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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.



A Prayer by St. Paul

"For this reason then I kneel before the Father from whom every family in heaven and on earth derives its name and nature, praying Him out of the wealth of his glory to grant you a mighty increase of strength by his Spirit in the inner man.

May Christ dwell in your hearts as you have faith! May you be so fixed and founded in love that you can grasp with all the saints what is the meaning of 'the Breadth,' 'the Length,' 'the Depth,' and 'the Height,' by knowing the love of Christ which surpasses all knowledge! May you be filled with the entire fulness of God's power

Now to him who by the action of his within us can do all things, aye far more than we ever ask or imagine, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations for ever and ever. Amen."

Holy Communion Next Sabbath

Our summer Communion Service will take place next Sabbath morning, at 10:30

We expect to inaugurate a new method in the service, in which all communicants will partake of the elements simultaneously

Many churches have adopted this simple and impressive method and are well pleased with it.

New members may be received and infants and adults baptized.

Let all attend and pray for a blessing of divine love and mercy.

We acknowledge cash donations to the Bulletin from James Radol, \$1.00; William Sweitzer, \$1.00; Cortland F. Cook \$2.00; Mrs. G.N. (Mary Weber) Lemmon, \$2.00. Many thanks.

The Bulletin is usually mailed on Friday afternoon, but last week it was late Saturday evening, so that many did not get their copy until the middle of the week. If through our fault or that of the postal agents, anyone fails to get their copy in a reasonable time or not at all, please send card of the fact and another copy will be mailed.

Our plans announced two weeks ago in regard to a special meeting here to make a start in the furnace matter have been unavoidably delayed by unforeseen events.

Mr. J. S. Humphrey writes that a month ago, while in attendance of a banking convention at Lake George, he took ill and after a week in the hospital there he was taken to Cortland N.Y. to the home of his daughter, Mrs. Lindsay Hadley, where he has since been convalescing, but by this time he expected to be "on his feet again."

We were unwilling to go forward in organization without the presence and consent of Mr. Humphrey, who has been for many years deeply interested in the preservation of the remains of the old furnace.

So that this fact, together with the illness and death in the Editor's family, accounts for the postponement of the proposed meeting.

But as soon as Mr. Humphrey feels strong enough to come to Oxford, we will arrange to meet with him and others to formulate our plans for our great object.

(Copy of a minute of the sale of the Oxford Iron Company, 1896)

The property of the late Oxford Iron & Nail Company, whose works were situated at Oxford, was sold on Tuesday afternoon at the Court House, at Belvidere, by special Master, Judge Morrow; under fore closure proceedings by The Farmers Loan and Trust Co. of New York City.

The property was bought in by the D.L. & W.R.R. Co. for \$ 70,000.00/100, subject to taxes, expenses of maintaining the property for the past thirteen months and costs of foreclosure, said to be about \$60,000.00/100. It is said that D.L. & W.R.R. Co. will permit any of the old bond-holders, who will agree to be assessed for a pro rata amount of the expenses, to retain an interest in the property on the basis of their several holdings of bonds.

No definite plans as to reorganization seem to be insight, or at least are not made known as yet to the public.

April 7th, 1896.

The above is copied from a tissue paper copy made on an office hand press, probably in the office of the local Company.

After father told the story of the burning of the field of hay (Bulletin for June 16th) Mr. Bennett remarked how inscrutable and unfathomable are the ways of the Almighty and related an incident of which he knew to show the power of prayer with faith and the results of unqualified demand that God keep his promises.

The people I believe lived in or not far from Morristown, N.J. In the lapse of almost half a century names and exact location are forgotten, but the essentials of the incident made an ineradicable impress on my mind and left this thought always dominating my petitions to the Giver of all good, "Thy Will Be Done."

The story briefly told is this:-

A widow and her son were faithful, zealous and earnest church members and workers. The son just reaching young manhood was an outstanding figure in the church life because of his manliness and christian conduct.

He was taken ill and the battle to restore him to health was a losing one; the physician reluctantly told the mother that the case was beyond their control and that only the Great Physician could prevent death from soon claiming her boy. A mother's love to keep that which she held dearest on this earth sprang to action. With all the energy of her physical and spiritual being she poured out to God her petition that her son might recover. She pleaded Christ's promise that whatsoever should be asked in his name with faith would be granted. She declared her faith and demanded that God fulfill his promise. Day faded into night, the spirit still lingered in the flesh. The mother continued to interpose her faith between her loved one and death's messenger. Morning came and the grim reaper stayed his stroke. The young man recovered and again took up the duties of life.

And now comes the bitter sequel to this story of the triumph of faith.

He who had been brought back by faith from the brink of the grave, instead of continuing to grow in grace, began to slip more and more into the ways of the world, and, at last, when he should have been in the prime of his life, went to a dissolute, godless, drunkard's grave.

We cannot but feel that had this mother bowed in submission, to what appeared to be God's will, her bereavement and sorrow would have been brightened by the hallowed memories of a loved one gone on before (over)

instead of the awful separation that awaited her and to an agony from which only God's love could bring relief.

Read Matthew 20:20-23. Here was another mother craving what hse deemed the best for hers sons. They too drank of the bitter cup, but the loving Jesus denied a part of her request, for he knew what was best. Thy Will Be Done!

Old Picture of George W. Scranton

When visiting Mr. Samuel Snyder lately, who has for weeks been in poor health, our attention was called by Mrs. Snyder, to the fact that she possessed an old picture of George Scranton. Surprised and delighted we asked to see it. She kept hanging upon the wall of their living room. It had a round frame and the picture is in a good state of preservation.

It is a lithograph evidently made from a daguerre-c-type photograph so common 60 and more years ago. The name is given as Col. George W. Scranton, which leads us to guess it was one of some special lithographs made for him in 1858 or 1860 when he ran for Congress. The lithograph firm was Snyder Black and Sturn of 92 Williams street N.Y. City.

It shows a man of about 50 years of age, in the prime of life, with raven black hair worn rather long, a strong intelligent face. We know that Col. Scranton died in 1861 at the age of 50, so that he was still a comparative young man at that time.

We wonder if other copies of this picture have been preserved. However perhaps Mr. Humphrey, who was named for him, can tell us more about the matter.

Mrs. Snyder has kept the picture for 32 years when it was given to her by great aunt, Mrs. Katherine Bowman who was a close friend of Col. Scranton in youth. How long she had it is unknown. Mrs. Bowman was the daughter of William Shafer who resided in the Mansion House in the 1840s, along with the Scrantons (G. W. and S. T.) Wm. Shafer had two sons, one or both being born in that house. One was named Selden, and the other was called Peter, about whom Mr. and Mrs. Snyder recall an interesting fact. He had a tobacco pipe made from the root of a briar which he got from a Swampy piece of ground in Scranton, Pa. just where the Court House now stands. Peter was doubtless working for the Scrantons there at the time, as were many other men from Oxford.

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