

Mennonites: Notes of Talk Given at Wilmington, Del.¹

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Questions

1. Relation of Dunkers (origin in Germany) to Mennonites
2. Relation of Amish to Mennonites
3. Relation of 7th Day Baptists to Mennonites
4. Are there any other plain associations?

Mennonites Old = Otterheim

Mennonites New = United Brethren

Members of rock = River Brethren

Are they increasing or decreasing in numbers?

Issues between Old Mennonites and New Mennonites

Church of God?

More particularly on Doctrinal =

1. Taking part in Political activities (Hershey)

Church Visible

2. Worshipped with other denominations

Church Invisible

3. Old Mennonites did not practice the avoidance of excommunicated members

What pamphlets or books are there which give the figures of numbers?

Would eat the daily meal with them and in secular dealings.

The Old Mennonites interpreted the {???) different from Menno Simons². N.M. agree, see p. 10.³

¹ These notes are more fragmentary than linear, and to convey that sense I have denoted each individual page of notes with lines that cross the transcription pages

² Menno Simons (1496-1561) Roman Catholic priest who became an important Anabaptist religious leader.

³ Almost certainly referring to Daniel Musser, *The Reformed Mennonite Church*, Lancaster, PA: Elias Barr & Co., 1873.

Ordinances =

1. Baptism. 2nd
2. Breaking of Bread on Holy Supper Means of
3. Washing of feet (John 13) Grace, p. 57.
4. Kiss of peace
5. Excommunication
6. Marriage

The Church is called "The House of God."

Do the Amish practice Infant Baptism?

No

Do the Mennonites hold to the idea that there has been a strain of the true visible church missing through from Apostolic times?

Yes = Menno Simons confesses that he went with Waldenses and was Baptized.

How are preachers/teachers/ministers chosen?

Bishops/Ministers/Deacons?

All elected by vote of both men and women.

No women hold office.

Are ministers ordained?

In what does ordination consist?

See page 112. *Ref. Men. Ch. By D.M.*⁴

What are the officers of the Church?

Duties of each.

"*The Bloody Theatre: or Martyr's Mirror*"

Translated into English by I.D. Rupp, for David Miller [publisher] 1837.⁵ R.M.C., p. 14.⁶

⁴ Daniel Musser, *The Reformed Mennonite Church, Its Rise and Progress, with its Principles and Doctrines*, Lancaster, PA: Elias Barr & Co., 1873.

⁵ Thielem J. Von Bracht, *Bloody Theatre, or Martyrs' Mirror*, I. D. Rupp, translator, Lancaster County, PA: David Miller, 1837.

⁶ Daniel Musser, *The Reformed Mennonite Church, Its Rise and Progress, with its Principles and Doctrines*, Lancaster, PA: Elias Barr & Co., 1873.

An Obedience to Government.

See M.R.C. [Should be R.M.C.] Page 163.⁷

What is the belief and practice on the matter of sin after Baptism?

R.M.C., p. 315-17

What is the method of Baptism?

Immersion or pouring?

Dipping forward or back?

Casting lot for preachers

R.M.C., p. 244

Origin of Reformed Mennonite Church?

Chapter VII, R.M.C.

Story of Francis and John Herr, p. 297

Old Mennonites and new

R.M.C. = page 239

First rite of Baptism in Reformed Mennonite Church

30 May 1812. R.M.C., p. 307

First Ordination = p. 307-309

Procedure of Baptism

p. 315-316.

Excommunication,

p. 348.

Church of the Brethren

Christian + Missionary Alliance

Church of God.

⁷ R.M.C. throughout refers to Daniel Musser, *The Reformed Mennonite Church, Its Rise and Progress, with its Principles and Doctrines*, Lancaster, PA: Elias Barr & Co., 1873.

Mennonite

Brethren in Christ
Old Men.
New Men.
United Brethren
Otterheim Chapel

More now

Reformed Mennonites in County: 500+

Old Mennonite =

Amish

D{???

