

MOSES MCGINNIS COLLECTION
BAPT MSS #12
FINDING AID

INTRODUCTION: The Bible was given by Pearl and Ruth Clonce in 1988. Pearl was a granddaughter of Moses McGinnis.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION: 1 BOX (1 cubic foot)

HISTORICAL / BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH: (Taken from *Sketches of Tennessee's Pioneer Baptist Preachers* by J. J. Burnett, pp. 365-66, 1919)

“The subject of this sketch, a son of Edward and Nancy McGinnis, was born in Smyth County, Virginia, July 16, 1779. He was of Irish, or Scotch-Irish, descent. His parents came to Tennessee, locating in Hawkins County, when Moses was a lad nine years of age. When a full-grown man he went to school to Erika Taylor, who ‘taught him grammar,’ and was afterwards proud to testify of his pupil that he was a ‘bright and talented man, and self-made.’ At the age of 40 he made a profession of religion and was baptized by Hughes O. Taylor into the fellowship of War Creek (now Flat Gap) Church. Soon after his baptism his church ordained him deacon. In 1835 he was ‘licensed to preach,’ and in the same year ‘ordained’ to the full work of the ministry.

In his young manhood he was married to May Wolf, a daughter of Charles and Susanna Wolf, a woman of Dutch parentage, industrious and capable. To this union were born seventeen children. One of his sons-in-law, ‘who lived on the same farm, had sixteen children, the youngest of them old enough to go to school’ (Aunt Betsy Haynes). Whether or not any of the other children with like large families are written in the book of the generations of the McGinnises, the writer is not informed.

Brother McGinnis’ field of labor was Hancock, Hawkins, Claiborne and adjoining counties. He was pastor of the following churches, and helped in the organization of a number of them: Duck Creek, Bean’s Creek, Richardson’s Creek, Flat Gap, and Cool Branch. He belonged to the territory of the Mulberry Gap Association and left a lasting impress upon all that section of country. Like his Master, he ‘worked while it was day,’ and his sun went down without a cloud. December 14, 1873, being in his 85th year, he fell on sleep. The testimony of his brethren, after his departure, was, that ‘he stood as a watchman on the walls of Zion for nearly forty years; that he was a zealous and faithful expounder of Bible truth, and had become deeply enshrined in the hears of the people whom he loved and served; that he endured the pain and confinement of a protracted illness with Christian patience and resignation, often speaking to his brethren in the most blowing terms of his strong and abiding hope of a glorious future – a brighter land and a better home than we have ever dreamed of here below.’”

INCLUSIVE DATES: 1789-1876

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTES: The title page of the Bible reads: "The Holy Bible, containing the Old and New Testaments, translated out of the original tongues, and with the former translations diligently compared and revised. The text conformable to the standard of the American Bible Society. Philadelphia. Published by John B. Perry, 198 Market Street, and for sale by Wm. Holdridge, No. 140 Fulton St., New York. Walker & Medary, No. 310 Baltimore St., Baltimore. Luke Loomis, Aft., No. 87 Wood St., Pittsburg. John Ball, New Orleans. 1852"

There are four pages of the Family Record (2 "Births," 1 "Marriages," and 1 "Deaths"). Also included were notes, clippings, envelopes and other ephemera. See Container List below for inventory.

SERIES DESCRIPTION:

Ephemera
Monograph (Bible)
Notes

CONTAINER LISTS:

BOX 1

FOLDER 1

Family Record Pages

Births

Moses McGinnis was born July 16, 1789
Mary McGinnis was born March 15, 1796
Parents of the subsequent family
Nancy McGinnis was born August 4, 1812
John McGinnis was born March 6, 1814
Susannah McGinnis was born December 8, 1815
Margaret McGinnis was born May 14, 1817
Barbara McGinnis was born December 10, 1818
Temperance McGinnis was born December 6, 1820
James McGinnis was born March 30, 1822
Catharine McGinnis December 17, 1823
Elizabeth McGinnis was born June 7, 1825
Mary Ann McGinnis was born February 19, 1827
Hannah McGinnis was born October 8, 1828
Absalom McGinnis was born may 31, 1830

(Births page 2)

Charles McGinnis was born February 12, 1832

Alla McGinnis was born February 7, 1834

Edward Scott McGinnis was born February 23, 1836

Jane McGinnis was born January 16, 1839

Eliza McGinnis was born February 23, 1842

Marriages

(None Recorded)

Deaths

Edward S. McGinnis died October the 6th 1862

Absalom McGinnis died September the 1st 1863

Nancy Payne 1876

Mary McGinnis wife of Moses McGinnis was born March 15th 1796 &
died the 24 day of March 1864

Moses McGinnis husband of Mary McGinnis was born July the 16th 1789 &
died the 16 day of December 1873

(Contained in pages of Bible)

1. Top half of "Circular Letter. To the Baptists of East Tennessee" (u.d.)

Regarding giving money to missions work in Eat Tennessee

2. Note reading "I certify that Moses MCGinnis a true loyal citizen of Hancock County
and has had his name registered according to law this 29 July 1865 Richard Mitchell"

3. Note reading: "May 18, 1854 Edward S. McGiniis' Hand written this is my hand
write and my pen Don't steal this pen my Dearest friend For if you do the Gallows Shal
be your End" Back has script alphabet written repeatedly.

4. Scrap: "???" 115
"???" 30
Thread 10
"???" 75
Buttons 6
236"

5. Envelope: "Elder Moses McGinnis Hancock Co Tenn

6. Label: "Foulard De Lyon 24 /2 Yds."

On back written: "Babylon Babel Confusion or Mixture"

7. 4 pages from *New Testament Illustrations* (u.d.)

- 8.** “American Baptist Reflector Supplement Christmas Rally We have been going along in the ordinary way; now we want to make a Grand Christmas Rally all along the lines. How Many Subscribers Will You Send Us? Only \$1.50 A Year If you cannot get a dozen, get at least one new subscriber. Put the names on this blank and mail to us Christmas Eve. Try to let it be said the greatest number was sent by YOU. Now for your good words and better deeds. Write your name and postoffice address on the back of this sheet. Address BAPTIST REFLECTOR, Chattanooga, Tenn.”
- 9.** “The Simplicity Primer Stept-by-Step Illustrated Instructions...the easy guide to Home Sewing” (u.d.)
- 10.** Spelling test of Virginia Pearl Clonce (u.d.)
- 11.** Scrap of paper with parts of recipes, math figures, and several Scripture references / verses written