

Discovering Godly People Of The Past



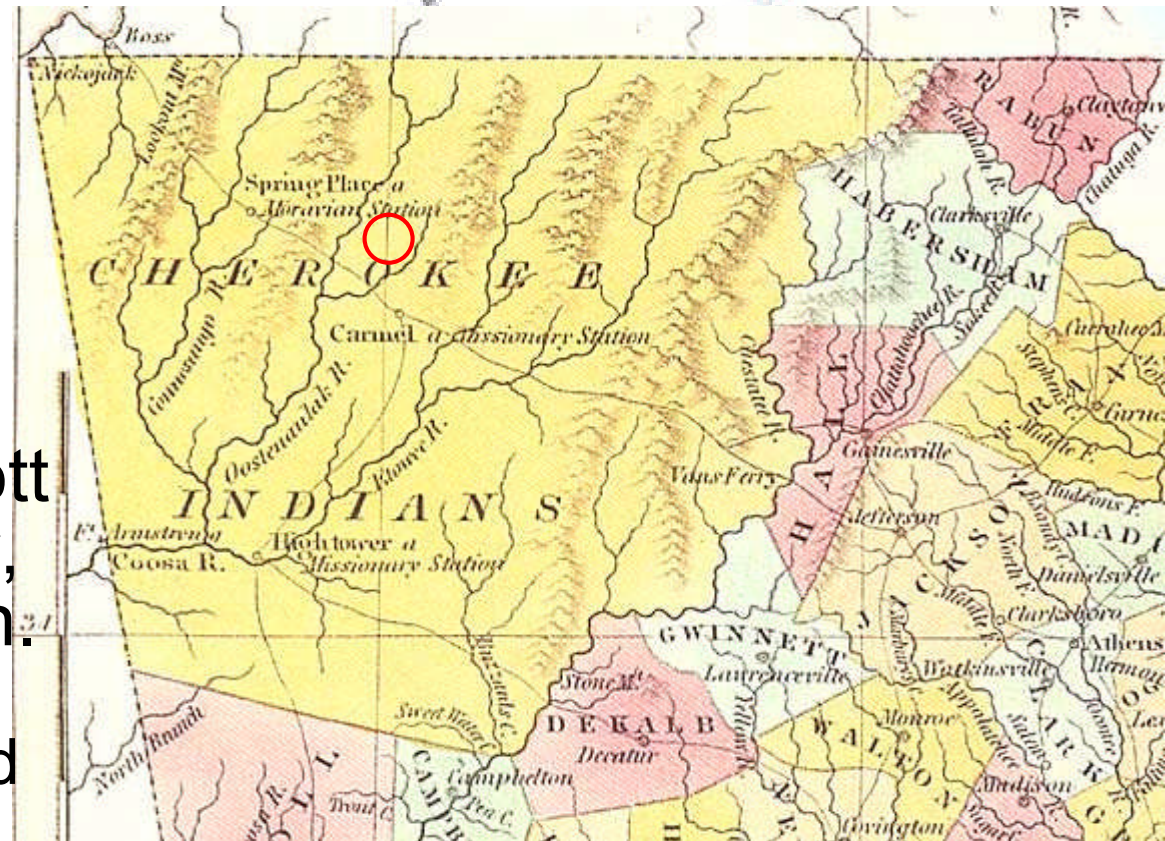
James Jenkins Trott

- Born on November 4, 1800 In Western North Carolina
- Sprinkled as a baby, his parents raised him in the Methodist faith.
- Moved to middle Tennessee in 1815 with his family at which time he got religion.
- In 1823 he entered Methodist ministry
- In 1825 the Tennessee Methodist Conference authorized Trott to preach among the Cherokee Nation of North Georgia.



