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RESTORATION PIONEERS—The Honn Family



Peter D. Honn

THE pioneer flame has ever burned high in the family of Honn (or Hons, as the name is spelled today) for many generations. Comforts and indulgences of material existence have ever been of slight worth in their eyes, compared to the development of sturdy manhood, of fear and reverence toward God and of devotion to the preaching of his Word.

The Revolutionary War had just begun when Peter Daniel Honn was born in a little Pennsylvania villaen. A short

committed the Book to memory until, on hearing a verse repeated, he could place it correctly and recite the surrounding verses. His last utterance was, "I have always believed in the Lord."

Peter Keathly Honn, another of the Bourbon County (Ky.) Hons, was born in 1814. When twenty-two he moved to Hillsville, Ills., where he combined the duties of blacksmith and preacher for many years. He served churches in Clark, Edgar and Coles Counties, but never received a salary. At the time of



Daniel W. Honn

time, before some of the neighbors had followed Daniel Boone into the wilds of Kentucky, where they were the first settlers. When Peter was but a little fellow, his parents and their kinspeople made the perilous journey into that Indian-infested frontier-land. In this setting of rugged surroundings, Peter grew into manhood. His one book was the Bible, and this he knew from cover to cover. Even before the Campbells began their work, he had declared that the Bible alone was his rule of faith and practice.

For more than fifty years this sturdy pioneer served the same congregation in Kentucky without salary. The latter fact left him free for his missionary journeys. On horseback he would travel for weeks at a time, stopping at every settlement to preach the gospel.

For years the name of "Uncle Peter" was a household word in the homes of the brethren throughout the Middle West. There, was always a royal welcome awaiting him when he rode up to a log house, took his well-worn Bible from the saddlebags and came in unexpectedly to spend the night.

He is remembered as a man of strong faith, enthusiasm for the plea, and of industry and sturdiness of purpose.

With the lives of George Huffstutter Honn, Ulrich Huffstutter Honn and Matthew Morgan Honn, the three preacher sons of John Honn, of Bourbon County, Ky., the story of the Honn family shifts to southern Indiana, where the family settled at Bradford in about 1816.

George, the eldest, preached the gospel in Indiana for more than forty years, devoting his entire life to the ministry. He was a magnetic speaker, always drawing large audiences, and was a close reasoner and a skillful debater. He won many souls to the kingdom. He died at Orleans, Ind., in 1874. Ulrich, also, preached for many years in the vicinity of Bradford. In later life he retired from the ministry to "keep store." He was a man of exceptional energy and honesty, and as "Squire Honn" was known and respected throughout the countryside. He died at Bradford in 1875.

Matthew Honn was a tent-maker. During the week he farmed, and on Sundays he preached wherever he was needed. He was a remarkable Bible student. He had

his death, in 1893, a host of brethren testify that through his preaching of the Word they had been brought into the kingdom.

Of the three Honn preachers now at work among the disciples of Christ, Daniel W. Honn is the senior. He was reared in a Christian home, near Kansas, Ills. His father was elder and practically founder of the old Prairie Union Church. At the age of seventeen he gave his heart to Christ and dedicated his life to the ministry. The next fall he entered Eureka College. He has served as minister the churches at Tuscola, Mt. Sterling, Eldora, New Hartford, in

Illinois; Morocco and West Lebanon in Indiana; and Modesto, Visalia, Sawtelle, Brox and West Side, Los Angeles, Cal. He has also spent much time in the evangelistic field, and is a gifted gospel singer as well as a preacher. At present he is residing at Los Angeles, Cal., but is ever ready to assist churches in evangelistic work.

W. Percy and Robert Arthur Honn are sons of Andrew A. Honn and wife, pioneer residents of Arnold, Ills. The parents, in their zeal for the cause,

gave a large lot from the corner of the farm and also of their means for the erection and maintenance of a house of worship for the community. Here the Word was studied and fully obeyed by their children. The passion for soul-saving became intense in the hearts of the two brothers. In 1913 both graduated from Johnson Bible College.

W. Percy Honn has made his specialty the reviving of abandoned churches in the villages near his boyhood home. Already he has seen two congregations revived. At the beginning of 1915, he took the work at Farmer City, Ills., where the church has grown to a membership of well over four hundred under his leadership.

Robert Arthur Honn has served the churches at Johnson City, Ills.; Maryville, Tenn., and California, Pa. He has been exceptionally successful in bringing men and women to accept Christ. He firmly believes in the power of gospel preaching. At the outbreak of the war Bro. Honn was called to a chaplaincy, and is now with the colors. He will be a credit to the heritage which is his from his pioneer ancestry, and to the brotherhood with which the Holy Spirit has always been so close.



W. Percy Honn



Ulrich H. Honn



Geo. H. Honn



Matthew M. Honn



Peter K. Honn

Both of these schemes 32.