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White, Joseph Abram (1880)

Pastors of First Baptist Shelby

1964

Correspondence - 1964 - R. Hubbard Hamrick and Edgar E. White

Edgar E. White

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EDGAR E. WHITE

(PASTOR EMERITUS—FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH—UNION CITY, N. J.)

REV. EDGAR E. WHITE
1209 St. Agnes Lane, Apt. H
Baltimore, Maryland 21207

1012 HARWALL ROAD
BALTIMORE 7, MARYLAND

TELEPHONE: RIDGWAY 4-4934

FEB-20-1964

Mr Hubbard Hawrick
930 West Waver St.,
Shelby, N. C.

Dear Mr. Hawrick:-

Yesterday received a letter
from Russell C. White, Houston, Texas enclosing
your letter relative to my father Rev. Joseph
Abram White once pastor of your church.

One thing puzzled me about his being
Principal of Shelby Female Academy - I know
that he often mentioned as among his
students Thomas Dixon and John Lobb. How
come if it was a female school? Also
Tom Dixon sent him a copy of his book
Birth of a Nation on which he wrote: "To the
man who first inspired me to be something
and do something" or words to that effect -

I am sending you today an old picture
which I treasure and want it carefully

Returned -

Joseph Abram White was born in old Salem - now Winston-Salem, N.C. - in Nov. 1846 - some dispute about his age, but this is from Gov. Census Year 1870 -

He attended Wake Forest College in the 1870's, married Margaret Sharp in Alexander County.

As an ordained minister, he combined his ministry over the ⁵⁰ years with public and private educational work and many a Wake Forest man from his schools.

In Shelby he taught school as well as being pastor of First Baptist Church. Four of his seven (7) children were born there -

After leaving Shelby he became pastor of First Baptist Church as well as Principal of the Public School of Blacksburg, S.C. For his other three children were born there, while living there he also served other country churches as pastor.

In 1892 moved to Alexander County, namely Taylorsville N.C. There he organized The Taylorsville Collegiate Institute, it grew to several hundred students - now out of existence,

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while there for a ³ term pastor of First B of. Church,
as well as serving as pastor of country
churches.

In 1898 moved to Lenoir N.C. where he
organized The Lenoir Academy which sent
many students to various colleges in N.C.
He later taught in The Appalachian Training
School of Boone, N.C.

Then he moved to Murphy N.C. taught
there and finally returned to Taylorville
N.C. where he passed away on April 5-1922
aged 76 (76)

He was brother to Mr. J. S. White of Meroni,
Tela - (deceased), Uncle of Mr. Lee McBride White
of Birmingham, Ala also of Mr. Russell C. White,
of Hamilton Tex. It seems that at least
three of the White family has pastored your
church.

(over)

Joseph Abram White is survived by
 three of his seven (7) sons: Charles H. White
 aged 81 of Johnson City, Tenn; Rev. Edgar E.
 White of Baltimore Md.; also Atty Thomas C.
 White of Baltimore Md.

I know that out of this you will
 be able to use what you deem
 advisable.

The Hamrick name is so familiar
 Wade Hamrick etc for I entered Wake Forest
 in 1905 - 1909 class. Very few of us
 remain.

Best wishes

Edgar E. White
 P.S. Hope you can read the last
 letter.

Saw