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Mr Frederick K Fowler died Jan 31, 1935

The
BULLETIN

SECOND PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

OXFORD, NEW JERSEY

By

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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.



Motto Text

A good man showeth favor, and lendeth he will guide his affairs with discretion.

Surely he shall not be moved for ever the righteous shall be in everlasting remembrance. Psalm 112: 5, 6.

"O Lord, make me to know thee aright, that I may more and more love, and enjoy and possess thee. And since in the life here below, I cannot fully attain this blessedness, let it at least grow in me day by day, until it shall be fulfilled in the life to come. Here be the knowledge of thee increased, and there let it be perfected. Here let my love to thee grow, and there let it ripen; that my joy being here great in hope, may there in fruition be made perfect. Amen

Harold Belkey, son of Frank and Margaret Belkey, died on Thursday, 4 A.M. at the Warren County Hospital.

He was born Dec. 8th, 1909, and in 1922 was received into our Church. He had been a faithful attendant at Sunday School from boyhood. A month ago he was married and his future was bright in the promise of happiness. The sympathy of all is extended to the widow, the mother and his brother. May God sustain them all in this great affliction.

The funeral is set for this P.M. at his mother's home in lower Oxford Ave.

Frederick K. Fowler died at his home in Hackettstown, on January 31st, after a few days illness. The week before he had been in Oxford on business, and seemed in excellent health. Most of his life was spent in Oxford and ever kept in touch with the people of the town.

He had a rare capacity for friendship and his genial fellowship won him the good will of everyone. The Editor had abundant reason to honor and love him.

He was always interested in the Church and a staunch friend and supporter of the Bulletin.

The warm tributes in this issue by Messers Humphrey, Searing and Weston attest the high type of Christian man and citizen exemplified in him.

He grew old beautifully and his end was a translation through triumphant faith.

Fred Fowler
By George Scranton Humphrey

Tribute by George R. Searing

The news of the death of Frederick Fowler will have been the cause of much sorrow in Oxford where he lived for so many years and had so many friends.

To me his passing is a matter of profound grief; he was one of my oldest friends. I first met him at "Church Sociable," at the home of Mr. S.T. Scranton the very evening after my arrival in Oxford on March 13th, 1875, almost sixty years ago.

He was the first of the Oxford boys with whom I became acquainted and the friendship which then began has continued through all these years--more than half a century.

He was one of a small coterie of us, all members of the old Fowler House family, who were particularly congenial and intimate--five of us; of that little circle, now, beside myself, only one remains, Will Cooke of piedmont, Missouri. I cannot restrain the thought--"Who next" ?

Fred, as a boy and as a man, possessed a sterling character, square, sincere, honest and just--in thought and deed; he had a fine sense of humor and enjoyed wholesome fun, though always avoiding vulgarity; without being over-pious he was deeply religious and proved the sincerity of his Christianity by his "daily walk and conversation." He was one of a few of us boys whom Mr. Cline selected to form a Young Peoples' Meeting some years before the organization of Christian Endeavor Societies; and he was active in the support of our Church as long as he remained in Oxford; he was an original member of the "Oxford Literary Association" as well as of its successors and was always active in any movement tending toward the uplift and welfare of the community. While I left Oxford some years before his removal, I know that his leaving was a great loss to the village where he and his good wife had wielded such a strong and wholesome influence. He never lost his interest in affairs there, as evidenced by his regular attendance at the "Reunions" when he always enjoyed meeting and exchanging greetings with a host of old friends.

We shall all miss his cordial smile and hearty hand-shake. "Would he could have stayed with us" :

And so, one by one, those of that somewhat remarkable group which made Oxford such a delightful community in those old days, are being called to their reward; soon none will be left here (Concluded on opposite page.)

I was greatly shocked to hear of the sudden death of Frederick Fowler on January 31st.

He was a true brother in Christ. I had known him for sixty years and for twenty years associated with him in his joys and sorrows in Oxford. He was always active in all good enterprises. About the year 1877 the Brick Public School was in need of a bell. Mr. Fowler was the prime mover that produced the play "Handy Andy", the proceeds of which supplied the means to purchase the bell which was done May 18th 1879. He was elected treasurer of the Temperance Alliance, and on May 16th, 1891 was elected chairman of the music committee his associates were George Weber, Clara Kean Fowler, Sadie L. Lukens, Edith Gano, and Maggie Lukens.

He always had strong temperance convictions which added to the interest of the meetings. In those days we had members in fault of breaking their pledges. Mr. Fowler would go with a Christian spirit and restore them. He loved music and took

lessons of Prof. Cluppelberg of Hacketts-town. At his work if alone he would sing or whistle. He was an active member of the Young Peoples' Society which held prayer meetings before the Christian Endeavor Society was formed. His associates were Robert Gray, George Humphrey, W.S. Cooke, J.L. Loder, Abram Pittonger. Each leader made the meeting of interest because of the earnestness with which they presented the subject. After the coming of the Christian Endeavor Society he entered into the work with the same interest.

His aid could be depended upon in all god work. He asked no one anything but but to love one another.

As I looked at him in the stillness of death he appeared so natural that I thought he peacefully slept himself away in Christ. The Lord came and took away the sting of death, and when he awakes in the new and everlasting day, there will be no night there forever more.

(Mr. Humphrey's Tribute concluded)

Let us hope that their influence and traditions may long survive among those who have succeeded them !

Old Oxford Days---Frederick Fowler,
By Clinton E. Weston

In the course of human existence, we at times have occasion to pause on the highway of life to pay our respects to those who have passed to the beyond to join the great majority, and in this instance we mourn the passing of a former Oxford resident of many years and an annual attendant of the church Reunion-- Frederick Fowler.

Coming to Oxford in the early days of the iron industry he at once identified himself with church activities to which he faithfully adhered to the end.

Marrying an Oxford girl, Miss Clara Kean, their wedded life has often been commented upon as being ideal, beautiful as it was happy, typifying the traditions of a real home life where companionship and love abide.

In introducing Fred at the last reunion I used the following words:-

"We all like to meet and know a self-contained man--one who is not easily irritated by the problems and petty annoyances that often beset us--one who by his abiding faith, nurtured by an early Christian training, is able to rise above them with a smile and to look forward with hope and trust." I believe this fitted his character.

By this adherence to the rules and precepts as revealed in the Great Book of Life which he conscientiously followed day by day. He thus created his own monument that will endure throughout the annals of time.

We revere his memory.

The Supper given by the men last Monday evening turned out very well.

It attracted much attention because it was something of a novelty in this community. Over eighty meals were served and gave general satisfaction. The chief credit is due to the fifteen men who planned and carried it out.

The net proceeds will amount to about \$18.00, which with a donation of the Ladies Aid, was sufficient to pay for the furnace in the Chapel.

Mr. Alvin W. Stout has generously sent \$25.00 for the current expenses of the Church. Though he has lived in N.Y. City for near thirty years, he has kept his membership in this Church.



CHURCH OFFICERS

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A. G. YOUNT, *Moderator*

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