**AUTHOR BIO’S – SEPTEMBER**

**BAKER, THEODORE** (1851-1934) Baker stu­died mu­sic in Ger­ma­ny, where he re­ceived his PhD de­gree at the Un­i­ver­si­ty of Leip­zig (his doc­tor­al dis­ser­ta­tion was on the mu­sic of the Sen­e­ca In­di­ans). Lat­er he worked as lit­er­ary ed­it­or for the G. Schirm­er Mu­sic Com­pa­ny (1892-1926) and wrote the Bi­o­graph­ic­al Dic­tion­ary of Mu­si­cians (1900).

**BURTON, JOHN** (1773-1822) A Bap­tist layman, Bur­ton wrote a num­ber of hymns, and helped com­pile the Nottingham Sun­day School Un­ion Hymn Book in 1810; this hymn­al went through 20 edi­tions over the next half cen­tu­ry.

**NEWTON, JOHN** (1725-1809) Newton’s mo­ther died when he was sev­en years old. At age 11, with but two years school­ing and on­ly a rud­i­men­tary know­ledge of La­tin, he went to sea with his fa­ther. Life at sea was filled with won­der­ful es­capes, viv­id dreams, and a sail­or’s reck­less­ness. He grew into a god­less and aban­doned man. He was once flogged as a de­sert­er from the na­vy, and for 15 months lived, half starved and ill treat­ed, as a slave in Af­ri­ca.

A chance read­ing of Thom­as à Kemp­is sowed the seed of his con­ver­sion. It was ac­cel­er­at­ed by a night spent steer­ing a wa­ter­logged ship in the face of ap­par­ent death. He was then 23 years old. Over the next six years, dur­ing which he com­mand­ed a slave ship, his faith ma­tured. He spent the next nine years most­ly in Li­ver­pool, stu­dy­ing He­brew and Greek and ming­ling with White­field, [Wes­ley](http://www.hymntime.com/tch/bio/w/e/s/wesley_j.htm), and the Non­con­form­ists. He was even­tu­al­ly or­dained, and be­came cur­ate at Ol­ney, Buck­ing­ham­shire, in 1764.

**SMALL, JAMES GRINDLAY** (1817-1888) Small at­tend­ed the Un­i­ver­si­ty of Ed­in­burgh, stu­died di­vin­i­ty und­er Dr. Chalmers, and in 1834 joined the Free Church of Scot­land. In 1847 he be­came min­is­ter of the Free Church at Ber­vie, near Mont­rose.

**GRIMES, EMILY MAY** (1868-1927) Nothing on the Web for Emily May Grimes.

**MONSELL, JOHN SAMUEL BEWLEY** (1811-1875) Monsell, son of the arch­dea­con of Lon­don­der­ry, Ire­land, at­tend­ed Trin­i­ty Coll­ege in Dub­lin, and was or­dained in 1834. In 1853, he was as­signed to a post in Eng­land. He was Vic­ar of Eg­ham, Sur­rey, un­til 1870, and Rec­tor at St. Nicho­las’, Guild­ford, un­til 1875, when he was killed by a fall from the roof of the church while it was be­ing re­built. His 11 vol­umes of po­e­try en­com­pass al­most 300 hymns.

**BARING-GOULD, SABINE** (1834-1924) Baring-Gould had one of the most bril­liant, ec­lec­tic minds of Vic­tor­i­an Eng­land. Born in­to the land­ed gen­try, he at­tend­ed schools in Ger­ma­ny and France, then went to Clare Coll­ege at Cam­bridge. He learned six lan­guag­es, en­tered the min­is­try at age 30, and pas­tored in York­shire, Es­sex, and Dev­on­shire.

He al­so found time to write over 100 books, in­clud­ing 30 nov­els and a mam­moth 16-vo­lume *Lives of the Saints*. His works cov­er a huge range of top­ics: the­ol­o­gy, folk­lore, so­cial com­ment­ary, trav­el & his­to­ry. One ac­count of his life states, At one point there were more books list­ed un­der his name in the Brit­ish Mu­se­um Lib­rary than un­der that of any other Eng­lish writ­er. But he was not just an au­thor: He was an ar­chae­ol­o­gist, ar­chi­tect, ar­tist, teach­er & col­lect­or of Eng­lish folk songs. His fam­i­ly es­tate at Lew Trench­ard, near Dart­moor in Dev­on­shire, is now a ho­tel.

