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The
BULLETIN

SECOND PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

OXFORD, NEW JERSEY

By

A. G. YOUNT
Minister



Oxford Historical Record

And Joshua called for all Israel, and for their elders, and for their heads, and for their judges, and for their officers, and said unto them, I am old and stricken in age:

And, behold, this day I am going the way of all the earth: and ye know in all your hearts, and in all your souls, that not one thing hath failed of all the good things which the Lord your God spake concerning you; all are come to pass unto you, and not one thing hath failed thereof. -----Joshua 23: 2, 14.

"O God, who by Thy word hast given unto us exceeding great and precious promises; encourage us by Thy Spirit to a confident expectation of all good things from Thee; that we may abide and labor in the cheerfulness of a godly hope. And do Thou so increase in us the desire for good, that the hope which joins us to Thee may not be shaken by any wavering of faith, but may endure in steadfastness of love. Amen."

The Sunday School Christmas Exercises will be given on Friday evening, Dec. 22nd. An interesting program is being prepared.

The Cafeteria Supper and Fair will be held by the Ladies of the Church on Thursday next, Dec. 14th, beginning at 5 o'clock P.M.

Mrs. Herbert L. Miller, of Oakland California remembers us with a Thanksgiving card- message, saying:-

" Inclosed please find check for \$5.00, our Thanksgiving offering We have so much to be thankful for as Mr. Miller has enjoyed excellent health this year, something unusual in past years."

Some of our readers may not know that Mrs. Miller was born in Oxford in 1874, the daughter of Maximilian and Frederica Weber. Her mother was a member of our Church, and Mrs. Miller was baptized in infancy by Rev. E. Clark Cline. The family moved to California about 1882 or 3.

Irvin B. Petty

Old Oxford Days
By Clinton E. Weston

Oxford has lost another of its elder citizens in the passing of Irvin B. Petty, which took place last Thursday, Dec. 7th, 1939, his birth occurring July 17th, 1867, at Carrsville, N. J. The Petty family is said to have come originally from Virginia, and settled in Hunterdon and Warren Counties. But this migration must have been more than a century ago, because we find the names of John and Joseph Petty in the Oxford Iron Company's ledger in the year 1840. They were then in the employ of the Company as "Choppers", doubtless wood for charcoal.

Mr. Petty's own father was a carpenter. When Mr. Petty was a young man he went to New York and found work on the street cars. But later returned to Oxford and obtained a place in the Company store, and spent the most of his life with this company and later with the Standard silk mill, as night watchman.

On Jan. 8th, 1898 he was married to Albertina Belkey, who survives him, and also three children: Leelie, Wilmont, and Mrs. Gladys De Vries.

Mr. Petty's parents were Baptists in religion, and though he was not connected with any local Church he was always a sincere Christian in faith and character. And last Wednesday he desired to be baptized and the pastor of this church was called and performed this sacred rite, to the great comfort of the sick man and his family.

He was a quiet, home-loving man and rather avoided than sought the company of others. His honesty was of the conscientious kind that affected all his conduct. He was well liked and respected by his working companions, for he was gentle and kind by nature.

The funeral was from the house on Sunday 2 P.M. Dec. 10, 1939. Interment was in the Hillside Cemetery.

"Do all the good you can, by all the means you can, in all the ways you can, to all the persons you can, in all the places you can, as long as ever you can,"

There is an old saying which goes: "Murder will out."

The term does not necessarily have to be taken literally, but can be applied to fit various cases, such as for instance, informing an unsuspecting public of an incident that has been kept under cover for a number of years and then of a sudden have it explode right in one's physiognomy without having a chance to duck, leaving us in a condition bordering on sea-sickness or shell-shock. Consider the situation.

Here is a streamlined model of a descendant of Adam who was from the first endowed with a nobleness of nature that created a natural inclination to strive for the better things of life, and as these virtues developed in the growing youth to a definite policy, they became polished off with a real and becoming dignity.

Now after a lapse of half a century or more, all of a sudden, he rocks the boat with a staggering confession that he pelted some innocent but reported incompetent performers, while attending an intertainment in the old school house (see Bulletin No. 488) with an assortment of juicy fruit, nervous laid eggs and dyspeptic tomatoes.

I hope the letter were not in cans when he threw them. Result, utter confusion. Bell was rung and the town was set on what ever it could sit on. Came the dawn with a promise of a bright, clear day but which was soon over-shadowed with a rich, thick and sticky gloom.

Soon after daylight many of the fair sex were seen whispering to one another over the back fence. The men wending their way to work that morning winked at one another and grinned.

Now if it had been Ed. or Frank Perkins, Cort. Cook, Sam. Cooper, George Weber or even myself, people would have taken it as a matter of course especially the first three mentioned who were known as village cut-ups. But to have George do it put it dangerously close to being a classic

(over)

I can say, however, without fear of contradiction, that his reputation remains untarnished and all is forgiven. By the way, George, how soon will you relate another exciting episode in which you were mixed up?

P.S. I am expecting a stormy and violent comeback from the above mentioned buckaroos, but I am prepared. I have plans before me for an impenetrable storm shelter.

A good friend sends this beautiful incident:-

"Our Share in the Undying
Light."

"The story is told of a man who, in tramping over English moors, suddenly came upon a tiny chapel in a hamlet of thatch-roofed cottages. After kneeling in that place of peace, he fell into conversation with the woman who owned the little chapel, keeping it spotless and beautiful. 'Excuse me one moment' she said, 'I must light my lamp,' and she disappeared into the house, and returned instantly with another tiny, ruby, altar lamp in which floated a fresh unlighted wick.

"She passed into the chapel, and I watched with interest from the door, while, with a lamp lighted at the suspended lamp, she lit the new lamp she carried, and substituted it for the one whose service was expiring.

"She did it all with a deft grace infused with most obvious loving-kindness, and as she came out carrying the flickering lamp, I asked, 'Is it essential to light the new lamp from the old one?' 'Why' she said, 'of course. In that way you see, the light is never extinguished. It typifies the love of God which never dies.'

The Bulletin acknowledges receipt of \$2.00 from Mr. Enos Hoagland, and \$1.00 from Mr. Harry Wilkinson.

We are pleased to learn of the increasing interest of our citizens in Oxford history. More are getting the Bulletin, and strangers frequently inquire about the old furnace, and arrangements have been made to supply the with literature.



CHURCH OFFICERS

The Session

A. G. YOUNT, *Moderator*

Elders

ABRAM PITTENGER
EMMANUEL KELSKY

ELISHA B. FOSS
LEWIS BERGENBACK



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Church Treasurer

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Sunday School

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<i>Secretary</i>	ALVIN RENNER
<i>Treasurer</i>	MARGARET MILLER
<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

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<i>Secretary</i>	JEANE ORAM
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<i>Organist</i>	FRANCES PITTENGER

