

Friends in Current Literature.

In the "Old Woodbrookers' Magazine" for April, 1909, there appeared some notes of the discovery by Dr. Rendel Harris of some early Psalms, the notes being authorised by Rendel Harris himself. A psalter found amongst some ancient Syriac MSS. contains, in addition to the previously known Psalms of Solomon, forty new psalms apparently of an early date and not all Jewish.

The Odes and Psalms of Solomon (Cambridge University Press, 1909) contains these psalms translated and edited by Rendel Harris, also the Syriac text. The subject is introduced by a lengthy and scholarly dissertation from which the ordinary reader may by careful selection extract much valuable information, but the work is essentially for the advanced student.

Happily, Rendel Harris has also given us *An Early Christian Psalter* (Headley Brothers, London, 1909) containing extracts from the Odes "ascribed artificially to Solomon," which "the man or woman 'in the street' of the spiritual city" may read without feeling lost in the maze of scholarship of the larger work. A brief but illuminating preface is of great assistance. As Dr. Harris places the date of the Psalms and Odes between 50 B.C. and 100 A.D. they are "of the highest importance for the history of Messianic beliefs."

The Breastplate of St. Patrick (Headley Brothers, London 1909), by J. G. Maynard, brings the "apostle of Ireland" before us stripped of "the myth and legend woven about his memory," in extracts from his "Confession" and the Prayer or "Breastplate" ascribed to him, which though "perhaps the oldest writing extant in the Celtic tongue of Ireland is full of truth and meaning for human hearts in every age." Both text and extracts, though occupying but a few pages, bring us into the "inner chamber," or "the solemn stillness of the temple where, with 'Our Father' on our lips, the soul meets with an unseen God."

At the weekly evening meeting of the Royal Institution of Great Britain on 26th of March, 1909, Arthur Stanley Eddington, M.A., F.R.A.S., etc., the Chief Assistant in the Royal Observatory, Greenwich, lectured on *Some Recent Results of Astronomical Research*. Of especial interest is the account of the recently discovered eighth satellite of Jupiter, which is described as "a record-breaking satellite." The second portion of the lecture deals with Comet C 1908, and the theories accounting for the "repulsion of comets' tails."

No. 13 of Friends Ancient and Modern, published for the Friends' Tract Association, is a brief sketch by Augustus Diamond, B.A., of the life of *William Wilson, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., Missionary and Organiser*, compiled from articles in "The Friend," "British Friend" and "Our Missions." A memoir of Dr. Wilson is to be published later by his family.

J. Bevan Braithwaite, A Friend of the Nineteenth Century, written by his Children (Hodder & Stoughton, 1909), will appeal to Friends the world over. Fittingly introduced by Dr. Hodgkin's "beautiful tribute," the book, principally written by Anna Braithwaite Thomas, gives us delightful pictures of family life, from the early days of her father's Kendal home to the close of his life at 312, Camden Road, London. Untiring in his application to the study of law and divinity, he became "one of the most distinguished conveyancers and real property lawyers in Lincoln's Inn," whilst his knowledge of the Ancient Fathers was perhaps unequalled. For thirty-six years he was closely associated with the work of the Bible Society, resigning the Chairmanship of the Editorial Committee a short time before his death in 1905. But to the Society of Friends he will long be remembered as the Father of the Church, as Saint and Friend, rather than lawyer and scholar. A chapter of his life is devoted to "The Beacon Controversy" which disturbed the Society in the days of his early manhood: his journeys as Quaker Minister in the United States, Canada and elsewhere occupy many pages, and there are frequent allusions to London Yearly Meeting, which he attended with much regularity, leaving his mark upon its annual Epistle for forty years. The book is illustrated with pictures of family interest. It will form a valuable addition to modern Quaker biography.

Annals of the Harford Family, edited by Alice Harford (The Westminster Press, London, 1909). In a handsomely bound 4to volume, of which one hundred numbered copies have been issued, the Harford family is traced from Tudor times. The connection with the Society of Friends dates from Charles Harford of Bristol, who, soon after his first marriage in 1656, joined the followers of George Fox and shared their persecutions. In 1684 an epistle to the Yearly Meeting in London, written from Newgate prison, Bristol, bore the signatures of Charles Harford, Richard Snead and Charles Jones. For more than a century the Harford family remained Friends, intermarrying with the families of Jones, Lloyd, Scandrett, Gray and others. As bankers and merchants they were prominently connected with the trade of Bristol. In the early years of the nineteenth century they appear to have left the Society. The Pryor family of Baldock and Mary Anne Schimmelpenninck (*née* Galton) are incidentally mentioned. The book contains excellent portrait illustrations.

