OBITUARY OF REV. JACOB G. HAGAMAN.

Rev. Jacob G. Hagaman who departed this life July 22, 1913, at the age of 63, was a man far removed from the ordinary in many respects.

At the age of about 27 he became seriously afflicted with rheumatism and for the remainder of his life, about 36 years, he was a constant sufferer, so much so, that he was confined, almost entirely to his own home.

As a citizen, he was one of the most progressive and public spirited with which any community has ever been favored. No public enterprise, looking to the advancement of the social educational, or religious betterment of his community or country failed to receive his hearty cooperation and support.

Being shut in for so many years he became a constant reader of books and papers, especially those of a religious character.

The Bible he read, studied and knew as but few men know it.

He kept in close touch with every phase of his denominational life, and every important religious movement of the world through the religious press.

In his last few years he read more than a hundred good books, besides keeping up his reading of a number of the best news and religious papers.

He loved and labored for his home church with a devotion that puts to shame the man of health and better opportunities.

He was constantly [urging?] his neighbors and their children to provide themselves with plenty of good reading matter.

In order to the better mental and spiritual development of his church, he established a church library at Forest Grove, his home church, furnishing more than half the money, and has left a bequest from $50 to $75 to supplement the same.

He was the most incessant Sunday-school worker we ever knew.

For many years he was rarely able to attend his church meetings, though only a few hundred yards away, but when the hour arrived for preaching he went into his room and during that hour engaged in prayer and worship. He told us that these seasons were some of the most precious of his life.

We measure our words when we say that he was the most
thoroughly and intensely missionary of any man in the association. He let no opportunity pass to plead publicly or privately to the cause of missions. He gave one tenth of his income to the cause of Christ, after supplementing it with a "thank offering."

He was always cheerful. He saw the bright side of life. He often said that he knew that all things were working together for his good. He prayed alway. In his last days he seemed to have gotten closer heaven than any man with whom we have ever been acquainted. He seemed to have entered the Holy of Holies.

He said tell everybody that I have never doubted the power of the Christian religion; but I now understand its depths and fullness as never before. How awful, he said, will it be for men to miss heaven when Christ is so near, and thousands of the human race dying everywhere without any knowledge of heaven, and so many pastors and churches of the association asleep to the great work of giving the gospel to the world,—paying no attention to the plain commands of Christ.

He spent his last hours, when he had grown so weak we could scarcely catch his words, urging us to do our very best for the cause of Missions and to help save our churches to this cause, without which he said no church can live and prosper long.

How his life ought to stir us!. Submitted.

THREE FORKS BAPTIST ASSOCIATION MINUTES, 1913

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