

Dr. Henderson retired in 1922 and Dr. C. D. Whittaker succeeded to the Presidency. Illness necessitated his retirement and Dr. Arthur Dakin became Principal in 1924, and he is now vigorously carrying on the work in which so many distinguished leaders have preceded him.

Under the blessing of God, the College has had a great past, and it rests upon future generations to make its work in the coming days, by God's help, worthy of its history.

Henry Miller of Warbleton, 1729.

THE Millers of Kent and Sussex were a family greatly enriched under James I., and bearing arms. One branch settled at Winkinghurst, two miles north of Hellingly, twelve miles north of Beachy Head. Henry was bred an attorney in London, and afterwards with Mr. Raines of Coneyburroughs in Barcombe, a great conveyancer and court-keeper; but not liking the practice of the common law, he only practised conveyancing. He married Mary, widow of Thomas Dean, and eldest daughter of Robert Tapsfield of Framfield. Their eldest child, Mary, married Robert Mercer, who settled at Ifield, and they had six children including Joseph and Thomas.

There was a county lady named Fuller whose son John afterwards was elected M.P. for Sussex in 1713. She became interested in baptism, and arranged a debate on the question in the Waldron parish church. This could hardly have taken place till the Toleration Act, on general principles; we do know that king William did authorize such proceedings; and we do know that Miller went; he was born in 1666.

The disputants were John Tattersall, A.M., the rector, and Matthew Caffin, an Oxford man, now Elder of the General Baptist church at Horsham, an accomplished debater. One result was that both Madam Fuller and young Miller were convinced, and were soon baptized on profession of their faith. Miller stopped practising law, says Crosby, and began studying divinity.

There were evidently other converts, and they gathered into a church, known from two of its meeting-places, at first as

Warbleton, then as Waldron. Its own records are not accessible. In 1704 it sent to the General Baptist Assembly not only its Elder, Robert Norden, but Henry Miller and another representative. Seven years later Thomas Mercer went, and as Norden was sent missionary to Virginia, the delegates in 1716 were Elder Robert Mercer and Henry Miller.

Miller was appointed Moderator of the Assembly in 1709, and two years later was nominated for Messenger. He did accept that post, and though he never was pastor of any one church (as Crosby states) yet he was General Superintendent of all the churches in Kent and Sussex. As a conveyancer he had learned how to write, and in 1719 he was appointed Scribe to the Assembly.

Four years later he was very ill, and he drew up dying counsel for his family. But he recovered, and made one more attendance at Assembly. Not till 15 January, 1728/9 did he pass away. A funeral sermon was preached to a numerous and crowded auditory of his sorrowful relations, friends, etc., by Mr. Richard Drinkwater, Elder of Chichester. The burial was in the churchyard at Hellingly, and a monument was erected in the parish church, with an epitaph of his own composition.

Among his papers was discovered the Counsel of 1723. It was transcribed in 1748 by his grandson, Thomas Mercer, a member of the Warbleton church, into a neat volume of seventy-one closely-written octavo pages, with notes and other editing Henry himself had written three sections: Respecting our Family, Respecting Religion, Respecting a prudent management of Worldly Affairs. In 1855, the first section was studied by Mark Antony Lower, and the results were published in the *Sussex Archaeological Collections*, volume IX, at page 33. The transcript was then owned by Robert Mercer of Sedlescomb. In the interval, the Millers had not heeded their ancestor's advice, whether as to religion or as to a prudent management of their affairs. They drop out of Baptist records, and out of county history. But the Mercers kept up the tradition of good service.