BRIEF BIOS: Not in alphabetical order but in order of the hymns – authors of more than one hymn, their bio’s are not repeated.

**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. She knew and wrote a poem to Fanny Crosby.

**Wilkinson, Kate Barclay (**1859-1928 **)**-Daughter of me­chan­i­cal en­gin­eer Will­iam Beck­ett John­son, Kate mar­ried Fred­er­ick Bar­clay Wil­kin­son, a ca­shier, in 1891, at St. John the Evan­gel­ist An­gli­can Church, Alt­rin­cham, Che­shire. Kate worked with young wo­men in west Lon­don, and was ap­par­ent­ly in­volved with the Kes­wick Con­ven­tion move­ment.

**DODDRIDGE, PHILIP** (1702-1751)-Youngest of 20 child­ren, Dod­dridge at­tend­ed Kings­ton Gram­mar School at St. Al­bans, and a non­con­form­ist acad­e­my in Kib­worth, Lei­ces­ter­shire, Eng­land. He went on to be­come one of the “dis­sent­ing” cler­gy. He was pas­tor of an in­de­pend­ent con­gre­ga­tion and tu­tor of a sem­in­ary for dis­sent­ing min­is­ters at North­amp­ton from 1739 un­til his death.

**NEWMAN, JOHN HENRY** (1801-1890)- Newman at­tend­ed Trin­i­ty Coll­ege, Ox­ford, orig­in­al­ly in­tend­ing to stu­dy law. How­ev­er, he de­cid­ed to en­ter the min­is­try in­stead, and was or­dained in 1824. His first post was as Cu­rate of St. Cle­ment’s, Ox­ford. New­man was a lead­er of the Ox­ford Move­ment, and a gift­ed writ­er. Though raised a Cal­vin­ist, New­man mi­grat­ed to Ro­man Ca­thol­i­cism, and even­tu­al­ly be­came Car­din­al-Dea­con of St. George in Ve­lab­ro, in 1879.

**WATTS, ISAAC** (1674-1748) Who is better known than Isaac Watts? His hymns are sung in every professed Christian body, although it is to be feared many know not the meaning of the words they sing. When advanced in years he is described as a "little feeble old man, shy in manner yet rich in speech. ... Wherever he goes he is regarded with veneration and love, for his mind is stored with knowledge and his heart is alive with tender sympathies."

**HOPKINS, JOHN HENRY, JR.** (1820-1891) Son of John H. Hopkins, some­time Bi­shop of Ver­mont, Hopkins grad­u­at­ed from the Un­i­ver­si­ty of Ver­mont (AB 1839, MA 1845). In New York Ci­ty, he worked as a re­port­er, in­tend­ing to pre­pare for a law ca­reer. In­stead, he en­tered the Gen­er­al The­o­log­ic­al Sem­in­ary, where he grad­u­at­ed in 1850. He then be­came the sem­in­ary’s first mu­sic teach­er (1855-7), and ed­it­or of the Church Jour­nal (1853-68). Hop­kins al­so served as a dea­con (1850) and priest (1872), and as Rec­tor of Trin­i­ty Church, Platts­burg, New York, and Christ Church in Will­iams­port, Penn­syl­van­ia.

**RIPPON, JOHN** (1751-1836) Rippon at­tend­ed the Bap­tist Coll­ege in Bris­tol, Eng­land. In 1775, he be­came pas­tor of the Carter’s Lane Bap­tist Church in Lon­don, where he served over six dec­ades. He al­so ed­it­ed the Bap­tist An­nu­al Reg­ist­er for 12 years. In 1787, he pub­lished his fam­ous A Se­lect­ion of Hymns from the Best Au­thors, In­tend­ed to Be an Ap­pen­dix to Dr. Watts’ Psalms and Hymns, which was re­print­ed 27 times, in over 200,000 cop­ies. February 9th hymn is attributed to Robert Keene.

**DIX, WILLIAM CHATTERTON** (1837-1898) Dix’ fa­ther, a sur­geon, wrote a bi­o­gra­phy of po­et Tho­mas Chat­ter­ton, and gave his son his mid­dle name in his hon­or. Young Wil­liam at­tend­ed the Bris­tol Gram­mar School. Lat­er, he man­aged a ma­rine in­sur­ance com­pa­ny in Glas­gow, Scot­land, but his heart was in the po­e­try of wor­ship. He wrote more than 40 hymns over the course of his life.

