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<tr>
<th>NAME</th>
<th>Ed. Thomas Waff</th>
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<td>Ancestry</td>
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<td>Married</td>
<td>Mary Carpenter</td>
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<td>b.</td>
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<td>d.</td>
<td>Nov. 30, 1856</td>
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<td>Ordained</td>
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<td>Yosephine pastor 1852-1857</td>
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File No. (Over)
IBI'GRAPHICAL SKETCH OF THE LATE ELD. THOMAS WAFF.

The committee to whom was referred the melancholy task of preparing a memoir of this excellent man, enter upon their work with saddened hearts:

"The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all." G. C. MOORE, Moderator.

S. J. WHEELER, Clerk.

The subject of this sketch was born on the 12th of Feb., 1797. His father (Thomas Waff) died, leaving a widow, Mrs. Sarah Waff, Thomas (then only 8 years of age) and three younger brothers.

The earliest instructions of his pious mother were not lost on her youthful charge—having been taught the right way in childhood, he did not depart therefrom in his ripened manhood.

In early life he was enabled to rely upon his Saviour and to rejoice in the hope of pardoned sin; and on a profession of faith, was baptized by Elder Martin Ross. He was received into the fellowship of the church at Bethel, Perquimans.

On the 14th of April, 1818, he was married to Rev. Dr. Parnsworth, then pastor of the church in Edenton, to Mary, eldest daughter of Capt. Stephen Carpenter of Edenton, and granddaughter of Capt. Stephen Myles of eastern Virginia. His wife had been baptized in Edenton two years previously by Elder M. Ross, and was a member of the Bethel church. In the constitution of the church in Edenton, they were a part of the constituent members. Bro. Waff was chosen deacon, which office he filled most worthily until he was ordained to the work of the gospel ministry.

In the year 1840 he was called to exercise his gifts in the ministry, and on the 4th Lord's day in June, 1842, he was fully set apart for the sacred function by the Presbytery composed of Elders Trotman, Forbes and Thompson. Although entering the gospel field at a late period of life, Elder Waff was instrumental in gathering many sheaves into the garner of our Lord; but his sermons and instructions seemed ever to have been written from his heart. He was very happy in enforcing the principles of the gospel in the domestic circle, and when deprived from any cause from attending public worship on Lord's day, he would write briefly together, and in pursuance of the joint work, question the different members upon us, and enforce the principles of doctrine, and rejoiced that we are not left to the caprices of the human will for our ultimate happiness in heaven. The doctrines of grace, as held by regular Baptists, were dear to his heart; not was he swayed from his steadfastness by the issues around him.

For two or three months before his death, notwithstanding his failing health, Elder Waff did not release his efforts, but continued his labors in all the protracted meetings of his churches. The text from which he preached his last sermon was singularly appropriate, "It is finished." His last illness, of 9 or 10 days, he bore with great patience, often speaking of the resurrection, requesting that portions of the Scriptures referring to that subject might be read to him. "There," said he, "is the strong ground of the Christian's hope." On Lord's day evening, the 30th of November last, he fell asleep in Jesus, calmly yielding his life in the hope of a glorious resurrection.

So fades the summer cloud away,
So sinks the gate when storms are o'er,
So gently shuts the eye of day,
So dies a wave along the shore.

"Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of His saints." His funeral sermon was preached by Elder Geo. W. Bradford, from 1st Timothy iv. 7 and 8. "If I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness." Bro. Waff will meet on earth with us no more. For many, his cheerful greetings pleased us at the anniversaries of our Association, but never again shall we meet us on earth.

Let the bright example left by our departed brother stimulate us to be active in the Master's cause. "Let me die the death of the righteous, and let my last end be like his."
DIED,


Elder W. was baptized by Elder Martin Ross, in 1813, at Edenton, and received into the fellowship of the Bethel Church, Perquimans County, N. C. He was ordained to the work of the gospel ministry, in June 1842, and from the time of his connection with the church, until his departure from earth, he lived a consistent and exemplary Christian. In all the relations of life, he was pleasant and affectionate in disposition, possessing great steadiness in action, and patience in the accomplishment of a desired object. As a Minister of the Gospel, he shunned not to declare the whole counsel of God, and urge the duty of all men to obey the commands of Jesus Christ.

Manifesting upon all occasions great pleasure in the company of his ministering brethren, he was unassuming in his manner, and free from jealousy, and every unkind feeling. His mind was well stored with useful information by extensive reading, and he possessed the power of close and acute thought. In the Eastern part of the State, he was extensively known, and highly appreciated. At the time of his death, he was the beloved Pastor of the Yeopim church. Every benevolent enterprise, calculated to extend the Redeemer's kingdom, or benefit mankind, found in him a cordial and constant friend. In his last illness, he often spoke of the resurrection from the dead; saying this was the strong ground of the Christian's hope. His end was calm and peaceful.

The writer of this preached his funeral sermon 2nd Timothy, iv. c., 7th and 8th verses: "I have fought a good fight," &c.

G. B.

BIBLICAL RECORDER DECEMBER 18, 1856, p. 3:3
NAME: Waff, Thomas

Born in Edenton, 1797--Died, 1856, Age, 59

He was ordained in 1842. Though entering the ministry at a late period of his life, he gathered many sheaves into the garner. He was, for several years, Pastor of Salem church, preaching also to destitute places in Chowan and Perquimans, occasionally in Edenton. His last text was peculiarly appropriate--"It is finished."