

was in question. So it is we find Edward Burrough writing about the death of his parents in 1658 in a northern dale in Westmorland. He, a mere youth, was in London and did not suffer his hand to falter a moment at the news. He writes coldly :

Y^e old man & old woman, my father & mother according to y^e flesh is both departed this world ten dayes one after y^e other, & I am sent for downe, but trully I Cannot goe, it is only p^taining to Outwards, & I feele noe freedome to it at present.

Enough has been said to show that we have here a valuable contribution to a branch of Quaker history that has been little explored as a whole. Miss Brailsford has given us a study of womanhood that cannot be without an influence on all who, reading it, recognise that unity of man and woman in a common work and heritage which is the hope and destiny of the race.

It must be added that the index is totally inadequate. The value of such a book as this would be greatly enhanced to all present and future students by a proper and scholarly one. Perhaps the author will see fit to remedy this fault when the volume, as no doubt it will, proceeds to a second edition.

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Yearly Meeting Representatives

THOUGH some of the names of attenders at the early "General" and Yearly Meetings are known, the names of representatives were not kept in any list for some years. The Epistle from Friends out of the Northern Counties, as far back as 1658, has many signatures; the "written Epistle from the Yearly Meeting, 1668," contains the signatures of George Fox and others; that of 1675 has six signatures, and that for 1676 the signatures of William Penn, George Whitehead and thirteen others. But we have, as far as is known, no list of representatives until 1681. The number of the representatives is stated in the record of the proceedings of the Yearly Meeting of 1672 "to consist of six Friends for the city of London, three for the

city of Bristol, two for the town of Colchester, and one or two for each and every of the counties of England and Wales respectively"; these Friends being "such as understand the sufferings and affairs of their respective counties."

A few examples may be given of the changes that have taken place during the last 250 years. In the earliest *recorded* list of representatives to the Yearly Meeting, two were sent from Durham and Northumberland. The two counties had scattered congregations from Stockton to Berwick-on-Tweed, but the numbers in the more northerly county dwindled, and gradually the Quarterly Meeting was known as that of Durham, though at Newcastle there has been an influential Meeting of Friends for more than two centuries; and that and the North Shields Meeting (also on the northern side of the Tyne) have been for Quaker purposes in "Durham" Quarterly Meeting. The two representatives of Durham and Northumberland to the 1681 Yearly Meeting were Edward Tunstall and Richard Pinder, and the former was a representative for at least three later Yearly Meetings. Other early representatives of the Northern Meeting included the locally well-known names of Eman Grice, Robert Truman, Robert Wardel, and John Bowron—two for the Quarterly Meeting in each year.

But times and numbers have changed in Durham district in two centuries. To the Yearly Meeting 1915, there were twenty-four representatives sent from Durham Quarterly Meeting, but that Meeting includes now constituent Meetings in Northumberland, Durham, and North Yorkshire. Other changes are seen in the list of representatives; in the early days, only men were sent to the Yearly Meeting; in 1915 the Durham list has twelve men and twelve women Friends. In the early period "publick Friends" (ministers chiefly) were usually sent, but the list for Durham this year has one-sixth recorded ministers only. In the early days of the Society, Durham was represented by two Members of Parliament, but each Reform Bill has added to the number, and nine or ten members of the Society of Friends in Durham Quarterly Meeting have, since the year 1832, been members of Parliament.

JOHN W. STEEL.