

“In the beginning was the Word . . .”

John 1:1

History of
DOVER BAPTIST CHURCH
Manakin, Virginia
1773–1959



by
Helene Barret Agee

Cover Picture:

DOVER BAPTIST CHURCH
MANAKIN, VIRGINIA

Dedicated October 18, 1855

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This "History of Dover Baptist Church,
Manakin, Virginia, 1773 - 1959"
by Helene Barret Agee
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FOREWORD

In the compilation of history there should be available either written records which were accurately kept through the years, or first hand information gained from personal interviews with responsible persons who actually knew the course of events. Alack and alas, no such bountiful source of supply is available in the case of Dover Baptist Church.

True, there are some records, even though meagre, and they will be referred to in their proper places.

And there are minutes of meetings of Dover Church. The first minutes of record, however, begin with the year 1849, long after the Church was constituted. These minutes were recorded by many different Church Clerks. Some were written with infinite care, producing legible and orderly records. It would seem the writers somehow knew that more than a hundred years later eager eyes would search those same time-worn pages for a link to connect some important event. Yet, close upon the heels of such painstaking efforts follow the recordations of others who scrawled boldly and carelessly, bringing into existence a mass of jumbled, illegible scribblings that hold little, if any, meaning. Here it seems the scribes were almost defying anyone to read their recordations either then or later. Pages have been torn from the minute books, and many of the remaining pages are so badly mutilated that it is impossible to read what was written upon them.

The eye roams hopefully over the pages of clearly written facts and figures, then suddenly the chain is broken and the missing links are much too important to ignore. Were only a few pages lacking, one might reasonably improvise to fill in the gaps, but many long spaces of time elapse between the various writings and any semblance of continuity is forever lost. So much for the minutes!

As to personal interviews with those who might have had first hand information, this, too, is wishful thinking, for such persons have long ago gone to their reward.

In the writing of fiction, the eyes may be closed and the imagination encouraged to run rampant. Forms and faces may be conjured up at will to fit the need; words and actions, circumstances and events supplied for color, intrigue and interest. Such procedure is forbidden in the case of history and unvarnished truth becomes a paramount factor.

In the efforts here presented accuracy will be strictly adhered to, although it is entirely possible that as these words are written the imagination may be, to a small degree, indulged with respect to wondering somewhat about the many people whose names are recorded on the yellowed pages of the Minutes of Dover Baptist Church; names inscribed with obvious care, names scrawled with the utter abandon of a devastating whirlwind.

To those who may find objectionable the touch of "color" herein incorporated, assurance is given that such hues are firmly and clearly etched upon the pages of the Minute Books. No attempt

will be made to dream up images of the long dead people involved in the work of the Church, nor to embellish the rainbow tints that have not faded with the passing years. Such an attempt would result only in the fabrication of a grotesque burlesque and defeat entirely the purpose of this endeavor. However, to leave out the smallest ribbon of color would detract from the interest of this history - poor as it may be!

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HISTORY OF
DOVER BAPTIST CHURCH
LANAKIN, VIRGINIA.
1773 - 1959

* * *

By Helene Barret Agee

"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

"The same was in the beginning with God.

"All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made.

"In him was life; and the life was the light of men.

"And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not.

"There was a man sent from God, whose name was John.

"The same came for a witness, to bear witness of the Light, that all men through him might believe.

"He was not that Light, but was sent to bear witness of that Light."

John 1:1-8.

In the beginning, as concerning Dover Baptist Church, William Webber was the man sent from God to bear witness of the Light. So faithfully did he bear such witness that today this church stands a living memorial to his untiring efforts, his love and reverence for the God he served. In early manhood William Webber chose the direction he would take and he allowed nothing to alter his original decision.

Dover Baptist Church is located seven-tenths of a mile from Manakin on the east side of Route #621. This beautiful church of Colonial architecture is a far cry from its beginning which was a one-room log structure on the opposite, or west, side of Route #621 (then known as Manakin Ferry Road) and slightly to the south of the spot on which the present church stands. By the same token, many moons have waxed and waned since the first service was held in the original "Meeting House."

At the time it was decided to make an attempt to compile a history of Dover Church there remained only two people who could tell us anything at all of those earlier days, i.e. Mrs. Annie Forloine Clarke (widow of Luther Calvin Clarke), and Mr. Jenkin Jones. Born in the year 1877, Mrs. Clarke has been a life-time resident of Manakin. Mr. Jones, born in Cardiff, Wales, in the year 1872, came to the Manakin area in 1888 and has lived there ever since. While neither Mrs. Clarke nor Mr. Jones ever attended services in the original Meeting House, they do remember the frame-work of the building which was still standing when Mr. Jones came to Manakin and when Mrs. Clarke was a young

girl. Their recollections were crystal clear concerning the matters discussed with them and their contributions to this work invaluable, for their ability to reach deep down into the bin of memory and extract important events has been of inestimable aid to this writer.

From the information they have given, it is not difficult for one familiar with this area of the county to visualize that simple little building facing the rising sun with its door swung open to welcome one and all who sought to worship God. When forming that mental picture one would, of course, instinctively think of the horse and buggy and the surrey with the fringe on top, even a cart drawn by one or a pair of oxen, for that was a time of slow, measured tread, when motor vehicles of violent colors and equally violent speeds had not yet been dreamed of.

At this point it seems expedient to interrupt the history of Dover Baptist Church long enough to interpose a few remarks concerning the County in which it is located.

Goochland became a county in its own right in the year 1727. It was formed from Henrico and was the first division of that original shire. Goochland was named for Sir William Gooch, the Colony's chief executive from 1727 to 1749.

At the time of its formation, Goochland's boundaries extended from Tuckahoe Creek, on both sides of James River, indefinitely westward. This entire territory was once the land of the powerful Monacan Indians. The Indian population gradually declined and by the year 1700 the greater portion of the Monacan tribe had been driven away. Some few who escaped continued to camp in the region until after 1702. The name Monacan is perpetuated by the region known as Manakin on the north side of James River in the present Goochland County, near the location of Dover Baptist

Church. However, it should be borne in mind that the permanent Indian villages in this area were located on the south side of James River. The village of Mowhemecho, later called Monacan Town, on the south bank of the river between Bernards Creek on the east and Jones' Creek on the west, is the village to be here considered, for this was the location of the Huguenot settlers in the year 1700. Although the Huguenot settlement was established on the south side of the river, many of these new arrivals later made their homes on the north side of the river and in the present Manakin vicinity.

Having been discovered many years earlier, coal was actively mined in the area near Manakin between the years 1740 and 1750. The Dover Coal Mines Company carried on mining operations for a number of years thereafter furnishing employment for many people, with the result that Manakin soon became a thriving and well populated village.

Dover Episcopal Church was built on Dover Creek between 1720 and 1724. Goochland Baptist Church was organized in 1771. Byrd Presbyterian Church was founded in 1748. Many wealthy and influential families lived in Goochland and even then the county was well spotted with palatial Colonial mansions.

The purpose of the above digression is merely to point out the fact that at the time this history begins (1773) Goochland County and the Manakin terrain were by no means tracts or regions uncultivated and uninhabited by human beings.

* * * *

The tiny seed that finally grew into being and became Dover Baptist Church, was unquestionably planted in the year 1766 when Colonel Samuel Harris of Pittsylvania County came to Goochland and held one of his many camp meetings. After that initial visit he returned each year until churches were established throughout the Goochland region.

It was in 1767 that William Webber, then twenty years of age, heard Colonel Harris preach at one of his annual camp meetings in Goochland. He became converted and was baptized by Rev. John Waller. Shortly thereafter he was ordained to preach.

There is available far too little information concerning the early life of William Webber; however, one fact stands out as a bright and shining star - he was fearless in his proclamation of the Gospel. No bars were strong enough to hold him, no adversity too great for him to overcome in his burning zeal to hold high the lamp that would lighten the footsteps of those who walked in darkness.

Mr. Semple speaks of Mr. Webber as "a man of sound and correct judgment, well acquainted with mankind, well versed in the scriptures, sound in the principles of the gospel and ingenious in defending them."

William Webber was one of eight children. It is said that his father was financially able to give his children excellent educational training. The reason for not having done so probably was better known to William Webber, Senior, than to anyone else. However, the lack of "book learning" proved no deterrent to young William's ambition and determination to bear witness of the Light.

At the time William Webber was ordained to preach, not one church now in the Dover Association had been organized so he united with the Lower Spotsylvania Church since that church was near his home. He became one of the first six "exhorters" in Goochland County and in 1770

Lower Spotsylvania sent him, along with John Anthony, across the James River into Chesterfield County to preach. Here they were seized and imprisoned on the charge of "preaching the Gospel with no authority but from above." They remained in prison from December to March of 1771. There they preached through the prison grates with such effectiveness that the jailer left the cell unlocked, trusting they would escape. Later when urged to escape they replied: "They have taken us openly, uncondemned, and have cast us into prison; and now do they cast us out privily? Nay, verily, but let them come themselves and fetch us out." Upon finally being released they moved on to Cumberland and established Powhatan Church in 1771.

By the year 1771 converts in the Goochland area were gathering in two meeting houses, one near Manakin, the other in the vicinity of the present Goochland Baptist Church. Both groups were led by lay exhorters who were members of Lower Spotsylvania. Definite information cannot be obtained as to exactly where the Dover group met. Since the original "Dover Meeting House" was not constituted until 1773, it can only be assumed that another point of meeting was utilized during that period of time.

After the formation of Powhatan Church, William Webber went on to Middlesex County where he joined John Waller and his associates. On August 10, 1771, while Webber was preaching to the congregation from James 2:18, the Magistrate came running toward him in a furious rage and dragged him from the stage. Webber was imprisoned along with others, the charge being the same as that made in Chesterfield County. Despite their imprisonment, Webber gave notice that they would preach every Wednesday and Sunday from the windows of the jail and many came to hear them, although the beating of drums and other means were employed by the

mob to silence them. On August 26, 1771, they were brought into the County Court of Middlesex and each was required to give bond that he would not preach in the County for twelve months. Upon their refusal, they were remanded to prison and orders given that they be fed on bread and water. For four days they had nothing else and not enough bread. During this imprisonment Webber became critically ill causing John Waller to write to the Urbanna officials on September 20, 1771, to the effect that Webber was "in a very low state of health and without divine interposition, must I think, in a few days, launch off the shores of mortality" and urging that this young man be permitted to return to his mother in Goochland County. Webber's grave illness also excited the sympathies of the friends of the entire group who were imprisoned. So sympathetic were these friends that they drew up a petition asking the county court to release the prisoners and permit them to return home to their distressed families. This petition was presented at the next session of court on September 26, 1771, and the prisoners were liberated.

Following his release from prison, William Webber returned to his home community in Goochland County not to die, but to carry on his work.

In 1773, when autumn turned the woodlands to red and gold and brown, when the pines and cedars were at their greenest and the holly trees were crimson with berries, Dover Meeting House was constituted at Manakin with a membership of forty-five. It was fitting and proper that William Webber became the first pastor of the Dover Meeting House because it was due almost entirely to his dynamic efforts that it had

become a reality instead of a wispy dream. It was then that the labors of this strong, purposeful man began to pay rewarding dividends for while the Church thrived under his leadership, the entire commonwealth seemed to be his parish.

According to available information the original Meeting House was a one-room, log structure. It was built on the west side of what is presently known as Route #621, which road was then known as Manakin Ferry Road, and on land slightly to the south of the spot on which the present Dover Church stands. There is no one left to tell us much about this Meeting house. Some few recall it in its last stages of decay, when the framework was used for the storage of hay and later abandoned completely. However, no one can tell us what occurred in connection with the Meeting house after the new Church was constructed in 1855.

Adjacent to the spot on which the Meeting House stood is a burying ground, said to have been used for the burial of Negroes only, which would mean slaves or such Negroes as had been set free. A careful investigation of this burying ground revealed little of value as to actual fact. The burial area was readily located and while there are no stones or markers to indicate either names or dates, there were unquestionably a large number of people buried there. Except for the dense mat of honey-suckle covering on the sunken graves, the ground is heavily carpeted with countless layers of pine needles and there is deep and profound silence broken only by the soft whispering of the majestic pines that reach upward and outward and constantly guard this solemn spot. It seemed somewhat odd that no tree has taken root and grown atop one or more of the graves. It is almost as if even time and nature have respected these last resting places - that the pines have

refused to drop seeds upon the rectangular spots and, if perchance the seeds did drop they have refrained from taking root lest they disturb the slumbers of those who sleep the long sleep.

Mingled emotions coursed through my being as I stood there in the hush of a late autumn afternoon. There was so much I wanted to know about William Webber's Meeting House and the people who heard him preach. And what of those people who had been buried there? What did they do, say and think? Even more important, how had they lived? When the great silence claimed them were they waiting serenely in the shadows of old age, or were they just beginning to live this earthly life? Were they christians or hardened sinners - had their souls found refuge with our Eternal God or been condemned to eternal darkness? A hundred years and more have passed and graves are forever silent, yet there was a gentle sigh, picked up by the tall pines and tossed back and forth in the lengthening shadows of eventide, until it became an impassioned murmuring. Some would say it was the whispering of the pines, but to each of us sound is different and to me the message was clear and distinct - "We, too, have lived! We, too, have lived!"

Although the Meeting House was constituted in the year 1773, there is no record of land being given or sold to accomodate the building until the year 1846. On the 16th day of February, 1846, the following deed was presented in Goochland Court and was ordered to be certified:

"This indenture made this 13th day of January in the year of our Lord 1846, between Philip Woodson, Senr. of the County of Hanover of the first part and Tarlton Woodson, Robert Farrar, John E. Ellis, Joseph Nuckols and Benjamin Nuckols, trustees for the benefit of the regular Baptist denomination who compose the general association of Baptists in Virginia of the second part Witnesseth, that whereas Matthew Woodson (now dec'd) did in his life time cause a meeting house call'd Dover to be built upon his own land in the County of Goochland for the use of the Baptist denomination and the land upon which the said meeting house stands containing one acre, be the same more or less, is a part of the land inherited by his son, Philip Woodson, and the said Philip Woodson in order to carry out the design of his father, the said Matthew Woodson, dec'd, as also his own more effectfully doth hereby for and in consideration of the premises as well as for the further consideration of the sum of five dollars, to him in hand paid by the said trustees, the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged give, grant, bargain, sell and convey, and by these presents hath given, granted, bargained, sold and conveyed to the said Tarlton Woodson, Robert Farrar, John E. Ellis, Joseph Nuckols and Benjamin Nuckols, trustees as aforesaid, their heirs, ex'rs, admr's, survivors and successors for the use of the Baptist denomination aforesaid for a place of divine worship forever, the piece or parcel of land upon which the said meeting house stands containing one acre, be the same more or less, with all and every thing that is upon or pertains to the said land, and the said Philip Woodson, the aforesaid piece or parcel of land, against the claim and demand of all and every person to them, the trustees aforesaid, their heirs, etc., as aforesaid for the uses and purposes aforesaid, shall

and will by these presents warrant and forever defend. In witness whereof the said Philip Woodson has hereunto set his hand and causes his seal to be affixed the day and year above written.

His
Philip X Woodson (SEAL)"
Mark

Sealed and delivered in presence of: Joseph Rock, Thos. Tauman, John G. Tauman.

"At a Court held for Goochland County 16th February 1846 this indenture was presented in Court and proved by the oaths of Joseph Rock and Thomas Tauman, witnesses thereto, to be the act and deed of Philip Woodson, Senr., which was ordered to be certified.

And in the Clerk's Office of Goochland County Court 1st August 1846.

This Indenture was fully proved by the oaths of John G. Tauman, another witness thereto, to be the act and deed of Philip Woodson, Senr., and admitted to record."

"Teste: Nar: W. Miller, C.G.C."

Recorded in D.B. No. 34, Page 389, Goochland County Clerk's Office.

A casual reading of this deed would indicate that from the time of its constitution in 1773 until January of 1846, a period of some seventy-three years, the Meeting House stood on land belonging to Matthew Woodson which land later passed on in ownership to his son, Philip Woodson; that in January, 1846, Philip Woodson, carrying out his father's wishes, as well as his own, did then convey the said land to Trustees for the benefit of the Regular Baptist Denomination. It is interesting to note that

the piece or parcel of land with "all and everything that is upon it or pertains to the said land" was deeded for "a place of divine worship forever" with no stipulation as to what should occur if and when the Meeting House might be abandoned.

Matthew Woodson and his wife, Elizabeth, had eleven children. Philip was their eighth child. Matthew Woodson was undoubtedly a man of considerable holdings. His will, dated February, 1794, and probated at Goochland Courthouse on November 11, 1794, was indeed a lengthy one. In it he clearly states what each person should inherit. He even remembered the Rev. William Webber in his will. However, the stipulation we are concerned with reads as follows:

"To my son, Philip, one tract of land lying below the mouth of Lewis' Gutt and the south side of the River Road, including the Manakin Ferry, being the remainder of the tract whereon I now live. Also the remainder of my lands the east side the Meeting House Road and north side the River Road likewise." (Recorded in Will Book 16, Page 338, Goochland County Clerk's Office).

The above does not give any definite boundaries, neither does it in any manner suggest that the property on which the Meeting House stood became the property of Philip Woodson after his father's death. Actually it leans very much the other way for the will of Matthew Woodson distinctly stipulates "lands east side the Meeting House Road." A careful study of this phraseology would strongly suggest that Matthew Woodson considered the Meeting House property already disposed of.

As stated, Philip was one of eleven children and he was married at the time the deed referred to was drawn. A careful search has produced no evidence that either the Regular Baptist Denomination or the Dover Baptist Church has made a claim of any sort to this property since its abandonment in the year 1855. Considering all of the factors involved here one naturally wonders if the deed bearing only Philip Woodson's

mark as a signature has any legal value at all. This would be a matter for the courts to determine and such litigation has no place here. We do know that irrespective of what Matthew Woodson's wishes might have been during his lifetime, nothing was done to insure the carrying out of the same other than to permit the Meeting House to be erected on his land - and he may honestly have considered this to be a sufficient deed.

Using the date of the above deed as a milepost, it is certain that the Meeting House was being used as a place of divine worship as late as January of 1846. Also, it is reasonable to assume that no plans were then in the making for procurement of additional land or the building of another Church.

* * * * *

We return now to some of the events that took place in connection with Dover Baptist Church through the years.

In May of 1775, one of the most noteworthy meetings in the history of Virginia Baptists was held at the Dover Meeting House. Delegates from sixty churches from all over Virginia gathered for the great debate over Arminianism vs. Calvinism. As a result of the debate the Arminians separated and formed a convention out under the trees. After several hours of weeping and praying and exchanging of messages, the two groups united when they discovered their differences were in the context of their unity.

Following the Revolutionary War in 1782 the General Association of Virginia Baptists met again and at the Dover Meeting House. At this time the Association was divided into four districts - two to the north and two to the south of the James River with the fall line as the east and west boundary. The lower quarter north of the James became "Lower District."

In 1783 the Lower District made up of twenty-two churches and six hundred members, organized and elected William Webber as Moderator and John Waller as Clerk. At the first meeting the Association memorialized the Virginia Assembly to amend the law "so that the full and impartial liberty of all denominations may be indubitably served." It was through the efforts of William Webber as lobbyist that the Assembly was memorialized to enact this amendment.

In October 1784 Delegates from the four associations, including delegates from the churches of the old Ketocton Association, met at the Dover Meeting House to form the General Committee of Virginia Baptists as

a guardian of religious liberty. William Webber was elected Moderator. He served as Moderator the entire life of this Committee from 1784 to 1799.

In 1788 The Lower District took the name of "Dover" honoring the Church William Webber, the Moderator served.

Following the dissolution of the General Committee of Virginia, the General Meeting of Correspondence was organized in 1800 to preserve union and harmony among the Baptist Churches of Virginia. William Webber was elected Moderator and served as such until his death in 1809.

1799-1800 mark the years of the Great Revival at Dover Meeting House. The London Baptist Annual Register reported that William Webber baptized one hundred and seventy converts and "their happy season is still going on." From this it is very apparent that the Light so faithfully and diligently borne by William Webber was casting its radiance upon many who sought a closer fellowship with God.

Following is a copy of the letter reporting activities of Dover Meeting house during this period:

"London, England (1801) Baptist Annual Register. Editor: Rev. John Rippon, D.D. (pp 785-788) From Dover Association Letter (Meeting Oct. 11-13, 1800).

"Dover is a church, lying in the county of Goochland of as old a date as any in our Association, and is under the pastoral care of Elder Wm. Webber. It has for many years past been a church of considerable respectability, containing many useful and pious members, and from time to time has enjoyed several revivals of religion; but for the last eight or ten years past they have complained of cold times. Some of their most useful members being removed to the Church Triumphant, and others much afflicted; they had many fears that the walls of their once happy Zion would be beaten down, and the city given up to ravages of the enemy.

"In the summer of 1799, some favorable symptoms began to make their appearance in this church. The meetings became more crowded, and the hearers more attentive and solemn; many began to be seriously affected, and to enquire for the way of holiness. Belivers seemed to receive an increase of strength, and to travail with earnest and heartfelt desires for the salvation of the ungodly neighbors and friends. In the course of the fall many obtained a hope of eternal life, and were baptized; and many appeared to be not far from the Kingdom of Heaven. The return of winter did not chill the ardent zeal of the people. The fire within enabled them to bear patiently the cold without. Meetings were very frequent both by day and by night. The coldest and darkest night did not deter the people from assembling. Under such divine exercises,

"They did not feel December cold,
Nor think the darkness long.

"Without any material variation their happy seasons continued through the spring and summer; and we are informed it is still going on; the following clause is extracted from their letter: 'We have had for little better than twelve months a glorious revival of religion; such as we never before saw. We have added by baptism, since the stir, about 170 members, and we hope the work is still going on amongst us'. Oh, that men would praise the Lord for his goodness, and for his wonderful works to the children of men."

The phrase "since the stir" evidently has reference to the Revolutionary War. If one should ponder from whence the 170 additional members came, they need only to bear in mind that Manakin at this time was a thriving village. Coal was being extensively mined in this immediate area and many families lived in and around Manakin. While it is true that many of the Huguenots had departed from Manakin, it is also true that many remained in the vicinity. This village was to continue in its growth as the years passed and more and more people settled there.

Until the year 1809 William Webber faithfully bore witness of the Light, but on February 29th of that year the Master of All Good Things called him to his eternal rest. He died at the age of sixty-two

and was buried at his old home, two and three-quarter miles north of the present Dover Church on Route #621. There is no stone to mark his last resting place. Set apart in a large cultivated field is a circle of land upon which trees, of not too great stature, are growing. Periwinkle crawls lazily and indifferently around about the interior of this circle. The untrained eye cannot discern where within that circle the body of William Webber must long ago have mingled with the dust to which it was entrusted.

It may be said that William Webber was almost solely responsible for the constitution of Dover Church. Certainly, he was the pastor of this church from its beginning until his death and was never, even nominally, pastor of any other church.

A monument was erected in 1923 in memory of Reverend William Webber. This monument stands in front of Dover Church at Lanakin. Following is a copy of the inscription thereon:

"WILLIAM WEBBER

1747 1809

"First Pastor of Dover Church, 1773-1809.

Imprisoned in the jails of Chesterfield
and Middlesex Counties for preaching the
Gospel with "no authority but from above."

Moderator of the General Association, of the
General Committee and of the Meeting of Correspondence.

Erected by the Churches of the Dover Association
in memory of its First Moderator 1783-1806.

His remains rest at his old home 2-3/4 miles north.

1923".

Matthew Woodson Webber followed his father as Pastor of Dover Church, but he gradually yielded to the influence of Alexander Campbell. In 1832 the Association dismissed him along with five other "reformer" ministers, and in 1834 Dover Baptist Church was excluded from the Association. Later, Matthew Woodson Webber moved to Tennessee and in the year 1842 Dover Church was returned to the Association, this time under the leadership of Robert Farrar. At that time the church reported thirty members. It is no small tragedy that the large membership, built up and shepherded through the years by William Webber, should have been so disastrously reduced through the misguided influence and leadership of his very own son, Matthew Woodson Webber!

Robert Farrar continued as pastor at Dover Church until 1847 when Joseph Rock took over the pastoral duties. However, Mr. Rock's sojourn was a short one for in 1849 the very able and greatly loved Rev. Archar B. Smith became the Pastor of Dover Church.

It was with the arrival of the Rev. Smith that the first minutes of Dover Church were recorded. If there are prior minutes they are not available to this writer nor are they known to be in existence. Extracts of such minutes as may prove of interest will be later referred to.

From childhood Dover Baptist Church has endured many hardships and overcome many obstacles. Perhaps its infancy, spent in the one-room, log structure across the road and under the guidance of the Rev. William Webber, was the happiest period it has ever experienced. There are no records to support this conjecture other than the letter

of the Baptist Annual Register, quoted on Pages 14 and 15 of this history. Certainly, after the death of Rev. Webber the Church, under the pastoral care of Matthew Webber, lost considerable stature in the eyes of the Dover Association and was, for ten years, excluded from the Association. Following the departure of Matthew Webber from Dover, the hard climb upward began. From available minutes of Church meetings one must readily agree that this Church has known "lean years". Whether this was brought about because of the small membership, made up of members in the average income bracket; internal strife, faulty judgment on the part of those in charge, the many changes in pastoral care or a lack of interest is not evidenced by any record. However, it is entirely possible that all of these factors have entered into the picture during the life of this Church.

In an effort to set the mood for the year 1849, as well as the years that follow, it is deemed advisable to give here such excerpts from the Minute Books as relate directly to the personal growth of Dover Baptist Church. This is believed to be the only sincere manner in which it is possible to make a reasonably clear presentation of the true facts.

Following is a copy of the Constitution appearing in the first Minute Book. This writing bears no date.

CONSTITUTION

"Whereas we believe it to be necessary for every christian Church to be governed by rules and regulations, based upon the principles and faith of the Gospel, therefore we the members of Dover Baptist Church, in regular Church meeting assembled, do establish and ordain the following articles of faith and practice, in the constitution of the Dover Baptist Church.

"1st: We believe a Gospel Church congregational and therefore to consist of men and women professing christianity, mutually agreeing in faith and practice and binding themselves together for the purpose of promoting religious worship: namely, preaching, prayer, Baptism, the Lord's Supper, etc.

"2nd: We believe that every such Church should be independent of any human head, civil or ecclesiastic, acknowledging Jesus Christ as their only head and lawgiver, to whom alone they are accountable both as to faith and practice, having the sole right to choose their own officers and to dismiss them at will.

"3rd: Candidates for membership in such Church shall prior to their admission give a satisfactory evidence of their faith in Christ their Godly Savior for past sins, their willingness to live in obedience to the truth, as it is in Jesus and shall be baptized by immersion.

"4th: As we believe it to be the province of the Church to admit members into her society and fellowship; we likewise believe it to be equally in her province to exclude them when unfit for the same, either on account of false doctrine or immoral practice.

"5th: We believe it to be not only privilege, but the imperative duty of the Church to meet from time to time and to adjourn from time to time for public worship, discipline and good government, that they may ever keep in remembrance the solemn responsibility incumbent upon them as christians.

"6th: We believe the male members only are to exercise the discipline and government of the Church and that a majority of the members present at any Church meeting may decide upon any and all questions, which arise in the Church, and their decision shall be final, unless a reconsideration of the subject matter in controversy be moved by a member, who voted in the majority on the original question.

"7th: We believe it to be in accordance with the teachings of Scripture, that the discipline of the Church be performed before the Church only.

"8th: In our Church meetings the Pastor or Minister is to preside as Chairman or Moderator. It shall be his duty while sitting to preserve good order and to see that only one member speak at a time and in the absence of the Pastor or Minister, the Church may appoint a Moderator Protem.

"9th: Any member about to speak shall stand up and address the Moderator, who shall see that he is not interrupted while speaking; unless upon misapprehension or personal explanation.

"10th: A member may not speak more than twice to the same proposition without the consent of the moderator, and not more than thirty minutes at any time without the consent of the Church.

"11th: No member shall absent himself during Church meetings without leave from the moderator.

"12th: As the discipline and government of the Church immediately concerns every member thereof, we believe it to be a gross neglect of Christian duty to be generally absent from regular Church meetings, and a sin against the Great head of the Church, wholly to neglect this important part of Church Government and Divine Worship.

"13th: All Church meetings to be opened and closed by prayer, either by the moderator or some person appointed by him.

"14th: Activated by motives of a high and holy nature we believe in our Church meetings a spirit of forbearance and brotherly love should prevail, that harmony and Christian sympathy should pervade every breast, that we may toil together in this labor of love not only for each others good, but for the building up of the waste places of Zion and for the Glory of God."

* * * * *

The first minutes of record read:

"At a Church meeting held at Dover the Third Saturday in October, after divine worship proceeded to business. Members present: A. B. Smith, John Lewis, Thomas Jones, Alfred Cosby, John Johnson, Thomas Morgan, -----Harris, Jacob Howlder, Robert Farrar. John Johnson and Robert Farrar was to visit Brother Charles Johnson, Thomas Jones was to see Robert Goode, a land man, it being a day set apart for collections of offers, the church thought best report till the next meeting. The meeting then adjourned."

No year is indicated as to the time of writing of the above and no signature affixed to the recordation. It is interesting to note that Robert Farrar, the former pastor as preceding Joseph Rock, was a member of the congregation.

"At a regular meeting of the Dover Baptist Church held at the Meeting House on the 15 of Dec. 1849 the following Brethren were present: R. Farrar, J. Johnson, Morgan Howlder, James Lawton and Elder A. B. Smith.

- "1. The meeting was opened with prayer by A. B. Smith
- "2. The minutes of the last meeting were read.
- "3. The election of Deacons came up, when upon ballot, Brother Robert Farrar and Thomas E. Jones were elected to fill this office.
- "4. Bro. John Johnson was elected as Clerk of the Church.
- "5. A letter of dismissal was granted to Richard Terril, the servant of Royal Crouch,"

It would seem that these minutes were never completed as a comma follows the name of Royal Crouch and no signature appears indicating who wrote the minutes. The year 1850 starts out in a business-like fashion stating:

"A Record of the Proceedings of Dover Church, Goochland, for the year 1850."

With Bro. J. Johnson in the Clerk's chair the minutes were recorded with greater precision.

At a meeting in January, 1850, with five members present, the Constitution was read and the 8th Article thereof amended. No record of what the change was.

Thos. Howel and Matilda, two free colored members were excluded for violation of the 7th Commandment.

The case of Robt. Good (colored member) was called and continued until Sunday. Apparently these minutes were not closed for the following appears:

"Sunday after service the Church convened to attend to the case of Robt. Good and after examination he was restored to fellow-

ship.

"Brethren Morgan, holder and Johnson, were appointed a committee to wait upon Bro. John Crostic. Bro. Thos. Morgan appointed Treasurer of the Church."

3/16/1850 At a regular meeting with four present, Brethren Morgan and Johnson were appointed to cite Brother Crostic to appear before the Church at its next meeting.

5/18/1850 At a regular meeting the committee in the case of Bro. Crostic was continued. Brother A.B. Smith appointed Delegate to the General Association.

6/15/1850 At a regular meeting with three present the case of Brother Crostic was the only item of business. His case was called and continued.

7/20/1850 Four members were present at this meeting. The case of Brother Crostic was again called and continued. On motion, the Sons of Temperance were granted the privilege of holding their meetings in the Meeting house until further action of the Church upon the subject.

8/17/1850 Here it seems that Brother Crostic would at long last be disposed of. The committee in the case of this lost soul reported and on motion Brother John Crostic was excluded from the fellowship of this Church. There is no record to show what offense Bro. Crostic committed. Surely it must have been a grave one since it required at least six months to make a decision in his case.

9/18/1850 This meeting seemed to be for the purpose of electing officers. Bro. J. Johnson resigned as Clerk and J. E. Laughton was appointed in his place. Bro. J. Johnson was appointed Treasurer. Bro. Wm. Howell was appointed Deacon of the colored members of the Church. Brethren Smith and Farrar were appointed Delegates to the Dover Association and one dollar was sent as a contribution.

10/19/1850 Bro. J. Johnson was appointed a committee to wait on Bro. Charles Johnson and cite him to appear at the next regular meeting of the Church to answer the charge of neglect of christian duty.

11/16/1850 The committee in the case of Bro. Chas. Johnson reported and was continued and requested to see Bro. Johnson again.

12/14/1850 The minutes read as follows: "After preaching the Church adjourned for business. Present Brethren Smith, Farrar, Johnson and Laughton and eight sisters * * * *". This is the first time the word "business" has entered into the picture and the first record of any sisters attending a Church meeting. It is interesting to note that their attendance was two to one.

At this meeting the committee on Bro. Chas. Johnson's case was continued. Brethren Smith and Farrar were appointed a committee to see Brother Morgan charged with being intoxicated and using profane language, etc.

1/19/1851 Thirteen sisters present. The case of Bro. Chas. Johnson was called and upon the report of the committee he was excluded from the fellowship of the Church.

The case of Thos. Morgan came up for decision. The committee reported the charges true, and saw no hope of reclaiming him and, on motion he was excluded.

3/16/1851 The minutes report present five male members by name and "several" sisters. Sister Elvira Laughton was granted permission to teach school in the Meeting house upon condition "she keep the house in order and secure, which would supersede the necessity of a sexton." Bro. Laughton was required to procure a lock and fastenings for the windows. Bro. Laughton was also appointed to confer with the Trustees of Dover Meeting house upon having the ground surveyed belonging to the Church and report at the next Church meeting.

4/19/1851 Present three male members and six sisters, indicating that the sisters were intent upon getting things done. Bro. Johnson acted as Moderator at the meeting. Committee to procure a lock for the door of the Meeting house was continued. The committee to confer with the Trustees in regard to having the acre of ground belonging to the Meeting house surveyed, reported that they had the lot surveyed and the cornerstones put down.

Note: Attention is called to the phrase "a lock for the door of the Meeting house." This would suggest that there was only one door to the building. Also, the committee reported that the "cornerstones" were put down. This might imply that as many as four stones, (one to mark each corner of the lot) were put down. This writer made an extensive but fruitless search for these stones in the fall of 1959. It is entirely possible that they have sunk deep into the ground or that they may at some time have been removed.

5/17/1851 Bro. Laughton was appointed to write the letter to the General Association. Bro. J. Johnson was appointed a Delegate. There were "several" sisters in attendance.

6/14/1851 A "number" of sisters attended this meeting.

9/21/1851 The "sisters" are no longer being counted. Nor have they been mentioned by name; however, the record states that "many" sisters attended this meeting.

Bro. John E. Laughton, Church Clerk, was requested to write the letter to the Dover Association. Brethren Johnson and Bowles were appointed Delegates and one dollar sent to the funds of the Association.

10/30/1851 "After service the Church convened for the purpose of receiving members when Frances Willis, Mary R. Laughton and a coloured man, Jerry, were rec'd as candidates for baptism. After which the Church proceeded to the water, in obedience to the command of its ascended head, to bury the willing converts in the liquid grave."

Note: There is no record as to where the baptizing took place. There were ponds in the vicinity, owned by various people, and there was the James River. Whether these willing converts were "buried" in a liquid grave supplied by the James River or one of the ponds is not known. However, it is thought that October 30th in any year is a trifle chilly for such outdoor activities.

1/18/1852 Twenty sisters present. Bro. Jessee Bowles was elected a Deacon.

"Brethren Laughton, Bowles, Johnson and Farrar were appointed a committee to bring in a preamble and resolution in regard to the future disposition of the Meeting house."

"Bro. A. Cosby was appointed to act with Bro. Johnson to collect funds to pay the salary of the Pastor."