**KEN, THOMAS** (1637-1711) Ken trained at Win­ches­ter and New Coll­ege, Ox­ford, and was or­dained an Ang­li­can priest in 1662. In 1663, he be­came Rec­tor of Lit­tle East­on, and Rec­tor of Wood­hay and Pre­ben­da­ry of Win­ches­ter in 1669. He pub­lished a Man­u­al of Pray­ers, for the use of the schol­ars of Win­ches­ter Coll­ege, in 1674. He was brief­ly chap­lain to Prin­cess Ma­ry, and lat­er to the Brit­ish fleet. He be­came Bi­shop of Bath and Wells in 1685. He was one of sev­er­al bi­shops im­pris­oned in the Tow­er of Lon­don for re­fus­ing to sign James II’s De­clar­a­tion of In­dul­gence (hop­ing to re­store Ca­thol­i­cism in Eng­land); he was tried and ac­quit­ted. Ken wrote much po­e­try, pu­blished post­hu­mous­ly in 1721.

**BICKERSTETH, EDWARD HENRY** (1825-1906) An honor grad­u­ate of Trin­i­ty Coll­ege, Cam­bridge, Bick­er­steth served as Vi­car of Christ Church, Hamp­stead; Dean of Glou­ces­ter; and Bi­shop of Ex­e­ter (1885-1900). He ed­it­ed three hymn­als, and wrote at least 30 hymns of his own.

**STEAD, LOUISA M. R.** (1850-1917) As a teen­ager, Stead felt called to be a mis­sion­ary. She went to Amer­i­ca around age 21, and lived for a while in Cin­cin­na­ti, Ohio. At­tend­ing a camp meet­ing in Ur­bana, Ohio, she felt the mis­sion­ary call­ing ev­en more strong­ly, but was un­a­ble to go to Chi­na as she want­ed due to her frail health. She mar­ried a Mr. Stead in 1875. Tra­gic­al­ly, her hus­band died off Long Is­land, New York, while try­ing to res­cue a drown­ing boy.

Around 1880, Stead went to South Af­ri­ca, and served as a mis­sion­ary some 15 years. She re­mar­ried, to Rob­ert Wode­house of that count­ry. She re­turned to Amer­i­ca in 1895 to re­cov­er her health, but once again went into mis­sions in Rho­de­sia in 1901. Her daugh­ter Li­ly (who sur­vived the ac­ci­dent that killed her fa­ther) mar­ried D. A. Car­son and be­came a mis­sion­ary like her mo­ther.

**HAVERGAL, FRANCES RIDLEY** (1836-1879) Daughter of [Will­iam Havergal](http://www.hymntime.com/tch/bio/h/a/v/havergal_wh.htm), Fran­ces was a bright but short lived can­dle in Eng­lish hym­no­dy. She was bap­tized by hym­nist [John Ca­wood](http://www.hymntime.com/tch/bio/c/a/w/cawood_j.htm), was read­ing by age four, and be­gan writ­ing verse at age se­ven. She learned La­tin, Greek and He­brew, and mem­o­rized the Psalms, the book of Isai­ah, and most of the New Test­a­ment.

**SYNESIUS OF CYRENE** (c.375-430) Known as a states­man and pa­tri­ot, Sy­ne­si­us was made Bi­shop of Ptol­e­maïs by pop­u­lar de­mand in 410. He wrote a num­ber of odes, on­ly one of which has come into com­mon us­age as a hymn.

**CHATFIELD, ALLEN W.** (1808-1896) Chatfield was ed­u­cat­ed at Char­ter­house School and Trin­i­ty Coll­ege, Cam­bridge, where he was Bell’s Un­i­ver­si­ty Schol­ar and Mem­bers’ Prize­man. He grad­u­at­ed in 1831, win­ning a first class in class­ic­al hon­ors. Tak­ing Ho­ly Or­ders in 1832, he served as Vi­car of Stot­field, Bed­ford­shire (1833-1847) and Vi­car of Much-Marcle, Her­e­ford­shire (1847-?).