James Jenkins Trott

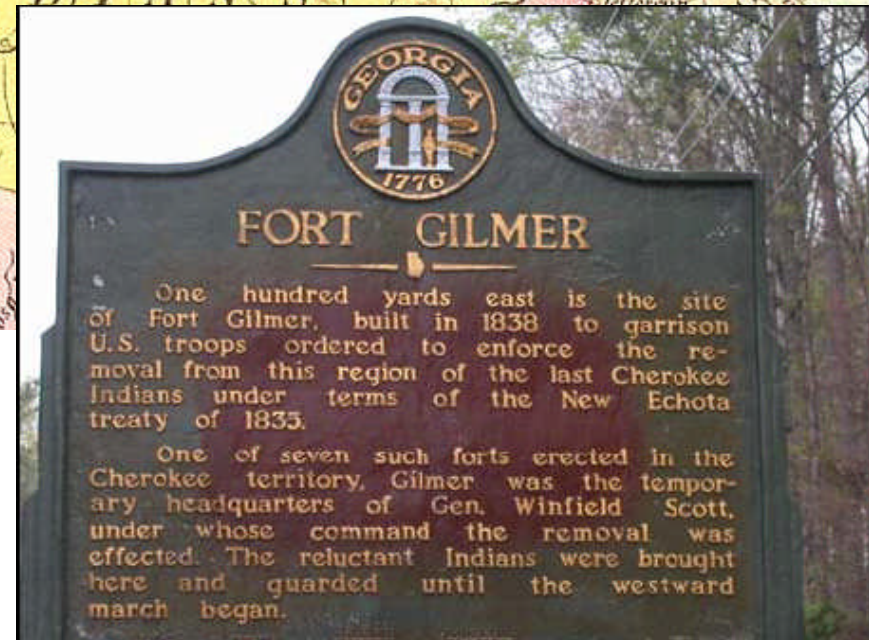
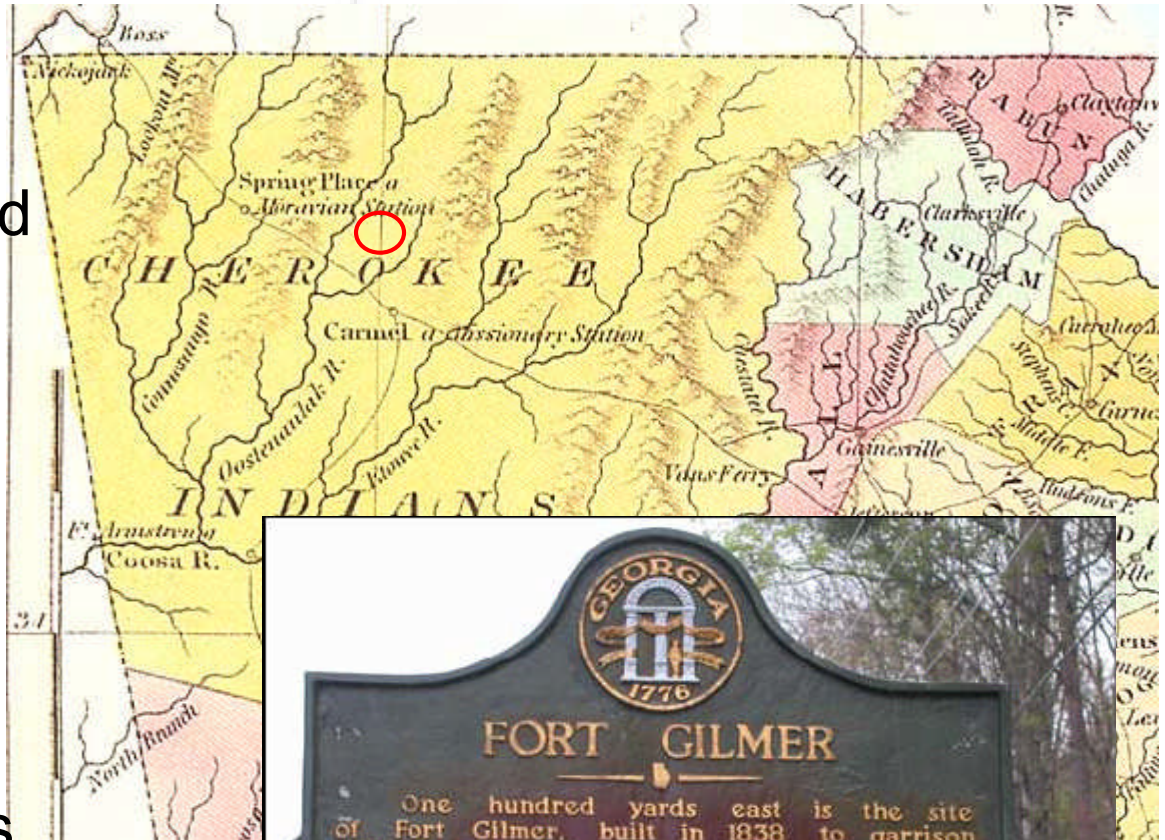
- A Methodist mission was started in 1827.
- By 1831 there were six schools, 120 pupils and 930 who pronounced faith among the Cherokee.
- February 1828, Trott married Sally Adair, a Cherokee woman.
 - They were married three years and had two children, Benjamin and Mary