"Sisters Duval, Laughton and Bowles were appointed a committee to procure funds to purchase lamps for the Meeting house. Twenty sisters present."

2/14/1852 The committee appointed at the last meeting to report upon the future disposition of the Meeting house at Dover made the following report:

"Whereas the Meeting House at Dover was originally built and dedicated to the Worship of Almighty God by the Baptist, and used by them exclusively for a long time; And Whereas the Church some years ago was distracted by schisms and reduced to a small number, all through the introduction of false doctrines; And Whereas God, who is ever faithful to his promise, has watched over and protected this small number, as he ever has his people in all ages of trial and persecution, and within the last twelve months has visited them with an outpouring of his spirit and added to their number such as we trust will be saved; Therefore we deem it the duty of the Church to endeavor to preserve it from similar disaster by prohibiting the exhibition of any doctrine not clearly deduced from the Word of God as revealed to us through Jesus Christ and his Apostles and as Infant Baptism, Salvation without faith, in Christ, Communion without Scriptural Baptisms or Evangelical Powers exercised by one man over others, are no where revealed in the Sacred Scriptures, either expressly or inferentially; We most solemnly protest against any and all such Doctrines being taught in this Sacred place of Worship. And Whereas; it is made the duty of the Presiding or Ruling Elder of the Methodist Church, or one of its

Ministers to promulge the Doctrines of the Methodist Church at its regular Quarterly Meetings, and as some of the above, with other unscriptural doctrines are held and taught by them; Therefore we cannot consent for them to hold their Quarterly Meetings any more in this house, or that any Minister of any other denomination than the Regular Baptist shall preach in this house except by permission of the Church."

The preceding report was received and adopted with one dissenting vote.

At this same meeting, on motion Bro. John Johnson was authorized on behalf of the Church to grant permission to Pseudo-Baptist Ministers to preach in this house when application was made if he should deem it expedient. A committee was raised to ascertain the cost of underpinning the Meeting House and providing better benches. The committee on lamps reported that they had collected nearly money enough and would have the balance in time, whereupon Bro. Cosby was appointed to purchase the lamps.

3/21/1852 "Lord's Day Afternoon. The Pastor with a portion of the Church repaired to the water, where the ordinance of baptism was administered to Frances and Martha, colored women belonging to Bro. J. Johnson, and Mary Jane Freeman, Free colored woman."

Officially the first day of spring! Yet one shivers at the thought of river or pond baptism in March. This is the second baptism referred to so far, the first having taken place in late October of 1851.

4/17/1852 The committee on lamps reported they had raised the necessary money and it was ready. Brother Cosby was requested to procure the lamps at the earliest opportunity, and the committee was discharged.

The committee to ascertain the cost of repairing the Meeting House and providing better benches reported that this work would cost \$41. The report was read and the committee discharged. The Church resolved to have the work done. A committee was appointed to raise the necessary funds for this purpose.

5/16/1852 Bro. B. F. Bowles was appointed a Delegate to the General Association and ten dollars sent. It was agreed that the Church pay the expenses of its Delegate. Bro. Laughton was appointed to write the letter to the General Association.

9/19/1852 Bro. Cosby reported the committee on repairs and benches had in part discharged the duties assigned it, that the benches were made and in their place. Report approved and committee continued.

Brethren Cosby and Johnson were chosen as Delegates to the Dover Association, and the Clerk of the Church was appointed to write the letter to the Association. Following is a copy of his letter:

"Dover, Goochland Sept. 18, 1852.

"The Dover Church, at Dover Goochland Co., to the Dover Association,
send greeting:

"Dear Brethren:

"Our little Church is still united in love, each striving
to keep the unity of the spirit in the bonds of peace.

"Since we last addressed you, it has pleased the Lord to
visit us in mercy, and add to our number, such we trust as shall be
saved.

"We have rec'd during the Associational year twenty-eight
by baptism. and five by letter, 29 white, and 4 colored, which make
our whole number 87. Sixty-two whites and twenty-five colored.

"We have lost none by Death, Excluded none, Dismissed one by
letter. We have a Sabbath School connected with our Church, with one
officer, 4 regular Teachers and an average of 30 scholars, could have
a much larger school if we had the teachers.

"We have appointed Brethren A. B. Smith, John Johnson &
Alfred Cosby our Delegates to your Body and herewith send Two Dollars
to the funds of the Association.

"Hoping the Lord may meet with you, and bless you, we remain
yours in christian bonds.

"By order of the Church

"(Signed) John E. Laughton, C. Clk."

10/15/1852 At a regular meeting with many sisters present,
the Committee on benches and repairs was continued. Brother Farrar
was appointed to see Brother Harris in regard to disorderly conduct.
It was resolved that the Church take up "publick" collection monthly
for the purpose of furnishing the Church with light and fuel.

12/18/1852 The committee on the case of Bro. Wm. harris was
continued with instructions to cite Bro. Harris to appear at the next
Church meeting. The committee on benches and repairs never having
made a final report, was continued.

1/15/1853 The committee on Bro. Harris' case reported that
he had discharged the duty assigned him. Report received and committee
discharged. Bro. Harris' case was continued.

John E. Laughton was elected Deacon in place of Bro. Jessee
Bowles, removed from the county.

The committee on benches and repairs made a partial report

and was continued.

Bro. A. Cosby asked for a letter of dismission, but his application was "laid upon the table."

3/19/1853 Bro. Harris was apparently reluctant to appear at the Church Meeting for although the committee appointed in his case was instructed in December, 1852, to cite Bro. Harris to appear at the next church meeting, he had not to the date of March 19, 1853, put in an appearance. His case was called at this meeting and Bro. Laughton was appointed to cite him to appear at the next church Meeting.

The committee on benches and repairs was continued and the balance reported in the Church Treasury was \$4.43.

4/15/1853 The committee on Bro. Harris' case reported that Bro. Harris desired no longer to be in the Church. On motion Wm. J. Harris was excluded from fellowship of the Church for immoral and unchristianlike conduct.

The committee on repairs reported. Among others, Brother A. Cosby was granted a letter of dismission.

5/14/1853 Brethren Smith, Farrar & Laughton were appointed Delegates to the General Association, and Bro. Laughton appointed to write the Church letter. Bro. Smith was appointed to represent the Church in the Missionary Society.

6/18/1853 Brother Carpenter was allowed the privilege of teaching singing school in the Meeting House.

8/20/1853 It was agreed that the Church hold a protracted meeting, to commence on the third Saturday in September. A committee was appointed to collect funds to enlarge and repair the Meeting house.

It is noted that at the April meeting (4/15/1853) Bro. A. Cosby was granted a letter of dismission from the Church; however, Bro. Cosby is named as one of the above committee which was appointed 8/20/1853.

9/28/1853 Brethren A. B. Smith and R. Farrar appointed Delegates to the Dover Association, and the Clerk appointed to write the letter.

10/15/1853 Bro. Cosby evidently did not take his letter of dismission very seriously. He was present at this meeting and was appointed to "procure glass for windows and put them in and fastenings for the doors and put them on."

Note: At a meeting in April, 1851, reference was made to the "door" of the Meeting House. At the above meeting "doors" are referred to. There is no way to determine the actual size of the Meeting House, nor do we know how many doors and windows there were.

1/14/1854 Bro. Samuel S. Duval appointed collector of funds for enlarging the Meeting House in place of Bro. Cosby who wished to be excused from serving.

5/25/1854 Bro. J. E. Laughton appointed Delegate to the General Association, and also to write the annual letter.

6/17/1854 Brethren Farrar, Johnson and S. S. Duval appointed a committee to receive proposals for enlarging the Meeting House.

7/17/1854 The committee on proposals reported partially and was continued. On motion the Church resolved to make an effort to build a new house of worship and instructed the committee to receive proposals for same.

Sabbath Morning 7/18/1854: "It being thought expedient and lawful that the coloured population should be instructed out of the word of God every Sabbath evening, On motion it was resolved by the Church that Brethren Laughton and Cosby be licensed to read the word of God and exercise their gifts in expounding the same to the people wherever God in his providence may call them."

Brother Cosby continues in the limelight although as yet there is no record of his having been reinstated in the Church.

8/20/1854 After Divine Worship a meeting was held. Bro. Cosby was appointed Moderator. Some conversation was had in reference to the New Church and the committee on proposals was instructed to advertise the letting of the building of the church with the specifications of the house which the Church wished to have built. The Treasurer reported a balance of \$4.06 on hand at this meeting.

Note: In October, 1852, it had become necessary to take up "Publick Collection" monthly for the purpose of furnishing the Church with light and fuel. Now, less than two years later and with only \$4.06 in the Treasury, this dedicated and courageous group of christians were planning to build a new House of Worship. These were indeed lean years. For many the load must have been heavy, yet they did not falter in their determination to build a Church that would endure.

9/16/1854 The committee on proposals made a partial report and was continued. Brethren A. B. Smith and Robt. Farrar were appointed Delegates to the Dover Association and the Clerk, John E. Laughton, appointed to write the annual letter. The sum of \$2. was sent to the Association.

4/14/1855 The Treasurer reported a balance of \$2.61.

6/16/1855 The Treasurer reported a balance of \$.29. It does not seem within the realm of possibility that on June 16, 1855, there remained only twenty-nine cents in the Church Treasury and that on October 18, 1855 (that same year) the new Dover Baptist Church would be dedicated. This is precisely what happened as future records will disclose.

At the meeting on June 16, 1855, it was reported that Brethren A. Cosby and Wm. Ferguson were "walking disorderly in neglecting public worship, the interest of the church and in unchristian conduct by which the cause of Christ is reproached: On motion Brother Farrar was appointed to see Bro. Cosby and Bro. J. F. Bowles to see Bro. Ferguson and cite them to appear at our next church meeting."

7/14/1855 "The committee in the case of Bro. Cosby reported that he had seen Bro. Cosby and that he was present to answer for himself. Bro. Cosby justified himself in what he had said and done and criminated the church of remission in duty to delinquent members, and of acting dishonourably toward him; said he was not sorry for anything he had said or done except one expression which he had used. The meeting continued for some time longer than usual without coming to any decision and adjourned."

Following is a verbatim copy of minutes under date of 10/17/1855:

"Saturday, Oct. 17th, 1855. A regular church meeting held in the New Meeting House which is to be dedicated tomorrow. Present A. B. Smith (Pastor) J. Johnson, R. Farrar, Wm. Bowles, Wm. Johnson and nine sisters.

"Brethren Cosby & Ferguson were present and manifested a desire to be restored to the fellowship of the church by confessing their errors. The Church determined to have a protracted meeting to commence this day. The sensure of the church was removed from Brethren Cosby & Ferguson and they were reinstated. No other business. Adjourned by Benediction. John E. Laughton, C. Clk."

Here we may bless Brother Laughton's faithful fingers for penning the preceding words. It will be observed that no reference has been made to the progress of the new house of worship which the members had on 8/20/1854 considered building. True, the minutes state that on 8/20/1854 the committee was instructed to advertise the letting of the building of the church, but it must also be noted that on that date the Treasurer reported a balance of \$4.06. And in June of the same year in which the new church was dedicated the treasury boasted the sum of .29¢. No reference is made to the dedication services nor has there been any mention of finances. From here on it can only be assumed that Divine Worship and all Church Meetings were held in the new Church.

We do know that the new Church was built on the east side of Manakin Ferry Road (now Route 621), slightly to the north of where the original Meeting House stood. The building, a simple weather-boarded structure, faced the south.

A diligent search of the records at Goochland County Clerk's Office has failed to produce any record of how, or from whom, the land was acquired on which to build the Church. Perhaps it was a gift or perhaps it was purchased; however, there is no available information to substantiate either theory.

But what of the original Meeting House that had been constructed on a foundation of faith and love? What of those four walls that had known countless joys and sorrows? What of the weather-bitten, log structure that had struggled through the years of despair and doubt and emerged victorious? Was it completely abandoned - left to fall apart from neglect and eventually blend with the earth around it? Were the lamps that the sisters had collected pennies to buy removed to the new church? And the benches that had been lovingly repaired - were they left as a part of the Rev. William Webber's beloved Meeting House to rot and decay beneath winter's snow and summer's sun?

How nice it would be if these questions could be answered! Sadly enough, no one can tell us what really happened. It is doubted that the lamps were used in the new church because many years later two of them were found in a pile of debris near the location of the Meeting House and these are now in the possession of one of the members of Dover Church.

There is no entry in the minutes to indicate what disposition was made of the old Meeting House. As a matter of fact, it is never referred to again. After the meeting on October 17, 1855, in which the minutes record that the new church would be dedicated the following day, the meetings continued as before.

The next meeting of note was on March 16, 1856. Here it is stated:

"There being a current report that Bro. A. Cosby has been engaged in a personal fight to the disgrace of himself and dishonour of the cause of Christ, Bro. Johnson was appointed to wait on Bro. Cosby and cite him to appear at the next Church meeting to answer to the charge of fighting."

4/19/1856 "Bro. Johnson appointed in the case of Bro. Cosby reported he had seen Bro. Cosby and had a conversation with him, and as he had settled the difficulty with the individual with whom he had the fight, he did not cite him to appear before the church. Whereupon the committee was continued with instructions to act in accordance with the order of the Church."

5/17/1856 At this meeting "the committee in the case of Bro. A. Cosby reported that he had seen him and discharged the duty imposed on him. The report was rec'd and the committee discharged. Bro. Cosby not being able to attend today the case was continued until tomorrow. Brethren Smith and Laughton were appointed Delegates to the General Association. The treasury was reported empty."

9/20/1856 Brethren Smith and Laughton were appointed Delegates to the General Association and the Clerk appointed to write the annual letter.

On April 19, 1856, the committee had been instructed to "act in accordance with the order of the Church" in the case of Bro. A. Cosby and on May 17, 1856, the committee reported that it had complied with the duties assigned it, and the case of Bro. Cosby was continued. There was another meeting on June 15, 1856, one on September 20, 1856 and another on November 9, 1856. At none of these meetings was Bro. Cosby's name mentioned. After the meeting on May 17, 1856, there is only silence concerning this brother and there are no recorded minutes after November 9, 1856.

The next minutes of record are dated May 16, 1857. Bro. Cosby was present at this meeting. The Clerk, John E. Laughton was appointed to write the annual letter to the General Association and to request the reappointment of Bro. A. B. Smith as Pastor of the Church. Bro. J. E. Laughton resigned as Clerk of the Church and asked for a letter of dismissal for himself. His request was "laid on the table."

6/20/1857 Bro. Cosby has apparently been forgiven for his transgressions and taken back into the fold for on this date he was appointed Clerk of the Church.

It is noted with interest that all through the years the "sisters" of the Church attended the meetings regularly, more often than not far outnumbering the "brethren."

8/23/1857 Bro. A. Cosby, the Clerk, was instructed to write the annual letter to the Association. Brethren Laughton and Smith appointed Delegates to the General Association. (Apparently Bro. Laughton's request for a letter of dismissal was still lying on the table).

12/19/1857 Bro. John F. Bowles was appointed to see Bro. Jessie Harris and cite him before the next Church meeting to answer the charge for getting drunk.

There was no meeting until April 19, 1858, when the committee reported on Bro. Harris and stated that Bro. Harris desired his name removed from the Church roll.

"On motion Bro. Harris was excluded from the Church.

"On motion, the case of Bro. Martin was called and Bro. Robert Martin was excluded from the fellowship of the Church for getting drunk.

"On motion, A. Cosby was to see Wm. B. Stanard's man, Burl, and cite him to appear before the Church on Sunday to answer the charge of misbehavior to his overseer."

This must have been a stormy meeting!

4/20/1858 Wm. B. Stanard's man, Burl, was disposed of in short order. The minutes read: "After a fair investigation of the matter it was moved and seconded that Burl be excluded from the Church."

7/17/1858 Wm. B. Stanard's man, Burl, was reinstated to the Fellowship of the Church.

8/14/1858 H. Madison, J. Johnson, J. F. Bowles and Wm. Bowles elected Delegates to the General Association and the Clerk, A. Cosby, instructed to write the annual letter. On motion, Bro. John E. Laughton was elected Clerk of the Church. It would seem that Bro. Laughton's request for a "letter of dismission" was lost or completely disregarded for his activities in the work of the Church continue as before.

The minutes would indicate that during all of these years the Rev. A. B. Smith was serving more than one church.

At a meeting on December 18, 1858, the subject of retaining Bro. Smith at Dover was discussed. He was then engaged to preach the "3rd Lord's Day in each month at \$175.00 per year." On motion of Bro. Farrar a committee was appointed to see Bro. Exall and inform him that the Church was unable to sustain two pastors and desired to retain Bro. Smith, but an effort would be made to ascertain what amount could be raised to remunerate Bro. Exall if he accepted, and Bro. Samuel DuVal was appointed to collect and pay over. It would appear that both Bro. Smith and Bro. Exall were part-time pastors at Dover at this time. There is no previous mention of Bro. Exall.

3/19/1659 Among other writings the following appears:

"On motion of Bro. Cosby, Mahala, Cornelius, Francis, Pone and Albert, servants of Brother Saml. S. Duval, were excommunicated from the fellowship of this Church for being engaged in an attempt to poison their master. After which the meeting adjourned. * * *"

The circumstances concerning the above "excommunication" should prove of interest to the readers of this history. Miss Elizabeth Duval has been kind enough to give us the details of this nefarious plot to poison Mr. Samuel Sheppard Duval and his family.

Following is the story in Miss Elizabeth Duval's own words:

"Before the War Between The States, my grandfather (maternal) was the owner of slaves and, as I understand it, a large scale farmer, having his residence at Powell's Tavern in the eastern part of Goochland County and the main or most productive part of his farm just east of Tuckahoe Creek in Henrico County.

"The slaves who were working the farm in Henrico County became dissatisfied and it seems thought they were being oppressed, which led to a plot on their part to poison my grandfather and his family. The slaves, of course could not purchase the poison, but a Negro woman in the neighborhood by the name of Caroline Henley had been freed for some reason, and she was prevailed upon by the slaves, through threats, to purchase the poison for them. This she did, but immediately informed my grandfather. He intercepted the plot and sold the slaves after administering severe whippings. The cook, "Aunt Mahaley", was a very much beloved servant, and my grandmother in telling of this episode, stated that "Aunt Mahaley" declared vehemently that she had received the poison at the hands of the plotters to quiet them, but had no intention of putting it in the food. My grandmother believed her, but my grandfather was unwilling to trust her further and sold her together with the plotters.

"My grandfather gave Caroline Henley as a reward the place now owned and occupied by the family and descendants of Jesse Ellis. This property is located on the north side of River Road just west of the road leading to Vinita." (This information was given the writer in December of 1959).

Here seems a logical point to state that Caroline Henley maintained her membership in Dover Baptist Church and attended services regularly until her death. Among her varied possessions probably the most outstanding was an oxcart and an ox to draw it. This was her only mode of transportation and in the Manakin area Caroline

placidly driving her slow, but sure, wingless chariot was a familiar sight. Some members of Dover, even in this year of 1959, clearly recall Caroline driving her oxcart to Church on Sunday mornings and "parking" it in the churchyard while she attended the Church service.

* * * *

4/17/1859 The minutes here tell us very definitely that Bro. Cosby is out of the woods. At this meeting he, along with John E. Laughton, was appointed a Delegate to attend the General Association.

8/20/1859 Bro. J. E. Laughton appointed to write the letter to the Dover Association and Brethren Johnson, Farrar, Cosby and Saunders appointed Delegates.

9/18/1859 "On motion the Church cordially invited the Dover Association to hold its next anniversary at this place."

Along with several others, Caroline Henley (free colored woman) was received as a candidate for baptism.

In the minutes of December 18, 1858 some reference was made to Bro. Exall who had apparently served at Dover Church in the capacity of Pastor even before that date. In the minutes of November 19, 1859, we read:

"The Clerk was directed to enter upon the minutes a report made by Bro. J. Johnson that he had paid Bro. G. Exall one hundred dollars, the sum agreed upon for his services from the year 1858 to the first Sunday in December, 1859. On motion, a subscription was opened to ascertain if the amount could be raised to secure the services of Bro. Exall another year, and Bro. S. Duval was appointed to take the subscription and see what he could get outside of the Church and confer with Bro. Exall upon the subject and report at the next church meeting."

12/17/1859 Committee to obtain subscription and confer with Bro. Exall asked for a continuance.

1/15/1860 Partial report made by committee to obtain subscription and asked for further continuance.

4/14/1860 Brother Cosby in trouble again!

Although the minutes of the previous meeting are completely silent on the subject, the minutes of April 14, 1860, read in part as follows:

"The committee consisting of Brethren John Johnson and John Wilson, appointed at the last Church meeting to investigate a report

prejudicial to the christian character of Brother A. Cosby, charging him with dealing in ardent spirits and selling goods on the Lord's Day - reported they had investigated the matter and there was no truth in the report. Whereupon the Church, on motion, received the report, discharged the committee and resolved itself into a committee of the whole to get such information as was present and investigate the matter itself. Bro. Cosby being present stated that he had sold goods on the sabbath, and would sell liquor as long as he kept store and could get license if it did not conflict with the constitution of the Church. Brethren who acted on the committee objected to receiving testimony out of the Church, when a motion was made and carried that brethren present, members of sister churches be invited and requested to give the church any information they might be in possession of. The subject was elaborately discussed, the charges sustained. During the discussion the following communication was handed in by one of the sisters:

"Dear Brethren:

"Inasmuch as we are excluded from all participation in your deliberations and from voting upon any subject which may involve the interest of the church (except that of calling a pastor) and feeling a deep interest in the welfare of Zion at large and our little Church in particular; and earnestly desiring its prosperity and sadly lamenting the present state of declension, discord and the alienation of affection among the members and believing that intemperance and the traffic in intoxicating drinks are the principle source of most of the trouble in the Church, and misery and crime in the world, and the great sin for which our heavenly father has withdrawn the smiles of his countenance, and withholds his helping hand from us, we think you ought in the fear of God, in the discharge of the solemn obligations which rest upon you as the disciples of Christ to purge the Church of such offensive members who by their disorderly walk are stumbling blocks in the way of sinners and are daily bringing a reproach upon the Cause of Christ and a disgrace upon our Church. We cannot fellowship such members, nor can we expect the blessing of God upon our Church while they are suffered to remain in it. We pray that our heavenly father will preside over your meeting; the Holy spirit guide and direct you to accomplish his will, and the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ rest upon you, that the powers of darkness may fall and the Lord our righteousness once more visit old Dover in mercy and blessings.

"Your sisters in Christ

"Susan Frith
Martha M. Ellis
Emma P. Duval
Sallie A. Ferguson
M. A. Smithers
Jane E. Puryear

Rhoda T. Duval
Mary R. Cottrell
H. A. Cottrell
Frances W. Bowles
Frances A. Wade
Maria C. Webber

Harriet D. Ellis
Millie Ellis
Elizabeth Harris
Elizabeth Farrar
Mary J. Ellis
J. A. Webber."

"A motion was made and seconded that Bro. A. Cosby be excluded from fellowship of this Church and the "I's" and "No's" were called for. Those voting "I" were Robert Farrar, John E. Laughton, Wm. Ferguson, John F. Bowles, Thos. J. Jordan, Henry Madison, Blair Smithers, Henry Nuckles; those voting "No" were John Wilson and Thomas Wilkinson. The other brethren excused themselves from voting. (Italics in original minutes)."

The Clerk then offered the following preamble and resolution:

"Whereas Intemperance has been and now is the most fruitful source of evil and crime and misery in the world - making the rich poor, the poor miserable, the once kind and affectionate husband and father a fiend and brute, the once happy and confiding wife and mother a poor heartbroken and wretched being, making worse than orphans children whose parents still exist, destroying soul, body and estate, peopleing the world of woe with the inhabitants of earth, therefore

"Resolved

"That any member of this Church who will persist in manufacturing, selling, or in the habitual use of intoxicating drinks as a beverage should be considered as walking disorderly, exerting a demoralizing and baneful influence on Society, as bringing a reproach upon the cause of Christ and ought not to be retained in the fellowship of this Church."

Upon this question the "I's" and "No's" were called for and the following result obtained:

"Brethren voting for the resolution were John Johnson, John E. Laughton, Wm. Ferguson, John F. Bowles, T. J. Jordan, Henry Madison, Blair Smithers, Henry Nuckles, John S. Saunders. Those voting "No" were John Wilson and Thomas Wilkinson."

So far the above reports the longest and stormiest meeting held by the members of the Church.

5/19/1860 "On motion of Bro. J. Johnson the act of the Church excluding A. Cosby was reconsidered. After considerable discussion on motion the subject was postponed to the next Church meeting and a committee of Brethren Farrar, Wilkinson and S. Duval appointed to investigate the charges against A. Cosby for dealing in liquors and selling on Sunday."

"On motion of Bro. J. Johnson, the Preamble and Resolution adopted at our last meeting was reconsidered and action postponed to the next meeting."

6/16/1860 "The committee appointed at our last meeting in the case of Cosby reported, confirming the charges. The report was received and the committee discharged. On motion of Bro. Farrar, A. Cosby excluded from the fellowship of this Church.

"The Preamble and Resolution on Intemperance was called up and on motion were indefinitely postponed.

"On motion of the Clerk the Resolution adopted February 14, 1852, authorizing Bro. John Johnson to grant Psuedo Baptist ministers permission to preach in the Dover Meeting House was rescinded!!" (Exclamation points in original minutes).

7/14/1860 Bro. J. Johnson tendered his resignation as Treasurer of the Church and Bro. J. Saunders elected in his place.

There was a meeting on August 18, 1860, at which nothing of note transpired - then no further recordation until the year 1864.

* * * * *

It must be remembered that Goochland County had suffered greatly during two wars - the Revolutionary War and the Civil War. Dahlgreen and his cohorts, Tarleton and his Red Coats, as well as others, had left ashes and rubble in their wake, and it was to be a hard pull uphill for the County to settle down into a normal way of life. By the same token it can be assumed that the Churches in the community endured similar hardships and struggles.

It is not known what transpired at Dover Baptist Church during the period of the Civil War. The Minute Book was preserved and after the war recordations continued as though nothing untoward had occurred. Not even a page was skipped to show the break in time, nor a single written word concerning the bitter war that had finally ended.

There was unfinished business at the meeting on July 14, 1860, but we can never know what actually happened. What of the Preamble and Resolution, action on which had been postponed indefinitely? And Brother Exall - was he still at Dover?

Based on honest concern rather than idle curiosity, one cannot but wonder what happened to Brother Cosby during the period

here referred to. Had he become a changed man or had the Church members finally decided to give up in their efforts to save him? One thing is certain, Brother Cosby had "a way with people." Surely there must have been some virtue in this man who found it so difficult to keep his feet from slipping off the straight and narrow path, for in spite of his "off again - on again - gone again" exploits he always returned to the Church and took an active part in its work. There is not a scintilla of evidence to indicate that he was a hypocrite and deceit, no matter how powerful, could not have lived so long. Must it not, therefore, be conceded that Brother A. Cosby was a human being just as weak, but no weaker, than the rest of us? It is plain that his fellowmen loved him and found it easy to forgive him when he occasionally strayed along the forbidden highway.

The silence which lasted nearly four years is finally broken and following is the main item of business which transpired at the first Church meeting of record:

4/17/1864 Bro. Cosby present at this meeting and it was on his motion that Brethren Blaylock and Saunders see Caroline Henley, a colored member, in regard to her harbouring roguery. The signature of Bro. John F. Bowles appears as Clerk.

Our anxiety concerning Brother Cosby seems to have been needless for although he had, on June 16, 1860, been excluded from the fellowship of the Church, we now find him not only active in the affairs of the Church but making a motion to investigate another member - said member being none other than Caroline Henley who had played a dramatic and important role in saving the lives of Brother Samuel Duval and his family and who, when last heard of, had been accepted as a candidate for baptism at Dover Church!

In contemplating these reversals, one might well conclude

that fate is sometimes capricious and that regardless of the degree of precision with which the axe is aimed, when the block is chopped the chips do not necessarily fall in any given direction.

5/15/1864 The report of the committee which was appointed to investigate the charge against Caroline Henley, a colored member, in regard to her harbouring roguery was received and the committee discharged and the case postponed until the next regular Church meeting at which time she was to appear before the Church.

8/21/1864 Brethren Cosby and Saunders were chosen as Delegates to the Dover Association. The Clerk of the Church (John F. Bowles) appointed to write the letter to the Association.

9/11/1864 "On motion of Bro. Cosby the Church extended an invitation to Brother Binford to preach at this Church the first Sunday in the month."

It is not clear as to whether this was intended to mean the first Sunday in each month, nor is there any record that Brother Binford accepted the invitation.

The next minutes of record are as follow:

2/19/1865 "The Church voted for Bro. Smith to preach for us two Sundays in the month." Brother A. Cosby signed this recordation as Clerk. He continued as Clerk of the Church for some time.

5/21/1865 Although the sisters had not yet, according to the records, been allowed to take part in the voting activities other than when electing a Pastor, they were at this meeting called upon for help. Funds were badly needed to pay Bro. Smith for his services as Pastor and the sisters were prevailed upon to aid in raising the necessary funds.

6/17/1865 At a meeting held on this date the Church agreed to appoint a committee to confer with the colored members in reference to church organization. Also at this meeting the Church agreed to pay Bro. Smith \$200. (Presumably \$200 a year for his services as Pastor).

7/15/1865 The Clerk, A. Cosby, appointed to write the annual letter to the Association.

8/19/1865 Bro. P. Cottrell, A. Cosby, J. Saunders, H. Madison appointed Delegates to the Association. The Committee reported on the list of colored members. Only 22 members found, the balance being dropped from the Church rolls.

In part the letter written by the Clerk to the Association reads as follows:

"Since our last report we have received into the membership of this Church by baptism four persons and by letter one. We have lost five members by death and since the colored persons have been freed forty (40) of our colored members have gone from the neighborhood without getting letters of dismission and their names have been dropped leaving our present membership 90 whites and twenty-two colored persons."

* * *

With the spring of 1865 had come the end of the Civil War and Negroes were freed. Whereas the attendance of Negroes at Dover Church during the prior years had been large, it can be assumed that they were at this point unsettled and at loose ends. Freedom meant many things to these people who had been bound to masters who, in most instances, were kind and cared for their every need including the provision of a House of Worship. Now they were free to go their own way. It is reasonable to assume that many of them experienced fear of the unknown - that freedom was more of a punishment than a release. Be that as it may, Freedom's Bell had tolled and there was no turning back.

It is interesting to note that beginning with the year 1849, and probably from the year 1773, the congregation at Dover consisted largely of Negroes. Certainly the majority, if not all, were servants of the white members of the Church, being actually the "property" of such white members for this was long before the emancipation.

The mere word "slavery" is repulsive to every right thinking American. The selling of Negroes into bondage was unquestionably a terrible crime. Yet, history tells us that crimes of far greater immensity have been committed through the ages. What could have been

more horrible than Herod ordering the head of John the Baptist cut off and served in a charger to a cruel and wicked woman simply to assuage temporarily her greedy vanity? Seldom is this act referred to except from the pulpit and then it is usually mentioned as casually as one would serve bacon and eggs for breakfast. And the crucifixion of Christ by the Jews, the very people he endured so much to save. This, too, was a sin and the greatest crime ever perpetrated. But, as in the case of John The Baptist, it is all too often forgotten or put aside as something that has been done and there is no going back to undo.

Who was responsible for the diabolical practice of slavery and who deserves the credit for abolishing such practice is of little consequence now. The point in interest is that the Negro has been free to pursue his own life, liberty and happiness for ninety-five years.

After the Civil War a general exodus came about at Dover and the Negroes began organizing their own churches in the community. This indicated clearly that their God-given instinct was asserting itself and they desired to worship separate and apart from the white race. There is no suggestion that they were driven from Dover, rather every indication that they went of their own free will and volition. From the very beginning of Dover Church they were welcomed among the members of the Church and accepted as part of the Church.

During the years that have passed since the Civil War countless numbers of Negroes have gone down in history as great. They have left uneraseable footprints in the sands of time, nor would anyone wish to eradicate the memory of their outstanding achievements and splendid contributions to the world at large.

So it is true with all races of people. Some reach the pinnacle of success, become sleek and fat with wealth and glory, others are crushed in the ever present struggle for existence, the end result being more or less gauged by the individual's ability, ingenuity and force of determination. However, it must be conceded that the fine churches organized and supported by Negroes in these United States bear witness that they have not in any measure been restricted in their first intention and desire to worship in their own way and completely removed from the Caucasian race. And - there are innumerable memorials bearing testimony to the fact that the Negro has been recognized with highest honors.

What has all of this to do with the subject matter? Simply to pin-point the fact that the Negro himself knowingly, willingly, even eagerly, chose segregation and adopted it as his unalterable way of life.

* * * * *

3/17/1866 At a regular Church meeting, it was moved that the "colored portion" be dropped from the Church Book and the Clerk was authorized to write for all the members a letter enabling them to join any other church of the same faith and order.

At this meeting a letter from Bro. Madison was read by the Pastor and a committee was appointed to see him and cite him to appear before the Church at the next meeting.

"On motion of P. Cottrell a committee was appointed to see all the members who have been dancing and to say to them if they wish to stay in the Church and will forsake their folly in sin and will in the future do better we will forgive them and receive them to our fold again."

The salary of Rev. A. B. Smith was raised to \$200 a year for the year 1866 and "a committee of Sisters Ellis, Frith, Duval and all the old committee to continue with them to collect funds for the last year."

4/14/1866 "The committee to see Bro. Madison could not make a report and the case was laid over for the next meeting. The committee to see the members for dancing made a partial report. Sister Elizar Clarke was excluded from the Church by her own request."

10/20/1866 "At a regular Church meeting held the 20th day of October 1866, the report of the committee to revise the Church Constitution was taken up and adopted and the revised Constitution ordered to be recorded in the Church books. * * * The following resolution was offered by J. S. Saunders and adopted:

"We the members of Dover Church in Church meeting assembled, being desirous of increasing the Laborers in the Lord's Vineyard, enlarging the number of ministers of the Gospel of Christ, and of building up and strengthening his Church, do this day authorize and secure our Bro. John R. Wilkinson to preach the Gospel of Christ, in this or any other community in which he may feel disposed to exercise his gifts in dispensing the word of life to fallen and perishing humanity."

There is no record of the revised Constitution mentioned above.

For a long period now the minutes are very sketchy.

There was a meeting on February 17, 1867, but there was no business of consequence.

8/10/1867 "On motion a committee was appointed to look after absent members.- Brethren Peter Cottrell and J. Saunders, committee and was to see Bro. Madison specially and if not heard from before the next Church meeting he will be excluded from the Church.

"Bro. A. Cosby resigned as Church Clerk and Bro. J. V. Bowles was elected Clerk of the Church.

"Brethren Peter Cottrell, W. T. Johnson and Henry Nuckols appointed delegates to the General Association. The Clerk was instructed to write the Church letter."

The minutes record that on September 7, 1867 the Church had a membership of "19 males and 57 females, a sabbath school with 14 officers and teachers and an average of 80 scholars."

1/12/1868 "After preaching the Church remained a short time. Bro. A. B. Smith, Pastor, tendered his resignation to the Church, then left the Church. On motion Bro. Peter Cottrell was called to the chair. On motion of Bro. J. S. Saunders, Bro. A. B. Smith will remain Pastor and that the Church pay him at the rate of \$200 for the next three months. * * * * On motion Bro. Peter Cottrell will report to Bro. Smith what has been done."

