

A COLLECTION OF QUAKER WRITINGS AT NIJMEGEN UNIVERSITY LIBRARY

In the second half of the seventeenth century and in the early eighteenth century contacts between English and Dutch Quakers were frequent and often intensive. Famous English Quakers like George Fox, William Penn and Stephen Crisp visited Holland, and several of their works were translated into Dutch. The Quaker merchant Benjamin Furly, who lived at Rotterdam for many years, and the Quaker historian William Sewel, born of English parents at Amsterdam, played an important role in the relations between English and Dutch Quakers in their day. In view of this it is rather surprising to find that the number of early English Quaker writings in Holland, at least in the public and university libraries, is relatively small.¹ However, the University Library of the Catholic University at Nijmegen forms an exception in this respect. This library - perhaps one of the last places where one would have expected to find such a collection - possesses a substantial and coherent body of early English Quaker writings. The person responsible for this is Dr. L.J. Rogier, who was Professor of History at Nijmegen University from 1948 to 1964 and had a special interest in church history.² In December 1949 Dr. Rogier bought for the University Library a large number of mainly eighteenth-century English Quaker pamphlets and books from the London bookseller Alfred Wilson.³ The Nijmegen collection consists of works nearly all of which belong to the second large period of Quakerism, extending from the Toleration Act in 1689 to the evangelical movement in the 1830s. Only a few of the pamphlets and books in the Nijmegen collection are also present in other public and university libraries in Holland.⁴ After arriving in Nijmegen early in 1950 the collection has remained virtually unnoticed, both in Nijmegen itself and elsewhere, and the present article attempts to redress that situation.

The items in the collection range in date from 1675 to 1840, and in the list that follows all the works, except for the first two, have been arranged chronologically. The list opens with two collections of Epistles

from the Yearly Meetings, the first extending from 1675 to 1759, published as one book in 1760, the second a collection of the separately published Epistles from 1760 to 1840, bound together in one volume. The description of each item in the list has been limited to the following entries: author, title, place of publication, printer (only if relevant for identification), date of publication, format, the Nijmegen University Library class-mark and the bibliographical reference. Joseph Smith's *A Descriptive Catalogue of Friends' Books* (2 vols., London, 1867) is the primary bibliographical source and further the Wing, ESTC, NSTC⁵ or *National Union Catalog* reference number, if available, is given. Provenance inscriptions and other manuscript notes are recorded as well.

Viewing the collection as a whole one sees that especially the middle of the eighteenth century is well represented. Furthermore, Stephen Crisp, John Crook, Joseph Besse and Sophia Hume are all present with more than one work. Over one third of the pamphlets and books was published by the well-known Quaker printers Luke and Mary Hinde. A remarkable feature of the provenance of the collection is that more than half of the items were once, in the 1840s, in the possession of "Thomas Westcombe", and this makes it likely that the collection, as it figured in the 1949 Wilson catalogue, remained intact between 1840 and the present. One of the 49 items of the list - Bishop Hayter's *An Examination* (1742) - is a vehemently anti-Quaker book but it has been included because it naturally goes with Joseph Besse's *A Vindication* (1741). One item is not a printed publication, but a manuscript, viz., a manuscript copy of the 1826 Epistle from the Yearly Meeting.

Frans Karsten

NOTES AND REFERENCES

¹I have checked the holdings of the Royal Library at The Hague, all the university libraries and several of the "likely" public libraries. The Library of the "Quaker Centrum" in Amsterdam has a fair number of seventeenth-, eighteenth- and nineteenth-century English Quaker writings, almost all of them acquired through gifts in the past fifty years.

²Prof. Rogier wrote a history of the church in Europe in the eighteenth century: *De Kerk in het Tijdperk van Verlichting en Revolutie (1715-1801)*, Hilversum - Antwerpen, 1964, vol. VII of L.J. Rogier, R. Aubert, M.D. Knowles (eds.), *Geschiedenis van de Kerk*, 9 vols., Hilversum - Antwerpen, 1963-1973.

³See B.L. S.C. Wilson (2), *A Catalogue of Books of the 16th to the 18th Century. Catalogue Number Eight* [London, 1949], pp. 14-15. The items in question were numbers 151, 153-157, 159, 160, 162, 63, 165, 166. On 24 December 1949 Nijmegen University

Library paid to Wilson the sum of £15.12.6d for the collection. The only book in the present Nijmegen Quaker collection that was not obtained in this way is George Fox's *Journal* (1827); this was bought by the University Library at some time between 1959 and 1963.