**GLADDEN, WASHINGTON** (1836-1918) Gladden’s birth name is var­i­ous­ly re­port­ed as Sol­o­mon Wash­ing­ton Glad­den or George Wash­ing­ton Glad­den, but he lat­er dropped the first name. His fa­ther, a school teach­er, died when Wash­ing­ton was a young boy, and the fam­i­ly moved to New York. He mar­ried Eliz­a­beth Shores in 1852, and en­tered the O­we­go Acad­e­my, Ti­o­ga Coun­ty, New York, in 1855, then Will­iams Coll­ege in 1859. Af­ter work­ing as a news­pa­per re­port­er, he be­came an or­dained min­is­ter in 1860, and pas­tored in Brook­lyn, New York (1860); Mor­ris­ania, New York (1861-66); North Adams, Mass­a­chu­setts (1866-71); Spring­field, Mass­a­chu­setts (1875-82); and Co­lum­bus, Ohio. In Co­lum­bus, he was pa­stor of the First Con­gre­ga­tion­al Church for 32 years. From 1871 to 1875, he was on the ed­it­orial staff of the New York Independent, and later, while pas­tor at Sprintfield, he edited the weekly periodical Sun­day Af­ternoon. 7In 1891, he was a del­e­gate to the in­ter­na­tion­al con­gress of Con­gre­ga­tion­al­ists in Lon­don. He was al­so mod­er­a­tor of the Con­gre­ga­tion­al Church in Amer­i­ca, helped set­tle an an­thra­cite coal strike in 1902, and was known as a so­cial re­form­er.

**KELLY, THOMAS** (1769-1855) Son of a judge, Kel­ly at­tend­ed Trin­i­ty Coll­ege (BA 1789) and planned to be a law­yer. Af­ter con­vert­ing to Christ, though, his ca­reer plans changed to the min­is­try. He be­came an Ang­li­can priest in 1792, but event­u­al­ly be­came one of the fa­mous dis­sent­ing min­is­ters. He wrote over 760 hymns.

**ORR, JAMES EDWIN** (1912-1987) Orr was or­dained an Amer­i­can Bap­tist min­is­ter in 1940, at­tend­ed North­west­ern Un­i­ver­si­ty (MA 1941) and North­ern Bap­tist Sem­in­ary (ThD 1943), and served as a chap­lain in the U.S. Army Air Corps in the Pa­ci­fic in World War II. Af­ter the war, he con­tin­ued his school­ing, at­tend­ing Ox­ford Un­i­ver­si­ty (PhD 1948) and the Un­i­ver­si­ty of Cal­i­for­nia at Los An­ge­les (EdD 1971); he al­so re­ceived hon­o­rary de­grees from an In­di­an sem­in­ary and the Un­i­ver­si­ty of South Afr­i­ca. In 1967 he be­came a pro­fess­or in the School of World Mis­sions at Ful­ler The­o­lo­gic­al Sem­in­ary, Pa­sa­de­na, Cal­i­forn­ia. He wrote at least six hymns.

**HEWITT, ELIZA E.** (1851-1920) Pen Name for Lidie H. Edmunds-After grad­u­a­tion from school, Eli­za be­gan teach­ing. How­ev­er, her ca­reer was cut short by a ser­i­ous spin­al prob­lem. She par­tial­ly re­cov­ered, but was an in­val­id most of her life. She then turned to hymn writ­ing, which ran in the fam­i­ly—her cou­sin was hymn­ist [Ed­gar Stites](http://www.hymntime.com/tch/bio/s/t/i/stites_ep.htm).

Eliza lived all her life in in Phil­a­del­phia, where she was Sun­day School sup­er­in­tend­ent at the North­ern Home for Friend­less Child­ren, and lat­er at the Cal­vin Pres­by­ter­i­an Church. She was al­so a reg­u­lar con­trib­u­tor to Sun­day-school Helps.

**MERRILL, WILLIAM PIERSON** (1867-1954) Merrill was a grad­u­ate of Rut­gers Coll­ege (BA 1887, MA 1890) and Un­ion The­o­log­ic­al Sem­in­ary (BD 1890). He pas­tored at Pres­by­ter­i­an church­es in Phil­a­del­phia, Penn­sylv­ania; Chi­ca­go, Il­linois; and the Brick Pres­by­ter­i­an Church in New York Ci­ty (1911-1938).

