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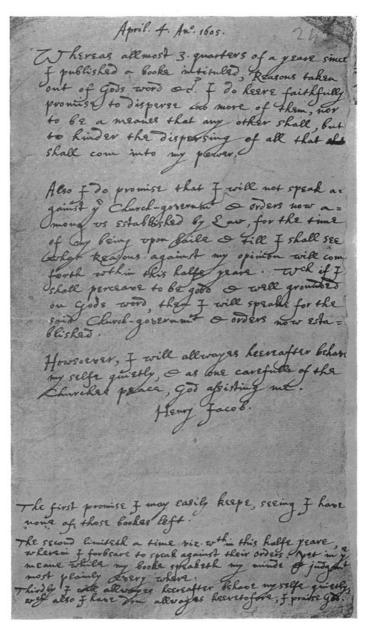
EARLY ENGLISH DISSENTERS

IN THE LIGHT OF RECENT RESEARCH

(1550—1641)

VOLUME II





First page of Henry Jacob's Copy of his Subscription, April 4, 1605 (Facsimile) . See Vol 1, page 285 and Vol 11, pages 151-3



THE

EARLY ENGLISH DISSENTERS

IN THE LIGHT OF RECENT RESEARCH

(1550—1641)

RV

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IN TWO VOLUMES

Illustrated

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PREFACE TO VOLUME II

THE documents herein brought together illustrative of the history of early English Dissent cannot of course claim the dignity of forming a complete "Corpus" of the literature relating to the subject, but they have been carefully selected from the mass of material now available for investigation. My aim in publishing these particular texts has been to present to the reader a number of the more inaccessible or historically valuable writings, many of which have as yet been only imperfectly or partially reproduced. Others have remained entirely, or almost entirely, unnoticed. The contents of this volume are likewise intended to supplement the narrative of volume 1., as well as to illustrate it.

Such a selected Corpus has long been needed, for students, it is to be feared, have generally been much more familiar with what has been said by writers and historians of different points of view concerning this literature than with the manuscripts themselves, with resultant misunderstanding, or only partial understanding. Such papers, too, as are herein reproduced are all, with one exception, carefully located, whereas often in earlier works the location was not stated, thus sometimes requiring long search before the originals could be found. Further, in some cases only an imperfect translation of a document has up to this time appeared in print, so that students have been dependent for information upon the skill or candor of a translator.



vi Preface

Special mention should be made of the texts of a number of papers procured in Holland which are now for the first time reproduced in England as nearly as possible in their original form. Some of these were most difficult to decipher accurately even with the occasional help of the ablest Dutch manuscript specialists in the University Library, Amsterdam. No doubt my copies contain minor mistakes and imperfections which keen-eyed critics will be quick to detect. Even so, however, in case any injury should ever befall the originals themselves, approximately accurate texts of these manuscripts ought now to be preserved.

A typographical error may here be corrected. On page 309 Boberti Baffam should read Roberti Baffam.

C. B.

OXFORD,

16 December 1911.



CONTENTS

VOLUME II

| | | PAGE |
|------|--|------|
| I. | Historical Data relative to the English Conventiclers at | |
| | Bocking and Faversham in 1550 and 1551. | |
| | Various Depositions made about 1550 | 1 |
| | Extracts from the "Privy Council Register" of 1550- | |
| | 1553 relating to the year 1551 | 4 |
| II. | Information concerning the Life and Character of Robert Cooche. | |
| | Part of a Letter of John Parkhurst, Bishop of Norwich, | |
| | to Dr. Rodolphus Gualtherus (Gualther), dated June | |
| | 29, 1574 | 7 |
| | Part of another Letter from the same to the same, dated | |
| | Feb. 6, 1574/5 | 7 |
| III. | Documents pertaining to the Puritan Plumbers' Hall Con- | |
| | gregation and to the Separatist "Priuye Churche" of Richard Fitz, which "seceded" from it. | |
| | A List of the members of the Plumbers' Hall congre- | |
| | gation taken prisoner on March 4, 1567/8 | 9 |
| | "A promyse made by William Bonam precher", 1569, | |
| | together with the names of twenty-four members of | |
| | the Plumbers' Hall Congregation who were discharged | |
| | from Bridewell on April 22, 1569 | 11 |
| | "The trewe markes of Christes churche, &c." by "Richarde | 11 |
| | Fytz, Minister" | 13 |
| | The Separatist Covenant of Fitz's Congregation | 13 |
| | A written Petition commencing "O Englande", etc., and | 10 |
| | signed by twenty-seven members of Fitz's Congre- | |
| | gation in the year 1571 | 15 |
| IV. | Miscellaneous Documents relating to the early Barrowists. | 10 |
| 14. | The names of certain Brownists (Barrowists) taken at | |
| | a Conventicle in Henry Martin's House, October 8, | |
| | 1587, and examined in the Episcopal Palace, London, | |
| | on the same day | 19 |
| | on the same day | 19 |



