

**MANUAL OF THE SEVENTH-DAY  
BAPTISTS; CONTAINING AN HISTORICAL  
SKETCH OF THE DENOMINATION, AND  
REASONS FOR EMPHASIZING THE DAY  
OF THE SABBATH. PP.7-71**

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Manual of the Seventh-Day Baptists; Containing an Historical Sketch of the Denomination, and Reasons for Emphasizing the Day of the Sabbath. pp.7-71 by George B. Utter

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**GEORGE B. UTTER**

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P R E F A C E .

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DURING the thirteen years of my connection with the publication interests of the Seventh-day Baptist Denomination, I was often called upon by inquirers, and interrogated after the following manner: "In what respects do the Seventh-day Baptists differ from other Baptists? When did they come into existence? How many churches have they? Where are they located? Are they in favor of Missions, Education, and Reforms? Do they really believe, that the Day of the Sabbath is a matter of sufficient importance to justify calling in question the practice of Christians generally, and keeping up separate church organizations?" With a view of answering fully all such questions, I have collected much statistical, biographical, and documentary matter, which will probably be given to the public when complete information is obtained on some points at present

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comparatively obscure. Meanwhile it has been suggested, that a brief Historical Sketch of the Denomination, with some of their Reasons for Emphasizing the Day of the Sabbath, would be convenient and useful. In accordance with that suggestion, the following pages were prepared. If they prove helpful to even a few inquirers, the writer will feel that he is amply rewarded for his labor.

GEORGE B. UTTER.

NEW YORK, May 6, 1858.



## CONTENTS.

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The terms Sabbatarian and Seventh-day Baptist, . . . . .	7
Seventh-day Baptists differ from other Baptists, . . . . .	7
Date of their origin, . . . . .	8
Early observance of the Sabbath and the Lord's Day, . . . . .	19
The Sabbath at the time of the Reformation, . . . . .	14
Sabbath-keepers in Germany, Transylvania, &c. . . . .	16
Seventh-day Baptists in England, . . . . .	17
John Traske, . . . . .	Philip Tandy,
Theophilus Brabourne, . . . . .	James Ockford.
List of Churches in England, . . . . .	20
The Mill-Yard Church, . . . . .	21
John James, . . . . .	Robert Cornthwaite,
William Sellers, . . . . .	Daniel Noble,
Henry Soursby, . . . . .	William Slater,
Mr. Savage, . . . . .	William H. Black,
John Maulden, . . . . .	Joseph Davis.
The Cripplegate Church, . . . . .	27
Francis Bampfield, . . . . .	Thomas Whitewood,
Edward Stennett, . . . . .	Samuel Stennett,
Joseph Stennett, . . . . .	Robert Burnside,
Edmund Townsend, . . . . .	John B. Shenstone.
The Natton Church, . . . . .	35
John Puseer, . . . . .	Thomas Hiller,
Phillip Jones, . . . . .	John Francis,
Thomas Boston, . . . . .	Benjamin Puseer.
General Remarks on Churches in England, . . . . .	37

Seventh-day Baptists in America, . . . . .	39
The Church at Newport, R. I., . . . . .	39
Enumeration of Churches in Rhode Island, Connecticut, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Virginia, Wisconsin, Illinois, and Iowa, . . . . .	41
The Yearly Meeting, . . . . .	44
The General Conference, . . . . .	45
The Associations, . . . . .	46
Benevolent Societies, . . . . .	47
Literary Institutions, . . . . .	50
Statistics of the Churches, . . . . .	51
General Remarks on Churches in America, . . . . .	53
List of Ministers, with their Post-offices, May 6, 1858, . . . . .	55
Reasons for Emphasizing the Day of the Sabbath, . . . . .	57

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HISTORICAL SKETCH  
OF  
THE SEVENTH-DAY BAPTISTS.

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THE terms **SABBATARIAN** and **SEVENTH-DAY BAPTIST** are used to designate a body of Christians who observe the seventh or last day of the week as the Sabbath. The former term was adopted by them in England soon after the Reformation, when the word Sabbath was applied exclusively to the seventh day, and when those who observed that day were regarded as the only Sabbath-keepers. In the year 1818, the term Sabbatarian was rejected by the General Conference in America, on account of its supposed indefiniteness, and the term Seventh-day Baptist was retained as more descriptive of the opinions and practices of the people.

The Seventh-day Baptists differ from other Baptists mainly in the views which they hold of the Sabbath. In respect to this, they believe, that the seventh day of the week was sanctified and blessed for the Sabbath in Paradise, and was