

Johnston, Thomas Pinkney ^[1]

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by [William S. Powell](#) ^[2], 1988

31 Oct. 1808–28 May 1883

Thomas Pinkney Johnston, pioneer [Presbyterian](#) ^[3] missionary, was born in [Rowan County](#) ^[4], the son of William Smiley and Mary Hall Johnston. He entered [The University of North Carolina](#) ^[5] from [Iredell County](#) ^[6] and was graduated in 1828. After studying at the Union Theological Seminary in Virginia from 1829 to 1832, he was licensed by the Presbyterian church in October 1832.

The first foreign missionary from the Synod of North Carolina, Johnston served in Trebizond, Turkey, for twenty years (1833–53). He was a home missionary of the Concord Presbytery and agent of the American Bible Society in Mississippi during the period 1854–59, and home missionary and colporteur in North Carolina from 1860 until 1882. His wife was Mary Ann Howe of Ohio. He died at the home of the Reverend J. H. Thornwell in Fort Mills, S.C., in the presence of his son, the Reverend F. H. Johnston.

References:

Daniel L. Grant, *Alumni History of the University of North Carolina, 1795–1924* (1924).

Minutes of the Sixty-ninth Session of the Synod of North Carolina (1883). ^[7]

L. L. Polk, *Handbook of North Carolina* (1879). ^[8]

E. C. Scott, *Ministerial Directory of the Presbyterian Church, U.S., 1861–1941* (1942).

Additional Resources:

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Adams, Mary Lizzie Hall. *The Hall Family History*. 1949. 134. <http://books.google.com/books?id=z1RPAAAAMAAJ&q=%22Thomas+Pinkney+Johnston%22&dq=%22Thomas+Pinkney+Johnston%22&hl=en&sa=X&ei=iO-EU9qOD4qVqAaG1YKADg&ved=0CCsQ6AEwAA> ^[10]

Subjects:

[Biographies](#) ^[11]

[Religious Leaders and Clergy](#) ^[12]

Authors:

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Origin - location:

[Rowan County](#) ^[14]

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[Dictionary of North Carolina Biography, University of North Carolina Press.](#) ^[15]

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