

KOGER

Moses, W.H., Biographical Sketches of
Leading Preachers and Educators.

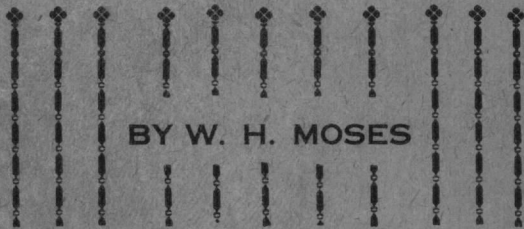
BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES..

OF

LEADING PREACHERS

AND

EDUCATORS



BY **W. H. MOSES**

THE A. B. KOGER, COLLECTION



BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES

OF

Seventy Leading
Preachers and Educators

OF THE

Formative Period of the National
Baptist Convention
U. S. A., Inc.

BY

W. H. MOSES

THE A. B. KOGER, COLLECTION

ISSUED BY

The Home Mission Board
of the National Baptist Convention
U. S. A., Inc. Morris Memorial Building,
Rooms 401-403 Fourth Ave. and
Cedar St., Nashville, Tenn.

OF

THE
LIVES OF
THE
MEMBERS OF THE
LEGISLATURE
OF THE STATE OF
NEW YORK

W. H. MOSES

1877

The Hon. Mr. Moses
was born in the town of
Canaan, Dutchess County,
New York, on the 10th of
August, 1812. He was
educated at the Common
Schools of his native town,
and at the State University
at Albany.

1877

THESE LITTLE BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES

of seventy leading Baptist preachers and educators of the formative period of the National Baptist Convention are intended to acquaint the readers with a bit of the wonderful work of the "other seventy the Lord also appointed and sent before his face into every city and place, whither he himself would come." "And the seventy returned again with joy, saying, Lord, even the devils are subject to us through thy name." "And he said unto them, Rejoice not that the spirits are subjects to you; but rather rejoice because your names are written in heaven."

They are Intended

to stimulate historical interest in those great men of God who have taken the lead in evangelizing and educating the largest group of colored Christians of modern times.

THE A. B. KOGER, COLLECTION

The Younger Baptists

who have not had access to colored Baptist history are liable to underestimate the great men of their own denomination and look in other directions for all worth-while religious workers for and by the colored people of modern times.

The Fine Faces on the Chart

to which this little sketch is a key are bound to awaken commendable pride in young colored Baptists and others who have been helping them on and before since emancipation. It will stimulate interest to carry on the work so well begun by our fathers.

There Are Others Belonging

to this splendid group and period. We tried to get pictures of them, but were unable. Many of these were worked over from old books and papers picked up here and there by Dr. L. G. Jordan, the Historiographer of the National Baptist Convention. We thank him. In the near future he will finish his

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BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES

OF THE

FOUNDRY-LEVEL OF THE NATIONAL

THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

AT

BY

W. H. MOSE

REVISED BY

THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

OF THE NATIONAL THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

AT THE NATIONAL THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

LOCATED AT 121 NORTH 4th ST.

COLUMBIA, MISSOURI

THESE LITTLE BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES

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history of Negro Baptists. We will then learn more about these pioneers and their times.

The Funds From the Sale

of these little sketches and the large chart will be turned over as fast as received to the Home Mission Board of the National Baptist Convention of the U. S. A., Inc., to continue the work which they so well begun. To that end help us put one in every possible home on both the Home and Foreign Mission Fields of the world.

Some of Our White Friends

of evangelical churches in general and Baptists in particular will recognize among the faces of our departed dead some to whom they passed the light and gave a lift. Most of them, too, have gone to their reward. Many of the younger generation have heard the older ones speak of them. Some have seen them.

The State

from which each should be registered is not easy to determine. Some were born in one

state and worked in others. In some cases we mentioned two or more.

Present Day Leaders

are not in this group. We are getting them out on a separate picture. Dr. Spiller is the only one on the chart who is still alive so far as I know. I just could not resist letting him see himself with his comrades. He looks so fine and young. Dr. Richard Spiller is a lesson to old and young on how to properly conserve health and keep young.

