

but guiding. But he made a tremendous contribution to it in gathering these people together and persuading them to a slow and peaceful progress, upholding their views regardless of persecution or difficulty, and by his death in 1559, there was quite a large movement of Anabaptists which so revered the leadership which Mennell Simons gave them, that they called themselves after his name - or at least people began to call them "Mennonites". And this was a group which continued and has continued to the present day. It is the one link of today with the Anabaptists of this century. There are no Baptists of today who trace a connection back to the Anabaptists of the 16th century except through the Mennonites. And there are many who do through the Mennonites. But the Mennonites continued as a group which was persecuted in many areas but which maintained their integrity, their belief in the great doctrines ~~of~~ of the Scripture, and in their peculiar features though certain of Mennell's ideas were given up and Mennell had insisted on an extremely strict (2.) extremely strict laws of dress and of manner of living and he would excommunicate anyone who broke even the smallest of them. There was a break away from him shortly before his death of a group which was not nearly as strict although still plenty strict in their adherence to these matters. So they continued in several groups but they continued right up to the present time. Yes? (Student Question) Through imagination. Well they would have to. That is to say the Baptists of today were an offshoot of the Mennonites but an outshoot which was very small, so small that the connection is not great. It's actually a ^{new} movement which has come up within the last ~~century~~ few centuries. And there are some today who try to trace imaginary right back (Reformation) (3.) They were entirely different Baptists. Now it is not impossible that there was a small group