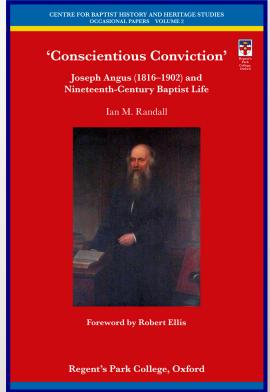
Centre for Baptist History and Heritage Studies, Occasional Papers Volume 2

'Conscientious Conviction' Joseph Angus (1816-1902) and Nineteenth-Century Baptist Life

By Ian M. Randall



Joseph Angus' principalship of Stepney College and then Regent's Park College in London spanned most of the second half of the nineteenth century. It was in 1865, as President of the Baptist Union, that Angus spoke of the existence of Baptists as representing a 'conscientious conviction'. This study examines the convictions of Angus in the areas of theology, education, the church and baptism, spirituality and mission. These themes indicate the major concerns which Angus brought to bear – through his extensive writing, speaking and personal engagement with people – on Baptist life. Angus' interests, as a Baptist educator and missionary thinker, were exceptionally wide-ranging.

Ian M. Randall is Director of Research at Spurgeon's College, London, and Senior Research Fellow at the International Baptist Theological Seminary, Prague, and is a Fellow of the Royal Historical Society.



'As scholar, educator and denominational leader, Joseph Angus was one of the most significant Baptists of the nineteenth century. It is right that the library about the Baptists that he assembled, the most useful anywhere, should still be called the Angus Collection at Regent's Park College, Oxford. Here Randall unpacks his importance with characteristically thorough research and entertaining detail.'

David Bebbington, Professor of History, University of Stirling

'Joseph Angus was a central figure in nineteenth-century Baptist history: Rippon's successor at New Park Street, Secretary of the Baptist Missionary Society, president of the Baptist Union in 1865, he was for forty-four years Principal of Stepney/Regent's Park College. Here Randall gives a comprehensive, sympathetic and robust assessment of his contribution to Baptist life. Here is biography at its best illuminating the larger story.'

John H.Y. Briggs, Professor Emeritus, the University of Birmingham and Research Professor, the International Baptist Theological Seminary, Prague

'Biographical essays are of great value in the study of Baptist life. While carefully highlighting his scholarly contributions, this essay does not lose sight of the fact that Joseph Angus had a pastor's heart. In this excellent account, Randall reminds us of Angus' love for the church, his concern for holiness and mission in the world.'

ISBN:

Karen E. Smith, Tutor in Church History and Spirituality, South Wales Baptist College, Cardiff

vi + 26pp Price: £3.50

Postage: UK = £2.99 Europe = £3.89 Rest of the World = £5.56

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978-1-907600-08-1

