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The

BULLETIN

SECOND PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

OXFORD, NEW JERSEY

By

A. G. YOUNT

Minister



Remember the days of old, consider the years of many generations: ask thy father, and he will show thee; thy elders, and they will tell thee.—Deuteronomy, 32:7.



Let all bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and clamour, and evil speaking, be put away from you, with all malice: And be ye kind one to another, tender-hearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you.

---- Ephesians IV. 31, 32.

"Our Father in Heaven, in thy wisdom and goodness it has pleased thee to hide from us a perfect knowledge, yet thou callest for a perfect trust in thee. We cannot see tomorrow, we know not the way that we take, darkness hangs about our path and mystery meets us at every turn. Yet thou hast shut us up to final faith in goodness, justice, truth; that loving these for themselves alone, we may find the love that passeth knowledge, and look upon thy face. Amen."

Our Easter morning services last Sabbath were very gratifying to the unusually large congregation.

The special music by the Choir of twelve voices deeply impressed every one. The Sacramental rites of Baptism and Holy Communion brought all hearts nearer to the Lord Jesus, and the welcoming of five new members to the Church was proof that the Holy Spirit is at work among us bringing into the Church such as should be saved.

The new members are:

Miss Margaret Innes Miller
William Howard Switzer
Thomas Edward Badrow
Alex. Chettaire
Sammie Sadlon

" Aunt Jerushy" To-morrow Night.

Our young folks will present the comedy "Aunt Jerushy" in the Public School Auditorium to-morrow night beginning at 8 o'clock. It is said to be a most amusing play, and the players have been long at work in preparation. We hope all the Congregation and friends will give them the support of their attendan

Reunion Notes May 17th.

We are glad to announce that the Glee Club of Blair Academy will sing for us at the Reunion.

There are 30 members of the Club and have been under the training of Mr. Kelsall, an expert leader, of Princeton.

Mr. Weston has had his heart set on having the Club for the Reunion and all will rejoice with him in the success of the plan. He writes:

"They will be a great addition and attraction for the reunion and I believe it will be the banner one of them all. I have heard of at least 15 persons who have not yet attended one say they will be there this year."

That is rather surprising, as we thought about everybody interested in Oxford had been here. But surely there must be many from whom Mr. Weston has not heard, who will plan to come if some one will tell them about it.

We shall be pleased to mail the Bulletin to any such prospective new home-comers. If addresses are sent us they will be made use of to that end. They doubtless will be impressed to learn that upwards of two hundred former Oxford Citizens attend these reunions.

The General Order for the Day will, as on former occasions, consist of a service of Worship, at 11 A.M., daylight saving time, and at the close of this meeting all gather in the Chapel for luncheon served by the ladies of the church, at 40 cents per person.

Nearly two hours are given for luncheon and social intercourse, and at 2 P.M. all will gather in the church for the special feature of the day, the old Timers' talks and reminiscences. Mr. Clinton E. Weston is Chairman of this meeting and has the planning of it in hand.

Special attractions for this meeting will be announced in the Bulletin in succeeding issues, that all who come will know of what good things will be in store for them.

In our list of members who died the past year we should have included the name of Mrs. James Radel.

The meeting of the Presbytery of Newton in our church last Tuesday was a very pleasant experience for our people. The day turned out to be one of the rare fine Spring days, and put every one in good humor. The presence of 50 ministers and Elders together with 30 visitors, besides our own folks made an animated and impressive assemblage.

At the opening religious service Rev. W.A. Wagar, the retiring Moderator preached the sermon, and then the routine business of the Presbytery was carried out during the day.

Rev. Fred Schell, of Hamburg was chosen Moderator; various reports were made and matters of importance to the welfare of the churches were discussed.

A feature of the Spring Meeting is the election of Commissioners to the General Assembly which will meet at Syracuse, N.Y., on May 28th.

The ministers selected were Rev. W.A. Wagar of Beattystown, and Rev. John Christensen of Great Meadows. The Elders were: Albert Dreisbach, of Trinity church Phillipsburg, and Wm. C. Cook of Stillwater.

Great credit is due to the ladies of the church for the success of the luncheon, which apparently gave high satisfaction to our visitors.

Mr. and Mrs. Herbert L. Miller, of Oakland, California, made the Editor very glad with a kindly worded letter and a gracious Easter remembrance of \$10.00 for the Bulletin. They expressed it this way:

"Once more Easter comes to us, a time of reverence among religious people. We, Mrs. Miller and the writer wish to do some little act of appreciation for the excellent work you have done in the 'Bulletin' which we read reach week with much interest. As an expression of our appreciation please accept the enclosed." We do so most willingly as it paid our monthly installment on the recently purchased typewriter. Mrs. Miller was born in Oxford (nee Wolf) and they visited here last summer and became interested in our work.

Historical Note

Our church has the original deeds to the land on which stand the church, Chapel and Manse.

There are two deeds, one for the church edifice, and the other for the lot occupied by Chapel and Manse.

The Church lot was deeded to the congregation by Selden T. Scranton and wife, with a reversion clause. The date of the deed is April 12th, 1871.

The ground for the Chapel and Manse was donated to the Oxford First Church for the little flock of Presbyterians living here near the Furnace, but holding their membership at Oxford First, and served by the pastor of that church.

The date of this deed was December 30th, 1848. On this plot the old Stone Chapel was erected on or before 1848..

Now the interesting fact about this deed is that it was made by Wm. P. Robeson and wife. We should have thought it would have been by G. W. & S. T. Scranton, who bought the Furnace in 1839.

The fact is that when the Scranton brothers bought the Furnace they got but very little land, merely enough to operate the Furnace.

That is evident by the fact of the deed for Old Chapel by Wm. P. Robeson and wife, showing that the Scrantons did not own this lot lying so near the Furnace.

Also the deed for the Furnace bought in 1839 was not recorded until April 1st, 1846, and the value was \$4,317.49; whereas the whole estate was sold in 1834 to Wm. P. Robeson and his brother-in-law John F. Maxwell for \$46,000.

In 1847 a new company was formed with Charles Scranton at the head, and including his brothers, G. W. & S. T. W. E. Dodge and others. This made possible the purchase of all the old Furnace estate of about 4,000 acres, including mines buildings etc.

The Scranton brothers, G. W. & S. T. were at that time in Scranton, Pa. but held their original interests in the Furnace, and in fact never parted with them during their life time.



CHURCH OFFICERS

The Session

A. G. YOUNT, *Moderator*

Elders

ABRAM PITTENGER
EDWARD T. GREEN

ELISHA B. FOSS
LEWIS BERGENBACK



Board of Trustees

JAMES RADEL
GEORGE DOCKER, JR.
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Church Treasurer

LEWIS E. GREEN



Sunday School

Superintendent E. B. FOSS
Assistant Superintendent and Treasurer
MRS. EDWARD T. GREEN
Secretary ALVIN RENNER



Choir

Leader MRS. E. T. GREEN
Organist MRS. BENJAMIN ZAPP

