

Friends in Current Literature.

The Rise of the Quakers, by T. Edmund Harvey, M.A. (London: Thomas Law, and Headley Brothers. 8vo, pp. 180; in Horne's "Eras of Nonconformity" series), is an excellent handbook of early Quaker history and doctrine, written in attractive, easy style. It will, without doubt, have a large circulation. The author has recently given up an important post in the British Museum to devote himself to philanthropic and municipal work in London. Though careful and accurate in his work, he has been led into error, on page 79, by a misprint in the book referred to, and the name on line 4 should be Thomas Thompson¹, the well-known Friend, of Skipsea, Yorks, who died in 1704.

Joseph Bevan Braithwaite's book, *Memoirs of Anna Braithwaite, being a Sketch of her early Life and Ministry, and Extracts from her private Memoranda, 1830-1859*, has just been issued (London: Headley, 8vo, pp. 201). Rather more than five chapters are given by the author to his mother's visits to America. There are portraits of Anna Braithwaite and her husband, Isaac Braithwaite.

Anna Braithwaite's granddaughter, Anna Braithwaite Thomas, has written a valuable memoir of her husband, *Richard H. Thomas, M.D., Life and Letters* (London: Headley, 8vo, pp. 438). J. Rendel Harris, Litt. D., has contributed a short preface, and the book is supplied with illustrations. It is well that the lessons of such a valuable life should be thus preserved in order that they may be learned and relearned for the future.

John William Steel, of Darlington, Durham, author of "Friendly Sketches," etc., has given us a very useful epitome of northern Quakerism in olden times, in his *Early Friends in the North* (London: Headley, 8vo, pp. 60). The account of Anthony Pearson, justice and Friend, is specially valuable, and it is accompanied with an illustration of Rampshaw Hall, Justice Pearson's home,² where the first Friends' Meeting in Co. Durham was held. Another illustration

¹ J. Whitehead's *Written Gospel Labours*, 1704, gives *Theo. Thomson*; this is corrected in Thomas Chalk's *Life of John Whitehead*, 1852; p. 9 n.

² See *First Publishers of Truth*; pp. 88, etc.

shows the time-honoured Meeting House at Countersett, north-west Yorkshire, near which lived Richard Robinson, George Fox's friend and frequent host, and, at a later date, the Fothergill family, which has given many valued members to the Society of Friends.

Those conversant with Ackworth School and its history will find interesting reading in *Between the Cupolas. A "Light-and-Airy" Record* By W[ilfred Whitten] (London: Headley, 8vo, pp. 128). The book is dedicated "To my old Schoolmasters . . . with Respect, Affection, and Forgiveness." The "light and airy rooms," so named "by a grotesque irony,"³ were "dismal abodes of woe," used for the purpose of punishing misdemeanours and of providing opportunities for reflection. They were constructed in 1819 and abolished in 1847.

Aylmer Maude's *The Doukhobors* (London: Constable, 8vo, pp. 338) gives the history of a people in whom Friends on both sides of the Atlantic have taken much interest.

William Rathbone. A Memoir, by his daughter, Eleanor F. Rathbone (London: Macmillan, 8vo, pp. 507), contains portraits of four successive Friends named William Rathbone, *viz.*, (1) the great-grandfather of the subject of the *Memoir*, 1726-1789; (2) the grandfather, 1757-1809; (3) the father, 1787-1868; (4) the son, 1819-1902. William Rathbone, the great-great-grandfather, joined the Society of Friends about 1730, and a little later his father, William Rathbone, also became a Friend. William Rathbone (1757-1809) left Friends; "the immediate cause of his expulsion from the Society of Friends was his publication of a book entitled, 'A Narrative of Events that have recently taken place in Ireland among the Society called Quakers,' a detailed statement of the circumstances under which a number of Irish Friends had been disowned for what were held to be lax views regarding the authority of the Bible. . . . It was evident that the author shared the heretical opinions of those whose case he was relating." William Rathbone (1787-1868) was disowned for "marrying out," but "re-admitted—it is said, upon his giving an assurance that, though he could not out of courtesy to his wife, say he repented having married her, he would not do it again." He and his family left Friends some years later. His son, the William Rathbone of the *Memoir* (1819-1902), was a

³ See Thompson's *Hist. of Ackworth School*, 1879.