2/8/1868 "The Clerk instructed to write to Brethren Laughton, Moody and Wm. Cosby requesting them to attend our Church meetings or get letters of dismission to join some Church near them. The Church excluded Brethren W. J. Ferguson, Henry Madison and T.D.M. Wilkinson for immoral and unchristianlike conduct. On motion of Bro. Cottrell, Bro. Cosby is to act as a committee to cite Bro. Samuel Duval to appear before the Church at our next Church meeting. Bro. Cosby moved that we amend our constitution at our next meeting."

3/8/1868 The following resolution was adopted:

"Therefore resolved that we respectfully ask our said Bro. A. B. Smith to withdraw the resignation he has offered to this Church and that he continue the pastoral charge of the same."

4/11/1868 "It was moved that we reorganize our Church list and that all who wish to remain in the Church will come forward in person or send by letter and show a willingness to remain in fellowship with the Church by our next regular Church meeting or that they will be considered no longer members of this Church."

5/9/1868 At this meeting 22 persons appeared in person and their names were taken to enter upon a new list.

5/10/1868 Bro. John S. Saunders appointed Delegate to attend the General Association.

6/14/1868 According to the minutes "Bro. A. B. Smith, our Pastor, gave us a very healthy and christianlike exhortation on this particular Sunday and a committee was appointed to find out who the Trustees of the Church are."

The 2nd Saturday in September, 1869. A careful perusal of the minutes would indicate that this date was in error and should read:

"The 2nd Saturday in September, 1868". At this meeting Brethren J. T. Bowles and Henry Nuckols were appointed Delegates to the Dover Association.

Following the above is a copy of a Church letter written by Clerk J. V. Bowles to the Dover Association. The letter is headed "Dover - Sept. 1868". In his letter Clerk Bowles states "we now find upon our Church list 16 males and 40 females, which make our whole number 56."

Recalling the notation under date of April 11, 1868, one might wonder if the alternative "appear" or "disappear" caused this small membership.

Saturday, January 9, 1869: "At a Church meeting held this day, present Brethren A. B. Smith, Peter Cottrell, S.T.B. (believed to be S. T. Bowles) W. L. Johnson, A. Cosby, Henry E. Nuckols, James Forloine, J. V. Bowles and several sisters. Brother A. B. Smith, our Pastor, tendered his resignation to take effect January 10, 1869. On motion of Bro. Peter Cottrell, Bro. Cosby was appointed

Moderator Protem. On motion of Bro. Cottrell, the Church accepted the resignation of Bro. A. B. Smith to take effect at the time specified. On motion we tender Bro. Smith our thanks for his past services."

10/10/1869 A committee was appointed to prepare a resolution to be tendered Bro. Smith. The Church voted for a Pastor and elected Bro. D. B. Winfree their pastor. A committee was appointed to see Bro. Winfree on behalf of the Church and the committee instructed to report on the next Sabbath.

Sunday, May 16, 1869: At this meeting Bro. Rennolds' name is given as Pastor. Several of the sisters were appointed a committee to collect funds for the pastor's salary for this year.

6/20/1869 The Treasurer's report gave a balance of \$3.24. Cash paid A. B. Smith, Pastor of Dover Church for the year 1868 \$167.75, balance on list of subscriptions \$44.00.

The minutes also state: "On motion of Bro. Powers, the Brethren will meet here on next Lord's Day, June 27th at 4 o'clock to consider the propriety of receiving Caroline Henley, a colored woman, into the Church."

7/4/1869 Caroline Henley's request was discussed at length and put off until the next Church meeting.

7/18/1869 Bro. Rennolds' name again listed as Pastor. Caroline Henley's request was postponed indefinitely. Brethren J. S. Saunders and S. T. Bowles appointed Delegates to the Dover Association. The dates of meeting were changed to the 2nd and 4th Sundays in each month and it was decided to hold the regular Church meetings every 2nd Sunday in each month after preaching "and that a collection be taken every 2nd Sunday for incidental expenses. On motion Brethren Peter Cottrell and J. S. Saunders were appointed a committee to notify Bro. Stringfellow that he must change his day of preaching. * * * *"

The minutes go on to say that Mr. Sampson was desirous of holding a feast in the Dover meeting house and although Bro. Cosby made a motion that his request be honored, there was no second and the request was denied. The Treasurer was instructed to make a report at every Church meeting. Bro. Cosby was appointed to collect funds for the pastor's salary. The Clerk was instructed to give each collector a certificate stating that they were appointed by the Church to collect funds for the pastor's salary.

Note: It is not clear as to when Bro. Stringfellow appeared on the scene as Pastor or how long he remained at Dover Church.

11/14/1869 At this meeting Bro. Rennolds' name appears as Pastor. The Treasurer reported a balance of 29¢ on hand, and a note to the effect that Bro. Rennolds was paid up to date in the amount of \$54.75. Bro. Cottrell resigned his office as Treasurer and Bro. E. J.

Duval was appointed Treasurer in his place. At this meeting a Finance Committee was appointed.

1/5/1870 After a lengthy consultation, Bro. D. M. Winfree was elected Pastor "for this present year." On motion the Finance Committee was instructed to "devise some ways to make plans of raising means for the support of the Church."

4th Sunday in January, 1870: - a Called Meeting. It was decided that the Church meetings would be held on the 4th Sunday in each month and that the monthly payments be made every 4th Sunday. A request was presented from the Methodists asking permission to preach in Dover Meeting House once a month and this gave rise to a lengthy consultation. After many motions made and lost it would appear that the Methodists would be granted their request, but that all Pseudo Baptist denominations would be excluded from preaching in Dover Meeting House after the first of July, 1870. A committee was appointed to notify Dr. Stringfellow and Mr. Hobday as to the action of the Church. A committee was appointed to "look after" Brethren Samuel Duval, Bowles, Davis and Ellis.

The 1st Sunday in February, 1870: The committee appointed to see Bro. Winfree was discharged. "On motion of Bro. Powers, we send Bro. A. B. Smith a call for two Sundays in each month and that we will pay him, A. B. Smith, the sum of \$350.00 for his services for twelve months." A committee was appointed to see Bro. Smith in behalf of the Church.

Following is a copy of the report submitted by the Finance Committee:

"Dover Baptist Church

"The Finance Committee beg leave to report that they have taken into consideration and bestowed much thought upon the present ineffectual mode of raising funds to meet the necessary and contingent expenses of the Church and this Committee believe that if the Church desire to see its cause prosper and the community benefitted by such prosperity, the Church must adopt more stringent measures than have heretofore been in existence for the accomplishment of the work; therefore your Committee respectfully (?) that every member of the Church be required to pay monthly some stipulated sum into the treasury for the purpose of supporting the Pastor and other expenses. Your committee are of opinion that any member in the Church can pay twenty-five cents per month without inconvenience and that a large majority of the members can pay a much larger sum. If the Church will adopt some such system as this, funds can be raised, by monthly payments, sufficient to defray all the expenses of the Church and the contributors will never miss the amount. Your Committee also recommend that a Secretary be elected, who shall attend only to the finances of the Church, that he shall keep a regular and accurate account of all sums of money paid into the treasury and his accounts shall be kept in such a condition that at a moment's warning he shall be able to give the Church the state of the treasury. Your Committee believe

that this arrangement should be entered into and date from the first day of January, 1870. That if the members of the Church will unite and adopt this system with that spirit and feeling which should characterize a christian body, seeking the upbuilding of the Church, the spreading of the Gospel and the welfare of the entire community; the word failure will no where be found in their vocabulary; but that a complete and perfect success will abundantly crown their praiseworthy efforts.

"Respectfully,

"E. J. Duval)
 "Robt. Dunlevy) Finance Committee."
 "Wm. H. Powers)

2nd Sunday in March, 1870: Bro. A. B. Smith was present and stated to the Church that he would serve the Church as their Pastor for the next 12 months. The remainder of Bro. Rennolds' salary for last year was raised at this meeting.

4th Sunday in April, 1870: The committee appointed to see Brethren Sam Duval, Davis, Bowles and Ellis was discharged. On motion fellowship was withdrawn from Bro. Sam Duval, Bro. Davis and Bro. Frank Ellis for drunkenness. No mention is made of Bro. Bowles in this regard and it is not known how he escaped the wrath of the Church!

2nd Sunday in June, 1870: Brethren Powers, Bowles, Saunders and Dunlevy appointed Delegates to the General Association. Bro. Saunders directed to write the Church letter to the Association.

4th Sunday in July, 1870: "On motion the Secretary will call on all persons who are in arrears. On motion the Church appointed three female collectors to collect funds for the Pastor's salary."

4th Sunday in November, 1870: "A committee was appointed to see all of the members of the Church and find out what amount can be raised for the Pastor's salary for 1871. On motion the Church gave the sisters permission to have a feast or tableau, or anything they might think advisable, in Dover Meeting house for the purpose of raising money to shingle the house."

Here it should be noted that the brethren have finally admitted that the sisters play an important role in the work of the Church. In the above motion they left the gate wide open, but, after all, if the roof leaked and the brethren had been unable to raise sufficient funds to shingle it, then desperate measures were definitely in order!

4th Sunday in December, 1870: "The committee that was appointed to see what could be raised for the Pastor's salary, made a report and the committee was continued."

2/11/1871 "On motion * * we take up the subject of the unpaid salary of our Pastor for 1870. On motion of the Secretary, will call on all of the members of this Church for a new subscription to finish paying last year's salary. On motion Bro. J. S. Saunders was elected Secretary. On motion of the Clerk we now call a Pastor and after remarks by Brethren J. S. Saunders and Jessee Bowles it was carried. On motion the Church called Bro. A. B. Smith to preach one Sunday in each month and that we pay him one hundred and fifty dollars per year. A committee of two was appointed to notify Bro. Smith of the action of the Church * * * * Jessee Bowles and W. H. Powers, Committee."

Note: A lapse in time of more than one year.

2nd Saturday in May, 1872: The minutes here state in part:

"At a regular Church meeting held the 2nd Saturday in May, 1872. Present: Brethren Winfree (Pastor) * * * * *"

This would indicate that Bro. Winfree was at that time Pastor of Dover Church.

2nd Saturday in July, 1872: Bro. Winfree again referred to as present and listed as Pastor. E. J. Duval and J. T. Bowles elected Delegates to the General Association. W. H. Powers, Wm. S. Johnson and George Clarke were elected deacons.

2nd Saturday in August, 1872: Routine minutes.

A memorandum to the effect that no meeting was held in September. Following this memorandum is evidence that many pages have been torn from the Minute Book, then a notation as follows:

"Dover Baptist Church
Dedicated Oct. 18th, 1855."

This is the first mention of the dedication of Dover Church and there are no details.

Now we find paper of an entirely different type bound into the Minute Book and the first minutes of record since August, 1872.

The 12th of September, 1874. A called meeting was held for the purpose of calling someone to the pastorate for the ensuing year. Bro. Hugh D. Ragland was unanimously called to preach two Sabbaths each month at a salary of two hundred dollars per year.

No further meeting is recorded during the year 1874.

A meeting in January, 1875, was routine.

"Saturday, April 17, 1875 * * * Present: H. D. Ragland (Pastor) * * * On motion Bro. Cosby was invited to sit with us and take part in the meeting. * * * On motion the first Resolution adopted at the last Church meeting be repealed * * * it was carried. On motion * * * the second Resolution was repealed also."

In present day phraseology the above tells us that H. D. Ragland had accepted the call and was serving as Pastor - that Bro. Cosby was in good repute, and that two Resolutions, of which we know absolutely nothing, were repealed.

"Saturday before the 2nd Sunday in May, 1875. * * the Constitution of the Church was read. Bro. Jas. H. Forloine was appointed a delegate to the General Association. * * * Brethren J. H. Forloine, S. T. Bowles, Wm. S. Johns and J. L. Stratton appointed delegates to the Dover Association."

"Saturday before the 3rd Sunday in February, 1876. * * * Bro. J. L. Stratton reported to the Church that several of her members had been drunk and dancing. * * * Brethren A. Cosby, J. L. Stratton, W. S. Johnson and Powers were appointed a committee to see them."

Saturday before the 3rd Sunday in April, 1876: The committee appointed at the February meeting to see those accused of drunkenness and dancing, made a report and the committee was discharged.

Saturday before the 3rd Sunday in September, 1876: The matter of "electing" a sexton for the Church was considered at this meeting and it was agreed that the sexton would be paid \$2.00 per month.

At a Church meeting held on the Saturday before the 3rd Sunday in October, 1876, the Church unanimously called Bro. H. D. Ragland as Pastor for the next year. On motion, it was decided that the Pastor would be paid monthly.

"Saturday before the 3rd Sunday in February, 1877: * * * On motion of the Clerk the Church now proceeds to the election of a Pastor. * * * that this Church call Bro. H. D. Ragland to the pastorate of this Church to serve us for an indefinite period of time at a salary of (\$150.00) one hundred dollars per year. And that he, Bro. Ragland, render this Church the same amount of service per year that he has rendered in the past and that whenever the Church becomes dissatisfied and wishes a change they will give him (Ragland) six months notice, and also request him, Ragland, whenever he becomes dissatisfied and wishes to leave us that he will give the Church six months notice also. * * *"

"Saturday before the 3rd Sunday in April, 1877: * * * the Treasurer submitted a report in regard to the sexton's pay and the Church was due the sexton nineteen (19) dollars. On motion of Bro. Johnson the Treasurer will pay the sexton if he has any money in the treasury and if not that a collection be taken every 3rd Sunday to meet the incidental expenses of the Church. * * *"

The minutes of the meeting held on Saturday, the 3rd Sunday in December, 1877, are of interest. They read in part as follows:

"* * * on motion the following Resolutions in regard to the death of Rev. A. B. Smith was unanimously adopted: 'Whereas we have heard with deep sorrow of the death of Rev. A. B. Smith who was for many years the faithful and efficient pastor of this Church who died on the 5th of December, 1877:

"Therefore Resolve 1st: That while bowing with humble resignation to the will of God, we feel that in the death of our lamented Brother the denomination has lost a good man and a faithful, earnest minister of the Gospel,

"2nd: That our sympathies be tendered the widow and orphans of our late lamented Brother,

"3rd: In grateful remembrance of the faithful services rendered this Church in the past by Bro. Smith that the sum of twenty-five (25) dollars be donated annually for four years to his bereaved widow with the earnest request that she accept the same as a memento of our affectionate regard for our old pastor,

"4th: That a copy of these Resolutions be spread on the Church Book and another copy forwarded to the widow of Bro. Smith."

There were no minutes of note until -

"Saturday before the 3rd Sunday in May, 1878: * * * Bro. E. J. Duval offered his resignation as Treasurer of the Church, which was accepted. On motion the following Resolution was unanimously adopted: Resolved: That the thanks of this Church are due and are hereby tendered Bro. E. J. Duval for the faithful manner in which he has discharged the duties as Treasurer.

"On motion Bro. Henry Johnson was elected Treasurer of this Church. * * *."

"Saturday before the 3rd Sunday in June, 1878: * * * On motion of Bro. W. S. Johnson the Church was to inquire into the language used by Bro. A. Cosby at our last monthly meeting. * * * On motion of Bro. Henry Johnson the Church appointed their Pastor to see Bro. Cosby."

"Saturday before the 3rd Sunday in July, 1878: * * * the committee appointed at our last meeting made a report and the committee discharged. * * * On motion of Bro. Cosby the following resolution was offered: 'Seeing the great difficulty now existing in the Church in regard to the rules of the Church, Therefore, for peace and harmony we move that bygones be bygones - and that the Church have a new Constitution or Bylaws that shall be drawn up by four brethren, or less if need be, so that there will be no more misunderstanding.'

"The Resolution adopted - the Church appointed Brethren A. Cosby, McIlvane, J. V. Bowles, J. M. Stratton and H. L. Ragland (Pastor) a committee to prepare a new Constitution for the Church.

"Bro. Cosby reported Bro. Saunders as guilty of using profane language. * * * The Church appointed Bro. W. S. Johnson a committee to see Bro. Saunders. Bro. Stratton reported the name of Bro. Jas. E. Ford as guilty of being drunk. The Church appointed Bro. W. S. Johnson a committee to see Bro. Ford. * * *"

"Monday, July 22, 1878: At a call meeting of the Church * * the committee appointed at the Saturday meeting to prepare a Constitution for the Church made a report that they had prepared a Church Covenant and a series of bylaws for the Church.. The report was received and the committee was discharged. On motion the Church adopted the Covenant presented by the committee. * * * the bylaws presented by the committee was laid upon the table for the present. * * *"

"Saturday before the 3rd Sunday in August, 1878: * * * on motion the Church will take up the bylaws which was laid upon the table at our last meeting. After remarks by several brethren, the bylaws was again laid on the table. * * * on motion the Church expunged the XI Article from the Church Covenant. On motion * * the bylaws was taken from the table and adopted. The committee appointed to see Brethren Saunders and Ford made a report that he had seen Bro. Saunders and that Bro. Saunders denied having used profane language at any time since his connection with this Church, and Bro. Ford said it had been so long since he was drunk that he had forgotten when it was that he was drunk. The report was received and the committee discharged. On motion of Bro. E. J. Duval the Church appointed a committee to cite Bro. Saunders to appear before the Church at our next meeting. * * * On motion of Bro. A. Cosby the Church invite Mr. A. R. (unreadable) to appear before the Church as evidence in Bro. Saunders' case. On motion of Bro. W. S. Johnson the Church invite Mr. Claude St. Clair to appear also. On motion the case of Bro. Ford was laid on the table until our next meeting. * * * *".

Note: There is no record of the new Covenant and By-laws. It would be interesting to know just what they might have embraced.

It is obvious that Bro. Cosby's luck was holding. Just a few weeks before he had been visited by a committee regarding his use of profane language, or was he visited by the committee? There is no record to show that Bro. Bagland discharged the duty imposed upon him at the meeting in June to see Bro. Cosby with reference to this matter. It would seem that the whole affair was forgotten for at the July meeting Bro. Cosby appeared in person and offered a resolution for a new Church Covenant and a new set of By-laws, moving that "bygones be bygones". His resolution was immediately adopted and he was placed on the committee to prepare such Covenant and By-laws. At this same meeting Bro. Cosby named a witness to be called in an effort to prove another Brother guilty of the same offense of which he had been charged!!

At this point the writer begs leave to indulge in one short line of levity: "Button, button, who's got the button? Or, was it a golden horse-shoe that Bro. Cosby carried in his pocket?"

"The 3rd Sunday in August, 1878: * * Bro. H. D. Ragland, our Pastor, tendered his resignation to the Church as its Pastor, said resignation to take effect six months from date. On motion * * * we as a Church approve of Bro. Ragland's labors here as a pastor and that we earnestly ask Bro. Ragland to withdraw his resignation. Carried with but one dissenting vote. On motion a committee of two was appointed to notify Bro. Ragland of the action of the Church. * * *".

"Saturday before the 3rd Sunday in September, 1878: * * * on motion the case of Bro. Saunders was continued until our next meeting. On motion Bro. Jas. Ford was excluded from the fellowship of this Church for drunkenness. * * *".

"Saturday before the 3rd Sunday in November, 1878: * * * on motion the case of Bro. Saunders continued until our next meeting. * * *".

"Saturday before the 3rd Sunday in December, 1878: * * * on motion the case of Bro. Saunders was taken up and passed. On motion the Church excluded Willie J. Clarke for drunkenness. * * *".

"Saturday before the 3rd Sunday in January, 1879: * * * The case of Bro. Saunders was called and on motion it was continued until tomorrow immediately after Sunday School. * * *".

"1879, January 19th. After Sunday School this morning, the case of Bro. Saunders was called and as neither the Plaintiff nor the Defendant were present, the case was continued until our next regular Church meeting."

"Sunday, January 19, 1879: After preaching this morning, the Church was called together by the Pastor. Bro. Alfred Cosby requested the Church to drop his name from the Church roll or Book. After remarks by Brethren Powers, Ragland and Stratton, and Bro. Cosby urging the said request, on motion of Bro. Stratton the Church ordered his name to be dropped or erased from the Church Book. * * * * *".

Brother Alfred Cosby has until this time been one of the highlights of this history. His request that his name be removed from the Church Book comes as a shock and a surprise. What could have prompted such action on his part? According to the records he had been forgiven for any and all transgressions and was, in fact, the "fair-haired boy". Regardless of what he might have done contrary to Christian teaching, the members always found a way out for him and he was welcomed back into the fold with open arms. Through the years he had faithfully attended Church services and meetings and had taken an active part in the work of

the Church. It is more than curiosity that causes one to wonder what motivated Bro. Cosby's request that his name be removed from the Church roll. Unfortunately, we must wonder in vain for this question can never be answered. This writer freely admits that it is with a degree of regret, even sadness, that she records for the last time the name of Brother Alfred Cosby!

"Saturday before the 3rd Sunday in February, 1877: * * * On motion of Bro. Stratton the case of Bro. Saunders was taken up, and on motion of Bro. Henry Johnson, Bro. Saunders was acquitted. * * * On motion of Bro. Stratton, this Church will hold a feast to raise money to pay the balance of the Pastor's salary for 1878. * * *".

Note: The time element here is of interest. It was in July of 1878 that Bro. Saunders was charged with using profane language, and although there had been many, many Church meetings since that time, it was not until February of 1879 that he was finally acquitted of the charge.

"Saturday before the 3rd Sunday in November, 1879: * * * Bro. H. D. Ragland tendered his resignation as Pastor of this Church. On motion * * * the Church declined accepting Bro. Ragland's resignation. On motion * * * the Church will retain Bro. Ragland as Pastor * * *".

"Saturday before the 3rd Sunday in March, 1880: * * * Present: Brethren H. D. Ragland (Pastor) * * * Two of our Brethren were reported to the Church for being drunk; Bro. J. L. Stratton reported Bro. H. C. Cottrell and Bro. Henry Johnson reported Bro. Lewis Gordon. On motion * * * Brethren J. L. Stratton and George Clarke were appointed a committee to see Brethren Gordon and Cottrell and admonish them and report at our next regular Church meeting * * *".

"Saturday before the 3rd Sunday in April, 1880: * * * The committee appointed at our last meeting made a report and the report was received and the committee discharged. * * *".

"Saturday before the 3rd Sunday in May, 1881: * * * On motion Brethren E. J. Duval and C. E. Woodson were appointed a committee to meet Delegates at the Depot coming to the Ministers' and Deacons' meeting and assign them homes. * * * On motion Bro. J. V. Bowles was appointed a Delegate to the General Association and Bro. C. E. Woodson alternate. * * *".

"Saturday before the 3rd Sunday in June, 1881: * * * Bro. H. D. Ragland, our Pastor, tendered his resignation as Pastor of this Church to take effect six months from date and his resignation was accepted by the Church. * * *".

"Saturday before the 3rd Sunday in July, 1881: * * * The Church appointed a committee consisting of four sisters to collect money to pay the balance due on Pastor's salary for the years 1879 - 1880 - 1881 * * *."

"Dover Church, August 20, 1881: * * * "Bro. Ragland asked to be released from the pastoral charge of the Church at once. The vote was taken and he was released. Amount of money collected and turned over to the Treasurer by the committee \$44.35."

Note: "The 3rd Sunday in September, 1881: Preaching by Bro. J. M. Pilcher of Petersburg, Virginia. No regular Church meeting in September."

"The 3rd Sunday in November, 1881: Preaching today by Bro. A. E. Cox of Richmond. After preaching the Church was called to order for the purpose of securing a pastor for the year 1882. D. B. Winfree of Chesterfield, Virginia, was nominated and unanimously elected as Pastor. The Church agreed to pay him a salary of \$150.00 per year for his services. * * *"

Note: "The 3rd Sunday in December, 1881. Preaching again by Bro. A. E. Cox of Richmond."

Note: "The 4th Sunday in January, 1882: Preaching by Bro. D. B. Winfree * * *."

"4th Sunday in February, 1882: * * The committee appointed to collect Bro. Ragland's salary reported that they had collected \$56.05. The committee appointed to collect the \$25.00 donation to Rev. A. B. Smith's widow reported they had collected \$11.25 for the year 1881. * * *"

Note: A record of only one meeting in the year 1883 and that meeting was held on Sunday, March 4th, 1883. The object of this meeting was to elect a Pastor for the Church. On motion, Bro. Edmund Harrison was unanimously elected and the Church agreed to pay him \$150.00 per year for his services.

After the above no minutes were recorded until the year 1885.

"Saturday before the 1st Sunday in May, 1885: * * * The Church is due the Pastor \$15.48 * * * *".

"Saturday before the 3rd Sunday in June, 1885: * * * Present Brethren E. Harrison (Pastor) * * *. On motion the Moderator appointed Brethren H. R. Nuckols, W. S. Johnson and S. D. Ellis Delegates to the Dover Association. On motion Brethren H. R. Nuckols, Dr. Jas. Brown, J. M. Stratton, R. F. Gaskins and J. V. Bowles were appointed a committee to have the cemetery enclosed * * * *".

"Dover Meeting House, January 17, 1886: * * * The cemetery committee made a report and were continued. On motion, a committee of one, J. V. Bowles, Committee, was appointed to attend the Circuit Court of this County and request that Brethren Wm. S. Johnson, S. D. Ellis, Henry K. Nuckols and Dr. Jas. Brown be confirmed and appointed Trustees of this Church. * * * *".

Note: Bro. Edmund Harrison, Pastor, is listed as one of those present at the above meeting.

* * * * *

At this point it becomes necessary to make a slight digression in order to incorporate and explain some facts not recorded in the minutes of the Church meetings.

It will be noted that at the meeting held the Saturday before the 3rd Sunday in June, 1885, a committee was appointed to have the cemetery enclosed. This is the first mention of a cemetery in connection with the Church. On January 17, 1886 the cemetery committee reported and was continued. This would indicate that the cemetery was established certainly as early as June of 1885.

Following is a copy of a deed recorded in the Clerk's Office of Goochland Circuit Court:

"This Deed made the 3rd day of March in the year 1886, between E. J. Duval and Rhoda T. Duval, his wife, of Goochland County, Virginia, of the first part, John E. Ellis, Levy D. Ellice, James A. Brown, Henry K. Nuckols, trustees and their successors in office, of the same county and State of the second part, Witnesseth: that the said E. J. Duval and Rhoda T. Duval, his wife, for and in consideration of the deep interest they feel in the welfare and prosperity of Dover Church as a place of divine worship & for the benefit of the members of said church and in consideration of five dollars cash in hand paid by said members unto

the said E. J. Duval and Rhoda T, his wife, do grant unto said trustees and their successors in office with general warranty a certain peace or parcel of land lying and being in Dover district Goochland, Va., containing three quarters of an acre, more or less for the purpose of a burying ground, bounded as follows: On the north and east by the lands of the Lover Cole Mine Company on the south by the Dover Church property, on the west by the Lanakin Ferry Road. Said parties of the first part covenant that they have the right to convey the said land; that the grantees shall have quiet possession of the said land free from all encumbrances; that they have done no act to encumber the said land; that they will execute such further assurances of the said land as may be requisite or necessary.

"Witness the following signatures and seals, day and date above.

"E. J. Duval (SEAL)

"R. T. Duval (SEAL)

"State of Virginia;

"County of Goochland, to-wit:

"I, R. B. Winston, a Notary Public in and for the County aforesaid in the State of Virginia, do certify that E. J. Duval whose name is signed to the within writing; bearing date on the third day of March, 1886, has acknowledged the same before me in my County aforesaid. Given under my hand this 4th day of April, 1887.

"R. B. Winston, N.P.

"And I further certify that Rhoda T. Duval, the wife of E. J. Duval whose names are signed to the within writing bearing date on the third day of March, 1886, personally appeared before me in the County aforesaid and being examined by me privately and apart from her husband and having the writing aforesaid fully explained to her by me, she the said Rhoda T. Duval, the wife of E. J. Duval, acknowledged the said writing to be her act and declared that she had willingly executed the same and doesn't wish to retract it.

"Given under my hand this 4th day of April, 1887.

"R. B. Winston, N. P.

"In Goochland County Court Clerks Office, 16th May, 1887.
 "This Deed was this day received in said office, and with the
 certificates annexed, admitted to record.

"Teste: Wm. Miller, Clerk."

The dates involved in this deed should prove of interest.
 The deed was drawn and dated March 3, 1886; the signatures were not
 certified until April 4, 1887 (more than a year later) and the deed
 was received in the Clerk's Office on May 16, 1887. To complicate
 one's thinking even more, the cemetery was apparently in use in June
 of 1885.

The boundaries stipulated in this deed should also be observed.

" * * * containing three quarters of an acre, more or less
 for the purpose of a burying ground bounded as follows:
 On the north and east by the lands of the Dover Cole
 Mine Company, on the south by the Dover Church property,
 on the west by the Manakin Ferry Road. * * * ".

These boundaries clearly indicate that the property on the
 south of the present cemetery (the property on which the church was
 erected in 1655 and the adjacent land) was at that time considered to
 be owned by Dover Church. As previously stated on Page 29 of this
 writing there is no record to show how, or from whom, the Church property
 was acquired. It is entirely possible that in the long ago past gifts
 of land may have been made without "deeds of writing". Even in such
 event, it is odd that a survey (if one was made) for the gift of the
 cemetery property did not bring to light the fact that there was no
 deed on file covering the Church property. There have been two surveys
 in recent years, which surveys involved the acquirement of additional
 property adjoining the Church and these transactions will be discussed
 in their proper places.

* * * * *

We return now to the minutes of the various Church meetings and continue our efforts to form some idea of the progress of Dover Baptist Church.

After the meeting on January 17, 1886 the record is silent until the 1st Sunday in May, 1887. At this meeting the Finance Committee reported that they had subscribed towards the Pastor's salary \$201.00. The Treasurer reported that the church had paid her Pastor up to date \$147.21 and was yet due him \$102.79. It is not known what period these amounts covered.

"3rd Sunday in October, 1887: * * Brethren C. E. Woodson and S. S. Carter were appointed Delegates to the Baptist General Association. * * * A collection was taken for the State Missions * * *".

"3rd Sunday in December, 1887: * * The Treasurer reported that the Church was in debt to the extent of \$159.88. * * *".

"1st Sunday in July, 1888: * * Brethren J. V. Bowles, S. D. Ellis, J. M. Stratton, R. F. Gaskins were appointed Delegates to the Dover Baptist Association. * * The Church granted her Pastor a furlough during the month of August. * * *".

There are no minutes for the year 1889.

"2nd Sunday in October, 1890: * * On motion of Bro. Stratton every member of this Church pay ten cents per month to defray the incidental expenses of the Church. * * *".

There is no indication that Bro. Stratton's motion was carried. However, there is every indication that the Church has been beset with extreme financial difficulties ever since the new building was erected.

"2nd Sunday in November, 1890: * * * Brethren Fox and Gaskins were appointed Delegates to the General Association. * * Bro. J. H. Johnson resigned the office of Treasurer and Bro. L. E. Gordon duly elected in his place. * * *".

"2nd Sunday in February, 1891: * * * It was reported that it would cost \$15.00 to have the Church House insured for the sum of \$1,000. The Church received this report and ordered Brethren Crouch and Gaskins to have the house insured. * * *".

"2nd Sunday in May, 1891: * * * After preaching the Church was called together for the purpose of collecting \$49.00, the amount due our Pastor. Amount raised to pay this amount and the meeting adjourned."

"4th Sunday in June, 1892: * * * Brethren S. D. Ellis, J. V. Bowles, L. E. Gordon and R. F. Gaskins were appointed Delegates to the Dover Association. * * *".

* * * * *

Once again it is deemed expedient to depart from facts and figures in the Linute Book in an effort to portray a picture of Manakin Village during this period.

A Post Office was established in the village on September 3, 1868 under the name of "Dover Lines". It retained this name until February 2, 1909 when it was changed to "Manakin".

It will be noted on Page 1 of this history that reference is made to Mrs. L. C. Clarke and Mr. Jenkin Jones, both members of Dover Baptist Church. This writer will now try to recapitulate some of the facts given by Mrs. Clarke and Mr. Jones.

Mrs. Clarke is a life-long resident of the Manakin area. In the year 1893 she was sixteen years of age. She clearly recalls events that took place during that year (and before) and distinctly remembers Professor Harrison who was the Pastor at Dover around that time. In talking with Mrs. Clarke it was learned that in, and before, the year 1893 Manakin was a thriving village, inhabited by from fifty to seventy-five families, with approximately thirty-five of these families living in a radius of a third of a mile. There was a fifteen foot road running right through the village and streets were laid out and numbers used on the houses. There was an excellent hotel, a commissary, barber shop and three stores. These stores were operated by Deitrick, Snead, and Richardson & Sublett. And there was a bar! (This writer viewed the license issued to Saml. C. Duval in 1883 to operate the bar. This license is now in the possession of Mrs. Ruth Henley).

There were three active Churches in the area, namely, Dover Baptist Church, a Methodist Church, and a Negro Church which will be referred to in the reminiscences of Mr. Jenkin T. Jones.

Mrs. Clarke stated that there was much activity in the village during those days, such activity being brought about by the operation of the Dover Coal Mines and the quarry which was then being worked by Henry Harris. Of course, it is understood that the mines were not in full operation at that time for the Chesapeake and Ohio Railroad had already started bringing in cheaply mined coal from the mountains and the mining of coal in the Lanakin area was lessening all the time. In addition to the mines, there were other enterprises on a smaller scale in and around the area and the village was a "bee-hive" of goings and comings.

Mrs. Clarke recalled Caroline Henley and her oxcart, stating that she regularly drove this conveyance to Dover Church on Sunday, to the stores at Lanakin and the vicinity thereabouts. It is believed that Caroline Henley was the last Negro member to leave Dover Church.

The lamps previously referred to as being used in the Meeting House constructed in 1773 were not removed to the new Church. Mr. L. C. Clarke, husband of Mrs. Clarke, retrieved two of these lamps from a rubbish heap near the site of the original Meeting house many, many years after it was abandoned. These lamps are now in the possession of Miss Mary L. Clarke, daughter of Mrs. L. C. Clarke. Mrs. Clarke does not know of any other lamps that were salvaged.

In the back of this history will be found a map which was drawn by Miss Mary L. Clarke under the supervision of her mother. This map gives us an idea of what Lanakin Village once was.

A salute to Mrs. L. C. Clarke for her ability to remember these important events, and gratitude to her and to Miss Mary L. Clarke for their cooperation and help in the compilation of the facts concerning Dover Church!

* * * * *

So far as can be ascertained, Mr. Jenkin T. Jones is the oldest living member of Dover Baptist Church. From Mr. Jones' bin of memories come many interesting facts.

Mr. Jones was born in Cardiff, Wales in 1872. In a conversation with him he stated that when he came to the Lanakin area in 1888 he found a bustling and flourishing village at that time occupied by from fifty to seventy-five families, that streets were laid out and named and the houses were numbered.

When questioned about the original Meeting House, Mr. Jones pointed out its exact location and described in detail the adjoining lands. From his description it was unquestionably a one-room, log structure, built so that it faced the east. Mr. Jones clearly remembered the framework of the building which was still standing when he came to Lanakin.

Mr. Jones tells us that in 1888 there was a large brick church on the south side of the River Road, and nearer the James River, which General Charles P. Stone, General Manager for the Dover Coal Company, had caused to be erected for the sole benefit of the Negroes in the community. It is believed that this church was built shortly after the Civil War. In his discussion of the past, Mr. Jones stated that the bricks from this church were later used in the construction of the

Negro Church (First Baptist Church) now at Manakin.

Mr. Jones discussed at length the vast operations of the Dover Coal Company stating that this enterprise involved some 1760 acres of land, and he also talked much about General Charles P. Stone who had built for himself a pretentious home near Manakin. Many years later this home was sold, torn down and moved away.

