

NOTES AND QUERIES

The following Notes and Queries have been received from Russell S. Mortimer

Norman McCord and Richard Thompson: *The northern counties from A.D. 1000*. (London & New York, London, 1998. A Regional history of England).

A broad-sweep history, graced with useful references, has about half a dozen references to Quakers. In the far north west in the 17th century, a

“watered-down form of Presbyterian in the ascendant, with little ecclesiastical discipline, which may have helped the spread of Quakerism. Southern Cumbria was a neglected part of the diocese of Chester”. (pp.161-2).

“During seventeenth-century troubles, Quakerism attracted thousands, with south and west Cumbria a main centre. Support dwindled during the eighteenth century, to no more than 3 or 4 per cent of the population.” (p.165).

In the 19th century, the enterprises of the Pease family in railways in the north east, and the networks of Quaker and Unitarian families in and around Kendal also receive attention.

“A Radical’s books: the library catalogue of Samuel Jeake of Rye, 1623-90.” Edited by Michael Hunter [Birkbeck College], Giles Mandelbrote [British Library], Richard Ovenden [Natural Library of Scotland] and Nigel Smith [University of Oxford]. Published by D.S. Brewer, 1999.

Introducing this welcome volume, the editors state that

The library owned by Samuel Jeake of Rye (1623-90), nonconformist and local activist, was one of the most remarkable of its time. ... It documents a collection in which an extraordinary assemblage of radical pamphlets from the English Revolution stood side by side with works of the theology, literature, scholarship and science. ... Jeake’s catalogue is unusual in the painstaking detail in which it described the library of some 2100 items ...

The *Dictionary of national biography* describes Jeake as a ‘puritan antiquary; some time town clerk of Rye; detained in London as a nonconformist 1682-7’. It is interesting to see how a dozen Quaker authors’ works found their way

on to his shelves. Several works printed by Giles Calvert and Robert Wilson are noted among them. The authors I note are – John Anderson, Daniel Baker, Edward Burrough, William Dewsbury, Benjamin Furly, Francis Howgill, John Lilburne, James Nayler, Isaac Penington, Robert Rich, Thomas Speed, Judith Zinspenninck, and one who has escaped me till now – Susannah Parr. Susanna Parr's "Susanna's Apologie against the Elders" (1659) is not named in Joseph Smith's bibliography.

DUBLIN PRINTERS AND BOOKSELLERS

James W. Phillips (1916-1986): "Printing and bookselling in Dublin, 1670–1800 – a biographical enquiry". With a foreward by M. Pollard. (Dublin), Irish Academic Press, 1998.

This doctoral thesis (Dublin, 1952) brings to notice the publishing work for Friends in the 17th century by Joseph Ray, and Samuel Fuller and the Jacksons in the 18th century, which have been mentioned in earlier volumes of this *Journal* (41, p.84; 50, pp.117, 132).

Dr. Pollard, in her Lyell Lectures volume ("Dublin's trade in books 1550-1800", Clarendon Press, 1989, p.95) states that Ray "was nearly, if not quite a Quaker". Be that as it may, Phillips dubs him "the leading Dublin printer of his day" (p.108), but also says "None of his printed works are noteworthy" (p.303).

With Fuller and the Jacksons we are on firmer ground, Dr. Phillips wrote: "The first really important schoolbook seller was the 'Scribbling Quaker', Samuel Fuller. From the commencement of his venture in the book trade in "the early 1720s until his death in 1735, Fuller published and sold arithmetics, "classics, geographies and translations of classics. This specialty was "continued by his widow, Mary Fuller, and by the Jackson family, who succeeded "the Fullers 'at the Globe and Scales in Meath street'... Isaac Jackson, "the first of this family, conducted the business from 1737 until 1772. He "was followed by his son, Robert, who was, in turn, succeeded by his sister, "Rachel Maria, in 1793." (pp.75-76).

As a letter founder, the author does not find when Isaac Jackson began this branch of his enterprise, and he says: "Jackson left no specimen of his type except what he used in practical printing." (p.202).

Protestantism and national identity. Britain and Ireland, c.1650-c.1850. Editors: Tony Clayton and Ian McBride. (Cambridge University Press, 1998).