W. H. MOSES

SOME LEADING PREACHERS AND EDUCATORS OF THE FORMATIVE PERIOD OF THE NATIONAL BAPTIST CONVENTION
U. S. A.

Group No. 1, top row. Begin at the left and read across to the right

Rev. M. W. Gilbert, D. D., of South Carolina, Florida and Alabama

Well trained scholar, pastor, educator, founder and president of Florida Indus-

trial Institute, formerly Florida Baptist Academy, president of Selma University, Alabama; able preacher, pastor, outstanding educator and linguist; owned largest and most complete Negro private library in country.

Rev. Richard Spiller, D. D., of Virginia and North Carolina

Leading pastor, organizer of Virginia Baptist State Convention, pioneer national leader, promoter of education, philosophical, practical, outstanding and upstanding Baptist preacher of the first rank.

Rev. James Poindexter, D. D., of Ohio

Minister of the Gospel, great advocate of human rights, director of Bureau of Forestry of Ohio, member of Board of Education, City of Columbus, early organizer of Baptists of the Middle West.

Rev. Joseph A. Booker, of Arkansas

Preacher, educator, religious writer, president of Arkansas Baptist College, secretary of Home Mission Board of National Baptist Convention.

Rev. John Jasper, of Virginia

Distinguished preacher, literalist and fundamentalist, independent thinker, digni-

fied, upright, humble. Leading pastor of his day. Made famous preaching "The Sun Do Move."

Rev. P. S. Evans, of Mississippi

Preacher, influential Mississippi leader, secretary of Mississippi Baptist Convention, promoter of Harpers' College.

Rev. A. J. Stokes, D. D., of Alabama

Great pastor, leader, business man, studious, solid preacher, treasurer of the National Baptist Convention, pioneer in its organization.

Rev. W. Bishop Johnson, D. D., LL. D., of Washington, D. C.

Pastor, educator, author, organizer, editor of National Baptist Magazine, president of New England Convention, organizer of the National Baptist Convention.

Group No. 2, second row from top. Begin at left read across to right

Rev. G. W. Gayles, D. D., of Mississippi

Eminent preacher, president of the Mississippi State Convention, member of the Board of Police, and the last colored state Senator in the Mississippi legislature.

Miss E. B. Delaney, of Florida

Successful African missionary, builder of schools in Africa. Did much to arouse and help organize the women of America for African redemption, died in middle life.

Rev. H. P. Jacobs, D. D., of Mississippi

Great organizer of churches, associations, and conventions of Mississippi, president of the state convention of Mississippi, promoter of education, denominational leader of the first magnitude.

Rev. A. R. Griggs, D. D., of Texas

Distinguished pastor, leader of Texas Baptists, promoter of education, prime mover in securing the co-operation of the Southern Baptist Convention in erecting and helping operate the American Baptist Theological Seminary at Nashville, Tenn.; a man of deep piety, great power, and great in sacrificing.

Rev. C. H. Lyons, of Georgia

Pastor, educator, promoter of education, corresponding secretary of the Georgia Baptist State Convention; intellectual, proficient in Latin, Greek, and Hebrew; well balanced, pious, eloquent, and one of

the grandest characters produced by Georgia.

Rev. Andrew Marshall, of Georgia

"One of the most eminent, pious, God-like men that ever lived." Great pastor, evangelist, and Georgia leader; addressed the legislature of Georgia during the dreadful days of slavery; a man with a splendid library, and well posted.

Rev. Peter Johnson, of Georgia

Pioneer Baptist preacher, successful pastor, church builder, promoter of education; a long and successful pastorate; did great work for the Baptist churches in his day.

Rev. James T. Tolbert, of Georgia

Successful pastor, a venerable preacher before the war, moderator of the Storm Branch Association of South Carolina, treasurer of the Georgia State Convention, and stood high in the councils of the denomination.

Rev. L. M. Roberson, of Georgia

Successful pastor, powerful evangelist, church builder, leader of men; type of men who have done marvelous work in building up Baptist churches.