Cherokee Nation in Georgia, 1830

James Jenkins Trott

- 1828 – Gold Discovered In Dahlonega, Georgia
- 1830 – Congress Passed The Indian Removal Act
- Georgia Sought Written Oaths Of Allegiance To The State By All Missionaries
- Trott Refused To Sign – Arrested 12 March, 1831.
- Made To Walk In Chains 22 Miles to Fort Gilmer To Be Imprisoned
- Then 110 miles for trial at Lawrenceville, GA

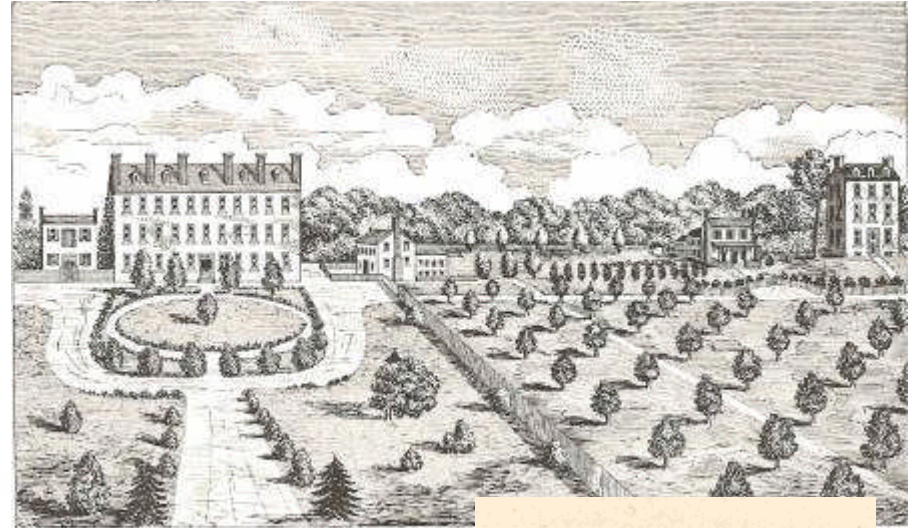


James Jenkins Trott

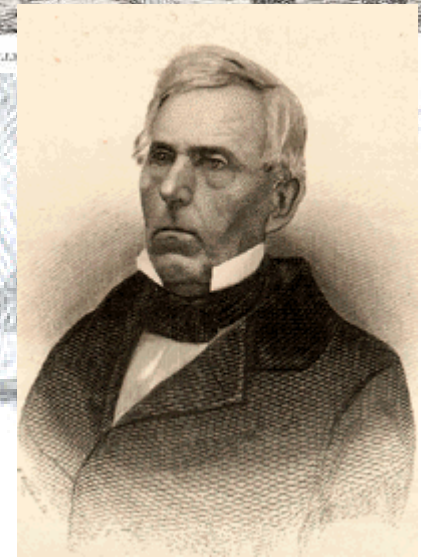
- Under a four year sentence, he was put in prison in Milledgeville, GA
- While in prison he came under the influence of the writings of Alexander Campbell
- Very soon was acquitted upon the condition he would leave the state.
- April 10, 1832 he officially left the Methodist Church
- He settled in Rutherford County, Tennessee
- He contacted the Baptist minister, Peyton Smith requesting baptism. Smith said, "Go before the Church, and relate your Christian experience." The clear headed Trott said, "Nay, I have not been in the Kingdom of the Savior, and have no experience therein; but I believe now, and have long believed, with all my heart in the Lord, and I desire to put him on in baptism." Baptized in Overall Creek, near Murfreesboro

