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*The*  
BULLETIN

OXFORD, NEW JERSEY

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By

REV. A. G. YOUNT, Ph. D.

Pastor

SECOND PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH



*Oxford Historical Record*

Now the man Moses was very meek  
above all the men which were upon  
the face of the earth.

---- Numbers 12:3

(We give below Lincoln's farewell  
address to his neighbors in Spring-  
field, Ill. on Feb. 11, 1861, on board-  
ing the train for Washington to become  
President. It is a noble prayer, and  
the most moving of all his addresses

"My Friends: No one not in my  
situation can appreciate my feeling  
of sadness at this parting. To this  
place, to the kindness of these peo-  
ple, I owe everything; here I have  
been a quarter of a century and have  
passed from a young man to an old  
man. Here my children have been born  
and one is buried. I now leave not  
knowing when or whether I ever may  
return, to a task before me greater  
than that which rested on Washington

Without the assistance of that Di-  
vine Being who ever attended him I  
cannot succeed; with this assistance  
I cannot fail. Trusting in Him who  
can go with me and remain with you  
and be everywhere for good, let us  
confidently hope that all will yet  
be well. In that same Almighty Being  
I place my reliance for support, and  
I hope you, my friends, will all pray  
that I may receive that Divine as-  
sistance without which I cannot suc-  
ceed, but with which success is cer-  
tain. To His care, I am commending  
you, as I hope, in your prayers, you  
will commend me. I bid you all an  
affectionate farewell."

The Church Choir will conduct  
a home baked sale at Mr. Rush's hard-  
ware store on next Saturday. There  
will be bread, pies and cakes.

The proceeds will be used to buy  
new music for the Choir.

The Ladies Supper on the evening  
of Feb. 1st, was a very pleasant oc-  
casion, with fair attendance and  
and results. The social feature  
was gratifying. Mr. Floyd Dreisbach  
and his sisters Lydia and Matilda  
came from Phillipsburg, and all  
were glad to see them.

We have to thank Mr. Charles Aitkin for the following note dated Feb. 2nd, about the death of J. Irving Quick.

"I have received word that Mr. J. Irving Quick died in a Scranton Hospital this week.

For some years he was a resident of Oxford, being head bookkeeper at the Company Store.

He married the daughter of Michael Hilbert and is survived by two daughters, Mrs. Reba Leish and Miss Florence. For five years he was deputy County clerk under Theodore P. Hopler, residing at Belvidere.

Subsequently he moved to Scranton where he resided many years.

Although he was of the Methodist persuasion, he was active in our Oxford life fifty years ago, so I thought that a line or two under necrology would be appreciated in the Bulletin."

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Mrs. John Eckmeter passed away at advanced age on Jan. 13th, at Easton. The funeral Jan. 17, in the 2nd. Presbyterian Church, Belvidere, and the burial at the Hazen Cemetery.

Mrs. Mary E. Eckmeter was the daughter of George Radel who lived near the limestone quarry.

She attended school at the old Oxford school house where Dr. Knighton was the teacher. She also went to the Sunday school at the first Oxford Church which she later became a member of, before she was transferred to our Church in 1892.

She was a resident of Oxford until about 1920 when she and her husband moved to Belvidere.

She was a very active worker in our Church, and her removal was greatly regretted. According to our records she never removed her membership to Belvidere, though she worshipped in the 2nd Presbyterian church there.

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Our good friend Patrick Kempsey is in the Easton Hospital; by the last report is somewhat better. Also the report comes that Mr. Joseph Scranton is quite ill, at his home at Mountain Lake (Greens Pond). Their many old time friends will trust that they may soon recover their usual health.

## More Clerks in the Old Days By George S. Humphrey

In his most interesting reminiscences of his Oxford days Dean Perkins gives a remarkably complete list of the persons employed in the office and store of the company. My personal connection with the business began in 1875, and I can remember only a few whom he hasn't mentioned. When I came to Oxford the store butcher was Herman Schelinger who was succeeded by Thos. Kempsey. Fred Fowler and Jim Loder were in the grocery. Fred later transferred to the dry-goods counter and Jim to the entry desk. Robert Gray and George Innes handled the dry-goods. I think Fred Bigelow was for a time in the butcher shop. It seems to me that besides Elias Allen there were several who served for short periods in the hardware department but I can only remember that Walter Henry was there early in the 80s. Wm. S. Cooke had charge of the entry desk with an assistant, who was succeeded by Jim Loder. In the office, besides those listed by the Dean was a young man named Woolever (Robert I think) who was just leaving, being succeeded by myself.

Milton L'Homidieu and John Dahlke were also once employed there.

Long after I left Fred Fowler was Store Manager in the time of the Empire Steel Company. I believe he was followed by Charles Creveling."

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Mr. George Weber also writes:-  
"I was very much interested in Ed's letter about the Co. Store. He pictured it as it used to be.

It brought back old times--almost like meeting old friends at our reunions. I had four jobs at the store--1st, night watchman. I succeeded Uncle Billy Searing. On pay days I used to have my father with me a couple nights each month, because of a scare I had at one time.

My next job was porter. My 3rd, was clerk in the grocery department and my last was entry clerk with Jim Loder until he took to dentistry.

At the desk he had the 'Blotter'--the Store account-book--from A to L, and I from M to Z. Louis Stout succeeded Mr. Loder. These jobs were under D. F. Brigham and E. C. Allen.

(over)

By the way, I have a nice letter of recommendation from Mr. Brigham dated Jan. 12th, 1885. I have just reread it.

The first day of the month was a big day at the store.

When nearing the last of the month housewives would let the larders run low, waiting for the first, because the less they traded out on in any month, the more the husband would get in his envelope on pay day.

The night before the first, after the store was closed, was a big night for us in the grocery Dep't. One of the things we did was to pack up two or three barrels of granulated sugar 10 lbs. for a dollar.

After leaving the Store I went to the Rolling Mill as timekeeper, and my last job for the Company was an assistant to the superintendent, Mr. E. C. Perkins Sr. As at the Rolling Mill Foundry and Machine shop, I had plenty to do there until the wire nails came in and the cut nails went out. I spent many years at the Rolling mill and Nail Factory. I commenced there 75 years ago at 50 cts. a day--10 hours when laborers got \$1.00 a day."

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Mr. Weston sends a note calling attention to his article on the Store in 1933, No's 170 and 171 (Mr. Perkins has some recollection of it)

In that article many of the names mentioned by Mr. Perkins, Mr. Humphrey and Mr. Weber, are also given, but there were a number of names not given, which should be added in this place. They are:- Irwin Quick, Chas. Shannon, David Shannon, Wyman Staley, Mr. Faulkner, Walter Eoons, Mr. Kerns, Robert Lay (or Jay?) Charles Sutton, Wm. Fletcher, Arthur Winkly, Daniel Thomas, Chas. Lanning, James O'Brien, Louis Dalberg, Barney Nilan, Chris. Zapp, Mr. Mattox and William Repp.

In all there were more than sixty names of the employees in the Company Store building. That they can be recalled is a remarkable feat of memory. Perhaps ten years from now, only a small portion of them could be recalled by persons still living.

So it constitutes a valuable and interesting record.



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