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Book of Records

For the Richford Branch of the
Freewill Baptist Church
in Dryden, N. Y.

Presented for Historical Records

By H. R. NEFF

Copied by

CAROL WILLSEY BELL

1970

DEWITT

HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF TOMPKINS COUNTY, *Inc.*

ITHACA, NEW YORK 14850

Records of Freewill Baptist at Richford

July 2, 186⁴—In accordance with a request from a few members of the Dryden Free Will Baptist Church residing in Richford, NY, a council of three, consisting of Rev. O. C. Hills, Deacon, David Banfield and Lewis English was appointed to consider the subject of organizing a branch of the Dryden Church in Richford.

July 23, 1864—On Saturday July 23, 1864 at 2 o'clock PM the appointed council met in a schoolhouse near Deacon Simon P. Willsey's in Richford, a few brethren and sisters convening with them. The meeting opened:

1. By reading the 2th Chapter of Acts.
2. Prayer.
3. Singing.
4. All spoke after the usual manner of a covenant meeting.
5. Read articles of faith and covenant as contained in the tretise.
6. Ascertained how many proposed to join in a branch. There were six. Heard their Christian experience.
7. Deacon Simon P. Willsey, Mrs. Janette Willsey, Mrs. Jerusha Beebe, Warren Willsey, Moriah Burley, Lorain Willsey were organized into the proposed branch.
8. Brother Warren Willsey was appointed clerk of the branch and Simon P. Willsey was considered as their Deacon. Prayer was offered and the meeting was closed. Some of another religion were present and some not professing religion. It was a good meeting, the Divine presence being evidently enjoyed. The next day, July 24, Rev. O. C. Hills baptised sisters Jerusha Beebe, N. Burley and Lorain Willsey.

O. C. HILLS, Chairman of Council.

August 27, 1864—We met at set time in Richford and a goodly number of us met and we had a very good meeting. Brother OC Hills met with us. On the next day Aug. 28, Brother Humestone preached for us.

Sept. 4, 1864—Brother O. C. Hills preached for us and we had a good meeting. Brother Timothy Maloy joined us.

October 30, 31, 32, 1864—O. C. Hills preached for us and the power of the Lord was poured out and one soul was converted and on the evening of the 6th and 7th of November O. C. Hills preached again and 6 souls were saved. Was converted to Christ 19 November. Melissa Rice united with the church and Gezella Rice united with the church.

Dec. 18, 1864—We had a meeting and Luis H. Davis joined the church by consent of the church.

Mar. 5, 1865—Sister Suzanna Davis was received as a member of the branch in Richford. Also Samuel Hale and Sister Fidelia Hale received as a candidate for baptism.

Richford, Tioga Co., NY, Aug. 17, 1865—Agreeably to previous apointment the Council whose names follow met with what has been known as the Richford Branch of the 1st Free-Will Baptist Church of Dryden for the purpose of considering the propriety of organizing a church. After hearing from the brethren and sisters and becoming satisfied in relation to their fellowship sentiment, and ability to constitute a church proceeded to the organization according to the useages of the denomination and of fellowship and consecration prayer by by Rev. J. W. Hills. Names of Council: J. W. Hills, David Banfield, Lewis English, Alexander Onan, William Davenport, Elihu English, James Cornelius.

After the organization the following officers for the Church: J. W. Hills, Parson; Lewis Davis and Simon Willsey, Deacons; Timothy Maloy, Treasurer; S. R., Hale, Clerk. Voted to take a monthly collection to defray the expenses in the church. The church was organized with 15 members whose names follow:

Simon P. Willsey, Lewis Davis, Timothy Maloy, Warren Willsey, S. R. Hale, Mrs. Janette Willsey, Mrs. Jerusha Beebe, Mirah Pixley, Lorain Willsey, Mrs. Catherine Satterly, Mrs. Delia A. Hale, Mrs. Abigail Rice, Mrs. Zella Rice, Mrs. Malissa Rice, Mrs. Susannah Davis.