James Jenkins Trott

- Came under the influence of Tolbert Fanning and attended Franklin College for a period, attending the church there.
- Began making trips back into the Cherokee nations in Georgia, Louisiana, and finally to Oklahoma
- 1837-1859 Co-labored with T. Fanning. Fanning said after his death, “We attended many missionary meetings, co-operating and consultation meetings together, and it affords me the highest satisfaction to state, that in my whole forty years work I have not found a more self-sacrificing, independent, earnest, humble and faithful teacher of the Christian religion than was our departed Brother J. J. Trott.”



FRANKLIN COLLEGE, NEAR NASHVILLE



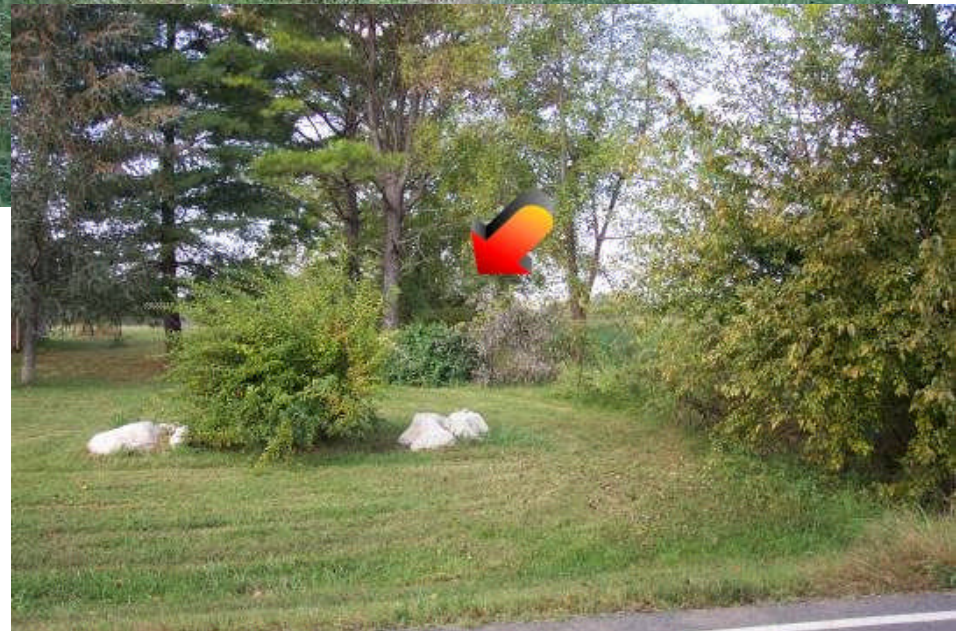
James Jenkins Trott



- Before 1859, he was as well known in central Tennessee as Tolbert Fanning, because of his meeting work, camp meetings, etc.
- Trott embarked on a preaching tour of some three thousand miles from November 1855 through February 1856. He traveled to Missouri, Arkansas and the Western Indian Territory by steamboat, railroad, stage, horseback and foot.
- In 1859 Trott and family moved to Oklahoma to live and work among the Indian Nations.