Rev. W. H. Tillman, of Georgia

Successful pastor, brilliant orator, moderator of Ebenezer Association; promoter of education and of the denomination.

Group No. 3, third row from top. Begin at left read across to right

Rev. M. Vann, D. D., of Tennessee

One of the country's ablest pastors, promoter of education, president of the National Baptist Convention, public spirited citizen of great power in his day.

Rev. E. B. Topp, D. D., of Mississippi

Successful pastor, African missionary, promoter of Christian education; president of Mississippi Baptist State Convention, prominent leader in the National Baptist Convention, led the state that saved the day when the denomination decided to control its Boards.

Mrs. P. J. Bryant, of Georgia

An educator, leader of Christian women, treasurer of the Women's Convention Auxiliary of the National Baptist Convention of the U. S. A., Inc., and a consecrated, forceful character for Christ.

Rev. E. M. Brawley, D. D., of South Carolina

Baptist scholar, rare exegete; organizer of

the South Carolina State Convention; president of Selma University, Selma, Ala.; founder and president of Morris College at Sumter, S. C., and president of the National Baptist Convention.

Rev. Caesar Johnson, of North Carolina

First president of the North Carolina State Convention, pastor of great power, promoter of education, conspicuous member of the National Baptist Convention.

Rev. Frank Quarles, of Georgia

Outstanding leader of Georgia, moderator of Ebenezer Baptist Association, and president of the Baptist State Convention.

Rev. Rufus L. Perry, Ph. D., of New York

Able editor, ethnologist, essayist, logician, profound student of Negro history, eminent Greek, Latin, and Hebrew scholar, and early organizer of colored American Baptists.

Rev. U. L. Houston, of Georgia

Pulpit orator, successful pastor, promoter of education, one of the organizers of the state convention and vice president; member of the Georgia legislature; powerful preacher, plain in style, free from sensationalism, practical and direct.

Rev. Henry Williams, of Georgia

Great evangelist, preached in all parts of Georgia, Alabama, and many of the western states; took a leading part in building up the denomination in his state and country.

Prof. John R. Blackburn, of Ohio and Mississippi

Eminent Baptist teacher, grand secretary of the grand lodge F. A. M., and a great Sunday-school worker and promoter of the Baptist churches in Ohio.

Rev. E. K. Love, D. D., of Georgia

Eloquent preacher, successful pastor of the First Baptist Church, Savannah, Ga., with a five thousand membership; editor of the "Georgia Central," and early advocate of publishing Negro Sunday-school literature.

Rev. Randall B. Vandervall, D. D., of Tennessee

Successful self-made man, promoter of education, president State Sunday School Convention of Tennessee and of the State Convention; aided in selecting place for Roger Williams University, one of the fathers of Nashville Baptists.

Rev. John H. Washington, of North Carolina

First state missionary; did much to organize and unify the Baptists in North Carolina.

Group No. 4, fourth row from top. Begin at left read across to right

Rev. Wm. Beckham, D. D., of Texas

Field Secretary of the National Baptist Convention; preacher, rugged, built for endurance; did more to awaken National Baptist consciousness from coast to coast than any one since its organization.

Rev. Sampson White, of Virginia

One of the ablest preachers of his day, successful pastor, and a great organizer.

Rev. George W. Lee, of Washington, D. C.

Outstanding preacher of the first magnitude; great pastor, and National Baptist leader; brilliant intellect, warm hearted, over-powering preacher.

Rev. M. C. Clayton, of Maryland

Founder of the first African Church, of Baltimore, Maryland; a versatile genius, leader and organizer of great ability,

Rev. William T. Dixon, D. D., of New York

Veteran pastor of the Concord Baptist Church; president of the New England Baptist Convention, and early organizer of the first units of the National Baptist Convention.

Rev. William R. Pettiford, of Alabama

Successful pastor, leading trustee of Selma University, and banker.

Rev. H. N. Bouey, D. D., of South Carolina

Missionary to Africa, educator, editor; among the early organizers of the Foreign Mission Convention of the United States that later merged into the National Baptist Convention.