viii Contents

| | | PAGE |
|-----|---|------|
| | Information concerning the Barrowists in 1590 | 20 |
| | Part of a Letter from John Smith to Dr [John] Reynolds, | |
| | dated February 20, 1592/3 | 23 |
| | The names of several Barrowists who were willing to | |
| | conform and were evidently bailed some time after | |
| | April 5, 1593 | 24 |
| | Part of a Letter of John Chamberlain to Mr Dudley | |
| | Carleton at "Eaton", dated London, October 22, 1608 | 24 |
| V. | Early Manuscript Information concerning the Marprelate | |
| | Press and the Activities of some of the early Puritans | 25 |
| VI. | Some of the early Barrowist Depositions. | |
| | Of Clement Gambell and John Dove, March, 1588/9 . | 27 |
| | Of Abraham Pulbery, March 7, 1592/3 | 31 |
| | Of John Nicholas, March 8, 1592/3 | 32 |
| | Of William Clerke, March 8, 1592/3 | 33 |
| | Of Richard Hawton, March 8, 1592/3 | 34 |
| | Of John Barns, March 8, 1592/3 | 34 |
| | Of Daniell Bucke, March 9, 1592/3 | 34 |
| | Of John Penryn [Penry], March 26, 1593 | 37 |
| | Of sundry persons abiding in the prisons in & about | |
| | London, April 3, 4, 5, and 6, 1593 | 37 |
| | Of William Clerke, April 2, 1593 | 45 |
| | Of John Nicholas, April 2, 1593 | 46 |
| | Of George Johnson, April 2, 1593 | 46 |
| | Of John Dalamore, April 3, 1593 | 47 |
| | Of Robert Abraham, April 3, 1593 | 47 |
| | Of Abraham Pulbery, April 3, 1593 | 48 |
| | Of Roger Waterer, April 3, 1593 | 49 |
| | Of Robert Aburne, April 3, 1593 | 49 |
| | Of George Kniveton [Knifton], April 4, 1593 | 51 |
| | Of William Mason, April 4, 1593 | 52 |
| | Of Henry Withers, April 4, 1593 | 52 |
| | Of Thomas Hewet, April 4, 1593 | 53 |
| | Of Christopher Bowman, April 4, 1593 | 53 |
| | Of John Penry, April 5, 1593 | 54 |
| | Of Christopher Simkins, April 5, 1593 | 55 |
| | Of Francis Johnson, April 5, 1593 | 56 |
| | Of John Edwards, concerning John Penry, April 5, 1593. | 57 |
| | Of William Smythe, April 5, 1593 | 58 |
| | Of Arthur Billet, April 5, 1593 | 59 |
| | Of Quintin Smyth, April 6, 1593 | 59 |
| | Of William Weaver, April 6, 1593 | 60 |
| | Of Thomas Settle, April 6, 1593 | 60 |
| | Of George Smelles, April 10 [?], 1593 | 61 |