⁴The Library of the "Quaker Centrum" in Amsterdam has four: Stephen Crisp, *A Memorable Account* (London, 1694), William Penn, *A Collection of the Works* (London, 1726), Joseph Gurney Bevan, *A Refutation* (London, 1800) and George Fox, *A Journal* (London, 1827).

The University Library of the "Vrije Universiteit" in Amsterdam has one: Stephen Crisp, *A Memorable Account* (London, 1694).

The Library of the "Internationaal Instituut voor Sociale Geschiedenis" (IISG) in Amsterdam has one: Anthony Pearson, *The Great Case of Tithes* (7th ed., London, 1762).

⁵Wing, *Short-Title Catalogue... 1641-1700*, New York, 1972; ESTC Eighteenth-Century Short-Title Catalogue, British Library; NSTC Nineteenth-Century Short-Title Catalogue.

- *Epistles from the Yearly Meeting of the People called Quakers Held in London to the Quarterly and Monthly Meetings in Great Britain, Ireland and elsewhere; from the year 1675 to 1759 inclusive. With an index to the principal subjects of advice*, London, 1760, fol.

NUL 5000-01¹

Smith I, p. 712

inscribed (end-leaves): "Tho: Westcombe 1840"

ESTC t 084115

"Thomas Westcombe 1842"

- [*Yearly Epistles 1760 to 1840*; complete set of separately paginated epistles, bound in one volume]

NUL 5000-01²

inscribed (end-leaves): "Thomas Westcombe 1842"

inscribed (p. 1 of the Yearly Epistle for 1775): "Samuel Isaac Epistle 1775".

- [Stephen Crisp], *An Epistle to the Monthly and Quarterly Meetings of Friends*, [London, 1692] brs.

NUL 5000-01¹ (inserted between p. 56 and p. 57)

Smith I, p. 728

inscribed: "To John Berut [Beret?]"

Wing C6935

- Stephen Crisp, *A Memorable Account of the Christian Experiences, Gospel Labours, Travels and Sufferings of that Ancient Servant of Christ Stephen Crisp, in his Books and Writings herein Collected*, London, 1694, 4^o

NUL 5070-06

Smith I, p. 472

inscribed (f.al^v): "John Bassford, Leicester 1793"

Wing C6920

(f.d2l^v): "John Clarke Eujus [sic] Liber"

(p. 118 and p. 121): "John Rolin"

- *Rules for Removals and Settlements of Friends, Agreed on by the Yearly Meeting held in London, 1737, [n.p., 1737?], 4⁰*
 NUL 5000-01² Smith I, p. 714
NUC NF 0392515

- [Joseph Besse], *A Vindication of a Book, intituled, A Brief Account of many of the Prosecutions of the people called Quakers, &c. Presented to the Members of both Houses of Parliament: In answer to a late Examination thereof, in Defence of the Clergy of the Diocese of York, London, 1741, 8⁰*
 NUL 5080-03 Smith I, p. 256
ESTC t 084126

- [Thomas Hayter], *An Examination of a Book lately printed by the Quakers... intituled, A Brief Account of many of the Prosecutions of the people called Quakers, London, 1742, 8⁰*
 NUL 5080-04 not in Smith's
*Bibliotheca Anti-
Quakeriana* (London, 1873)
NUC NH 0211516
ESTC n 006945

- Alice Hayes, *A Legacy, or Widow's Mite; left by Alice Hayes to her Children and others. Being a brief relation of her life, 2nd ed., London, 1749, 8⁰*
 NUL 5070-07⁶ Smith I, pp. 927-8
 MS list of contents for the whole volume (front fly-leaf)
ESTC t 103816

- Sophia Hume, *An Exhortation to the Inhabitants of the Province of South-Carolina, to bring their Deeds to the Light of Christ, in their own Consciencs, Bristol, 1750, 8⁰*
 NUL 5070-01⁶ Smith I, p. 1019
 inscribed for whole volume: "Thomas Westcombe 1840"
ESTC t 098606
 MS list of contents for the whole volume in
 Westcombe's hand (front fly-leaf)

- *To the Quarterly and Monthly Meetings of Friends in Great Britain, Ireland and America. [From the Meeting for Sufferings in London, the sixth Day of the Seventh Month, 1751: on the Act of Parliament "for regulating the Commencement of the Year, and correcting the Calendar now in Use"]*, [London, 1751], fol.
 NUL 5000-01² Smith I, p. 729
ESTC t 051349

