

Oct 10-37

380

*The*  
**BULLETIN**

SECOND PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH

OXFORD, NEW JERSEY

By

A. G. YOUNT  
*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.*

Bulletin No. 380. October 10, 1937

Blessed is the man whom thou choosest, and causest to approach unto thee, that he may dwell in thy courts: we shall be satisfied with the goodness of thy house, even thy holy temple. ----Psalm 65:4

"Eternal God, before whose face the generations rise and pass away; age after age the living seek thee, and find that of thy faithfulness there is no end. Our fathers in their pilgrimage walked by thy guidance, and rested on thy compassion; still to their children be thou the cloud by day, the fire by night. In our manifold temptations thou alone knowest and art ever nigh: in sorrow, thy pity revives the fainting soul; in our prosperity and ease, it is thy Spirit only that can wean us from our pride and keep us low. In thee only may we safely trust at all times. Amen."

-----

The Meeting to organize the Hillside Cemetery Association next Wednesday at 2 P.M. in the School building, is of great importance to Oxford. Mr. Weston, chairman, will be in charge and have the papers and plans ready to lay before the people. A large attendance will best indicate the genuine public interest.

-----

The Chicken-Waffle Supper was well supported in every way, and the Ladies are gratified with the good success resulting. The net proceeds were about \$97.00.

At a meeting last Thursday it was decided to have the usual Halloween party in the chapel on Monday night, October 25th.

-----

The last two parties by the women down Axford ave, resulted in receipts of \$5.00 and \$17.00 respectively, making a total for them of \$47.25, for the months of August and September.

A bundle of business papers of the 1840s and 1850s, most of them belonging to Charles Scranton, has been put in our hands by Edward T. Green. They are interesting and have historical value.

A small memorandum book of 1840 belonging to Mr. Scranton, has this note:— "Left Madison Ct. for Oxford Furnace, December 14, 1838." "I left Madison Connecticut for Oxford Furnace, N.J. to live with Selden T. Scranton, for a season."

Charles Scranton evidently united with the Oxford First Church soon after coming here, and that he was active in that old Church, is shown by the fact that in 1855 he was on the building committee, and acted as their secretary. For one of these papers is a notice to builders put in the news papers, by Mr. Scranton, asking sealed proposals for "the building of a meeting house at Oxford New Jersey, on the site of the present house... Specifications can be had at the Store of Mr. Samuel Jones near the Church, or at the Store of Mr. Charles Scranton at Oxford Furnace. --June 20, 1855."

The building committee were James Hiles; Samuel Jones; Levi Mackey; Geo. H. Shoemaker; John Hixson; Michael Boyer; George Titman; Elisha Barton; and Charles Scranton.

Another interesting paper is a contract between Mr. Scranton and Moses Woolverton in which the latter agrees to deliver at Bridgeville, for the Warren Railroad, 1000 oak and chestnut cross ties, or 2000 if he could get them out in time.

He was to receive 33 cents each for the ties. The date was June, 14, 1855

There are 24 "Agreements," with men to work for the Company in the mines, store, foundry, furnace, smith, and otherwise; and several for hauling wood for charcoal, and some for burning it. The two localities then were at Green Pond and Brass Castle. The contracts are all in legal form and witnessed. They all have the date of 1854, except a few in 1853, and one 1852.

"Iron, the most abundant and cheapest of the heavy metals, the strongest and most magnetic of known substances, is perhaps the most indispensable of all save the air we breathe and the water we drink.

