



The
BULLETIN

SECOND PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH


OXFORD, NEW JERSEY

By

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Minister



Remember the days of old, consider the years of many generations: ask thy father, and he will show thee; thy elders, and they will tell thee.—Deuteronomy, 32:7.



Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world....James I, 27

"O God and Father of all mercies Be pleased to bless and prosper all who love and serve their fellow-men with a pure heart fervently, remembering the poor, healing the sick, comforting the sorrowful, teaching the ignorant and lifting up the afflicted; fill them with the Spirit that like their Master, they may go about doing good; For thy name sake; Amen."

The Lord's Supper will be administered next Sabbath morning. Let our people meet together in Holy Communion with our Lord, that he may endow us all with divine strength at the beginning of this new year.

The meeting tonight will begin at 6:30. Every body is invited to come and enjoy these good services.

The Christmas Seal Sale amounted to only \$33.00. This is \$20.00 less than last year. Our local industries have all been idle for months, and this may in part account for the slump in offerings to this worthy cause.

We are glad to add to our mailing list Mrs. H.B.Cox, of Winchester, Mass., through the kindness of a local friend.

They were once residents of Oxford, and Mr. Cox was connected with the Iron Works here at one time.

The Bulletin is in need of more help from readers in the shape of letters, articles and other materials of general interest to them. We like to vary the contents of the paper every issue, and to do this requires a large variety of materials. We try to make the paper better every week, and with the hearty cooperation of our friends we believe this can be accomplished.

Lackawanna Historical Society
Scranton, Pa.

Letter of George W. Scranton

The editor has received the following letter from Mr. S. Fletcher Weyburn, Secretary of the Lackawanna Historical Society in Scranton, Pa., which will be read with interest:---

"A friend of mine has shown me a bulletin of your church containing the history of the 'Old Furnace at Oxford,' and a letter of Col. George W. Scranton under date of February 21, 1843, and other items.

"I am writing to ask if you could furnish me with a copy of this bulletin and also if it is possible for our Society to secure the original letter of Mr. Scranton for our archives.

"We have a very fine collection of Mr. Scranton's, and also the history of Wm. Henry who originally erected the Oxford Furnace and later became interested in securing the help of the Scrantons of Oxford Furnace in 1840 in the building of the iron industry in this section."

We were very much pleased to get this letter and made such reply as seemed called for, referred him to Mr. Humphrey as the owner of the original of the letter, and offering some information on the early history of Oxford Furnace. Oxford was so closely connected with the early history of Scranton that the two places have a mutual historical interest which should be maintained.

Mr. George S. Humphrey, in a letter written on Christmas Day, from Cortland N.Y., says "Again I have been 'laid up!' I came up here for Thanksgiving bringing with me a slight cold which developed into a bad case of real Grippe--barely escaped Pneumonia. I have been here ever since; am now able to be 'up and around,' part of the day, but am very slow in recovering my strength; can't say yet when I'll be able to return to N.Y."

Our attention has been called to a Book, "Mancy Shippen, her Journal Book." For this we have to thank Mrs. Chris Zapp who brought a review of it in the N.Y. Times, and also Mrs. Tunison who has sent for a copy of it for examination.

(In the batch of Scranton papers loaned us by Edward T. Green, there are two letters written by George W. Scranton to his brother Selden, one in 1841, and the other in 1843; the latter will be printed later. Jd.)

Harrison, Pa.

Monday Morning, Nov. 22nd, 1841

Dear Bro. Selden;

I have just finished a letter to my dear wife which I partly wrote last eve--and two others to Easton, and have but little time now before the mail, and have not much now to add. We are going ahead as fast as we can with our work; think now we shall be ready to put fire in this day two weeks. I hope you will be able to come up then--of course I shall inform you again as to the time certainly.

Things do not go as smoothly between Mr. H. and the rest of us as they might. Although he pretends to be friendly. Yet it seems hard for him to understand exactly, what all this means. He firmly agreed to do nothing hereafter without consulting each other. But he has broken through and wrote to Mr. Groves of Danville, and to Mr. David Thomas of the Cram Works to send us each a man (founder) to help us start. He has not told me of this yet, but told Templin. Now it is money thrown away to get them. We don't want any more than our own good crew to do up the thing right. Templin says he has done it. Just because I have come up and a change has been made in things. Perhaps you can see through it.

I send a note enclosed, drawn by Jno. Vap for \$100. at the O. of D. & D. the 25th inst. I think you have the in the Book. Please attend to it, although it will be behind the time, but I have written to Mr. Mattes about it and he will not protest it. We must pay and pay some of it.

Clark is at the door with the horse and says it is high time for the mail; so I shall have to close abruptly.

From your Bro. George.

Let me hear how you get along on the canal.

One value of this letter is that it fixes the date of the first cast of the new furnace at Scranton, which if the plan was carried out would be December 5th, 1841, if that was the first furnace. The note drawn (over)

by Jno. Vap at the O. of D. & D. brings out an interesting financial institution of a century ago. It refers to the Office of Discount and Deposit, at Easton, as many cancelled notes before us make plain. We do not know whether or not that was a State or private institution.

In addition to George Scranton's letters of 1841 and 1843 we have one of 1842 by William Stuart, and all of them chiefly concern the new furnace at Scranton, Pa.

Mr. Stuart's letter as follows:

Harrison Feb. 9th, 1842.

Mr. Selden Scranton

Dear Sir: Agreeable to your request I herewith send you the present state of affairs at the Furnace. I should have written before, but supposed you had got an almost daily account through Mrs Grant and George. We made a fine casting yesterday, but it was the result of 18 hours blowing. The pipes leak very much. Davis thinks that about half of the blast is lost, the bellowses have have also sprung a few leaks; but they have succeeded in getting the latter stopped. The leaks in the oven cannot be got at so easily, and they have concluded to let them go. Davis is of the opinion that if he had enough blast and that hot, he could run the quantity of iron up to 50 tons a week. The quality of it continues good. There is now on hand say about 50 ton. There have been a few sales but small.

George wishes me to say to you that he received your letter yesterday containing the remittance etc. Mr. Grant has not yet returned. George is expecting Mr. Barnet up this week to see about the pipes. We are doing the same business as usual in the store; cash sales light. As it is growing late in the morning this scratch will have to be drawn to a close.

With my best respects to your family.

Yours respectfully

W. Stuart.

There has been no late development in the Furnace restoration plan.

The architects have not yet completed the plans, and nothing can be done until then. We must have patience, and no doubt of the final successful outcome.



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