Rev. Nelson Merry, of Tennessee

One of the leading spirits, who organized Northern Colored Baptists with a view of having them function nationally, helped organize the American Baptist Missionary Convention, in which the other territorial conventions consolidated; successful pastor, deeply pious, highly respected, a towering national figure.

Rev. Daniel A. Gaddie, D. D., of Kentucky

A tower of strength in the Kentucky pulpit, temperance advocate, moderator of the General Association of Kentucky; pro-

moter of State University, now Simmons University; associate of Revs. DeBaptiste, Perry, and other national fathers in organizing the American Baptist Consolidated Convention; central figure in the Baptist world and a man of earnest and untiring effort in the cause of Christian education.

Rev. Wallace Shelton, of Ohio

“Father of Colored Baptists of Ohio.” Organizer and pastor of Zion Baptist Church, outstanding leader among early Baptists of the country.

Rev. J. M. Weathers, D. D., of Mississippi

Successful pastor, church builder; president of Grenada Sunday School Convention; the type of man who made Mississippi the most loyal supporter of the Sunday School Publishing Board of any state in the union.

Rev. Allen Allensworth, D. D., of Kentucky

The great children’s preacher, United States Army Chaplain, promoter of education, presidential elector, orator of the highest order, keen of intellect, judicial, didactic, and a strong citizen of the first magnitude.

Rev. Harvey Johnson, D. D., of Maryland

Eminent Baltimore pastor, founder and promoter of Clayton Williams Academy, vice president of the white Baptist Ministers' Conference, and vice president of Maryland Baptist State Convention of white and colored churches; early advocate of Negro Sunday-school literature; organizer and supporter of all the departments of the National Baptist Convention, and one of the outstanding clergymen of his generation.

Rev. George Dupee, D. D., of Kentucky

Successful pastor, evangelist, moderator of the General Association of Kentucky, editor and Greek scholar; promoter of education, prominent member of the American Baptist Consolidated Convention that met at Nashville in 1867, a man of great power.

Group No. 5, fifth row from top. Begin at left read across to right

Rev. L. M. Luke, of Texas

Gifted preacher, corresponding secretary of Foreign Mission Board of the National Baptist Convention, Inc., did much to awaken the country to African Missions.

Rev. D. W. Cannon, D. D., of Georgia

Able preacher, one of the educational leaders of Georgia, president of the Sunday School and B. Y. P. U. Congress of the National Baptist Convention of the U. S. A., Inc.; went early to his reward.

Rev. D. Webster Davis, D. D., of Virginia

Preacher, educator, poet, philosopher, lecturer, outstanding leader of the new generation; died young.

Rev. S. E. J. Watson, D. D., of Texas and Illinois

Successful pastor, chairman of Board of Evangelism of the National Baptist Convention; writer for B. Y. P. U.; eloquent; outstanding character of the younger men, who went early to their reward.

Rev. Richard DeBaptiste, of Illinois

One of the early builders of the churches of the middle west; recording secretary of the Northwestern and Southern Baptist Convention; president of the Consolidated American Baptist Missionary Convention, which was the first effort to organize the colored American Baptist family; a distin-

guished pastor, and a greatly beloved Baptist leader and organizer.

Rev. C. T. Walker, D. D., LL. D., of Georgia

Considered the greatest Negro preacher of modern times, traveled all over America and a considerable portion of Europe, preached in some of the greatest churches in the world; a successful pastor, moderator of the Western Union Association, and the Walker Baptist Association; founder and promoter of the Walker Baptist College; father of the Y. M. C. A. movement in New York for colored men; one of the organizers and promoters of the National Baptist Convention.

Booker T. Washington, LL. D., of Alabama

Principal of Tuskegee Normal School, lay preacher, loyal promoter of the National Baptist Convention, and principal speaker at each session for a number of years until his death. American leader of industrial education, and organizer of the Negro Business League.

Rev. Wm. J. Simmons, D. D., of Kentucky

Founder and president of Simmons University, president of the National Baptist Convention, one of the ablest preachers of any race in his day, learned, eloquent, a

master of men and an outstanding educator.

