

## Friends in Current Literature.

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The *Diary Malagasy*, for 1908, is to hand (Faravohitra : Friends' Foreign Mission Association, 5½ by 3½, pp. 120, and 50 blanks). It contains a large amount of information in French and Malagasy, and has a portrait of the President of the French Republic, and a map of the Island. It is interesting to note that, amid all the changes of recent times, this little pocket-book has appeared annually for thirty-five years with an ever-increasing circulation, now 14,000. The present editor is Alexander Currie.

Three little brochures, dealing with Friends' foreign missions, have just been issued (F.F.M.A., 15, Devonshire Street, London, E.C., 2s. per 100). One, by Caroline W. Pumphrey, is entitled, *The Society of Friends and Foreign Missions*, another is on *India*, by Henry I. Robson, and the third on *Ceylon*, by Sidney J. Long. The last two named are illustrated.

*Under the Elm-tree, or Thoughts in a Cotswold Country-Side* is the title of a little, pleasantly-written, historical and descriptive, 16 pp. pamphlet by Robert B. Oddie, late headmaster of Sibford School, Oxfordshire (to be obtained from Headley Brothers for threepence).

M. Jean Bianquis, Secretary of the French Protestant Missionary Society, has written *L'Œuvre des Missions Protestantes à Madagascar* (Paris : Maison des Missions Evangéliques, 102, Boulevard Arago, 9 by 5¾, pp. 258). The volume is intended to counteract very numerous attacks, occurring in 1907 in the French press, centering very largely in interviews and public statements by Dr. Augagneur, ex-socialist Mayor of Lyons and Governor General of the Island, culminating in a pamphlet purporting to be written by him, and circulated amongst all the members of the French Parliament, to whom this reply was sent. References to Friends' missions in Madagascar run like a thread right through the whole book, the author using their democratic form of Church government, together with that of the London Missionary Society and his own Society, as a strong argument against one of the chief points of Augagneur's attack.

The addresses by Edward T. Tucker, M.D., of New Bedford, Mass., and John H. Dillingham, of Phila., at meetings held at the Friends' Meeting House, Sandwich, Mass., on the 250th anniversary of the founding of the Meeting, the earliest Friends' Meeting in America, have been printed in a pamphlet of twenty pages, with an illustration of the Meeting House. The original letter<sup>1</sup> referred to in the pamphlet, one from John Rous in Boston Gaol to Margaret Fell, 1658, is before me as I write. It is in a clear handwriting and in wonderful preservation. It bears an autograph endorsement by George Fox. Rous states,

<sup>1</sup> D. Swarthmore MSS. i. 82.

“ We have 2 strong garrisons<sup>2</sup> in this land, y<sup>e</sup> one at Newport in Road Iland & y<sup>e</sup> other at Sandwitch, w<sup>ch</sup> y<sup>e</sup> enimie will never get dominion over ; & at Salem there are severall pretty ffriends in their measures.”

A *Catalogue of the Thomason Tracts*, 1640-1661, in the British Museum, London, W.C., has been printed by order of the Trustees and can be obtained in two volumes, 10½ by 7, pp. 895 and 767, for thirty shillings. George Thomason (c. 1602-1666) was a bookseller and book-collector of the Rose and Crown in St. Paul's Churchyard, London.<sup>3</sup> His collection was presented to the British Museum by George III. in 1762. It contains about 22,250 pieces, bound in 2,008 volumes. “ In 1653 and subsequent years the pamphlets known as ‘ Quaker Tracts ’ began to pour forth in amazing profusion. The epithet which Thomason applied to George Fox, ‘ Alias Goose, Quaker ’<sup>4</sup> expresses the contempt of an orderly and respectable Presbyterian citizen of the period for this new body of ‘ Sectaries.’ His collection of Quaker Tracts is therefore quite fragmentary.”<sup>5</sup>

Headley Brothers have published an attractive volume of *Parables from Fairyland*, written by May Sunderland McLaughlin, a Friend, and the principal of a school for girls at The Chantry, Mere, Wilts (London : Headley, 8½ by 7, pp. 186, 5s.). In her preface, the author writes, “ For love of the young hearts, whose spiritual eyes cannot see and whose spiritual ears cannot hear things as revealed by life's experience, the writer has woven the simple fabric of this book of parables ; and the design of the fabric is of knights and princes, flowers and animals, and fairy gifts, but the threads whereof it is woven are the golden threads of Truth.” There are seventeen illustrations. The book is handsomely bound in green cloth. It is to be hoped that the clockwork precision of the Frudalers is not prophetic of what the world is to experience in time to come, *e.g.*, “ Directly a Fru baby is born, he gets up and dresses himself, asks at what precise moment lunch will be ready, and then goes out to take a look at the town. Next day, he begins lessons ” !

The London letter to *The Church Standard*, of Philadelphia, November 23rd, contains the following, quoted from “ Dagoner ” :—“ We do not want the unctuous mouthings of Praise God Barebones, nor the brutal bigotry of Cromwell's sanctimonious roughs. But if the country could see a revival of the gentle Christianity, honest business ways, and simple habits of life of the old Society of Friends, the bright star of hope would shine once more in England's evening sky. Five years of widespread Quakerism would be the salvation of the race.”

<sup>2</sup> Some other contemporary hand has erased *garrisons*, and over written *placesse*, perhaps because the first word sounded too warlike !

<sup>3</sup> See Henry R. Plomer's *Dictionary of the Booksellers and Printers who were at work in England, Scotland, and Ireland, from 1641 to 1667*, just published by the (London) Bibliographical Society.

