

OXFORD PUBLIC

The Weekly Bulletin
of the
Oxford Second Presbyterian
Church

OXFORD, NEW JERSEY



Rev. Andrew Gilbert Yount, *Ph.D.*,
PASTOR

One thing have I desired of the Lord, that will I seek after: that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the Lord, and to inquire in his temple.—Psalm 27:4.

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STATED MEETINGS OF THE CHURCH

SUNDAY SERVICES

Sunday School, 9:30 a. m.

Church Worship, 10:30 a. m. - 7:30 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.

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Morning Worship

Doxology

Invocation and Lord's Prayer

Psalm 48 sel 17

Hymn 48

Creed and Gloria

Scripture Lesson Hebrews, XI.

Prayer

Anthem

Offering

Hymn 271

Sermon

Hymn 368

Benediction

TEXT

By faith he forsook Egypt, not fearing the wrath of the king: for he endured as seeing him who is invisible.--Heb.11:27

Washington's Prayer

"Almighty God, we make our earnest prayer that thou wilt keep the United States in thy holy protection; that thou wilt ^{incline} the hearts of the citizens to cultivate a spirit of subordination and obedience to government; and entertain a brotherly affection and love for one another and for their fellow citizens of the United States at large. And, finally, that thou wilt most graciously be pleased to dispose us all to do justice, to love mercy, and to demean ourselves with that charity, humility and pacific temper of mind which were the characteristics of the Divine Author of our blessed religion, and without a humble imitation of whose example in these things we can never hope to be a happy nation. Grant our supplication, we beseech thee, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen."

The above prayer was copied and used by Washington himself, and is engraved on the altar of the Washington Memorial Chapel at Valley Forge.

The subject of the Young People's meeting to-night is "Temperance". Mrs. Charles Dux will lead.

The Young People's Drama, "The Wild Oats Boy" will be presented in the School Auditorium on Monday evening, March 7th. Tickets will be sold as soon as printed. And the programs will carry many Ads. from local merchants, and those in nearby towns.

Mr. Humphrey's Letter (continued)

"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- (About)- 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 P. B. Maxwell.

1831- Property leased by Henry, Jordan and Company (The 'Henry' was William, father of the late Mrs Selden 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 Company 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.

1881-99- Works passed through various vicissitudes. Nail making abandoned and factory dismantled.

1899- Empire Steel and Iron Company purchased entire property. Sold Rolling Mills to Jensen Bros., 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."

The Bulletin in behalf of all readers thanks Mr. Humphrey for this carefully prepared account and chronology of the Oxford Iron business. Doubtless many will keep it for historical reference in the future.

Mrs. D. F. Brigham

Many will be interested in this letter from Mrs. Clara Brigham Bennett:

"My mother, Mrs. D. F. Brigham has enjoyed the Bulletins of the Oxford Church.. There have been many items in regard to people and events in the early days of the Church which she has found very interesting. She was particularly pleased with the message in a recent Bulletin from Mrs. W. H. Belden, as she was one of mother's old friends; and she had been anxious for some time to hear from her. Mother is nearing her ninetieth birthday, but still has a very real affection for Oxford and the old friends.

"It might be of interest to the old friends and acquaintances who still remember her, that her children are all living and that she has five grandchildren and seven great-grand-children. My sister, with whom mother lives, and I, were both born in Oxford. And although we left there as small girls, we have very vivid recollections of many happenings of the early eighties. Every Member of our family was very fond of our minister, Rev. E. Clarke Cline, who was also our next door neighbor."

We trust Mrs Bennett will favor our readers with some of her Oxford recollections, and her mother's also. A contribution to the Bulletin was included in the letter which is thankfully received, and Mrs. Brigham's name will be placed on our mailing list of more than forty families who receive it regularly. Mrs. Brigham's address is 48 Oxford st. Hartford, Conn.

Mrs. L. W. Gardner (Edith Jones) of Phillipsburg worshipped with us last Sabbath. Like her father, N. A. Jones, she is deeply devoted the Church, and cherishes the sound doctrines of the Gospel of Christ.

Mrs Adam Hartman (Millie Vosseller) of Phillipsburg enjoys the Bulletins and gives them to her friends to read. she writes:

"Rev. Cline made many calls at my home, and baptized my children. He always had a smile on his face for every one. I can remember back to good times and dear friends after reading the Bulletin. I read the nice piece Mr. Weber had in about the band. My father (Mr. John Vosseller) loved it. Many a piece of music I helped my father copy."

It is always very gratifying to hear that the contents of the Bulletin give pleasure many known and onknown readers.

Mrs. Nellylou Gardner Brinkman sends a letter with check (\$12.00) for the Church, S.S. and Bulletin. B

"Ten dollars of it I'd like used for the current expenses of the church. The remainder I'd like to have cover cost for a year of your church Bulletin sent to me. If there is any left have Miss Smith add it to Sunday School fund. As I said before, I wish this were a big, big check, for I'm sending it just after Mamma's birthday as a little remembrance of her. Please accept my most sincere and best wishes for Oxford Second Presbyterian Church, and for all of you who are connected with it."

Mrs. Brinkman's directions will be faithfully carried out with the greatest pleasure, and thankfulness for the generous contribution to our Church, which just now especially, sorely needs funds for current expenses. The Bulletin will most gladly be sent regularly to Mrs. Brinkman with some past issues.

We have received from Mr. G.S. Humphrey some most interesting historical material which he has found, - a splendid picture of the Old Furnace in 1880, a poster and program of great union Fourth of July celebration, and program of S.S. Institute.

These will be noticed in later issues.

He also made provision to have the Bulletin sent to Dr. James E. Loder at Broomall, Pa. It will be a pleasure to have Dr. Loder on our mailing list, and trust he will find opportunity write us in the near future.

We have got track of more of the old cannon balls. Dr. G.O. Tunison has one or more, and Mrs. Jennie Fichtel has one lent to her by Mr. Carl Loux who found it in the old stone mansion in which he resides. Doubtless many of these balls date from the Civil War period, but possibly some were cast in the Revolutionary War.

We have been informed that other ball and old castings of the furnace are to be found in Independence Hall, Phila., Pa. and at Trenton State House, and also at High Point monument. We have had no corroboration of the correctness of these statements. If any one can supply further knowledge of these things it will be of interest to all. Does any know where one of the old heating stove "backs" may be seen? We have heard much about them but have not seen any as yet.

E. H. DEVOE

DR. WILLIAM E. AUER

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