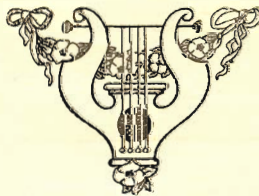


THE BULLETIN
OF THE
OXFORD SECOND
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

OXFORD, NEW JERSEY



Rev. Andrew Gilbert Yount, Ph.D.
Pastor

*Come unto me, all ye that labour and
are heavy laden, and I will
give you rest.*

*Take my yoke upon you, and learn of
me; for I am meek and lowly in
heart: and ye shall find rest
for your souls.*

*For my yoke is easy, and my burden
is light.*

STATED MEETINGS OF THE CHURCH
SUNDAY SERVICES

Sunday School, 9:30 a. m.

Church Worship, 10:30 a. m.

Young People's Meeting, 7 p. m.

The Trustees meet on the first Tuesday of the month.

The Ladies Aid Society meets on the first Wednesday of the month, at 2:30 p. m.

The Lord's Supper is observed at Easter, and on the second Sundays of July, October and January.

The Annual Business Meeting comes in last week of March.

CHURCH OFFICERS

Elders—Abram Pittenger, Elisha B. Foss, Edward T. Green, Lewis Bergenback.

Trustees—Harry Miller, James Radel, George Docker, Jr., Charles Renner, Fred K. Sarson, Lewis E. Green, Edward Sharps, Charles Dux, Benjamin Green.

Treasurer—Lewis E. Green.

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SUNDAY SCHOOL

Superintendent—E. B. Foss.
Asst. Superintendent—Mrs. Edward T. Green.
Treasurer—Miss Ida Smith.
Secretary—Alvin Renner.
Organist—Elizabeth Zapp.

LADIES AID SOCIETY

Honorary President—Mrs. Charles Renner.
President—Mrs. Benjamin Green.
Secretary—Mrs. Clark Wilkinson.
Treasurer—Mrs. Lewis E. Green.

YOUNG PEOPLE'S SOCIETY

President—Emily Austie.
Treasurer—Chris Seiple.
Secretary—Helen Snyder.

CHOIR

Leader—Mrs. Edward T. Green.
Organist—Mrs. Benjamin Zapp.

Printed by J. C. Follayttar, Belvidere, N. J.

Bulletin No. 220 July 22nd, 1934

Morning Worship

Doxology and Invocation

Psalm 62 sel. 20

Hymn 317

Creed and Gloria

Scripture Lesson

Prayer

Anthem

Offering

Hymn 282

Sermon

Hymn 125

Benediction

Prayer

"O thou divine Spirit that in all events of life art knocking at the door of my heart, help me to respond to thee.

I would take the events of my life as good and perfect gifts from thee; I would receive even the sorrows of life as disguised gifts from thee. I would have my heart open at all times to receive-- morning, noon, and night; in spring, and summer, and winter. Whether thou comest to me in sunshine or in rain, I would take thee into my heart joyfully. Thou art thyself more than the sunshine, thou art thyself compensation for the rain; it is thee and not thy gifts I crave; knock, and I shall open unto thee. Amen "

Sunday School Picnic

The annual picnic of the Sunday School will take place next Thursday, July 26th, and will be held at Butler's Park, as last year. It proved to be a very satisfactory place. Transportation has been arranged for by the Supt. and a small fee will be charged to those who do not belong to the school. Many will doubtless go in their own cars.

Mr. E. B. Foss finds it necessary to be absent from the school until Sept. He well deserves a vacation from leading the school, as for more than ten years he has been faithfully attending the sessions the year round -- hardly ever being absent. In his absence Mrs. Edward T. Green, the Assistant Supt. will conduct the school.

Old Furnace Chronology

By George S. Humphrey

(Reprinted from Bulletin No. 108, 2/21/1932)

George W. Scranton

(From a News Paper clipping preserved by Mrs. W. A. Hornbaker)

The following dates which I have obtained from reliable sources are interesting:-

1741--Jonathan Robeson of Philadelphia began the erection of the Oxford Furnace, being the owner of 4000 acres of land in that vicinity.

1743-- March 9th,--First cast of iron at the furnace which continued to produce about fifteen tons per week.

1756--(About)--Robeson sold all his Oxford interests to Dr. William Shippen of Philadelphia. During this year the stone "Manor House" or "Castle" was built.

1806-9---Nicholas Biddle of Philadelphia, David Roberdan and Conrad Davis were operating the furnace.

1809-- Morris Robeson, grandson of Jonathan, bought the property from Dr. Shippen.

1821-- Morris Robeson died; Succeeded at Oxford by his son, Judge William P. Robeson, and John R. B. Maxwell.