A member and regular attendant of Dover Church, Mr. Jones was Church Clerk for a number of years. He spoke with clarity and with certainty and described a fence which was built in the Church for the purpose of separating the white and colored members while they attended services.

Sincere gratitude is here and now expressed to Mr. Jenkin T. Jones for his cooperation and interest and for the help he has given this writer in attempting to reconstruct a picture of Manakin and the surrounding area as it actually was in the 1800's!

* * * * *

We return now to the Minute Book and pick up with -

"2nd Sunday in May, 1893: * * * On motion of Bro. Gordon a committee of three was appointed to assess the members of this Church to meet the expenses of the Church. * * *".

"Dover Church, January 25, 1896: * * Bro. Jenkin T. Jones was unanimously elected Church Clerk. * * *".

"Sunday, March 22, 1896: * * Bro. Harrison made the announcement of his resignation as Pastor of the Church to take effect between this date and June of the present year. * * *".

"April 12, 1896: * * After preaching by Rev. H. M. Fugate of Richmond * * * Bro. Harrison's resignation as Pastor was accepted. * * The Treasurer made a report as having a balance due the pastor of \$120.00. The committee appointed to canvass the members in order to pay the retiring pastor the \$120.00 due him. * * *".

"April 26, 1896: * * The matter of securing a pastor to succeed Prof. Harrison was discussed. The majority of the members preferred Bro. J. W. Reynolds rather than Rev. J. Wilkinson. Bro. J. V. Bowles appointed a committee to confer with Nuckols' Church with a view of ascertaining whether they would cooperate with Dover Church and have the same pastor for both Churches. * * *".

"May 24, 1896: * * On motion * * the Church went into electing a pastor to succeed Professor Harrison. Rev. W. W. Reynolds and Rev. J. W. Reynolds were nominated. J. W. Reynolds securing a majority was elected pastor and on motion * * * the vote or call was made unanimous. The Chair then announced Rev. J. W. Reynolds, Pastor of this Church. The Chair appointed a committee of three to tender the call of Dover to Rev. J. W. Reynolds. * * The committee was instructed to notify Bro. Reynolds that he would be expected to preach two Sundays and one Saturday in each month and that the Church had fixed his salary @ \$150.00 per year. The committee was further instructed to notify him that the call would be for twelve months."

"July 12, 1896: After preaching by Rev. Jno. Reynolds, Sr. * * the committee appointed to tender the Pastorate of Dover Baptist Church to Rev. J. W. Reynolds reported and also layed the proposition of Bro. Reynolds to the committee before the Church for careful consideration and discussion, which reads as follows: 'Your committee after having conferred with Bro. Reynolds * * * Bro. Reynolds makes this proposition to the Church: that he will give the Church two Sundays, one himself and one by his father. The Saturday service which was asked by the Church he would have to leave off as it would necessitate the giving up of one or more of his Churches. He said he would do all of the pastoral work of the Church himself. * * *".

After much discussion concerning this matter it was decided that the Church would reject Bro. Reynolds' proposition. The Clerk was instructed to notify Bro. Reynolds of this decision and to invite him to preach at Dover the 4th Sunday in July, 1896.

At this same meeting Brethren H. S. Holland, L. D. Ellis, Wm. Crouch and Jenkin T. Jones were appointed Delegates to attend the Dover Association which would meet at Taylorsville Church 21, 22, 23 of July, 1896.

At a meeting on August 9, 1896, it was decided to have a protracted meeting before selecting a Pastor. Rev. R. B. Collier of Seven Pines, Virginia was recommended as a suitable man for the occasion. The Clerk was authorized to invite Bro. Collier to preach on the 16th of August, 1896. A motion to invite Bro. Reynolds to hold the protracted meeting was voted down. A motion to invite Bro. Collier to hold the meeting was carried.

"Thursday Night, August 27, 1896: * * * On motion a standing vote was taken which unanimously elected Rev. R. B. Collier Pastor of Dover Baptist Church under the following conditions: that Bro. R. B. Collier of Seven Pines, Virginia, would serve Dover Baptist Church in the capacity of Pastor for an indefinite time at a salary of \$150.00 per year, the Church requesting Bro. Collier to preach twice every month and attend the regular Church meetings once every quarter on Saturday, and in the event that the Church would get dissatisfied with the Pastor the Church would give him three months notice and if the Pastor would get dissatisfied with the Church he would duly give the Church three months notice. * * * *".

Apparently Bro. Collier accepted the call for immediately after the above minutes is found the following note:

"August 28, 1896. James River - Near Boscobel Station.
Bro. Collier baptized 14 young members."

While the above dates are clearly written, one naturally pauses to consider the time element. It was on August 9th that the Church decided to invite Bro. Collier to hold the protracted meeting; on August 27th that

the Church elected Rev. Collier to take over the pastoral duties, and on August 28th that he baptized fourteen young members. There are no minutes of record between August 9th and August 27th to indicate that Bro. Collier held the protracted meeting and no record of his acceptance of the call.

"October 17, 1896: * * Bro. J. T. Jones, Church Clerk, offered his resignation. * * Action deferred until a committee could confer with Bro. Jones. * * Brethren Holland and Saunders elected Delegates to the General Association. * * * ".

Notes of interest:

"Sunday, Nov. 1, 1896: Preaching by Bro. Smith of Richmond College. Rev. Collier present but could not preach on account of a sore foot.

"Sunday, Nov. 15, 1896: Preaching by Rev. (illegible) Ianson of Highland Springs, Virginia. Rev. Collier, Pastor, absent on account of having a sore foot.

"November 29, 1896 - Called Meeting. * * * The object of this meeting was to get permission to have a cantata in the Church for the purpose of aiding the Church in purchasing new benches. The ladies were authorized to have the cantata in the Church. * * * ".

"January 16, 1897: * * * The authorization given the ladies to have a cantata in the Church was reconsidered. Bro. J. T. Jones withdrew his resignation as Church Clerk. It was decided that preaching services would be held on the 1st and 3rd Sundays in each month at 11:30 A.M. * * * ".

"Called Meeting - 3rd Sunday in January, 1897: For the purpose of appointing a committee to frame new bylaws and constitution. Committee: L. E. Gordon, L. D. Ellis, J. M. Stratton, H. S. Holland and J. T. Jones. The committee was instructed to report at the next meeting. * * * ".

"April 18, 1897: * * Bylaws read to the Church by the Church Clerk."

The above extract is the last recordation in the first minute book of Dover Baptist Church. There is no record of the new bylaws and constitution the committee was, on the 3rd Sunday in January, 1897, instructed to frame, nor is it known what bylaws the Clerk read on April 18, 1897.

At this point we move on to what is supposed to be the second Minute Book of Dover Baptist Church. Many of the pages here are yellowed and broken by age. The book indicates that it has been badly handled and the first page of writing begins in the middle of a sentence. Half pages and pieces of pages have been glued or taped in the book and pages are missing. Also, there are many pages of written material which this writer has been unable to decipher. However, an effort will be made to show the progress of Dover Baptist Church through the years.

"October 17, 1897: At a regular meeting * * * the Church carefully considered the apology of Rev. J. W. Heckman, Pastor of the L.E. Church of this place which he sent to the Church by Bro. Stratton for the insult that he had been guilty of, and for slandering members of Dover B. Church. After carefully considering the weight of the charges made against this Church and careful consideration of the apology, on motion this matter was deferred until our next meeting. * * *".

There is no previous mention of this matter and it is not known what the slandering consisted of. There were only two meetings recorded during the year 1898 and nothing of importance transpired at either meeting. At none of the meetings after October 17, 1897, up until this time, has the "insult and slandering" by Rev. J. W. Heckman been again referred to. It would seem most probable that the entire matter was settled privately or simply forgotten as time went by.

"Called Meeting, June 4, 1899: * * * In view of the fact that the Association will convene here next month, the following committees were appointed to attend to affairs: Committee on hospitality H. S. Holland, L.E. Cordon and W. S. Saunders. Committee to attend to grounds and tables A. C. Henley, Sam'l DuVal, Jr. Geo. Sanders, Mrs. DuVal, Mrs. Nuckols and Mrs. Crouch. Committee to solicit homes for Delegates, L. D. Ellis, W.S. Sanders, Wm. Crouch and W. E. Ashby. * * *".

Note: Protracted services commenced with Rev. I. H. Harrison. Rev. Vernon I. Anson and Rev. R. B. Collier in attendance - October 8th to 14th.

We start the year 1900 on a sour note.

"February 24, 1900: * * * Whereas our Pastor, Rev. R. B. Collier has been charged with misappropriation of money collected for the different Boards of this Dover Church, and whereas said R. B. Collier has proper receipts showing to the contrary, Resolved this Dover Church exonerate him from all censure of guilt. A rising vote was taken, terminating in twelve for exoneration and one only for censure."

If all present voted, it would seem that the number 13 was an unlucky number for Bro. Collier!

"April 1, 1900: * * It was moved, seconded and carried at this meeting that the minutes of the previous meeting be reconsidered. * * Bro. Gordon moved that a committee of three be appointed to investigate the whole trouble and charges against Bro. Collier in regards to the misappropriation of certain Church funds and report such findings on the 3rd Sunday in April. The committee appointed consisted of Bro. Saunders, Bro. S. C. Duval and Bro. Ben Duval. * * *".

"Sunday, April 15, 1900: * * Bro. Saunders handed in the report of the findings of the Committee that was appointed to look into the charges that were made against the Pastor. The report being read to the Church, Bro. Holland moved that the connection between this Dover Church and Bro. Collier be disconnected. On the vote being taken it was unanimously adopted. * * *".

Unquestionably, Bro. Collier's "connection" was "disconnected" for a committee was appointed at this meeting to look for a new Pastor.

Bro. Spencer of the Baptist College in Richmond preached at Dover on July 8, 1900. After services at a Church meeting, Brethren Wm. Crouch, Geo. Saunders, B. B. Duval and L. Gordon were appointed to go to the Association.

At a meeting on September 30, 1900, the Church decided to extend a call to the Rev. A. D. Louthan to serve as Pastor at Dover. The call was made for one year for the sum of \$150.00, preaching to take place every second Sunday morning and every fourth Sunday evening, the year commencing October 1st, 1900.

Note: We can assume that the Rev. A. D. Louthan accepted the call for his name appears as Pastor and as attending various Church meetings after October 1st, 1900.

For a long period now the minutes are recorded in an illegible manner. Occasionally a full sentence can be read, but for the most part the writings are jumbled and meaningless.

On November 7, 1902, a meeting was called for the purpose of raising the amount of \$54.90, balance due the Pastor for the fiscal year 1902.

At a Church meeting on September 13, 1903 one important item of business was to appoint a committee to "find out the amount due the Pastor and other financial affairs of the Church."

This seems to have been the unfortunate pattern all through the years. If records were kept, who kept them? Why should it have been necessary to appoint a committee every two or three months to determine how much money had been paid the Pastor and how much was still due him? Yet, this is precisely what happened and when the amount of the debt to the Pastor was established it became necessary to use almost drastic measures to raise the money to liquidate said debt.

At a meeting on November 8, 1903 it was determined that the amount due Rev. A. D. Louthan at the close of the Pastoral year October 1, 1903, was \$45.00. It was ordered that this amount be paid at this meeting and such amount was promptly raised by members present and paid to Rev. Louthan.

Bro. A. D. Louthan was again called as Pastor of Dover Church for the year beginning October 1, 1903, and he accepted the call.

Bro. H. S. Holland was, at the meeting on November 8, 1903, elected Treasurer of the Church to succeed the late L. E. Gordon.

At a meeting held on April 10, 1904, Bro. W. S. Saunders was elected Treasurer to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Bro. H. S. Holland.

Although no mention has been made of the resignation of Bro. J. T. Jones as Church Clerk, Bro. W. M. Crouch is now and has for a long time been serving in this capacity.

July 10, 1904, was Childrens' Day at Dover. At this time Bro. A. D. Louthan was still serving as pastor. On this date Brethren W. L. Crouch, J. V. Bowles, L. D. Ellis and Jenkin T. Jones were elected Delegates to attend the Dover Association which was to convene at Berea Church in Hanover County, Virginia, on the 25th of July, 1904.

The next minutes of record read:

"January 8, 1905: the Church being without a pastor, called Bro. Green as supply pastor until a regular pastor could be obtained."

On January 22, 1905, a meeting was held for the purpose of determining how much money was due Rev. A. D. Louthan, the retiring pastor, and to pay the amount due. It was also decided that Bro. Green would be paid \$12.50 per month salary, the same as had been paid Bro. Louthan.

On May 14, 1905, Bro. F. L. Hardy was elected pastor, and a committee appointed to "inform the Bro. of his selection." The following is an extract from the minutes of May 14th:

"~~xxx~~ Bro. Green preached his final sermon and the Church paid him in full to date, \$14.50. Also Bro. Louthan in full \$13.60, and sexton's bill \$1.34 in full. So that Bro. Hardy will find the Church clear of debt. God grant it may stay so."

These minutes were signed by W. M. Crouch, Clerk.

"May 28, 1905: Bro. Hardy preached his first sermon after being called as pastor."

Now come periods when there are no minutes and when they do appear they are illegible or undated.

"January 14, 1906: * * * the old "Bible" was given to Mrs. L. E. Gordon, as her husband expressed a wish for the same before his death."

"May 1, 1906: At a called meeting of Dover Church, May 1, 1906, the object of the meeting was stated by the pastor, Rev. F. Hardy that his time of service for the past 12 months had expired with this service and he also stated that if invited would come and preach for us at the next meeting, June 10, 1906. But stated that he could not accept the call for less than \$200.00 as the Goochland Church had already advanced his salary. The Brethren had until June 10th to see what action should be taken. The sentiment of the Church seemed favorable to comply with the request of the Pastor."

"Called meeting, June 10, 1906 * * * The object of this meeting was to consider the recalling of the pastor, Rev. F. L. Hardy, the fiscal year ending May 13, 1906. * * * After a discussion of the financial affairs of Dover Church * * * it was decided by standing vote to recall Bro. Frank L. Hardy for another year, also to raise Pastor's salary to \$200.00, the present amount being \$150.00. * * *"

"July 8, 1906: * * Brethren J. V. Bowles, Walter Ellis, B. Duval and Jenkin T. Jones, also Mrs. Anna Ellis elected Delegates to attend meeting of Dover Association to be held at Cool Springs Baptist Church in Hanover County, Virginia, on July 24, 1906. * * *"

There are no minutes of note until:

"December 29, 1907: * * * Bro. Frank Hardy, pastor of Dover Baptist Church offered his resignation to the Church asking that it be promptly accepted and wishing it to take effect on the 4th Sunday in January. After some discussion among the Brethren, Bro. Hardy's resignation was accepted. He leaves in good fellowship and love to accept a call to another field. Bro. Hardy stated that the Church is now due him \$65.00 and requested that this amount be raised and paid him at the Church's earliest convenience. * * * Previous to this meeting Bro. Hardy asked the members to assist in the Endowment Fund for Richmond College. \$150.00 was promised by January 26, 1908."

"After the close of services a called meeting of the Brethren was held to arrange financial matters and arrange to have someone conduct services until a regular pastor was called. Bro. Hardy suggested Bro. Wythe Anderson of Richmond College. It was decided to ask him to supply until other arrangements were made."

Note: It is interesting to observe that no financial difficulties have been mentioned since the meeting on May 14, 1905. The fervent prayer of Bro. Crouch on that date seems to have held for nearly three years!

"February 9, 1908: Bro. Wythe D. Anderson of Richmond College conducted services at Dover Church on the above date. The sum of \$5.00 was raised and paid to Bro. Anderson. Not many members present and no decision on a pastor or not any money raised for Bro. Hardy's salary. Bro. Anderson will preach again on the 4th Sunday in February. A bill of \$6.00 was presented to the Church by the sexton, Mr. C. H. Powers."

"March 22, 1908: At a call meeting of Dover Baptist Church * * the object of this meeting is to raise funds to pay the former pastor, Rev. F. L. Hardy, \$63.25, the entire amount to date. * * Bro. Jones spoke in regard to the cemetery and made a motion that all who are not members of Dover Church must see the Trustees before the privilege of burial was granted. This motion was carried."

At a meeting on June 14, 1908, the following matters of business were taken up:

The balance due Bro. F. L. Hardy was raised and he was paid in full.

The Church was requested to reimburse Bro. J. V. Bowles the amount of \$7.00 which he had personally advanced to pay Dr. Louthan, a former pastor.

The matter of Trustees was discussed and it was moved that Brethren Jenkin T. Jones and Sam C. Duval be appointed and confirmed at the next Circuit Court of Goochland County to fill the vacancies created by the deaths of Brethren L. E. Gordon and H. K. Nuckols.

The calling of a pastor was discussed but no decision reached.

The minutes of this meeting were approved by J. B. Hill, Acting Pastor.

At a meeting on June 28, 1908, the matter of calling a pastor was again deferred.

"September 13, 1908: At a call meeting * * * the object of this meeting is to call a pastor. Bro. (?) Clarke was named and motion made to extend to him a call to the pastorate of Dover Church. * * "

Note: The conditions of the call - that Bro. Clarke preach one morning and one afternoon service, the salary to be \$150.00. Bro. Clarke agreed to consider the call and in October, 1908, he accepted the call on the named conditions.

Note: It seems proper to mention here that the year is well on the wane and no reference has been made to the \$150.00 promised for the Endowment Fund for Richmond College. The minutes of December 29, 1907 stated this amount was promised "by January 26, 1908".

The meeting on March 13, 1909, was one of great event. The pastor, Bro. Clarke, was moderator at this meeting.

"A motion made to allow the sisters in the Church the privilege of voting - was unanimously carried and in the future will take part in all the meetings."

Opposite this recordation in bold handwriting are two words:

"Woman Suffrage."

"April 11, 1909: * * * On motion * * it was suggested that an Easter Festival be held for the benefit of the Church. * * * On motion * * * that Polk Miller of Richmond deliver a lecture at the Church for the benefit of the Church. * * * the object to have the Church painted before the Association meets here in July. Also an entertainment be held at the Church grounds during the Association - proceeds for the benefit of the Church."

At a meeting on May 9, 1909, with Bro. James A. Clarke (Pastor) acting as Moderator, it was decided to have the Church painted at a cost of \$45.00 and a committee was appointed to see that the job was accomplished. Following is an extract from the minutes under the above date:

"Bro. Ellis then made a motion, or rather thought, we had better fix the fee at the door. After some discussion left open - 35¢ for adults, 25¢ for children. After consideration the above amounts were agreed upon. * * * After much discussion and delay the meeting adjourned."

It is not clear what the above fees were intended to cover unless they were admission prices to hear the Polk Miller Lecture which had been previously discussed.

The minutes move on to October then November and still no mention of the Association having met at Dover during the month of July.

After the above there are no legible or connected minutes until the 4th Sunday in August, presumably of 1910:

"* * * at a called meeting of Dover Church the Deacons were appointed as a committee to see after a pastor for the Church to succeed Bro. James A. Clarke who has resigned his pastorate of this Church."

"November 13, 1910: * * * the object of the meeting was to call a pastor. Brother Ellis made a motion that we call Brother Tucker as pastor at a salary of \$150.00, if we can't get him at that price, try to get him at \$200.00. The motion was carried. * * * "

Brother Tucker was duly waited upon and stated that he could not give a decided answer until the 4th Sunday in November, so the Church decided to wait until that time to call a pastor.

The next meeting of record reads as follows:

"Called meeting, February 12, 1911: After a discourse by A. J. Adams of Spurgeon Memorial Church, Norfolk, Virginia, the Church convened for business. Bro. L. D. Ellis (Committee on Pastor) read a letter from Rev. J. T. Tucker to the effect that he declines the call to the pastorate of this Church which was tendered him a few months ago. On motion, Bro. L. D. Ellis was retained as Committee to secure a pastor. Mr. A. J. Adams being present, the committee approached him relative to the pastorate. He readily consented to take the Church and preach each Sunday in the month at \$200.00 per annum. The committee was instructed to defer making a final report on the matter until two (2) weeks hence. On motion, the Chair appointed Bro. J. A. Dunlevy to repair the Church fence and present his bill to the Church. On motion, the Clerk was instructed to have the Church record here on the 4th Sunday in order to get the names of the Church Trustees. Respectfully submitted: W. S. Ellis, Clk Pro tem. J. T. Jones, Moderator. Approved April 8, 1911.

"W.B. Upon investigation, J. T. Jones ascertained the fact that the above mentioned A. J. Adams is not a minister. After writing to Prof. T. W. Boatwright, President of Richmond College, and President of Harvard University and Rev. C. A. Jenkins, Pastor of Spurgeon Memorial Baptist Church, he was satisfied that the man Adams is an imposter and notified him to leave the village at once. (Signed) J. T. Jones, Clerk."

"Called meeting, February 25, 1911: Immediately after preaching services by Rev. W. D. Anderson of Richmond, Virginia, the Church convened for business. Bro. L. D. Ellis stated that he had secured the services of Rev. W. D. Anderson as supply temporarily at the rate of \$150.00 per annum. On motion, J. T. Jones was elected Church Clerk. * * *"

"Called meeting, April 8, 1911: * * * previous mention appears in these records of Mr. A. J. Adams of Norfolk, Virginia and a motion was made to dispose of this exceedingly disgraceable subject. After being discussed * * * it was decided that the Clerk dictate a letter to Mr. Adams' Pastor, Rev. C. A. Jenkins, Pastor of Spurgeon Memorial Baptist Church, Norfolk, Virginia, and present the same to the Deacons and officers of our Church and secure their signatures to the same. * * *"

Following is a copy of the letter that was written:

"Rev. C. A. Jenkins
Pastor, Spurgeon Memorial Baptist Church
Norfolk, Virginia

"Manakin, Virginia,
April 8, 1911.

"Dear Bro:

"On February 12, 1911, a young man by the name of A. J. Adams,

claiming to be a Minister of the Gospel and claiming membership in your Church, came to our Church (Dover Baptist) and delivered a discourse which in some respects was very well handled. After services he insisted that we install him as Pastor. We, however, deemed it prudent to defer final action to two (2) weeks later. Upon investigation it was ascertained that Mr. Adams is not and never has been an ordained minister. He stated while here that he had attended Harvard University for two years, Richmond College for two and one half years, and that he had been pastor of one of your Norfolk Churches for over a year, also Pastor of Antioch Church for two years. We find after taking the matter up with the above colleges that he has never attended Harvard and attended Richmond College less than one month. He stated that he lost everything that he had during the fire at Richmond College December 25, 1910, all of his text-books, his father's books, (who was also a Baptist minister), his money and clothing. We have your letter of the 16th of February, 1911, to our Church Clerk, Bro. J. T. Jones, recommending Mr. Adams. We also have Bro. Jones's letter to you bearing date of February 20, 1911, asking for further information with reference to Mr. Adams. It appears that after you had promised to give us any information you possessed relative to the man in question (according to your letter of February 16, 1911) that when J. T. Jones wrote you asking for the information that you simply referred his letter to Mr. Adams for reply. Mr. Adams, in reply to that inquiry, simply marked across the first sheet thus X, and on the last he wrote on the back as follows: "the best pack of trash that has ever come to my notice, signed A.J.A." It seems that Mr. Adams was burning with indignation and wrath and he does not fail to show that he is in reality what Harvard is pleased to call him "an imposter".

(Continuation of letter to Rev. C. A. Jenkins.)

"He wrote Bro. Jones the most insulting letter that is possible for a gentleman and Baptist to receive, he denounces Bro. Jones as being a devil, liar, and not worthy to be called Sir, Mr. or Bro. That he is a disgrace to the community in which he lives and a hindrance to the cause of Christ. In view of the facts above set forth and being assembled in Church Conference with sufficient evidence at hand and witnesses to testify as to the accuracy of the above stated facts, we deem it our duty to take this matter up with you. As officers of Dover Baptist Church, we cannot overlook the fact that it is our duty to state that Bro. J. T. Jones has been a member of this Church for 22 years, and has been a faithful member of this Church and still is. He has served the Church as Trustee, Treasurer and Clerk. And has served the Sunday School as Librarian, Assistant Superintendent and for 12-1/2 years was Superintendent. He stands well in the community and church, he is truthful, sober and reliable. Therefore, we, the undersigned, take pleasure in attesting to the same, and recommend that you deal with the young man in question according to your by-laws.

"Signed:

J. T. Jones, Clerk.

L. D. Ellis, Moderator
W. M. Crouch, Deacon
J. V. Bowles, Deacon
W. S. Ellis, Treasurer
A. T. Pugh, Supt. of Sunday School.
A. C. Henley, Trustee
L. C. Harris, Trustee."

* * * * *

On Sunday, June 25, 1911, Louis Henley, W. M. Crouch, B. B. Duval and E. R. Henley were elected Delegates to attend the Dover Baptist Association.

On July 9, 1911, an excellent sermon was delivered by Rev. J. T. Phillips of Richmond College.

"Called meeting, Dec. 24, 1911: Immediately after services conducted by the Pastor, Rev. W. D. Anderson, the Clerk mentioned the fact that according to an agreement entered into between the Church and Bro. Anderson three months ago (viz: that Bro. Anderson would accept a call as pastor for three months) this Church stands now at the end of the term agreed upon, Pastorless. After a statement by Bro. Anderson and short talks by several of the members, it was agreed that the matter of calling a Pastor be deferred until the 2nd Sunday in January, 1912."

On January 28, 1912, there was a called meeting for the purpose of raising money to pay the retiring pastor, Bro. W. D. Anderson. According to Bro. Anderson's statement the amount due was \$20.36. A collection amounting to \$6.15 was taken up and turned over to the Clerk with instructions to hold until the full amount was raised. It was decided to wait until Bro. Anderson was paid in full before calling another pastor to the Church. A committee was appointed to provide a supply for the pulpit until a pastor was called.

Thus the pattern at Dover has held through the years. All too frequently the Church is without a pastor and without the necessary funds to take care of its financial requirements.

At a meeting on May 12, 1912, it was deemed advisable to call a pastor at once. The names of several ministers were presented, and the name of Rev. C. R. Angell was placed in nomination by J. T. Jones. Others were nominated, but Bro. C. R. Angell having received such a large majority of the votes, the Church voted unanimously for him. The Clerk was instructed to notify Bro. Angell that the call would be for six months with the understanding that either party i.e. the Church or Pastor would have the right to

cancel this agreement at the expiration of the specified term. It was further agreed that if both parties were satisfied the call may continue indefinitely. Bro. Angell's salary was stipulated as not less than \$150.00 per annum and he was required to preach two Sundays each month.

At a meeting on June 16, 1912, the Clerk was instructed to communicate with Deep Run Baptist Church relative to forming a field in order to have a resident pastor.

At a called meeting on June 23, 1912, the Clerk read a letter from Deep Run Baptist Church in reply to a communication addressed to that Church relative to joining with the Dover Church in forming a field for the purpose of maintaining a pastor and locating him permanently on the field. They favored the proposition but had secured the services of a pastor prior to receiving the letter from Dover Church. At this meeting Rev. C. R. Angell stated that he had accepted the call as Pastor of Dover Church.

Notation under date of June 23, 1912. "First service conducted by C. Roy Angell as Pastor of Dover Baptist Church."

Following is another notation which reads:

"The wire fence around the Church and cemetery was completed on the 16th of August, 1912. The following persons having worked faithfully on it - G. W. Henley, K. R. Henley, Harry Henley, Frank Henley, Arthur Henley, Bernard Henley, Elmo Henley, C. Roy Angell, Paul, Marvin and J. T. Jones. The granolithic walk from the gate to the doors of the Church was also made and completed with the fence. W. E. Harris, Sabot Hill, Virginia, donated the cedar posts used. H. J. Harris & Son donated the stone used. Balance due \$62.03."

And -

"Revival commenced on Monday, August 19th, Rev. W. T. Hall of Halifax County in charge. The meeting continued throughout the week with services Monday and Tuesday nights then at 11 A.M., 2 P.M., and 8 P.M., Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, resulting in the conversion of six and the Church being revived - many of our members reconsecrating their services to the Lord. May God add his blessings to this effort."

September 29, 1912: Sunday afternoon at 3'oclock, after preaching services held by Rev. S. A. Bass of Richmond, assisted by the Pastor, the following young members were baptized by Rev. Bass: Gracie Thomas, Lollie DuVal, Alma Ford, Paul Jones, James Ford, Herbert Tillman. Good congregation, beautiful day, and plenty of water! J. T. Jones, Clerk."

On October 27, 1912, a Finance Committee was elected.

At a called meeting on December 8, 1912, C. Roy Angell, the present pastor, was unanimously elected to succeed himself for a period of 12 months, commencing January 1, 1913, "by the largest and most enthusiastic vote cast in this Church for many years. The enthusiasm was so apparent that some remarks were made upon the subject."

Rev. Hall of Richmond College conducted services on January 12, 1913, due to the fact that Rev. C. Roy Angell was ill.

On November 9, 1913, A. T. Pugh was elected temporary Clerk to act during the absence of Bro. J. T. Jones.

At a called meeting on November 23, 1913, Bro. W. T. Halstead was called as pastor of Dover Church and he took the call under consideration. In December of 1913, Bro. W. T. Halstead accepted the call for the year 1913-14. He resigned as pastor in June, 1914.

Note: It will be observed that great care was taken to elaborate on the enthusiastic vote for Rev. C. Roy Angell as Pastor of Dover for the year commencing January 1, 1913, and it is quite clear that Rev. Angell accepted the call. However, there is no record concerning his departure from the Church.

Neither is it clear what occurred during Bro. Halstead's short sojourn at Dover. There is no explanation as to why he did not serve as Pastor for the specified time and no reason is given for his resignation.

"Jan. 1915. Bro. H. O. Wyatt of Richmond College (who has been supplying since Bro. Halstead resigned) was called by unanimous vote as Pastor for one year. Bro. Wyatt accepted the call * * * *."

"Aug. 1915 * * * A series of meetings were held by Pastor H.O. Wyatt and Bro. Connelly of Richmond College * * * ."

"January 23, 1916. Rev. H. O. Wyatt resigned as Pastor of Dover having served the Church one year."

"October, 1916. During spring and summer months Dover Church had no regular pastor. Supplies from Richmond College filled the pulpit during this period."

"On February 11, 1917 * * * the Church convened for the business of calling a pastor and Rev. Wicks of Baltimore was extended a unanimous call. * * * ."

"On February 17, 1917, Mr. Wicks accepted the call to Dover as Pastor and pledged to serve to the best of his ability. He urged the members to unite in an effort to revive the work of the Church which had been retarded by not having a regular pastor. * * * "

Bro. Wicks did not remain at Dover very long. On the 27th of May, 1917, he offered his resignation asking that it take effect at once, and stating that it was due to "circumstances over which he had no control." His resignation was accepted.

In June, 1917, services at Dover were conducted by Rev. Cheatham of Richmond College. At a meeting during that month Brethren Paul Jones, Herbert Tillman, Benjamin DuVal and Will Gordon were elected Delegates to attend the Dover Association.

"Aug. 18, 1917. * * A motion was made that a committee of five, three male and two female members, be appointed to attend to laying off cemetery in lots, same to be numbered and record kept to whom assigned. The men appointed at a previous meeting are Ben Powers, Walter Ellis and A. T. Pugh. Ladies - Mrs. L. C. Clarke and Mrs. C. B. Taylor. Carried."

Revival services were held during week of September 21 to 26, inclusive by Rev. Chas. Northern of Richmond College.

On October 22, 1917, a call was extended Rev. Northern to take the pastorate at Dover for one year and on November 11th he accepted the call for one morning service and one evening service each month at a salary of \$200.00 per year.

The next minutes of record are dated a year later and are as follow:

"Nov. 17, 1918. Night services by Pastor L. C. Northern who, after a brief sermon, stated it was the end of his fiscal year and he tendered his resignation, stating that this did not necessarily mean he would not be subject to a call, but owing to the terms of the agreement he was called for one year which ended at this meeting. Small attendance and the matter was not further discussed."

At a called meeting in December, 1918, a motion was made by Bro. J. T. Jones that a committee of two be appointed to see the members of the Church and ascertain if the majority wished to recall Mr. Northern. Bro. J. T. Jones resigned as Church Clerk and Bro. A. T. Pugh elected to serve as Clerk.

Another meeting was held in December at which a vote was taken concerning the recalling of Rev. Northern. "A vote was taken and a small majority cast the vote not to recall him for 1919." No reference is made to the "large majority" but it is clear that Rev. Northern was not recalled.

On January 12, 1919, Bro. Walter Ellis was appointed a committee of one to get a pulpit supply until a pastor could be secured. Bro. Ellis stated that the Church was indebted to Rev. Northern to the extent of \$57.65.

Rev. Habbel of Richmond conducted services on January 26th. After services a meeting was held and the amount raised to pay Rev. Northern in full.

February, 1919 - Mr. Habbel of Richmond conducted services.

Services conducted by Mr. Askew of Richmond on March 24, April 27, June 8 and June 22.

At a meeting held on June 22nd, two Senior Deacons, Mr. LeRoy Ellis and Mr. W. M. Crouch were made honorary Deacons for life.

June 29, 1919. Brethren Walter Ellis, L. C. Clarke and Ben DuVal were elected Delegates to the Dover Association which will convene in July.

The following note appears in the Minute Book:

"Impressive ordination services of deacons was conducted at Dover Church, Sunday, July 27, 1919. Those ordained were Bro. L. C. Clarke and Bro. Benj. Powers. Charge to Deacons made by Rev. C. A. Hall, Charge to Church by Rev. Arendall."

"Oct. 26, 1919. Revival services held at Dover Church during two weeks in October and November by Rev. Chas. I. Herring of Ind. * * * "

Following the above is a notation that on October 17, 1919, a called meeting was held for the purpose of calling Bro. C. I. Herring as Pastor.

At a meeting held on January 14, 1920, Bro. J. T. Jones made a statement that the Bylaws and Constitution of the Church had been lost from the Church book and asked that a committee of three be appointed to draw up Bylaws and a Constitution for Dover Church. Motion was made to this effect and carried. The Pastor stated he would appoint the committee at a future date. Bro. J. T. Jones offered his resignation as Trustee of the Church, which resignation was accepted.

Some difficulty seems to have been encountered in connection with the calling of Bro. Herring as Pastor. The following notation appears in the Minute Book.

"Oct. 1919. Owing to absence of Church Clerk the report on calling of Pastor, Rev. C. I. Herring, was delayed until present date."

There was a called meeting in February, 1920. The object of this meeting was to determine the amount to be paid the pastor.

(There is no evidence to indicate that Rev. Herring had been serving at Dover during the period October 1919 until February 1920).

Minutes of the February, 1920 meeting state that it had previously been agreed to raise the pastor's salary from \$200 to \$500 per year. However, at this meeting it was unanimously voted that the salary would be \$600 per annum and such figure was presented to Rev. Herring. The call to become pastor at Dover included a 60 day clause in the event either the Pastor or

the Church became dissatisfied with the arrangement. The fiscal year was to begin with the 2nd Sunday in November, presumably of 1919.

Extract from meeting held on December 19, 1920:

"Question before the Church whether Church wants Bro. C. I. Herring for next year. The vote is taken and two vote for him and 19 vote against him. Mr. Pugh gave details of Bro. Herring's past life, told by Herring. * * * * Vote is taken to give Bro. Herring notice to leave, to take effect next Sunday, three months from this date. * * * Suggested that the Church may decide by that time to keep him. The Deacons were elected to notify him (Bro. Herring) which notification was given on December 26, 1920."

Apparently the Church decided it could get along without Bro. Herring for his name appears for the last time as conducting services on February 16, 1921.

