

The Stinton Repository of 1712.

THE first and second volumes of the *Transactions of the Baptist Historical Society* contained studies of Benjamin Stinton, his historical collection of thirty documents which formed the foundation of the history by his brother-in-law Thomas Crosby, four documents printed from that collection, and studies of the early London churches therein disclosed. The earliest text then available was a beautiful manuscript copied under the supervision of George Gould in Norwich by Thomas Keymer. We indicated then certain readings which appeared doubtful, and in our notes suggested others; also we argued from internal evidence that Stinton's own collection of thirty documents had been annotated and augmented by Crosby.

The book from which Keymer copied has now come to light. It was used by George Gould, some of whose studies still remain between its leaves. But the transcript was so much more legible that the original was stowed away with other ancient material used in the celebrated lawsuit about St. Mary's. It passed into the custody of George Gould's son, our late president, George Pearce Gould of Regent's Park. On his death it was discovered by his successor, H. Wheeler Robinson, and it will in future be lodged in the Angus Library at the college.

It is a large foolscap folio, like the book in which Keymer reproduced its contents, and like the book in which they were again reproduced from Keymer in 1904. We have carefully checked our printed pages by Stinton's own manuscript, and appreciate very highly the extreme accuracy of the Norwich scribe. There are not fifty errors of any kind, not five of any importance. Our inferences as to the original readings are borne out in nearly every case. When we study the way Crosby annotated and summarised Stinton's manuscript, our sense of his competence falls even lower than before. Stinton also reveals himself both a tiro in history, and

decidedly illiterate. Still we have to thank the two men for material which makes the early London history fairly well known.

Students who wish to have an accurate print of what Stinton wrote, though this indeed is not necessarily what he had before him, may correct the printed pages in our first and second volumes thus:—

214, line 6—Bernet

215, line 5—Prison in [blank] (now a merchant's house again)

215, line 16—3d Month

216, signatures	Wm	} Harris	Ailce	} Sincop
	Tho		Eliz	
	Jane		Rebec	

217, four lines from end—Delete “not¹⁶”

219, line 14—Preacher at Dry [Drayton?]

220, line 2—& Mr Stanmore beforesaid

line 3—Bro: Morton & his Wife

224, line 4—Balfor ye Leiftenant

line 23—Nowels

225, line 9—Can also then walking the Saints

232, line 4—of Baptism, yt alto

233, line 13—Words a Covenant)

234, line 7—Tho Shepard

235, Cancel the ! in the marginal note

line 4—Janr 27 Ailce Stanford

240, line 12—to depend on a Church wth its power:

line 16—these not cleare

242, line 10—wherein all these are New,

243, line 17—3.19

244, line 17—Bayk

line 25—Goteley

line 27—Cancel G

245, line 6—Toldervy

II. 36. The two paragraphs:— “This Church . . . given them” are written by Crosby, squeezed in on page 106, before the title *Numb: 23. The title of six lines is Stinton's; the title of three lines on page 37 is apparently Webb's; Stinton has added marginal notes at the appropriate places, 1st Pastor Mr Hubert,

2d Pastor Mr Jno Can, 3d Pastor Mr Samll How,
4th Pastor Mr Stephen More Author of a Treatise
called The Preachers Praise & Practice; &c.

- 42, line 4—And in those Days it
43, last line—this greivence
50, line 12—Marginal note, Sept 2. 1699
83, Note to Number 12. Stinton wrote 1549 clearly.
84, Number 15. The reference is really quite correct:—
Chris: Prim. Lib: 3
85, Note to Number 17. Stinton explained clearly that he
was citing Edward Hutchinson. Crosby suppressed
his notes.
88, Number 24. The date is plainly 1664 in title and in
margin.

John Tombes figured twice in the minutes of the Westminster Assembly. From the 1874 edition, Dr. Powicke has copied both references:

“Sess: 561, Dec. 25, 1645, Thursday morning. Dr. Gouge moved about Mr. Tombes his book and the licenser and a committee to consider of something to be presented to the House of Commons about the late licensing of a book of Mr. Tombes by Mr. Batchelour, now. . . .”

“Sess: 618, April 9, 1646, Thursday morning. Mr. Marshall having this morning presented his book written against Mr. Tombes to the Assembly, and dedicated it unto them, it was moved that thanks might be given to Mr. Marshall for his great pains, and respect to this Assembly in his dedication which was accordingly done by the Prolocutor.”

The book by Tombes included a criticism of Marshall's sermon on infant baptism; it reached Thomason's hands on 15 December. It much fluttered the dovescotes; two replies were out in two months, and six more by November.

“The remonstrance and resolutions of the Protestant army of Munster, now in Corcke,” published there on 23 October, 1649, and preserved at Cambridge, will figure in the Baptist Bibliography as 99-649. The next place, 100-649, is assigned to “News from Powles, or the new reformation of the army: with a true relation of a cowl that was foaled in the cathedrall church of St. Paul in London, and how it was publicly baptized by Paul Hobson's souldiers.”