In an essay entitled "Protestantism, ethnicity and Irish identities, 1660-1760", Tony Barnard (Hertford College) says

“the flourishing condition of the Scottish presbyterians, quakers and, from the 1740s, the methodists” troubled the protestant interest which thought that the “potency and menace of catholics – probably about 75 per cent of Ireland’s population – required unity” in the Church across the Irish Sea.

In another essay in the same volume, Brian Young (University of Sussex): ‘A History of variations – the identity of the eighteenth-century church of England’, notes the controversy about the quakers’ tithe bill in 1736, which lost to Walpole the support of his chief clerical ally, Bishop Edmund Gibson (bishop of London, 1720-48).

The Quakers Tithe Bill is also treated in *Tory and Whig: the parliamentary papers of Edward Harley, 3rd earl of Oxford, and William Hay, M.P. for Seaford, 1716-1753*, edited by Stephen Taylor and Clyve Jones (Parliamentary History Yearbook Trust: The Boydell Press), 1998.

Edward Harley believed “that the aim was to exempt the Quakers from the payment of tithes” and he saw it as a cloak for more fundamental attacks on the church and Anglicanism. The whig William Hay, was a teller for the ‘Noes’ on the bill (which was passed on the division, 160 against 60) and done of only two members to speak against the bill. The speech is reported, and runs to four pages, and reveals his anti-clericalism and also his suspicion of dissent.

FRIENDS IN SECHWAN IN THE 1920S

The cultural contribution of British protestant missionaries and British-American cooperation to China’s national development during the 1920s. By Dan Cui (University Press of America, Inc., Lanham, New York, Oxford, 1998).

This is a London School of Economics thesis on the influence in which protestant missionary societies played a role in China’s national development. Extensive chapters cover separate aspects like medical services, education, social reform and the emancipation of women. There is an extensive bibliography. The editor has used Friends’ Foreign Mission Association (Friends Service Council) records at Friends House Library, and he notes the varied activities (hospitals, teaching hospitals, in the West China Union University, and a small museum in Chungking).

"Catalogue of the European manuscripts in the Oriental and India Office collections of the British Library", by David M. Blake. (The British Library, 1998).

On page 429 the following entry is given:

MSS Eur R 207 1942-1949 Tape recording of interview given 1991, by (John) Richard Charters Symonds (b.1918).

Friends Ambulance Unit, Bengal 1942-44; Deputy Director, Relief and Rehabilitation, Bengal 1944-45; Friends Service Unit, Punjab and Kashmir 1947-48; U.N. Commissioner in Kashmir 1948-49.

6 cassettes. Summary available in Reading Room.

Russell S. Mortimer

AMPTHILL FRIENDS MEETING HOUSE

Further to Russell S. Mortimer's notes on *Bedfordshire Chapels and Meeting Houses: Official Registration 1672-1901* edited by Edwin Welch (page 197, JFHS vol. 58, no. 2). It should be pointed out that a meeting was first registered for Ampthill in 1726 when the barn 'occupied by Christopher Bennell' was registered at the Quarter Sessions in Bedford. This is in fact the oldest registration identified for Ampthill by Edwin Welch, but not attributed as Quaker (page 17).

The barn was in regular use until 1753, when Christopher Bennell purchased it on behalf of local Friends for £42. Arrangements were set in hand for its demolition and the erection of a 30 foot long by 17 foot wide single storied brick meeting house at a total cost of £136. The meeting house and associated land were placed in trust in February 1755. Within 13 years the meeting was enlarged with a new 12 foot brick extension at a cost of £74. This was again financed by local Friends together with the proceeds from the sale of Biggleswade Meeting House for £21.

By the 1880s local meetings had ceased and in the 1930s with the approval of the Charity Commissioners the building was sold on condition that the proceeds were invested within the compass of the Monthly Meeting. Today Quaker meetings are again held within the old meeting house. The burial ground and small garden at the rear are under the care of local Friends.

(From Records held at Bedfordshire & Luton Archive & Records Service).

Barry Dackombe

Alan Penn: Targeting Schools: Drill, Militarism and Imperialism. Woburn Press, 1999.

