

Bible Records from the family of Francis A Poythress (1836-1859; son of Joseph Poythress & Mary King), of LaGrange, Troup County, Georgia

Permission to post these photocopies on our Poythress genealogy research website was given to Barbara Poythress Neal, courtesy of Hargrett Rare Book & Manuscript Library, University of Georgia Libraries, Athens, Georgia, by Director Mary Ellen Brooks, on 5 Feb 1998

The below transcription, with additional clarifying notes, was prepared by Barbara Poythress Neal, from photocopies received from Accession No. 20, "the Nix Collection," which Accession is held in the Manuscript Collection at the Hargrett Rare Book & Manuscript Library, University of Georgia Libraries. There, the four page "Records from Family Bible" photocopies are filed within Accession No. 20, Item 10. The copies do not include the Bible's publisher's name, location, or publication date.

The Library's Accession No. 20 includes a total of 226 items (not all of which were copied for me) with dates of the items ranging from 1807 (land grant) to 1911 (business papers), as well as this "undated" Record from Family Bible. A date of 1956 is handwritten on the top of the Accession overview sheet, likely indicating that this Nix Collection came to the University of Georgia in 1956.

This was apparently originally the Bible of Mr. and Mrs. Francis A. Poythress (also known as Frank, or F.A. Poythress). He lived from 4 April 1836 to 2 October 1859, in LaGrange, Troup County, Georgia; he was son of Joseph Poythress and his wife Mary King. When Frank/Francis A. Poythress died young, his widow Caroline E. (nee Ware), kept the Bible which descended through her and her daughter by Francis, Mary Lorena Poythress, who married John M. Barnard. As shown below in the Accession overview, Major John M. Barnard left the Bible pages to a niece, Miss Mary Barnard Nix. The photocopies clearly show foxing of the old pages, and show that the pages had been folded into fourths: folded both left to right, and top to bottom.

The University of Georgia Library's Accession overview indicates that the Nix Collection "belonged to Miss Mary Barnard Nix, a school teacher in LaGrange. She inherited the papers from her Uncle, Major John M. Barnard. Miss Nix had all these old papers and Mr. Price came into possession of them in acting as her executor."

The handwritings and pens and/or pencils of the Bible are varied. All the handwritings use quite old letter formation styles.