| | Contents | ix |
|-------|--|------|
| | | PAGE |
| VII. | Documents other than Depositions relating to John Penry. An undated Petition of Helen Penry's to Sir John | |
| | Puckering in her Husband's Behalf, written in | 62 |
| | A Note by Penry in defence of Mr. Gittens, Keeper of the | 02 |
| | "Cownter in the Poultrie in London", dated April, 1593 | 63 |
| | A Subscription of Penry's concerning the Authority of the Queen, of the Privy Council, and of Civil Magis- trates, and three other articles which he declined to | |
| | subscribe | 63 |
| | "The offers & requestes" of Penry | 64 |
| | A Letter concerning Penry's Confession of Faith and Apology, dated, "Mon. 6. 12. 1593" | 65 |
| | Penry's Answer to Fifteen Slanderous Articles, written | |
| | not long before his death | 66 |
| | Penry's Confession of Faith and Apology prepared not | |
| | long before his death in 1593 | 79 |
| | A Letter of Penry's to Lord Burghley, written May 28, | |
| ***** | 1593 | 93 |
| VIII. | Documents relating to Henry Barrowe. | |
| | An undated Letter of Barrowe's asking for a "christian | |
| | and peaceable conference" for the settlement of "theis Ecclesiasticall controuersies" | 0= |
| | "theis Ecclesiasticall controuersies" | 97 |
| | "peceable disputacion" for the settlement of "sondrie | |
| | Ecclesiasticall differences" | 98 |
| | An extended Letter written by Barrowe a little before | 99 |
| | his death | 100 |
| IX. | Three early Barrowist Petitions. | 100 |
| 111. | That of March, 1592/3 to "the high Court of Parlament" | 109 |
| | That of 1593 for "mercy & vnitie", directed to "the | 100 |
| | Magistrates of our Most mercifull soueraigne Lady | |
| | Queene Elizabeth in their seuerall places" | 113 |
| | That of 1597 to the Privy Council | 125 |
| X. | Hitherto unnoticed Testimony confirming Robert Browne's | |
| | opinion of the Reformation in Scotland as published | |
| | in Richard Bancroft's Sermon preached at Paul's | |
| | Cross: together with some of the Grounds on | |
| | which Archbishop Whitgift recommended Bancroft's | |
| | appointment as Bishop of London. | |
| | A Letter of Sir Robert Naunton to Dr. J. Copcoat, Master | |
| | of Corpus Christi College in Cambridge, relating to the | |



x Contents

| | | PAGE |
|--|--------------------------------------|------|
| publication of Bancroft's famous "; at Pavles Crosse", and dated Noven A Letter of Bancroft's, dated December | nber 12, 1589 . | 127 |
| relating to his Sermon at Paul's C | | 130 |
| Some of the "Reasons alledged by the Canterbury, for Dr Bancroft's being | Arch Bishop of promoted to the | |
| Bishoprick of London" | | 132 |
| XI. The Names of various Persons who had Francis Johnson's Congregation bei ing the names of some who had it or been Excommunicated, and o | fore 1613, includ- withdrawn from | |
| become Wanderers | i others who had | 134 |
| XII. Two Documents relating to the Controve Barrowists and Thomas Drakes. | ersy between the | 101 |
| The "Seven Demands" of Francis J | Johnson and his | |
| followers, 1595 | Common and mis | 138 |
| The "Ten Covnterdemaynds propoun | ided" by Drakes | |
| (Draks) | | 140 |
| XIII. Papers of Henry Jacob's written during the | years 1603–1605. | |
| A copy of the text of Jacob's Letter preachers, sent from Woodstreet, 30, 1603, with the accompanying for | London, on June form to be signed | |
| for use in connection with the pr | | 1.0 |
| Millenary Petition to King James I The text of a later, undated, general | | 146 |
| from Woodstreet by Jacob with an | | |
| of the earlier form of subscription ar | | |
| which the Puritans wished removed | | 147 |
| An undated Petition written by Jacob London, requesting that he may | | |
| imprisonment in the Clink . | | 148 |
| Jacob's copy of his Subscription of Apri The earliest completely developed Inde | | 151 |
| gregational, Puritan (non-separation | | |
| existence, written by Jacob . | · | 153 |
| A detached Definition by Jacob of a | "true Visible or | |
| Ministeriall Church of Christ" | | 161 |
| "A third humble Supplication of many | | |
| in England, falsly called Puritans Kings Maiestie. 1605." [Correcte | | 161 |
| Part of a paper apparently written by Ja | | 101 |
| after his Release from the Clink, | and defending his | |
| book published in 1604 against t | | |
| criticisms which had been brought | | 165 |