Friend by birth. "He was fond of calling himself a Quaker, and justifying the claim by the saying, 'Once a Quaker, always a Quaker,' though, seeing that his family ceased attending the Friends' Meeting when he was about four years old, his case seems rather an extreme application of the rule."

In *William Bodham Donne and his Friends* (London: Methuen, 8vo, pp. 344) are numerous interesting letters which passed between Donne and Bernard Barton, and which are now first published. Donne writes to Barton in 1842, "By the by, though you read not history, you have probably seen or heard of Sewel's 'History of Friends.' I assure you I took as much interest some weeks since in the account of George Fox, as in all the 'Kings and Kaisers' put together. He waged and won a harder war than Hannibal or Cæsar." There is a reference to "John Joseph Gurney" in one of Donne's pieces of poetry. A portrait of Barton appears among the illustrations.

The King, of the 27th of May, published in London, devotes four folio pages to the Yearly Meeting recently held in Leeds. There are illustrations of the Meeting Houses in Leeds, and at Devonshire House, London, and of Sidcot School, in Somersetshire. Some portraits of Friends also appear, and include George Fox, William Penn, Richard Reynolds, Sir Edward Fry, and several M.P.s. The portrait of Joseph Albert Pease, M.P., is incorrectly ascribed to his brother, Alfred Edward Pease, Bart., and that of the late Joseph Richardson, of Yorkshire, to "Mr. James Richardson, a prominent Irish member of the Society of Friends." The portrait of the junior editor of THE JOURNAL also appears.

There have been many references to the Yearly Meeting in the London and provincial papers.

"London at Prayer" is the title of a series of articles in *The Pall Mall Magazine*. The article in the July issue is devoted to Friends, and is written in an able and sympathetic manner by the editor, Charles Morley. The article is enlivened by sketches of the Meeting Houses at Peel, Deptford, and Devonshire House, reproductions of Robert Spence's painting of "George Fox on the Haystack," and of his etching of Brigflatts Meeting House, and a somewhat imaginative scene at Westminster Meeting House during prayer.

Clement Young Sturge, M.A., barrister, has under the

title of *Leaves from the Past* (Bristol: Arrowsmith, 4to, pp. 100), edited the Diary of his great-grandfather, John Allen, brewer, of Wapping, written between February and July, 1777. There are twenty-three illustrations—taken from paintings, photographs, and silhouettes, and, at the end, genealogical tables of the families of Allen, Knight, Sturge, Miller, Jermyn, Clayton, Fox, Stafford, Hanbury, Beck, Lucas, Bastin, Smith, Marriage, etc. Unhappily one looks in vain for an index.

Recent publications also include:—*The Guiding Hand of God*, by J. Rendel Harris (London: Thomas Law, 8vo, pp. 126); *William Penn, Soldier of the Cross and Empire Builder, His Times, His Faith, and His Works*, by Frederick Sessions (London: Headley, 8vo, pp. 28), containing reproductions from pictures of Basing House at Rickmansworth, the State House in Philadelphia, and of William Penn and the Colonists (an early eighteenth century painting); *Poems, by John Greenleaf Whittier*, in the "Red Letter Library," with introduction by the Bishop of Ripon (London: Blackie, small 8vo, pp. 253); William Penn's *Some Fruits of Solitude*, with Introduction by John Clifford, M.A., and a full Bibliography by Samuel Graveson (London: Headley, small 8vo, pp. 180); *Bible Notes*, vol. i., by A. Neave Brayshaw (London: "British Friend" Office, small 8vo, pp. 88, and interleaved blanks); *The Imperial Drug Trade, A Re-statement of the Opium Question in the Light of Recent Evidence and New Developments in the East*, by Joshua Rowntree (London: Methuen, 8vo, pp. 304); *Critical Times in Turkey and England's Responsibility*, by Georgina King Lewis, with portrait of the author in Macedonian costume (London: Hodder, 8vo, pp. 210); *Word-Pictures of Chinese Life, illustrating an unclosed Chapter of History*, by Alfred S. Dyer (London: Roberts, 8vo, pp. 86); *Betting and Gambling, a National Evil*, by B. Seebohm Rowntree (London: Macmillan, 8vo, pp. 250); *J. H. Shorthouse*, edited by his wife, containing, vol. i., "Life and Letters," and vol. ii., "Literary Remains" (London: Macmillan, 8vo, pp. 844).

NORMAN PENNEY.