

223  
THE BULLETIN  
OF THE  
OXFORD SECOND  
PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH  
OXFORD, NEW JERSEY



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Rev. Andrew Gilbert Yount, Ph.D.  
Pastor

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*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.*

Matthew 11:28-30

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.

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Bulletin No. 223, August 12th, 1934

Morning Worship

Doxology and Invocation  
Psalm 141 sel 54  
Hymn 219  
Creed and Gloria  
Scripture Lesson  
Prayer  
Anthem  
Offering  
Hymn 243  
Sermon  
Hymn 327  
Benediction

Prayer

"We thank thee, O Lord, for for all thy mercies of every kind for the gift of life, for thy protection round about us, and for the many tokens of thy love within us. We thank thee for friendship and duty, for good hopes and precious memories, for the joys that cheer us and for the trials that teach us to trust in thee."

Mrs. Thomas Harling died at her home in Easton, Pa., on August 1st.

Ellen Davis was born in Oxford in 1858 and spent most of her life here. In 1892 she was married to Thomas Harling, and our records show that she was received into our Communion in 1984. They left Oxford in 1899 to make their home in Easton, and Mr. George Docker Sr., a brother-in-law, remembers the difficulties of moving their household goods over mud roads in March, in many places the roads were almost impassable. Their last residence in Oxford was the Presbyterian Manse. At that period the church for years had no Pastor.

The funeral was on August the 4th, and those in attendance included Mr. and Mrs. George Docker, Sr. and their sons George and Frank. Miss Gertrude Lukens and Mrs. Evangeline Harvey life-long friends of the deceased, were also present.

To the husband and two surviving children, Ellen and Edward, the Bulletin extends the condolences of their friends of old who may read this note.

Mrs Elmer Pittenger was stricken, ten days ago at her home in Washington, with a very severe illness from which she is slowly but surely recovering. Our prayers go out for her speedy return to health.

A card from Mrs. O.N.Perry dated August 4th, from Chautauqua Lake, N.Y. to Mrs. Yount, says, "We are spending a few days here. I can sit on the porch and hear what is going on in the Amphitheater. Good Music and speaking.

The Presbyterian Building is next door to us. The lake is beautiful."

Doubtless the Maxwell family are in the company, and all enjoying their summer vacation. We are glad to hear from them.

Miss Jane Creveling with her friend Miss Harriet Williams drove up from Orange to enjoy the scenery and old haunts in Oxford, last Wednesday, and made a most pleasant call at the Manse.

More and more Oxford is becoming a place of pilgrimage to a host of the former citizens who love to visit the old home place.

Mr. Francis Owen breezed into the Editor's study last Tuesday and regaled us with memories of old Oxford days.

He came from Wales in 1868, when only ten years old, and worked long for the Iron Company. He recalls when employed at the old furnace on the night shift, that in moments of rest he would gather with some of his young friends, among them David Kirkpatrick, and the White boys--Morris, William, Fred, and Ed.-- in the North working arch of the furnace, and sing songs, hymns, popular airs etc, far into the night. He said the north or back arch was used to remove ashes, slag etc.

He attended Sunday School in the Stone Chapel, when S.T. Scranton was Supt., Charles Scranton assist., and William H. Scranton was his teacher.

He sometimes pumped the organ in the church, but that the regular man for that job was Morris (Moxey) White (colored)

He was a member of the Lukens Band, which he said was also an orchestra, and a Chorus. He married Mary Scharrer, and in 1895 he moved to Phillipsburg.

He said New Year's Day and the Fourth of July were ushered in at Midnight by a cannon shot and the ringing of the Church bell arranged to begin at same instant. Owen and some other S.S. boys once raided the chestnut grove of S.T. Scranton on a Sunday morning, and at the S.S. in the P.M. Mr. Scranton said he hoped none of the boys present were the guilty ones.

The Hon. W.G. Andrews, of Buffalo, Representative in Congress from the 40th district of New York, is taking a fine interest in our furnace memorial plans and writes the Editor as follows:

Mr. Frank B. Warner, Sr. of Niagara Falls has shown me your letter... regarding the Shippen Furnace of Oxford, N.J.

"I note that it is your intention to apply to the P.W.A. for funds to restore the furnace as an historical monument, and I shall be very glad to cooperate with you in any way you suggest.

"However, it will be necessary for the application to be filed with the Public Works Administration and have it docketed and considered by the Committee, and I would suggest that this be done as quickly as possible so as to start action.

"I shall be pleased to hear from you when the application is ready for filing at which time I shall write to the authorities urging their consideration."

This is not the first mark of Mr. Andrews' assistance in our work, for a few weeks ago he wrote to the Bureau of Mines at Washington, D.C. for information about the furnace, and the director in reply sent him a transcript of a record in Swank's book "Iron in All Ages". This was forwarded to us, and here it is:

"Oxford furnace, at Oxford, in Warren Co. on a branch of the Pequest river, was built by Jonathan Robeson in 1742.

Tradition says that it was first blown by a water-blast. Cannon balls were cast at this furnace in the French war of 1755 and for the Continental army.

"The furnace was in operation in 1880, using anthracite coal, but in 1882 it went out of blast and is now abandoned. We are informed by Mr. Edmund T. Lukens, secretary and general manager of the Oxford Iron and Nail Company, that the original masonry, built in 1742, is still standing, encased in strengthening walls, which were added from time to time as the binding timbers of the old work burned or rotted off. The old stack was built in six foot risers (after the first rise of 12 feet for working arch) with 18 inches for each set-off, and these risers were bound with heavy timbers, keyed together at the corners.

Through the courtesy of Mr. Lukens we now have in our possession a set of eight fine photographs, seven of which show from different points of view

(over)

the stack and connected buildings of the famous old blast furnace of his Company, while the eight photograph represents the furnace mansion-house, in which the Hon. George M. Robeson, Ex-Secretary of the Navy, a descendant of Jonathan Robeson, was born. In 1890 Oxford furnace divided with Cornwall furnace in Pennsylvania the honor of being the oldest furnace in the United States that was then in operation."

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The book from which this was taken must have been printed about 1890, as the photographs in question were made in 1888, and a set of them is in our Public Library, presented by Mrs. Mary Lukens, in 1923.

And on this topic of photographs of the furnace we are glad to state that one of our citizens, Mr. Edward T. Green, has a very large collection of them, both of the old and the 'New' or later one.

They were made at various times by a local Photographer, by the name of Howell.

We have seen some photographs of the old furnace taken perhaps as early as 1880, and it would interesting to learn of any that date much earlier than that time.

We take this opportunity to thank Mr. Andrews for his interest and offer of cooperation in our plans for the furnace. We want many more kind and helpful friends of this character.

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The Bulletin for the first time is being printed in the month of August, this is partly on account of missing six weeks last winter, and also because the pastor is not taking any vacation this summer. But the main reason is that it seems necessary to push the local public movement for the preservation of the old furnace. The articles about the old furnace appearing in the past two years have been responsible for the great interest that now seems destined to make it a permanent historical monument. The weekly developments are made known in this paper which is mailed to all interested parties.

Those of our readers who may not be attracted by these historical articles will thus understand why so many are being printed at this time. But we will give first place to letters and information about citizens of Oxford, old and new. Keep us informed!

EDWARD T. GREEN

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