

**INDEPENDENCY IN
BRISTOL: WITH BRIEF
MEMORIALS OF ITS
CHURCHES AND PASTORS**

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Independency in Bristol: With Brief Memorials of Its Churches and Pastors by M. Caston

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M. CASTON

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BY

REV. M. CASTON.

"Tell ye your children of it; and let your children tell their children; and their children another generation."

"Grace be with all them that love our Lord Jesus Christ in sincerity."

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W. MACK, WINE STREET; W. WHERRAT, CORN STREET.

1860.

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P R E F A C E .

THE Compiler of the following Memorials has felt a sacred pleasure in gathering up the fragments that remain of the History of the Independent Churches in Bristol. He acknowledges, with gratitude, his obligations to the various Friends and Brethren who have assisted him in the work; particularly to the present Pastors of the Churches, and several of the Deacons, who have kindly furnished him with documents in their possession, and favoured him with a sight of the Church Records for his inspection. His thanks are also due to the Senior Deacon of the Broad Mead Church, for the perusal of a valuable Manuscript History of that venerable Society, written with great care by himself, but never published. Also to another Friend, for the use of a similar document relative to the different

Churches and Ministers in Bristol, composed by a departed relative of his, the late MR. ISAAC JAMES, and in which some valuable particulars were found. In addition to these, he has made full use, as will be seen, of the "Broad Mead Records," published by the Hansard Knolly's Society : and has consulted also MR. FULLER'S Narrative, as well as the brief Notices of Dissent in Bristol, preserved in the Library of the Baptist College. Besides these, he has examined the ancient and modern Histories of Bristol, but could obtain little from them : and searched the old City Library, in King Street, for what might possibly be found there in reference to the earlier Churches.

In regard to the modern ones, he has had from the lips, or the pen, of beloved and honoured Brethren, who were instrumental in forming them, the chief particulars : and as some of these are approaching the verge of life, and have reached the evening of their days, he has deemed it a special duty to gather from them, and record, what they only could relate, before they "go hence, and be no more."

Having now finished the work he had proposed to himself, and rendered each Article as correct and complete as

is in his power, he commends the whole to the Divine benediction ; and trusts these Annals of the Past will not be without their use in promoting the cause to which they are devoted, and in encouraging the hearts, and strengthening the hands, of those who are in any way occupied in promoting the spiritual interests of their fellow-creatures, and the kingdom of Christ in the world.

Should this end be attained, the Author will have his reward.

SYDENHAM HILL, BRISTOL,

JANUARY 2nd, 1860.



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