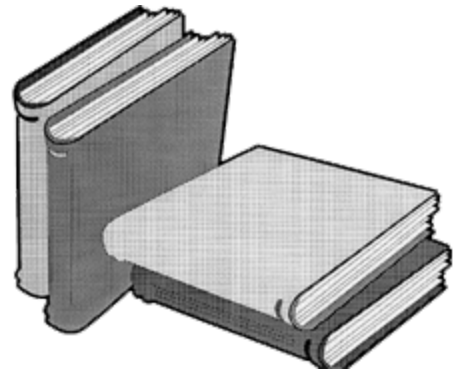


The Rock and Pit

*Look unto the rock whence ye are hewn,
and to the hole of the pit whence ye are digged.*

Isa 51:1

Selections from the Christian's heritage in print,
Collected by Dean Brown



Issue 963

People Talking in Church.

When Newton [John Newton, 1725-1807] came to London [to take a pastorate in 1780, after his time in rural Olney], he was one of **the two evangelical pastors of [London] Anglican churches**, the other being **William Romaine**, who served St. Andrews-by-the-Wardrobe¹. Newton recalled, "I have known him as a preacher of the gospel since about the year 1750." He described him as "inflexible as an iron pillar in publishing the truth, and unmoved either by the smiles or frowns of the world. He is the most popular man we have had since Mr. Whitefield." ...

[But, it is said that Romaine] "was capable ... of displays of hot temper.

When he saw people talking in church
he would... sometimes
knock their heads together."

William Phipps, *Amazing Grace in John Newton:
Slave Ship Captain, Hymnwriter, & Abolitionist*, 2001 p. 156-7.

¹ An ancient London church. In 1361, Edward III moved his Royal Wardrobe (a storehouse for arms and clothing among other personal items of the Crown) from the Tower of London to just north of the church. It was from this association that the church acquired its unique name. The Wardrobe and the church, however, were both lost in the Great Fire of London in 1666. Of the 51 churches designed by Sir Christopher Wren after the Great Fire, St. Andrew-by-the-Wardrobe is among the simplest of his designs; it was rebuilt in 1695. The church was again destroyed during the London blitz by German bombing; only the tower and walls survived. It was rebuilt and rededicated in 1961.

Data from Wikipedia