James Jenkins Trott

- In a report to the Millennial Harbinger in 1860 that there was a congregation of 75 members in the Cherokee Nation in West Arkansas
- Eight more years he works among the Cherokee people evangelizing.
- On a visiting trip back to Tennessee he fell sick and died of pneumonia, among brethren, December 10, 1868. He was buried in the cemetery where his friend and preacher F.M. Carmack had been buried seven years earlier, located about six miles from Gallatin, Tennessee



Murrell Askew

- Born in Williamson County, Tennessee March 4, 1811
- 1816 removed to Lauderdale County, Alabama
- His father, Aaron, got religion in 1819 – was said to be a “wicked and profane man.”
- Yet he became a Baptist minister.
- Growing up in the Baptist faith, he came across the writings of Tolbert Fanning in the *Christian Review*
- Between 1850 and 1854 Murrell began preaching among the Baptists around Lexington, Alabama



Murrell Askew

- 1862 was a bad year.
 - The Civil War was underway
 - His father died
 - His preaching came under fire because he was charged with preaching “Campbellism.”
- He taught that “a sinner must obey all the requirements of the gospel.”
- After the war he subscribed to the Gospel Advocate, further being influenced against Baptist teaching.



Murrell Askew



- 1875 – Four churches under the direction of Askew withdrew from the Baptists and took the identity of churches of Christ.
- One, the Union Grove church became known as The North Carolina Church of Christ, which meets presently.
- By 1876 a number of churches became restoration churches, according to some, mimicking the Kentucky Revival of 50 years before.
- By 1880 he had started numerous congregations of the Lord's church in Lauderdale county as well as Savannah, Tennessee



Murrell Askew

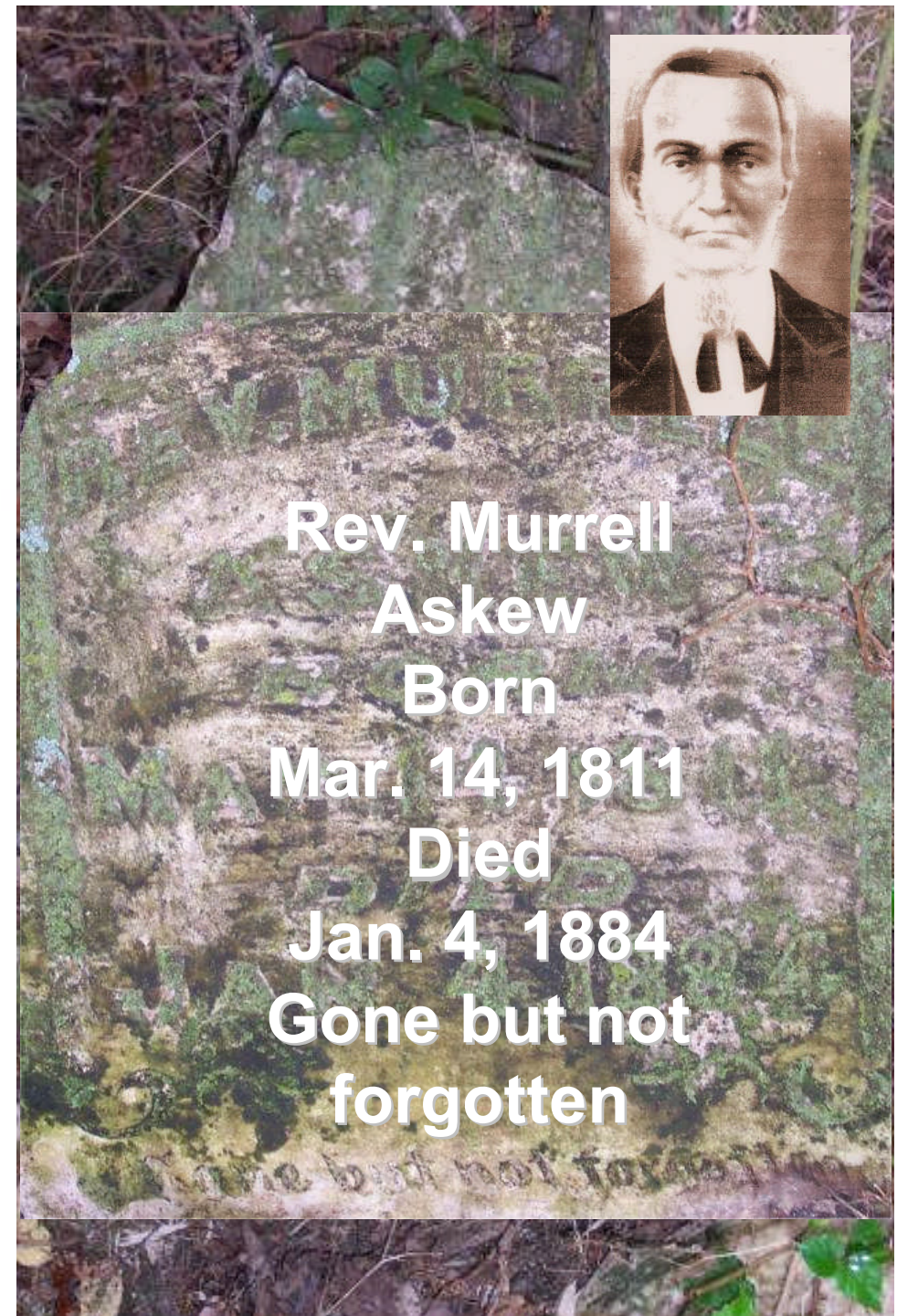
- Around this time that he began a friendship with R.W. Officer, another Baptist minister who had converted to N.T. Christianity.
- Askew, who was $\frac{1}{4}$ Choctaw Indian was interested in work among the Indian Nations.
- 1881 – R.W. Officer sent for Askew to come to the Indian Territory to evangelize.
- Askew set up residence in the Chickasaw nation.
- A teacher, he supported himself by teaching at Burney Institute, an Indian school near Lebanon, Oklahoma



