

Thomas Mudd

Thomas Mudd and Ann, his wife, were Friends, of Rickmansworth. Thomas is the recipient of a letter of admonition and caution from Isaac Penington in 1672 (*Penington's Letters*, p. 277). In 1673, Ann Mudd is mentioned in a controversial tract of William Penn's (*Judas & the Jews*, p. 40) as being guilty of some error against the way of Friends. In 1674, George Fox writing to William Penn says: ". . . . as for Mudd & his wiffe I woulde not have them any ways concerned with them for they are false."¹ The burial registers for the district covering Rickmansworth do not mention either of them. It is to be presumed that they became dissociated or were disowned by Friends.

Robert J. Whitwell sends the following respecting Mudd :

" Mr. Francis W. H. Fincham, formerly Superintendent of the Department of Literary Inquiry in the Principal Probate Registry, now of Canterbury, contributes *Notes from the Ecclesiastical Court Records at Somerset House* to Vol. iv. (1921) of the fourth series of *Transactions of the Royal Historical Society*. Among these *Notes* is one (p. 131), apparently from a Correction Book of the Consistory of London, dated '21, Feb., 1678 (?)' by Mr. Fincham :

" " Thomas Mudds of Rickmansworth, though neither a Brownist nor a Catholic Recusant, would seem to have been a Quaker. When presented for not attending the Parish Church his reply is as follows. After excusing himself on the ground of old age, feebleness and distance from church, he makes the following pathetic appeal :

" " " I can serve noe other gods but y^e Lord onely neither can I worship him acceptably but as hee leades me by his owne spirit. Oh y^t all would verilie consider this for it is y^e spirit of the Lord onely that leades unto all truth and out of all unrighteousness ; and of this pure religion and spiritual worship I am made a liveing witness and am willing to suffer whatsoever may be inflicted or imposed for I am y^e Lords servant and in Him am fully given upp to love or serve the worst of enimys." " "

MARRIAGE.—Charlbury, Oxon. (Transcripts of Parish Register at the Bodleian, Oxford) :

" THOS. FARDON of This Parish, Bachelor & Quaker, & Hester Insall, of This Parish, Spinster, were married in This Church by Licence & Consent of Guardins [*sic*] by John Arrowsmith, Curate. Feb. 27, 1760."

¹ See *Jnl.* vii. 73.