

# Dinton



## PROTESTANT NONCONFORMITY

Three families were presented as dissenters in 1668, and the following year there were said to be groups of Anabaptists and Quakers in the parish, although their numbers were uncertain. William Bate (1661-89), one of the few General Baptist leaders in the country, was a Dinton labourer, and probably worked among the Anabaptists there for a short time.

The Dinton Quakers may have come under the influence of the outstanding Quaker centre at Fovant which flourished c. 1661. In 1683 and 1686 among some 15 persons presented for not attending church, were members of the Jesse and Sheppard families, and in 1702 Sarah Sheppard's house was licensed as a meeting-place for Quakers.

There were, however, said to be no dissenters in the parish in 1783. In 1821 Alexander Ware certified his house in Dinton as a nonconformist meeting place.

In 1864 a group of Primitive Methodists, who were influential in Teffont Magna, held meetings in the summer on Sundays outside Dinton church, and thereby interrupted the service. A Primitive Methodist chapel was built in 1895.

*(British History Online)*