Murrell Askew

- He taught in the school for two years.
- In the fall of 1883, he became ill & died January 4, 1884
- He was buried in the cemetery there on the campus of Burney Institute
- His work in Lauderdale County was a precursor to that of T.B. Larimore, and still survives to this day.
- At least one of his sons also preached among the Indian nations

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Robert Wallace Officer

- Born August 18, 1845 in Murray County, Georgia
- According to F.D. Srygley, He preached his first sermon the night he declared his faith in Jesus. – At a Methodist meeting. The minister asked if he would submit to the Methodist discipline. His response was, “that is the wrong book.”
- He asked for someone to baptize assist him as Philip assisted the Ethiopian Eunuch in Acts 8. No one responded.
- 1870—Six months later he found a Dr. Barris who baptized him into Christ



Robert Wallace Officer

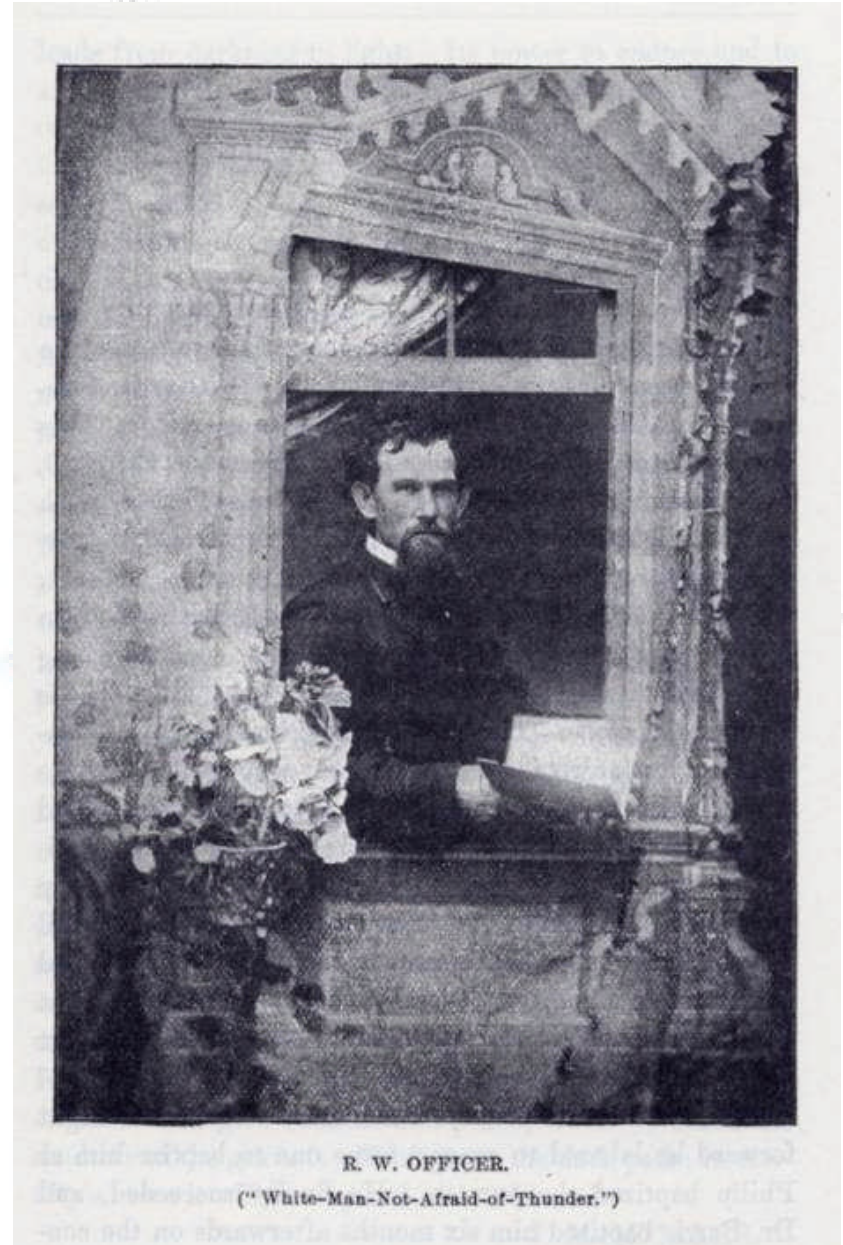
- Though claimed by the Baptists and supported by them to evangelize, he gave no allegiance to denominationalism.
- Before long the Baptists of North Alabama tried him at Poplar Creek Church, Limestone County, Alabama