For Three Kingdoms, by H. C. Crosfield (Elliot Stock, London, 1909). This is a tale of the last years of James II. The hero, Robert Warden, a servant of the King, caught by the press gang, was shipped off to Ireland to serve the Prince of Orange there. Escaping, he met with two Quakeresses, the younger of whom, Elizabeth Hewitt, he wooed without success, the "minister in our Society" not seeing it right to be joined in marriage to "a man of war" not yet "convinced of Friends' principles."

The Last Years of the Protectorate, 1656-1658, by Charles Harding Firth, M.A., Regius Professor of Modern History in the University of

Oxford (Longmans, Green & Co., London, 1909), contains various references to Friends. The anxiety caused by the growth of Quakerism, finding its worst expression in such persecution as befell James Parnell and many others, introduces them to the reader. The case of James Nayler is dealt with circumstantially. The allusion to Monck's purging the army of Quakers and of officers "tainted with Quakerism" seems to need some further explanation. Henry Cromwell's alarm at the spread of Quakerism in Ireland, where, at Lurgan, the ex-soldier, William Edmondson, had set up the first Meeting, was no less marked than Monck's anxiety in Scotland, and severe measures were taken to suppress the rising sect. Mention is made of the memorable meeting of George Fox and Oliver Cromwell at Hampton Court, when George "felt a waft of death go forth against" the Protector, before whom he laid the sufferings of Friends. Holding no brief for or against Quakerism, Professor Firth appears to set forth historical facts fairly and impartially.

The Patriot (Headley Brothers, London, 1909) is a short story, and aims at bringing before young people in an attractive form the life and work of Denmark's great educationist, Bishop Grundtvig (1783-1872).

The Old Seaport of Whitby, by Robert Tate Gaskin (Whitby: Forth & Son, also John Hudson, 1909), contains several allusions to Friends. Credit is given to the late Senhouse Martendale for teaching the Whitby shipbuilders how to build ships. It also appears that in the early days of Whitby shipping, Quakers were often masters and mariners. Joseph Linskill's "sorrowful confession" as to arming his vessels in 1714, William Chapman's experiments in turning salt water into fresh, the belief of his uncle, Ingram Chapman, in "providential interference," Ann Lotherington's refusal to pay church rates, Francis Salkeld's school and Captain Cook's apprenticeship to John Walker, a Quaker shipowner and master mariner, are referred to, but unfortunately the book has no index.

ISAAC SHARP.

William A. Cadbury, with the assistance of Joisah Newman, F.R.Hist.S., has compiled *The Pumphrey Pedigree*, of which eighty copies have been printed. It is a valuable and beautiful production, comprising a number of portraits (some printed in colours), and four genealogical charts. It traces descent from James Pomfrey, of Newnham-on-Severn, temp. Edward VI., and introduces the families of Westcombe, Richardson, Sparkes, Sewell, Cadbury, Clark, Barrow, Palmer, Newman, etc. A copy of this Pedigree has been presented to D.

The Biddle Press, Philadelphia, is to the fore again with calendars. *A Quaker Calendar for 1910* is to hand, with illustrations by Jane Allen Boyer of Quaker womanhood and childhood, price fifty cents; and also *The Farm Calendar*, with twelve very pretty pictures of rural life, accompanied by verses from the pen of John Russell Hayes, price one dollar.

Headley Brothers, in conjunction with "The Daily News," have brought out an interesting souvenir of 1909: *The Wonderful Year, 1909* (10 by 7½, pp. 174, 2s. 6d. net). The volume records events of a

striking character which took place last year, including old age pensions, revolution in Turkey, aviation, discoveries in the extreme North and South, centenaries of famous men, etc.

Edward T. Biddle, of Philadelphia, has reprinted in a chaste little book, entitled *Lays of Quakerdom*, three poems by "Rush Plumley,"¹ which appeared in "The Knickerbocker of 1853-55"—The Execution of Mary Dyer, Visit of Mary Fisher to the Sultan Mohammed IV., and James Parnell the Quaker Proto-Martyr (Philadelphia: The Biddle Press, 6½ by 4½, pp. 59, 50 cents, postage paid).