1831-- Property leased by Henry, Jordan and Company. (The "Henry" was William, father of the late Mrs. S. T. Scranton and Mrs. Charles Scranton, who were sisters.)

1839-- G. W. and S. T. Scranton bought the lease from Henry, Jordan and Company.

1860-61-- Col. George W. Scranton died. S. T. Scranton and the heirs of G. W. formed the firm of S. T. Scranton and Company.

The Oxford Iron Works was organized, taking over the furnace; S. T. Scranton and Company retaining most of the real estate.

1878-- Oxford Iron Company failed; B. G. Clarke, Receiver.

1881-- Oxford Iron and Nail Company organized, taking over the property from the receiver.

1881-1899-- Works passed through various vicissitudes. Nail making abandoned and factory dismantled.

1899-- Empire Steel and Iron Company purchased entire property. Sold Rolling Mill to Jensen brothers, who later moved the plant to Catasauqua, Pa.

1900-et. seq.-- Furnace No. "2" enlarged and modernized. Operated, generally with success, until 1924, when it was closed down and soon afterward entirely dismantled and scrapped.

This is the first of several articles on the history of the old furnace which will appear in later issues.

The topic of the present discourse will be George W. Scranton, and if you have never heard of him, you have heard of Scranton, Pa., the city you land in after a long coast from the Poconos. Scranton was named for George W., who, with Selden T., his brother, and with Joseph H., his cousin, gave the place its initial shove to fame.

New Jersey can claim a large share in George W. Scranton, although he was born in Connecticut, in the village of Madison, 1811. He left Madison at the age of seventeen and shortly after arrived in Belvidere, now the seat of Warren County, where he got a job as a teamster at \$8 a month. He was too smart to stay long at teamstering, however, and the next job was as clerk in a store. It was only a few years before George owned the store.

At twenty-four he decided to abandon the mercantile for the agricultural, so sold out at a good figure and bought a large farm. He had married a Belvidere girl and had ambitions toward being a land owner. But for a man of George Scranton's temperament, farming did not do at all. After two years of it he and his brother purchased the lease and stock of an iron furnace at Oxford, in the same county. All the neighbors declared the Scranton boys were ill advised to leave the safety of farming and store-keeping for the uncertainty of the iron trade; but they were wrong, as the neighbors usually are in such matters. The brothers did well, even passing unscathed through the hard times that swept the country in 1837.

The Oxford furnace prospered and George Scranton had found his proper place in life. Only two years of it sufficed to show that George was an iron man, and the brothers decided to branch out.

In 1839 a manufacturer of iron named William Henry owned a large tract of land in the Lackawanna Valley in Pennsylvania including what was known as Slocum Hollow, the site of the present City of Scranton.

The hills and dales were full of anthracite coal as well as iron and Henry thought it an ideal site for iron smelting, which it was. But Henry was unable to hold on to his property and the Scranton boys back in Jersey heard about his trouble.

So the three brothers, with their brother-in-law, Joseph C. Platt, took over
(over)

the Henry tract and in 1840 went to live in Slocum's Hollow, which then consisted of three stone houses and a mill, surrounded by primeval forest.

At that time anthracite coal was a new element in the iron trade, and experiments in using it for smelting had not been satisfactory.

The Scrantons did not have any luck either. In 1841 they made two experiments with the new hard coal, but without success. George, however, persisted, and in 1842 success came. Then it became necessary to find ways to meet their heavy expenses and find an outlet for their product. So George made a contract with the New York & Erie Railroad, to supply it with rails, the latter advancing money to pay expenses until George and his brothers could get on their feet.

Thus Scranton began. George by his indomitable spirit and powerful personality soon got other railroads to come to Scranton and ultimately became president of two of them--the Cayuga & Susquehanna and the Lackawanna & Western. He went into politics and was elected to Congress in 1856 on the new Republican ticket and stayed in Congress until his death in 1861.

He is said to have been one of the earliest supporters of the principle of protection for American industries.

The life of Scranton teaches us among other things, that it is a good thing to leave Connecticut and grow up in New Jersey.

The fine piano presented to the Church by Mrs. James Radel has been carefully tuned by Mr. Earl Held of Easton. It was necessary to raise the pitch of all wires to the standard pitch, and required two tunings, ten days apart. Mr. Held states that the instrument is in excellent condition, and as good as a new one. It will thus serve the needs of the church for many years.

The Treasurer states that he has paid all the three premiums on the church insurance, amounting in all to \$90.

One was paid in February and the others the first of this month. They run for three years. The total amount of insurance is for \$6000.

EDWARD T. GREEN

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