

Friends and the Learned Societies.

By the kindness of Silvanus P. Thompson, we have been able to consult *The Record of the Royal Society of London*, second edition, 1901, from which volume, supplemented by the *Year Book*, 1909, the following facts are drawn.

The Royal Society was founded in 1663, at which time Friends were engaged in battle for religious freedom rather than in promoting research into "the sciences of natural things and of useful arts." One Friend, however, Isaac Penington, was moved to address the new Society in a paper entitled *Some Things Relating to Religion Proposed to the Consideration of the Royal Society (so termed)*, etc., which was printed in 1668. In his preface he says, "I Have heard that ye are seeking after the excellency of Nature and Learning," adding, "I am not for discouraging any Man in endeavouring after that which is good, useful and excellent" etc., but we do not find anything in the twenty pages of this tract in any wise specially applicable to the Society addressed.

From an examination of the register of Fellows, given in *The Record*, and in the *Year Book*, 1909, the following list of Friends or those closely allied with Friends has been prepared.

Sir John Finch,¹ younger brother of Lady Conway, of Ragley, and Anthony Lowther² brother-in-law of William Penn,³ are among the original Fellows of the Society. Then follow

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| Richard Lower, M.D., 1667. ⁴ | William Allen Miller, 1845. ²⁶ |
| Richard Mead, M.D., 1703. ⁵ | Robert Were Fox, 1848. ²⁷ |
| Fettiplace Bellers, 1711. ⁶ | Isaac Fletcher, 1855. ²⁸ |
| John Bellers, 1718. ⁷ | Joseph Lister, 1860. ²⁹ |
| Sylvanus Bevan, 1725. | Daniel Oliver, 1863. ³⁰ |
| Peter Collinson, 1728. ⁸ | William Pengelly, 1863. ³¹ |
| Thomas Birch, D.D., 1734. ⁹ | Daniel Hanbury, 1867. ³² |
| John Fothergill, M.D., 1763. ¹⁰ | Edward Burnett Tylor, 1871. ³³ |
| Thomas Dimsdale, M.D., 1769. ¹¹ | Wilson Fox, M.D., 1872. ³⁴ |
| John Coakley Lettsom, M.D., 1773. ¹² | John Eliot Howard, 1874. ³⁵ |
| Jeremiah Dixon, 1773. ¹³ | Henry Bowman Brady, 1874. ³⁶ |
| Mark Beaufoy, 1790. ¹⁴ | William Edward Forster, 1875. ³⁷ |
| Thomas Young, 1794. ¹⁵ | John Gilbert Baker, 1878. ³⁸ |
| Lewis Weston Dillwyn, 1804. ¹⁶ | George Stewardson Brady, M.D., 1882. ³⁹ |
| William Allen, 1807. ¹⁷ | Jonathan Hutchinson, 1882. ⁴⁰ |
| Hudson Gurney, 1818. ¹⁸ | Sir Edward Fry, 1883. ⁴¹ |
| Luke Howard, 1821. ¹⁹ | John Theodore Cash, M.D., 1887. ⁴² |
| John Dalton, 1822. ²⁰ | Silvanus Phillips Thompson, 1891. ⁴³ |
| Richard Phillips, 1822. ²¹ | Arthur Lister, 1898. ⁴⁴ |
| John Scandrett Harford, 1823. ²² | Joseph Jackson Lister, 1900. ⁴⁵ |
| James Cowles Prichard, M.D., 1827. ²³ | Ralph Allen Sampson, 1903. ⁴⁶ |
| William Phillips, 1827. ²⁴ | Frank Wall Oliver, 1905. ⁴⁷ |
| Joseph Jackson Lister, 1832. ²⁵ | |

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We have at present among us as Friends :—Daniel Oliver, J. Gilbert Baker, George S. Brady, Sir Jonathan Hutchinson, Sir Edward Fry, J. Theodore Cash, Silvanus P. Thompson, Joseph Jackson Lister, Ralph A. Sampson and Francis W. Oliver. Alone among the Presidents is Lord Lister, 1895 to 1900. W. A. Miller was Treasurer from 1861 to 1870, and Dr. Birch Secretary from 1752-1759. Lord Lister, as Sir J. Lister, Bart., was foreign Secretary, 1893-1895. Among Fellows to whom medals have been awarded we find John Dalton (1826), Joseph Lister (1880), Daniel Oliver (1884), each of whom received the Royal Medal awarded for important discoveries, John Dalton being the first recipient after the Medal was founded in 1825.