"Ἐλθῆτω ἡ βασιλεία σου" ("Eltheto he Basileia sou"), the organ of the Netherlands Christian Students' Union, of July last, contains a translation into Dutch from French of James Holden's brochure, "Has Prayer a Scientific Basis?" under the title *Heeft het gebed een' wetenschappelijken grondslag?*

In the *Christellijk Volksblad*, a Flemish paper, printed in Brussels, for December 4th, there is a reference to Friends in an article by Pastor J. Chrispeels, of Hoorebeke Ste. Marie, entitled "Eenige dagen in Londen."

Lewis Appleton, F.R.Hist.S., writes in *Berrow's Worcester Journal*, for January 8th, etc., on "Urso D'Abitot and the Castle of Worcester," in connection with a lecture on "The Ancient Castle of Worcester," recently delivered by Mr. Willis Bund. The articles contain a wealth of information.

Ella Kent Barnard, of Baltimore, Md., has given us a charming biography in her *Dorothy Payne, Quakeress. A Side-Light upon the Career of "Dolly" Madison* (Phila: Ferris & Leach, 8 by 5¼, pp. 128, one dollar).

Dorothy Payne was born in North Carolina in 1768, the third child of John and Mary (Coles) Payne. Her parents joined Friends at Cedar Creek, Va., in 1764; her mother was a descendant of the Quaker family of Winston. When only a year old, her family removed back into Virginia and Dolly's girlhood was spent at the Scotch Town homestead in Hanover County. In 1783, the family removed to Philadelphia, and here in the Pine Street Meeting-house, in 1790, Dolly Payne married John Todd, Jun. In 1793, her husband and younger son both died of yellow fever.

Dorothy's sister Lucy married, in 1793, George Steptoe Washington, nephew and ward of the President, and in the following year at their home at Harewood, near Harper's Ferry, Dorothy was married to James Madison and for this breach of discipline she was, in 1794, disowned by Friends of Philadelphia. Madison became Secretary of State in 1801, and President in 1809. Of this period we read (page 97):—At the request of her husband, she had laid aside her Quaker dress on her marriage. However, she clung to the Quaker ways, to its soft "thee" and "thou" that fell so pleasantly from her tongue, and, even, in a measure, to its dress. During the eight years when, as wife of the Secretary of State she was often called on by Jefferson to do the honors of

¹ Not *Ruth* Plumley, as on title page.

the White House, she wore her "pretty Quaker cap." Indeed it was not until she came there as its mistress that she reluctantly laid it aside as "no longer suitable to her surroundings."

James Madison died in 1836, and his widow spent the remaining twelve years of her life at Madison House, Washington. "Here her old friends rallied around her, and she held court during her declining years." She was the transmitter from Washington to Baltimore of the "first real message flashed over the telegraph wires," in 1844. Her death took place on the 12th of July, 1849.

In this compact little volume there are frequent incidental references to Friends, *e.g.*, the Pleasants family, Benjamin Bates, Jun., schoolmaster and clerk of Virginia Y.M. in 1816, John and Charles Lynch, founders of Lynchberg, Va., Dr. William Thornton (1761-1828), architect of the United States Capitol and of Quaker parentage. The book has numerous illustrations and also a full index.

A copy of a new periodical, *The Central Friend*, is to hand. It is "Devoted to the Religious and Educational work of Friends in the Central West, belonging to Kansas Yearly Meeting." Edmund Stanley is Editor-in-Chief, and the paper is sent out from 1811 West Maple Avenue, Wichita, Kansas. All success to the new venture.

NORMAN PENNEY.

George Fox and the Gay Little Woman.¹

"George Fox was walking along Cheapside at the instant a coach stopp'd and a little woman in very gay apparel stepp'd out of it.

"He, laying his hand upon her head, said, 'Woman, mind the light within thee.' She became effectually convinced, and was afterwards the wife of Sam¹ Waldingfield² and a respectable member of our Society.

"This relation was received from Priscilla Barclay."

¹ From a note-book in modern handwriting, in the possession of Lucy Candler, of Tunbridge Wells.

² Samuel Waldenfield (c. 1652-1715) lived in Suffolk in early life, and was convinced by Giles Barnardiston (c. 1624-1680) concerning whom he wrote a Testimony.

In 1684, he married Mary, widow of Nathaniel James, of London, and at the same time settled in London. About 1706, he moved to Bush Hill, in north Middlesex, where he died.

He was a Minister and travelled some 40,000 miles, to the year 1700, besides many more later, in England, Scotland, Ireland, Holland, and Germany. Several of his sermons were printed. Letters are extant, in D., written to him by Jonathan Christmas, Joane Kemp, and William Edmondson. In 1708, he was a trustee of Yoakley's Charity. A Testimony was issued by the Monthly Meeting at Winchmore Hall, in 1716.