

WILSON, JOHN

TOMS CREEK, DAVIDSON CO.
RECORDS, 1808-91 /B.S.

CR 70 *Vol 1*

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- 1813 - Lick Creek BC requested assistance of Toms Creek [E] to ordain John Wilson, June 19, 1813.
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STATE OF NORTH-CAROLINA,
ROCKINGHAM COUNTY.

WE, the aggrieved part of Sardis Church, having heard from our last Association, and having seen the Minutes, have reason to believe that our cause has been misrepresented and kept in the dark from our brethren at a distance,—we therefore think it our duty to make known the conduct of both parties in the church.

On Saturday after elder Wilson's trial, the church met :— Elder Wilson was present, and requested the church to grant him a new trial, which was refused ; he then came forward and made acknowledgments in the following words, as near as we can recollect : "That he acknowledged before God, the church and congregation, that if he said or done any thing wrong, through excitement or imperfection, he was sorry for it ; he then requested the members to look at his gray hairs, and see if they could cut him off for nothing, after spending forty years, or thereabout, of his time with them." We think brother Fewel ought to have told elder Wilson, that the acknowledgment which he had made was not sufficient, and told him wherein. But, instead of that, there was a motion made to choose a pastor, which was objected to, and requested that it might be postponed until their next meeting. Brother Fewel then observed, in the church, that they would go out and consult about it ; seven or eight of them then went out to the stand and chose elder Tatum their pastor, and changed the day of meeting from the Saturday before the 4th Sunday to the 2d, which we think was disorderly. At December meeting we requested all the church to meet the 4th Saturday in January ; the others altered their appointment from the 2d to the 3d, and warned the members to meet, which they did to the number of twenty-six or twenty-seven ;—and, after sermon, instead of requesting the church to get together, they were informed that all who were in favor of their present pastor and their former proceedings, could take seats with them ; those who were not, could not. Two or three of the members then rose and said, they wanted to know what they had done that

they were not allowed seats; they were told that if they did not sanction what had been done, they could not take seats with them? A member then rose and said, if they could not take seats with them, there was room in the house, and requested the aggrieved part to take seats in another place, which they did, seventeen in number, leaving eight, nine or ten of the other part. As soon as all were seated, a member rose and said he had a memorial to lay before the church, which he wished to have read; the paper was handed to brother Hill, in the pulpit. Brother Fewel then ordered elder Tatum to dismiss the congregation, which he did. The memorial was then read, and the question put whether they were in favor of granting elder Wilson a new trial, when seventeen members present were in favor of a new trial.

At their next meeting, all who were in favor of elder Wilson were cut off from the church.

In February we met together and appointed brother Hardy our Moderator. And, after mature deliberation, agreed to petition the Association to send us their council and help, which was refused; and after the Association, at our first meeting, we chose elder Wilson our pastor, unanimously, who has attended with us regularly. And at one of our church meetings, before the Association last fall, we again sent our christian salutation and greeting to our christian brethren, expected to meet at Good-Will meeting-house, in Stokes County, which was again rejected.

Now, dear brethren, we think we have done all that is our duty to do, in order to try to come to a reconciliation, and can get no redress. Now, dear brethren, consider what we say, and may the Lord give thee understanding in all things.

Signed by order of the aggrieved part of Sardis church.

SOLOMON HARDY, Clerk.

March 19 1851