**ROBINSON, ROBERT** (1735-1790) Robinson’s wi­dowed mo­ther sent him at age 14 to Lon­don, to learn the trade of bar­ber and hair dress­er. How­ev­er, his mas­ter found he en­joyed read­ing more than work. Con­vert­ed to Christ at age 17, Ro­bin­son be­came a Meth­od­ist min­is­ter. He lat­er moved to the Bapt­ist church and pas­tored in Cam­bridge, Eng­land. He wrote a num­ber of hymns, as well as on the sub­ject of the­ol­o­gy. His lat­er life was ev­i­dent­ly not an ea­sy one, judg­ing from a well known sto­ry about his hymn Come, Thou Fount of Ev­ery Bless­ing. One day, he en­count­ered a wo­man who was stu­dy­ing a hymn­al, and she asked how he liked the hymn she was hum­ming. In tears, he re­plied, Madam, I am the poor un­hap­py man who wrote that hymn ma­ny years ago, and I would give a thou­sand worlds, if I had them, to en­joy the feel­ings I had then.”

**ADAMS, SARAH FLOWER** (1805-1848) Daughter of jour­nal­ist and pol­i­ti­cian Ben­ja­min Flow­er, she mar­ried Wil­liam Bridg­es Ad­ams in 1834. She had hoped to be an ac­tress, but God had other plans for her. Her stage ca­reer was cut short by poor health (though she did get to play La­dy Mac­beth in 1837), so she turned to writ­ing. Her works in­clude ma­ny mag­a­zine ar­ti­cles; a po­em about ear­ly Christ­ian mar­tyrs called Vi­via Per­pe­tua (1841); The Flock at the Foun­tain (1845), a child­ren’s cat­e­chism; and 13 en­tries in Hymns and An­thems, pub­lished in 1841 by min­is­ter Wil­liam John­son Fox. Ad­ams at­tended Fox’s South Place Un­i­tar­i­an Church, Fins­bury, Lon­don.

**PRENTISS, ELIZABETH PAYSON** (1818-1878) In 1845, Elizabeth mar­ried Rev. George Lew­is Pren­tiss (who lat­er be­came Pro­fess­or of The­ol­o­gy at Un­ion Sem­in­a­ry in New York City).Elizabeth was an author, In 1856, following the nearly fatal illness of her daughter Minnie, she wrote the hymn "More Love to Thee  Her writings enjoyed renewed popularity in the late 20th century.

**THRUPP, DOROTHY A.** (1779-1847) Daughter of Jo­seph Thrupp of Pad­ding­ton Green, Dor­o­thy’s hymns ap­peared in the Friend­ly Vis­it­or and the Child­ren’s Friend, by Rev. W. Car­us Wil­son; in the Se­lection of Hymns and Po­e­try for the Use of In­fant Schools and Nur­ser­ies, by Mrs. Her­bert Mayo, 1838; and in her Hymns for the Young (1836). In 1836 and 1837 Dor­o­thy al­so pub­lished Thoughts for the Day, in which she em­bo­died ma­ny hymns which pre­vi­ous­ly ap­peared in the Friend­ly Vis­it­or.

**KEBLE, JOHN** (1792-1866) Keble was the son of the vi­car of Colne. Af­ter a brill­iant ca­reer at Ox­ford Un­i­ver­si­ty, he took Ho­ly Ord­ers and be­came Cur­ate at East Leach and Bur­thorpe. In 1827, he pub­lished *The Christ­ian Year: Thoughts in Verse for the Sun­days and Ho­ly Days Through­out the Year*, which was an in­stant suc­cess. In 1831, Ke­ble be­came a pro­fess­or of po­e­try at Ox­ford. In 1833, he laid the found­a­tion of the Ox­ford Move­ment by de­liv­er­ing his fa­mous As­size Ser­mon. In 1835, he ac­cept­ed the vi­car­age at Hurs­ley, where he stayed the rest of his life.

 Keble was a mod­est man, and prob­ab­ly thought less of his own work than did the least of his ad­mir­ers. He once ac­com­pa­nied the vi­car of a par­ish in south­ern En­gland on his vis­it to the Sun­day School. The su­per­in­tend­ent asked Ke­ble to say a few words to the child­ren, who were al­rea­dy ac­quaint­ed with his hymns, so that they might more ea­si­ly re­mem­ber them. Ke­ble de­murred, but when the su­per­in­tend­ent per­sist­ed, said May they sing some­thing? When they fin­ished, his face was beam­ing as he said:

*My dear child­ren, you sang most beau­ti­ful­ly in tune; may your whole lives be equal­ly in tune, and then you will sing with the an­gels in hea­ven.*

