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The

# BULLETIN

SECOND PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH

OXFORD, NEW JERSEY

By

A. G. YOUNT

*Minister*



*Therefore every scribe who is instructed in the kingdom of heaven, is like an householder who bringeth forth out of his treasure things new and old. Matthew 13:52.*



And the angel said unto them,  
Fear not; for, behold, I bring you good  
tidings of great joy, which shall be to  
all people.

For unto you is born this day, in  
the city of David, a Saviour, which is  
Christ the Lord.

----- Luke 2:10,11.

"Father in heaven, whose mercy we  
praise in the yearly remembrance of  
the birth of thy beloved Son, Jesus  
Christ our Lord: Grant that as we  
welcome our Redeemer, his presence may  
shed abroad, in our hearts and in our  
homes, the light of heavenly peace and  
joy. And help us so to celebrate this  
day, in humility and gratitude, in un-  
selfish love and cheerful service, that  
our keeping of Christmas may be a  
blessing to our souls, a memorial of  
Christ, a benefit to our fellow men, and  
a thanksgiving unto thee for thine  
unspeakable gift of the Saviour. Amen."

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#### Christmas Exercises to-night

ht, The Sunday School Will celebrate  
Christmas tonight at 7 O'clock.

The church has been beautifully  
decorated for the occasion by the  
committee, Misses Myra Radel and  
Elizabeth Zapp.

The children will recite and give  
a playlet which will please as children  
always do. They have been trained by  
the committee, Mrs. Laura Seiple and  
Miss Adelaide Yount.

The Young People will lead in  
the musical numbers. A choir of 20  
has been formed and they will wear  
white robes, and the exercises will be  
opened by their entrance singing in  
a processional.

This program should attract a  
large audience of the parents and the  
friends of the school.

Of course Santa will be there  
with his treats for the children.

Our great regret will be that  
Miss Ida Smith will not be well enough  
to attend. But she will be just across  
the street and will hear the singing  
by the school.



(A letter from Edwin J. Perkins)

Herewith I am enclosing my check for \$2.00 to be applied on the new heater fund in the name of my mother, Harriet E. Perkins.

I have intended to do this for some time but have neglected doing so. It is a pleasure to do so now.

Everything about the church used to have a general interest even to us younger folk. Aside from its churchly office everything about the institution was a source of interest to us.

Besides our own games it furnished about all the recreation, shall we say, we had. I can realize even to-day "Sig" Clawson, the sexton for so many years shovelling quantities of coal upon the old furnace, and crowding it to full capacity to warm the building in cold weather.

And what a blast of heat came through the registers in the aisles!

As a matter of fact so driven were we at times for outlets to our superfluous energies that he, as a special favor, would allow us actually to shovel coal on furnace. He always made it clear, however, that he would permit only his favorites such a privilege.

I have had many impulses to contribute to your interesting Bulletin, but time has seemed to prevent. Sometime I will, for really "The half has never been told."

My mother at almost 93 years is the charm of my household; and, except for her hearing, is comparatively well.

Her philosophy and her hold upon the substantial things of life are constant revelations to us. No one could be with her without realizing the power of spiritual values, and their transcendancy over the temporal; -- faith and trust, her bulwarks, growing more abundantly satisfying and sustaining to her, as she naturally is obliged to adjust herself to the changing conditions.

Mrs. F. G. (Martha R.) Everitt, of Blairstown, sends the following kind note, "Enclosed please find check for \$2.00 for the Bulletin."

Expect to spend the winter with my sister in Buffalo. So please send the next to Buffalo. Do not wish to miss a paper. It seems rather like the visit of an old friend." Thanks.

In 1910 a Mrs. Harriet R. Robeson, of N.Y. State, was visiting in Newton, and from there made a visit to Oxford, and on her return to Newton wrote to Mrs. A.M. Weston the following letter, from the Cochran Hotel, and dated March, 31st, 1910.

"Although I am rather tired after my trip up here this evening, I could not sleep until I had looked into the matter of the old furnace, and I have all evening been reading over Robeson deeds, copies of many of which I have with me. I find one dated May 21, 1762, Jonathan Robeson to William Shippen, "Chemist and practitioner in Physic."

It is for many of the Oxford lands, which belonged to the Robeson Estate. In this deed, mention is made of Jonathan Robeson selling to the same William Shippen in 1749, a smaller than one half interest in the lands of Oxford; and mentions the furnace. The furnace was built by Jonathan Robeson in 1741 or 1742, and run by him until he took William Shippen into Partnership in 1749.

Then, in 1762, the date of the deed I have mentioned, he sold all to William Shippen.

From 1750 to 1758 or thereabouts, Mauris Robeson (son of Jonathan) who lived at Gre Green's Pond, helped his father in running the Oxford Furnace. Richards (her son?) and I arrived safely and on time, and his cheeks are rosey to-night, and he is having a fine sleep after his trip to Oxford which he heartily enjoyed. The little violets never even wilted and are so sweet scented they make the whole room sweet. "

We have Mr. C.E. Weston to thank for this copy of the above letter, and in reply to our request for information as to how we might get a copy of the deed he kindly offers to write to the Clerk at Newton, if the records have not been lost.

If the statement in the letter that the Oxford estate was sold to William Shippen, and the deed dated May 21, 1762, it is the first time we have heard of it, and is very important to Oxford history.

This does not mean that the sale was not made till that year, for deeds often were not made out for several years after contract or agreement of sale. So it is probable that Dr. Shippen took over the property about 1757, as Robeson advertised it for sale in 1756. We shall in later issue have more to say about this letter.



## The Little Pine Tree

By George S. Dufford

A little pine tree on a mountain grew,  
Where the trees all writhed when the north  
  (wind blew.  
While the slender roots below its nest  
Searched for each crack in the mountain's  
  (breast.  
And clung to the rocks with all its might,  
When the sleet struck hard, in its winter  
  (flight.

The Little pine wondered; as overhead  
Its giant brothers, their shadows spread,  
If the stray sunbeams it stored away  
Would give it strength to climb some day  
Up to the clouds and the warm sunlight  
Or the twinkling stars of each winter night

Its granite mother who gave it birth,  
Could add but little to height or girth.  
And thus discouraged; it seemed to shrink  
From December winds and the winter's brink.  
Nor saw the flash of a cruel knife  
That shattered its dreams; and took its life

But was it the end of life and worth?  
Ah no! A mountain church gave birth  
To all its beauty that Christmas night;  
When it gave to the children its candle-light  
When in older hearts it lit a flame,  
As it softly whispered the Christ Child's  
  (name.

Still in the forest its brothers stand,  
Just as the great Creator planned.  
Their part? Perchance a whispered knell  
To the Baby pine they hid too well.  
Not theirs, the Christmas tale. You see,  
God gave that part to the Little Pine Tree.

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Our readers will thank Mr. Dufford for his beautiful poem, of which (in a letter to the Editor) he says that it "will make its bow to the public in Christmas editions of two Metropolitan publications."....

"As a boy, I roamed the town of Oxford with my boyhood chum, Orlando Tunison, when Oxford was a great industrial center, and your bulletin often recalls many names long buried in the archives of memory, hence my interest in you and your work."

"Though given the health and vigor of a man of fifty, I have passed the 70th mile stone...and find it a joy to help others to a vision of sweeter and better things in life."