"For one kind of meat we could substitute another; wool could be replaced by cotton, silk or fur; were our common silicate glass gone, we could probably perfect and cheapen some other of the transparent solids; but even if the earth could be made to yield any substitute for the millions of tons of iron which we use each year for rails, wire, machinery, and structural purposes of many kinds we could not replace either the steel of our cutting tools or the iron of our magnets, the basis of all commercial electricity. This usefulness iron owes in part, indeed, to its abundance, through which it has led us in the last few thousands of years to adapt our ways to it; but still in chief part first to the single qualities in which it excels, such as its strength, its magnetism, and the property which it alone has of being made at will extremely hard by sudden cooling and soft and extremely pliable by slow cooling; and second, to the special combinations of useful properties in which it excels, such as its strength with its ready welding and shaping both hot and cold; and third, to the great variety of its properties. It is a very Proteus. It is extremely hard in our files and razors, and extremely soft in our horse-shoe nails, which in some countries the smith rejects unless he can bend them on his forehead; with iron we cut and shape iron. It is extremely magnetic and almost non-magnetic; as brittle as glass and almost as pliable and ductile as copper; extremely springy, and springless and dead; wonderfully strong, and very weak; conducting heat and electricity easily, and again offering great resistance to their passage; here welding readily, there incapable of welding; here very infusible, there melting with relative ease. (over)

"The coincidence that so indispensable a thing should also be so abundant, that an iron-needing man should be set on an iron-cored globe, certainly suggests design.

"The indispensableness of such abundant things as air, water and light is readily explained by saying that their very abundance has evolved a creature dependent on them.

"But the indispensable qualities of iron did not shape man's evolution, because its great usefulness did not arise until historic times, or even, as in the case of magnetism, until modern times.

"These variations in the properties of iron are brought about in part by corresponding variations in mechanical and thermal treatment, by which it is influenced profoundly, and in part by variations in the proportions of certain foreign elements which it contains; for, unlike most of the other metals, it is never used in the pure state.

"Indeed, pure iron is a rare curiosity."

-----  
The above tribute to iron is taken from an article by Prof. H. M. Howe, professor of metallurgy, Columbia University.

-----  
Mr. Weber sends a few items to add to Mr. Weston's catalogue of old Oxford traits:-- "Clin's reminiscence of by-gone days in Oxford, was true to form, interesting and humorous.

Yet he did not name them all. Here are others: When men wore paper or celluloid collars and cuffs, and boys wore muslin galluses--home-made of course; when men shaved once a week, and those who shaved twice a week were considered quite genteel. This applied to us Mill and Factory men.

-----  
Donations to the Bulletin Fund received lately .

Miss Mary Odsted \$2.00

Mrs. Luther Godschalk \$2.00

A friend for three subscriptions \$5.00.



**CHURCH OFFICERS**

*The Session*

**A. G. YOUNT, Moderator**

*Elders*

**ABRAM PITTENGER  
EDWARD T. GREEN**

**ELISHA B. FOSS  
LEWIS BERGENBACK**



*Board of Trustees*

**JAMES RADEL  
GEORGE DOCKER, JR.  
FRED K. SARSON  
EDWARD SHARPS**

**HARRY MILLER  
CHARLES RENNER  
LEWIS E. GREEN  
CHARLES DUX**

**BENJAMIN GREEN**



*Church Treasurer*

**LEWIS E. GREEN**



*Sunday School*

<i>Superintendent</i> .....	<b>E. B. FOSS</b>
<i>Assistant Superintendent</i> .....	<b>CHRIS SEIPLE</b>
<i>Secretary</i> .....	<b>ALVIN RENNER</b>
<i>Treasurer</i> .....	<b>MERRILL FOSS</b>
<i>Organist</i> .....	<b>MISS RUTH SNYDER</b>
<i>Assistant Organist</i> .....	<b>MISS ALICE BELL</b>



*Ladies' Aid Society*

<i>President</i> .....	<b>MRS. A. G. YOUNT</b>
<i>Vice-President</i> .....	<b>MRS. BENJAMIN GREEN</b>
<i>Secretary</i> .....	<b>MRS. RAYMOND RUSH</b>
<i>Treasurer</i> .....	<b>MRS. LEWIS E. GREEN</b>

*Choir*

*Leader* ..... **MRS. E. T. GREEN**