**ZINZENENDORF, NICOLAUS LUDWIG VON** (1700-1760) -Born into aris­toc­ra­cy and wealth, von Zin­zen­dorf brief­ly stu­died law at the Un­i­ver­si­ty of Wit­ten­berg. Tir­ing of aca­dem­ia, he left school at age 19 to trav­el through­out Eu­rope. Three years lat­er, he in­her­it­ed the es­tate of Ber­tels­dorf in Sach­sen (Sax­o­ny). It was there that he per­mit­ted a group of re­li­gious re­fu­gees called the Mo­ra­vi­an Breth­ren to set­tle. By 1732, this Mo­rav­i­an set­tle­ment, named Herrn­hut (the Lord’s Shel­ter) had grown to over 600. This was the birth­place of the Mo­ra­vi­an church, led by Zinzendorf.

The Mo­ra­vi­ans be­gan send­ing out mis­sion­ar­ies in 1732, the first two go­ing to the West In­dies. In 1735, a group went to Geor­gia, then Penn­syl­van­ia. They ar­rived in Penn­syl­van­ia on Christ­mas Day, 1741, join­ing a group al­ready there. In­spired by their Christ­mas ar­riv­al, they named the new set­tle­ment Beth­le­hem. It is from this town that the fa­mous Beth­le­hem Steel Co­m­pany got its name.

Zinzendorf wrote about 2,000 hymns in his life; the Mo­ra­vi­ans trans­lat­ed ma­ny in­to other lang­uages for use in their mis­sion work.

**SCHLEGEL, KATHARINA AMALIA VON** (1697-?) Katharina is thought to have been at­tached to the du­cal court in Kö­then. She wrote at least 20 hymns, con­trib­ut­ing a num­ber to the 1774 Cöth­nische Lied­er.

**BORTHWICK, JANE LAURIE** (1813-1897) Translator - Borthwick be­longed to the Free Church of Scot­land. In 1855, she and her sis­ter [Sarah Find­la­ter](http://www.hymntime.com/tch/bio/f/i/findlater_sb.htm) co-pro­duced a book of trans­la­tions of Ger­man hymns ti­tled Hymns from the Land of Lu­ther (1854, 1855, 1858 & 1862). In 1875, while liv­ing in Swit­zer­land, she pro­duced ano­ther book of trans­la­tions called Al­pine Lyr­ics. Borth­wick was al­so ac­tive with the Ed­in­burgh House of Re­fuge, the Mo­ra­vi­an Mis­sion in Lab­ra­dor, and other mis­sion work. She nev­er mar­ried.

**ALTENBERG, JOHANN MICHAEL** (1590-1650) For a while, Al­ten­burg taught and served pre­cen­tor in Er­furt. In 1608, he be­came pas­tor of Il­vers­ge­hof­en and Mar­bach, near Er­furt; in 1611, of Troch­tell­born; and in 1621 of Gross-Som­mern (or Söm­mer­da), near Erfurt. Dur­ing the war, he was forced in 1631 to flee to Er­furt, where he stayed with­out a charge un­til 1637, when he was ap­point­ed di­a­co­nus of the Au­gus­tine Church, and, in 1638, pas­tor of St. An­drew’s church.

**WINKWORTH, CATHERINE** (1827-1878) Translator - Winkworth spent most of her life in Man­chest­er, Eng­land. The not­a­ble ex­cept­ion was the year she spent in Dres­den, Ger­ma­ny. Around 1854, she pub­lished Lyra Ger­man­i­ca, con­tain­ing nu­mer­ous Ger­man hymns trans­lat­ed in­to Eng­lish. She went on to pub­lish ano­ther ser­ies of Ger­man hymns in 1858. In 1863, she came out with The Chor­ale Book for Eng­land, and in 1869, Christ­ian Sing­ers of Ger­ma­ny. More than any other sin­gle person, she helped bring the Ger­man chor­ale tra­di­tion to the Eng­lish speak­ing world.