In the rooms of the Society at Burlington House, there are oil paintings of Thomas Birch, John Dalton, and Thomas Young; and there is also a medallion portrait in bas-relief of Lord Lister.

On 19th February, 1891, H. B. Brady made a bequest of all his books and papers relating to the Protozoa and £300 free of duty, upon trust for the purchase of works on the same or kindred subjects.

¹ 1626-1682. THE JOURNAL, vii. 12.

² d. 1672. THE JOURNAL, iv. 143, 144.

³ In 1681, "William Penn" was admitted Fellow. Who was this?

⁴ 1631-1691. THE JOURNAL, v. 147.

⁵ 1673-1754. THE JOURNAL, v. 56, vi. 106.

⁶ Presumably the son of John Bellers. He was a lawyer.

⁷ 1654-1725. Social Reformer.

⁸ d. 1768. THE JOURNAL, i. 23n, iv. 157, vi. 62, 106, 162, 178.

⁹ 1705-1766. His parents were Friends. Writer of history and biography.

¹⁰ 1712-1780. Founder of Ackworth School, noted physician, and one of the earliest members of the American Philosophical Society.

¹¹ Baron Dimsdale (1712-1800), noted for the practice of inoculation for smallpox.

¹² 1744-1815. Medical practitioner and writer, of London.

¹³ The astronomer (1733-1778). "He was sent by the Royal Society to Sumatra, 1761, and to Hammerfest, 1769, to observe transits of Venus; in 1768 set out boundary between Maryland and Pennsylvania," LONGSTAFF, *Langstaffs of Teesdale and Weardale*.

¹⁴ 1764-1827. Son of the Quaker brewer, of the same name.

¹⁵ 1773-1829. The Egyptologist.

¹⁶ 1778-1855. Son of a Friend. M.P. for Glamorganshire 1832-41.

¹⁷ 1770-1843. The well-known scientist, philanthropist and Quaker Minister.

¹⁸ 1775-1864.

¹⁹ 1772-1864. Of London and Ackworth. Pioneer in meteorology.

²⁰ 1766-1844. Discoverer of the Atomic theory. THE JOURNAL, iii. 123, v. 23.

²¹ Chemist, of London, son of James Phillips, the bookseller.

²² 1785-1866. Of Blaise Castle, Gloucestershire. Left Friends.

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²³ 1786-1848. Author of *Natural History of Man*; etc. Left Friends.

²⁴ 1775-1828. Friends' bookseller and publisher, in succession to his father. Also noted geologist and mineralogist; one of the founders of the Geological Society.

²⁵ 1786-1869. Originated many improvements in the manufacture and use of the microscope; one of the founders of the Microscopical Society. His sons, Joseph and Arthur Lister, and his grandson, J. J. Lister, also became Fellows.

²⁶ 1817-1870. THE JOURNAL, i. 114, v. 119, 174.

²⁷ 1789-1877. Student in geology and magnetism. A Quaker Elder for over half a century.

²⁸ Of the Cumberland family. Left Friends.

²⁹ Lord Lister, "b. April 5th, 1827. Prof. of Surgery in the Univ. of Glasgow (1860-69). Prof. of Clinical Surgery in the Univ. of Edinburgh (1869-77), Pres. Brit. Assoc. (1896), Sergeant Surgeon to H.M. Queen Victoria, Emeritus Prof. of Clinical Surgery in King's Coll. Lond., and Consulting Surgeon to King's Coll. Hospital."—*Record*, p. 219. Not now a Friend.

³⁰ Late Keeper of Herbarium at Kew, LL.D., F.L.S.

³¹ 1812-1894. Geologist. THE JOURNAL, vi. 94.

³² 1825-1875. Of Quaker parentage. In the firm of Allen and Hanbury. Fellow of the Linnean Society and Member of the Chemical and Microscopical Societies.

³³ Professor of Anthropology in Oxford. D.C.L., LL.D. Not now in membership with Friends.

³⁴ 1831-1887. Of the well-known Quaker family, of Wellington, Som., but not in membership with Friends.

