

485

The
BULLETIN

SECOND PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

OXFORD, NEW JERSEY

By

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Minister



Oxford Historical Record

Bulletin No. 485. October 29, 1939

Again, the kingdom of heaven is like unto a treasure hid in a field; the which when a man hath found, he hideth, and for joy thereof goeth and selleth all that he hath, and buyeth that field.

----Matthew 13:44

"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 beget 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 our Saviour, Jesus Christ. May He so dwell in 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 into Thy kingdom and Thy glory, through the grace of Thy Son, our Lord and Saviour. Amen "

The Bulletin's 10th Anniversary will occur on November 16th.

On that date, 1929, the first copy was issued. The edition of Nov. 12th will be devoted to the record, from the beginning to the present time, of its rise and growth.

The need of national humility would at this time be more becoming than the self-confident tone of public speakers and writers, who appear to be quite certain this country shall not be drawn into the present war abroad.

We all hope and pray that there shall be a blessed deliverance of the nation from another conflict with foreign countries.

But our people should never forget that the destinies of men and nations are in the hand of God, whose ways are past finding out.

The lesson that presses for attention is to recognize this supreme truth, and humbly to seek help and deliverance from God.

Letter from Dr. Geo. DeB. Keim
Chairman of the State Commission
on Historic Sites, to the Editor:

"I have your letter of October 11th, 1939, and I am interested in hearing about your talk with Governor Moore concerning an appropriation for Oxford Furnace. We have included the sum of \$2,000 in our Budget for the fiscal year starting July 1st, 1940. This Budget has been forwarded to Mr. A. H. F. Stephan, State Budget Commissioner, and will be reviewed by him with the Governor in connection with the preparation of the Governor's Budget Message.

We, of course, will go over this matter with Mr. Stephan, and if you care to join us in Trenton when the Budget Hearing is heard on our request, I will be glad to give you notice of this meeting.

I am most hopeful that something can be worked out, and will look forward to receiving your co-operation, as well as that of your associates in Warren County."

Mr. F. H. Kingsbury, in his recent visit in Oxford, related two incidents of his boyhood days in Oxford which are worth recording.

His memories go back to the 1860's and he recalls that he was often in the home of S. T. Scranton, along with other children. For though the Scranton's had no children of their own they liked to have children in their home. Mr. Kingsbury says that his clearest recollection of Mr. Scranton in his home is that he was always studying a big Dictionary.

This pleased us because having read a number of his letters we were surprised at the terse and forceful style in them. It is well known that a study of dictionaries is one of the best ways to cultivate a clear and accurate vocabulary.

Another story concerns the Rev. I. B. Hopwood, the first Pastor of our Church, from 1863 to 1865. He was then a youngman of studious habits and, was inclined to be absentminded. One hot Sabbath while preaching in the stone chapel, to wipe his face, he drew from his inside coat pocket his wife's stocking!

Old Oxford Days— School Days
By Clinton E. Weston

When the brick school building burned about 15 years ago there disappeared a landmark in which scores of young folk spent years in having the 4 R's forced into their systems.

I augment the traditional 3 R's with the 4th to represent the ruler that came in contact with one's hand for disobedience. With the destruction of this building there passes in review the incidents, the early associations and faithful teachers whose characters and ideals have left their imprint on many who sat under their teachings. Many of them, both teachers and scholars, have now passed on to the great Teacher of all mankind. The school was fortunate in its selection of able instructors, especially those of my generation, who I believe set a standard by which the school won some recognition in the educational field.

I have in mind such efficient teachers as Alfred H. Skinner, Jesse Glen, Fannie Person, Charles Aitkin and others. And here I want to pay

a personal tribute to the memory of a lovable character and an ideal teacher who was endowed with a remarkable disposition, firm in discipline and kind in understanding.

In an autograph album before me I find inscribed under the date of January 13th, 1881; "Your loving friend— Ella M. Innes." Requiescat in pace. Miss Innes later became Mrs. Charles Wiseburn.

From this school a number of the scholars became wellknown teachers. A few I recall are Martha Shafer, Josie Johanson, Lizzie Ward, William Jones.

With the assortment of various types of scholars it was by no means a sinecure for the teacher; for it required tact, patience and firmness. When the company works were idle for a time a number of boys and men went temporarily to school, and it was a problem to classify them.

Every boy was a proud possessor of a jack-knife and all of the woodwork, including seats, desks and the auxiliary buildings, were hewn, hacked, cut and carved with every figure, letter, character and symbol imaginable.

(over)

In Casterline's time, Friday afternoons were set apart for singing and oratorical flights in which good old poems like "The Wreck of the Hesperus" were done to a turn, and often before they were finished we all felt wrecked. Once one of the aspiring female vocalists commenced to sing, "I Wish't I Were a Bird;" and one of the fellows yelled, "I wish't you were, I'd shot you an hour ago."

Once the senior class, without permission or notification, decided to visit the school in Jackson Valley.

Much to the teacher's surprise, when he returned from lunch, he found the room empty. The affair came up before the Trustees to decide what punishment should be meted out.

One of the class members suggested that we be given a month's leave of absence, but he was declared out of order. In a few days the affair passed over; the teacher perhaps feeling that for one afternoon he had had a real rest.

A good story went the rounds about a mother who asked her daughter if "Son" had come home from school.

The daughter replied that he was home, but she had not seen him.

Mother wanted to know how she knew he was home if she had not seen him.

The daughter said she knew he was home because the cat was up the tree, the dog was hiding under the porch, and all the chickens were on top of the house. The point of this is to show what the teachers sometimes had to put up with.

Mr Casterline was a very estimable man but he had not the temperament to be a ruler of a brain factory.

Once he said to one of the boys: "Dan, stand up, I want to try you in a sum in arithmetic. Supposing your mother owed the landlord \$40., the butcher \$30. and the baker \$18. What would it amount to?" And the answer came back, "It wouldn't amount to anything— we would move."

These incidents however are mere side-lines, being an off-set to more or less conscientious study, and at times in our work we were earnest and serious.

In retrospect things take on a more humorous turn. While the actual scenes have long since gone to blend with the mysterious tide of eternity, the events of the period are retained in memory.



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