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The
BULLETIN

SECOND PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

OXFORD, NEW JERSEY

By

A. G. YOUNT
Minister



Oxford Historical Record

Because that which may be known of God is manifest in them; for God hath showed it unto them. For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made.

---Romans I:19-20

"O God, who knowest all things and from whom nothing is hid; Thou hast seen fit to limit our knowledge, and to set before us the slow learning of Thy works and ways.

Grant us grace to accept the mystery of life with a humble heart, to adore thine unsearchable majesty with a reverent mind, and to grow in wisdom daily, as more and more the order and beauty of Thy universe are made clear to us by true science. Thus may the reason which thou hast given confirm the faith without which we cannot please Thee; until at last we know even as we are known in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen."

The Sunday School will hold its annual Picnic next Saturday, at Central Park, near Bethlehem, Pa.

The bus will leave the church at 10:30 A.M. Members of the school will have free transportation, but there will be room for others for the usual fee.

The Young People are planning a trip by bus to visit the World's Fair in New York some time in August. The fare will be \$2.00 each for round trip to and from the gate of the Fair, and special admission price, so that the entire cost will be very low. About half the number necessary to fill the bus has already been secured, and those desiring to make this trip should make arrangements with the Young People's officers.

Our summer communion service will be observed on July 23rd.

The Bulletin will not be published on July 30th.

Some Old Deeds

Morris Robeson made his Will on May 4th, 1816, making his wife, Tacy, the Executrix. His death occurred on January 31st, 1823, leaving his widow and eight children, who lived in the mansion house about ten years but in the period all the children but the youngest, Joseph Paul, were married. In 1829 the Executrix advertised the sale of all the Furnace lands, and on April 1st, 1834, the property was deeded to her son William P. Robeson, and her son-in-law, John P. B. Maxwell. The consideration was \$46,000.

The next deed that concerns us, was made on April 1st, 1846, by Wm. P. Robeson and wife to G. W. and S. T. Scranton. Consideration was \$4,317.49.

This doubtless was the deed for the sale of the furnace tract of 578 acres including the furnace, mines and buildings, which had been effected in 1839.

About the same time the furnace company was reorganized with Charles Scranton President, Selden and George being in Scranton, with some new stockholders, among them Wm. E. Dodge of N. Y. City, and all the furnace lands were purchased from Wm. P. Robeson and wife, and a deed made by them to the new company. The consideration being about \$40,000. The date and exact sum we cannot now give as our notes for this have been mislaid, but will be printed later.

The next occurred after the return to Oxford of S. T. Scranton in 1858, and in 1859 the Oxford Iron Company was incorporated.

In 1863 the owners of all the furnace lands conveyed them to the new Oxford Iron Company; the stockholders being S. T. Scranton and wife, Wm. H. Scranton and wife; and James S. Scranton; G. A. Fuller of Scranton, Pa. The capital stock was \$250,000.

And later, in 1866 the property was mortgaged to a N. Y. City finance company for the sum of \$250,000.

The mortgage was never paid in full. But in 1883 the record shows that \$199,500 had been paid, and the mortgage cancelled.

All these records are in the Warren county court house in Belvidere.

Old Oxford Days

By Clinton E. Weston

In a certain local paper in the month of June, 1885, an article appeared substantially as follows:

Burglary at Oxford

"The home of Selden T. Scranton was entered by burglars at an early morning hour last Wednesday. Nothing was taken on account of their being scared away. Mr. and Mrs. Scranton were away at the time attending a wedding in Philadelphia, and staying in the house were Mr. Scranton's niece, Jennie Scranton, Millie and Clinton Weston.

"After supper on Wednesday, the evening was spent in games and music the young ladies retiring about 10:30, leaving Clinton writing at a desk on the first floor. While writing he heard a movement of one of the shutters that startled him for a moment, but hearing nothing further he kept on writing until about eleven, when he started for bed, carrying with him a basket of silver ware that he was to care for. Going to his room at the head of the stairs he placed the basket on a table and retired. About two o'clock he was suddenly awakened by a cracking sound, and then heard a window being opened on the first floor. Wondering what he would do, it was not long before he heard the burglar coming up the stairs. Jumping out of bed he pounded on the door of the young ladies shouting 'Jennie, give me the revolver, there are burglars in the house.' The revolver was thrust through the partly opened door, and then, lighting a lamp, he started down stairs followed by Jennie and Millie. Every window was found open and in the morning foot prints were in the flower garden where the burglar had jumped out of the open window. It was an exciting night and there was no further sleeping until towards morning.

Two or three days later, detectives came from Springfield, Mass., and picked up a man working in the

(over)

field near Farm 5 for burglary, and it was supposed he was the man who broke into the Scranton home.

While the above incident is as vivid in my memory as the night it occurred, it had its compensation, so far as I was concerned; for the event produced a memento that I have jealously guarded and cherished through the years. The memento is a book, entitled Ben-Hur; A Tale of the Christ. And on a fly-leaf is this inscription:

Clinton E. Weston
from your sincere friend
Ellen C. Scranton.

Rhinehart -- Sadlon

The marriage of Mabel Billie Rhinehart to Michael Sadlon took place in our church on June 30th, in the presence of the members of both families.

The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Earl Rhinehart, of Wash. N.J.

The bridegroom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Sadlon of Oxford, N.J.

The attendants were Miss Gladys Rhinehart, sister of the bride, and Mr. Paul Sadlon, brother of the bridegroom. The many friends of these excellent young people will wish their union to be a long and happy one.

The Manse has been honored this past week in having as a guest, Miss Grace Scranton, of Glen Ridge, N.J.

Miss Scranton is the grand-daughter of George W. Scranton. Her father was James Selden Scranton, who was the New York City representative of the Oxford Iron Company sixty years ago, in the period of Oxford's greatest prosperity. Miss Scranton spent her summer vacations in Oxford in her girlhood days, and has many vivid recollections of her experiences here, where she spent most of her time in the homes of her uncle, Wm. H. Scranton and her great uncle, Selden T. Scranton. Her memories are all of very great happiness, and her love for Oxford is genuine. She brought to the Manse much pleasure by her charming personality and delightful reminiscences of the distinguished families with which she was connected.



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A. G. YOUNT, *Moderator*

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