AN APOLOGY AND ADDITION TO LINCOLN: GENTLEMEN, MUSICIANS AND BAKER

The Sub-Editor apologizes to the author, R.R. Kershaw, and to readers for the errors that crept into the April issue (XXXVII, 2, pp.,87ff) where endnote numbering was inadvertently carried over from the previous article into the text, but then the notes themselves were given their original numbers - but omitting the first two. To match the numbers in the text, they should appear thus:

78 White, English Separatist Tradition, p.117.


The author adds the following additional information:

The 1641 Poll Money listings for the City of Lincoln (House of Lords Record Office, Main Papers, 22 December 1641), recently discovered to include recusancy,
provide additional confirmation of the size and membership names of the Lincoln Baptists. Sixteen are recorded in all as ‘Anabaptist Recusant’, while all but three of these are additionally described as ‘convict’, i.e. convicted by the lay criminal courts, to whom the matter was usually referred if excommunication had no effect. These Lincoln Baptists were even more hardened separatists than previously thought, continuing strenuously to resist pressure from the civil powers in the city.

Among those listed is further evidence of influential contacts: Martha Kente was an Anabaptist Recusant convict, and was listed immediately after her theoretically non-Baptist husband, Alderman Alexander Kente. Of course, Alexander could not have held civic office if a recusant: either he had no influence whatsoever over his wife, or he was at least sympathetic to the Baptists in the city.

One amendment needs to be made to the article (p.89). Thomas Johnson (born c.1575-80, and not dying young as shown) was dead by 1641, for his wife Ruth Johnson is listed as a widow. It is a strong possibility that the Thomas Johnson who was living in the Cathedral Close in 1648 was Thomas and Ruth’s son, Thomas.

Jonathan Johnson can be seen even more clearly as the defiant leader of the Lincoln Baptists in 1641, for his record reads:

Jonathan Johnson, Anabaptist Recusant convict, 12d
dispended at £10 p.a. at 4s but refusing to pay the same was according to the Statute assessed to the double & so was distrained for 8s

So Jonathan’s typical defiance of the authorities over taxation also had cost him 8s in goods distrained by court bailiffs, rather than the 12d he would originally have paide as a Recusant.

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**REVIEWS**

David Butler, *Dying to be ONE: English Ecumenism: History, Theology and the Future*, £12.95 + £2.05 p&p, from CCBI Bookroom, Inter-Church House, 35-41 Lower Marsh, London SE1 7RL

If we want to know the way ahead, we had better be clear about where we have come from. If that is true about the current ecumenical scene, then David Butler’s book is of the greatest value. Indeed, now that Chris Ellis’s *Together on the Way* and Derek Palmer’s *Strangers No Longer* have been allowed to go out of print, it fills a large gap, in a most readable and informative way. As a church historian at the ecumenical Queen’s College, Birmingham, David Butler is strongest on the first part of his sub-title, the retelling of church history from the New Testament to the present - I cannot think of a better summary of so many complex events and issues.