- After being excommunicated from the Baptists, he worked throughout the area with restoration preachers such as Murrell Askew evangelizing.
- 1880 — He finally moved to Gainesville, Texas to work with the church.



Robert Wallace Officer

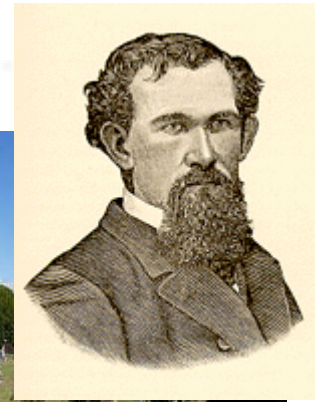
- 1884 — After the death of Askew he moved to Paris, Texas where F.D. Srygley preached, and prepared to move into the Indian Territory
- Officer greatly rejected Missionary Societies, believing them to be unscriptural
- Editors such as David Lipscomb of the *Gospel Advocate* and Daniel Sommer of the *Octographic Review* pickup to the charge of helping to raise individual support for Officer
- By August, 1884 he was making numerous excursions into the Indian Territory to preach and teach.
- 1886 moved to Atoka, Choctaw Nation

<http://www.FriendsOfTheRestoration.com>



<http://www.TheRestorationMovement.com>

Robert Wallace Officer



- Preached in a Methodist Episcopal Building
- Sent regular reports to the Christian Leader, Octographic Review & Gospel Advocate
- By 1889 at least six evangelists worked among the Choctaw Nation
- Skirmishes
 - Stolen Ponies
 - “Look Out For Robbers”
- Incidents
 - Rube’s Conversion
 - Towacany Jim – “White-man-not-afraid-of-thunder”
 - Indian Camp Meetings
- Died in August 23, 1930