Afterwards Mr. Charles Dodge and Mrs. Rhoda Dodge were received by letter on the 20th day of August and on the 18th day of August Mr. Lewis Davis and Mrs. Delia A. Hale and S. R. Hale were baptised by Reverend J. W. Hills.

Sept. 8, 1865—On the 8th day of September the delegates whose names follow: Timothy Maloy, Simon P. Willsey and S. B. Hale went to Summer Hill to the quarterly session and the church was received into the quarterly session.

Oct. 21st, 1865—On the 21st of Oct. had monthly meeting. Brother Colliver preached and the church took a vote to give Brother Simon P. Willsey a letter to preach or exhort and with a clear vote it was given. On the 2nd of Nov. it was wrote for him by and for the church. Gave Mrs. Mariah Burley a letter of recommendation. We had monthly the 21st of April. Elder Wood was with us and preached the 22nd. Sunday the church got Elder Wood and C. Davis [to] preach half the time for the coming year of 1866.

May 18, 1866—Had monthly meeting. Elder Wood attended and preached Sunday 19th. The church elected delegates for the quarterly meeting whose names follow: C. Dodge and L. Davis and T. Maloy.

May 18, 1866—Mr. Peter and Mrs. Martha Willsey joined the church.

June 8, 1866—Quarterly meeting commenced and continued until Sunday the 10th when Bro. Peter and Sister Martha Willsey joined the Freewill Baptist Church of Richford and were baptized by Elder Crandill. Also Sister Dodge was baptised. Betsy Crapo was received into the church and was baptised.

July 14, 1866—Brother and Sister Wood were received into the church of Richford by letter. Sister Thankful Bieby was received into the church and was baptised on the 22nd day of July by Elder Crandill.

August 11, 1866—Delegates appointed for quarterly meeting and requested a council for the examination and ordination of Bro. A. J. Wood.

Sept. 9, 1866—Quarterly meeting held at Caroline.

Oct. 6, 1866—Covenant meeting, had a good time.

Nov. 3, 1866—Had covenant meeting 4th. Bro. Coliver preached.

Dec. 1, 1866—Covenant meeting voted to make an effort to build a meeting house. Voted that we have some extra meetings. A committee was appointed to locate a sight [sic] for a meeting house. The names of committee: Deacon David Willsey, Mr. C. Morenus, Bro. F. Meloy and S. B. Hale, Bro. C. Dodge and Mr. Ganung.

Sept. 9, 1866—Quarterly meeting held at Caroline.

January 1867—Covenant meeting commenced and continued about 3 weeks.

January 26, 1867—Had Covenant meeting. Had a good time. Had about 40 convenings and delegates appointed for quarterly meeting at Summer Hill.

Feb. 9, 1867—Had covenant meeting. Enjoyed much of the good spirit. Received candidates for baptism. Bro. J. Leonard and wife, Bro. C. Meloy and C. Moor, Bro. E. Hamilton, Sis. H. Leanders.

Feb. 22, 1867—Q.M. at Summer Hill.

March 2, 1867—Special covenant meeting—23rd had covenant meeting and Bro. H. Zeh united with the church. Business meeting. 3 directors appointed for building a meeting house: Bro. C. Morenus, Bro. A. J. Wood, Bro. J. Leonard. 3 committees appointed for raising money to build the meeting house: Bro. C. Meloy, Treas, Names of above committee: Deacon S. P. Willsey, Deacon F. Davis, Bro. T. Meloy.

April 20, 1867—Had covenant meeting and Miss Cora Gee was received as a candidate for baptism.

May 18, 1867—Had covenant meeting.

June 1, 1867—Had a special cov. meeting and three united with the church. Bro. John Davis and wife and Sister Jeanett Sears. Appointed delegates for quarterly meeting and a request for the examination and ordination of Bro. A. J. Wood.

