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**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.*

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.

Bulletin No. 196 February 4th 1934

Morning Worship

Doxology
Invocation and Lord's Prayer
Psalm 145 sel. 56
Hymn 63
Creed and Gloria
Scripture Lesson
Prayer
Anthem
Offering
Hymn 264
Sermon
Hymn 218
Benediction

Prayer

"We beseech thee Lord and Master, to be our help and succor. Save those who are in tribulation; have mercy on the lonely; lift up the fallen; show thyself unto the needy; heal the ungodly; convert the wanderers of thy people; feed the hungry; raise up the weak; comfort the faint-hearted. Let all the people know that thou art God alone, and Jesus Christ is thy Son, and we are thy people and the sheep of thy pasture; for the sake of Christ Jesus. Amen."

The young people tonight will have for their topic "Prayer according to Christ."

The Ladies of the Aid Society will quilt next Wednesday at the home of Mrs. George Docker Sn. All who possibly can are urged to come. Many hands make quick work.

A most generous purse has been presented to the Pastor amounting to \$48.00 besides provisions for the table.

This was donated by our church members and by many friends of the community.

We have thought to carry out the common wish by applying the money to our large hospital bill. We cannot sufficiently express our feeling of gratitude to all who have so kindly contributed to our great need at this time. Especially do we thank the good women who took up the matter voluntarily and worked so hard to carry it out successfully. We can only pray that God will repay with his great mercy all these dear friends.

Original Cost of the Church

When the first account of the building of the new church was written two years ago--or rather nearly three years ago--we had no official record giving the original cost. But since then both the original records, the Session and Roll of Members, have been recovered and in the Session Record for March 31st, 1866 it is stated that the amount raised for "the new Church building," was \$ 12,838.00, of which \$ 500.00 was for furnishings. Most of this sum doubtless was in the form of subscriptions with time payments. We learn that as much as \$6,000. was still owing on the building in 1873, when it was all paid off.

Last Wednesday Jan. 31st, was the 68th anniversary of the dedication, which also took place on Wednesday, Jan. 31st, 1866. An account of the dedication was given in Bulletin No. 71 (May 3rd, 1931)

For 18 years previous to the dedication the small congregation had worshipped in the original Stone Chapel, built 1848, and located in front of the present Chapel.

It was the first place of worship built in the community. Formerly Presbyterians went to Oxford 1st. Church (now at Hazen)

We are justly proud of our church building; it is noble and churchly both inside and outside, a worthy place for the worship of God. Our present membership is more than double what it was when the church was built, and surely what they managed to erect at a great cost, we can keep up in good repair, the more so because we have no debt on any of our church property.

The old records reveal an interesting item regarding the first funeral held in the new church. In February 1867 the funeral of the infant son (Martin) of Charles B. Weston was held in the church, and Mr. Cline's note reads, "First funeral in new church & first Protestant burial in the village." Would this be in Hillside Cemetery?

Does any one remember how the church was heated at first? Probably by stoves in the room. But there is a record that in 1888 a hot air furnace was installed, and the steam heater dates from the first decade of this century,--just what year we have not been able to determine.

The Golden Wedding anniversary of the marriage of Selden T. and Ellen Scranton, celebrated at Oxford, N.J. on September 3rd, 1889.

(Mr. Humphrey lately found a news paper clipping among his papers giving this report of the Golden Wedding. He says it was from a Scranton, Pa. paper. A fact to be kept in mind in reading it.--Editor).

" Mr. Selden T. Scranton, one of the founders of this city, celebrated with his wife at Oxford, New Jersey, on Tuesday the 3rd of September, their golden wedding. A very large company of friends and kindred gathered at the well-known home on the hill above the station, bringing gifts and congratulations. At four o'clock the bride and the groom, accompanied by their groomsman of 1839, Mr. Reuben A. Henry, Mrs. Scranton's brother, with his wife, entered the parlors. A prayer of thanksgiving in remembrance of the eventual half century so happily closing, was made by the husband of their niece, the Rev. Wm. H. Belden, of Bridgeton, N. J., formerly pastor of the second Presbyterian church of this city. An eloquent address, which touched the inmost feelings of every one present with its delicate and affectionate reference to the many vicissitudes of this distinguished life time, was made by a life-long friend and connection by marriage, the Rev. N. G. Park, D. D., of Pittston. A cousin, the Rev. Edward S. Wolle, pastor of the Moravian Church in Brooklyn, N. Y., was in general charge of the arrangements for the day.

A pleasant feature of the day was the giving of Selden Scranton's name, with that of his brother Charles, to the infant son of Mr. and Mrs. Belden. Rev. B. C. Megie, D. D., of Dover, N. J., who married them in the same parlors, and Mr. Wolle, baptized the child 'Charles Selden' and Mr. Scranton as a ruling elder of the church, participated in conferring his name.

The late pastor at Oxford, Rev. E. C. Cline and his successor, Rev. Irving Maxwell, also shared in the religious services. Many friends from Scranton and New York, both relatives and business associates, made the bride and groom happy with their cordial greetings. In the evening a great multitude of the good people of Oxford accepted the invitations of their honored townsman to add their congratulations. The thoughtful regard of Mr. Edward T. Lukens, (next page)

"superintendent of the Oxford Iron Co., had brilliantly illuminated the ground and furnished a fine band of music.

"Mr. and Mrs. Scranton are both enjoying at present excellent health, and are living in contentment and usefulness in the fine old home which has been so kindly preserved for them by their friends. About a month ago Mr. Scranton met with a dangerous accident being thrown from a carriage in which he was riding alone, and being trampled upon by his team. The injuries received have however, healed, and Mr. Scranton gives promise of years of vigor still.

Mrs. Scranton, whose strength has never failed, was the daughter of Wm. Henry with whom her husband was associated in the days when Scranton had its beginnings. In 1840 Selden T. Scranton came here with his brother Col George W., William Henry and Sanford Grant, and made the purchase of 503, afterward 3,500 acres of land, upon which this city was ultimately built. " These were the choicest coal lands in the Valley. Selden settled in Scranton in March, 1844, and was the first president of the L. I. & C. Co. In 1858 he moved to Oxford to look after the interests of the property there (Oxford Iron Co.) and built in 1862-64 the residence where he has lived ever since.

(Mr. Scranton died two later, 1891, and Mrs. Scranton 8 years afterward in 1897.--Editor.)

Dr. B. M. Hance, of Easton, Pa., the skilful surgeon who performed the operations on the Editor so successfully, is a native of Jersey, and his grandfather was a Presbyterian minister, who was pastor of our Church in Dover, N. J., for 35 years. The Doctor himself is well known in this region, and highly esteemed as a man and surgeon.

While an inmate of the hospital the Editor made the acquaintance of a former native of Oxford,--Mr. William Brown. He was born in the '60s, and lived in "Pittengrove," and worked in the Nail factory till 1889, when he went to Newark. His mother was a Shafer, and some of his relatives have at times sent him copies of the Bulletin.

EDWARD T. GREEN

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