

Ely, P. (Philologus)1826-1893

Mr. Richardson wrote the following letter to the editor of *Pacific Christian Messenger*, published at Monmouth:

Weston, OR. Aug. 5, 1877

D. T. Stanley,

Dear Bro.: I improve this opportunity of writing a word to let the readers of our valuable paper, the *P. C. Messenger*, know how the cause of Christ is prospering in this part of the country.

Since Bro. C. M. Ely's last report there have been four additions by relation, two reclaimed and one by baptism.

This (Wild Horse) congregation numbers 52 members in good standing. It was fully organized I 1875.

The elders are J.R. Gerking, P. Ely, and E. Moser; deacons, A. Russel and J.B. Gerking.

These statements are given in part to correct the report of No. 19 of the Messenger.

The church is in a prosperous condition, and we hope to be able to do more for the cause in the near future than we have in the past.

Our scattered condition prevents us from getting together oftener than once a month.

The brethren are generally poor having labored under the disadvantages of a new country and the squirrels. But we have learned how to kill squirrels by the thousand and are now able to raise good crops.

We meet on the first Sunday in each month for preaching. Our audiences are very large considering the newness of the country, and the respect shown religious exercises by the young ladies and gentlemen far exceeds that of any other neighborhood I ever preached in. I trust they will maintain their good reputation.

We have a Sunday school at the Gerking school house. Supt., W. E. Junkin.

Query: Is there such an office spoken of in the New Testament, as that of clerk. If not why does the Christian church have the clerks office.

Yours in Christian love,

I. N. Richardson
(We have maintained the spelling and punctuation of the original.)

In the letter, elder "P. Ely" is Philologus Ely.

Excerpt from "Pioneer History" – no longer online.