June 15, 1867—Had cov. meeting and L. F. Gee was received as a candidate for baptism. Leornna [Lorraine] Willsey was excluded from the church June 16. Sunday seven were baptised

by Bro. A. J. Wood, C. Morenus & J. Leonard and wife Philena Leonard, J. Davis and wife Leora Davis, C. Moor & C. Meloy.

June 30, 1867—Sunday went to the meeting. Bro. A. J. Wood baptised Bro. L. F. Gee and sister Cora Gee.

July 13, 1867—Had covenant meeting and voted communion session every three months starting Aug. 11, 1867.

Aug. 11, 1867—Bro. A. J. Wood baptised Sister H. O. Landers.

October 1867—Bro. J. Chafie was received in the church by letter.

April 1868—The church dismissed Bro. A. J. Wood and hired Bro. Culver the first of April 1868 for one year to labor.

July 11, 1868—Had covenant meeting and the church voted to give Bro. O. D. Moor a letter to improve on his gift to exhort. 12 had communion.

Oct. 30, 1868—Had covenant meeting and appointed a committee to visit backward members. Deacon Davis and Bro. T. Meloy a committee [sic] to visit Bro. J. Leonard and Bro. Willsey. Bro. T. Meloy to visit Bro. J. Daviss, Bro. Zeek to visit Bro. S. P. Willsey and Bro. S. B. Hale as committee [sic] to visit Sister and Bro. J. H. and Cora Gee.

Nov 28, 1868—Had covenant meeting The committee brought in their reports but the church gave the committee two weeks longer to complete their visits with their brethren and also they received Bro. H. Zeek into the church by vote. Bro. S. S. Hale was released.

Jan. 29, 1869—Had covenant meeting and voted to give Bro. O. D. Moor a letter of recommendation but Sunday the 30th the church rescinded [sic] the vote and appointed a committee to investigate the case of Bro. Moor.

Feb. 19, 1869—Had covenant meeting and the committee brought in report and was received and the church took a vote on the case of Bro. Moor and the church expelled Bro. Moor from the church by reason of his going out from ours and joining another church.

August 1869—Bro. O. Trion and Sister Mary Trion joined the church and four weeks after, Sister Trion was baptised by Elder A. J. Wood.

Sept. 11, 1869—Had a church meeting on the account of Bro. John Leonard and Sister Leonard. They were accused of quarreling with their neighbors and breaking the sabbath but the church found nothing against them or where they had done wrong. They asked forgiveness of their brethren and they remain in good standing in the church.

Nov. 26, 1869—Had covenant meeting and the church voted to give Sister Martha Willsey a letter of recommendation. Bro. Simon P Willsey wanted to be dropped from the church and the church took a vote to expell him on the account of not walking as a church member should walk and he said he did not want to remain in the church and so the church expelled him by a vote. The church appointed a committee of three to visit the brethern that walk disorderly. The church committee Bro. T. Meloy, Deacon Davis and Deacon Willsey.

Jan. 21, 1870—Received Bro. O. D. Moore by letter.

February 1870—The church voted to give Bro. O. D. Moore a letter to preach and exhort and to improve upon his talent.

March 1870—The church received Sister Cora Moore as a candidate for baptism. They also apointed a committee of two to visit the members that walk disorderly. The committee names are Decon Willsey and Bro. O. D. Moore. Bro. and Sister Michon was received a candidate for baptism.

April 1, 1877—Rev. C. L. Vail came to preach with us for one year from April first 1877 as our Pastor for one year.

April 7, 1877—Met in covenant meeting April 7. Rev. C. L. Vail and wife united with us by letter. C. E. Dodge, Clerk.

May 1, 1877—Not in covenant meeting, felt the Lord was with us. C. E. Dodge, Clerk.

June, at this covenant meeting a better attendance and a good season enjoyed. C.E.D., Clerk.