The Church of the Brethren
Brethren in Christ Church
River Brethren

Stauffer People Mennonites in the lower section
Martin Mennonite of the county

Marriage

John Herr =

The Illustrating Mirror
*The Way to Heaven*⁸

Daniel Musser

*Reformed Mennonite Church*⁹

John Kohr

The Millennium (1875)?¹⁰

⁸ John Herr (1782-1850) Founder of the Reformed Mennonite Church. He wrote *The Illustrating Mirror; or a Fundamental Illustration of Christ's Sermon on the Mount*, Lancaster, PA: John Bear, 1834.

⁹ Daniel Musser, *The Reformed Mennonite Church, Its Rise and Progress, with its Principles and Doctrines*, Lancaster, PA: Elias Barr & Co., 1873.

¹⁰ John Kohr (1806-1887). He wrote *The Millennium*, no publisher, 1887.

Jacob H. Lehman, Compiled by
*Christianity Defined*¹¹

Eli Herr
*The Saint*¹²

The Martyrs' Mirror
Translation was made from the Dutch edition,
1886, The Mennonite Publishing Co.¹³

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God to carry out the non-resistance. But New Mennonites take no part whatsoever in political government.

Take no part in making or in executing laws. But obey law. Except when it is in violation of teaching of Christ. Acts 5:29. "Obey God rather than men."

The Reformed Mennonites in Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Nebraska, Kansas, California, Michigan, New York State (near Buffalo), Missouri, Canada

Centers all started from migrations from Pennsylvania.

The separation of Reformed from Old Mennonites {???) in Mellinger's meeting house in 1812.

The Church of Christ consists of all regenerate souls, whether a member of the visible church or not. Church membership is not essential to salvation. But the spirit of a regenerate life would prompt one to affiliate with the visible church if possible.

¹¹ Jacob S. Lehman (no dates available) compiled *Christianity Defined: A Manual of New Testament Teaching On the Unity of The Church, Non-Resistance of Evil*, 1903.

¹² Eli Herr (1877-1926) wrote *The Saint: His Character, His Relations to God, to His Fellow-believers and to the World*, United States: Mail, 1900.

¹³ Thielem J. Von Bracht, *Bloody Theatre, or Martyrs' Mirror*, I. D. Rupp, translator, Lancaster County, PA: David Miller, 1837. This edition does not show up in a Google Book search.

Do not [have] many out of faith
"must be regenerate."

Baptism

Practice = pouring = but it is just an adopted form. The particular form is a matter of church adaptation. But regardless of form, it is the first Ordinance, and is a prerequisite of others.

In case of sin after Baptism.
Minor infringements may be labored with or disciplined such as exclusion from the Holy Supper may be evoked. If the sinful life persists or any gross sin is committed, excommunication follows.

But repentance may bring one back into the fold of the church without {???}.

Before Communion and feet washing, a meeting is held to inquire into the status of members.

1st Holy Supper
2nd Feet washing

Semi-yearly

Kiss of Peace at all times = Is a symbol of meeting as in good standing. Acknowledgement of faith in one another. Kiss of Peace is only withdrawn

by official action.

Feet washing =
 Officials = and {???} =
 Any brother might do it, but in practice it is confined to officers.

Bishop Speakers
Ministers

Deacons Temporal affairs {???}

1. Elected.
2. Proved = Put on probation for several years = then either excused or ordained

Minister speaks without notes = as the spirit gives power.

Old Mennonites select speaker by lot.

Ordained

(Laying on of hands and prayer of Ordination.)

Christ (One with God from Everlasting {???)

Trinitarian

Christ was human as we are. Had a corruptible body, in which
Divinity Dwelt.

Do not believe that we will be resurrected in this corruptible
body, but in the incorruptible body

2nd Coming of Christ

Coming forth of those who are in their graves.

They that have good into resurrections of eternal life

They that are evil unto damnation

General acceptance of the story

Do not believe in Millennium
