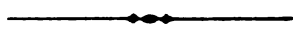


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THE
 PRESBYTERIAN
 HISTORICAL ALMANAC,
 AND
 Annual Remembrancer
 OF THE CHURCH,
 FOR
 1858—1859.

BY
 JOSEPH M. WILSON.



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1859.

years after the church organization have been lost, or are not forthcoming. But three, whose names were on the call accepted in 1821, are in our congregation, and two of those are now members of our session.

Our session at first was organized with two Ruling Elders, namely: Samuel Little and William Edgar, who had been ordained in Tennessee, and removed to Illinois in 1820.

William Edgar was a man of quiet, sober habits; aiming in all that he did at a blameless and holy life. Samuel Little was a man of more extended information in matters civil and religious, zealous for soundness in doctrine and strictness in discipline in the house of God. From that small beginning with two Ruling Elders, our members in session were increased from time to time; some elected in the congregation and ordained, and some who had been ordained in other places elected by the congregation.

James McClurkin, a member of the Associate Reformed Church, took great interest in helping strangers to find out good locations, leaving his plough and for days searching out lines, and pointing out good lands. He soon joined the Reformed Presbyterian Church, and being elected was ordained a Ruling Elder. His widow is still with us, an honoured and godly mother in Israel.

James Monford, a ruling elder from South Carolina, became a member of our session; after his death his son David Monford became a member of session, and when Grand-cote congregation was set off from us, he and James Wilson, another of our Elders, belonged to it.

Samuel Nesbit, William Jamison, and William Pattison were at one time elected and ordained. William Jamison is long since dead; William Pattison with a large family of sons removed to Oregon, and afterwards to Washington Ter., near Olympia. Samuel Nesbit is still an honoured member of our session, he is fast nearing his four-score.

James Wilson, Sr., whose family and connections were the first Reformed Presbyterians that came to this settlement, had a large family of sons and daughters. He laboured much for the good of the infant congregation, and died in a good old age, in the full assurance of faith. Three of his sons have been members of our session. His youngest son, Henry Wilson, a youth of exemplary piety, after having ruled faithfully for a period in the house of God; was early called home to be present with the Lord, leaving a widow and six children.

James Wilson, as stated above, is a Ruling Elder in Grand-cote congregation. John, the eldest son, is still a member of our session. John Richman, ordained in our session, became a Ruling Elder in Concord congregation, when it received organization.

John Fulton, ordained in Ohio, was chosen a member of our session, and remained an active and useful member till removed by death. His son David Fulton has been, and still continues, a very useful and active member of the Board of Trustees.

John K. Tailor and Thomas Blair, ordained in Tennessee, having

