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BISHOP ROY H. SHORT
President

DEAN STROUD
Secretary

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SAMUEL MILO KEATHLEY

SAMUEL MILO KEATHLEY was the son of the late Harrison and Nancy Lowry Keathley. He was born in Doyle, Tennessee, October 29, 1871, the oldest of four children, three boys and one girl. One of the boys was the late J. C. Keathley, a minister in the Tennessee Annual Conference.

Rev. Keathley was converted and joined the Mt. Gilead Methodist Church in his boyhood. *The History of the Tennessee Conference* records that so far as it is known, thirty-three have gone out from the Mt. Gilead church to spread the gospel, a larger number from this church than from any other church in America. Rev. Keathley was licensed to preach in 1892 and was admitted to the Tennessee Annual Conference in the fall of 1893. He was an active member of the Conference for forty-three years. He served during his ministry as pastor of the Tullahoma Circuit, Haley, Beech Grove, Rockvale, McMinnville Circuit, Normandy, Manchester, Decherd, Tracy City, Monterey, Bethpage, Hendersonville, Gordonsville, Olivet and Pleasant Valley, Delrose, Algood, Alex Green, Epworth and Trinity, and Lynnville.

Superannuating in the fall of 1937, the Rev. Keathley made his home at Bordeaux, Tennessee, for almost two years, moving to Goodlettsville, Tennessee, where he lived until he moved to Birmingham. There he made his home with a daughter for the past five years.

Rev. Keathley was married to Docia Ann White in 1896. In addition to Mrs. Keathley, he is survived by a son, Claude C. Keathley, Birmingham; three daughters, Mrs. Stacy Williams, Birmingham; Mrs. Paul Nash and Mrs. George Hager, both of Dallas, Texas; one sister, Mrs. Novella Keathley White, Decherd, Tennessee; nine grandchildren, eleven great-grandchildren; and one aunt, Mrs. Lail Lowry Boyd of Sparta, Tennessee.

Funeral services were held August 5, 1955, at the McCoy Methodist Church by the Rev. Paul Clem, pastor, Rev. E. E. Cavaleri and Rev. Frank Grisham. He was laid to rest in the Elmwood Cemetery.

When the writer moved to Goodlettsville as pastor, he was in almost daily contact with Brother Keathley. I am glad to bear testimony to his sterling worth and faithfulness. He was clean in speech and spirit as a child; he hated sham and pretence; he lived as he preached "near to the heart of God."

Brother Keathley loved to preach. The simple truth of the Gospel, enriched by the Scriptures, were his "meat and drink." He loved the church; it was the center of his thoughts. He ever rejoiced in the success of its preachers, and kept up with their progress.

My own life and ministry have been enhanced and furthered by his spirit, and his close walk with God has been a gracious influence.

"Servant of God, well done!

Thy glorious warfare's past;
The battle's fought, the race is won,
And thou art crowned at last."

—N. BURCH TUCKER.

DR. AND MRS. JOHN JOEL STOWE

JOHN JOEL STOWE was born August 7, 1867, at Opelika, Alabama, the second son of Dr. John Ashland and India Pitts Stowe. His formal education was in the public school of his home town and at Vanderbilt University. He spent one year as Y.M.C.A. secretary in Opelika, and one year at Durham, North Carolina. It was while in that latter city that he felt—"as sharply as a bolt out of the blue," in his own words—the call to preach. In 1888, he began his ministry on the Rockford Circuit, in the North Alabama Conference. Feeling the need of more training, he went to Nashville and enrolled in Vanderbilt. He was admitted to the

Tennessee Annual Conference in 1892. For the ten years, 1890-1900, he served various appointments in Nashville, including Fillmore, Humphrey, Carroll Street, and Waverly Place. In 1900 he went to Savannah, and two years later to the Savannah District. In 1904 he moved to Gallatin, and on December 7, 1904, he was married to Myra McFerrin, the daughter of the Rev. John A. and Martha Ashton McFerrin, and granddaughter of Dr. John B. McFerrin.

Myra McFerrin Stowe had more than thirty Methodist ministers in her family and was herself an outstanding leader in the Woman's Missionary Society and the Woman's Society of Christian Service. Mother felt her finest moment came when she, as delegate to the Tennessee Annual Conference, voted to admit her two sons into the membership of that Conference.

J. J. Stowe's next appointments were Clarksville, the Franklin District, Pulaski, then four years in the secretaryship of the great Centenary movement, which marked one hundred years of Methodist missionary labors across the world. In 1922, he transferred to the Little Rock Conference, where he served Lakeside Church, Pine Bluff, First Church, Hot Springs, the Arkadelphia District, and the Camden District.

Tennessee called again. Father and mother went back to the Fayetteville District. As the circle came round again, they were again stationed at Gallatin for four years, Franklin for two, and Arlington for one, where superannuation forced a quasi-retirement. Twelve years he was associate pastor and minister of visitation for McKendree. Five times he was honored as delegate to General Conference, as well as serving as fraternal delegate upon occasions.

There were five children born: three boys and two girls. One boy and one girl died in infancy, John A. and Myra India. Our other sister, Martha, was killed in a plane crash.

Mother's death came after a brief illness on February 14, 1955, and father spent the last few months of his life with his two sons in Oklahoma, slipping away at Lawton, Oklahoma, on June 30, 1955.

Memorial services for each were held at McKendree Church, with the Rev. H. Thornton Fowler in charge; the others assisting in the service were Dr. Guy Jones, the Rev. Willard H. Blue, Dr. Fagan Thompson, Dr. Harry L. Upperman, and the Rev. Shugart Martin. Interment was at Gallatin.

Two wonderful Christians have left a magnificent heritage to two sons, and we are eternally grateful. When mother and father entered Heaven, we believe there must have been a glorious homecoming, as the trumpets sounded for them on the other side.

—J. J. STOWE, JR.,
W. MCFERRIN STOWE.

JAMES ELBERT WOODWARD

JAMES ELBERT WOODWARD was born August 20, 1867, the son of William and Delilah Gower Woodward, both parents of pioneer families of Nashville.

He joined the Elm Street Methodist Church at the age of thirteen. He was educated at the old Howard School, Hume-Fogg, Webb School at Bell Buckle, and Vanderbilt University. He studied theology and architecture. While pastor at Centerville, he was offered by Dr. Ellis the work of Architect Designing of the Board of Church Extension, but he declined the offer, preferring to remain in the pastorate.

While in Vanderbilt, he worked at the Maxwell House and for the firm of Grimes, Woodward and Sedberry on the public square. He was an untiring worker, refusing to give up even after he had retired from active ministry.

The Prophet Jeremiah said, "Run ye to and fro through the streets