**BARTON, BERNARD** (1784-1849) Barton was Britain’s count­er­part to Amer­i­can [John Green­leaf Whitt­i­er](http://www.hymntime.com/tch/bio/w/h/i/whittier_jg.htm). Like Whitt­i­er, he was called the “Quak­er Po­et.” Barton at­tend­ed a Quak­er school in Ip­swich. In 1798, he was ap­pren­ticed to a Mr. S. Jes­up, a shop­keep­er at Hal­stead, Es­sex, with whom he stayed un­til 1806. Barton then moved to Wood­bridge, Suf­folk, and en­tered into bus­i­ness with his bro­ther as a coal and corn mer­chant. He mar­ried, but his wife died aft­er on­ly a year. Bar­ton then moved to Li­ver­pool for a short while, but re­turned to Wood­bridge in 1810. A bank clerk by pro­fess­ion, he wrote 10 books of po­ems, ma­ny of which be­came hymns.

**SHURTLEFF, EARNES WARBURTON** (1862-1917) Shurtleff grad­u­at­ed from An­dover The­ological Sem­i­nary and was or­dained a Con­gre­ga­tion­al min­is­ter. He served in Buen­a­ven­tura, Cal­i­for­nia; Ply­mouth, Mass­a­chu­setts; and Min­ne­ap­o­lis, Min­ne­so­ta. He spent the last part of his ca­reer in Eu­rope, found­ing the Amer­i­can Church in Frank­furt am Main, Ger­ma­ny, in 1895, and work­ing at the Acad­emy Vit­ti in Par­is, France.

**WILLIAMS, WILLIAM** (1717-1791) Known as the “Sweet Sing­er of Wales,” Will­iams was or­dained a dea­con of the Es­tab­lished Church in 1740 by Dr. Cla­get, Bi­shop of St. Da­vid’s, and for three years served the cur­a­cies of Llanwrtyd and Llanddewi-Aberg­wesyn; he ne­ver re­ceived Priest’s Or­ders. He be­came ear­ly ac­quaint­ed with the re­viv­al­ist Dan­iel Row­lands, and for 35 years preached month­ly at Llaullian, Caio, and Llansawel, be­side mak­ing preach­ing jour­neys in north and south Wales. He was held in great esteem as a preacher.

**CROSBY, FANNY JANE** (1820-1915) Fanny Cros­by was prob­ab­ly the most pro­lif­ic hymn­ist in his­to­ry. Though blind­ed by an in­com­pe­tent doc­tor at six weeks of age, she wrote over 8,000 hymns. About her blind­ness, she said: It seemed in­tend­ed by the bless­ed prov­i­dence of God that I should be blind all my life, and I thank him for the dis­pen­sa­tion. If per­fect earth­ly sight were of­fered me to­mor­row I would not ac­cept it. I might not have sung hymns to the praise of God if I had been dis­tract­ed by the beau­ti­ful and in­ter­est­ing things about me.

**GILMORE, JOSEPH HENRY** (1834-1918) Joseph, son of New Hamp­shire Gov­er­nor Jo­seph A. Gil­more, grad­u­at­ed in arts from Brown Un­i­ver­si­ty, and in the­ol­o­gy from New­ton The­o­lo­gic­al In­sti­tu­tion. From 1863-1864, he was his fa­ther’s as­sist­ant while he was gov­er­nor; dur­ing that per­i­od, he al­so ed­it­ed the Con­cord, New Hamp­shire, *Dai­ly Mon­i­tor*.

In 1865, Gil­more be­came pas­tor at the Se­cond Bap­tist Church in Ro­ches­ter, New York. He lat­er pas­tored in Fish­er­ville, New Hamp­shire. In ad­di­tion, he di­rect­ed the Eng­lish De­part­ment at the Un­i­ver­si­ty of Ro­ches­ter, New York (1868-1908).

**WARING, ANNA LAETITIA** (1823-1910) Daughter of Eli­jah War­ing, An­na was raised a Quak­er, but was bap­tized in­to the Church of Eng­land in 1842 at St. Mar­tins, Win­nall, Win­ches­ter. She was deep­ly in­volved in phil­an­thro­pic work, es­pe­cial­ly the Dis­charged Pri­son­ers’ Aid So­ci­e­ty. War­ing mas­tered He­brew as a young girl, to be able to stu­dy Old Tes­ta­ment po­e­try, and dai­ly read the origin­al He­brew psal­ter through­out her life.

