

The
BULLETIN

OXFORD, NEW JERSEY

PUBLISHED

By

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

Pastor

SECOND PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH



*576 Mrs. Stanley Ellis
Mrs Stanley Ellis*

Oxford Historical Record

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For what glory is it, if, when ye be buffeted for your faults, ye shall take it patiently? but, if, when ye do well, and suffer for it, ye take it patiently, this is acceptable with God. For even thereunto were ye called: because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that we should follow his steps. -----I Peter 2: 21, 22

"O God, light of the hearts that see Thee, life of the souls that love Thee, and strength of the thoughts that seek Thee; from whom to be turned away is to fall, to whom to be turned is to rise, and in whom to abide is to stand fast forever; grant us Thy forgiveness and blessing as we pray together; and though we are unworthy, do Thou hear and answer us; for the sake of our adorable Redeemer, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen!"

(Gelasian Sacrametary, 700 A. D)

The Church Choir will resume weekly practice next Tuesday evening at the Manse. It is for all who will volunteer, and all will be welcomed.

The Ladies Aid have taken on the Proctor & Gamble Co.'s offer to the churches. A cash payment is to be made for the wrappers of all their products, Ivory and Camay soaps, Crisco etc. A box will be placed in the church hallway to receive the collection. Save your wrappers and bring them for this collection, Ask friends and neighbors to give you their wrappers.

Mr. James Jensen of Washington, NJ, died recently. He was born in Oxford, August 2, 1874. He was the son of Carl and Anna Jensen. He will be remembered by many former Oxford citizens.

Mr. Francis Owens died last week in Phillipsburg. He was an old time citizen of Oxford. Our church records show that he joined our Church in 1876, and that that he was a step-son of James Freemantle.

The Oxford Public Library

The New Jersey Library Bulletin, the official Magazine of the New Jersey Public Library Commission, in its issue for April & August, 1940, gives an interesting account of our local Library which it is a pleasure to print in this paper.

It runs as follows:--

"The little town of Oxford, situated in the northwestern hills of New Jersey, was among the first in Warren County to establish a public library, and until quite recently, the only town to own its own separate building.

"On September 23, 1919, the President of the Junior Red Cross— Mrs S. G. Valentine—learned that all money in the treasury might be used for a library or town needs. The need for a library seemed very apparent, and Mrs. Valentine invited a group of active citizens to make plans. An Executive Board was formed, consisting of Mrs. William A. Dawe, Miss Edith Baylor, Miss Eva Baylor, Miss Fannie Vosseller, Mrs Allie Banghart, Miss Jennie Lanterman, Mrs Edward Green, Miss Flossie Shuler and Miss Hazel M. Riddle.

"On April 7, 1920, a Constitution and By-laws were adopted. However the building proper was not completed and ready for use until August 5, 1921, when a formal opening was held.

"The New Jersey Public Library Commission was represented at this opening. Articles for Incorporation were signed and filed at Belvidere previous to the opening.

"Mrs. Valentine, Mrs. L. B. Hoagland, Mrs F. J. Docker were Presidents prior to March 26, 1931, with Mrs. Dawe acting since that time. Miss Grace Hoagland was Librarian for fifteen years.

The present Librarian is Miss Frances Pittenger.

"A most cooperative board of Directors has always maintained a high standard for the library, and the Township Committee of Oxford decided in 1934 to assume the cost of maintenance in their budget, although prior to that time this expense had necessarily been borne by the directors. Over 5,000 books are on the shelves. The Woman's Auxiliary to the American Society of Mining and
(to last page)

Mr. Humphrey Writes:--

" I have just read Mr. P. W. Henry's remarks in the Bulletin of Sept. 29th

I am not certain as to the exact dates when successors to Mr. E. T. Henry as General Manager of the Oxford works were appointed, but recall that William H. Scranton received the official title soon after B. G. Clark was made Receiver, late in 1878. But he had been in actual charge for some time previous. He retained the position until 1886 or 1887 (after I left Oxford), when he was succeeded by Col. John Schoonover who remained but a short time, and was followed by Mr. E. P. Lukens.

Perhaps 'Clin' Weston, or some one else who lived in Oxford at the time can give these latter dates more accurately.

"In passing let me say that Mr. Eugene T. Henry was one of the leading 'Iron Masters' of his day, having been active in the management of the works of the Lackawanna Iron and Coal Company at Scranton, before coming to Oxford. He was well known and highly respected among iron makers generally, among his associates and friends was John Fritz, the 'father' of the Bethlehem Steel Co. and for many years the mentor of the iron industry, being especially notable; Mr. Fritz once told me that he considered Mr. Henry as one of the ablest engineers in the iron business.

Mr. Henry was a delightful gentleman personally and his early death in 1883, after a long illness, was a loss to Oxford and to the entire iron industry. He was a son of William Henry, at one time part owner of the old Furnace and inventor of the Hot Blast (as noted in several issues of the Bulletin).

Mr. Charles Aitkin continues the same subject, saying:--

"Anent the successors of the General Managers of the Iron and Nail Co., following the death of William H. Scranton, my recollection is that Col. John D. Schoonover became such, just when I can't say positively-- but in the latter eighties.

"He did not serve long, I doubt two years. He acquired the title of Colonel by being lieutenant Colonel

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Metallurgical Engineers, at the kind suggestion of Mrs. H.B.Cox, one of the first directors, has contributed largely. Friends in the community donate the latest magazines and periodicals, while the 'Pay Table' carries the most recent books which are purchased monthly.

"A year hence, August 5, 1941, we expect to celebrate the twentieth anniversary of the Library Building opening.

"The present Board of Directors consists of Mrs. William A Dawe, Mrs James J. Odsted, Mrs Allie Banghart, Mrs Leland Bayliss, Mrs Eva Tunison, Mrs Martin Broad, Mrs Delmar Green, Miss Grace Hoagland, Miss Mary Mooney, Mr. Leland Bayliss, Mr. J.C. Davison, and honorary Directors, Mrs. L.B. Hoagland and Mrs. C.E. Cyphers.

(from 3rd page. Mr. Aitkins)

of the 23rd regiment of New Jersey Volunteers during the Civil War.

"Following his retirement as manager he renewed association with the Provident Life Insurance Co. of Philadelphia, with which he had been previously connected.

"He had three children; Hallie, La Barre and Frank. The two former are dead, but Frank studied in the Pyle School of Art at Wilmington, Delaware, and has become a well known illustrator.

"I trust that this contribution will assist you in filling in the history of Oxford which you are so assiduously developing.

"I attended the funeral services held for Mr. Lukens."

The Editors are grateful for the help of Mr. Aitkin, Humohrey and others, for their letters and historical information. It makes a more interesting paper than it could otherwise have been. We hope others will take the time and trouble to send in their bit of knowledge of old Oxford times.



CHURCH OFFICERS

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Elders

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