- [Joseph Besse], *A Letter concerning the Glory and Excellency of the peaceable state of the Kingdom of the Messiah*, London, 1755, 8⁰
 NUL 5070-07³ Smith I, p. 258
 ESTC t 069236
- Humphry Marshall, *A few Observations concerning Christ, or the Eternal Word*, London, 1755, 8⁰
 NUL 5070-07⁴ Smith II, p. 148
 ESTC t 093381
- Benjamin Bangs, *Memoirs of the Life and Convincement of that worthy Friend Benjamin Bangs... by Joseph Hobson*, London, 1757, 8⁰
 NUL 5070-01² Smith I, p. 164
 ESTC t 094570
- *A Collection of Acts of Parliament and Clauses of Acts of Parliament, relative to those Protestant Dissenters who are usually called by the name of Quakers, from the Year 1688*, London, 1757, 4⁰
 NUL 5070-04 Smith II, p. 266
 inscribed (front fly-leaf): "This Book belongs to
 Bromyard Monthly Meeting" ESTC t 106741
- Stephen Crisp, *An Epistle to Friends concerning the Present and Succeeding Times*, [7th ed.], London, 1757, 8⁰
 NUL 5070-01⁹ Smith I, p. 467
 ESTC t 064486
- John Crook, *A Short History of the Life of John Crook... written by himself*, 2nd ed., London, 1757, 8⁰
 NUL 5070-01³ Smith I, p. 491
 ESTC t 115899
- John Fry, *A Serious and Affectionate Address to the People called Quakers*, London, 1758, 8⁰
 NUL 5070-07¹ Smith I, pp. 817-8
 ESTC t 068076
- Daniel Roberts, *Some Memoirs of the Life of John Roberts. Written by his son Daniel Roberts*, London, sold by Luke Hinde in George-yard, Lombard Street, [175-?], 8⁰
 NUL 5070-01⁸ Smith II, p. 498
 NUC NR 0318939
 ESTC n 023694

- John Crook, *An Epistle for Unity, to prevent the Wiles of the Enemy*,
London, 1760, 8⁰

NUL 5070-01⁴

Smith I, p. 485
ESTC t 115898

- [Sophia Hume], *Extracts from Divers ancient Testimonies of Friends and others, corresponding with the Doctrines of Christianity*, [London?], [Printed and sold by Luke Hinde, in George-yard, Lombard Street], [1760?], 8⁰

NUL 5070-07²

Smith I, p. 1020
ESTC t 098610

- *Tender Advice and Caution to Friends, respecting their putting out Lights on those call'd rejoicing Nights, and the not opening their Shops, on Days appointed by human Authority for publick Fasts, Feasts and Thanks-givings* [Second-day's Morning-meeting, held in London the 10th of the Third Month, 1760]. [London], 1760, fol.

NUL 5000-01²

Smith I, p. 754
ESTC t 049956

- *The Liberty of the Subject and the Right of Juries asserted, in the Remarkable Trial of William Penn and William Mead, at the Old-Bailey... the 1st, 3rd, 4th and 5th of September, 1670*, London, Printed for J. Major in Three Tun Court in Ivy-Lane, near Newgate-street, [about 1760?], 8⁰

NUL 5070-01¹

Smith II, p. 285

- Deborah Bell, *A Short Journal of the Labours and Travels in the Work of the Ministry. Of that faithful Servant of Christ, Deborah Bell*, London, 1762, 8⁰

NUL 5070-01⁵

Smith I, p. 233
ESTC t 099027

- Anthony Pearson, *The Great Case of Tithes truly stated, clearly open'd and fully resolv'd*, 7th ed., London, 1762, 8⁰

NUL 5070-08¹

Smith II, p. 276
ESTC t 097514

- William Shewen, *Counsel to the Christian-Traveller: Also Meditations and Experiences made publick*, London, 1764, 8⁰

NUL 5070-01¹⁰

Smith II, p. 569
NUC NS 0504410
ESTC n 028220

- John Alderson, *Some Useful Observations and Advices taken from the Mouth of John Alderson, deceased*, London, 1765, 8⁰

NUL 5070-07⁵

Smith I, p. 7
ESTC t 061901

- Robert Barclay, *The Anarchy of the Ranters and other Libertines, the Hierarchy of the Romanists, and other pretended Churches, equally refused, and refuted*, London, 1771, 8⁰

NUL 5070-08²

Smith I, p. 179
ESTC t 060237

- [Catherine Whitton], *A Testimony for the Lord and his Truth: given forth by the Women Friends at their Yearly-Meeting at York*. [London?, 178-?], fol.

NUL 5000-01¹ (pasted in at the end)

Smith I, p. 794
NUC NF 0393729

- Catharine Phillips, *Reasons why the People called Quakers cannot so fully unite with the Methodists, in their Missions to the Negroes in the West India Islands and Africa, as freely to contribute thereto*, London, 1792, 8⁰

NUL 5070-08⁴

Smith II, pp. 405-6
ESTC t 084250

- Samuel Crisp, *Two Letters writ by Samuel Crisp, (About the Year 1702) to some of his Acquaintance, upon his Change from a chaplain of the Church of England, to join with the people called Quakers*, 5th ed., London, n.d.

