

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.

Watch ye, stand fast in the
faith, quit you like men, be strong.
Let all your things be done in
charity. --I Cor. 16:13-14

"O God, Father of our spirits, and
Giver of all good; Grant that we
may live in such fellowship with
thee that we shall grow into thy
likeness, and share thy life. Free
us from fretting and pride, and be-
get within us a meek and modest
spirit. Deliver us from the
bondage and bitterness of a worldly
life, and lead us into the large and
joyous liberty of Christ. May he
so dwell within us that his spirit
shall become our disposition, and
spring up within us a well of water
unto everlasting life. Lead us in a
plain path along life's journey, and
at last may we enter in through the
gates into the City. And this we
ask in Jesus' name. Amen."

Mrs. Anna M. Peterson, 81 years
of age, widow of Nels Peterson, died
last Sunday evening, Feb. 20, from
the effects of a fall in her home
resulting in a broken hip.

The older citizens of Oxford
will remember her best when she and
Mr. Peterson worked in the tailor
shop over the Company office with
Benjamin Walton, and later in the
house in Buckley Avenue which be-
came the home of Mr. and Mrs. Peter-
son. She was born in Denmark
and a few years since gave the
writer a most interesting account
of her early life there before com-
ing to America. She was a very
intelligent woman, could read and
speak both Danish and German, and
English perfectly. Since her hus-
band's death she has lived alone,
and was alone when the accident
occurred. She was the oldest wom-
an in Oxford at time of death, and
possibly the oldest person here.

The interment was in Hillside
Cemetery.

Miss Person To her Friends

May I through the Bulletin extend to all my dear friends far and near my sincere thanks and hearty appreciation of the many, many beautiful cards and greetings received for my 90th birthday, Feb. 18th.

As I look out of my window on this beautiful winter scene I wish that I might take each one by the hand and say, 'What a wonderful world God has given us to live in, with all the beautiful things in it, and with all one's dear friends.'

It would be impossible for me to acknowledge all the greetings received, but every one made me happy.

Often some little thing will come to my mind from some greeting, as this from little Clara Brigham, who says, 'Although I was very small when you lived with us, yet I have a very distinct remembrance of you sitting in your room by the Store.'

And I have a very distinct remembrance of my little pal Clara—she followed me to school one day, it was against the rule, it made the children laugh and play, etc.'

And here is 'Sammie' Cooper's message

To A Friend

We thank our Father, God Almighty
Who has spared you to be ninety,
And by your counsel you have been
A help to the children of men,—
In this world of sin and strife,—
Along the pathway to eternal life.

As days of another year unfold
May His arms you safely enfold,
And His spirit you attend
Until you enter rest and joy without

(end.)

The local news paper, The Warren Journal, had a fine write-up, with a special picture, of Miss Person, and quoted from Mr. Weston's article in the Bulletin.

Mr. Humphrey aptly quoted in his card the old Scotch verse
"Should auld acquaintance be forgot"
Which delighted Miss Person, as well it might, for old time friends are precious beyond most things in life. Mr. Weston writes that Miss Person was "Fairly deluged with cards of greeting that has brought her untold happiness."

OLD OXFORD FURNACE

Such is the title of Bulletin 9 in the series of Stories of New Jersey, prepared for use in public schools by the Federal Writers' Project of the WPA.

The story contains about 3000 words with a large picture of the old furnace, boiler-house and mill.

It is a surprisingly interesting popular account made up of many and various items; which give a vivid and informative narrative of the furnace history and products.

The fact that it is sent to all the schools, libraries, and other institutions of the State, make it a matter of greatest importance in publicizing the old furnace.

The staff of the "Project" have done a fine job and deserve the commendation of all who are interested in the plan to restore and preserve this old historic structure.

We have made application for a large number of copies of the story to be used for various purposes in the interests of the movement.

The Washington, N. J. Star, of a recent issue printed most of the story in a prominent manner, and with its circulation of 5000 the story reaches multitudes who might not otherwise read it. For several years the Star has been most generous in print-information about the furnace history and we are glad to make acknowledgment of the service it has rendered to the cause.

Apart from a few minor mistakes the historical statements are correct. This is most gratifying because of the many inaccuracies in all the accounts in histories.

Last year the Director of the "Project" invited the Editor to send a draft of a story of the furnace, but owing to the press of duties connected with the annual reunion, and also because he did not feel competent to write a story of the type fitted for this series of popular school stories, he could not undertake the work, but sent some information. And last Fall the Director sent the first draft to him for his "opinion and corrections" and he complied with this courteous request with great pleasure and to the best

(over)

of his knowledge and ability. This information was made use of in a gratifying manner, by the Director so that we can say that it is an accurate historic account of the furnace, and such as will convey to readers in general a correct idea of the furnace history.

Those who may not get hold of a copy may obtain them from the Federal Writers' Project, of the WPA, 1060 Broad street, Newark, N.J. They will send them free to all who may write them.

Mr. Humphrey sent us a clipping from the Phila. Inquirer, of Feb. 13th, containing a dispatch from Cornwall, Pa. with the title, "Old Iron Furnace Historic Shrine," The dispatch reads

"A 196-year-old iron furnace that provided cannon for George Washington's army is Pennsylvania's newest historic shrine. The 31-foot-high cold-blast furnace near this village (Cornwall) has been restored to its original condition by the Pennsylvania Historical Commission."

Mr. Humphrey adds this fitting comment, "This ought to stir up the New Jersey authorities!"

The Editor has has been familiar with the history of the old Cornwall furnace, and that it is the only old furnace rival of Oxford furnace.

In Swanks' History, (1884) it is stated that "in 1880 it (Oxford furnace) divided with Cornwall furnace in Pennsylvania the honor of being the oldest furnace in the United States that was then in operation."

But Oxford furnace dates from 1741 a year older than Cornwall, and besides Cornwall never used hot-blast, first used in Oxford in 1834, being the first furnace in America to apply it, nor did Cornwall ever build up about a great industrial plant, as did Oxford.

Yet New Jersey lags behind Penna. in caring for this important structure which better than any object in the State illustrates the industrial development from early colonial times. If the State Assembly were fully informed about it they would doubtless provide for its restoration and upkeep.

