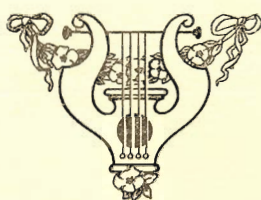


THE BULLETIN
OF THE
OXFORD SECOND
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

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.

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Bulletin No.197 February 11th,1934

Morning Worship

Doxology
 Invocation and Lord's Prayer
 Psalm 17 sel.4
 Hymn 33
 Creed and Gloria
 Scripture Lesson
 Prayer
 Offering
 Hymn 85
 Sermon
 Hymn 234
 Benediction

Prayer

"O God, who art the Fountain of all our blessings: open to us this day the sea of thy love, and water us with plenteous streams from the riches of thy grace. Make us children of quietness and heirs of peace. Enkindle in us the fire of thy love; strengthen our weakness by thy power; bind us closely to thee and to each other in one firm and indissoluble bond of unity. Amen."

"The Golden Rule" will be the Topic for the young people tonight.

The young people are studying to give a play sometime in March.

From the old Session Record we learn that after the Church was organized in May 1863 with 21 charter members, the first new member received by the new Session was William Burd. Rev. J.B. Hopwood was the Moderator, and elders Elisha Beers and H.A.Kingsbury. Elder S.T.Scranton was not present. The date was Nov.23rd,1863. The Record says, "Mr. Wm.Burd presented himself for admission to the Church. He had been connected with the Presbyterian Church near Brantsville, Prince William Co.,Va. But was driven out by the rebellion and desired, in the absence of a letter, to be received on confession of faith." In 1874 Mr. Burd was dismissed by letter to the Oxford First Church.

Little Stories of Old Oxford
by Samuel J. Cooper

Once more let us turn to the old "Robeson" Mansion on the hill, which has been the scene of so many incidents in connection with the life of Oxford.

It is a beautiful summer day. The Judge as ever, is having skilled workmen about. In those days it was the almost universal custom to give these workmen their dinners, if not all three meals, as a part of their wages.

It was the time of the midday meal, and a number of the masons and carpenters were gathered on the long veranda that reaches across the front of the house.

A maiden of dusky hue and crinkly hair, who worked in the house and at meals times assisted in the serving -- overflowing with life and song as is the wont of many of her race -- came pirouetting out of the door and across the veranda announcing that dinner was ready and that the men should gather at the table. In her exuberance she whirled and seated herself on the balustrade rail, but lost her balance and plunged backward to the ground some ten or twelve feet below.

The men sprang to the rail expecting to see a badly injured if not a dead waitress. But what they saw was a somewhat sobered young woman just getting to her feet and rubbing her kinky head.

Looking up and seeing the solicitous faces of the men she remarked pointing to a timber lying on the ground on which she had landed head first, -- "purty hard bump massa, purty hard bump;" then singing she went around the house and entered by the grade door above, and by the time the men were seated at the table she began to serve them as usual.

The foregoing is an incident of the early '30s as related by my grandfather, who was one of the men on the veranda.

Another incident of the early days of Oxford (related by Wm. A. Jones who was for many years an elder of this Church) is in connection with what is now the Colonial Methodist Church, but formerly a grist mill, where the writer worked for a couple of years.

When the mill was originally erected it was not as high as now by a story. At the time of this story the roof

had been removed and the walls raised to their present height. The new roof was about completed when one of the workmen who was working near the peak lost his hold and began sliding down over the southerly side of the roof where there is a clear drop of twenty-five or more feet from the eaves. The ground below was cluttered with the debris from the work.

The man kept sliding; fellow workmen saw him but could not reach him.

He was going feet foremost, his feet passed over the edge, then his knees.

He had leaned backward until he was lying flat on his back, then he stopped suspended at it were between earth and sky.

The other workmen had been making frantic efforts to get a rope and ladder to him, and although a rope was almost within his reach he was afraid to make an effort to grasp it for fear the movement would break whatever slight catch had prevented his plunge to what appeared to be certain death. Rescuers at last reached him and assisted him safely to the ground.

What saved him? A nail had been driven part way into the roof leaving the head sticking slightly above the surface, and he wore, as was the custom in those days, a leathern apron, which in his slide over the roof, was dragged beneath him and so caught on the nail head. A man's life was saved by a carelessly driven nail and a leathern apron.

A child's experience at this
same old mill.

One day grandfather Jones, then a small boy on a day's visit to his grandfather, Elias Jones, who lived in a log house on what we of a later generation knew as "#1 farm," was taken along to the mill.

The stairs leading from one floor to the other, and the miller running up and down them as he went about his work, was a remarkable revelation to the small boy who had been born in a one story log cabin and had never seen a stairway in a building.

The ease and speed of the miller in going from floor to floor seemed to be a wonderful attainment. With a child's imitative urge he assayed to make a running trip down the stairs. The hard wood steps were polished by much usage, and, as his little legs were untrained for the task before them, his feet shot forward and he sat down. (over)

"The descent was made, but on that part of his anatomy to which mothers so often apply hair brush, hand etc., when seeking to impress the necessity of obedience on a child's mind-- and so bump, bump, bump all the way to the bottom. (Not as pleasant a slide as the children of today have on their play-grounds). He got to his feet a somewhat dazed boy. Sad but wiser he gingerly brushed off the seat of his trousers. Running down stairs had lost its allurements.

The end.

Mr. and Mrs. George Weber have gone to Birmingham Alabama, to remain until the first of May. They were at the same place last winter and liked it so much they have decided to return.

The good wishes of all go with them for a happy season in the sunny South. We hope to get a nice letter from them soon for the readers of the Bulletin for Mr. Weber wants the paper sent to them weekly, saying "We find something interesting in every issue. So don't want to miss any." We thank them for \$2.00 inclosed, for postage and expense. Their address is 909 Irving, Road, Homewood, Birmingham, Ala.

The fame of the old Oxford furnace is growing steadily. The latest evidence of this fact has just become known to the editor. The Reading Iron Co., of Penna., publishes a monthly trade journal, and in the November issue there was an article ^{on} the influence of Emanuel Swedenborg in the development of the iron industry. In 1734 he published a noted book on the subject with quaint old wood cuts to illustrate old method of manufacture of Iron products.

About this time iron working began in America, and the article, naming first forges in operation here, says that "Jonathan Robeson built the first blast furnace in the Highlands of New Jersey-- the Oxford Furnace-- in 1742. This furnace used charcoal as fuel, and was such a success that it was still being used in 1880 with anthracite coal as fuel"

The New-Church Messenger, a nation-wide religious magazine reprinted this whole article; thus broadcasting it far and wide. (We have a copy before us).

EDWARD T. GREEN

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