

Earlham College Library,

Richmond, Ind., U.S.A.

The Earlham College Library had its beginning with the establishment of the school in 1847, yet its early growth was slow, and it was not until 1872 that a regular librarian was appointed to assume the responsibility of its direction. The year 1872 seems to have been an important one in the history of the library in a number of ways. The library had grown until it contained three thousand three hundred volumes, about two thousand of which belonged to the College proper, and the remainder to the Ionian and Phoenix libraries, and the "Library of Reference" of Indiana Yearly Meeting. On account of its size and growing importance, a room fifty-five by thirty feet was appropriated as a library and reading room. In the year 1872, Joseph Pease, of Darlington, England, contributed to the College a very valuable collection of books, editions of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. Among these were the works of Tertullian, Josephus, Clemens of Alexandria, Lexicon of seven languages, "Adagia" of Erasmus, Justin Martyr, etc., etc. In 1872 the Ionian and Phoenix literary societies, which had in 1871 made an appeal to their members and friends to raise and establish a permanent endowment fund for the benefit of the libraries of the two societies, succeeded in raising one thousand dollars. The two literary societies had been organised very soon after the organisation of the College, and early incorporated the idea of a library as a necessary part of their organisation. The first clue we have to the establishment of the Ionian library is obtained from the minutes of November 14th, 1857: "The library formerly belonging to the association known as the 'Hesperian Junto' was received as the property of the Ionian." Clarkson Davis donated the first volume to the Ionian library, and soon after, Wm. B. Morgan and others followed his example. The first appropriation to the Ionian library was made November 21st, 1857, when \$2.50 was appropriated. Phoenix library was organised about the same time, and at the end of fifteen years these libraries had

about eleven hundred volumes of well selected works. In the appeal sent out early in 1872, the societies say that they have been expending most of their resources to furnish the reading room of the College with periodicals, which has left little for the purchase of new publications, and that they thought they had shown themselves competent to invest profitably the proceeds of the fund. Recognising "that a library of well selected books is one of the best means of disseminating useful knowledge, will at once be admitted by all; we therefore earnestly ask your assistance in establishing a fund whereby the societies may be better able to supply their libraries with current and standard literature, that they may be in keeping with the demands of the times."

The response was gratifying, and thus was created the first and only fixed endowment fund for the benefit of the library until the Alumni endowment fund was established in 1902.

The first regularly appointed librarian was Prof. Calvin W. Pearson, who served in that capacity from 1872 to 1876, with the exception of the year 1874-75, when Anna Miles held the position. Since that time the following persons have served in that capacity: Lindley H. Johnson, 1876-77; Lydia N. Bowerman, 1877-78; Emma R. Clark, 1878-79, 1880-81; Clara M. Levering, 1880; William Earl Morgan, 1881-82; John R. Sherrick, 1882-83, 1884-85, 1887-88; Ira I. Cammack, 1883-84; Lindley D. Clark, 1885-86; Elwood D. Allen, 1886-87; Mary E. Harris, 1888-97; Charles B. Newby, 1897-98; Harlow Lindley, 1898—.

The library now contains, altogether, over twelve thousand volumes, not including a large collection of pamphlets and unbound periodicals, and is classified according to the Dewey decimal system of classification, and the card catalogue includes all books belonging to the College library, the libraries of the Ionian and Phoenix literary societies, and the departmental libraries, of which there are seven—the German and French reference library, the History Club reference library, the Anglican library, the Geological, Biological and Chemical reference libraries, and the well equipped reference library of the Biblical department.

In addition to these facilities at the College, the College participates in the free use of all the enlarged educational

resources and advantages of the Morrisson-Reeves library of Richmond.

The College management is now adding about one thousand volumes per year from all sources, and seventy-five periodicals are regularly received.

In addition to this library of the College, the College has the care of the Friends' Reference Library of Indiana Yearly Meeting, a brief history of which will be of interest to Friends.

In the fall of the year 1845, four Friends appointed by London Yearly Meeting visited the United States, in regard to the Abolition Separation. They returned to England in the Spring of 1846. At London Yearly Meeting in 1846 they "introduced the subject of a supply of the Society's writings, for the use of Friends in Indiana, where some works, especially the more ancient, are very scarce."

Friends in England were encouraged to send over their duplicate copies, and George Crosfield, of Liverpool, offered to take charge of them. The result of this movement was that about 800 volumes were contributed by various Friends, chiefly in the North of England. The books were packed by George Crosfield, and forwarded from Liverpool in Fifth Month, 1847, and were received at Richmond, Indiana, in the Eighth Month of the same year. In a letter, dated Sixth Month 14th, 1847, George Crosfield writes as follows to a Friend at Richmond: "Our view was that you would take one copy of every work, and deposit it at Whitewater, as a standard library of reference; after this a second and third selection might be made in like manner to be placed in the largest Meetings' libraries; and the rest, we supposed, would be distributed to the libraries of Monthly and Preparative Meetings."

