and Music Director	Sam Bennett
Church Pianist	Mrs. Forest Spain
Associate Church Pianist	Mrs. John Stine
Sunday School Superintendent	Walter J. McCarter
Training Union Director	Forest Spain
W. M. U. President	Mrs. Francis J. Taylor
Trustees	Sam Bennett
	Walter J. McCarter
	Francis J. Taylor

Director's Letter from the first issue

As President of our new Society, and editor of this newsletter, I would like to welcome you to our membership. I feel that we have set goals to grow on, and will in the future have our place in the history and form of Muskogee County that we are all so deeply interested in.

The Society has its work cut out for it. As we come into the area of records research and preservation, we fear that we may have, in some cases, come to late. We can only begin at this point to do the best we can.

The Society has already taken steps to assist with research and publication of the vast cards on Deceased Veterans of the Muskogee Veterans Hospital. These records contain valuable information of a genealogical nature and can be published for library use. We will keep you posted on this project and others we become involved with. Society members will be canvassing the County in search of church records to copy, such as the one copied by Society member Sherri Siebold and which appears in this newsletter.

We hope you enjoy this newsletter and that you will send us your queries, pedigree charts and suggestions on what you want to see printed in the future. Please help us obtain good materials for use, such as family histories, bible records, old articles, letters, etc. that are of a genealogical nature. Photos (copies if you have them) will also be used and returned to you.

This is your Society, please let us, on the Board of Directors, know how we may assist you and what your research needs are.

Carole L. Ellsworth, President

Rae Lindsey, Vice President

Pete Hagan, Treasurer

Members at Large - Ray P. Napier, Mary Cheeseman and Lulu Boggs

Muskogee County Genealogical & Historical Society

MEETINGS: MCGS meetings are held at 6:00 PM on the fourth Thursday of each month (except July and August) in the Grant Foreman room at the Muskogee Public Library, 801 West Okmulgee, Muskogee, OK. . The Board of Directors meetings are held the third Tuesday at 5:30 PM in the library's Genealogy and Local History department. All members are invited to attend the Board meetings.

MEMBERSHIP

Membership in MCGS is open to anyone promoting the purpose of the Society. Individual or family membership is \$20 per year due each January 1.

OUR PURPOSE:: The MCGS was formed in 1983 for the purpose of promoting the general study of genealogy through workshops, seminars, and monthly programs; and to discover and preserve any material that may establish or illustrate the history of Indian Territory and Muskogee County and its families.

BOARD MEMBERS 2013: President, Alissa Hill; Vice President, Stacy Blundell ; Secretary, Linda Stout; Treasurer, Mary Downing; Past President, Jere Harris; Newsletter Editor: Barbara Downs; Quarterly Editor, Nancy Lasater; Webmaster: Sue Tolbert, **APPOINTED POSITIONS:** Research, Barbara Downs; Library Liaison, Nancy Calhoun; Three Rivers Museum Liaison, Sue Tolbert.

OUR RESEARCH POLICY: Outlined on our website <http://www.okgenweb.org/~mcgs/> or you may write to us for a Research Request Form at: Muskogee County Genealogical Society, c/o Muskogee Public Library, 801 West Okmulgee, Muskogee, OK 74401.

PUBLICATIONS: MCGS publishes books of genealogical interest, focused on Muskogee County and Muskogee Indian Territory history. A current price list of our publications is provided on our website.

QUARTERLY

The MCGS Quarterly is published online four times a year: March, June, September, and December. Beginning in 2012 issue, current issues are published on-line. Copies and back issues of the can be ordered on request by mail or through our website.

NEWSLETTER

Beginning January, 2013 we began publishing a monthly newsletter to provide members and guest viewers with current and scheduled meetings and news.