

Friends in Current Literature.

The latest review of Miss Stähelin's translation of the Journal of George Fox that has come to hand is from *Die Christliche Welt*, a monthly paper published at Marburg.

The reviewer, Rudolf Schwarz, by way of thanks to the translator for her valuable gift to all interested in Christianity or religion, states that, after his first rapid perusal, he found it "simply impossible" to say anything about the book, such is "the wealth of concrete religion which speaks from its pages." Even after reading it at leisure, the impression made is so "great" that he scarcely knows where to begin.

After reference to the striking features in the life of George Fox, and the character of his teaching, his visions, his sufferings and imprisonments, he says that the union of the "ecstatic and ethical" places Fox almost on a level with the Old Testament prophets. He finds, however, not only Old Testament parallels, but experiences similar to such as are related in the Gospels and Acts. As one instance out of many, he places side by side the shaking of the place of assembly after prayer recorded in Acts iv. 31, with the occasion when "the mighty power of the Lord was over all," and "the appearance thereof so wonderful that priest Bennett said 'the church shook.'"

The practical side of the character of George Fox and his genius for organisation are not overlooked; but the reviewer points out as *most* remarkable that in all his career, whether as prophet or organiser, *before* all else there lived and worked in him a seed of God, a clear inner light from Jesus Himself.

In conclusion Mr. Schwarz quotes the passage from Wernle's Introduction to the book, in which the Professor pays an eloquent tribute to the fruits of Quakerism.

An abstract of further valuable articles on "The Origin of Quakerism," by Pfarrer Sippell, of Schweinsberg, appears in the "Friends' Quarterly Examiner," for Seventh Month.

ISAAC SHARP.

The poetical pieces written at various times by Frederick Prior Balkwill (1832-1909) have been collected into a volume, *Hymns and other Poems* (York: Sessions, pp. 119 + 66, 7½ by 5, 2s.). Poems by F. P. Balkwill's father, Joseph Hancock Balkwill (1805-1844) and his wife, Mary Balkwill (*née* Ashford) (1826-1888), have been included.

The annual volume issued by the Croydon and Saffron Walden Old Scholars' Association (Hon. Sec., Grace H. Farrington, Winchmore Hill, London, N.) contains an excellent portrait of M. Ethel Crawshaw, assistant librarian of Friends' Reference Library, Devonshire House.

The *Bury Visitor*, May 27th, has an article of one column length, relating to Roger Haydock (1644-1696), written by Robert Muschamp, of Radcliffe, Lancs.

FRIENDS IN CURRENT LITERATURE. 119

In the March number (vol. iv., no. 2) of the *Publications of the Genealogical Society of Pennsylvania* (Phila.: 1300 Locust Street), about 120 pages are occupied with a continuation of extracts from the Minutes of Philadelphia M.M., 1690 to 1699. A rapid glance at these reveals the large number of "differences" between Friends which required and received attention, there having been many Friends who "misconducted to the dishonor of Truth" in those days, and also the large number of minutes by which marriages were passed.

William McMurray, Clerk of the united parishes of "SS. Anne and Agnes, Aldersgate, and St. John Zachary, London," is about to issue to subscribers only, a collection of documents illustrative of the history of these parishes from the twelfth century, under the title *The Records of Two City Parishes*. Mr. McMurray writes that these Records will contain extracts relating to the Bull and Mouth Meeting House, and to various individual Friends. The Author's address is St. Anne and St. Agnes, Gresham Street, London, E.C.

The Radcliffe Guardian, for June 4th, contains an account of Friends of Edgworth and district, Lancs., with a view of the Meeting House. Friends arose, apparently, about 1760, the prominent families being Thomasson, Horrocks, Wood, Ecroyd, etc.

Ralph H. Crowley, M.D., M.R.C.P., late Medical Superintendent to the Bradford Education Committee, and Honorary Physician to the Bradford Royal Infirmary, has published through Methuen & Co., *The Hygiene of School Life* (pp. 403, with seventeen illustrations, 3s. 6d. net).

Various references to Friendly localities are to be found in *Highways and Byways in Buckinghamshire*, by Clement Shorter, illustrated by Frederick L. Griggs (London: Macmillan, 8 by 5½, pp. 344, 6s.).

The Northampton Independent of June 18th has the following under the heading, "Historic Cottages at Flore for Sale":—

The sale of freehold cottages and building land at Flore, which is advertised in another column by Messrs. Pierce & Thorpe to take place next Friday, possesses historic interest on account of the fact that two of the cottages formerly formed a Quaker Meeting House, and ancestors of some of the Presidents of the American Republic were buried in the garden adjoining, which was used as a burial ground.