The books were committed to the care of the Committee of Book Agency, who were directed to separate one of a kind for the Yearly Meeting's Library of Reference, as proposed, to be kept in the Boarding School Buildings, near Richmond, Indiana. The remaining books were divided among the several Quarterly Meetings, and one of the largest selections was placed in charge of Thomas Evans, of Miami, for the use of Friends in the Eastern part of the Yearly Meeting; and a like collection in charge of Joel Dixon, of White Lick, for the use of Friends in the Western part.

The books selected for the Library of Reference were carefully examined by a bookbinder; several volumes were

made in addition by binding selections of tracts, pamphlets, and small works ; several of the old books were rebound, and many of them repaired ; all were put in good order, labels were put in them, and the initial collection numbered about 320. Some additional volumes were afterwards sent from London by Josiah Forster.

This early collection of Friends' literature is of great value for reference purposes, containing such biographical material as the writings of Penn, Fox, Chalkley, Crisp, Barclay, Dell, Sewel, Pennington, Shillitoe, Story, Whitehead, Woolman, Gurney, and many others.

During recent years very few volumes have been added to this collection, but an effort has been put forth recently to make this Reference Library of Indiana Yearly Meeting, and the Friends' Section of the Earlham College Library, which occupy the same room, as complete a collection of Friends' material as is possible. As a result, at the last session of Indiana Yearly Meeting, \$50 was appropriated directly, and \$50 in addition was appropriated by the Yearly Meeting's Book and Tract Committee, for the purchase of more recent books, written by Friends and relating to Friends. From those two sources, fifty volumes have recently been added to the Reference Library of Indiana Yearly Meeting, and additional material will be secured with the appropriation remaining.

Some very valuable donations, including a number of volumes of Friends' periodicals, have been made recently to the College Library, and the College will be glad to secure all such valuable material.

Mention should be made of recent contributions by Prof. Allen C. Thomas, of Haverford College ; Joshua L. Baily, of Philadelphia ; Charles W. Lawrence, Secretary of the H. H. Mosher Fund of the New York Yearly Meeting ; John Britnell, of Toronto, Canada ; Caroline Edgerton, of Indiana ; and especially Norman Penney, of London, England, who has contributed much valuable literature of the eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries.

Earlham College as a centre of Quakerism, should become a centre for all the literary and historical materials relating to Friends that can be secured. This should include complete files of Friends' periodicals, and the printed minutes of the various Yearly Meetings, which are now conspicuously lacking.

The increasing use made of the library together with the constantly increasing demands upon it, makes it

imperative that added facilities be provided for its future growth and permanent interests. A library building, equipped especially for library purposes, and furnishing the necessary advantages of an educational laboratory for the seeker of *truth* in whatever field of research he may be engaged, is now an essential to the best interests of the College, and with its acquisition the College as a whole will enter upon a new era of advancement.¹ HARLOW LINDLEY.

¹ We are pleased to learn that Earlham College has just secured a large number of Friends' books and pamphlets from the library of the late Joseph S. Elkinton, of Philadelphia. [Eds.]

Editors' Notes.

The present number has been enlarged to forty-eight pages to provide space for several articles awaiting publication.

The Editors hope to print, next quarter, a paper on the Select Meetings of London Yearly Meeting (the Yearly Meeting of Ministers and Elders and the Yearly Meeting on Ministry and Oversight), in connection with the recent action of the Yearly Meeting in laying down such Meetings.

Other papers to appear in course include "May Drummond," by William F. Miller; "An Unpublished Letter of Hannah Callowhill, the second wife of William Penn, to Thomas Story," edited by J. J. Green; Early Marriage Certificate, Hough-Barnes; Letter from William Penn to Thomas Curtis, 1706; "Our Bibliographers: I.—John Whiting," by Isaac Sharp, B.A.; "Personal Recollections of American Friends travelling in the British Isles, 1828 to 1852," by Samuel Alexander; "Presentations of Quakers in Episcopal Visitations, 1662 to 1679," by G. Lyon Turner, M.A.; etc.

William C. Braithwaite's article on "The Penal Laws affecting Early Friends in England" is to hand, and will appear in the last number of "The First Publishers of Truth." This last number (Supplement No. 5) will not be obtainable separately, save by subscribers to the whole work.