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The

# BULLETIN

SECOND PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH

OXFORD, NEW JERSEY

By

A. G. YOUNT

*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.*



This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptation, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners; of whom I am chief.

Now unto the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only wise God, be honor and glory for ever and ever. Amen. I Timothy 1

O Lord, let the light of thy Gospel shine upon all nations. Be gracious unto thy Church and grant that every member may serve thee faithfully. Send down thy blessings, temporal and spiritual, upon all our relations, friends and neighbors. Reward all who have done us good, and pardon all those who have done or wish us evil, and give them repentance and better minds.

Be merciful to all who are in any trouble and do thou, God of pity, administer to them according to their necessities; for his sake who went about doing good, thy Son our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

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The Annual Chicke-Waffle Supper will be given by the Ladies of the Church the last of the month or the first of October. The date will be announced in next Issue.

The ladies will be sure to meet next Wednesday in the Chapel at 5 P.M., rain or shine. Those who request it will be brought in cars if the weather is bad.

Please plan now to attend this very important meeting.

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The Church has received a legacy of \$100. from the Will of Miss Ellen Frome. For many years she and her brother William were unable to contribute to the current expenses of the Church, but they made up for this in the above generous manner. They came to our Church from Oxford First Church in 1895, and loved the Church of Christ and were thus faithful to the end.

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The State Fall meeting of the Presbytery of Newton will take place at Alpha Church, on September 17th, at 9:30 standard time.

## Frome's Livery Stable

Many of our readers will remember the Livery Stable of Jacob Frome, though this is the first time we have heard of it.

It was located on Tunnel Hill road on the site now occupied by Mr. Burd's Filling Station. He kept about 15 horses and evidently did a big business.

He began in the 1870s and continued until 1888, when he moved to Hunterdon Co.

He lived in the third house from the corner on Mechanics street, near Odsted's Store. Here his son Caleb was born, who now resides in Washington, N.J.

His son, Wm. F. Frome, our informant, recalls going to school in the old brick school house, and of attending our Sunday school in the large class of Mrs. Lukens.

He has a vivid recollection of the time they left Oxford, for it was just after the famous snow fall, because he had the measles at that time and had to remain in the house, thus missing all the fun of that event. He remembers when Wm. R. Call lived in the house opposite to the Livery Stable now occupied by Henry Mountain. Mr. Frome now lives at Port Murray, and is the Executor of his aunt's Will (Miss Ellen Frome.)

## Mr. Humphrey's Illness

Mr. Clinton L. Weston in a letter says:--

"I received a few days ago a letter from Mr. Humphrey who is recuperating at his daughter's cottage in the Adirondacks.

He has lost considerable weight and is quite weak, but hopes to regain his health in the quiet and peaceful and invigorating atmosphere of the mountains."

We have been very uneasy about Mr. Humphrey's condition, since he wrote us several weeks ago of a severe attack at Lake George. All will hope and pray for his speedy recovery. Oxford-- our Church, the Furnace movement, and all-- has no better friend than Mr. Humphrey.

The Bulletin Acknowledges thankfully the following receipts:--

Miss Minnie Griffin	\$1.00
Miss Emma Belkey	1.00
Miss Elizabeth Coherly	1.50
Mrs. H. B. Thompson	1.00

Donations have been generous but do not yet equal our expenses.

## Dr. William Shippen's Will

The Editor while in Philadelphia lately examined the Will of Dr. William Shippen, the Elder. The original document in the handwriting of testator, is in the Historical Society building, and is in a state of perfect preservation.

It was dated Sept. 1, 1783, and is a long document, containing a description of his many properties, and the various bequests.

It was mostly devised to his three children; Dr. Wm. Jr., Joseph W., who lived in the mansion house, and Susan, who married the Rev. Samuel Blair, once President of what is now Princeton University.