Rev. Leonard A. Grimes, of Massachusetts

Eminent Boston pastor, great in prayer; eloquent speaker, agent of the Underground Railroad; one of the organizers of the New England Convention, president of the American Baptist Missionary Convention and the Consolidated Baptist Convention, and the leading spirit among the colored Baptists of the North from 1846-73.

Rev. C. C. Vaughn, D. D., of Mississippi

Preacher and teacher, state grand chief of I. I. Good Samaritans, and Daughters of Samaritans; vice-moderator of the General Association; politician, outspoken, acceptable, and a leader of vast influence of the Southern States.

Rev. J. T. White, of Arkansas

Successful pastor, organizer of Missionary Baptist Convention, editor, commissioner of public works, state senator, and an eloquent preacher.

George W. Williams, LL. D., of Ohio

Eminent Negro historian, author of world-wide reputation; judge, advocate of the Grand Army of the Republic; minister to

Haiti, novelist, scholar, magnetic orator, editor, soldier, traveler, and preacher.

Rev. E. D. White, D. D., M. D., of South Carolina

General state missionary, one of the founders of Morris College at Sumter; did as much for the Baptists of the country as any man of his day and generation, beloved by everybody.

Group No. 6, sixth row from top. Begin at left and read across to right

Rev. W. G. Parks, D. D., LL. D., of Tennessee and Pennsylvania

President of National Baptist Convention, one of the leading pastors in the country, public spirited, outstanding leader of the National Baptist Convention.

Rev. Charles L. Purce, D. D., of South Carolina, Alabama, and Kentucky

President of Selma University, Selma, Alabama, and Simmons University; a painstaking scholar, excellent preacher and organizer.

Rev. Randall Pollard, of Mississippi

Pioneer in the Baptist ministry of Mississippi, kept the mixed white and colored church alive when whites began to abandon them.

Rev. Peter Fossett, of Virginia and Ohio

Grandson of Thomas Jefferson, President of the United States; famous preacher, and one of the fathers of Ohio Baptists; great exemplar, expounder, and disciplinarian.

President G. W. Hayes, A. M., of Virginia

Distinguished educator, thorough scholar, finished orator, able lay preacher, and exegete, builder and president of Virginia Theological Seminary and College, marvelous leader of men, inspirer and promoter of Negro Baptist publishing concerns, national leader of far-flung vision.

Rev. E. C. Morris, D. D., of Arkansas

Distinguished president of National Baptist Convention from 1895 until his death in 1921; a great pastor, Christian statesman, business man, the most distinguished and greatest beloved leader of colored Christians in the world in his day and generation.

Rev. J. E. Jones, of Virginia

Distinguished scholar, teacher of homiletics, Greek, and other subjects in Virginia Union University; corresponding secretary of the Baptist Foreign Mission Convention, which was one of the units that merged into the National Baptist Convention; no man in his generation inspired more ministers to educate and become efficient than Dr. Joseph E. Jones, of Virginia.

Rev. R. H. Boyd, D. D., of Texas

Man of great native ability, pleasing personality, great lover of his family; first corresponding secretary of the Home Mission Board, first corresponding secretary of the National Baptist Publishing Board of the National Baptist Convention.

Rev. Jesse F. Bolden, D. D., of Mississippi

Scholar, preacher, editor, organizer of the Baptists of the Mississippi Valley; member of the Legislature of Mississippi, and speaker of the House.

Rev. P. A. Wardlow, D. D., of Mississippi

Preacher, educator, one of the finest disciplinarians in his state, a maker of the new generation of Baptist preachers.

Rev. Wm. A. Creditt, D. D., of Pennsylvania

Great pastor, church builder, educator, founder and president of Dawningtown Industrial School, well educated, the most eloquent Baptist of his day, a leader in the National Baptist Convention.

Rev. Charles Stewart, D. D., of Kentucky and Illinois

Preacher, lecturer, widely known newspaper man, the maker of men, an outstanding National Baptist leader, known from coast to coast.

Haiti, novelist, scholar, magnetic orator, editor, soldier, traveler, and preacher.

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 ing National Baptist leader, known from
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