

“appealing” has died out. The number of American Friends travelling in the ministry was surprisingly large; at most of our Yearly Meetings quite a number were present.

The change in religious emphasis as the years went on—from faithfulness to the Inner Light to correctness of belief in the Bible and the Divinity of Christ—is illustrated in these pages, and was probably due in part to the influence of some of these American visitors, especially David Sands. The landmarks are the Hannah Barnard episode of 1800 and 1801 (which is treated here with freshness by James Jenkins); the unanimous decision of the Yearly Meeting of 1814 to uphold the disownment of Thomas Foster, who had appealed against his Monthly Meeting after being disowned for circulating Unitarian books; and the great Separation in America of 1828 and 1829. On the two latter subjects little fresh light is here thrown.

Some new information will be found concerning the thrilling incident at the Yearly Meeting of 1830, when the Duchess of Gloucester came from the dying King, George IV. (her brother), and called out William Allen and Elizabeth Fry to ask for “the prayers of Friends.” It seems that what the Duchess really wanted was Thomas Shillitoe, whom the King wished to see instead of a clergyman. “Send for the old Quaker” are said to have been his words. Shillitoe had had an interview with him at Brighton, presenting a paper in which he had the courage and faithfulness to rebuke him for his sins.

EDWARD GRUBB

Southey and Early Friends

In a letter, dated Dec. 1. 1820, Robert Southey acknowledges the receipt of a “pamphlett,” sent him by Mrs. Fry, and answers a criticism of a passage quoted by him in his *Life of Wesley* (Longmans, 3rd ed. 1846, vol. 1, p. 442)—the passage appeared to him to be a curiosity and that nothing could be further from his intention than that of offending the existing Society of Quakers. He adds, however, that the opinion that some of the Quakers of the “first age” were contentious and given to railing had some foundation in fact.

Information from Edgar G. Harcourt, Four Oaks, Birmingham.