NUL 5070-07⁷

Smith I, p. 465
(4th ed. pbd. in 1746)

- Sophia Hume, *A Caution to such as observe Days and Times. To which is added, An Address to Magistrates, Parents, and Masters of Families, &c*, n.p., n.d., 8⁰

5070-01⁷

Smith I, p. 1019
NUC NH 0610366?

- Joseph Gurney Bevan, *A Refutation of some of the more modern Misrepresentations of the Society of Friends, commonly called Quakers; with a Life of James Nayler;... Also... A Summary of the History, Doctrine and Discipline of Friends*, London, 1800, 8⁰

NUL5070-08³ (lacks pp. 63-96, the Life of James Nayler)

Smith I, p. 260
ESTC t 055233

- *From the Yearly Meeting of Friends held in London, by adjournments, from the 20th, to the 30th inclusive, of the fifth month, 1818... signed... by William Dilworth Crewdson [on training the children of Friends "in the nurture and admonition of the Lord"]*, [London, 1818], 4⁰

NUL 5000-01²

Smith I, p. 717

- "to the Quarterly and Monthly Meetings of Friends in Great Britain and Ireland... Signed in and on behalf of the Yearly Meeting held in London, by adjournments from the 24th of the 5th month to the 1st of the 6th month, inclusive, 1826, Josiah Forster..." [MS copy of the 1826 Epistle from the Yearly-Meeting], fol.

NUL 5000-01²

inscribed: "(copy William Manley)"

- George Fox, *A Journal or Historical Account of the Life, Travels, Sufferings, Christian Experiences, and Labour of Love in the Work of the Ministry of... George Fox*, 2 vols., London, 1827, 8⁰

NUL 5070-03^{1,2}

Smith I, p. 690

inscribed (inside cover vols. 1 and 2): "Friends Library Buiten Street, Cape Town No. 5... No. 6"

NSTC 2F12948

- [Advertisement leaflet] *Just published, by W. Philips, George Yard, Lombard Street, London. A Journal of the Life of George Fox, in two vols. 8vo. price 24s. boards. Printed verbatim from the original Edition of 1694./ The select works of William Penn, in three volumes octavo, price £2.2s. boards,*
[London, 1827], 1/2⁰

NUL, inserted in 5000-01²

- *At a Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends, held in London, by adjournments, from the 20th of the 5th month, to the 29th of the same, inclusive, 1829... signed... by Josiah Forster [on the diffusion of anti-christian doctrines among "our brethren on the American Continent"]*, London, [1829], 4⁰

NUL 5000-01²

Smith I, p. 719

NSTC 2F 16911

- *A brief statement of the reasons why the religious Society of Friends object to the payment of Tithes, and other demands of an ecclesiastical nature: issued by the Yearly Meeting of the said Society, held in London, in the fifth Month 1832,... signed... by Samuel Tuke, [London, 1832], fol.*

NUL 5000-01²Smith I, p. 720
NSTC 2F 16918

- *Yearly Meeting, 1833. 1. We believe that at times the Lord is pleased, in an especial manner, to visit nations by his judgments... signed William Manley, [London], Darton and Harvey, Printers, Gracechurch Street, [1833], fol., pp. 3 [1]*

NUL 5000-01²

NSTC 2F 16928?

- *At a Meeting for Sufferings held in London, the 6th of the 9th month, 1833:*
- *The Queries and Advices as agreed upon by the last Yearly Meeting are now printed and circulated, agreeably to its direction, [London, 1833], fol.*

NUL 5000-01²

Smith I, p. 736

- *Epistle of Counsel, from the Yearly Meeting, held in London, by adjournment from the 18th of the 5th month, to the 28th of the same, inclusive, 1836... signed... by Samuel Tuke [on the attendance of meetings for worship], [London, 1836], 4⁰*

NUL 5000-01²Smith I, p. 721
NSTC 2F 16942

- *An Epistle from the Meeting for Sufferings, held in London by adjournment, the 5th of the 12th month, 1836... signed... Peter Bedford [address to Friends on publications being circulated against some of their christian views], [London, 1836], 4⁰*

NUL 5000-01²Smith I, p. 736
NSTC 2F 16943

- *A Testimony to the Authority of Christ in His Church, and to the Spirituality of the Gospel Dispensation; also against some of the corruptions of professing Christendom... signed... by George Stacey, [London, 1840], fol.*

NUL 5000-01²Smith I, p. 722
NSTC 2F 16975