At a meeting on May 29, 1921, a motion was made and seconded that all old Church records be sent to Richmond College to be kept for Church with the privilege of being seen at any time.

There is no record of what occurred between May 29, 1921 and June 18, 1922, which is the date of the next entry in the Minute Book. At this meeting, June 18, 1922, Bro. J. H. Miller was called by a unanimous vote as Pastor of Dover Church for an indefinite time at \$25.00 per month, "if he wants to leave the Church, give the Church 30 days notice, and if the Church wants him to leave, give him 30 days notice." Bro. Miller accepted the call on these conditions.

Elmo Henley, Geo. Keeton, Ben Powers, Paul Jones and Marvin Jones were, at this same meeting, elected Delegates to attend the Dover Association which was to meet on July 18, 19, 20, 1922.

Note: Protracted services held at Dover Church beginning August 20, 1922, lasting one week. Meeting held by Rev. J. Hillis Miller of the University of Richmond.

"July 1, 1923. * * * Delegates appointed to attend the Dover Association to be held at Barton Heights Baptist Church July 17, 18, 19, 1923: Mr. J. H. Miller, Mr. Wm. Crouch, Mr. Geo. Keeton, Miss Mollie B. DuVal, Miss Bessie DuVal. * * * "

"Aug. 15, 1923. A collection was taken for Webber Memorial and \$100.00 was paid to Treasurer for same * * * * *."

"Aug. 30, 1923. Evangelistic services held at Dover Baptist Church beginning on the night of August 12. J. Hillis Miller, Pastor, conducted the services. * * * * "

Note under date of August 31, 1923:

"L. C. Clarke went to Richmond, Virginia with a hired truck and brought back the Webber Monument. Bro. Elmo Henley, Bro. J. T. Jones, Bro. L. C. Clarke and Bro. Wm. Crouch erected the monument on Saturday, September 1, 1923, without any expense to the Church."

"Manakin, Virginia
September 2, 1923.

"The Webber Memorial was presented to Dover Church by the Dover Baptist Association on Sunday, September 2nd, 1923.

"The meeting was called to order by the Pastor, J. Hillis Miller at 10:30 o'clock. Prayer by Bro. Willis Pilcher of Petersburg. Dr. Garnett Ryland made a short talk then Bro. Miller gave a very interesting talk on The Growth of the Church. Bro. L. G. Montague made a wonderful address on Webber. Bro. Billings and Bro. Luther Jenkins brought greetings from the Association to the Church. At 1:15 dinner was served on lawn of Church. After dinner, Bro. Douglas Freeman gave an address on The Growth of the Baptists. It was a most wonderful address. A large crowd was in attendance, some of Pastor Webber's descendants. The Church was represented by Bro. Benjamin DuVal and he accepted the monument with a very impressive speech. Among the visitors were some very prominent people of the Baptist denomination."

It was at a meeting on April 20, 1924, that the matter of class rooms for Dover Church was first discussed. Two committees were appointed. Bro. Ben DuVal was appointed Chairman of the Finance Committee and Bro. Elmo Henley was appointed Chairman of the Construction Committee.

"May 14, 1924. Church gave flowers to our beloved Bro. and Deacon William Crouch who died May 8, 1924."

At a meeting on July 6, 1924, the Church elected the following Delegates to attend Dover Association which was to meet at Four Mile Creek

Church: Miss Bessie DuVal, M. F. Jones, Geo. Keeton and L. C. Clarke.

The proposed class rooms were again discussed at this meeting and it was decided to have an architect draw the necessary plans.

On July 20, 1924, plans were completed for holding a protracted meeting at Dover in the month of August. Plans for the Sunday School rooms were presented by the architect through Bro. Miller (the architect being a friend of Bro. Miller). There was some discussion concerning the class-rooms and it was left to the committees to raise \$1,000 for the construction of same. Also, the committees were instructed to go over the plans and see if it was best to build the rooms accordingly.

"Aug. 14, 1924. Protracted services completed - wonderful sermons by Pastor, Bro. Miller * * * *."

On October 5, 1924, it was decided to reject the plans made by Mr. Locklane, the architect, for the Sunday School rooms, and to notify him that if he wished to make another bid he might do so. A motion was made and carried to have Brethren Elmo Henley, J. T. Jones, Paul Jones and M. F. Jones draw up plans and present them to the committees for approval.

There were rumblings of misbehavior on the part of some of the members of Dover Church and at this meeting the advisability of calling them before the Church to account for their conduct was discussed. However, final decision was postponed to a later date.

On October 12, 1924, some of the members who had been "walking disorderly" were tried and found wanting and were dropped from the Church roll. Others were granted reprieves until a later date.

The following notes as they appear in the Minute Book are of interest:

Mr. Miller resigned May 31, 1925.
Mr. Joe Rotella is in question as Pastor of the Church.
Mr. Miller will conduct revival services at Dover beginning with the 3rd Sunday in July.

After several meetings of the Committees on the Sunday School Class Rooms (composed of members of the Church) it was decided to accept the plans submitted by Bro. M. F. Jones. Work was begun on the classrooms in June, 1925.

In June, 1925, the following Delegates were appointed to attend the Dover Association which was to meet at Glen Allen Baptist Church: Marvin Jones, J. Hillis Miller and Miss Mollie DuVal.

"July 25, 1925. Revival services were held at Dover Church beginning with services Sunday morning and again Sunday night by Rev. Joseph Rotella. On Monday Bro. J. Hillis Miller continued through the week and two nights the following week."

On July 26, 1925, a committee was appointed to wait on Bro. Rotella to see if he would accept the pastorate of the Church.

"Aug. 2, 1925. The committee called on Bro. Rotella and he agreed to accept Dover for one year beginning with the above date - 1st Sunday in August, 1925, with the salary named by Bro. Rotella at \$500. for the year with services on 1st and 3rd Sundays. Report made to the Church and Bro. Rotella accepted as pastor August 2, 1925."

While there had been considerable talk concerning the construction of Sunday School Class Rooms, the minutes do not record any definite action until the following:

"Aug. 1925. The following committee to have Sunday School rooms built was composed of: Miss Mollie B. DuVal, Mr. Marvin Jones, Mr. Elmo Henley, Mr. L. C. Clarke and Mr. George Keeton. Work was done by Mr. J. T. Jones, Mr. Paul Jones, Mr. Marvin Jones, Mr. Elmo Henley and Mr. Will Gordon. The amount paid for the building and for the concrete steps and painting was this amount - \$1500.00, Fifteen Hundred Dollars.

"A committee was composed of Miss Bessie DuVal, Miss Mary Gordon and Ben DuVal to go over and check and pay all bills for this building.

"Bro. Thomas Jones and Bro. Vernon Hall gave several hours of their time to paint inside of the Church, especially the new rooms.

"A number of Ladies met at Church one day and cleaned with the assistance of some colored women. This group was composed of Mrs. J. T. Jones, Mrs. J. L. Clarke, Miss Mollie DuVal, Miss Bessie DuVal, Mrs. W. A. Gordon, Miss Mary Gordon, Mrs. O. B. Taylor, Mrs. L. A. Wood, Mrs. J. W. Cary, Mrs. Sam Henley (Mrs) Vernon Hall, Mrs. R. Byron Clarke, Miss Hallie McCullen, Mrs. L. C. Clarke. Church was beautifully cleaned."

The above entry in the minute book bears no signature.

A note in September: "Ready for the dedication which was to take place September 20, 1925."

Under date of September 22, 1925, appears the following:

"Sept. 22, 1925. On September 20, 1925, a bright and beautiful Sunday, the dedication exercises were held and the following program was carried out:

"10:30-11:30 - Sunday School

1. 10:30 Opening Exercises. Special Music by Miss Faulkner from Atlee, Va.
2. 10:45 Lesson Period. Conducted by Hon. R. L. Montague.
3. 11:15 Closing Exercises
- 11:45-12:30 Morning Service. Sermon by Rev. Joseph Rotella, Pastor. He preached a fine sermon on Talents.
- 12:30-2:00 Intermission. Lunch and Social Hour.
- 2:00-2:20 Devotional Exercises led by Pastor, Rev. Rotella.
- 2:20-2:40 Talk by Mr. William Bradby.
- 2:40-3:10 Special Selections rendered by Broad St. Methodist Choir and Miss Germinie from Charlottesville, Va.
- 3:10 Speaker of the Afternoon - Rev. J. Hillis Miller. His subject was: Building for God After the Fashion of the Master Builder.

Adjournment.

The Church was beautifully decorated with ferns and cut flowers and the day was termed a success. Perfect weather and a large crowd of people. Signed: L. C. Clarke, Clerk."

Following the above there is no item of note until June 20, 1926, when it was reported that the Church had no Bylaws or Constitution. After much discussion a committee was appointed to take care of this important item.

On this date the following Delegates were appointed to attend the Dover Association: Sister Bessie DuVal, Sister Mollie DuVal, Sister L. A. Wood, and Bro. L. C. Clarke and Bro. George Keeton.

Also at this meeting on June 20th there was much ado about waiting upon a certain sister who was charged with walking "indiscreetly." Two

From, consisting of seven members, were appointed to consider this



The emblem, in the shape of a shield, had a black background and was inscribed with gold letters reading "Lower Baptist Church." A few

DOVER BAPTIST CHURCH
MANAKIN, VIRGINIA
AFTER THE ADDITION OF SUNDAY SCHOOL ROOMS
DEDICATION OF SUNDAY SCHOOL ROOMS - SEPTEMBER 20, 1925

THIS CHURCH DESTROYED BY FIRE - OCTOBER 30, 1951

This picture made possible to the Author
by a donation from Miss Mary L. Clarke.

groups, consisting of seven members, were appointed to consider this problem. Apparently there was not sufficient evidence for at a meeting on July 4th only one member of the seven appointed put in an appearance and the case against the indiscreet sister was filed "nolle prosequi."

In July, 1926, Miss Bessie DuVal, Miss Mollie DuVal, Mrs. L. A. Wood and Mrs. L. C. Clarke were appointed Delegates to attend the Dover Association.

A report under date of July 4th reads in part as follows:

"Report of Members - 151
Scholars in Sunday School - 117
Workers with diplomas - 13
Church members in School - 73
Books in library - 120."

"Aug. 1926. On Sunday, August 29, 1926, a protracted meeting was held at Dover Church by the Pastor, Joseph Rotella, with Bro. Elmo Whitlock leading the singing. Several additions to the Church. The preacher was paid \$50.00 and he was to pay Bro. Whitlock for his services out of the same. Baptism was held on 3rd Sunday in September (Sept. 19) in Tuckahoe Creek with a large attendance."

Time marches on with only routine business taking place until:

"Sept. 9, 1927. A revival service was held at Dover Church beginning August 21, 1927, Rev. Rotella preaching. Bro. Elmo Whitlock lead the singing. Ten additions to the Church * * Baptism was conducted at Tuckahoe Creek September 4, 1927. * * * A marker was given to the Church by Robert Leadbetter of Richmond, Virginia, and Bro. J. T. Jones put the marker in place with the Church consenting. The Church instructed Miss Irene DuVal to write a letter of thanks to Robert Leadbetter for this beautiful gift - which he gave for the love of his mother to the Church of her childhood days."

Note: Believing that reference to the above marker should be clarified, the writer has made an attempt to find out some of the details. From information supplied by Miss Mary L. Clarke it is learned that Robert Leadbetter's mother was Mrs. Imogene Forloine Leadbetter, a direct descendant of the Huguenot Forloines who settled in the village of Manakin in the year 1700, and a sister of Mrs. Luther Calvin Clarke. Mrs. Leadbetter was a member of Dover Church for many years.

The marker, in the shape of a shield, had a black background and was inscribed with gold letters reading: "Dover Baptist Church." A year

date, which is believed to be 1927, was inscribed beneath these words. The marker was placed directly in the center of the front of the Church and is easily seen in the picture of church after addition of Sunday school rooms.

In June, 1928, Mr. George Keeton, Miss Bessie DuVal and Mrs. L. C. Clarke were appointed Delegates to attend Dover Association which was to meet at Hopeful Baptist Church July 18-19, 1928.

Also in June, 1928, a revival was held at Dover beginning June 17. Rev. Rotella conducted the meetings with Bro. Lonnie Wood taking care of the singing. Converts were baptized in Tuckahoe Creek.

In May, 1929, Brethren Will DuVal, L. C. Clarke, Geo. Keeton and Mrs. L. C. Clarke were appointed Delegates to attend Dover Association.

August, 1930. Revival services held beginning August 3rd. Rev. Rotella preached.

December 7, 1930. At this meeting there was discussion concerning a memorial for the Misses Bowles. It was decided to have a memorial window put in the Church at the back of the pulpit. A committee was appointed to see that this was done.

Note: Mrs. L. C. Clarke of Manakin has advised the writer that the "Misses Bowles" referred to were Miss Ann Eliza Bowles and Miss Lou Bowles who were long-time members of Dover Baptist Church. These ladies bequeathed to the Church the sum of \$500.00 and it was the purpose of the Church to use this money to pay for the memorial window described above.

Note: Bro. B. E. Powers, Deacon, died on August 3, 1931.

March 6, 1932. Mr. Will DuVal, Miss Mollie DuVal, Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Jones and Mr. and Mrs. L. C. Clarke were appointed Delegates to attend the Dover Association.

The minutes of June, 1932, were terse and to the point. They read as follows:

"June 1932. Call meeting of the Church. Rev. Rotella as Chairman. Quite a discussion as to cutting Pastor's salary. Nothing definite decided. Meeting adjourned."

In July, 1932, Revival services were held at Dover with Rev. Rotella preaching and Mr. Elmo Whitlock in charge of the singing.

In August, 1932, Rev. Rotella held baptizing at McLean's Pond.

On January 1, 1933, a committee from Salem Baptist Church brought the following proposition to the Dover congregation:

"Asking Dover to consider one afternoon preaching service so that they might have one morning service instead of every afternoon service."

This matter was referred to a committee which was instructed to report on February 5, 1933.

It would appear from the above that at this time Rev. Rotella was serving as pastor for both Dover and Salem.

The following would indicate that the committee had completed their report before February 5th.

"January 15, 1933. Rev. Rotella called a meeting of the Church to hear the decision of the committee. It was put to a vote as to Dover giving one morning service to Salem. Church voted against this change having previously tried having Sunday School in the afternoon without success * * * *."

Note: September, 1933. A Revival Service was held by Rev. Rotella. Five additions to the Church.

With this last entry the second book of minutes of Dover Baptist Church is closed.

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The third book of minutes for Dover Baptist Church begin with a meeting on December 17, 1933, at which a Finance Committee was appointed to canvas members of the Church.

February 4, 1934: Mr. and Mrs. L. C. Clarke, Mr. Will Gordon and Miss Mary Gordon named as Delegates to attend meeting of Dover Association.

September 1934: Revival services held by Mr. Mott Junby, beginning September 3rd.

March 17, 1935: Treasurer's report indicated the Church was in debt to Pastor Joseph Rotella to the extent of \$100.00. Balance in bank, 99¢. There were other assets however such as: savings account \$403.05, amount in bonds \$275.00, sinking fund \$3.79. A motion was made and carried to appoint a Visiting Committee to visit all members who do not attend Church. Chairman to name members of this committee at a later date. Some discussion as to Trustees of the Church. A request was made to see the Courthouse records in regard to this matter. There was also discussion concerning improvement of the Church building and the grounds, but all of these matters were left to be discussed at a future date.

March 31, 1935: Treasurer called meeting of Finance and Visiting Committees to instruct them as to their duties.

June 16, 1935: Much talk of improving Church and grounds. Question asked if the money left by the Misses Bowles was left for any special purpose. Motion made that some of this money be used to defray Church expenses.

December 6, 1935: The Clerk reported that names of the Trustees of Dover Church had not been recorded at Goochland Courthouse and the Church

was now without any Trustees. After much deliberation the following Trustees were elected by vote: Mr. Tom Staples, Mr. Will DuVal, Mr. R. Byron Clarke, Mr. Ben DuVal and Mr. L. C. Clarke. The Clerk was instructed to have these names recorded at the Courthouse.

Mr. Ben DuVal made a motion that after the Trustees are recorded, they make plans to lay off cemetery, mark graves and sections and to give permission for new sections and graves. Motion carried by vote.

Treasurer's report reveals the Church in debt to Pastor Rotella to the extent of \$133.33. This lack of funds was unquestionably due to the fact that twenty-five members had failed to pay their pledges.

There was discussion concerning election of new deacons. Mr. Rotella suggested that after the deacons are named they meet and discuss the condition of the Church and try to settle the affairs if possible.

January 10, 1936: A letter read from the Clerk at Goodland Courthouse in regard to the Church Trustees asking that a Resolution be made by the Church and presented to the Judge that he may name the Trustees appointed by the Church. Mr. Ben DuVal was asked to draw up the Resolution and present it for approval on the 3rd Sunday in January.

Rev. Rotella asked that a Budget Committee be appointed. Mr. Will DuVal made a motion that Mr. Ben DuVal be Chairman of this Committee and be allowed to select his committee-men. There was some discussion as to how the Pastor's salary would be paid.

January 19, 1936: Resolutions to be presented to Clerk of Goodland County for Trustees of Dover Church were read and accepted. A copy of the Resolutions sent to County Clerk on January 20th.

April 21, 1936: Treasurer reported that the Church was still in debt to Pastor Joseph Rotella.

May 31, 1936: Church agreed to have Rev. John Hierop of Warwick, N. Y. conduct Revival Services beginning July 5, 1936, at the Sunday morning service and continuing through the week, with the exception of Saturday night.

September 14, 1936: Treasurer reported that the Church still owes the Pastor \$71.26 for 1935. Under the head of new business, Mr. Staples suggested a baptismal pool and Mr. Ben DuVal suggested lights and heating for the building. There was some discussion, but nothing definite decided. A committee was appointed to "look over" the Church and report what repairs were needed. There was some discussion as to how the \$500.00 was to be used. (Presumably the \$500.00 previously referred to as being left to the Church by the Misses Bowles). And - at this same meeting it was reported that the Pastor had been paid up to date for the year 1936. Mr. Rotella asked that the Church accept his offer to cancel its indebtedness to him for the year 1935. Only one vote for acceptance.

Note: Although it was decided on March 17, 1933, that the Church would hold quarterly meetings, it now appears that such meetings are occurring much more frequently.

October 4, 1936: Repair committee reported on needed repairs and it was agreed that such repairs would be paid for from the money left to the Church.

Note: Mrs. E. H. Daves received into Church by letter from Bethany Baptist Church, Baskerville, Va., on Nov. 1, 1936.

Note: January 22, 1936: Miss Beulah Daves was received into the Church by letter from Bethany Baptist Church, Baskerville, Va.

February 21, 1937: Mrs. E. H. Daves, Mrs. L. A. Wood, Mr. Daniel Keeton and Mr. L. C. Clarke named as Delegates to Dover Association. There was discussion about wiring the Church for electric lights. Motion was made and carried that lights be installed in the Church and the Trustees were instructed to sign the contract for this work. Committee on Improvements asked for two more weeks to get bids for wiring the Church.

March 7, 1937: A call meeting of the Church to read bids on wiring the Church. Two bids presented, one for \$80.00 from Mr. Layde to include fixtures, extra outlets \$2.50, the other from Mr. Gordon for \$76.50, not including fixtures, \$5.00 extra for each outlet. Daniel Keeton and Mrs. L. A. Wood were asked to secure other bids. The Improvement Committee was instructed to see about the type of fixtures to be used.

May 3, 1937: This meeting was devoted to discussion of the bids for wiring the Church, and the poor condition of the wire fence around the Church building. Mr. Rotella suggested that if a new fence was erected it be placed on the newly established line. Mr. Staples agreed to measure and find out the cost of necessary material for a paling fence. It was suggested that each Church member give one panel of fence. Nothing definite decided.

Note: Mr. Rotella's reference to the "newly established line" is vague. There is no record of any lines being discussed at previous meetings.

Note: Call meeting on June 20, 1937. The Church granted Mr. Charlie Breed permission to be buried in Dover Cemetery.

Note: Revival Services held for one week by Rev. John Hierop of New York, beginning Sunday, July 18, 1937.

February 20, 1938: Rev. Joseph Rotella offered a verbal resignation as Pastor of Dover Church to take effect by the last of April.

Mrs. R. B. Clarke, Mr. W. A. Gordon and Miss Mary Gordon named as Delegates to Dover Association which was to meet at Barton Heights Church in Richmond on April 19, 1938.

"March 20, 1938: Call meeting of the Church with Rev. Rotella acting as Chairman. Mr. Rotella stated that this meeting was to consider his resignation, that he was not able to give us what we needed. Mr. Staples did not want him to offer his resignation or the Church to accept it. Rev. Rotella said he hoped to remain through May and the summer months and to straighten out affairs so that if a new pastor came he would not find such a disorganized Church. He said he did not know sometimes when he came where he would get lunch. * * *"

The minutes go on and on and the Clerk is requested to read previous minutes as there were some members who had not been present or else had not heard Rev. Rotella's verbal resignation on February 20th. Finally, Mr. Staples made a motion that the Church not accept Rev. Rotella's resignation. Motion was seconded and vote was taken twice as there was much confusion and misunderstanding. The result was: 13 not to accept and 9 to accept. Rev. Rotella said he hoped the action of the Church "would lead to a better feeling."

It is not clear what Rev. Rotella had in mind as there is no record of any impending rift or ill-feeling.

April 3, 1938: Rev. Rotella announced that a new Board of Deacons and Deaconesses would be ordained April 17, 1938. The Deacons to be those named in January, 1936. The Church was not consulted in regard to ordination services.

April 17, 1938: Ordination services postponed on account of Easter Sunday falling on April 17th.

May 1, 1938: Rev. H. C. Zicafoose preached the Ordination Sermon. The Deacons ordained were: Mr. W. A. Gordon, Mr. Arthur Henley and Mr. L. A. Wood.

It would seem that as time passed Rev. Rotella became unhappy with his association at Dover Church and some of the members became unhappy with Rev. Rotella. At any rate, an "activated breeze" was possibly averted by Rev. Rotella on -

"June 19, 1938: Before Church services, Rev. Rotella said he was offering his resignation again. He was going to give up the Church and the ministry. He will not preach after August, giving the Church four more sermons. It was better for all for him to leave for he did not give us what we deserved. He suggested that the Deacons appoint a Pulpit Committee to get a new preacher. To those who had voted to keep him, let their minds be at rest. Those who voted to accept his resignation, if they have anything against him to take it out on him when he is gone!"

Note: Assumption may well be made that there were "happenings" not recorded in the minute book.

"July 20, 1938: * * * The verbal resignation as offered by Rev. Rotella on June 19th was read. Mr. Wood said the Deacons had not been able to see Rev. Rotella because of Commencement Exercises, but Rev. Rotella had promised a written resignation by the end of August. * * *"

At a meeting on August 15, 1938, the main business before the Church concerned painting and papering the building. Bids were presented and discussed and it was decided to give the inside work to Ashley Bros.

Note: Rev. Rotella left the Church on August 21, 1938. He was paid up to date.

"August 28, 1938: Mr. Staples called a meeting of the Improvement Committee to decide on paper and color or paint for woodwork. * * * Motion made and carried that the Church accept Vernon Clarke's offer to wire the Church free of charge, if the Church would furnish the material. * * *"

Sept. 4, 1938: It was decided that the Church would pay a supply pastor \$10.00 and that he be told this before he came, and when a regular pastor was called, the Church would decide what his salary would be. Mr. E. L. Brandis, a student from the University of Richmond, was the supply pastor for this date.

At this point the following note appears in the minute book:

"Found on the walls of the Church Sept. 11, 1938, when repair work was done, the following: Committee: Dr. Gaskins, Chairman, Mr. Woodson and Mr. DuVal. Miles T. Phillips repaired the Church July 13, 1883. Otis Lills and Chas. Hewitt worked with him."

Note: September 18, 1938. Clyde Francisco, Senior Student at University of Richmond was the preacher for this date.

At a meeting on September 21, 1938, shades for the windows, wiring of the Church and fixtures were discussed, but nothing definite decided. A motion was made by Mrs. B. S. Henley that a memorial window be placed in front of the Church. This motion was seconded and carried by unanimous vote. The Improvement Committee was instructed to attend to this matter. A motion was made and carried that the Committee be limited to \$50.00 for this expenditure.

Note: October 2, 1938: Dan Fowler, Student Minister from the University of Richmond, preached today.

Note: October 16, 1938: James Fogg from the University of Richmond was preacher for the day, and

"A new Bible, given by an unknown friend of the Church was presented to the Church today and used for the first time."

Nov. 6, 1938: Dr. John J. Wicker of Fork Union Military Academy was the supply minister on this date. He brought with him an 11-year old boy, a student at the Academy, to sing.

Nov. 20, 1938: Paul Wattlington, post graduate student at the University of Richmond was the supply preacher on this date.

Nov. 22, 1938: There was further discussion of the memorial window, but this matter was held up on account of names and dates to go on the glass. The matter of calling a pastor was brought up and it was moved that the Church try Mr. Fowler and Mr. Wattlington again. Miss Elizabeth

DuVal was requested to talk with Dr. Ryland about forming a field.

Dec. 4, 1938: Dan Fowler, student from the University of Richmond, preached today.

On this date there was a meeting of the Church to read the list of officers and teachers for the Sunday School for year 1939. The list was accepted as read. (The names were not given in the minute book.)

Dec. 18, 1938: Paul Wattlington, student from the University of Richmond, preached on this date.

January 1, 1939: Dan Fowler of the University of Richmond, supply pastor for this date.

January 15, 1939: Paul Wattlington, University of Richmond student, preached on this date.

At a called meeting on the above date the Church accepted Robert DuVal as teacher of the Intermediate Class as the former teacher had left the Church.

Mr. Staples reported that the memorial window that could be obtained for \$50.00 would not be satisfactory and asked that the \$50.00 limit be withdrawn. This was done and it was voted to allow \$100.00 for the window with the admonition that the Committee should use their judgment as to the amount to be expended.

February 6, 1939: Mr. A. C. Siegel of Richmond preached today.

February 19, 1939: Rev. Carl Collins, Pastor of Deep Run Baptist Church was the supply preacher for this date.

March 5, 1939: Mr. W. E. Bass, student from the University of Richmond, preached on this date.

March 9, 1939: * * * Mr. Staples, Chairman of Improvement Committee, reported that the memorial window will cost about \$74.00 with names,

date of birth and date of death. Mr. Staples would install the window without cost to the Church. There was some discussion as to emblem in the window. Mrs. Will DuVal made a motion that we have an emblem suitable for a Baptist Church. This was seconded and carried by unanimous vote. We are planning for a Memorial Service to dedicate the window.

"The Annual Church Letter to Dover Association was approved. Delegates to represent this Church at the Dover Association Meeting at Glen Allen Church were: Mrs. L. C. Clarke, Mrs. J. T. Jones, Mrs. W. V. DuVal and Mr. Arthur Henley. * * *

The above meeting was lengthy and many inconsequential matters were discussed. However, among the items of importance was the motion that the Church call a regular pastor. The motion was seconded and carried and several names were placed in nomination. Dan Fowler was elected by unanimous vote. The Church decided to call Mr. Fowler for twelve months to preach the first and third Sunday mornings in each month at \$10.00 a sermon.

March 22, 1939: Mr. Dan Fowler was present at this meeting and asked the Church what would be expected of him if he accepted the pastorate of Dover. The customary duties were explained and Mr. Fowler agreed to accept saying he would do as much as he could. Motion made that the Church accept Mr. Fowler as a student minister with the understanding that sixty days notice be given if either party found a reason for discontinuing the contract.

May 11, 1939: It was decided to have Revival Services beginning June 4th with the Sunday morning service, followed by a night service Sunday night and continuing through Friday night. The matter of financing the Revival Services was left to the Deacons.

Note: Following the above in the minute book are two references to the dedication of the memorial window. The first reference is undated and reads:

"Special services for memorial window were held with one service. Several members of the Bowles family were present."

The second reference appears under date of June 12th and reads:

"Revival Services were held at Dover Church beginning Sunday morning, June 4, with the dedication of the Memorial Window. Communion services were held Sunday night. Several young ladies from Westhampton College had charge of the music at the Sunday night service. On Tuesday evening, Dr. Crowder of Calvary Baptist Church in Richmond was the speaker. Thursday night, Mr. St. Clair from the University of Richmond was the guest speaker. Singers from Richmond helped with the music several nights. * * * "

"July 6, 1939: * * * Mr. Abner Knibb had expressed a desire to come here and preach a sermon on "criminology" if the Church would let him. As no Sunday morning seemed to suit, Mr. Will Gordon said he would take the matter up with the B.T.U. and see if they would give him a night.

"A rising vote of thanks was given to Mr. Arthur Kenley for the pedestals he had made and given to the Church. New collection plates were given to the Church by an anonymous friend.

"The Church decided to hold baptism at Calvary Baptist Church in Richmond on 3rd Sunday in July at 4:00 P.M. as the Calvary Church pool had been offered to us.

"Mr. Staples brought up question as to improvement to the cemetery and making a plat of the grounds. After some discussion, it was decided that the Trustees should see what it would cost to have a plat made.* * * "

At a meeting on September 5, 1939, there was discussion concerning additional room for Sunday School activities. A community house, basement rooms and additional rooms on the back of the Church building were considered.

On September 24, 1939, the "additional space" problem was again discussed to extent of size of additional rooms, entrance, material and, most important of all, the cost of this project.

October 5, 1939: Mr. Staples reported he had seen a Civil Engineer in regard to making a plat of the cemetery and the cost would be between \$25.00 and \$40.00. Pastor Fowler asked if the Church wanted this work enough to pay for it. After much discussion a maximum of \$40.00 was set for this expenditure.

The Building Committee for the new rooms to be added to the Church made reports. During the discussion it was suggested that basement rooms would not be feasible for fear the Church, because of its age and size, would "slip".

Mr. Will DuVal said he was not opposed to the plan, but was opposed to building anything not in keeping with the Church. He also favored raising the money for this venture before the building was started. It should be noted here that the plans called for "cinder blocks" to be used in this new construction.

Mr. Robert DuVal asked the question as to what the new rooms would be used for and Mr. Will Gordon stated it would relieve congestion in Sunday School and B.T.U.

Note of interest: "April 7, 1940: Church and Sunday School voted on some letters that had been submitted to our approval, asking Congress and the President of the United States that they stop shipment of scrap material to Japan. Each letter was signed by the Pastor, a Deacon and the Sunday School Superintendent. Letters sent April 8, 1940."

On April 11, 1940, it was decided to let Committee go on with the survey of the cemetery. There was no report from the Building Committee.

A new fence for the Church grounds and wiring for the Church entered the discussion and it was agreed to have the cemetery surveyed and the Church wired and take care of the fence when the other work was completed.

A motion was made that the Church call Mr. Fowler for the next twelve months.

On June 16, 1940, there was a meeting of the Trustees to sign a contract with the Virginia Electric and Power Company for service to the Church. The contract was signed by W. V. DuVal, T. S. Staples and L. C. Clarke. Mr. Fowler acted as Chairman of the meeting.

Note: From this it would appear that the Church had been wired, although the minutes do not so state.

On July 8, 1940, Mr. Fowler offered his resignation as pastor, to take effect August 31st. His resignation was accepted. It was decided to hold Revival Services beginning Sunday night, August 11th at 8:00 P.M.

August 11, 1940: Revival Services as planned. Dr. Solon B. Cousins was guest speaker on Tuesday night. Five additions to the Church during services.

Baptismal services conducted by Mr. Fowler at Ridge Baptist Church on August 18, 1940.

September 15, 1940, Jack Manley, student from the University of Richmond, was speaker for the day.

October 6, 1940, Arthur Brown, student from the University of Richmond, speaker for the day.

October 20, 1940, Mr. --- Rainey, student from the University of Richmond, speaker for the day.

On October 27, 1940, a meeting of the Pulpit Committee was held for the purpose of discussing the calling of a pastor. Lengthy conference - no action.

November 3, 1940, Arthur Brown, student from the University of Richmond, returned to speak at the morning service.

November 17, 1940, Mr. Spain, student from the University of Richmond delivered the sermon on this date.

December 1, 1940, H. C. Zicafoose, supply speaker for this Sunday.

December 2, 1940: At this meeting the survey of the cemetery was again brought up, but there was no report available. A motion was made that the kerosene lamps be taken down and stored. Much talk, but no decision. The calling of a pastor was given a great deal of thought - no action.

Jack Lanley, student from the University of Richmond, was supply pastor on December 15, 1940.

January 5, 1941 - Jack Lanley speaker for the day.

January 19, 1941, Arthur Brown speaker for the day.

February 2, 1941, Harold Zicafoose speaker for the day.

On February 3, 1941, with twelve Church members present, the question of surveying the cemetery again took the spotlight. The man who had agreed to do this work was not then available and the Committee was asked to find someone else to make the survey.

At this meeting it was decided to call a regular pastor. A vote was taken and Mr. Arthur Brown was elected for one year.

On February 16, 1941, Mr. Arthur Brown accepted the call as pastor of Dover Church for one year.

At a meeting in April, 1941, Mr. Staples was asked to contact a member of the Church who was a Civil Engineer and see about getting plat made. He was to report at the next Church meeting.

The matter of taking down the old lamps was again brought up and after much discussion, a Committee was appointed for this purpose consisting of Mrs. Byron Clarke, Chairman and Mr. and Mrs. T. S. Staples to assist her.

They were instructed to take down the lamps and return the "swinging lamp" to Mrs. J. L. Clarke.

July 22, 1941. At this meeting Mrs. J. L. Clarke brought back the "swinging lamp" and said it belonged to the Church. Chairman said he would discuss this later.

Business of getting the plat of cemetery is now in the hands of a Civil Engineer who is preparing it.

A motion was made that all Church members and families of non-Church members who had relatives buried in cemetery be contacted with the idea of arranging perpetual care for the cemetery.

August 10, 1941. Announcement made of Revival to begin 4th Sunday in September and close October 3rd.

August 12, 1941. Chairman of Improvement Committee reported progress on plat of Church grounds. Mr. Staples asked that the Committee be given authority to use funds to get cemetery cleaned, buy new fence posts, have dead trees removed, and a new fence put around all Church property. He recommended that we ask for a yearly contribution for maintenance.

Note: Thanksgiving Service held at 10:30 A.M. Thanksgiving Morning with Pastor in charge. Communion service held at same time.

February 15, 1942. The Church extended a call to the Pastor for another year, beginning with this date.

Note: Dover Baptist Sunday School gave \$5.00 to Fork Union Military Academy for one chair.

April 1, 1942: Mr. Brown offered his resignation to take effect the 1st Sunday in May.

At a called meeting on May 3, 1942, Mr. Brown's resignation was accepted.

Mr. Daves from Crange conducted services on May 17, 1942.

Mr. Filler conducted services on June 7, 1942.

Dr. Cousins conducted services on June 21 and July 5, 1942.

At a meeting on July 6, 1942, the fence problem was again discussed. It was finally agreed that some new posts would be put in and the old wire tightened.

Notes: 1st Sunday in July - Mr. Watkins preached.

3rd Sunday in July - Mr. Taylor preached

1st Sunday in August - Mr. Krouse preached.

3rd Sunday in August - Mr. Brown preached.

Sept. 6, 1942, Mr. Fred Scott conducted services.

3rd Sunday in September - Mr. Lusby conducted services.

October 1st Sunday - Mr. Lusby preached.

October 3rd Sunday - Mr. Rhodenhiser preached.

