

Notes and Queries

KEY TO ABBREVIATIONS

- D.—Friends' Reference Library, Devonshire House, 136, Bishopsgate, London, E.C.2.
Camb. Jnl.—*The Journal of George Fox*, published by the Cambridge University Press, 1911.
D.N.B.—*The Dictionary of National Biography*.

A QUAKER & WILLIAM PITT, THE ELDER.—“They held Fort Louis on the mouth of the Senegal and fortified the island of Goree which commanded the Gambia. A Quaker merchant, having proposed to Pitt an expedition to annex the settlement, which this ‘passive resister,’ with an eye to the main chance, assured him could be effected ‘without bloodshed’ . . .”

FREDERICK HARRISON, *Pitt*, in English Statesmen series.

Who was the Quaker?

DISPUTES.—There is a valuable list of “Seventeenth Century Disputations” in the *Transactions of the Baptist Historical Society*, vol. vi. (1919), pp. 216 ff. in which appear the names of numerous Friends.

WILLIAM FLANNER (vols. iv., xiii.-xv.).—“W. F. is nearly 6 ft. 2 in. high, about 62 years of age and someway not in good health—is very nervous and often low, notwithstanding I think he has given a proof that his ministry is from the right source.”

Norris MSS. vi. (in D.) of visit of William Flanner and Isaac Hadwen to Coalbrookdale, 22 xi. 1828.

Author of Quotation wanted :

“The double and agreeing testimony of the Holy Scriptures without and the Holy Spirit within” ? William Penn.

WET QUAKERS.—Ezra K. Maxfield writes from Cambridge, Mass., that, after puzzling over the meaning of this term he has found a solution of his puzzle in *An Apology for the Life of George Anne Bellamy*, written by herself, London, 1785. Miss Bellamy (? 1731-1788, see D.N.B.), was on a visit to relatives, Clarks, who were Friends. She wrote :

“I had not dressed myself with the studied formality of a rigid Quaker, but only so plain and neat as to entitle me to the denomination of a *wet* Quaker ; a distinction that arises chiefly from the latter’s wearing ribbands, gauzes, and laces.”

The term also occurs in a tract, adverse to Friends, entitled *The Tavern Frolic : or a Comical Dialogue between a Drunken Priest*

and a Wet London Quaker, etc., London, 1704.

In *Poetical Sketches of Scarborough*, 1813, there is an illustration — “Wet Quakers” — the accompanying letterpress being headed, “The Water Party.”

DR. ROUTH, OF OXFORD (v. 172).—The interesting incident of Dr. Routh and a Friends' minute-book is referred to in Dean Burgon's life of the doctor in his *Twelve Good Men*, 1888, vol. i., p. 86, writes Margaret E. Hirst, of Saffron Walden. A copy of the minutes on the subject, made by H. A. King, of Reading, has been sent us, also a list of the books sent. A much better selection could now be made.

“At one time the President had been possessed of a collection of documentary annals of the Society of Friends, the first volume of the records of the Oxfordshire Quarterly Meeting of the Quakers, from the establishment of their Society to the year, 1746. This volume had long been missing, and till 1828 had been sought in vain. Having ascertained that it was in the possession of the President, two of their body waited on him. The account ‘they have given of their interview with Dr. Routh’ (so runs the Quaker minute) ‘has been very satisfactory. It appears that the gratification he has derived from the perusal of the volume (which from its instructive tendency he considers creditable to the Society) had induced a wish to

retain it. Notwithstanding, he obligingly offered to relinquish it, from the respect which he felt for the Society, and a willingness to render complete those records which ought to be in the possession of the meeting. As he wished to transfer it through the medium of some Friends appointed by the body, William Albright, Daniel Rutter, and John Huntley are directed to wait on him for that purpose.’ In ‘grateful acknowledgment of his kind and liberal conduct,’ the Quakers presented him with ‘a few volumes of our Friends’ writings, both ancient and modern,’ the names of which follow.’

GRAVE-SAFE (x. 46).—Arthur H. Catford sends us an extract from the Edinburgh Two Months Meeting Cash Book, which carries forward the history of this gruesome article:

1854.
6 mo. 19. By cash laid aside since 4 mo. 10th 1851 for old grave safe when it was expected David Doull would get something for Locks but at Preparative Meeting 6 mo. 11th 1854 he had got nothing so that it was considered best to place the 14/6d to the credit of the Two Months Meeting as it was not worth while dividing amongst the Joint Stock Proprietors 14/6d
The treasurer in 1854 was John Wigham, Tertius; it appears that he held office for about forty-eight years.