**BAKER, HENRY WILLIAMS** (1821-1877) Baker was the son of Vice Ad­mir­al Hen­ry Lo­raine Bak­er. He at­tend­ed Trin­i­ty Coll­ege at Cam­bridge, was or­dained in 1844, and be­came as­sist­ant cur­ate at Great Hock­es­ley, near Col­ches­ter, Es­sex. In 1851, he be­came Vic­ar of Monk­land Pri­ory Church in Here­ford­shire, Eng­land, where he served most of his life. Up­on his fa­ther’s death in 1859, Bak­er as­sumed the fam­i­ly bar­o­net­cy. From 1860 to 1877, he was ed­it­or-in-chief of the An­gl­ican Hymns An­cient and Mo­dern, and con­tri­but­ed hymns, tunes, and trans­la­tions. This his­tor­ic hym­nal sold 60 mil­lion co­pies.

**SCRIVEN, JOSHEPH MEDLICOTT** (1819-1866) Joseph Scriven was born at [Banbridge](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Banbridge), [Co. Down](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Co._Down), [Ireland](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ireland). He graduated from [Trinity College, Dublin](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Trinity_College%2C_Dublin) and embraced the teachings of the [Plymouth Brethren](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Plymouth_Brethren). He was known to be eccentric but was a born philanthropist and devoutly religious; he gave freely of what money he had, even his own clothing and his services to all poorer than himself who needed them. He died at [Port Hope](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Port_Hope), Ontario, Canada.

His fiancée drowned in 1845, the night before they were to be married. The grief-stricken young man moved to Canada. There he again fell in love, was due to be married and the young woman suddenly fell ill of [pneumonia](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pneumonia) and died. He then devoted the rest of his life to helping others.

He wrote a poem to comfort his mother called "Pray Without Ceasing". It was later set to music and renamed by [Charles Crozat Converse](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Charles_Crozat_Converse), becoming the hymn "[What a Friend We Have in Jesus](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/What_a_Friend_We_Have_in_Jesus)".

**WATTS, ISAAC** (1674-1748) Watts’ fa­ther was Non­con­form­ist im­pris­oned twice for his re­li­gious views. Isaac learned Greek, Latin, and He­brew un­der Mr. Pin­horn, Rec­tor of All Saints, and head­mas­ter of the Gram­mar School in South­amp­ton. Isaac’s taste for verse showed it­self in ear­ly child­hood, and his prom­ise caused a lo­cal doc­tor and other friends to of­fer him a un­i­ver­si­ty ed­u­ca­tion, as­sum­ing he would be or­dained in the Church of Eng­land. How­ev­er, Isaac de­clined and in­stead en­tered a Non­con­for­mist Acad­e­my at Stoke New­ing­ton in 1690, un­der the care of Thom­as Rowe, pas­tor of the In­de­pen­dent cong­re­ga­tion at Gir­dlers’ Hall; Isaac joined this con­gre­ga­tion in 1693.

 Watts left the Acad­e­my at age 20 and spent two years at home; it was dur­ing this per­i­od that he wrote the bulk of his *Hymns and Spir­it­u­al Songs*. They were sung from man­uscripts in the South­amp­ton Cha­pel, and pub­lished 1707-1709.

The next six years of his life were again spent at Stoke New­ing­ton, work­ing as tu­tor to the son of em­i­nent Pur­i­tan John Har­topp. The in­tense stu­dy of these years is re­flect­ed in the the­o­log­ic­al and phil­o­soph­ic­al ma­ter­i­al he sub­se­quent­ly pub­lished.

 Watts preached his first ser­mon at age 24. In the next three years, he preached fre­quent­ly, and in 1702 was or­dained as pas­tor of the In­de­pen­dent con­gre­ga­tion in Mark Lane. At that time he moved in­to the house of a Mr. Hollis in the Mi­nor­ies. His health be­gan to fail the next year, and Sam­u­el Price was ap­point­ed as his as­sist­ant in the min­is­try. In 1712, a fe­ver shat­tered his con­sti­tu­tion, and Price be­came co-pas­tor of the con­gre­ga­tion, which had moved to a new cha­pel in Bu­ry Street. It was at this time that Isaac be­came the guest of Sir Thom­as Ab­ney. He lived with Ab­ney (and lat­er Abney’s wi­dow) the rest of his life, main­ly at The­o­balds in Hert­ford­shire, then for 13 years at Stoke New­ing­ton.

 In 1728, the Un­i­ver­si­ty of Ed­in­burgh award­ed Watts a Doc­tor of Di­vin­i­ty de­gree.