

Reformed Church Gleanings

A Monthly Journal Devoted to the Interests of the New Holland Charge, New Holland, Lancaster County, Pa.

Vol. I.

NEW HOLLAND, PA., JULY, 1908.

No. 10.

CONGREGATIONAL ITEMS.

Zeltenreich.

The windows are now in place in the new church, and this has made quite a change in the appearance of things. There are a few defects in the work, but these are to be remedied by the firm making the windows before the bill is paid. There are a number of the windows not yet taken. But as the windows had to be put in to protect the building the committee could not wait until all subscriptions were in. Those who desire to do so can still donate windows, and the inscriptions desired can be placed, as in those already taken, at a little extra cost. One or two persons have already expressed their intention to put in such windows as are not taken already. So far the general opinion seems to be favorable to the character of the work done by the Quaker City Stained Glass Works, Philadelphia, with whom the committee contracted for the windows.

Albert Rutter and family are donating the pulpit Bible. We need some one to donate the collection plates. The pulpit chairs, cost \$30, and the altar, cost \$55, are also not yet donated.

The plasterers have finished the Sunday School room, and with the exception of the tower their part of the work is finished. The carpenters are now at work, and we have the promise that the work shall now be pushed to completion in the near future.

There will be a special program printed and generally distributed as soon as the day of dedication is definitely determined. In the meantime those who have subscribed towards the erection of the church will please pay the amount due on their subscriptions to the treasurer, Mr. John Flickinger, New Holland, R. F. D. No. 1. All checks should be made to the order of John Flickinger, treasurer as he keeps a special account of the building fund. The committee is also engaged in getting new subscriptions as opportunity occurs. We have done well so far in finances, a matter that is thankworthy under all

the circumstances. But, then, this community hardly knows that there has been any financial stress abroad in the land.

The Carpet Committee is becoming active in selecting the carpet for the new church. This committee has done well and deserves much credit for the success so far achieved. The ladies of the church will no doubt be called upon—with the assistance of at least some of their male friends—to thoroughly clean the floors before the carpet is put down. The men of the congregation, when the harvest is finished, will also find plenty of work to do in cleaning up the rubbish in and about the church, and in doing the necessary grading around the building. This ought to be volunteer work.

The bell is to be placed in the tower in a few days. By the time this issue of the *Gleanings* appears no doubt some of the readers will have heard the sound thereof. This will be a new sensation. The committee hopes the bell will be as satisfactory in sound as it is in appearance. Mr. John D. Skiles, wife and son, of Lancaster, the donor of the bell, came to New Holland last week to see it. Mr. Skiles, as well as others who have seen it, is very well pleased with its outward appearance. It is still on the wagon in Mr. Jason D. Bair's barn. Mr. Bair will take it to the church on the day the representative of the McShane firm, Baltimore, comes to place it in the tower. The tower is now nearly completed and makes a neat appearance. Altogether it is the verdict of most of the people, and they are not a few, who are watching the progress of the church, that it is going to be a very fine church. The committee has had many disappointments, and yet perhaps the outcome will even things up and the trials will be forgotten in the joy of the completed work.

In all probability the church will be dedicated on the first Sunday in August. But this statement is not to be taken as a fixed fact. Mr. Townsley, the architect and carpenter, thinks it will be ready by the last Sunday in July. The committee thinks it safe to allow a week of grace. In any event

St. Stephen's.

There will be only one service in St. Stephen's hereafter each Sunday. During the hot weather the evening service, after a service in the morning of the same day, is attended by comparatively few members. By September, at least, the order of service in effect before the Zeltenreich church was demolished will be resumed. This permits but one service each Sunday in New Holland.

The question of a Sunday School picnic is being discussed. The general sentiment seems to be that we should unite with the other schools in town in holding a union picnic. As soon as arrangements are made the day and the place will be published.

There is a well-preserved and well-bound German Bible in the possession of this congregation, on the fly leaf of which it is stated that it was presented by Henry Diffenderfer, Eutaw House, Baltimore, Md. Who can identify the donor and give some desired information concerning him? The old German Bible, printed in Basil, is also still in the possession of the congregation. This is not in good condition, but as it was no doubt used from the year in which this church was dedicated, 1801, to 1853, when the Diffenderfer Bible was donated, there is sufficient cause for its condition.

THE MID-SUMMER COMMUNION.

There has been no mid-summer communion appointed yet for the congregations of the charge. It is usual to hold a communion in a new church on the Sunday after its dedication. The pastor has thought over this matter and has come to the conclusion that it would be a gracious and proper thing for the two congregations, St. Stephen and St. Paul, to unite with Zeltenreich in a union communion on the Sunday following the dedication. He wishes to consult the consistories of the charge before making definite arrangements to this effect.

The writers against religion, whilst they oppose every system, are wisely careful never to set up any of their own.—Edmund Burke.

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Rev. John G. Noss, Editor.
Wm. M. Stauffer, Publisher.

Terms: 25 cents a year in advance.
All subscriptions should be sent to the publisher.

JULY, 1908.

THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH.

If Jesus Christ is God incarnate, and as such is the Head of His Church, and as vitally united with it as the vine with the branches, according to His own illustration, it follows that the Christian Church is what from the beginning it has claimed to be—a divine-human organization. As such it differs from all other organizations in the world. Its foundation is Christ. From Him spring all its sources of power to regenerate and to sanctify men, for He is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth. It is becoming a rare and exceptional thing to hear sermons from the modern pulpit on the supernatural powers active in the Church of Christ.