Copy of a letter received from the Virgil and Dryden Church

recommend Rev. C. L. Vail and wife: This is to certify the Rev. CL Vail and wife Phebe Ann Vail are regular members of the Virgil and Dryden Church of Freewill Baptist in good standing and as such they are recommended to the Fellowship of God's people and when we are informed of their uniting with some evangelical denomination we shall consider them dismissed from this church. Done for and in behalf of said church and dated at Virgil March 17, 1877. John Tyler.

July 1877—July covenant meeting a refreshing season. CE Dodge, Clerk.

August 1877—Not as many as usual but a good season enjoyed. Chose delegates to Q meeting, Rev. C. L. Vail, Bro. CE Dodge & Holmes Zhe. CE Dodge, Clerk.

Sept. 21, 1877—Met in cov. meeting about the usual number. It was an encouraging season. Sis Maggie Meloy offered herself to be a member. Was received by unanimous vote having previously been baptised. CE Dodge, Clerk.

Oct. 1877—Met in cov. mt. usual attendance and interest. CE Dodge, Clerk.

Nov. 1877—A few Bro. and sis remembered the cov mt and were resolved to live for God. CE Dodge, Clerk.

Met Dec 1877 in cov. meeting. Felt it was good to be there Chose for delegates, Rev. CL Vail, Bro. CE Dodge and Holmes Zhe. CE Dodge, Clerk.

Jan 1878—Stormy and no meeting.

Feb. 1878—in cov meeting chose for delegates Rev. CL Vail, CE Dodge & CT Meloy.

March 1878—A few met to renew covenant.

April, met in cov. meeting after renewing covenant consented that Rev. CL Vail be our pastor for the coming year. CE Dodge.

May 1878—Usual number in attendance of cov. meeting, some interest. CE Dodge.

June 1, 1878—Met in covenant meeting, only 5 present chose

for delegates to attend Q.M. at the Virgil and Dryden church, Rev. CL Vail, CT Meloy & Holmes Zhe. Voted to request the next session with us. CE Dodge.

June 29, 1878—But few to covenant meeting an agreeable time and we trust profitable. CED.

July . . . met in cov. meeting . . . only 5 present.

Aug. 1878—Met in cov meeting after speaking of the cov voted to accept the resignation of Rev. CL Vail. Voted Rev. CL Vail & wife have a letter of recommendation. CE Dodge.

Copy of letter given to Rev. CL Vail and wife:

This is to certify Rev. CL Vail and wife Phebe Ann Vail are regular members of the Richford Church of Freewill Baptist in good standing and as such they are recommended to the fellowship of God's people and when we are informed of their meeting with some other denomination we shall consider them regularly dismissed from this church. Done for and in behalf of this church. Richford, Aug. 24, 1878. CE Dodge, Clerk.

Voted CL Vail, CT Meloy & CE Dodge our delegates to next QM.

Voted CT Meloy and wife a letter of recommendation. Copy of letter given to Bro. CT Meloy and Sis Maggie Meloy his wife:

This is to certify that CT Meloy and his wife are regular members and in good standing in the Freewill Baptist Church in Richford and as such we recommend them to the fellowship of God's people and when we are informed of their union with some other evangelical denomination we shall consider them regularly dismissed from this church. Done for and in behalf of this church. Richford Aug 26, 1878. CE Dodge, Clerk.

March 1879—Cov meeting Bro. C. Tompkins and Sister Darter were received into the church by letter. J. Davis, Clerk.

Apr 5, 1879—Met in co. meeting a goodly number present. We enjoyed a good season together waiting for the Lord. We felt his Presence with us, after the religious exercises were over the meeting was changed business order and the following church were elected. Rev. SP Culver chosen chairman, Bro. SM Davis Clerk, Bro. Charles E Dodge Deacon Sister Philenie

Leonard Treas. Bro. JM Davis and Bro CE Dodge appointed com. to visit Bro. CT Meloy on complaint for breach of covenant. JM Davis

May 4, 1879—Met in cov meeting only 5 present. Had an agreeable time and as we trust a profitable one. The com. reported the result of their visit with Bro. CT Meloy and all business relative to it put over untill the next covenant meeting. John M. Davis, Clerk.