| | Contents | xi |
|-------|--|------|
| | | PAGE |
| XIV. | An unnoticed Letter of Thomas Helwys's. | |
| | "A note sent by [Thomas] Ellwes [Helwys] one of thelders | |
| 77.77 | of the Brownest Churche", September 26, 1608 . | 167 |
| XV. | Papers relating to William Sayer. | |
| | "The opinions defended & published by William Sayer imprisoned in the gaole for the Countie of Norff[olk]" | |
| | in 1612 | 169 |
| | Part of a Letter of Archbishop Abbot to Bishop Jegon of | 100 |
| | Norwich concerning Sayer, dated December 1, 1612. | 170 |
| XVI. | Documents relating to the History of the earliest English | |
| | Anabaptist Congregations. | |
| | An undated Letter sent by "Hughe and Anne Bromhead" | |
| | to their cousin, (Sir) William Hammerton, at London, | |
| | probably written some time in 1609 A List of the names of those English people who formed | 172 |
| | the Remnant of John Smyth's Congregation, and | |
| | who, probably about February, 1609/10, petitioned | |
| | that they might be received as quickly as possible | |
| | into the "true church of Christ | 177 |
| | A Short Latin Confession of Faith probably written early | |
| | in 1609/10 by Smyth | 178 |
| | An undated Latin Letter from Thomas Helwys's Congre- | |
| | gation to the Waterlanders at Amsterdam, probably | |
| | written in 1609/10, urging them not to admit Smyth's Congregation into their membership. | 181 |
| | A Latin "Synopsis" of the Faith of the "true English | 101 |
| | Christian Church" at Amsterdam under the Leader- | |
| | ship of Thomas Helwys, delivered (probably between | |
| | February and March 12, 1609/10 to the Waterlanders | |
| | there, with thanks for the teaching they had given | |
| | $ them \;\; . \qquad $ | 182 |
| | A Letter from Thomas Helwys, William Pigott, Thomas | |
| | Seamer, and John Murton at Amsterdam to the | |
| | Waterland Church there, dated March 12, 1609/10, dealing chiefly with the cause of their so-termed | |
| | ejection of John Smyth and his followers | 184 |
| | A short Confession of Faith evidently prepared and | 101 |
| | partially signed by the Remnant of Smyth's Con- | |
| | gregation early in 1610 | 187 |
| | A Copy of a Letter sent in April, 1610, by the Waterland | |
| | Church at Amsterdam to the Waterland Congrega- | |
| | tions outside the city, concerning the admission of | |
| | the Remnant of Smyth's Congregation into their | 200 |
| | church membership | 200 |



xii Contents

| | PAGE |
|--|------|
| A Letter from the Waterland Congregation at Leeuwarden to the Waterlanders at Amsterdam, dated | |
| May 5, 1610 (Old Style), urging that a union with the Remnant of Smyth's Congregation be not too quickly consummated | 203 |
| Gerritsz., Hans de Ries, and Reynier Wybrantsz., dated May (15), 1610, and expressing the wish that the Confession of Faith of the Remnant of Smyth's Congregation (in 38 articles) might be sent to Fries- | |
| land for the perusal of the Waterlanders there A Letter of Willem Janszoon, Teacher at Rynsburg, to | 205 |
| Reynier Wybrantsz. at Amsterdam, dated May 18, (1610), concerning the proposed meeting on May 23 for discussion of a union with the Smyth Remnant. | 207 |
| A Letter from Dirk Pieters at Hoorn to Lubbert Gerritsz. at Amsterdam, dated May 21, 1610, in which he excuses himself and three others from attending the meeting on May 23 concerning a union with the | 201 |
| Remnant of Smyth's Church | 208 |
| baptism of Smyth's followers | 209 |
| unheard of | 211 |
| of Smyth's Congregation might be speedily effected. An early English Anabaptist Petition, probably written | 213 |
| in 1614 (by Thomas Helwys?) | 215 |
| probably written in 1615 | 216 |
| signed H.N., and dated London, May 10, 1622. | 219 |



| Contents | XIII |
|---|------------|
| | PAGE |
| A Letter from the "teachers and Ministers of the dutch and english Churches" in Amsterdam, dated May, 1624, to the Congregation of Elias Tookey, which had been excommunicated by John Murton and the then existing Five English Anabaptist Congregations. A Letter from Elias Tookey and his Congregation at London to the Dutch and English united (Waterland) Church at Amsterdam, dated June 3, 1624, in answer to the preceding communication, and expressing the | 222 |
| hope that they may be received into the membership of that Church, etc | 229 |
| Reinier Wybrantsz., and their Congregations in Holland, expressing the wish that they might be united with them in one religious communion A Letter of Cornelis Claesz. Anslo of Amsterdam to Hans de Ries announcing the arrival of the two | 233 |
| Representatives of the Five English Anabaptist Congregations, and dated November 13, 1626. Questions asked by Hans de Ries, about November, 1626, of the two Representatives of the Five English Ana- | 239 |
| baptist Congregations, with their Answers A Letter of the early English Anabaptist Congregation at Lincoln to the Congregation of Waterlanders at | 241 |
| Amsterdam, dated September 5, 1630 A Letter written by James Toppe and Israel, his wife, of the early English Anabaptist Congregation at Tiverton, to Hans de Ries in answer to a letter of | 243 |
| his dated September 13, 1630 | |
| xVII. Documents chiefly relating to the early Brownist (Barrowist) and Independent Congregations on the Continent. A Letter of "G(eorge Abbot, Archbishop of) Canterbury", probably written to Sir William Boswell, and dated | |
| "From Croyden Sept: 4: 1622" | . 260 s |
| Seale", dated "Boston [England]. Ianuary 31. 1624' A Petition of English and Scottish Ministers in the Netherlands to King Charles I of England against | . |