³⁵ 1807-1883. Son of Luke Howard, student in chemistry and botany, his great study being the trees from which quinine is produced.

³⁶ 1835-1891. F.L.S. Memoir in *Annual Monitor*, 1892.

³⁷ 1818-1886. The well-known politician, son of the Quaker Minister, William Forster. Disowned on marriage to non-Friend.

³⁸ Late Keeper of the Herbarium at the Royal Gardens at Kew. Author of numerous books on botany.

³⁹ Writer of numerous articles on Natural History. LL.D., D.Sc., F.L.S.

⁴⁰ The well-known London surgeon. Kt., LL.D., M.D., F.R.C.S., D.Sc.

⁴¹ P.C., G.C.B., D.C.L., LL.D., F.S.A., F.L.S. One of the representatives of Great Britain at the Hague Peace Conference of 1907.

⁴² Of Aberdeen University. Authority on Toxicology.

⁴³ Authority on electrical science and writer of treatises on electricity. D.Sc., M.D., F.R.A.S., LL.D.

⁴⁴ 1830-1908. F.L.S. Writer on "Mycetozoa."

⁴⁵ Authority on "Foraminifera." Demonstrator of Comparative Anatomy in the University of Cambridge.

⁴⁶ M.A., D.C.L., Professor of Mathematics and Astronomy, University of Durham.

⁴⁷ M.A., D.Sc., F.L.S. Professor of Botany in the University of London.

For further information respecting many of the above Fellows, see *D.N.B.*; *Biographical Catalogue of Friends' Institute*; etc.

ADDENDA.

George Graham (1673-1751) was a clockmaker and writer on magnetism and astronomy. Admitted Fellow in 1720, and member of other learned Societies. Buried in Westminster Abbey. His parents were Friends. See Lonsdale's *Worthies of Cumberland*, 1875.

John Fletcher Miller (1816-1856) was the son of William and Mary Miller of Whitehaven, well-known Friends. Admitted Fellow in 1850. Meteorologist and astronomer. See Lonsdale, as above.

To describe William White, M.D., of York (c. 1743-1790) as F.R.S. (THE JOURNAL, v. 42) appears to be incorrect. His name is not found in *The Record*. A contemporary obituary notice gives him the addition—
F.A.S.

A French View of Quakerism.

In the *Revue des Deux Mondes* for 1st and 15th of April, 1850, there appeared two articles on Friends, written by Joseph Milsand (b. at Dijon, 1817, student of Ruskin, author of *repute*, d. 1886). These were collected and reprinted in a volume, entitled *Littérature Anglaise et Philosophie* (Paris, 1893). The first article is called "George Fox et les Premiers Prophètes," and the other, "Barclay, Penn, et le Quakérisme de Nos Jours," the two occupying seventy-two large 8vo pages.

M. Milsand's estimate of Quakerism is, on the whole, favourable. He writes:—

"Fox était venu au moment où allait s'écrouler une ancienne civilisation, et dans sa nature se trouvaient entassés, pêle-mêle, une infinité de besoins qui n'avaient pas été satisfaits, et d'où devait sortir l'avenir, une infinité d'instincts, qui déjà étaient développés et qui n'avaient point encore été définis et formulés. Les mêmes faits ont prouvé que sous son exaltation se cachait quelque chose de profondément vrai,¹ de profondément humain."

And again:—

"Maintenant ce qui distingue le quakérisme, c'est toujours la passion de la sincérité, du sans-art, de la simplicité. La guerre à outrance que le premier apôtre avait déclarée à la vanité et au mensonge, ses successeurs l'ont dignement continuée. Rien de plus noble. Ils ne pouvaient mieux faire que d'adopter ainsi les intentions du berger de Drayton. Malheureusement ils ont également adopté les moyens que Fox avait imaginés pour réaliser ses intentions, et ces moyens-là se ressentent bien de la naïveté de leur inventeur."

¹ Fox's notable words, "There is one, even Christ Jesus, that can speak to thy condition" (*Journal*, i. 11) are rendered by M. Milsand, "Il y a quelqu'un qui peut te comprendre et t'aider, c'est Christ lui-même." Fräulein Stähelin, in her *George Fox*, gives them in German thus, "Es ist Einer, der zu deinem Zustand sprechen kann, nämlich Jesus Christus."