Feb 1882—Brethren and sisters met in cov meeting and renewed their cov with God and met other brothers. GJS Cobey joined the church by letter brought from the first regular Baptist church of Ithaca. Also showed license to preach from that church. The delegates chosen to sit in conference at the Spafford Quarterly meeting to be held at Summer Hill are CE Dodge, Holmes Zeh, GJS Colbey. John M. Davis Church Clerk.

May 18, 1882—Church cov meeting; goodly number, interest good. Appointed a committy of two to visit Geo J Scobey; Pastor O Tryon to overhaul the church record and ascertain the condition it is in . . . who our members are and where they are committee to report at next meeting. J Davis

April 15, 1882—Met in cov meeting attendance very good. Interest good. Father Colver met with us com appointed at last meeting reported as follows: the church record has been sadly neglected—no record having been kept for several years of 36 names now on record, six have been excluded eight have died and 5 have left for parts unknown. The following Preamble and resolutions were presented by committee and adopted by church.

Preamble and resolutions to whom these presents may concern, be it known that whereas during several years of the history of this church no record has been kept of its proceedings and whereas during these years the following names have been exclud: Abigail Rice, Zella Rice, Melissa Rice, Cora Gee, II Gee, Thankful Beebe, C. Morenus, whose names shall stand on record and whereas the following names have withdrawn and are now lost to the church: Betsy Crapo, OD Moor, ME Hamilton, Cora Moor, and whereas the following names have

died having been in good standing at the times of death, viz— Lewis Davis, Timothy Meloy, Jeanette Willsey, Jerusha Beebe, Simon P. Willsey, Jeanette Sears, Mrs. H. Sanders, Catherine Satterly, and no record kept of some be it resolved that a revised list of the present members be placed on record. Resolved that the names of Abigail Rice, Zella Rice, Cora Gee, C Morenus be ordered stricken from the list or record. Resolved that the names of OD Moor, Cora Moor, Betsy Crapo, Mrs. E. Hamilton be dropped. Resolved that a list of deceased members be entered on record with date of death as near as can be ascertained. Resolved that the clerk be ordered to enter these resolutions on record and hereafter keep a strict record of the proceedings of the church including every cov. meeting. Geo. J. Scoby, O Tryon, Clerk.

The com charged Bros J Leonard and J Davis with breaking the cov. and a disorderly walk and recommended they be before the next meeting for examination. Suggestion adopted and same com. continued to notify the above brethren. Pastor GJ Scoby appointed to act as clerk til next meeting and to carry out terms of the above resolutions. GJ Scoby, Clerk

Feb 9, 1884—Cov meeting a goodly number present interest good. Rev. Culver chairman Delegates appointed to attend Quarterly meeting at Summer Hill. Delegates chosen were CE Dodge, O Tryon, JM Davis. John M Davis, Church clerk.

March 7, 1884—Cov meeting held goodly number present interest good. The following persons received as candidates for baptism: David Willsey, Burdette Hamilton, Lenora Morenus, Mary Ann Frizz, Margaret Ropes. J Davis, Cl.

Apr 5, 1884—Cov meeting a goodly number present interest good. JMD Cl

May 3, 1884—Cov meeting interest good. John M Davis Church clerk.

May 31, 1884—Cov meeting goodly number pre. int good. The following brethren were chosen as delegates: Charles Dodge, John M Davis, Chancy Morenus. Quarterly meeting to be here. John M Davis Church clerk.

In the session of the Quarterly meeting on the sabbath 14-

84 the following members were admitted: Rev. Hombleson by letter, Jennie Sears by letter, Lorenzo Ostrander and Lucy his wife by baptism, also Frank Denis, Burdette Hamilton, Leonard Morenus, Mary Ann Frizz, David Willsey and Chancy Morenus. John Davis, Church clerk.

July 5, 1884—Met in cov meeting, a goodly number present interest good. JD clerk.

