

## Books on English Baptist Church History.

**I**N response to a request for information what books are available for this study, the following list is compiled as some guide, though it cannot pretend to any completeness. Works by Baptists are marked with an asterisk.

- 1731 Neal: History of the Puritans. This had, of course, little to do with Baptists, as they had little to do with the general Puritan movement. At the time this provoked the indignation of a school-master in Southwark, who had inherited materials collected by his pastor, Benjamin Stinton, and had added to them. Hence the next book on the list. At a later date, Neal was edited and supplemented by \*Toulmin, a Unitarian Baptist at Taunton, and this edition is the best for us.
- 1738-40 \*Crosby: History of the Baptists. Excellent for a pioneer work. The facts are poorly arranged, and the index is meagre. The leading fault is that the old General Baptists and the Particular Baptists are intermixed, deliberately, but with confusing results. Current price, 50/-.
- 1790-1803 \*Rippon: Annual Register. Full of excellent material, both contemporary and more ancient; very little is worked up, and the indexes are not complete.
- 1808-10 Wilson: Dissenting Churches in London, Volumes 1-3. Incorporates most of Crosby's information, and adds much more.
- 1811 \*Ivimey: History of the Baptists, Volume 1. Mostly compiled from previous works; critical powers feeble.
- 1814 \*Ivimey, Volume 2. Wilson, Volume 4. Both copying predecessors.
- 1818 \*Taylor: History of the General Baptists. Excellent; Ivimey's criticism is perversely wrong.
- 1823-30 \*Ivimey, volumes 3 and 4. Improved with experience.
- 1835 \*Murch: Presbyterian and Baptist Churches in the West of England (which became Unitarian).
- 1846 \*Douglas: History of the Baptist Churches in the North of England.

- 1847 \*Wood: History of the General Baptists of the New Connexion. Very good.
- 1848 \*Benedict: History of the Baptists. Mostly American, but touches origins in England.
- 1862-64 \*Evans: Early English Baptists. The beginning of scientific work.
- 1863 David: Evangelical Nonconformity in Essex. Gleanings for us.
- 1864 Urwick: Nonconformity in Cheshire. More gleanings.
- 1870 \*Pike: London Churches. A little fresh information.
- 1871 \*Goadby: Byepaths of Baptist History. Excellent.
- 1875 \*Cramp: Baptist History. A convenient summary by a Calvinist.
- 1877 Barclay: Inner Life of the Religious Societies of the Commonwealth. Good for the early General Baptists.
- Browne: Congregationalism in Norfolk and Suffolk. Gleanings.
- 1879 Dexter: Congregationalism as seen in its Literature. Valuable for its bibliography, and for our origins.
- Stoughton: Often revised and issued under various titles.
- 1881 Dexter: The True Story of John Smith, &c. Three good critical monographs.
- 1883 Beard: Hibbert Lectures. For Anabaptists.
- 1884 Urwick: Nonconformity in Herts. Gleanings.
- 1887 \*Armitage: History of the Baptists. Mostly American; critical as to Bunyan.
- 1890-3 \*Newman: Church History. General, and from A.D. 30; but it puts Baptists in true perspective, with sound critical work.
- 1897 \*Newman: Antipedobaptism till 1609. Admirable.
- \*Vedder: Short Baptist History, revised. The scale does not allow much space for Britain, but the summary is very good.
- Kautzky: Communism in Central Europe. For Anabaptists.
- 1898 Conybeare: The Key of Truth. Light on the origins of Anabaptism.
- 1899 \*Lofton: The Reformation of 1609-40. A fine monograph.
- \*Christian: Baptist History Vindicated. Early seventeenth century.
- 1900 Powicke: Henry Barrow and the Exiled Church at Amsterdam, &c. Gleanings about John Smith.
- 1904 \*Pike: The Story of the Anabaptists.
- 1905 \*Carlile: Story of the English Baptists. A good summary, with sound criticism on special points.
- 1906 \*Shakespeare: Baptist and Congregational Pioneers. Based on minute study of originals.

No attempt is made here to catalogue the numerous monographs on churches or on associations. A student will, of course, consult the files of the General Baptist Magazine from 1798, and of the Baptist Magazine, with other periodicals.