

439

The
BULLETIN

SECOND PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

OXFORD, NEW JERSEY

By

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Minister



Oxford Historical Record

Bulletin No. 439. Dec. 4, 1938

Ye are all the children of light, and the children of the day; we are not of the night, nor of darkness.

Therefore let us not sleep, as do others. But let us, who are of the day, be sober putting on the breastplate of faith and love; and for a helmet the hope of salvation.

-----I Thessalonians 5:5-8

"O God, who art mindful of thy children everywhere; Reveal thy mercy unto all men, and remember in thy love those for whom we make intercession. Enlighten all who are perplexed in faith, support those who are tempted and tried, awaken those who are asleep, comfort the afflicted and the broken-hearted with thy ever gracious presence. Give peace, O Lord, in our time, and unite all hearts in the love of Thy Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen."

The Ladies Aid will hold their regular monthly meeting next Tuesday afternoon at 2:30, at the home of Mrs Hoagland.

All the officers of the Church are requested to meet at the church Monday evening at 7:30

The repair of the church chimney has been completed, and it now seems certain that the leak that has damaged the church for many years has been stopped.

The church has to thank Elder Lewis Bergenback for this good work, for he took up a subscription, and had the work done.

Those who gave \$2.00 each were; Charles Renner, Lewis Bergenback, Hayden Docker, Carol Meyers, Benjamin Zapp, James Radel, Raymond Rush, Ray Frey. \$1.00 gifts were by Delmar Green, Earl Green, Benjamin Green, Edmund Oram, L. J. Bayliss, Walter Docker. \$2.25 in less amounts were given by others.

The mason work was done by Wm. Farley of Washington, with the help of Joseph Docker.

More about Hot-Blast

We have found an interesting item about the history of hot-blast in relation to Oxford Furnace.

Wm. Henry made use of the process in the Furnace in 1834, the first in this country. It was invented in England in 1828, and we have wondered how Mr. Henry came to know about it.

This has been a missing link, so to speak, in our history of the hot-blast in Oxford.

We now feel sure this gap in our knowledge is closed by an item we have just discovered in an old copy of the "Belvidere Apollo" of the date of June 22, 1830. Here it is:--

"Smelting of Iron:-- Heated air for blast furnaces has been used for some time at the Clyde Iron Works in Scotland, and with great success. Experiments have proved that iron is smelted by heated air with three-fourths of the quantity of coals required when cold air, air not artificially heated, is employed for that purpose, while the produce of the furnace in iron is at the same time greatly increased.

"The furnaces at the Clyde Iron Works are now blown with it. At these works the air before it is thrown into the blast furnaces is heated 220 degrees Fahr. in cast iron vessels placed on furnaces similar to those of steam engine boilers. It is expected that a higher temperature than 220 degrees will be productive of a proportionally increased effect. But this is a subject of experiment.

"It is supposed that this improvement will accomplish a saving in the cost of iron in Great Britain to the amount of at least 200,000 pounds per year."

As the above statement was in the column of clippings from other papers it may be assumed that it was printed in many other papers in the regions interested in iron works.

So that Mr. Henry had abundant opportunities to learn of the hot-blast at least four years before he applied it in Oxford.

Is it possible that he had this

this new invention in view when, in 1831, he formed a company and leased the old furnace from the Morris Robeson Estate? This idea is enforced by the fact that the furnace had not been in blast for over 20 years. Mr. Henry might have thought that by using the hot-blast he would find it profitable to operate the furnace; and so it turned out even beyond his expectations, but largely because of his remarkable improvement of the English hot-blast as described in the above quotation. How important to the iron business was Mr. Henry's "Innovation" of the method of heating the air is best described by J. M. Swank, in "Iron In All Ages," (1884, page 326):--

"The first practical application of the hot-blast in this country was made at Oxford Furnace in New Jersey, in 1834, by William Henry the manager. The waste heat at the tump passed over the surface of a nest of cast-iron pipes, through which the blast was conveyed to the furnace. The Temperature was raised to 250 degrees Fahrenheit, and the product of the furnace was increased about 10 per cent.

"In 1835 a hot-blast oven, containing cast iron arched pipes, was placed in the stack by Mr. Henry, and heated by the flame from the tunnel-head. By this means the temperature of the blast was raised to 500 degrees.

"This innovation in American blast-furnace practice increased the product of Oxford furnace about 40 per cent, with a saving of the same per cent of fuel.

"No better device for heating the blast was used in this country until about 1840. Hot blast ovens, supplied with cast iron arched pipes of various patterns, were in general use in subsequent years down to about 1861."

It is known that hot-blast was invented in England in 1828 by J. B. Neilson, but the above citations prove that Mr. Henry made a vast improvement of the process.

Thomas Bell Obit.

The death of Thomas Bell last Wednesday evening, Nov. 30th, came as a shock to the community, and his passing is mourned by all.

He was born Aug. 25th, 1879, in the house where he always lived and died.

His ancestry goes back to Colonial times on both sides. His great grandfather came from North Ireland over 150 years ago, and on his mother's side 200 years. The first birth of that line occurred in 1743.

Mr. Bell spent 40 years in unbroken service on the Railroad, and in every year received from the Company a formal commendation for excellent service. And though his health began to fail many months ago, yet he continued his work on the Lehigh & Hudson R. R. until two weeks before death.

Mr. Bell's character was in strict keeping with the sturdy and upright ancestry of the Scotch-Irish stock. Honest and honorable in all his relations with other men, faithful and just in all his duties in his home, in his work, and in the community in which he lived.

But he was of a retiring disposition, and when not at work spent all his time at home with his family.

He was united in marriage to Miss Violet Smith, which union was blest with seven children of whom five, with their mother, survive to mourn the loss of a faithful husband and a devoted father. There are four sons and one daughter:—Clifford, Alice, Kenneth, George and John.

The funeral was from the home in Oxford, Sunday A. P. M. Dec. 4th, 1938, and interment in the Cemetery at Great Meadows.

The State Council at Trenton is compiling booklets to advertise the State's points of interest, historic, scenic etc. and have included a picture and short account of Oxford Furnace which has been copied in papers all over the State. Mr. Aitkin sent copies of a Trenton and near by town papers, and a friend in Perth Amboy, sent a copy of their local paper. Oxford's good name grows.



CHURCH OFFICERS

The Session

A. G. YOUNT, *Moderator*

Elders

ABRAM PITTENGER	ELISHA B. FOSS
EMMANUEL KELSKY	LEWIS BERGENBACK



Board of Trustees

JAMES RADEL	HARRY MILLER
GEORGE DOCKER, JR.	CHARLES RENNER
FRED K. SARSON	LEWIS E. GREEN
BENJAMIN GREEN	CHARLES DUX
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Church Treasurer

LEWIS E. GREEN



Sunday School

<i>Superintendent</i>	E. B. FOSS
<i>Assistant Superintendent</i>	KENNETH BELL
<i>Secretary</i>	ALVIN RENNER
<i>Treasurer</i>	VIRGINIA ZAPP
<i>Organist</i>	FRANCES PITTENGER



Ladies' Aid Society

<i>President</i>	MRS. DELMAR GREEN
<i>Vice-President</i>	MRS. LELAND BAYLISS
<i>Secretary</i>	MRS. VIOLET BELL
<i>Treasurer</i>	MRS. LEWIS E. GREEN



Young People's Society

<i>President</i>	WILBUR JOHNSON
<i>Secretary</i>	JOSEPHINE MEYERS
<i>Treasurer</i>	MRS. ELLA RITZER
<i>Organist</i>	FLORENCE WILDRICK