Dr. Shippen had for more than thirty years been sole owner of all the Oxford Furnace lands and properties. These he devised to his son Joseph W. It reads as follows:--

"I give, devise and bequeath unto my son Joseph all my lands in Sussex County, in New Jersey, which I purchased of Jonathan Robeson and my brother Joseph Shippen, called Oxford Furnace Lands with all the improvements thereon, containing about five thousand acres of land more or less, viz. the Furnace Tract bot bought? of Wm Coxe contains 578 acres, Vansants tract 250 acres with allowance, Jona. Coxe and Comp'y tract 1000 acres, Loftus tract 1500 acres, mine tract 100 acres, Fulsome tract 100 acres, Pine Swamp 100 acres, Sam'l Smith tract 205 acres, Lime Kiln tract 140 acres, Richley's Place & Durham resurveyed for Wm. Shippen, 315 acres. Also Swamp tract 674 acres, and one acre on Delaware for landing etc."

The surprising thing in it is the statement that he purchased the Oxford Furnace lands of "Jonathan Robeson and my brother Joseph Shippen". All histories seem to have been unaware of this latter fact. It however may explain a difficulty that has long puzzled us. Mr. Robeson advertised for sale his  $\frac{1}{2}$  interest in the Oxford Furnace lands in the year 1756, and it is known that Dr. Shippen bought part of this property in 1749, and historians assume that he then got  $\frac{2}{3}$  of it from Robeson.

But Robeson's heirs say that he (Robeson) then sold less than one half of the properties to Shippen. The explanation seems to be that Joseph Shippen, of Philadelphia, and brother of the Elder Dr. Shippen, had for some time previous been a part owner of the properties.

The word "bot" may have been intended for "lot" though it seemed in the manuscript to be plainly a "b".

## Workmen at the old Furnace

It is now over fifty years since the old Furnace has been out of use, as the last cast was blown in the fall of 1884. We have pictures of the furnace about that time showing just how it looked in operation.

It would be of lasting interest if we had names of all the workmen who labored on it in the past but that cannot be known completely. However we do have many of the names of men who worked there the last time it was in blast. Mr. Patrick Kempsey three years ago wrote for the Bulletin (p. 110) a short account giving this information.

It was the following:

"The old blast furnace quit operation after a run, or blast as it was called, of 14 months, in 1884. George S. Humphrey was the Superintendent. The men who operated the various parts of the plant were:

Founders or Keepers--James Parry and William Little.

Helpers--Michael Conley and David Kilpatrick.

Top-Fillers---George Lanning, James Clausen, George Ready, Fred Peterson, George D. Little and William Cross.

Iron Carrier from Stackhouse to Yard--Adam Hartman, after whom Hartman's Corner was named.

Hauling Iron from furnace to Rolling-Mill by wagon--Hans Norgaard, Samuel Stout.

Engineers--Isaac Baylor and Patrick Kempsey.

"There were many other men doing Yard and Stackhouse work which made it a very busy place, and as a whole every one acted as if one family.

"I recall to mind at the present time that there are only four men living of the former number who worked there at that time. They are George S. Humphrey, Fred Peterson, George D. Little and Patrick Kempsey.

"The daily capacity of the furnace was 25 tons; very small compared to that of the large modern furnaces. This increase is due to the use of good coke in place of coal, and to the higher blast pressure, now as high as 500 pounds, whereas in 1884 blast pressure was only 6 to 6½ pounds per inch, and our engines revolved at 19 turns per minute, while today the engine speed hardly has a limit."



CHURCH OFFICERS

*The Session*

A. G. YOUNT, *Moderator*

*Elders*

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EDWARD T. GREEN

ELISHA B. FOSS  
LEWIS BERGENBACK



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*Assistant Superintendent* ... MRS. EDWARD T. GREEN  
*Treasurer* ..... MISS IDA SMITH  
*Secretary* ..... ALVIN RENNER  
*Organist* ..... MISS ELIZABETH ZAPP



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*President* ..... MRS. BENJAMIN GREEN  
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*Choir*

*Leader* ..... MRS. E. T. GREEN  
*Organist* ..... MRS. BENJAMIN ZAPP