xiv Contents

| | PAGE |
|--|-------------|
| six articles exhibited by D.(udley) Carleton. Dated | |
| Rotterdam, June 4, 1628 | 264 |
| Information concerning the English Congregations in | |
| the Netherlands between 1621 and 1633 | 270 |
| A Letter of Alexander Browne to Sir William Boswell, | |
| dated Rotterdam, November 1, 1633 | 272 |
| A Letter of Henry Elsynge's to Sir William Boswell, | |
| dated Amsterdam, June 6, 1633 | 273 |
| Part of a letter probably written by Stephen Goffe, of | |
| the date 1633 | 274 |
| Mr Pagetts 20 Proposicions to Mr [Thomas] Hooker | |
| with his answere thereto | 274 |
| English Preachers in the Netherlands [in 1633] | 276 |
| A Letter of Stephen Goffe's to Sir William Boswell, | |
| dated Leyden, Feb. 28 (New Style), 1634/3[?]. | 278 |
| A Letter of Stephen Goffe's to Sir William Boswell, | |
| dated Leyden, March 9 (1634/3?) | 281 |
| A Letter of John Davenport's to Sir William Boswell, | |
| dated Amsterdam, March 18, 1634[/3?] | 282 |
| A Letter of Stephen Goffe's to Sir William Boswell | |
| concerning the difficulties between John Davenport | |
| and John Paget, of the year 1634/3 | 284 |
| A Letter of Griffin Higgs' to Sir William Boswell, dated | |
| The Hague, April 9 (Old Style), 1634 | 285 |
| A Letter of John Paget's to Sir William Boswell, dated | |
| Amsterdam, March 13, 1636 (New Style) | 286 |
| A true Relation of the first Erection of an English Church | |
| in Utrecht, with the proceedings since | 286 |
| A Letter of Robert Crane's to his Cousin, Sir Robert | |
| Crane, Knight and Baronet at Chilton, Suffolk, | |
| dated Utrecht, 1640, concerning the English Church | |
| at Arnheim | 291 |
| XVIII. Selected Documents from the Gould Manuscript illus- | |
| trative of the History of Separatist and Inde- | |
| pendent Congregations in England before 1642. | |
| The so-called Jessey Records or Memoranda | 292 |
| The so-called Kiffin Manuscript | 302 |
| ("Numb: 23") The History (before 1641) of a Separatist | |
| Congregation which usually met in Southwark, and | |
| which was composed partly of Pædobaptists and | |
| partly of Antipædobaptists | 305 |
| XIX. The Names, Trades, and Poor Estate of all the Separatists | |
| living in Great Yarmouth about July 17, 1630 . | 3 09 |
| • | |



| | Contents | xv |
|--------|--|-------------|
| | | PAGE |
| XX. | Reports relating to the Appearance of certain Separatists before the Court of High Commission between | |
| | April 19 and June 21, 1632 | 311 |
| XXI. | Notice of a Separatist Conventicle taken at a house in | |
| | "Rederiffe" in December, 1638 | 323 |
| XXII. | Documents relating to the Prison Life and Death of the | |
| | Separatist, Samuel Eaton. | |
| | A Petition concerning him which was probably sent to | |
| | Archbishop Laud in 1638 | 325 |
| | An Account of his Burial, evidently written on August | |
| | 31, 1639 | 326 |
| XXIII. | A Broadside which mentions the Excommunication of | |
| | Samuel How, and the place and date of his burial | |
| | in 1640 | 32 8 |
| | INDEX | 221 |



LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS

(CHRONOLOGICALLY ARRANGED)

| First page of Henry Jacob's Copy of his Subscription, | |
|---|-----------------|
| April 4, 1605 | Front is piece |
| Title-page of John Smyth's "A Paterne of Trve Prayer", 1605 | To face page 66 |
| Thomas Helwys' Autograph Inscription to King James I, 1612 | " 132 |
| Title-page of Robert Cleaver and John Dod's "The Patrimony of Christian Children", 1624 | " 198 |
| Title-page of the second Impression of "A very plain and well grounded Treatise concerning Baptisme" | 264 |