**COWPER, WILLIAM** (1731-1800) Cowper (pro­nounced “Coop­er”), whose fa­ther was cha­plain to King George II, went through the mo­tions of be­com­ing an at­tor­ney, but ne­ver prac­ticed law. He lived near Ol­ney, Buck­ing­ham­shire, the name­sake town of the Ol­ney Hymns, which he co-wrote with [John New­ton](http://www.hymntime.com/tch/bio/n/e/w/newton_j.htm), au­thor of [Amaz­ing Grace](http://www.hymntime.com/tch/htm/a/m/a/amazing_grace.htm). Cow­per al­so wrote po­et­ry, in­clud­ing “The Ne­gro’s Com­plaint,” an an­ti-slav­ery work, and the 5,000-line “The Task.”

**DAVIES, SAMUEL** (1723-1761) As an adult, Davies said:

I am a son of pray­er, like my name­sake, Sam­u­el the pro­phet, and my mo­ther called me Sam­u­el, because, she said, I have asked him of the Lord.

Davies joined the Pres­by­ter­i­an Church at age 15. He be­came a li­censed Pres­by­ter­i­an min­is­ter in 1746. The next year he was li­censed as an evan­gel­ist and sent to Vir­gin­ia. A court in Will­iams­burg grant­ed him a li­cense as a dis­sent­ing min­is­ter, the first such li­cense giv­en in the col­o­ny of Vir­gin­ia.

Davies’ wife and son died in 1747, and in 1748 he ac­cept­ed a call to be­gin a min­is­try in Han­o­ver Coun­ty, Vir­gin­ia. Like the Wes­leys, he tra­veled through­out his pas­tor­ate by horse­back. He preached to thou­sands, in­clud­ing the slaves. He be­came so well known that King George II of Eng­land in­vit­ed him to preach at the roy­al cha­pel when he and Gil­bert Ten­nent were in Eng­land rais­ing funds for the Coll­ege of New Jer­sey. Dur­ing that ser­mon, Da­vies re­port­ed­ly stopped and spoke di­rect­ly to an as­ton­ished George II:

When the li­on roars, all the an­i­mals in the jun­gle fall si­lent; and when the Lord speaks, the kings of the earth shut their mouths.

In 1759, Davies ac­cept­ed a call to be­come pre­si­dent of the Coll­ege of New Jer­sey (lat­er re­named to Prince­ton Un­i­ver­si­ty). He served in that po­si­tion un­til his death 18 months lat­er.

**PIGOTT, JEAN SOPHIA** (1845-1882) Pi­gott was the first child of Will­iam Well­es­ley Pole Pig­ott and Lucy Hen­ri­et­ta Trench. Her bro­ther, Thom­as Well­es­ley Pi­gott, a miss­ion­a­ry in Chi­na, was mur­dered in the 1901 Box­er Re­bel­lion. Jean con­trib­uted some hymns to *Hymns of Con­se­cra­tion and Faith*.

**LYTE, HENRY FRANCIS** (1793-1847) Orphaned at an early age, Lyte at­tend­ed Trin­i­ty Coll­ege in Dub­lin, Ire­land, dis­ting­uish­ing him­self in Eng­lish po­e­try. In 1815, he was or­dained, and served a num­ber of par­ish­es in Ire­land and west­ern Eng­land. How­e­ver, for most of his ca­reer, he was pas­tor at All Saints Church in Low­er Brix­ham, De­vons­hire, Eng­land.

**NEUMARK, GEORG** (1621-1681)Neumark was ed­u­cat­ed at the Gym­na­si­ums in Schleu­sing­en and Go­tha. He re­ceived his cer­tif­i­cate of di­mis­sion from the lat­ter in Sep­tem­ber 1641. He left Go­tha in the au­tumn of 1641, along with a num­ber of mer­chants go­ing to the Mi­chael­mas Fair at Leip­zig. He then joined a sim­i­lar par­ty go­ing from Leip­zig to Lü­beck, plan­ning to pro­ceed to Kö­nigs­berg and en­roll at the un­i­ver­si­ty there. Af­ter pass­ing through Mag­de­burg, they were at­tacked by ban­dits on the Gar­de­le­gen Heath, who robbed Neu­mark of all he had with him, ex­cept his pray­er book and a lit­tle mo­ney sewed up in his clothes. He re­turned to Mag­de­burg, but could not find a job there, nor in Lü­ne­burg, Win­sen, or Ham­burg, to which in suc­cession the friends he made passed him on. In the be­gin­ning of De­cem­ber he went to Kiel, where he found a friend in Ni­co­laus Beck­er, a fel­low Thu­rin­gi­an and then chief pas­tor at Kiel. Day af­ter day passed with­out an open­ing, till about the end of the month the tu­tor in the fam­i­ly of judge Ste­phan Hen­ning fell in­to dis­grace and fled from Kiel. On Beck­er’s re­com­mend­a­tion, Neu­mark got the job, and this sud­den end of his anx­i­e­ties was the oc­cas­ion of the writ­ing of his hymn Wer nur den lieb­en Gott lässt wal­ten.