Aug 2, 1884—Met in covenant meeting but few out meeting dull. John Davis clerk.

Aug 31, 1884—Cov meeting none but the clerk present. John Davis, clerk.

Aug 31, 1884—Met in Cov meeting but few out. John M Davis, Chancy Morenus, Charles E. Dodge were elected delegates to the Quarterly meeting. JD

Nov 29, 1884—Met in cov meeting the first time since Aug. 21, 1884, but few out, the following delegates were elected to attend Q M. Charles Dodge, David Willsey, Holmes Zee, John M Davis, church clerk.

Jan 31, 1885—Met in cov meeting but few out elected delegates to QM: Charles Dodge, David Willsey, Holmes Zee. John Davis, church clerk.

Feb 28, 1885—Met in cov meeting and as each member was personally notified by David Willsey with a very zealous request for them to be present for the purpose of electing a clerk and Deacon in the place of John M. Davis resulted in their general attendance, the clerk accepted. John M Davis, clerk.

March 28, 1885—Met in cov meeting, few out. John M Davis, Clerk.

June 7, 1885—Met in cov meeting appointed delegates to attend quarterly meeting John M Davis, Chancy Morenus. John M Davis Church clerk..

July 25, 1885—Met in cov meeting, few out. John Davis. clerk.

Aug 29, 1885—Met in cov meeting quite a number present.

good interest delegates elected. Charles Dodge, David Willsey, Frank Denis. John M Davis.

March 8, 1890—Church covenant but few out had a goodly time. John Davis clerk

May 26, 1890—Church covenant meeting but three present. John Davis clerk.

Feb 28, 1891—Cov meeting but few present JM Davis clerk

March 28, 1891—Cov meeting but few present. JM Davis clerk

April 25, 1891—Cov meeting but few present. Deacon Dodge led the meeting after seeking and praying. John M Davis asked for letter of dismissal or to have his name erased on account of but few present it was put over untill next cov meeting. JM Davis clerk

Resolutions of Spafford Q meeting on the death of Deacon Charles Dodge Whereas it has pleased our Heavenly Father to remove from our midst our esteemd and much loved Bro. Dodge, whereas That in his death the community has lost a good citizen and kind neighbor, the family a devoted husband and parent, the church and quarterly meeting a zealous and devoted member and earnest worker Resolved that we lament his removal from us and miss him in our gatherings and recognize a Father's hand and bow in submission to His will who doeth all things well. Resolved that while Bro Dodge's death leave a vacancy in the ranks of the church and Quarterly meeting we will endeavor to close it up by renewing our diligence in Christ's service will seek to cultivate the spirit he manifested his example in sustaining the means of grace. Resolved that a copy of these resolutions be recorded on the journal of the quarterly meeting and also one to be sent to the bereaved family. Rev. Philo Miner, Bro Frank French and Darling English Com. Albert Mosher, clerk.

A revised list of the members of Richford Freewill Baptist Church April 1882 those marked * are non residents.

Mrs. Susannah Davis, Charles E. Dodge, Mrs. Charles E Dodge, John M. Davis, Mrs. John M. Davis, C. Tompkins, Oli-

ver Tryon, Mrs. Oliver Tryon, Mrs. Foster, John Leonard, Mrs. John Leonard, *SR Hale, *Mrs. Adelia A Hale, *H Zee, *J Chaffee, Geo. J. Scoby

Chancey & Mary Morenus to 1st Freewill Baptist Soc Richford Book 92, page 513.

Copied from a notebook in the possession of Mr. George W. Glezen, Richford, NY, April 1970, by Carol Willsey Bell, great-great-granddaughter of the aforementioned Deacon Simon Peter Willsey, Sr., and great-granddaughter of Simon P. and Martha Willsey, Jr.

Some explanations on the preceding book records:

In the entry for November 26, 1869, it should be noted that Brother Simon P. Willsey was the son of Deacon Simon P. Willsey. Sister Martha Willsey was the wife of Simon Peter Jr. Following is some family information on these two Simon Peters.