When the real powers present in the Church are lost sight of, other means are brought into use to take their place, as is supposed, and to produce the desired results. There can be no real substitute for God. Any attempt in that direction is an idolatrous failure. Neither can there be any substitute for Christ and His Church. All attempts to seek or invent such substitutes and to put one's trust in them will prove disastrous failures in the end. We believe in Jesus Christ and in the Holy Catholic Church.

THE MINUTES OF CLASSIS.

The usual abstract of the minutes of the annual meeting of the Classis of Lancaster, held in Ephrata in May, has been printed and distributed by the stated clerk. The number of copies to which this charge is entitled is ready for distribution. There are enough copies to permit one to be given to each family represented by the three congregations of the charge. It is to be hoped that every member and friend of the three congregations will read this abstract. In this way all can be informed of the activities of the Classis to which the New Holland charge belongs. As usual the New Holland charge heads the list on the Honor Roll of the pastoral

charges who have paid their apportionment in full. It is to be hoped that this will continue to be the case in the future.

THE GLEANINGS.

The end of the first year of the publication of the Gleanings is approaching. The publisher is of the opinion that unless the subscription price is advanced and the number of subscribers increased the publication will not be self-sustaining after this year. It has only been possible to make ends meet during this year by the income from advertisements. It is needless to say that the advertisers have been moved to give their patronage from good will to the cause rather than from the hope of financial benefit to themselves. This disposition on their part we have no right to expect to be continued indefinitely, especially as most of them are not members of the Reformed Church.

The publication cannot secure special rates of postage. It costs 12 cents of the 25 cents, the price of the subscription, to mail the paper during the year. It is an easy matter to see that under the circumstances there is but little remaining with which to pay the printer, so far as the income from subscriptions is concerned. What is to be done? The joint consistory has the matter in charge and at a special meeting to be called in the near future the matter will be discussed and the future of the paper determined. Perhaps the interested readers of the paper can help towards a satisfactory solution of the matter.

AN INTERESTING WEDDING.

On June 16, at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. O. S. Eckert, near Brownstown, a very interesting wedding took place, when their daughter, Lottie A., was married to William E. Snader, the only son of Mr. William Snader, also of Brownstown. This special interest is to be found not merely in the large number of the relatives and friends of the young couple present on the occasion, in the ideal weather during the solemn ceremony on the lawn nor yet in the numerous and valuable gifts contributed by their many friends, but rather in the fact that by this marriage two lineal descendants of two of the best known original families of the historic Zeltenreich congregation were united in the holy bonds of matrimony. Both being members of the Reformed Church,

the bride having been confirmed by the pastor in Zeltenreich church, there is special significance in this union, and the pastor, together with their best friends, pray that this new alliance of the representatives of two old families may prove to be a blessed one in the home and in the church.

A NEW ORGAN NEEDED.

There ought to be a new organ donated or bought by the congregation, for the new Zeltenreich church. The old organ ought to be placed permanently in the Sunday School room, and the new one placed on the choir platform. Is there a member or friend able and willing to donate one, or will the members of the Carpet Committee undertake to collect money enough for this purpose also? The old organ must be out of repair by this time and should be placed in the hands of some competent person to make it, if possible, as good as new. An organ out of tune hardly fits a new church. Everything should harmonize. Perhaps some day there will be a pipe organ in that corner where the two small windows are.

BAPTIZED.

Arthur Abraham, son of Abraham and Mary E. Futer, was baptized by the pastor, at their residence, New Holland, June 25, 1908.

A miser engaged Hogarth to paint for half price for his staircase, a representation of the "Destruction of Pharaoh's Host in the Red Sea." Hogarth painted the canvas red all over, and when the astonished purchaser asked, "Where are the Israelites?" he answered, "They are all gone over." "Where are the Egyptians?" "They are all drowned."

No man can be brave who considers pain the greatest evil of life, nor temperate who considers pleasure to be the highest good.—Cicero.

Many fortunes, like rivers, have a pure source, but grow muddy as they grow large.—Anon.

A man will never change his mind if he has no mind to change.—Whately.

If it is not right, do not do it; if it is not true, do not say it.—Marcus Aurelius.

For the noblest man that lives there still remains a conflict.—Garfield.

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PERSONAL.

Miss Emma Noss who recently graduated from the Presbyterian Hospital, Philadelphia, at the head of her class of sixteen, received the usual purse of \$25.00 given to the member of the graduating class whose general average in the examinations, both oral and written, in the subjects taught in the Hospital, is the highest. Miss Noss will return to the parsonage in New Holland, next week, for rest before she takes up the active work of nursing.

Miss Florence E. Stauffer was awarded a prize of ten dollars for general scholarship in her class in the State Normal School, Millers

CHURCH CALENDAR.

The services for July are as follows:

St. Stephen.

Sunday July 12th, 10 a. m.
Sunday July 19th, 10 a. m.
Sunday July 26th, 7 p. m.
Sunday School at 8:45 a. m. every Sunday.

St. Paul.

Sunday July 12th, 2 p. m.
Sunday July 26th., 10 a. m.

ville. She expects to continue her studies in that institution during the coming year.

Wilford G. Stauffer and William Gordon Flickinger graduated from the Franklin and Marshall Academy at the late commencement. It is to be hoped that both these promising youths will take a full course in the College on the hill.

Prof. Christopher Noss, D. D., of the Reformed Theological Seminary, Lancaster, will conduct the Bible study at the sessions of the Spiritual Conference of ministers and laymen of the Reformed Church at Asbury Park, N. J., Aug. 3-7.

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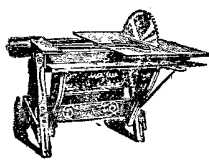
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