Neumark passed the time hap­pi­ly in the Hen­ning home un­til he had saved enough to pro­ceed to Kö­nigs­berg, where he en­rolled June 21, 1643, as a law stu­dent. He re­mained five years, al­so stu­dy­ing po­e­try un­der Dach and main­tain­ing him­self as a fam­i­ly tu­tor. Dur­ing this time (in 1646) he again lost all his be­long­ings, this time by fire. In 1648 he left Kö­nigs­berg, was for a short time in War­saw, and spent 1649-50 at Thorn. He was then in Dan­zig, and Sep­tem­ber 1651 in Ham­burg. By the end of 1651 he had re­turned to Thu­rin­gi­a, and was no­ticed by Duke Wil­helm II of Sachse-Wei­mar, the pre­si­dent of the Fruit­bear­ing So­ci­e­ty, the prin­ci­pal Ger­man lit­er­ary or­gan­iz­a­tion in the 17th Cen­tu­ry. The Duke, ap­par­ent­ly in 1652, ap­point­ed Neu­mark as court po­et, lib­rar­i­an, and reg­is­trar of the ad­min­is­tra­tion at Wei­mar; and fin­al­ly sec­re­tary of the Du­cal Ar­chives. In Sep­tem­ber 1653 Neu­mark was ad­mit­ted as a mem­ber of the Fruit­bear­ing So­ci­ety, of which he be­came sec­re­tary in 1656. In 1679, Neu­mark al­so be­came a mem­ber of the Peg­nitz Or­der. In 1681, he went blind, but was per­mit­ted to keep his posts un­til he died.

**MARTIN, CIVILLA DURFEE** (1866-1948) I was confined to a sick bed in a Bible school in Lestershire, New York. My husband was spending several weeks at the school, mak­ing a songbook for the president of the school. “God Will Take Care of You” was written one Sunday afternoon while my hus­band went to a preaching appointment. When he returned I gave the words to him. He immediately sat down to his lit­tle Bilhorn organ and wrote the music. That even­ing he and two of the teachers sang the completed song. It was then printed in the songbook he was compiling for the school.

The song Be Not Dismayed is cred­it­ed for trans­form­ing the life of James Cash Pen­ney, found­er of the Amer­i­can de­part­ment store chain J. C. Pen­ney. He heard it one morn­ing in the cha­pel of the Kel­logg San­i­tar­i­um in Bat­tle Creek, Mi­chi­gan, where he had been hos­pi­tal­ized with a se­vere case of shin­gles, as well as ex­haust­ion and de­press­ion.

**HOFFMAN, ELISHA ALBRIGHT** (1839-1929) A min­is­ter’s son, Hoffman at­tend­ed Un­ion Sem­in­ary in New Ber­lin, Penn­syl­van­ia, and was or­dained in 1868. Af­ter­ward, he worked with the Evan­gel­ic­al As­so­ci­a­tion’s pub­lish­ing arm in Cleve­land, Ohio for 11 years. He pas­tored in Cleve­land and Graft­on, Ohio, in the 1880s; at the First Presby­ter­i­an Church in Ben­ton Har­bor, Mich­i­gan, around the turn of the cen­tu­ry; and in Ca­bery, Ill­i­nois (1911-1922). In his life­time, he wrote over 2,000 Gos­pel songs.

**MILTON, JOHN** (1608-1674) English poet, b. London, one of the greatest poets of the English language. The son of a wealthy scrivener, Milton was educated at St. Paul's School and Christ's College, Cambridge. While Milton was at Cambridge he wrote poetry in both Latin and English, including the ode "On the Morning of Christ's Nativity" (1629).