

NAME

Augustus
Eld. A. Marsh

Jan 20, 1857
b.
d.

Ancestry

Married Zilphia Rushing 1876
b. d.

Ancestry Becken + Harriet Rushing

Record

Marshallville 1900 & 1922

See

Brown Creek Hist. p. 326

File No.

(Over)

ELDER AUGUSTUS MARSH

Elder Augustus Marsh is a native of Union County, having been born in what is known as Marshville township, January 20, 1856. His early life was spent on his father's farm, where he worked during the spring, summer and fall months, and attended the community public school in the winter season. He was converted and joined Bethel Baptist Church in 1873.

In 1876 he was happily married to Miss Zilphia Rushing, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Reuben and Harriet Rushing of Union County. To this union ten children were born, five boys and five girls, all living at this time.

For several years after his conversion he went along about as the average Christian goes, having general interest in the work, but laying out for himself no definite Christian task. He relates that on going to church one Saturday afternoon the pastor did not come. Several gathered, and after waiting for a while they all dispersed and went home. After leaving the church great remorse of conscience seized him. He felt that the failure of the pastor to come was no reason why they should not have had service. He tried to excuse himself on the ground that older persons were present who should have conducted service, but his conscience would not be eased by such argument. From this he became more and more burdened with the work until finally, in 1883, he yielded to what had come to be the unmistakable leadings of the spirit, and entered the ministry. From the very first the Lord gave evidence of his approval, and his services have been eagerly sought by the churches. The spirit is often with him to a very marked degree, and at such times his appeals are almost irresistible. He has also made for himself quite a reputation as a personal worker.

He has served the following churches in Union County: Antioch, Benton's Cross Roads, Bethel, Ebenezer, Fairfield, Hamilton's Cross Roads, Macedonia, Marshville, Mill Creek, Mt. Pleasant, New Hope, North Monroe, Olive Branch, Philadelphia, Pleasant Hill, Roanoke, Sardis, Shiloh, Union and Union Grove.

In Anson County he has served: Deep Springs, New Home, Rocky Mount and Rocky River. At the age of sixty-two his natural force has not abated and his bow still abides in strength.

AUGUSTUS MARSH

Augustus Marsh was a native of Union County, having been born in Marshville, January 20, 1856. His early life was spent on his father's farm, where he worked during the spring, summer and fall months, and attended the community public school in the winter season. He was converted and joined Bethel Baptist church in 1873.

For several years after his conversion he went along about as the average Christian goes, having general interest in the work, but laying out for himself no definite Christian task. He relates that on going to church one Saturday afternoon the pastor did not come. Several gathered, and after waiting for a while they all dispersed and went home. After leaving the church a great remorse of conscience seized him. He felt that the failure of the pastor to come was no reason why they should not have had service. He tried to excuse himself on the ground that older persons were present who should have conducted service, but his conscience would not be eased by such argument. From this he became more and more burdened with the work until finally, in 1883, he yielded to what had come to be the unmistakable leadings of the Spirit, and entered the ministry. From the very first the Lord gave evidence of his approval, and his services were sought by all the surrounding churches. Pleasant Hill Baptist Church was one of the churches he served. Augustus Marsh also made for himself quite a reputation as a personal worker.

PLEASANT HILL BAPTIST CHURCH, 1868-1968, p. 5

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REV. AUGUSTUS MARSH

Rev. A. Marsh was born January 20, 1856, was converted and joined the Bethel Baptist Church in August, 1875, was married to Miss Zilphia Rushing November 1, 1876. He was ordained to the full work of the gospel ministry at Grove Springs Baptist Church August 17, 1886. He fell asleep October the 10th, 1932. His funeral was conducted in Marshaville Baptist church in the presence of the largest gathering of friends ever assembled in our community. His pastor was in charge of the service, assisted by all the pastors in the Union Association, of which he was Moderator emeritus.

We realize that Destiny has removed from our midst our beloved friend and brother. Our finite minds cannot grasp the why of his going. Nor can we appreciate its justice. We can but acquiesce in the working of Providence.

We deplore the taking of a man of proven worth and outstanding ability; but more than this, we grieve individually and collectively at the loss of a friend; at the loss of one of the gentlest and kindest individuals that we have known.

If Rev. A. Marsh, had an enemy among us, we do not know him. If one of us wished him ill, his name has never been spoken. Fearless, faithful and true, he pursued his work in our midst, commanding the affection and respect of all.

Now and then it is our privilege to touch a life so strong in its sweetness, so mighty in its gentleness, so beautiful in its unselfishness, that our carefully erected standards of greatness crumble to dust, and we contemplate the things of life in a clearer light as we realize that we have been with one who "has walked with God."

"Countless are the high qualities of heroes, but one there is set on high far transcending all. He it is, who in whatever work his hands find to do, steers his course with righteousness of heart."

Such a man was Rev. A. Marsh, we mourn his loss, and we know full well that his going has left a vacancy that will not be filled.

Passing out of the shadow
Into the purest light;
Stepping behind the curtain
Getting a clearer sight.

Laying aside the burden
Of this weary mortal coil;
Done with the world's vexations
Done with tears and toil;

Passing out of the shadow
Into Eternal Day;
Why do we call it dying,
This sweet going away?"

Signed

B. H. Griffin
E. D. Johnson
Dr. C. A. Bolt
F. M. Edwards

UNION BAPTIST ASSOCIATION MINUTES, 1933

(also a photograph)