

REDNERSVILLE PARSONAGE

Rednersville parsonage was built in 1861. A meeting was held February 21st, 1861 at Rednersville by the committee appointed for the building of a parsonage house on the Ameliaburg Circuit. Rednersville Church was on the Ameliaburg Circuit at that time, having been transferred from the Consecon Circuit in 1859. Present at that meeting were: the Reverend Greener, minister of the Charge, in the chair, Messrs. James Redner, S. Meacham, Peter Brickman, and James W. Anderson. Mr. S. Meacham was appointed to act as Secretary of the committee. Mr. Greener submitted a plan for the parsonage to the committee, which they approved. It was for a building 34 feet by 27 feet, with a back kitchen and woodshed at the rear. It was to be built of brick. Committee also passed a motion that James Redner secure Mr. Alcock and William F. Weese and purchase brick as reasonable as possible and make the best arrangement possible about the pay. The committee accepted the tender of Mr. Thomas Wickett of Belleville for the masonry work for the sum of sixty pounds. The parsonage was built and completed in 1861.

A meeting was held in the newly completed parsonage house on January 31st, 1862 by the building committee and the Reverend David C. Clappison who had succeeded Mr. Greener on the Ameliaburg Circuit July 1st 1861. Present were the 4 members of the committee. James Redner submitted his account for the building of the parsonage house in the amount of 283 pounds, 2 shillings, 4 pence. It was moved by James Anderson and seconded by Peter Brickman that the account of James Redner be accepted.

The Reverend David C. Clappison was the first minister to live in the new parsonage. In 1879 Rednersville Church was taken off the Ameliaburg Circuit, and the Rednersville Circuit was begun. There is an old parsonage board minute book at Rednersville manse which records meetings held from 1886 to 1913. The members of the Trustee board of the Rednersville Parsonage in 1886 were: H. Welbanks, S.S. Morden, William H. Redner, Cyrus Giles, Peter Dempsey, Stephen W. Dempsey and William Peck. William Peck was appointed Secretary-Treasurer of the board, which position he held from 1886 to 1913. Receipts were: from Rednersville appointment - \$21.00, from Centre - \$20.00, from Albury - \$20.00. Total expenses were \$60.85.

A meeting of the Trustees of the Methodist Parsonage of the Rednersville Circuit met on May 21st 1888. The following members were present: the Rev. T.W. Pickett, Cyrus Giles, W. H. Redner, S.W. Dempsey and Wm. Peck. Centre was assessed \$8.00, Rednersville \$7.25 and Albury \$7.00 to pay for a pump, insurance and repairs to parsonage.

In 1890 James W. Anderson was elected Trustee to fill the place of S.S. Morden, deceased. A committee of six ladies was appointed to meet at the parsonage on May 27 1890 to decide what papering, painting, cleaning, etc. was necessary before the next minister came on the circuit. Ladies appointed were: Mrs. James Redner, Mrs. H. Welbanks, Mrs. John Roblin, Mrs. Cyrus Giles, Mrs. Albert Sager and Mrs. S.W. Dempsey.

In 1894 a new fence was built in front of the parsonage, chimneys were repaired, the south side of barn was shingled and floor and foundation of barn were repaired, conductors to cistern were replaced by new ones, a new well platform was built, new grates procured for stove, and a cistern pump and screen door were purchased. All this was accomplished, costing \$77.41. The receipts were: By cash from Cyrus Giles for Centre appointment \$38.30, by cash from Albert Sager for Albury \$38.30 and from J.W. Anderson for Rednersville 80¢, totalling \$77.40.

In 1897 there were bills and accounts amounting to \$54.18. It was moved by J.W. Anderson and seconded by Wm. Dempsey that Centre pay \$22.00, Rednersville \$17.00 and Albury \$15.18, totalling exactly \$54.18 required.

A Rednersville Parsonage Trustees meeting was held at the parsonage June 27 1899; present were the Rev. R. Bamforth, J.W. Anderson, H. Welbanks, Wm. H. Redner, Cyrus Giles, Stephen Dempsey and Wm. Peck. Mr. Peck was authorized to purchase carpets for the study, two bedrooms and front stairs, also two mattresses and springs for two beds and three bedroom toilet sets. The pastor was authorized to get wallpaper to paper the kitchen and study, also varnish for the furniture. To help pay for all this they held a Harvest Home dinner and entertainment, realizing \$99.11.

In 1900 H.W. Weese was elected a member of the Parsonage Trustee Board to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Wm T. Dempsey. In 1903 a new roof was put on the wood-house, also papering and painting where required.

In 1912 George E. Roblin was put in as trustee in the place of W.H. Redner; W.E. Anderson instead of his father J.W. Anderson; W.K. Ostrom in place of H. Welbanks. In 1913 Mr. Wm. Peck tendered his resignation as secretary-treasurer and Mr. W.E. Anderson was appointed in his place. The board accepted the tender of R.E. Vance to roof one-half the parsonage roof with Pedlar roofing for \$38.30. Centre was to pay \$12.80, Albury \$12.80 and Rednersville \$12.70.

Unfortunately there are no parsonage board records from 1913 to 1947. Earl Onderdonk served as Chairman and Charles Post as Secretary-treasurer from 1948 to 1962. Other members serving on the board during those years were: Hugh Weese, Donald Spencer, Ralph Redner, Mrs. Harry Adams, Mr. and Mrs. Lorne Brickman plus the presidents of the four W.A.'s. They worked as zealously as had their predecessors to keep the parsonage in good repair, comfortable and modernized.