Alan Penn traces the development of military drill, and of physical drill and exercises, for pupils in elementary schools from 1870-1914. Militarism was inseparable from imperialism in Britain no less than in the case of its European rivals. Its proponents saw schools as an ideal means by which the nation's youth might be given an early introduction to military drill, handling weapons and even to firing them.

Children of all ages and both sexes were taught military drill, and were prepared, often by army drill instructors to participate in vast displays, carrying out complicated manoeuvres before the general public and sometimes royalty.

His Majesty's Inspectors visited schools to ensure that Government requirements were being met, and their reports illustrate the ebb and flow of support for military drill, or rather the 'ordinary' drill that increasingly challenged it. The development of the controversy between military drill and the more benign physical exercises were prolonged, and it had not been resolved by the time war broke out in 1914.

Official records consulted include parliamentary debates (Hansard), reports of the Committee of Council on Education and later, the reports of the Board of Education, Her/His Majesty's Inspectors' reports, Commissioners and Interdepartmental inquiries, Codes of Regulations, School Board and Local Education Authority records and school log books. There are passing references made to Quakers as part of the wider opposition to military drill.

Howard F. Gregg

Friends' activities are noted in Amy Z. Gottlieb, *Men of vision: Anglo-Jewry's aid to victims of the Nazi regime 1933-1945* (London: Weidenfeld & Nicholson, 1998: ISBN 0 297 84239 7).

Gottlieb covers her stated subject extensively. She describes the role of the Society of Friends (though not every mention is indexed) and specifically mentions its Germany Emergency Committee, Friends Service Council (wrongly named "Committee"), and Friends Ambulance Unit in various contexts during the period under discussion. A few individual Friends such as Bertha Bracey (1889-1989) and Ben Greene (1902-1978) are mentioned, as others with Quaker connections: Philip Noel Baker MP (1889-1982), former Bootham scholar and founder-member of Friends Ambulance Unit (1914); similarly Anna Essinger, friend of Friends and founder of the school at Bunce Court, Kent. The author includes among her sources the official history of Friends Committee for Refugees & Aliens/Germany Emergency committee (unfortunately misspelling the surname of the author), and is familiar with Brenda Bailey's *A Quaker couple in Nazi Germany* (1994).

Josef Keith

THESES LISTED IN *THESES COMPLETED*, 1998*RELATING TO QUAKERS*

Caroline L. Leachman

'From an 'unruly sect' to a society of 'strict unity': the development of English Quakerism, c.1650-1689'. London PhD, 1998 [sup: Dr. Nicholas R.N. Tyacke] (TC 1998: 205).*

Brenda Harrison

'The religious and business practice of 19th-century Quakers, with special reference to the Clarks of Street. Bristol' MLitt, 1998 [sup: Dr. Christine Macleod] (TC 1998: 262).

Laura E. Lauer

'Women in British nonconformity, c.1880-1920, with special reference to the Society of Friends, Baptist Union and Salvation Army'. Oxford DPhil, 1998. [sup: Mrs Janet H. Howarth] (TC 1998: 334).

Farah Mendlesohn

'Practising peace: American and British Quaker relief in the Spanish Civil War'. York DPhil, 1998. [sup: Dr. Edward Royle] (TC 1998: 419)*.

* In Library of Society of Friends

ALSO OF POSSIBLE INTEREST

Ann M.G. Bray, 'Famines in Ireland, 1822-49; changing attitudes to charity and relief in Ireland and the North West of England during the first half of the 19th century'. Manchester MPhil, 1998 [sup: Prof. Michael E. Rose] (TC 1998: 279).

Timothy Larsen, 'Friends of religious equality: the politics of English nonconformists, 1847-67'. Stirling PhD, 1997 [sup: Dr. David W. Bebbington] (TC 1998: 297).

Cristina M. Rodriguez, 'Engendering an American awakening: a study of the transatlantic network of women abolitionists and the development of anti-slavery ideology in the United States, 1835-60'. Oxford MLitt, 1998 [sup: Mrs. Janet H. Howarth and Prof Daniel W. Howe] (TC 1998: 453).

Josef F.C. Craven, 'Redskins in Epping Forest: John Hargrave, the Kibbo Kift and the Woodcraft Experience'. London PhD, 1998. [sup: Prof. Martin J. Daunton] (TC 1998: 372).

Malcolm J. Thomas