

Friends in Denbighshire

JN the *Inventory* for this county, issued by the Royal Commission on Ancient Monuments in Wales and Monmouthshire, are the following references to Friends' Meeting Houses and Burial Grounds, visited for the Commission by its Assistant Inspecting Officer in North Wales, Mr. Alfred Neobard Palmer.

Parish of CEFN (RUABON)

QUAKERS' CHAPEL. (6in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Denb. 35 S.W.; lat. 52° 57' 56" ; long. 3° 3' 55".)

A building of the end of the seventeenth century, of perfectly plain character, and having no attractive features in woodwork or stone.¹ The building is of two storeys; the walls are of red brick, now hidden under modern colouring. The original chimneys remain. Between it and the main road are some modern additions. — Visited 8th August, 1911.

Parish of HOLT

QUAKER'S YARD. (6in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Denb. 22 S.E.; lat. 53° 4' 52" ; long. 2° 52' 45".)

A small piece of ground containing seventeen square perches, facing the north-east corner of Church Green, Holt, which was bought on the 23rd February, 1681/2, from Thomas Taylor of Worthenbury, by Arthur Paynter of Church Shocklach and John Newton of Caldicot, Cheshire, for the burial of members of the Society of Friends. It was afterwards legally conveyed to trustees, and finally sold by the Society about the year 1850.

¹ This structure was probably built as a Meeting House when the residence of Rhuddallt, in the parish of Ruabon, once owned and occupied by a family of small gentry named Davies, members of the Society of Friends, was closed to their co-religionists by the migration of the family to Pennsylvania. For this reason the new Meeting House may have been called "Rhuddallt," though situated in the township of Cefn. It was afterwards occupied by the Baptists, and just below it is the present Baptist Chapel.

There appear to be no records of the little community, but the name of one Friend who was buried in this spot has been preserved, namely, Thomas Yarwood, of Mobberley, Cheshire, on the 16th day of the Tenth Month, 1695, aged about 74. See Palmer's *Hist. of the Older Nonconformity of Wrexham*, pp. 126, 128.—Visited 19th May, 1911.

Parish of LLANGOLLEN RURAL

PLAS IFA. (6in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Denb. 34 S.E.; lat. $52^{\circ} 58' 22''$; long. $3^{\circ} 7' 25''$.)

A modern house erected in 1865. Its predecessor,² which was then pulled down, is deserving of remembrance as the home of the well-known Quaker, John ap John, of Trevor, who died in 1697.³ The only relic of the earlier house that has survived is an oak beam in the ceiling of one of the lower rooms, on which is carved foliage and pomegranates.

MYNWENT Y QUAKER,⁴ "THE QUAKER'S GRAVEYARD"
(6in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Denb. 34 S.E.; lat. $52^{\circ} 58' 17''$;
long. $3^{\circ} 7' 36''$).

A portion of a meadow on the north side of the Dee, and sloping to the river; now cut off from Plas Ifa by a modern canal. It is better known as "Cae'r dorlan," but according to a statement in Simpson's *Guide to Llangollen* (1827), it was formerly known as "Mynwent y Quaker," and this name is known to have continued in use as late as 1888. Simpson adds that "in cutting the Canal the earth from the excavations was thrown upon the old graves."—Visited 29th May, 1911.

² A photograph of the earlier Plas represents it as a large early sixteenth century house, with two big chimney stacks.

³ See Journal Supplement No. 6, *John ap John and Early Records of Friends in Wales*, 1907.

⁴ It will be observed that the proper name is in the singular: "Quaker," not "Quakers"; and it is probable that the burials here have been confined to the family and dependants of John ap John. In the diary kept by him he records on the 9th of Eleventh Month (January) 169 $\frac{4}{5}$, the burial of his wife Catherine "at Trevour."

Parish of WREXHAM REGIS

SITE OF FRIENDS' MEETING HOUSE AND BURIAL GROUND.
(6in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Denb. 28 S.E. ; lat. 53° 2' 49" ;
long. 2° 59' 21".)

In 1708 a Meeting House was established by the Society of Friends in the district called "the Lampint," opposite Holt Street House. The Wrexham Meeting became extinct before the middle of the eighteenth century, and by its close the Meeting House had been removed. The land still belongs to the Society.— Visited 9th May, 1911.

Extracts from the *Inventory* of Montgomeryshire and from that of Radnorshire have already appeared in THE JOURNAL (vol. xi. pp. 106, 190). GEO. EYRE EVANS.

Notes on the History of the Site of the Bull and Mouth Meeting House, London, 1352:1887

IT is interesting to learn that not alone the present headquarters of the Society in England—Devonshire House—but also the old City premises once in Friends' tenancy—the Bull and Mouth—had been in possession of noble families.

The Earls of Northumberland, in the fourteenth century, had a town house in the parish of St. Martins le Grand, a house which was ransacked in the same century in consequence of the Earl's championship of John Wycliff (died 1384).

In 1403, Northumberland House, on the death and attainder of Sir Henry Percy, came into the hands of Henry IV. In the next century, in 1557, the Percys were once more in possession of Northumberland House, or, as sometimes styled, Northumberland Place. In 1607, Henry, the ninth Earl, sold the entire property for £1,000.