The property is very ancient, the deeds relating to it dating back to the third of May, 1678, when it was purchased for the Flore Friends for £30 of good and lawful money from William Dunkley, of Flore, mason, and Dorothy, his wife, by Thomas Poole, of Flore, husbandman. It changed hands again twenty-six days later, when, as the deed sets forth:—"This indenture, made the nine and twentieth day of May, in the thirtieth year of the reign of our Sovereign, Charles II., by the Grace of God, King of England, Scotland, France and Ireland, between Thomas Poole, of Flore, in the County of Northampton, husbandman, on the one part, and John Gibbs, of Bugbrooke on the other."

At that time a barn stood on the site now occupied by the cottages. The earliest record of burials in the ground are those of Richard Adams

in 1699, John Adams in the same year, and Nicholas Adams, 1714, who are ancestors of John Adams, President of the United States of America, 1797-1801.

In *The Daltonian* (Dalton Hall, Manchester) for April, there is a portrait of John Wilmer Green, son of our esteemed contributor, Joseph Joshua Green, of Tunbridge Wells.

The numerous and beautiful illustrations in *Chester* (London: Black, 9 by 6½, pp. 184, 7s. 6d. net) are from paintings by E. Harrison Compton, son of Edward T. Compton, and grandson of the late Theodore Compton, of Sidcot, Somerset.

Another dainty little volume comes from The Biddle Press, of Philadelphia, entitled *In Memory of Whittier*, and composed of verses by John Russell Hayes, of Swarthmore, Pa., with illustrations at almost every opening. The price is fifty cents post paid. Headley Brothers can supply copies.

The Pedigree Register (Sherwood, 227, Strand, W.C., 2s. 6d. per quarter) for June has a valuable introductory article on "The Study of Ancestry—Some Reflections."

We commend to our readers a pamphlet by Edward Grubb, M.A., entitled *The Meaning of Membership in a Christian Society: with special Reference to the Society of Friends*. (London: Headley Brothers, 6½ by 4, pp. 48, 6d. net.) The contents are divided thus:—Are we a Christian Society?—Is a Definite Membership Desirable?—Membership by Birth-right.—Dissociation.—Applications for Membership.

Through the kindness of A. C. Myers a copy of *Pennsylvania at the Jamestown Exposition, Hampton Roads, Va., 1907*, has been placed in D. This volume of 360 pages contains many allusions to Friends, also reproductions of Heemskerck's and Allard's pictures of early Quaker Meetings and of the first oil portraits by Benjamin West, c. 1753, when a boy, representing Robert Morris and his sister Jane. There is also a portrait of A. C. Myers, a director of the Penna. State Historical Exhibit.

The *Year Book of the Pennsylvania Society*, New York, 1910, is to hand. A report by the Society on the grave of William Penn at Jordans is included, containing letters from Lord Ranfurly and Andrew Carnegie; "The investigation discloses the fact that the grave of the great Quaker is not neglected, and that it is surrounded by no conditions that should occasion either alarm or neglect." The new gold medal of the Society for "distinguished achievement" is reproduced as an illustration; on the obverse is a beautifully executed portrait of Penn, in armour, in profile, and the reverse presents three male figures typifying Force, Character, and Intelligence, to whom Renown is awarding sprigs of laurel.

The new volume in the "Religion of Life Series," edited by Rufus M. Jones, is *Selections from the Works of William Penn* (London: Headley Brothers, 6¾ by 4½, pp. 68, 1s. 6d. and 2s. 6d.). These selections were

gathered by Dr. Isaac Sharpless, who writes the Introduction; they are to be recommended as specimens of the words of a great and good man.

The Friends' Tract Association of London has just issued No. 15 of its series "Friends Ancient and Modern"—*Thomas Ellwood, the Friend of Milton*, by Alfred Kemp Brown, M.A. (London: Headley; New York: Friends' Book and Tract Committee; 6¾ by 5½, pp. 39, 1d. net). There are four full page illustrations—Ellwood's House, Newgate Gateway, Milton's Cottage, and Jordans Burial Ground.