Simon Peter Willsey Sr was born May 8, 1811, in the Albany, NY area. He married Janette Hall or All, also born 1811, in Schoharie County, New York. Family tradition says that she was an Indian. Simon Sr. died November 29, 1876, and his wife Janette died September 17, 1880. Their children were:

- | | |
|--------------------|--|
| 1. Polly | b. 1834
d. 1920, bur. Ellis Hollow
m. Peter Oliver |
| 2. Simon Peter Jr. | b. 2-11-1837 in Caroline, NY
d. 7-25-1914 in Slaterville
bur. East Lawn Cemetery
m. Martha Jane Banfield 12-30-1858 |
| 3. Warren | b. 5-8-1841
d. 1-8-1885 in Ithaca
bur. East Lawn Cemetery
m. Lillian Quick 4-29-1868 |
| 4. Elonzo | b. 9-25-1843
d. 4-6-1866
bur. Richford, NY |

- | | |
|-------------|--|
| 5. John | b. 1844
d. 7-12-1906
bur. McGrawville
m. Almeda Dye |
| 6. Thankful | b. 1848
d.
m. Philo Beebe |
| 7. David | b. 1851
d. 1922
bur. Richford,N.Y. |
| 8. Lorraine | b.
d. 8-11-1928
m. Willard Satterly |

Simon Peter Willsey Jr. married Martha Jane Banfield, a daughter of James Washington Banfield and Mary Ann Pew. She was born May 9, 1843, in Dryden, and died March 6, 1926, in Dryden. Their children were:

- | | |
|--------------|---|
| 1. Carrie | b. 4-30-1861
d. 6-13-1892 in Portland, NY
bur. East Lawn Cemetery
m. Nolan M. Smith 11-24-1888 |
| 2. Adah | b. 1-2-1864
d. 1-2-1958 in Cortland, N.Y.
m. William Horace Smith 2-26-1883 |
| 3. Edward | b. 3-13-1868
d. 12-11-1873
bur. Richford, NY |
| 4. Mary Emma | b. 1-8-1872
d. 5-5-1941 in Ithaca
bur. East Lawn Cemetery |
| 5. Clayton | b. 9-22-1874
d. 2-23-1909
m. Carrie Walker 1-30-1895 |

- | | |
|-----------------|--|
| 6. Cory | b. 10-13-1876
d. 3-5-1952
bur. Calvary Cemetery, Ithaca
m. Anna Granville 11-26-1902 |
| 7. Charles | b. 3-24-1879
d. 2-10-1929
m. Mary Granville |
| 8. Verne Warren | b. 7-30-1881 in Caroline, NY
d. 3-14-1966 in Ithaca
bur. East Lawn Cemetery
m. Veda Blanche Perkins 4-21-1901 |
| 9. Lynn | b. 4-26-1883 .
d.
m. Harriet L. Pease 4-12-1905 |

It would appear, from these lists of children of Simon Peter Willsey Sr., the Deacon of the Freewill Baptist Church of Dryden, Richford Branch that many of them were at one time or another members of that church. We find Warren Willsey, Lorraine Willsey, David Willsey, Thankful Beebe all listed among the minutes of various meetings.

It should also be noted that a definition of "Walking Disorderly" has been obtained from a present-day Baptist minister, and he states that such things as gossiping, crooked deals, drunkenness, unfaithfulness and indolence are considered walking disorderly. In early days, churches held covenant meetings in which members confessed their sins and righted things with each other. Some times a person was brought before the church and charges were made. The church either expelled them or put them on probation. Only after exemplary conduct could they be reinstated. Communion was not allowed to members on probation.

Today, the Freewill Baptist Church bears another name, and undoubtedly new shingles cover the old wood. It is called Holcombville by some older residents, and the little cemetery stands high on the hill behind the church. It is interesting to read some of the happenings on this hillside one hundred years ago.