The record states that in April, 1942, Mr. Brown offered his resignation to take effect the 1st Sunday in May, and at a called meeting on May 3rd his resignation was accepted. After that time many other ministers or student ministers conducted services at Dover, yet at a meeting on October 13, 1942, Mr. Brown was present and apparently still serving as pastor.

At this meeting the same old problems reared angry heads: The Improvement Committee had no report to offer, the electric heaters which had been installed in the Church were not heating satisfactorily - and the roof leaked.

Mr. Brown offered to give framed Church Covenant for the vestibules and he also told the members that he had been called to Stoney Creek Baptist Church for one year. A motion was made that the Church pay Mr. Brown \$50.00 for Revival Services.

On December 13, 1942, the Church voted to extend a call to Mr. Stanley Lusby as Pastor of Dover at \$10.00 a Sunday for two Sundays each month; this contract to be for one year and to begin with January 1st, 1943.

On January 3, 1943, Mr. Lusby refused the call.

February 14, 1943: The Pulpit Committee was instructed to ask Mr. Lusby to reconsider and accept the Church as student minister for 12 months unless called to other duties.

March 7, 1943: Church Letter to Association read and approved. Delegates named to attend the meeting of the Dover Association were: Mrs. W. W. DuVal, Mrs. E. H. Daves, Mrs. B. S. Kenley, Mrs. R. B. Clarke.

February 21, 1943: Mr. Lusby addressed the meeting and said he would preach twice each month, but was unable to do any visiting. He stated that he had been deferred from active duty in the Army but was subject to a call. He agreed to accept the call to Dover if the Church would take him on these conditions. Mr. Lusby was to notify the Church of his Draft Board's decision.

May 23, 1943: Mrs. Staples offered to furnish Service Flag for the Church meetings. Her offer was accepted."

Note: No service on first Sunday in June as Mr. Lusby was being installed as Young Peoples Leader at First Baptist Church in Richmond.

July 18, 1943: No news from Mr. Lusby as to whether or not he had been called into the Service.

September 12, 1943: Letter of resignation from Mr. Lusby read to the Church and accepted.

Discussed having Revival to begin October 1st and to ask Dr. Cousins if he would be available for that week. Would try to have dedication service for the flag on the 1st Sunday of the meeting, the flag being given

by Mr. T. S. Staples' family for the boys from the community in the armed services.

October 10, 1943: A meeting was held for the purpose of calling a pastor. A number of names were placed in nomination, but no decision made. It would seem the difficulty incurred was due to the various young men being subject to "draft" by the Army.

On December 5, 1943, the Clerk was instructed to write Mr. Rhodenhiser and extend him a call to Dover Church.

On December 19, 1943, a letter from Mr. Rhodenhiser was read to the Church refusing the call as he was already pastor of another church.

On March 26, 1944, the search for a pastor was renewed. Mr. Bradshaw was selected and on March 30, 1944, a letter from Mr. Melvin Bradshaw accepting the call was read to the Church. His first service was to be held the first Sunday in April, 1944.

The following was not recorded in the minutes. It is a copy of a newspaper item furnished this writer:

"On Sunday morning, July 16, 1944, Dover Baptist Church, at Manakin, Va., dedicated a plaque, given by Miss Marion Staples, in honor of the boys of the community serving in the armed forces. Melvin Bradshaw, pastor of the church and a ministerial student at the University of Richmond, delivered the address. A piano solo, "The Star Spangled Banner", was played by Miss Margaret Henley."

At a Church meeting on July 16, 1944, plans were made for Revival Services.

Note: August 20-24, 1944. Revival Services held with Rev. Ferguson of Venable Street Baptist Church conducting the services.

On September 3, 1944, a letter dated August 31st from Melvin Bradshaw was read offering his resignation as pastor of Dover.

Note: October 15, 1944: Ed Hutton, student from the University of Richmond, was supply pastor for this date.

In January of 1945, an effort was made to interest Oakland Baptist Church in forming a field with Dover. A letter from Oakland, dated 2/7/45 said they would advise later.

There were many suggestions as to pastors and supply pastors. From all available information it would seem that supply pastors would be serving Dover for a while.

On June 17, 1945, Dr. Garnett Ryland of the University of Richmond conducted services.

July 1, 1945: Plans made for Revival Services to begin Sunday night, July 8. Mr. Furgurson was to conduct all services except the first service on the night of July 8th, Mr. Oliver, Mr. Furgeson's Assistant, would have charge of that service:

Note: Attention is called to the difference in spelling of Dr. Ferguson's name on this page and the preceding page. It was so written in the minutes. However, it is believed that the party referred to was Rev. W. W. Ferguson.

Note: Revival Services held Sunday night, July 8th, through week.

Note: September 2, 1945. Church Clerk, L. C. Clarke died.

October 9, 1945: Mrs. L. C. Clarke elected Clerk of Church to fill the vacancy created by the death of Dr. L. C. Clarke. Mr. Clarke having also been a member of the Board of Trustees, Dr. B. S. Henley and Dr. Melvin Powers were appointed to fill this vacancy.

October 25, 1945: A committee from Dover met with a committee from Salem Baptist Church to discuss asking the Virginia Board of Missions and Education for help and to also aid in securing a pastor.

A note to the effect that Dr. Sadler preached at Dover in December, 1945.

February 10, 1946: Call meeting for the purpose of naming Trustees of the Church as none were recorded at Goochland Courthouse. Those named were: B. S. Henley, Melvin B. Powers, T. S. Staples, W. V. DuVal and Benj. S. DuVal. Resolutions of this meeting sent to Clerk at Goochland Courthouse February 11, 1946 for approval. The record indicates that these names were duly recorded in Goochland Circuit Court Common Law Order Book No. 6, Page 496.

February, 1946: Mr. Collins served as pastor.

March, 1946: Mr. McGuy served as pastor.

At a meeting on March 31, 1946, it was suggested that the churchyard and cemetery be cleaned by April 10th as the W.M.U. Association would meet at Dover on that date.

It was reported at this meeting that an insurance policy in the amount of \$6500.00 had been secured on the Church.

The young people, under the supervision of Miss Marion Staples, were granted permission to serve the Ruritan Supper.

It was planned to organize a Young Mens Bible Class. Mr. Ray Jenkins agreed to teach the class which would be organized the 1st Sunday in April.

April 1st and 3rd Sundays: Mr. Bryant and Mr. Dawson conducted services at Dover.

April, 1946: A letter sent Mr. Harry Cosby, Jr., thanking him for a \$25.00 donation toward cleaning the cemetery.

May 3, 1946: Mr. Rueben Alley was pastor for the day.

May 19, 1946: Mr. LeSauer was pastor for the day.

June 2, 1946: Mr. Connor conducted services at Dover.

June 16, 1946: Mr. Price conducted services on this date.

June, 1946: A Committee Meeting was held to discuss the field which had been agreed upon between Dover Baptist Church and Salem Baptist Church, and to consider calling Rev. W. B. Connor to serve the two Churches. A definite decision was not reached at that time and another meeting was held on June 19, 1946, with Mr. Connor present. The call was then extended the Rev. W. B. Connor to serve Dover and Salem, dividing his time equally between the two Churches. Rev. Connor accepted the call. His pastorate was to begin at Salem June 23, and at Dover the 1st Sunday in July. His year would begin June 19, 1946. Salem Church was to pay \$600.00 per annum for Mr. Connor's services and Dover was to pay the same. It was agreed that the Churches would ask the Virginia Baptist Board of Missions and Education for an additional \$800.00, thereby making Mr. Connor's salary \$2,000 per annum.

August 5, 1946: At a call meeting it was decided to hold Revival Services to begin August 18th. Mr. W. W. Ferguson offered his services for the Revival and Mr. Connor agreed to contact him with reference to the same.

Mr. Keeton said he would cut the grass in the Church-yard - but it seems that the roof of the Church was still leaking! There was much discussion concerning this, but nothing definite was planned to remedy the trouble.

August: Revival Services beginning August 18th and continuing through the week with Rev. Ferguson preaching and Mr. Connor assisting.

At a meeting on September 1, 1946, it was agreed that Dover would accept the Ministers Retirement Fund, the plan being: "the Church is to pay each month 3% of the Minister's salary, the Minister pays 3% of what he gets and 3% of what the Board pays him."

It was noted at this meeting that the roof of the Church needs repairing!

Note: Rev. Connor was guest speaker at 1st Baptist Church (colored) on October 6, 1946.

"Oct. 20, 1946: * * * Mr. James Sloan gave parcel of land to Dover Church. This parcel of land adjoining the Church property 100 feet front on Hockett Road and 200 feet deep. This to be used for a parsonage. Miss Marion Staples, Miss Mary Clarke and Mrs. L. C. Clarke thanked Mr. Sloan on behalf of the Church. It was suggested that the Church buy some more land from Mr. Sloan if possible."

It was also reported at this meeting that the roof had been repaired at a cost of \$43.00 and that the bill had been paid.

Note: The deed to the property above referred to was not drawn until April of 1948. A copy of the deed will be recorded at the proper point in this writing.

October 20, 1946: Mrs. Chas. M. Gray offered the services of her daughter as nursery governess to look after little children during preaching. Her offer was accepted.

November 19, 1946: The colored Church will visit Dover on December 8th with members of two choirs singing and their Pastor, Rev. Smith bringing the message.

November 19, 1946: Rev. Connor presented to the Church his budget for his family, saying "something would have to be done so he could meet his expenses. He wanted a place to live on the field."

March 2, 1947: The condition of the cemetery was again discussed. It was suggested that the Church have a Home Coming Day to raise funds for perpetual care of the cemetery. Mr. Connor advised the Church that it was the duty of the Board of Trustees to attend to the care of the cemetery. It was finally decided to have Home Coming Day sometime in July. Dr. Ryland would give the history of the Church.

There was also discussion of more Sunday School rooms. Since building materials were so high, it was decided to commence raising funds and wait on the actual construction of the rooms. Mr. Connor was to inquire

of the Mission Board about their aid for pastor's salary.

It was decided to have a Daily Vacation Bible School sometime in June and to invite St. Mary's Church to join Dover. This school to include through Juniors and to use young people to help.

Decided to have Revival in July. The Pastor was to ask Mr. Guy of Westhampton to help.

"April 20, 1947: * * * Discussed having the cemetery and Church yard cleaned by June 15, 1947, also plans for Sunday School rooms. Trustees to be given power to do these things. The offering on Home-Coming Day to be used for up-keep of cemetery. * * * Trustees reported on plans for building class-rooms on north end of the Church to conform with old building, also reported that cemetery would be cleaned."

Note: There is no record to indicate whether or not the additional Sunday School rooms talked of several years ago were ever constructed.

May 17, 1947: Mrs. Josephine Tyler cleaned the cemetery for which the Church paid her by check the amount of \$75.00.

June 11, 1947: A meeting of the Joint Pulpit Committee of Dover and Salem was held for the purpose of discussing an increase in Rev. Connor's salary. It was agreed that each Church would increase its payment from \$600 to \$750 per year and that when asking the Baptist Board for a continuation of their help, also ask them to increase their payment from \$600 to \$900 per annum due to the fact that Mr. Connor is now living on the field, devoting his entire time to the Churches and has no other source of income. The above stipulations would make a total salary of \$2300.00. Miss Elizabeth DuVal representing Dover, and Mr. A. W. Kay representing Salem would present this proposal to the Virginia Board of Missions and Education.

June 15, 1947: Home-Coming Day held at Dover Church with dinner on the grounds. Dr. Ryland gave the history of the Church. In the afternoon Dr. Gaines from Richmond College addressed the audience.

June 22, 1947: At a regular Church meeting the members unanimously voted for the proposed increase in Mr. Connor's salary. The increase would take effect July 1st, 1947.

Religious Emphasis Week was held beginning June 16, 1947, with Thomas Sloane Guy preaching.

September 21, 1947: Baptismal service at Westhampton Baptist Church with Mr. Connor and Mr. Sloane Guy officiating.

October 19, 1947: A motion was made that Dover would not vote members in, but extend hand of christian fellowship. This motion seconded and carried by vote.

After the above meeting nothing of importance occurred until:

March 8, 1948, when the Church named a committee to have a plat of the cemetery made. Mr. Staples, Chairman, Mrs. J. T. Jones and Mrs. L.C. Clarke to serve. The plat to be made as soon as possible.

The building of class rooms again discussed - possibly two class rooms this year. Pastor reported that there was great need for some service for the young people on Sunday nights. Among the suggestions made: a quiz program on the Bible, a gathering together of the young people and visiting another church. The Pastor suggested a change of service with more preaching, which would be harder on him, or he would invite the Church to his home every Sunday night for a get-together. A vote was taken. Six for and ten against. In commenting on the results of the vote, the Pastor said: "Consigned to the Fiery Pits of Hell!" He did not elaborate on who was being thus consigned, and he did close the meeting with prayer!

This should have been a most interesting meeting!

April 11, 1948: At this meeting Mr. B. S. Henley announced that on the 4th of April the Deacons and Trustees decided to give Mr. Connor a gift from the Church and Sunday School in the sum of \$50.00; that if the Church would not pay the sum of \$30.00, the Deacons and Trustees would pay it. The Treasurer was instructed to pay this amount at once.

Mr. Connor's dire warning "Consigned to the Fiery Pits of Hell" seems to have hit "pay dirt".

"April 18, 1948: Call meeting of Trustees to discuss plans and contract in regard to land on the north of cemetery. Trustees agreed to the plan and Mr. Staples made motion that we accept it, and it was carried by vote. The contract was drawn up by Mr. John Williams specifying a certain parcel of land belonging to the Church on the north to be traded with Mr. James Sloan for a parcel on the highway south of the Church. Mr. Connor, Mr. T. S. Staples, Mr. B. S. Henley, Mr. Melvin Powers and Mr. W. V. DuVal named as Trustees."

Note: The minutes do not indicate what the plan actually was.

At a meeting on April 19, 1948: "Mr. Connor explained to the meeting the exchange of some property belonging to the Church with Mr. Sloan. Also read paper drawn up by Lawyer John Williams. Mr. Wood made a motion that we accept plan as offered and proceed with legal transfer as recommended. Motion seconded by Mr. Jenkins and carried by vote."

Note: Still no explanation of the plan or recommendations.

Note: Daily Vacation Bible School to be held 3rd week in June.

Note: Mr. Connor asked for vacation beginning 4th Sunday in May (23) for two weeks. Would be back in time for First Sunday in June, 1948.

Note: Maintenance of Church-yard and cemetery again discussed and again tabled.

Note: The Young Mens Bible Class offered to paint the Church if the Church would furnish the paint.

It seems proper to record here a copy of the deed covering the property involved with the exchange made with Mr. Sloan. Mr. Sloan's gift of land to the Church, made on October 20, 1946 (page 110) stipulates: "This parcel of land adjoining the Church property 100 feet front on Hockett Road and 200 feet deep". The actual deed, dated April 28, 1948, includes additional footage. We must therefore assume that the following deed is to cover both Mr. Sloan's gift and the land involved in the exchange.

"THIS DEED, made this 28th day of April, 1948, by and between JAMES A. SLOAN and VIRGINIA D. SLOAN, his wife, of Richmond, Virginia, parties of the first part, and BERNARD C. HENLEY, MELVIN B. POWERS, THOMAS S. STABLES, W. V. DUVAL and BENJAMIN S. DUVAL, Trustees of Dover Baptist Church of Goochland County, Virginia, parties of the second part,

W I T N E S S E T H:

"That for and in consideration of the sum of Ten (\$10.00) Dollars, and other good and valuable considerations, receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, the parties of the first part do grant and convey unto the parties of the second part, with General Warranty of Title, the following described real estate, to-wit:

"Parcel of land lying in Dover Magisterial District, Goochland County, Virginia, in or near the Village of Manakin on the eastern line of Manakin Ferry Road, and bounded as follows:

"BEGINNING at a point on the eastern line of Manakin Ferry Road at its intersection with the southern line of the Dover Baptist Church lot, thence extending southerly along said eastern line of Manakin Ferry Road Two Hundred (200) Feet and thence extending back easterly from said front between said southern line of Dover Baptist Church and a line in prolongation thereof, on the north, and a line parallel therewith, on the south, Two Hundred (200) Feet, reference being here made to a plat of survey by W. W. LaPrade & Bros. dated March 31, 1937 and recorded in the Clerk's Office of Goochland Circuit Court in Plat Book 4, page 135.

"BEING a part of the same real estate conveyed to James A. Sloan

by deed from Dover Land Corporation, dated June 7, 1945,
and recorded in the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court
of Goochland County, Virginia in Deed Book 72, page 308.

"The parties of the first part covenant that they have the right
to convey the said real estate to the parties of the second part; that they
have done no act to encumber the said real estate; that the parties of the
second part shall have quiet possession of the said real estate, free from
all encumbrances; and that the said parties of the first part will execute
such further assurances of the said real estate as may be requisite.

"WITNESSES the following signatures and seals:

"JAMES A. SLOAN (SEAL)

VIRGINIA D. SLOAN (SEAL)

"COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA

CITY OF RICHMOND, TO-WIT:

"I, Frances A. Redford, a Notary Public for the City aforesaid,
in the Commonwealth of Virginia, do hereby certify that JAMES A. SLOAN and
VIRGINIA D. SLOAN, his wife, whose names are signed to the foregoing deed,
bearing date on the 20th day of April, 1948, have each acknowledged the
same before me in my City and State aforesaid.

"Given under my hand this 17th day of May, 1948.

"My commission expires the 14th day of April, 1950.

"(Signed) Frances A. Redford
Notary Public.

"Virginia, Goochland County, to-wit:

"In the Office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court for the County
of Goochland the 2nd day of June, 1948. This Deed was presented and with
the certificate annexed, admitted to record at 3:35 o'clock P.M.

"Teste: Margaret K. Miller,
Clerk."

(This deed Recorded in Deed Book 76, Page 32, Goochland Circuit Court
Clerk's Office).

June 20, 1948: A bill was presented from Mr. John Williams for securing and recording deeds from Mr. Sloan for property exchanged and some donated to the Church. The Treasurer was instructed to pay this bill.

At this meeting the Young Ladies Class offered to give the Church new hymn books. Their offer was accepted and the books promised by July.

July 25, 1948: Religious Emphasis Week was held with Mr. Stanley Lusby preaching.

At a call meeting on August 1, 1948, Mr. Connor asked if the Church would let him off for August 15th. He and his wife had been offered a two week trip to tour the country and he thought they needed the change and rest. There was some discussion, but Mr. Connor's request was granted.

September 19, 1948: Mr. B. S. Henley, Mr. W. V. DuVal and Mr. Connor met with Mr. Bryant of the Board of Missions and Education and it was decided by Mr. Bryant that the Board would assist the Church for one more year or until the Church was able to take care of its own finances.

At a call meeting on November 20, 1948, deed for the land donated to the Church by Mr. and Mrs. Sloan was accepted and the Clerk was instructed to write Mr. and Mrs. Sloan a letter of thanks for this donation.

"January 17, 1949: Discussed survey of property which Mr. Sloan gave to Church. Trustees asked to look over and establish lines."

"A representative of the Insurance Company reported that he had inspected the Church for insurance and that the heating system was unsatisfactory. He gave Mr. Connor some blanks to fill out after the pipes were

replaced. Several ways of heating were discussed * * * several methods of heating talked over. Some in favor of digging basement and installing furnace. Mr. Staples suggested that some authority be obtained on heating of the Church before anything was done."

"The leak in the roof was called to the attention of the Chairman, also the joist under the Church. Quite some discussion on condition of floors and benches. Nothing definite decided about this."

March 20, 1949: Church letter approved by Mr. Raymond Jenkins. Mr. Sutton is preaching for Mr. Connor who is absent on business.

April 3, 1949: Mr. Ray Jenkins asked for a letter from the Church in order that he might unite with Burkeville Methodist Church, Burkeville, Virginia. Mr. Jenkins was to take charge of a field of churches in the Methodist Conference at Alberene, Virginia. Mr. Connor asked that the Dover congregation send him some financial help as Mr. Jenkins would not receive any salary from his new job for a month. This was approved, and Miss Elizabeth DuVal was asked to receive money for Mr. Jenkins.

April 18, 1949: The Church voted to have a speaker on Temperance at the Church on September 4, 1949.

June 19, 1949: Mr. Connor being absent, Mr. R. Bain Harris from the University of Richmond conducted services on this date.

Following are extracts from minutes of meeting held on June 21, 1949:

"Pastor to speak at First Baptist Church (colored) Sunday morning, June 26, 1949.

"Religious Emphasis Week to begin July 17. Mr. Lusby will preach.

"Heating of the Church discussed. Church opposed to excavating under Church.

"Some suggested four rooms on back of Church. Mr. Staples to make

plans and estimate cost of same."

Note: There seems to be no limit to the chores assigned to Bro. Staples. And apparently there was no limit to his patience, for after spending countless hours drawing plans and making estimates, no one carried them out! Mr. T. S. Staples should be commended for his faithfulness in doing all within his power to help the Church.

"July 17, 1949: Mr. Lusby conducted Religious Emphasis Week. No additions to Church. Collected \$86.60. Paid Mr. Lusby \$50.00 and Mr. Connor \$36.00."

Note: No record of what happened to the 60¢.

"September 18, 1949: Rev. and Mrs. Connor left for Chicago, he to attend school and work in hospital with Mrs. Connor.

"Mr. Connor gave notice to Church in September, several days before he left. Letter received by Mr. B. S. Henley from Mr. Connor thanking Church for purse given him to the amount of \$85.00."

"October 2, 1949: Pulpit Committee of Salem and Dover met for the purpose of discussing the matter of securing a pastor for the two churches. Mr. Randolph Hall was being considered. No minutes of this meeting given to Church Clerk."

A meeting on October 12, 1949, involved many matters.

The Pulpit Committee reported that Salem had decided to call Mr. Randolph Hall as Pastor. A motion was made and carried that Dover do likewise. It was agreed that Dover would offer Mr. Hall \$1200.00 a year.

It was reported that some of the sills of the Church were in need of repair and the Trustees were instructed to take care of this. There was some discussion concerning the proposed heating system, but nothing decided.

December 18, 1949: The Pulpit Committee reported that a call had been extended to Mr. Randolph Hall but that he had declined "because he could not do the work for the Church while he was working at another job which paid him more than the Churches could." The Pulpit Committee reported

that after receiving Mr. Hall's declination they called on Mr. Bryant of the Board of Missions and Education and asked if the Board would help each Church in its financial needs if the Churches could not meet their obligations. Mr. Bryant said: "If we tried and failed to pay Mr. Hall what he charged, that at the end of three or six months they would help. But that there were other ministers we could get for \$2400.00 a year."

Out of this chaos and confusion came a question heavily weighted with wisdom: "Are we able to pay so much to a pastor when we need so many other things done around the Church?"

Note: To this question might have been added the one word "Amen!"

At this meeting there was a motion, seconded and carried by vote that the Church pay \$35.00 to visiting minister and \$50.00 to regular pastor. To a regular pastor for two services each month this would add up to \$1200 per year. Nevertheless, the following note appears immediately after the December 18th meeting:

"January, 1950. Mr. Hall called by Committee as Pastor of Dover and Salem at \$3200 a year. No minutes of this transaction."

March 5, 1950: Church Letter to the Association was read and approved. Messengers to the Association to be held at Four Mile Creek on April 25, 1950: Mrs. B. S. Henley, Mrs. W. V. DuVal, Mrs. E. H. Daves, Mr. L. A. Wood, Mr. George Keeton, alternate Mrs. L. A. Wood.

April, 1950: Lenten Services held the week of April 2nd, with Rev. Hall preaching a series of sermons on the Resurrection.

Some highlights from the meeting held on April 17, 1950:

Pastor Hall reported that he had called on 34 families, 51 members, 18 sick calls, 21 evangelical calls, officiated at one wedding, held 6 regular services and Lenten Services.

The Treasurer reported a checking account of \$658.89 and Building Fund in the amount of \$333.35.

Plans are still in the making for a survey and blueprint of all graves in the cemetery. Some arrangement for perpetual care. Question as to plots in cemetery being sold. No plots have ever been sold, members of Church can reserve space for family. No one can give permission to bury outsiders - this left to the Trustees.

The Pastor inquired as to how Dover received people from other churches: by christian experience, making immersion optional? Did not this Church receive a member from another Church that had not been immersed without requiring them to be immersed again? There was no answer forthcoming to these questions. Mr. Hall then stated that the Church requires baptism by immersion of any one who comes into this Church regardless of christian experience!

Class-rooms again discussed.

Reported that the sills of the Church were in bad condition and repairs had not been made.

May 7, 1950: Mr. Hall preached today and afterwards was taken to the hospital.

Third Sunday in May: Mr. Abner Knibb preached today.

June 4, 1950: No services at Dover since Mr. Hall is still in the hospital.

June 11, 1950: There was discussion as to what should be done about having services at the Church while Mr. Hall was ill. Someone suggested prayer service, and someone else said: "If we do not have some service, we lose collections and we cannot afford that." It was finally

decided to get a supply pastor to fill the pulpit until Mr. Hall was able to return. It was understood that Mr. Hall's salary would be paid while he was in the hospital, and it was agreed that a supply pastor would be paid \$10.00 per service.

June 18, 1950: Mr. Elliot was supply pastor for this date. He was paid \$12.00.

On this date Mr. Hall was permitted to leave the hospital for a few hours so he attended a called meeting of the Church. He said the choir wanted to sponsor an organ for the Church, that the choir (15 members) had already pledged \$230.00. Mr. Hall asked that every member of the Church support this project. This was agreed. The organ to cost approximately \$1300.00.

Note: Daily Vacation Bible School will be held week of July 5th, as Mr. Hall expects to be out of the hospital by then and will take charge.

July 24, 1950: Mr. Hall reported that he had not seen Mr. Charles Johnson about surveying cemetery. Committee reported that they will begin putting new sills under the Church in two weeks. Finance Committee appointed to clear up budget for 1951.

It was decided to have Revival Services, but due to lack of interest and enthusiasm Home-Coming Day was ruled out.

The following item of business at the above meeting is of interest:

"Mr. Hall asked Mr. Staples to take the chair as he wanted to make a motion that the Church go on record as favoring a parsonage. This motion was seconded, voted on and carried. Mr. Hall said if building material was available, the Church could use the payment of his rent to aid in building a parsonage. Some comments on the subject:

"Plenty of room, but no good location."

"Yes, we do need a parsonage, but we cannot get any more land on the east side of the Church. But what we have is large enough and people are willing to help build."

"What about Salem, we are in a field together?"

Mr. Hall answered the last question by saying that Salem was not interested because they were trying to build class-rooms.

More pertinent questions:

"What about finances?"

"Who is the Committee and when did the Church name them?"

"No Committee appointed, but Trustees will attend to it."

"No plans. Something small and liveable."

"Would there be a down payment?"

Finally a motion was made to table the whole proposition until something definite could be ascertained as to available land, finances, plans, materials, etc. Mr. Staples, Mr. Will DuVal and Mr. L. A. Wood to report in four weeks.

The Committee met again in July and decided to confer with Salem in the event Dover decided to build the parsonage. It was suggested that stakes be set up to locate the proposed building site. Finances discussed and house plans viewed.

On August 29th there was a joint meeting of Dover-Salem to discuss the parsonage. It was agreed that a suitable house plan be selected and presented to the Joint Committee at a later date.

At a meeting on October 16, 1950, a motion was made and carried that the Church drop any plans for building a parsonage at this time because the Church is not financially able to carry out the plan.

Also at this meeting one member was still interested in knowing what the other members were going to do about the sills under the Church that were badly in need of repair.

January 22, 1951: Question of increasing insurance on Church to \$12,000. Mr. Hall said he would write a letter to the Insurance Agent and inquire about policies.

A motion was made by Mrs. L. C. Clarke that the old Church Book be given to Dr. Garnett Ryland for safe-keeping. This motion was carried.

And - the Committee reported that the sills under the Church had been repaired!

Note: April 10, 1951: Old Church Book sent to Dr. Garnett Ryland at Westhampton to be preserved for the Church.

On April 16, 1951, the matter of insurance again came up. It would seem that the Church was already insured for \$9,000 and it was the desire of the members to add an additional \$3,000, making a total of \$12,000. The Insurance Agent suggested that the old policy be allowed to expire and then re-write the insurance for \$12,000. Mr. Will DuVal made a motion that the Church be insured for \$12,000 (he did not stipulate whether it was to take effect immediately) and Mr. Earl Henley seconded the motion. It was carried by vote.

On July 28, 1951, lightening struck Dover Church, damaging the roof and two rooms upstairs. The Church carried insurance against fire and lightening and the Insurance Agent was notified.

August 19, 1951: Pastor on vacation and Mr. Harris from Westhampton preached at the morning service.

August 20, 1951. The Insurance Company approved the claim for damage caused by lightening on July 28th. This claim in the amount of \$150.00 was paid by check and received by the Church on September 19th.

October 22, 1951: There was a report on Revival Services although no reference is made to it in the previous minutes. Mr. Panky conducted the Revival Services. Mr. Panky was paid \$75.00 for his services and Mr. Hall was paid \$26.00, which he (Mr. Hall) gave back to the Church. Dates of the Revival are not stated.

From what took place at this meeting it would seem that Rev. Hall was not giving the Church the attention it deserved and was rightfully entitled to receive; that he was engaged in some gainful employment other than the Church, and the members were somewhat indignant at his lack of interest in and neglect of the Church. Following are some extracts from the minutes of this meeting:

"A Committee of Deacons called on Mr. Hall and asked him if he felt that he had kept his contract with the Church. He had not kept his contract with the Church, that he had continued to work as he needed money for his hospital expenses. He needed \$300.00 and that would pay him up. He is to send in his resignation October 29, 1951, at the regular Church meeting."

Repairs to the Church were again discussed at this meeting. A motion was made that the Trustees attend to the work "which must be done in thirty days." The financial question reared its head and snarled a bit, but a Committee was duly appointed to annihilate this troublesome factor.

Question was asked as to what Mr. Charles Johnson had done about surveying the Church property. There was some tie-up about the line so he was going back to establish lines later. He had to look over blueprint of property.

The Deacons were instructed to remind Mr. Hall of the Baptismal Services and have them performed at once!

October 28, 1951: There was a call meeting of the solicitors for the building fund, to make plans for collecting funds. This fund was intended to take care of necessary repairs to the Church.

* * * * *

The next recordation in the life of Dover Baptist Church was in the form of a grim headline in the newspapers reading:

"DOVER BAPTIST CHURCH RAZED
BY FIRE, WITH \$46,000 LOSS

"MANAKIN, VA., October 30 (1951) Historic old Dover Baptist Church, which gave its name to the Dover Baptist Association, was completely destroyed by fire early this morning.

"The Rev. Randolph B. Hall, pastor of the church, located just north of this Goochland County community, said the one-story frame building was valued at \$35,000. Its furnishings were worth approximately \$10,000, he said, and the organ cost \$1,285. The building was insured for \$12,000 and the organ for \$1,000, he said.

"Edward Willis, acting chief of the Pembroke Farm fire department, said a defective flue or over-heated stove might have caused the blaze. He said the fire was discovered at about 6 A.M. by Gilbert Moore, a milk truck driver. The Pembroke Farm and Henrico County fire departments responded to the alarm, but only the south wall of the church was standing when they arrived. The fire spread to a near-by wooded area, Willis said, but was quickly brought under control.

"Second Structure

"The building which burned this morning was the second Dover Baptist Church. The church was first constituted in 1773, according to the Rev. Mr. Hall, and its first home - a log structure - was erected in 1776, across the road from the scene of the fire. It was replaced in about 1855.

"Colonial Williamsburg was interested in buying the flooring and pews of the second Dover Baptist Church, Willis said, but the church members refused to sell. The 8 to 12 inch pine floor boards and the handmade pews were desired for restoration work at the Colonial capital.

"The Dover Baptist Association was organized in 1783 in Essex County. It was named in honor of the then pastor of Dover Baptist Church, the Rev. Dr. William Webber, who was chosen as the first moderator of the association. The association now consists of 42 churches in Goochland, Hanover, Henrico, Charles City and New Kent Counties, with a membership of 11,500. Until last year, it also included Baptist Churches in the City of Richmond. At that time, the Richmond churches - 22 in number, with a membership of 25,000 - withdrew to form the Richmond Baptist Association."

* * * *

There are some discrepancies in the preceding article, but the shattering fact remained - it was very stark, very real. Dover Baptist Church constructed through the efforts of men and women working harmoniously together and exercising great self-denial in order to leave a monument to their love for and faith in Almighty God, now lay a charred and blackened mass of nothingness. The lovely Church, dedicated on October 18, 1855, having known ninety-six years of joys and sorrows and having emerged victorious and triumphant through all of them, was no more. The smoldering ruins of a residence, building or forest cause even the casual onlooker to experience a sense of sadness. But when one looks upon the devastation left in the wake of a ravaging fire that has swept a House of Worship - a building dedicated to God - the feeling of sadness becomes a leaden sorrow, a loneliness of loss not easily described with words. It is then that 'the eyes of the heart' may not see clearly, or become entirely blind for a while.

The readjustment period for those who loved Dover Church was destined to be tedious and fraught with discontent, discord and dissent. Indeed, it may be said that before the gray skies cleared the Church would have to endure times as "cold" if not "colder" than those referred to in the Dover Association Letter, Meeting October 11-13, 1800.

No attempt will be made to record the many meetings that were held by members of the Church after the fire. It would be pointless to so do. Meeting after meeting ended with the words "nothing definite decided" and the same old problems, with many new ones added, were rehashed each time. Suffice it to say that tempers wore thin and nerves became frayed, that indecision and confusion played their "be-deviling" parts, and that the records are, to say the least, somewhat perplexing. However, an effort will be made to record all matters pertaining directly to the life of the Church.

Immediately following the fire, local Churches, among them being Salem, Goochland, Grace Episcopal and 1st Baptist at Manakin, offered their Churches as a place of worship to Dover members. However, it was decided to hold services temporarily in Clarke's Store at the intersection of Routes #6 and 621.

At this point appears an undated sheet of paper listing officers and teachers for Dover Sunday School for the year 1952. T. S. Staples is listed as Superintendent and Earl Henley as Assistant Superintendent.

At a meeting on November 4, 1951, the Pastor asked if the Church members wished to disband and go where they wanted to go, or to rebuild the Church. It was unanimously agreed that Dover Church would be rebuilt as soon as possible and a building fund for that purpose was immediately set up.

November 12, 1951: Mr. Hall's letter of resignation, dated October 29, 1951, to take effect December 31, 1951, was read to the members assembled in Church meeting. Mr. Hall's resignation was accepted.

At this meeting everyone present had something to say on practically every subject in the book. Out of the turmoil came one profound observation: "Much discussion, but everyone seems not to know what to do!"

In addition to this observation, one decision was made and that to let Mr. Hall, the Pastor, know that his resignation had been accepted. Some felt that Salem had "taken" Mr. Hall, so a Committee was appointed to call on Salem in this regard.

Also consideration was given to holding Church services in a vacant school building just north of the Dover Church property. Although the building was greatly in need of repair and was on the "for sale" list, Mr. A. W. Kay, Superintendent of Schools, kindly offered to remove it from the sale list and make it available to Dover members for an indefinite time. Mr. Kay's offer was accepted and plans were made to rehabilitate the building.

At a meeting on January 2, 1952, it was reported by the proper Committee that Dover was no longer in a field with Salem, that such joint activity had been dissolved, and that Mr. Hall "is now Pastor of Salem."

It was reported that the school building had been repaired and was now ready for use in holding Church services.