Early last year a souvenir volume appeared entitled "Peace and the Churches," descriptive of the visit of German Pastors to England (see JOURNAL, vi. 44). A corresponding volume is now issued, *Friendly Relations between Great Britain and Germany. Souvenir Volume of the Visit to Germany of Representatives of the British Christian Churches, June 7th to 20th, 1909*, edited by F. Siegmund-Schultze and printed by H. S. Hermann, Berlin. It is a handsome volume of 235 quarto pages, with many portraits, including those of J. Allen Baker, M.P., Barrow Cadbury, Right Hon. John E. Ellis, M.P., Dr. J. Rendel Harris, and Edward Grubb, M.A.

Volume x., New Series of the *Transactions of the Cumberland and Westmorland Antiquarian and Archæological Society*, edited by W. G. Collingwood, M.A., F.S.A., and printed by Titus Wilson, of Kendal, has been distributed to the members of the Society. It is a volume of about 550 pages, containing an article by J. Brownbill, M.A., and the late Harper Gaythorpe, F.S.A.Scot., on "The Askews of Marsh Grange," in which the descent of Margaret Fell, *née* Askew, from Anne Askew, the martyr, given in Maria Webb's book, is stated to have no foundation. There are other Quaker references.

It is satisfactory to hear that A. M. Gummere's *Quaker in the Forum* (see JOURNAL, vii. 84) is having a good sale. As a book of reference on the subjects of which it treats, it is invaluable. Many passages have been marked for further use.

In the *Autobiography of Allen Jay* (1831-1910), we have a valuable history of many modern movements among Friends in America. The writings of one who was an actor in many of these movements is sure to be consulted with advantage by future historians of Quakerism. We read here of early missionary effort, of the disastrous results of Separations, of the seed sowing and harvesting in the field of education, of the "Baltimore Association to Assist and Advise Friends of the Southern States," of two visits to Europe, of the origin of the American Board of Foreign Missions and the Five Years Meeting. Of his first wife, Martha A. Jay, Allen Jay writes:—

"She was a real helpmate and was anxious that I should do the work well. She would tell me of my mistakes in grammar, pronunciation, and gestures; sometimes showing me how I stood in the gallery, and what I did with my hands. She taught me to keep my hands out of my pockets while I was talking. She labored hard to break me of the habit of speaking so loud . . . I will always remember one morning when I was going to drive ten miles to attend the quarterly meeting I had bade her farewell

and started to drive away, when she came up to me with a very solemn face and said very deliberately: 'My dear, I am going to be very busy to-day, and will not have time to listen, so thee need not preach loud enough for me to hear.' "

If more ministers' wives were as faithful there would be fewer mannerisms to lessen the value of preaching. The chapter on "Beginnings in the Ministry," from which above quotation is taken, has been reprinted by London Y.M.'s Committee on the Ministry. (Philadelphia: Winston; London: Headley; 8¼ by 5½, pp. 421, and illustrations. \$1.50—6s. net.)

The Wellington Weekly News, of June 22nd, has a long account of the opening of new premises for recreative purposes, built by the firm of Fox Brothers & Co., serge manufacturers, at Tonedale, Wellington, Som. Joseph H. Fox, J.P., head of the firm, traced the history of the business over more than 200 years, first in the hands of the Were family, and then of the Fox family. An illustration of the new buildings is presented with above issue.

As a supplement to the volume issued nine years ago on the occasion of the accession of King Edward the Seventh, Headley Brothers have published a *Souvenir of the Presentation of an Address from the Society of Friends to King George V.* This beautifully printed pamphlet records the visit of sixty Friends to St. James's Palace on the 22nd of Sixth Month, to present an address, and also gives a selection of other addresses to previous occupants of the throne of Great Britain and Ireland. Portraits appear of the King, Queen, and Prince of Wales, and of Henry Lloyd Wilson, who read the address, and a photographic reproduction of the address is added. A limited edition has been printed; copies may be obtained at five shillings each net.

NORMAN PENNEY.

John Sotcher, William Penn's Steward at Pennsbury Manor.

There is a sketch of this Friend, written by Josiah Granville Leach, in the Publications of the Genealogical Society of Penna., vol. iv. Sotcher accompanied Penn to Pennsylvania in the ship *Canterbury*, in 1699, and at once took up his duties at the Manor. He married Mary Loftus, who was also occupied at Pennsbury, in 1701, and on Penn's return to Europe his wife and he were left in charge. About 1708, Sotcher left Pennsbury and established a ferry across the Delaware, between Bristol and Burlington in New Jersey. He became a member of the Provincial Assembly and was also an Elder of the Falls Meeting. His death took place in 1729.