

what was his name? ~~KORXXX~~ J-O-R-I-S. He's far less important than this Munster thing because this Munster occurrence became known all over Europe. Joris is just one of a number of leaders of this type ^{who} ~~which~~ sprang up and had followers here and there. But the whole Anabaptist movement would have died out undoubtedly, and this appears completely, were it not for the fact that there was one man who espoused it who was very different from most of its leaders. This was a man who had been a Roman Catholic priest in Holland. His name was Mennell Simons. He was a priest of the Roman Church but he began to be profoundly moved by the news of the German and Swiss Reformation. In 1532 he was a secret disciple of Hoffman in some of his doctrines. By 1534 he seemed to have relations with the Anabaptists but it wasn't until 1536 - a year or two after the end of the Munster episode - that he resigned his Roman priesthood. And he took the whole of the movement, stricken and terribly upset as a result of the Munster situation, and he went to the opposite extreme from the views of the Anabaptists before that. He said, "This is entirely wrong, this idea that the kingdom is to be set up by killing the enemy and by destroying all those who will not stand in line with you. The truth is the exact opposite. The truth is that we should not use the sword for any purpose whatever. We should have absolute non-violence." And he took this attitude of absolute non-violence - suffer for your faith but do not use any force in support of it or anything else - and he began to go around through Holland and the neighboring areas of Germany opposing everything of the ideas of Munster and gathering the people together in to groups in which he insisted on strict discipline and exemplary morality and endeavoring by pen and voice to remove the stigma which Anabaptism suffered. Now Mennell Simons was not a very well educated man and certain of his ideas were contrary to what has been received as the orthodox view in the Christian Church almost universally before and since. And some of these ideas

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