The need for a sexton was discussed and it was noted that Mr. Melvin Powers had saved the Church \$10.00 a month for eleven months (before the fire) by serving in this capacity. A rising vote of thanks was extended Mr. Powers. Mr. Powers again agreed to act as sexton for the year 1952 at \$10.00 per month if the Church and Sunday School would turn that amount over to the Building Fund. His offer was gratefully accepted.

On April 10, 1952, it was decided to secure the services of a student pastor for Dover. The record does not indicate who served as pastor prior to this time, or after Mr. Hall left Dover.

On June 22, 1952, Mr. E. Hugh Ragland appeared on the scene as Pastor. His appearance apparently served to act as a "shot in the arm" for he suggested fixing up the school building and making it more attractive. He also recommended a Revival to be held in August and, from all indications, went about the business of trying to pull together the many loose ends then existing. Mr. Ragland was to preach at Dover two Sundays each month.

A note of interest under date of August 16, 1952: "Charles R. Johnson, W. V. DuVal, T. S. Staples and B.S. Henley met at the Church to begin surveying property. Some more land had been donated by Mr. Harman."

Ground Breaking Exercises were held at Dover Church on August 17, 1952, with dinner served on the grounds. Many visitors were present. The message for the day was: "The First Gift," by Rev. Parker S. Hooper, Pastor of Woodlawn Baptist Church, Colonial Heights, Virginia. Prayer by

Rev. C. J. Washington, Pastor of First Baptist Church (colored) Manakin, Virginia. Mr. T. Dix Sutton was also present and took part in the services. Mr. E. Hugh Ragland, Pastor of Dover, was in charge of the services for the day.

The ground-breaking took place at 2:30 P.M. Those taking part in this exercise were:

Sandra Austin, youngest member.
 Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Jones, oldest in membership.
 Mrs. J. L. Clarke, oldest in age.
 Mr. W. V. DuVal, Treasurer
 Mr. B. S. Henley, Deacon
 Mr. T. S. Staples, Superintendent of Sunday School
 Mr. L. A. Wood, representing the Choir
 Mrs. L. C. Clarke, Church Clerk.

* * * * *

August 25, 1952: Mr. Ragland stated that he wanted to come and serve Dover as a full-time pastor, that he could see much work that needed to be done by the Church and Sunday School such as visiting members and people in the community and working with the Building Committee. Beginning September 1st he would preach every Sunday. He stated that he was anxious to help the Church financially and spiritually. Mr. Ragland volunteered to pay his own rent until the Church was in better shape financially. He asked for several days vacation after Revival and before his school starts in September.

September 2, 1952: "Mr. Ragland was asked to explain to the Church that additional land had been given by Mr. Harman, which gives us more land for drainage. Also marker can be moved. Mrs. B. S. Henley made motion that we accept property given by Mr. Harman with this condition that we do not extend cemetery. Mrs. Daves seconded the motion. It was recommended that after the deed is cleared that we start digging basement * * * * *".

Also discussed at this meeting was the laying of the cornerstone of the new Church. It was decided that brief records and a Bible would be placed in the cornerstone.

The minutes of a call meeting on September 22, 1952, state that the Revival was held September 7th to 12th. The minutes do not state who conducted the services.

A notation following the above meeting reads:

"Dr. Cousins wished to be notified whether or not we wished a preacher."

This leads us to wonder what happened to Mr. Ragland who, less than a month before had been fired with zeal to help.

There is another entry to the effect that at the meeting on September 2nd the members agreed to have services twice monthly and to use a supply pastor. Meanwhile, five candidates for baptism were still waiting for such service. It was decided that Mr. Ragland would be asked to perform this service. There is no record as to what occurred in this connection.

* * * * *

Following is a copy of the deed covering the property which J. W. Harman gave to Dover Church:

"THIS DEED, made this 23rd day of September, 1952, by and between J. W. HARMAN and GENEVIEVE S. HARMAN, his wife, of the City of Richmond, State of Virginia, parties of the first part, and BERNARD S. HENLEY, MELVIN B. POWERS, THOMAS S. STAPLES, BENJAMIN S. DUVAL and W. V. DUVAL, Trustees of Dover Baptist Church, parties of the second part:

"W I T N E S S E T H

"That for and in consideration of the sum of Ten (\$10.00) Dollars and other good and valuable considerations, the receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, at and before the execution and delivery of this deed, the parties of the first part do bargain, sell and convey unto the parties of the second part with General Warranty of Title, all of the following described real estate with improvements thereon and appurtenances thereunto belonging, to-wit:-

"All that certain piece or parcel of land lying and being situated in the Dover Magisterial District of Goochland County, Virginia, in the village of Manakin, and containing 0.42 of an acre, more or less. The courses and distances of the boundaries of which are as follows: Commencing at an iron rod on the line of J. W. Harman where it intersects the old line of the Dover Baptist Church property, thence along the old line of Dover Baptist Church property S. 78 degrees 45' W. 76' to a rock, thence along old line of Dover Baptist Church property N. 2 degrees 45' W. 250' to a stake, thence N. 87 degrees 15 E. 75.2' to an iron rod, thence S. 2 degrees 45' E. 238.8' to the point of beginning.

"It being bounded on the North and East by other land of J. W. Harman, and on the South and West by other land of Dover Baptist Church property.

"It being a portion of the same property as that conveyed to J. W. Harman from Harman Motor Company, Incorporated, et als, by deed bearing date February 1st, 1952, and recorded May 19th, 1952, in the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court of Goochland County.

"For a more particular description of said land reference is here made to a plat of survey made by Charles R. Johnson, Certified Surveyor, on August 16th, 1952, which plat is made a part of this deed and recorded herewith.

"The Grantees on behalf of Dover Baptist Church covenant with the Grantors that the above described lot will not be used by the said Church as a cemetery and the Grantees manifest the obligation of the Church on this covenant by their signatures to this deed.

"The aforesaid Grantors covenant that they have the right to convey the said land to the aforesaid Grantees; that they, the Grantors, have done no act to encumber the said land, except as mentioned above, that the said Grantees shall have quiet possession of the said land, free from all encumbrances except as mentioned above and that the said Grantors will execute such further assurances of the said land as may be requisite.

"WITNESS the following signatures and seals:

| | |
|---------------------|--------|
| "J. W. HARMAN | (SEAL) |
| GENEVIEVE S. HARMAN | (SEAL) |
| BERNARD S. HENLEY | (SEAL) |
| MELVIN B. POWERS | (SEAL) |
| THOMAS S. STAPLES | (SEAL) |
| W. V. DUVAL | (SEAL) |
| BENJAMIN S. DUVAL | (SEAL) |

"STATE OF VIRGINIA
CITY OF RICHMOND, to-wit:

"I, (no signature appears, a Notary Public for the City aforesaid, in the State of Virginia, do hereby certify that J. W. HARMAN and GENEVIEVE S. HARMAN, his wife, whose names are signed to the foregoing instrument, bearing date September 23rd, 1952, have each this day acknowledged the same before me in my City aforesaid.

"Given under my hand this 9 day of Oct. 1952.

"My commission expires on the 18 day of Feb. 1956.

"C. E. White
Notary Public.

"STATE OF VIRGINIA
COUNTY OF GOOCHLAND, to-wit:

"I, Margaret V. Henley, a Notary Public for the County aforesaid, in the State of Virginia, do hereby certify that BERNARD S. HENLEY,

AELVIN B. POWERS, THOMAS S. STAPLES, BENJAMIN S. DUVAL AND W. V. DUVAL, Trustees of Dover Baptist Church, whose names are signed to the foregoing instrument, bearing date September 23rd, 1952, have each this day acknowledged the same before me in my County aforesaid.

"Given under my hand this 15th day of October, 1952.

"My commission expires on the 3rd day of Aug. 1955.

"Margaret V. Henley
Notary Public.

"Virginia, Goochland County, to-wit:

"In the Office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court for the County of Goochland the 15 day of April, 1953: This Deed was presented and with the certificate annexed and plat attached, admitted to record at 3:30 o'clock P.M.

"Teste: Margaret K. Miller, Clerk."

The above deed is recorded in Deed Book 82, Page 37, Goochland Circuit Court Clerk's Office.

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At a meeting on January 19, 1953, the Pulpit Committee read the names of several possible ministers to serve Dover Church. Mr. Fleet Powell was asked to preach on February 1, 1953.

April 1, 1953: It was reported that Mr. Ernest Clark was well recommended to serve Dover. "He will preach for us while here at Abingdon." Mr. Parker will preach on Sunday the 4th and 19th.

On April 15, 1953, there was discussion as to surveying the Church property.

Ernest D. Clark accepted the pastorate of Dover in a letter dated June 13, 1953, stating that his first Sunday at Dover would be June 21st. The Church was to pay Mr. Clark \$1500 and the Board to pay him \$500 per annum.

* * * *

Laying of the cornerstone of the new Church took place on Sunday, June 29, 1953, at 3 o'clock P.M. Pastor: Rev. Ernest Clark. The order of of the service was in part as follows:

The Invocation by B. S. Henley

Statement of Purpose by Rev. Randolph Hall.

Reading of the Scripture by Rev. C. C. Anderson

Prayer by Rev. C. C. Anderson

Placing of Mementoes in copper box in Cornerstone:

By: Mrs. L. C. Clarke, Clerk of the Church

Mr. T. S. Staples, Chairman of the Building Committee

Miss Elizabeth DuVal, Chairman of Church History.

Placed in the copper box in Cornerstone were:

Copies of Bulletins
Church History and List of Former Pastors
List of Church Members
List of Church Officers
Copy of this Program
Copy of Richmond News Leader, June 27, 1953.
Bible

Laying of Cornerstone

By: Mr. Dix Sutton, Mr. K. R. Henley

Charge to the congregation: "Take heed, therefore, that the cornerstone of your faith shall ever be Jesus Christ, the Son of God, our Lord and our Savior."

Address by: Dr. Ralph McDanel of the University of Richmond.

The Benediction: By the Pastor, Ernest Clark.

Cornerstone Program Committee:

Mrs. T. S. Staples
Miss Mary Lucy Clarke
Mrs. Earl H. Henley

* * * * *

July 20, 1953: The survey of the Church property has not yet been made, but is promised shortly! Revival Services planned to be held in November.

September 6, 1953: Recommended by Pastor Ernest Clark that Revival Services be held at Dover from November 2 to November 6, with Dr. Ernest L. Honts of Tabernacle Baptist Church (Richmond) as the preacher.

Note under date of September 2, 1953: New organ put in school. To be paid for by Choir (adult).

The list of officers and teachers for Sunday School for 1954 include: Earl Henley as Superintendent and William Sheppard as Assistant Superintendent.

During all of this time work was being done on the new Church Building. It was intended to complete the basement first so that this portion of the building could be used for Church services and Sunday School. Many contributions were made to Dover Church by members and non-members of the Church in the form of money, labor, building materials and other items. Since the names of all these contributors are not known, a few will not be given here.

Note under date of October 19, 1953: Mr. Charles Johnson is to survey the Church property as soon as he is able.

October 19, 1953: The services of a janitor were required to build fires and care for the school building. A Committee was appointed to secure the services of such a person.

On April 15, 1954, Mr. W. V. DuVal resigned as Church Trustee and Elam Daves was elected to take his place. This was confirmed at Goochland Courthouse.

Note: July 4, 1954: Dover Baptist Church held its first service in the basement of the new Church. Sunday School at 10 o'clock, preaching by Rev. Ernest Clark at 11 o'clock.

On May 30, 1954, a recommendation was made to call Mr. Ernest Clark as Pastor for another year, his present term expiring in June of 1954. The salary named was \$3,000 per annum plus \$50.00 per month for rent. The recommendation was approved and Mr. Clark accepted the call. There was a definite stipulation in connection with this call which reads:

"Let it be clearly understood that this leaves us free to form a field with Salem or to make any other change at any time which we are led to make."

It should be noted here that on July 19th, 1954, it was reported that Salem was no longer to be considered as a field.

On July 19, 1954, Mr. W. V. DuVal asked to be relieved of having the Church property surveyed by Mr. Charles Johnson. Plans were made for Revival Services to be held last week in August. No record follows to indicate that the plans were carried out.

"On July 19, 1954, it was agreed to borrow \$7,000 from the Bank of Goochland to complete the work on the new Church. * * * "

In order to secure this loan a deed of trust was drawn against the Church property. It is not clear how this transaction was accomplished since the holdings of the Church were extremely small, being: $3/4$ of an acre, more or less, given to the Church by E. J. DuVal and Rhoda T. DuVal in March of 1886, to be used exclusively for a burying ground; 200 feet by 200 feet acquired in April, 1948, from James A. and Virginia D. Sloan, and forty-two hundredths of an acre given by J. W. Harman and Genevieve S. Harman in September, 1952. Nevertheless, the loan was granted by the Bank of Goochland and work on the new Church continued.

September 26, 1954: Rev. Ernest D. Clark resigned as Pastor of Dover, to take effect on October 15, 1954. His resignation was accepted.

October 18, 1954: Mr. W. V. DuVal asked permission to turn over to the Clerk the deeds in his possession. This request was granted.

Rev. Baine Harris preached at Dover on November 7, 1954.

January 6, 1955: The Pulpit Committee was asked to look into the matter of calling Mr. Walter L. Bradley, Assistant Pastor at Barton Heights Baptist Church, to serve at Dover.

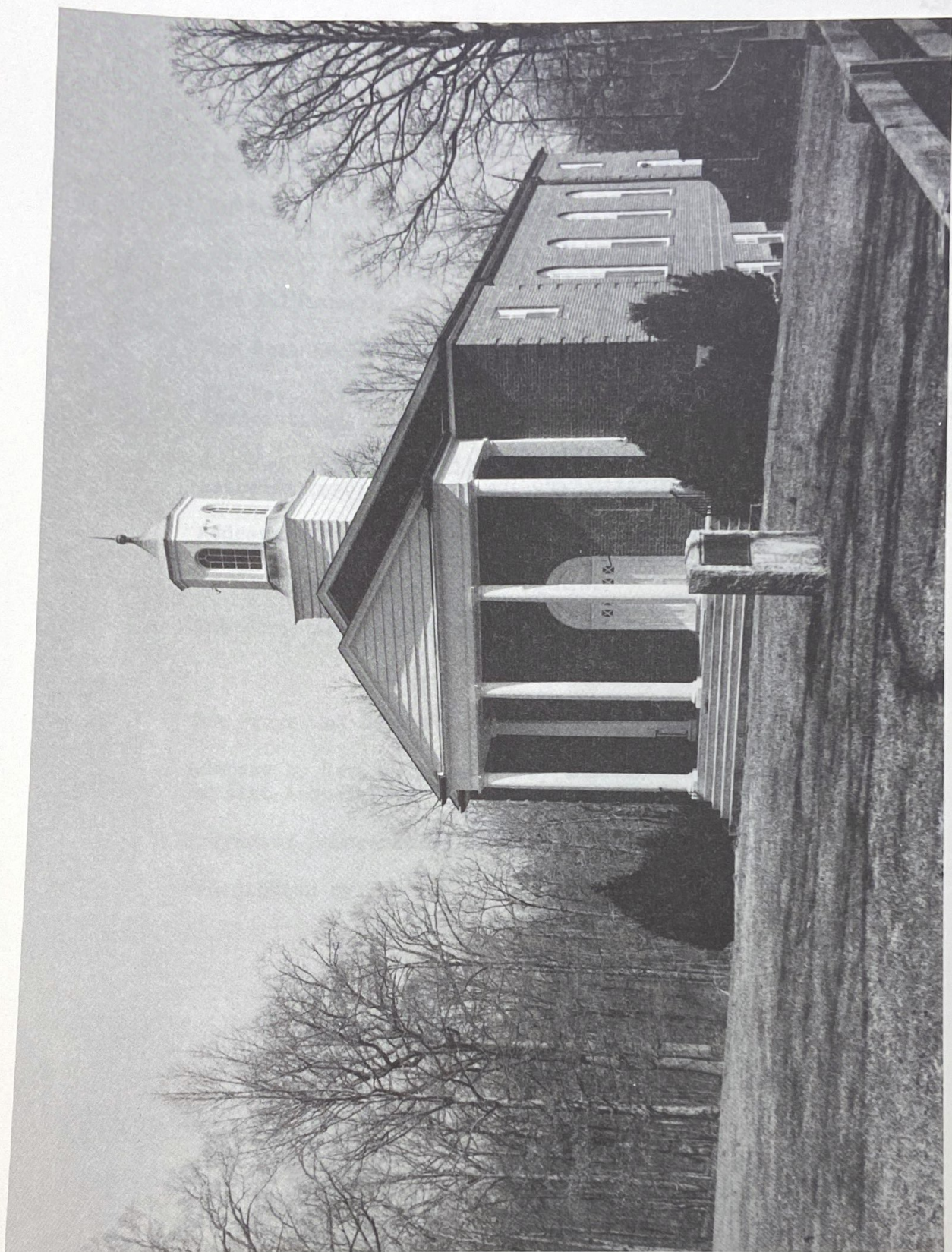
January 17, 1955: A rising vote of thanks was extended to Mr. W. V. DuVal for his long service as Treasurer of the Church.

On February 6, 1955, it was discovered that additional money was needed to complete the Church and it was decided that this money would be obtained through a loan from the Bank of Goochland, such loan to be secured by signatures of certain members of the Church.

Although Mr. Walter L. Bradley had not (as indicated by the records) begun his pastorate at Dover, he was present at this meeting and asked the members for a seven weeks leave of absence beginning June 1st to attend the Baptist World Alliance in London, he to furnish a supply pastor during that period. Permission was granted for this leave of absence.

March 1, 1955: Mr. Walter L. Bradley came as Pastor to Dover Church at a salary of \$200.00 per month.

* * * * *



DOVER BAPTIST CHURCH
MANAKIN, VIRGINIA

GROUND BREAKING AUGUST 17, 1952
LAYING OF CORNERSTONE JUNE 29, 1953
DEDICATION SERVICE APRIL 3, 1955

* * * * *

The new Dover Baptist Church was dedicated on April 3, 1955.

The order of service was, in part, as follows:

Invocation, by Rev. Charles H. Bradley

The pastor's Greeting: Announcements, by Rev. Walter L. Bradley

The Salutations:

The Rev. Cecil C. Anderson, Moderator, Dover Baptist Association

The Rev. Charles S. Trammell, Moderator, Middle District Baptist Association

The Rev. Paul Grandall, Executive Secretary, Richmond Baptist Association

Address: "Dover and The Baptists of Virginia
By Rev. Kenneth E. Burke, Treasurer, Baptist General
Association of Virginia.

The Scripture Lesson by Rev. Joseph Rotella.

"The Act of Dedication"

The Prayer of Dedication by The Rev. Randolph Hall

Address by Rev. W. E. Cullers, Executive Secretary, Dover Baptist Association

Prayer of Consecration by Rev. C. C. Anderson

Benediction by The Rev. Joseph Rotella.

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A foot-note on the bulletin giving the program for the dedication service on April 3rd indicates that Evangelistic Services began at 8:00 P.M. on April 4th, with Dr. Clyde V. Hickerson of the Barton Heights Baptist Church, Richmond, Virginia, as the guest Evangelist.

Although there is no available record to substantiate the fact, it is known that this service did take place.

April 24, 1955: Delegates appointed to attend Dover Association meeting were: B. S. Henley, Miss Roberta Gordon, Mrs. B. S. Henley, Mrs. W. V. DuVal and Mrs. Arthur Henley.

Mr. and Mrs. Jones and Rev. Clark made a map of the cemetery. (It is not clear why Rev. Clark should enter the picture again at this late date).

It was noted at this meeting that Mrs. Leita Ellis Briesmaster desired to give collection plates to the Church as a memorial to her grand-father, Rev. Archar B. Smith.

Note: These collection plates were given by Mrs. Briesmaster.

August 15, 1955: The Cemetery Committee reported that they had decided to level the graves and put some type of marker at each grave. Cleaning has commenced and leveling should be done soon.

Mr. Bradley announced that Sunday night services will begin with the showing of pictures he took on his travels through Europe.

There was discussion of a Fall Revival, to meet in October with the Pastor conducting the services.

August 15, 1955: Miss Hallie Roller of Richmond has offered her family Bible for the sanctuary. Since the Church already had a Bible, it was decided to accept Miss Roller's offer and use her Bible in the Sunday School.

September 17, 1955: Mr. Bradley's brother will assist with the Revival at no cost to the Church, and Mr. Crone, Minister of Music at Barton Heights Baptist Church, will conduct the singing. Since Mr. Crone has no means of transportation it was agreed that the Church would pay him \$40.00 for his services.

On November 13, 1955, a special meeting was called for the purpose of considering forming a field with Salem Baptist Church. The motion made for forming such a field was defeated and the Clerk was instructed to inform the Salem Pulpit Committee of Dover's refusal.

January 16, 1956: Mr. C. S. Luck, Jr., gave the Church a kitchen sink and a Committee was instructed to install this in the Church kitchen.

The Trustees were instructed to insure the Church for \$40,000, under extended coverage for five years.

January 29, 1956, was set to take a special offering for Mr. Selfe who was injured in a fall while working on the Church.

April 16, 1956: The insurance policy on the Church was turned over to Mr. B. S. Henley, Chairman of the Board of Trustees.

Mrs. W. V. DuVal, Mrs. A. C. Henley, Mr. T. S. Staples and Mr. B. S. Henley were named as Delegates to attend the Dover Association meeting at Cool Springs Baptist Church in April.

It was announced that the Women of the Home Demonstration Clubs would have Mothers' Day services at Dover on May 13.

July 1, 1956: Homecoming Day was held at Dover. Morning and afternoon services with lunch on the grounds.

Note: A letter of thanks was sent Mrs. Virginia Weeks for the coffee pot she gave to the Church.

July 16, 1956: Delegates named to attend the Dover Association meeting which will be held at Poplar Springs Church in the fall were: Mr. John Smith, Mr. Henry Powers, Mrs. Lois Powers, Mrs. Harry Henley.

October 22, 1956: Thanksgiving Service will be held at the Church at 10:30 o'clock A.M. on Thanksgiving Day.

Permission was granted the Huguenot Camera Club to hold meetings in the Church.

A permanent Home Coming Day was set for the second Sunday in October of each year.

January 22, 1957: "Family Night" was set up for the first Wednesday in each month; this to include a pot-luck supper with everyone bringing a "covered dish" (or the equivalent) to be served at 6:30 P.M. and to include all members, their families and friends.

"February 17, 1957: Mr. Bradley reported that Mr. Leonard Henley's will left half of his estate to Dover Church and half to Hebron Church. This property has been surveyed. The property was owned jointly by Mr. Leonard Henley and his brother, Mr. Frank Henley. The Church has been asked to provide two persons to share in the settlement of this estate when it is settled. Motion was made and seconded that two Trustees be entrusted with this business - Mr. Bradley to name the two Trustees to take care of this matter."

March 31, 1957: Mr. C. S. Luck, having been most generous to Dover Church in the past, has again come forward and offered a fine donation. Mr. Luck has offered to build a picnic shed for the Church - this shed to be rustic in style and located on the south side of the Church on property lines - dimensions 20 feet by 40 feet. His offer was gratefully accepted.

April 7 through 12: Revival Services at Dover led by Rev. John Houghton of Dinwiddie County.

April 15, 1957: Mr. T. S. Staples is listed as Superintendent of the Sunday School at this time.

"The following Delegates were elected to represent Dover at the meeting of the Association on April 23, 1957: Mrs. E. H. Daves, Mr. Arden Henley, Mr. John Smith, Mr. T. S. Staples.

"There will be an afternoon session at 3 o'clock P.M. and an evening session after supper."

Mr. Bradley thanked the ladies of the Kitchen Committee and the Church for their hospitality and the luncheon served to the ministers during their conference at Dover on March 25, 1957. This was a meeting of the ministers of the forty-five Churches of the Dover Association.

Mr. T. S. Staples and Mr. B.S. Henley (Trustees of the Church) were named to meet with Mr. Stuart Gathright, executor of Mr. Leonard Henley's will, on April 20, 1957.

The Dover Association met with Dover Baptist Church at Manakin on April 23, 1957. Only the Delegates from forty-four churches were entertained, visitors not invited as in previous years. The attendance, therefore, was small, only 230 being present. The meeting convened at 2 o'clock P.M. Supper was served at 6:30 P.M. Closing at 9 o'clock P.M.

At this meeting it was agreed that a lay reader was needed in each Church. Mrs. Phyllis Clarke was elected as lay representative for Dover with Mr. T. S. Staples as alternate.

Mr. Frank Adams was speaker at Dover on the evening of April 28, 1957. This was in connection with the Youth Emphasis Service sponsored by the University of Richmond.

May 19, 1957: It was agreed that there would be no evening service at Dover on May 2, 1957, as the Pastor would be away at the Southern Baptist Conference.

July 15, 1957: The regular quarterly meeting of the Church was held a week earlier due to the fact that Mr. Bradley is leaving on vacation on July 22, 1957. He will be away six weeks during which time he will make a world tour.

July 17, 1957: Home Coming Day set for the second Sunday in October.

It was unanimously agreed at this meeting that the Pastor of the Church would be granted a months vacation each year with pay, this period of time to be taken at the Pastor's discretion.

August 18, 1957: It was noted that the picnic shed which was built and given to the Church by Mr. C. S. Luck, Jr., was completed. Mrs. L. C. Clarke, Clerk of the Church, was asked to thank Mr. Luck for this generous gift and to extend an invitation to Mr. and Mrs. Luck to attend Family Night Supper on Wednesday night, September 4th.

Note: The above is the last item appearing in 1957. The next Church meeting was held on January 20, 1958, with Mrs. Phyllis Clarke as Church Clerk.

January 20, 1958: Motion made and carried that Dover Church adopt the unified budget system beginning with the second quarter in 1958. The Church budget already adopted for the year 1958 was \$7315.00.

It was noted at this meeting that Mrs. W. V. DuVal had given a much needed 9 x 12 rug for the nursery. Appreciation was expressed to Mrs. DuVal.

Mr. Bradley stated that the Church was also the recipient of a bronze lighted bulletin board, presented to the Church by Mrs. W. A. Gordon.

Spring Revival planned for March 31 through April 6.

Cottage Prayer meetings planned to precede the Revival Services.

March 9, 1958: It was stated that the budget for 1958 was \$8115.00.

March 31 through April 4, 1958: Revival Services held at Dover and led by Mr. Charlie Bradley of Antioch Baptist Church.

April 14, 1958: Appreciation was expressed to Mrs. E. H. Daves for her faithfulness and persistence in endeavoring to get the building debt closed.

The matter of the Trustees of the Church being recorded at Goochland Courthouse has not yet been completed.

Mr. Bradley presented the Annual Church Letter to the Dover Association. This letter was approved.

The annual meeting of the Dover Association will be held April 22nd at North Run Church. The following messengers from Dover were named: Mrs. Eva Henley, Mr. T. S. Staples, Mrs. T. S. Staples, Mrs. Phyllis Clarke. Alternates: Mrs. Lois Phillips, Mrs. C. M. Chenault, Mr. Billy DuVal and Mrs. W. V. DuVal.

It was reported that Mrs. Bertha Diservio, Church Reporter, had sent a write-up to the Religious Herald with reference to The Business Woman's Circle being named for Miss Elizabeth DuVal. A picture of Miss DuVal was also sent.

Mrs. W. V. DuVal, Principal of Vacation Bible School, stated that a Bible School Clinic would be held at Cool Springs Baptist Church on April 29.

With reference to the W.M.S. Mrs. DuVal announced that the Society had received an Advanced Certificate which was presented at the annual meeting at New Bridge.

Mr. Bradley announced that he plans to attend the Southern Baptist Conference to be held in Houston, Texas, on May 20. He will leave after worship service on May 18. Motion made and carried that evening worship services be dispensed with for the two Sunday nights Mr. Bradley will be away. Mr. Bradley stated that he had arranged for someone to fill the pulpit on the one Sunday morning during his absence.

There was discussion of the Community Brotherhood recently organized, which is not exclusively Baptist, for the men of the community. The Brotherhood meets once a month at Dover for a supper meeting. They are interested in recreation for the youth of the community. The plan under consideration is to clean up the remainder of the land on the Church property in order to have a playing field for the youth of the community; at the same time, give the Church additional parking facilities. Motion made and carried that the Brotherhood be authorized to clear the land in question.

It was recommended that the fund accumulated for the care of the cemetery be used to do some "constructive" work in the cemetery.

Christian Home Week has been designated as May 4-11. The Goochland Home Demonstration Clubs will have their annual observance service at Dover Church on May 4.

July 21, 1958: Howard Henley elected to fill the office of Recreation Chairman.

Messengers named to attend Fall meeting of the Dover Association: Mrs. Bernard Henley, Mrs. C. M. Chenault, Mrs. F. H. Agee, Mr. F. H. Agee, Mrs. Mollie DuVal, Mrs. Lois Phillips, Mrs. Phyllis Clarke, Mrs. Harry Henley. The meeting is scheduled to be held on September 9th, place not yet determined.

Mrs. Lois Phillips and Mrs. Pauline Staples named Co-Chairmen of the Home Coming Committee.

September 14, 1958: Fred Browning was elected Superintendent and Earl Henley Assistant Superintendent of the Sunday School for the year 1959.

September 14, 1958: Baptismal Service held during evening worship with Rev. Walter L. Bradley officiating.

October 12, 1958: The annual Home Coming was held with a theme of World Missions. Dr. Rogers M. Smith, Associate Secretary of Promotion for the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board, was speaker for the afternoon service. Rev. Walter Bradley conducted the morning service. His sermon topic was: "Are We As Dew?" Dinner was served on the grounds at 12:30.

October 20, 1958: Mrs. Eva Henley, President of the Business Woman's Circle, reported that they have twenty members enrolled with an average attendance of nine.

Mrs. Phyllis Clarke reported that the Youth Group became re-activated in September with the same type of general programs as before, with the exception of having ordered BTU quarterlies for program material.

The Youth Choir, under the direction of Mrs. Eva Henley, is singing for the morning worship service each Sunday.

It was reported that the bronze bulletin board had been installed under the supervision of Mr. T. S. Staples. The Church Clerk was instructed to write a letter of thanks to Mrs. Gordon for this fine contribution.

A new budget for the year 1959 in the amount of \$8,784 was brought before the Church body for consideration. It was recommended that the Church attempt to acquire additional land in the amount of 2-1/2 acres for expansion purposes. Considering this new acquisition, the budget was increased to \$9,784. A motion made and carried to adopt the budget.

Mrs. F. H. Agee was named to compile biographical material on past and present Baptists of Dover who have contributed to the "Virginia Baptists". This work is being carried on under the title of "Operation Baptist Biography."

It was decided at this meeting that the Sunday evening services would be dispensed with entirely due to the small attendance at such services. This to become effective immediately.

November 30, 1958: Mr. Richard W. Hamel, Jr., was elected Superintendent of the Junior and Intermediate Sunday School Departments for the year 1959.

January 20, 1959: Mrs. W. V. DuVal, reporting for the WMS, stated that the Society received approved rating this year.

It was noted that the railings which had been installed on the front of the Church were a donation from an anonymous friend of the Church.

Mr. Earl Henley reported that the Commonwealth's Attorney for Goochland County had telephoned him on December 3, 1958, stating that the names of the present Trustees of the Church had been officially recorded in the Clerk's Office.

There has been in the past some discussion concerning the need for a week-day kindergarten. The matter was again discussed at this meeting, but no decision was reached.

March 3, 1959: A Youth led prayer service was held at the Church on this date. The theme of the service was The Light of the World. The various Sunday School classes participated in the program. This was a candle-light service and following the lighting of the candles, the youth formed a fellowship circle and sang Blest Be The Tie That Binds. Mr. Fred Browning presided at the service and Mr. Billy DuVal summarized the program.

March 15-22, 1959: Rev. Paul Akers from Lawrenceville Baptist Church led the Revival Services during this period. His theme for the week was "New Life For You."

April 21, 1959: Two communion chairs for the sanctuary had been ordered and upon arrival Mr. and Mrs. William Sheppard kindly donated one chair to the Church and the Ladies Bible Class the other. These fine donations are greatly appreciated.

Mr. Earl Henley reported that the Brotherhood, at an executive meeting on April 20, had decided to have a picnic at the Church on June 13th, or in the event of inclement weather, on June 27th. The men will play baseball with the older boys' team.

Mrs. F. H. Agee, who had volunteered to compile a history of Dover Church, asked members for their cooperation in this connection. She asked that they assist her with information not contained in the Church minutes or other records, and to give her accounts of weddings, meetings or Church activities worthy of mention in such an history.

Messengers named to attend the spring meeting of the Dover Association at New Bethesda Church were: Mrs. Howard Henley, Mr. John Smith, Mrs. C. M. Chenault, Mrs. W. V. DuVal. Mrs. Lois Phillips was named as alternate.

Annual Letter presented and approved.

The matter of the old lamps which were taken from the Church when it was wired for electricity was again discussed. No decision reached.

In the absence of the Sunday School Superintendent, Mr. Fred Browning, Mr. Bradley brought the recommendation that a committee be appointed to study the possibility of building an additional unit onto the Church to meet the needs of the growth of the Sunday School. This was put in the form of a motion which was carried. Mr. Bradley was to appoint the committee.

Mr. Bradley brought to the attention of the group the matter of additional property for the Church. He stated that he had drawn a plot and sent it with a request to Mr. Fleetwood Garner. Mr. Garner and Mr. Eugene

West came up and looked over the property but did not contact Mr. Bradley. Mr. Garner instructed Mr. West to write Mr. Bradley that he was not interested in selling or giving land away. It was suggested that Mr. Bradley contact Mr. Garner again and try to deal with him personally.

A motion was made and carried that the Church bell be rung each Sunday morning at 9:30 for Sunday School and 10:50 for Church. Mr. Haswell Proffit agreed to be responsible for the ringing of the bell.

Curtains or blinds for the sanctuary windows were discussed.

May 17, 1959: Committee appointed to study the matter of curtains, blinds or stained glass for the sanctuary windows.

June 7, 1959: It was recommended that draw drapes, lined, beige in color, be used at a total cost of approximately \$400, or \$36 per window. The matter of financing the cost of the drapes was then discussed. A committee was appointed to receive donations for this project.

July 20, 1959: Mrs. F. H. Agee urged members to cooperate with her in the effort to compile the Church history. She stated that she had been working on it, but information from the Church members had been either slow in getting to her or not getting to her at all.

Referring again to the additional property which the Church desired to obtain, Mr. Bradley reported that he had attempted to contact Mr. Fleetwood Garner three times without success. He plans to try again in the fall.

Report of the committee studying additional space for the Sunday School was given by Mr. Bradley. This committee found that the needs would include an adult assembly room and three class-rooms; and rest rooms; Junior and Intermediate group would need assembly room and three class-rooms; Primary would need an assembly room and three class-rooms and rest room. Plans should also be made for a nursery. Mr. Bradley sketched on the black-

board a general plan which the committee had agreed upon and moved that this general plan be adopted. This motion was seconded by Mr. Hamel. There followed much discussion. It was finally decided to send these plans with appropriate information to Mr. Harroll in Nashville, with a request that he work out detailed specifications and recommendations.

The study in the Gospel of Mark is continuing and should be completed in a matter of two weeks.

Mrs. Lois Phillips named Home Coming chairman for this year.

The matter of the old lamps from the Church again brought up. After much discussion, this matter was referred to the Building and Grounds Committee with the suggestion that they bring ideas for the disposal of the lamps to the next business meeting of the Church.

Mrs. W. V. DuVal asked that her name be dropped from the Sunday School Building Committee as she is unable to attend night meetings.