<sup>4</sup> MS. note to G. F.'s *Declaration of Ground of Error*, 1657.

<sup>5</sup> Preface to *Catalogue*, by G. K. Fortescue, Keeper of Printed Books.

There are occasional references to Friends in the quarterly parts of *The Pedigree Register* (Editor: George F. T. Sherwood, 50, Beecroft Road, Brockley, London, S.E., 11½ by 7½, pp. 32, ann. subs. 10s. 6d.).

Occasionally there appear in *The Yorkshire Gazette* articles written by Ernest E. Taylor, of Malton, reviving the main facts of the lives of Friends connected with the eastern portions of the county. Some months ago a readable account of Roger Hebden, of Appleton-le-Street, appeared; the *Gazette* of 15th February had several columns on the life of John Taylor, of York (c. 1638-1708), written in modern style, and headed "A Forgotten York Mariner. Rats for Food; Amongst the Red Indians; Love in Prison; Associations outside York."

*John Greenleaf Whittier. A Sketch of his Life, by Bliss Perry, with Selected Poems*, has just appeared (London: Constable; and Boston and New York: Houghton, Mifflin, 7½ by 5, pp. 111, 3s. 6d. net). An introductory Note states, "The sketch of his life aims to present the chief formative influences which affected his career and determined the character of his poetry. The poems have been chosen with the intention of illustrating, first, the circumstances of Whittier's boyhood and the themes to which his poetic imagination naturally turned, then the political and social struggle which engrossed so many of his years, and finally that mood of devout resting and waiting in which his long life closed."

Of the two portraits of Whittier given, one is from a miniature by Porter, about 1838, which does not at all represent one's idea of the poet, and the other represents him about the year 1857.

Charles A. Bernau, of Walton-on-Thames, compiler of the new "International Genealogical Directory," is bringing out a series of text books for genealogists. The first is now out—*Some Special Studies in Genealogy*, comprising "American Emigrants, How to trace their English Ancestry," "The Quaker Records," and "The Genealogy of the Submerged." The Quaker portion is written by Josiah Newman, late of Leominster, now of London, and serves as an excellent guide to sources of information, in print and manuscript, at Devonshire House and elsewhere. The book can be obtained from the editor for 2s. 8d., post free.

The third *Bulletin of the Friends' Historical Society of Philadelphia* (Allen C. Thomas, Haverford, Pa., 30 cents.), dated Eleventh Month, contains a delightful twenty-one page article by Mary Mendenhall Hobbs, of Guilford College, N.C., on "Nathan Hunt and his Times." Other items include "Letters from Joseph Wing, 1796-1798" and "The Setting Up of Ohio Y.M., 1812." There are also several pages of "Notes and Queries." The frontispiece is a portrait of Nathan Hunt.

Readers interested in the origins of Quakerism in north-west England will be glad to know of a map of Cumberland and Westmorland, prepared by T. G. Crippen, which is given in the *Transactions* of the Congregational Historical Society for February. This map shows

the positions of the various "seventeenth century Presbyterian, Independent, and Baptist Churches and Quakers' Meetings," of places licensed in 1672, certain five-mile areas, homes of Ejected Ministers, etc. The Friendly localities are taken from "F.P.T.," and number twenty in Cumberland and ten in Westmorland; the article for which the map was prepared describes, in some detail, sixteen Independent Churches; there are three Baptist Churches in Cumberland and none in Westmorland; the places served by the Ejected Ministers were thirty in Cumberland and ten in Westmorland, and the buildings for which licences were granted twenty and eight respectively.

The Jubilee Number of *The Bookseller* (London), dated January 24th, gives a short sketch (with portrait) of Joseph Whitaker, F.S.A., (1820-1895), founder of the far-famed "Whitaker's Almanack" and states, "It was his Quaker ancestry and leanings, combined with absolute integrity in all business engagements, which enabled him to secure the hearty support of every leading member of the trade when starting 'The Bookseller.'"

An appreciative review of Headley Brothers' pocket edition of "The Journal of John Woolman," sold at 1s. 6d. net, appears in *The Primitive Methodist Quarterly Review* (London), for January.

The *Reminiscences of Nathan T. Frame and Esther G. Frame* (Cleveland, O., The Britton Printing Co.), make a thick volume of 673 pages, although the Editors state that they have only given a brief outline of their more than thirty years' work (1868-1906). Many striking instances of blessing attending the faithful preaching of the Gospel are here recorded, but it is questionable whether the numerous references from the contemporary press to the work of these evangelists add to the value of the volume, and perhaps the same thing may be said of the *ten* portraits of Nathan and Esther Frame. President Rosenberger, of Penn College, contributes a Preface, and President Stanley, of Friends' University, an Introduction.

The *Thirty-eighth Annual Report of the Croydon and Saffron Walden Old Scholars' Association* is to hand. It is a pamphlet of fifty-six pages, full of items of information which will be welcomed by Old Scholars and others interested in the School. There are several illustrations; the frontispiece represents John Edward Walker, head-master. The School was first established about 1702, in Clerkenwell, London; it was removed to Islington Road, London, in 1788, to Croydon in 1825, and to Saffron Walden in 1879.

*The Lancaster Observer*, of February 7th, has the first of a series of articles entitled, "Some Friends' Family Links," occupying somewhat more than a column. It deals with the life of Elizabeth Fletcher (1708-1751) and introduces notices of members of the Crosfield and Harrison families.

Books for review, and information suitable for future articles, will be welcomed.

NORMAN PENNEY.