The Clerk was instructed to write a letter of thanks to Mr. Howard L. Marshall for five tons of lime given for use on the churchyard.

Mr. Bradley stated that he would be at Eagle Eyrie the week of June 25 and August 3-8.

September 13, 1959: Mr. R. W. Hamel, Jr., elected Superintendent of Sunday School and Mr. Fred Browning elected Assistant Superintendent.

September 27, 1959: Sunday School Promotion Day carried out with program in the sanctuary under leadership of Mrs. Audrey Henley.

October 11, 1959: Home Coming Day observed at Dover. The theme for the day was "Ecumenicity." Speaker for the afternoon was Rev. Ray R. Jenkins, pastor of Christ Methodist Church in Richmond, Virginia.

October 19, 1959: It was reported that little had been done in connection with additional Sunday School space. This matter will be tabled for the present.

Mr. Bradley brought up the possibility of having Thanksgiving Services again this year. It was moved and carried that the service be held. There was another motion made and carried that a joint inter-denominational Thanksgiving Service be held in 1960.

The Bible study of Timothy will be held on five consecutive nights, January 4-8, 1960.

Budget set for 1960 in the amount of \$11,112.00.

October 19, 1959: It was reported that Mr. and Mrs. Deitrick, former members of Dover Church, had died recently, and that the heirs of the Deitrick family had sent a check to the Church Treasurer in the amount of \$125.00, but did not designate what it should be used for. A motion was made by Mr. Earl Henley that it be applied to the cost of the proposed draperies for the sanctuary. The motion was carried.

Mr. and Mrs. Howard Henley offered to give a used filing cabinet to the Church. Their offer was accepted.

The matter of an honorarium for Ray Jenkins, speaker at the Home Coming Day program was discussed. A policy was established to give an honorarium of \$25.00 to such speakers.

Prior to the business session on the above date, a family night supper was served with Mrs. W. V. DuVal as honored guest. Mr. and Mrs. DuVal have united with the Tuckahoe Baptist Chapel. In recognition of Mrs. DuVal's devotion and faithfulness to Dover Church, as well as that of Mr. DuVal, and the fact that the DuVal family have been members of the Church for five generations, a special program "This is Your Life, Miss Mollie" was staged. Among the guests present were Rev. and Mrs. McRae of the Tuckahoe Baptist Chapel.

December 21-22, 1959: The annual Christmas Pageant was staged at the Church. Departing from the usual indoor pageant, the program was carried on out of doors with the picnic shed being used as a stable. A live donkey and cow, loaned by Mr. Harrison Tilman, occupied the stall next to the nativity scene. The shepherd scene was removed from the stable scene to the right with a blazing fire, shepherds in robes and wearing beards, carrying staffs, tended three sheep loaned by Mr. Seymour Breed. To the left of the stable scene were three plywood camels with the wise men astride. Each scene was lighted with vari-colored lights. As the story unfolded each scene was lighted then darkened. Music was provided by carillon bells on tape with narration, also on tape, by Rev. Bradley. An additional scene of the prophet Isaiah, in white flowing robe and long white beard, reading from a scroll, preceded the rest of the pageant.

The pageant was presented in two half hour performances each evening with half hour between. Following the final performance refreshments were served and a period of fellowship was enjoyed.

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It is fitting and proper that this writing should close on such a beautiful note. The Christmas Pageant was extremely well presented and it brought pleasure to many who came from far and near to view it.

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At the close of 1959:

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|---|-----|
| Dover Baptist Church membership | 203 |
| Dover Baptist Church Sunday School enrollment | 105 |
| Rev. Walter L. Bradley, Pastor. | |

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It is to be regretted that this so-called history is not the comprehensive study it was intended to be. There can be no excuse for the writer's blindness of heart and frail ability; yet, it must be said that an active interest on the part of the Church would have gone far in achieving a more satisfactory end result. However, grateful appreciation is here expressed to those few persons who did cooperate whole-heartedly in this sincere effort to perpetuate the memory of many fine people who gave so freely of themselves in order that Dover Baptist Church might live.

God grant that, in the fulness of time, William Webber may look down from his place in heaven and say: "Well done, true and faithful friends!" This may well be, but let us never forget that -

"Except the Lord build the house,
they labour in vain that build it:
except the Lord keep the city, the
watchman waketh but in vain."

Psalm 127:1

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The pages immediately following will supply
a few known facts about some of the people who have
rendered outstanding service to Dover Baptist Church.

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WILLIAM WEBBER

William Webber, Born August 15, 1747 - Died February 29, 1809.

This simple phrase is a statistic, but William Webber was much more than a statistic, either large or small. Rather he was a human dynamo fired with a burning zeal to serve the Lord faithfully and well.

William Webber was the son of William Webber, Sr. His mother's name is not known. The last will and testament of William Webber, Sr., dated August 9, 1794, does not give the name of his wife, indicating that she had predeceased him. However, this will lists the following children: Philip Webber, Charles Webber, Archer Webber, John Webber, Benjamin Webber, William Webber, Susana Winn (Webber) Folks, Polley (Webber) Johnson, and a name which appears to be 'Hiturah' Eriers Webber.

William Webber who became Pastor of Dover Baptist Church was born in Goochland County, Virginia, August 15, 1747. He died February 29, 1809, and is buried at his old home, two and three-quarters miles north of Lanakin, Virginia. His childhood was spent in the vicinity of Lanakin. Educational background is unknown.

William Webber was baptized by Rev. John Waller when he was twenty years of age. Shortly thereafter he was ordained to preach. It was then that he began his arduous and fearless proclamation of the Gospel.

The maiden name of William Webber's wife is not known. In his last will and testament, dated January 19, 1808, he refers to her as his "beloved wife, Mary", and he also names the following children: Joseph Webber, John Webber, William Bowles Webber, Matthew Woodson Webber, Sarah (Webber) Wilkins, Eliza (Webber) Forde, Augustine Webber, Peggy Webber, Nancy Webber and Polly Linsy (Webber) Puryear.

William Webber was:

| | |
|--|-----------|
| Pastor of Dover Baptist Church | 1773-1809 |
| Member & Moderator of 1st Meeting General Association of Virginia | 1771 |
| Moderator of the Lower District (Dover Association) | 1783-1808 |
| Moderator of General Committee of Virginia Baptists | 1784-1799 |
| Moderator of the General Meeting of Correspondence | 1800-1808 |

Although William Webber organized churches throughout the State of Virginia, he was never, even nominally, Pastor of any Church but Dover Baptist Church at Lanakin, Virginia.

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Note: The names of William Webber's children as they appear on page 1 (immediately preceding) are exactly as they appear on a photostatic copy of William Webber's will.

ARCHAR BENJAMIN SMITH

Archar Benjamin Smith was born in Charleston, South Carolina, on May 16, 1807. He died December 5, 1877 and is buried in Lancaster County, Virginia. He was the son of Savage Smith and Elizabeth (Cuttino) Smith. He was twice married; first to Mary Dewes and after her death to Susanna Winn Snead.

Archar Benjamin Smith was a graduate of Colgate University in Rochester, N. Y. and of Brown University in Rhode Island.

Although well advanced in the study of medicine, Archar Benjamin Smith became converted and was called to preach. A wiry man of medium build, he was blessed with vigor, devotion and an overpowering determination to serve the Lord. He undertook great things for God and expected great things of God. He was not disappointed in either his undertakings or his expectations.

He served many churches, filling pulpits in Petersburg, Lynchburg and Richmond. In 1846 when Berea Church in Goochland was organized he was called to its pastorate. The services were largely attended and very soon every one began to love this simple-hearted godly man. From the very beginning the Church increased in membership, efficiency and Christian zeal. While his town pastorates were in no measure failures, he was preeminently a country pastor.

"Our beloved Pastor," his many parishoners called him and indeed this faithful and diligent man was worthy of the love and esteem accorded him.

An extract from a newspaper clipping dated November 7, 1928, reads: "Rev. A. B. Smith of Berea near Richmond, Virginia, now deceased, a noted devine of his day and generation - - -."

Rev. Archar Benjamin Smith was Pastor at Dover Baptist Church from 1848 to 1873. During this time and until his death he also served as pastor at Berea Baptist Church and Goochland Baptist Church. He was the author of "Memoirs of Elder P. P. Smith" and was a Chaplain during the Civil War.

In addition to the above, Rev. Archar Benjamin Smith made the following contributions during his ministerial service:

Preached the Annual Sermon of the Dover Association in 1846 and 1854.

Wrote the Circular Letter 1852 and 1865.

Was Moderator of Dover Association 1868 and 1869.

Served on the following committees: Temperance, Ministerial Education, Arrangements, Obituary Notices.

Chairman of Committee to report on Sabbath Schools
Chairman of Committee to report on Domestic Missions
Chairman of Committee to report on Religious Exercises

Note: It will be of special interest to present members of Dover Baptist Church, as well as others, to learn that Mrs. Howard Henley (the former Eva Marie Briesmaster) is the great grand-daughter of Rev. Archar Benjamin Smith. This is readily understandable when one reflects upon the outstanding work that Mrs. Henley is now doing at Dover.

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WILLIAM M. CROUCH

William M. Crouch was born in Goochland County in the year 1841. The day and month are not known. He died on May 10, 1924, and is buried in Dover Baptist Cemetery. No information is available as to his parents or his early childhood, but it is known that he was a lifelong resident of Goochland County. He married, but the name of his wife is not known. There was one child, Myrtle, who married A. T. Pugh.

Although slight of stature, and considered by some as frail, William M. Crouch was a tower of strength in Goochland County. He was known by all as "Uncle Billy", was a dearly beloved neighborhood character, and has become a legend in the county.

A member of Dover Baptist Church and a devout christian, Uncle Billy endeared himself to everyone and especially to children.

His talents were many. Having served four years in the War Between The States under John H. Guy, he returned to civilian life with the "Cause" firmly entrenched in his heart and mind. He was a Deacon at Dover for many years and on June 22, 1919, was made an Honorary Deacon for life. He also served as Clerk at Dover Church for many years and took an active part in all activities of the Church. It was not at all unusual for Uncle Billy to be called upon to pray. His prayers, while reverent and soul-stirring, were always either prefaced or ended by some reference to the "Cause". His life was a beacon to encourage and promote true christianity. He is remembered for his gentleness, his wise counsel, his devotion to his Church and his remarkable sense of humor.

While operating a country store at Manakin he added more and more admirers to his already long list. He was a patient, tolerant, just and kind-hearted man who did not find it difficult to reach into the candy box

and extract sticks of peppermint candy for little hands that could barely reach the counter in the store.

Uncle Billy was Sheriff of Goochland County for many years. In this capacity he served well and faithfully. It is believed that the example he set in life deterred many from the wayward path.

It is difficult to associate this gentle and sincere christian man with the enforcement of the law. Yet, the memory is still perfectly clear - a time-worn buggy with an unpredictable top, a weary horse, and dearly beloved Uncle Billy holding the reins. A twinkle was seldom, if ever absent from his eyes - and if there was a weapon to enforce the law it was never in evidence. Certainly the number of people he influenced to become christians far out-numbered those he found it necessary to apprehend under the law.

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ROSA BELLE CLARKE JONES

Rosa Belle Clarke Jones was born at Lanakin on May 28, 1871. She was the daughter of George Sanford Clarke and Lucy Temple (Harris) Clarke, and was a life-long resident of Lanakin. She married Jenkin Thomas Jones of Cardiff, Wales, and they made their home at Lanakin. There were two children of this marriage - Paul Clarke Jones and Marvin Fred Jones. Mrs. Jones died on August 19, 1955, and is buried in Dover Church Cemetery.

Mrs. Jones will ever be remembered for her many contributions to the Church and the community. She joined Dover Baptist Church in early childhood and worked with and for the Church faithfully and diligently. Perhaps one of her most outstanding contributions was the fact that she was organist for her beloved Church and Sunday School for nearly sixty years. There are countless numbers of occasions during a sixty year period when the services of a Church Organist may be required, and this fine lady who gave of herself and her talents so unstintingly is remembered with love, gratitude and highest esteem. To those who had the privilege of knowing her, she was a symbol of all that is good and worthwhile. Her life was an unwavering light on the pathway that leads to christianity.

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MOLLIE BURTON DUVAL

Mollie Burton DuVal was born on December 21, 1899, at "Jessamine Bower" Powell's Tavern, Goochland County, Virginia. She has spent her entire life-time in the vicinity of Manakin. She was married to William Vernon DuVal on October 7, 1933. From childhood she attended Dover Baptist Church and was baptized in September of 1912.

Mollie Burton DuVal stepped forward and took her place in the Church at the age of three. The circumstances surrounding this first step were not unusual. Her older brother was scheduled to recite a poem at the Childrens' Day Exercises at Dover Church. She had followed him around as he read the poem over and over to memorize it. Listening to him read it aloud she, too, memorized it. At the last minute, her brother became "stage-struck" and Mollie volunteered to substitute for him. Since Mollie was a tiny little girl, a box had to be hurriedly covered with a sheet and elevated for her to stand on so the audience might see her. The poem "Do A Kindness" was beautifully recited by Mollie and after that she had a place of her own to fill.

When Mollie DuVal was nine the Dover Association met at Dover Church. Many of the Delegates made the DuVal home their headquarters and Mollie proudly drove the surry which took them to and from Dover Church.

The years that followed have been full to the brim for Mrs. DuVal. Without reservation she has given of her time and herself to labor in the Lord's vineyard, and her efforts have been richly rewarded.

Mrs. DuVal has been a Deaconess at Dover for sixteen years. Cradle Roll Superintendent and Beginners' Teacher for sixteen years. She was Secretary of the T.U., and Principal of Vacation Bible School seven years; Primary

Teacher two years, G.A. and R. A. Counselor, President W.M.U. two years and Vice-President two years. In the 1920's she was Secretary of Western Dover B.Y.P.U. Association. In later years she has served as Group Leader of Dover Association W.M.U., Group Young People's Leader Dover Association W.M.U. and Group Y.W.A. Director, Dover Association W.M.U.

On October 18, 1959, Mrs. DuVal moved her membership to Tuckahoe Baptist Church. She is continuing her good work there and is currently President of the W.M.S., Chairman of the Executive Committee and Member of the Building Committee.

Mollie Burton DuVal is respected, esteemed and loved by all who know her. There is no doubt that her work now is as enthusiastic as it must have been that long ago day when, at the age of three, she gallantly stepped forward and recited: "Do A Kindness."

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ELIZABETH E. DUVAL

Elizabeth E. DuVal was born on May 22, 1894, at "Jessamine Bower" Powell's Tavern, Goochland County, Virginia. From childhood she attended Dover Baptist Church and was baptized in September of 1906.

Miss DuVal is all that could be desired as a conversationalist, yet it would require the ingenuity of a shrewd detective to learn about the kind, selfless acts she has performed and is still performing for Dover Baptist Church and its people.

While Miss DuVal, who is better known as Miss Elizabeth, goes about her work with tranquility and serenity, it is not even remotely suggested that she hides her light under a bushel. To the contrary, she travels roads that others would not think nor trouble to travel and she brings joy to many that would otherwise be passed by in our crowded world today.

No task involving the work of the Church has seemed too great for Miss Elizabeth. Beginning as a little girl she went along in a buggy with her grandmother to make Church and sick calls and she always accompanied her grandmother when she attended the Church Circle meetings. As the years passed she took on more and more responsibility in the Church. For six years she taught the Senior Class at Dover Sunday School, then piled on thirty-one years as Teacher of the Ladies' Bible Class. In addition, she was Group Leader for four years and President of the W.M.U. for 29 years and Vice-President for two years. She has also served a number of years as Deaconess.

In 1953 when the Business Woman's Circle at Dover was organized, it was named "The Elizabeth E. DuVal Circle of Dover W.M.S." in honor of Miss Elizabeth.

Miss Elizabeth has lived in Richmond for a number of years yet she faithfully attends Dover Church. Normally, her Sunday drive to Dover would involve twenty miles roundtrip. However, for many years she has elected to drive an additional twenty miles each Sunday over questionable roads and in out of the way places in order to pick up a car-load of young people and bring them to Sunday School and Church. When the Service is over she drives back over the same route and deposits the young people safely at their homes. Were it not for Miss Elizabeth's thoughtfulness it is extremely doubtful that these young people would attend Sunday services. However, she does not consider the extra miles so long as she is going about the Lord's work.

When additional help for the work of Dover Church is needed, gracious and unassuming Miss Elizabeth E. DuVal is certain to be on hand to do more than her share.

ANNIE FORLOINE CLARKE

Mrs. Annie Forloine Clarke, widow of Luther Calvin Clarke, was born at Manakin on October 7, 1877, and has been a life-time resident of the Manakin area. She is the daughter of James Henry Forloine and Rosa Cordelia (Cosby) Forloine and a direct descendant of the Huguenot Forloines who settled in Manakin in 1700. Annie Forloine and Luther Calvin Clarke were married in Washington, D. C. on October 21, 1907. There was one child - Mary Lucy Clarke, now residing at Manakin.

Mrs. Clarke has been a member of Dover Baptist Church for seventy-two years. She served as Church Clerk for thirteen years and was a teacher in Dover Sunday School for fifty years. She was President of the Woman's Missionary Union and President of the Baptist Young Peoples' Union.

Mrs. Clarke did not stop with her Church. Instead, she carried her shining light and christian life out into the community and left a portion of herself with many civic groups such as the local P.T.A., Home Demonstration Club, Red Cross, TB Workers Group and Welfare Organizations.

A christian wife and mother, a completely selfless person, Mrs. Clarke has been a tireless worker in her efforts to advance the true meaning of christianity. Her life stands as a monument to her faith in God and her love for all humankind and the lives she has touched have been made richer by the touching.

Mrs. Clarke's devotion to her Church and the years she has given to its work should serve as an example to all that no limit can be placed on what we should, can and must do to live godly, righteous and sober lives - lives that may be acceptable in the eyes of the Master!

The pages immediately following will
list some of the weddings that have
taken place at Dover Baptist Church.

* * * *

WEDDINGS

June 21, 1893: Lizzie Sheppard DuVal to Benjamin Bunbury DuVal
Prof. Edmond Harrison of Richmond College officiating.

Oct. 12, 1903: Mary Holland to Robert Beattie.

Oct. 10, 1906: Elizabeth Estelle Ellis to Joseph C. Dill

"The marriage of Miss Elizabeth Estelle Ellis, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. LeRoy D. Ellis of Goochland County to Mr. Joseph C. Dill of Buchanan, Va., took place Wednesday morning, Oct. 10th, 1906, at 11 o'clock in Dover Baptist Church, Manakin, Va.

"The Rev. Mr. F. L. Hardy, pastor of the church officiated.

"The church was prettily decorated with goldenrod and greens.

"Miss Frances Houston of Keysville, Va., who attended the bride as maid of honor was gowned in pale yellow silk mull and carried white sweetpeas.

"Other attendants were the best man, Dr. E. L. Grubbs of Springwood, Va., and the ushers, Mr. Carroll Gathright of Goochland County; Mr. James Snyder and Mr. Walter Ellis, brother of the bride, of Manakin and Mr. Ernest Kay of Richmond, Va.

"Two little flower girls, Misses Nannie Sue and Leita Ellis, of Richmond, nieces of the bride, wore dainty frocks of white mull and carried armfuls of goldenrod.

"The bride was stylishly gowned in a going away gown of brown taffeta with hat and gloves to correspond and carried Brides roses.

"The bride's parents entertained the wedding party with a luncheon after which Mr. and Mrs. Dill left for a northern tour and will be at home to their friends after Nov. 1st at Buchanan, Va.

"Among the Richmond people who attended the wedding were Mr. and Mrs. B. D. Kay, Mr. and Mrs. Dabney Ellis, Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Ellis, Miss Linda Toler, Miss Annie Perkins, Mrs. Gordon, and others."

(Note: Mr. and Mrs. LeRoy D. Ellis were members of Dover Church and were active in the work of the Church. Mr. Ellis was Superintendent of the Sunday School for a number of years and also held other offices).

Sept. 27, 1930: Marie Beatrice Cary to Elmo Henley
Rev. Joseph Rotella officiating.

Oct. 7, 1933: Mollie Burton DuVal to William Vernon DuVal
Ceremony performed in the home of Rev. Joseph Rotella.

Oct. 8, 1938: Frances Elizabeth Wood to Charles Wesley Chloe.

April 3, 1948: Phyllis Rae Long to Austin Braxton Clarke
Rev. W. B. Connor officiating.

June 25, 1949: Mary Katherine Henley to William Nelson Sheppard
Rev. William B. Connor officiating.

April 16, 1949: Peggy Virginia Mitchell to Edward Wellford Wood.

Nov. 24, 1949: Helen Henley to Blaine G. Ingram
Rev. Stuart B. West officiating

Aug. 8, 1950: Marion Virginia Staples to Charles Willis Waldron
Rev. Randolph Hall officiating

Nov. 4, 1950: Hilda Jane Henley to Lonnie A. Wood, Jr.,
Rev. Randolph B. Hall officiating

Mar. 3, 1951: Mildred Anne Heusmann to Russell Clyde Bransford, Jr.

May 7, 1955: Margaret Gaines Apperson to J. C. Ryan.
(This was the first wedding in the new Church).

Mar. 2, 1956: Virginia Smith to William Haden (at 7:30 P.M.)

Mar. 2, 1956: Juanita Dawn Austin to James H. Dolan (at 8:30 P.M.)

Aug. 11, 1956: Betty Jean Webb to Franklin David Hoffman
Rev. Walter L. Bradley officiating

Feb. 16, 1957: Gloria Blania Cave to Harry W. Reed, Jr.
Rev. Walter L. Bradley officiating

June 14, 1958: Betty Taylor to Basil Gordon

Sept. 12, 1959: Barbara Austin to Fred Claywell
Rev. Walter L. Bradley officiating

The pages immediately following will
list some of the candidates for baptism
from Dover Baptist Church.

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CANDIDATES FOR BAPTISM

| | |
|------|--|
| 1873 | DuVal, Lizzie Sheppard |
| 1888 | Forloine, Annie |
| 1897 | Gordon, Mary, by Rev. R. B. Collier in James River at Boscobel |
| 1906 | DuVal, Elizabeth E., by Rev. Frank Hardy in "Little River" at Boscobel |
| 1909 | DuVal, Benjamin Sheppard, by Rev. James A. Clark in "Little River" at Boscobel |
| 1909 | Clarke, Robert Byron |
| 1912 | DuVal, Mollie Burton, by Rev. Bass in pond on Mr. William Grouch's home-place. |
| 1919 | Clarke, Luther Calvin, by Dr. Houghton at Grove Ave., Baptist Church, Richmond, Va. |
| 1922 | Clarke, Mary L., by Rev. J. Hillis Miller in Tuckahoe Creek |
| 1926 | Clarke, Elma Frances |
| 1934 | Staples, Tom S. |
| 1934 | Lipscomb, Harding |
| 1934 | Proffitt, Rufus |
| 1934 | Proffit, Ralph |
| 1934 | Keeton, Mrs. Daniel |
| 1934 | Lipscomb, Gladys |
| 1936 | Powers, Charles Archer |
| 1936 | Lipscomb, Robert Mason |
| 1936 | Wade, Alton |
| 1936 | Staples, Marion |
| 1936 | Wade, Frances |
| 1936 | Henley, Margaret Gordon |
| 1936 | Browning, Hazel |

Candidates for baptism - contd.

2.

| | | |
|--------------|---|-------|
| 1939 | Gordon, Ann, in pool at Calvary Baptist Church, Richmond, Va. | |
| 1939 | Gordon, Eloise | ditto |
| 1939 | Moore, Mildred | ditto |
| 1939 | Keeton, Purcell | ditto |
| 1939 | Henley, Howard | ditto |
| 1939 | Powers, Henry | ditto |
| 1939 | Gordon, Louis, Jr. | ditto |
| 1940 | Proffitt, Laura, by Pastor Dan Fowler, at Ridge Baptist Church | |
| 1940 | Proffitt, Alice, | ditto |
| 1940 | Dunlavy, Elizabeth, | ditto |
| 1940 | Dunlavy, Mabel, by Pastor Dan Fowler in Salem pool. | |
| 1942 | Proffitt, John Paul, at Westhampton Baptist Church | |
| 1942 | Moses, C. E., by Mr. Brown at Westhampton Baptist Church | |
| 1944 | Henley, Frank Holman, by Mr. Bradshaw, Ridge Baptist Church | |
| 1944 | Osborne, Earl Ralph | ditto |
| 1944 | Henley, Mary Katherine | ditto |
| 1944 | Henley, Edith Staples | ditto |
| 1944 | Henley, Hilda | ditto |
| 1944 | Powers, Rennie | ditto |
| 1944 | Penny, Jeannette | ditto |
| 1944 | Gilley, Altie | ditto |
| 1944 | Penny, Louise | ditto |
| 1944 | Worrell, Mrs. Ocie | ditto |
| 1945 July 29 | Moses, Clyde, by Rev. W.W. Ferguson, Venable Street Baptist Church, Richmond, Va. | |
| 1945 " | Pinney, Aubrey | ditto |
| 1945 " | Gilley, Wilmer | ditto |

Candidates for baptism - contd.

3.

| | | | |
|------|----------|---|-------|
| 1945 | July 29 | Henley, Alfred, Jr., by Rev. W. W. Ferguson, Venable Street Baptist Church, Richmond, Va. | |
| 1945 | " | DuVal, William | ditto |
| 1945 | " | Henley, Beatrice Dare | ditto |
| 1945 | " | Gilley, Hallie | ditto |
| 1945 | " | Powers, Mrs. Melvin | ditto |
| 1946 | Oct. 20 | Cave, Gloria, at Westhampton Baptist Church | |
| 1946 | " | Long, Virginia | ditto |
| 1946 | " | Long, Ray | ditto |
| 1946 | " | Osborne, Harry | ditto |
| 1946 | " | Gilley, Charlie | ditto |
| 1946 | " | Burton, Kenneth | ditto |
| 1946 | " | Browning, Burell F. | ditto |
| 1947 | Sept. 21 | Heusmann, Mildred Ann, at Westhampton Baptist Church | |
| 1947 | " | Daves, Andrew Elam | ditto |
| 1947 | " | Branch, Charlie | ditto |
| 1947 | " | Wash, Conrad | ditto |
| 1947 | " | Clarke, Mrs. Mildred | ditto |
| 1948 | | Moses, Frances | |
| 1955 | May 29 | Ryan, Margaret Apperson, by Rev. Walter Bradley at Dover Baptist Church. (first baptism in new church) | |
| 1956 | | Henley, Audrey Harris | |
| 1956 | | Amos, Julia, Mae | |
| 1956 | | Amos, David | |
| 1957 | | Henley, Eva Briesmaster | |
| 1957 | | Grow, Gloria | |
| 1957 | | Grow, Charlotte | |
| 1957 | | DiServio, Bertha Henley | |

Candidates for baptism - contd.

| | | |
|---------------|---|-------|
| 1957 | Marks, Earl | |
| 1957 | Preddy, Donnie | |
| 1957 | Preddy, Peyton | |
| 1957 | Powers, Mamie | |
| 1957 July 21 | Cooper, Wilbert | |
| 1957 " | Cooper, Mrs. Wilbert | |
| 1958 Sept. 14 | Agee, Mrs. F. H. by Rev. Walter Bradley, Dover Baptist Church | |
| 1958 " | Amos, Peggy | ditto |
| 1958 " | DiServio, Tony | ditto |
| 1958 " | Tyler, Jerry | ditto |
| 1959 Mar. 22 | Burton, Charles | |
| 1959 " | Dorsheimer, Dan | |
| 1959 " | Dorshiemer, Lynn | |
| 1959 " | Wade, Patsy | |
| 1959 " | Breed, Carole | |

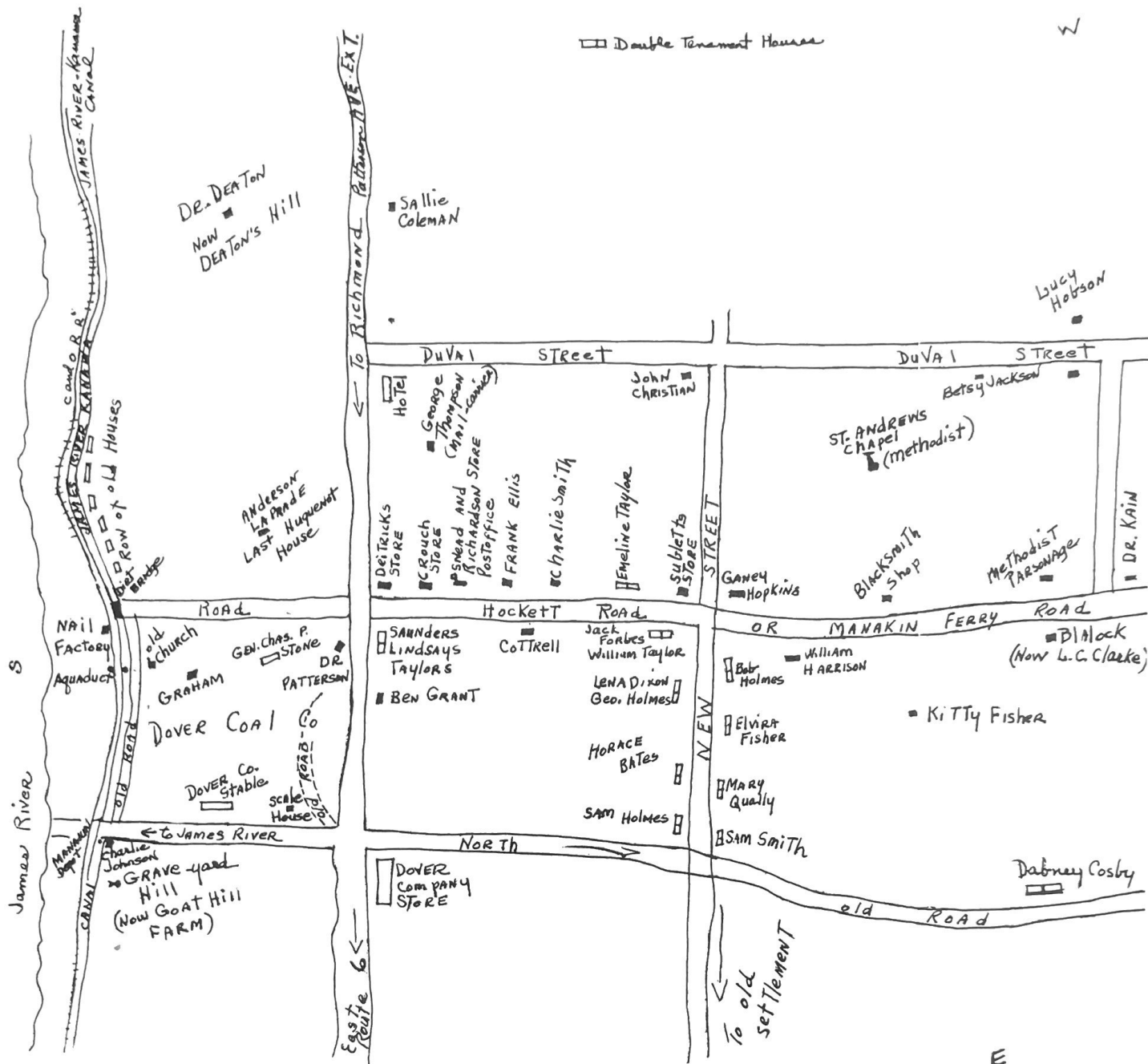
The pages immediately following will
list some of the funerals that have
been held at Dover Baptist Church,
with burials in the Church cemetery.

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BURIALS IN DOVER CHURCH CEMETARY

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|-----------------|---|
| Nov. 21, 1878: | Deitrick, Alphonso P. the first husband of Eliza J. DuVal. (This was the first burial in Dover Cemetary). |
| May 26, 1880: | DuVal, Emma C., first wife of Charles Eugene Woodson. |
| Jan. 23, 1887: | Johnson, William S. |
| June 21, 1889: | DuVal, Samuel S. Services conducted by Prof. Edmund Harrison. |
| Jan. 25, 1890: | Walton, Jesse W. |
| Feb. 22, 1893: | Clarke, George S. He was a Confederate soldier, serving his country throughout the entire war. |
| Oct. 21, 1893: | DuVal, Mrs. Rhoda Thomas. |
| Aug. 1, 1896: | DuVal, Edwin Joseph |
| Sept. 27, 1901 | St. Clair, Sallie E. |
| Jan. 14, 1909 | Clarke, Sgt. Robert B. A Confederate Veteran. |
| April 13, 1909: | Clarke, Mrs. Lucy T. For forty years a devout member of Dover Baptist Church. |
| April 6, 1909: | Crouch, Mrs. Willie H. wife of William Crouch. |
| Aug. 9, 1910: | St. Clair, William T. |
| June 30, 1914: | DuVal, Julia Erasmus, daughter of E. J. and R. T. DuVal. (She was the wife of Alexander Anglea). |
| July 10, 1917: | DuVal, Benjamin B. Services conducted by Rev. Kemper (Christian). Mr. DuVal was a Confederate Veteran. |
| March 26, 1924: | DuVal, Mrs. Emma W. wife of Samuel S. DuVal. Services conducted by Rev. Hillis Miller. |
| May 10, 1924: | Crouch, William M. (Uncle Billy). Services conducted by Rev. Hillis Miller. |
| Oct. 27, 1924: | Henley, Frank Malvin. A veteran of World War I |
| March 16, 1926: | DuVal, Mrs. Elizabeth S. wife of Benjamin B. DuVal. Services conducted by Rev. Hillis Miller and Rev. Joseph Rotella. |
| April 1, 1928: | Johnson, Mrs. Mollie Walton (Miss Blue) wife of William S. Johnson. Services conducted by Rev. Joseph Rotella. |

| | | |
|-----------|-------|---|
| July | 1928: | Clarke, Mrs. Georgiana Powers. Services conducted by Rev. Joseph Rotella. |
| - - - | 1929: | DuVal, Eliza J., second wife of Charles Eugene Woodson. |
| - - - | 1933: | Woodson, Charles Eugene. |
| April 6, | 1933: | Henley, Archer C. husband of Mrs. Cora Clarke Henley. Services conducted by Rev. Joseph Rotella. |
| Jan. 7, | 1935: | DuVal, Miss Sallie Frances. Services conducted by Rev. Joseph Rotella. |
| Mar. 29, | 1940: | Burgess, Alfred Lindsay, husband of Vera Woodson Burgess. |
| Apr. 14, | 1942: | Powell, Irene DuVal, wife of John McK. Powell Services conducted by Rev. Arthur Brown. |
| Nov. 19, | 1942: | Clark, John Lindsey, husband of Mrs. Alice Charles Clark. Services conducted by Rev. Arthur Brown. |
| Mar. 3, | 1945: | Hewitt, William W. A veteran of World War II and died in the service of his country. |
| Sept. 2, | 1945: | Clarke, Luther Calvin, husband of Mrs. Annie Forloine Clarke. Services conducted by Rev. W. W. Ferguson. |
| Apr. 26, | 1947: | Dunlavy, George H. A veteran of World War I. |
| Sept. 28, | 1947: | Henley, Mrs. Cora Clarke. Services conducted by Rev. W. B. Connor. |
| Nov. 24, | 1948: | Henley, Percy W. Services conducted by Rev. W. B. Connor. |
| Aug. 22, | 1955: | Jones, Mrs. Rosa Clarke, wife of Jenkin Thomas Jones. |
| Aug. 26, | 1957: | Cave, William Spencer. (Note: Funeral services held at Dover with interment in Greenwood Memorial Gardens). |



MANAKIN Virginia - as remembered in 1882

