

Quakers visit Henry More

"G. Keith the Quaker about ten dayes agoe was with me. I understand he had a minde to give me a visitt by one R. Barclay a great friend of his, and of the same sect, who visited me first, and acquainted me with G. Keith's designe. I would have made this R. Barclay sup with me, but he seem'd sometimes inclinable and sometimes off againe. I told him he was affrayd I should pervert him and turne him off from his Quakerisme, But I persuaded G. Keith when he came, both to sup with me and dine with me next day, and had I believe 9 or 12 hours discourse with him ; and setting aside his Schismaticallnesse, which I roundly told him off, and the ridiculous rusticity of that sect, I found him a man very considerably learned, of a good witt and quick apprehension, and which is best of all, heartily breathing after the attainment of the new life of a Christian."

HENRY MORE to Lady Conway, from Christ's College, Cambridge, August 11th, 1674, in *Conway Letters*, by M. H. Nicolson, 1930, p. 391.

"There were differences which at first obscured the similarities to More, as to the Quakers ; not only differences of education and training, for many of the Friends were men of gentle birth, trained in the universities ; but differences of emphasis and method. Except in George Keith, one finds in the early Quakers no such pondering on philosophies and historical similarities as in More and his school ; and George Keith's profound interest in such problems, much of which he gained through More and Van Helmont, was the beginning of his apostacy."

MARJORIE H. NICOLSON, *Conway Letters*, 1930, p. 380.

"Quarter-Meeting 5 day 2 mo. 1694 :

"Upon enquiry how friends stand faithful against carrying of Guns in Ships &c. And also that friends stand clear from being Posts or Poles for being or finding a soldier in ye Train-band, &c.—its ye advice of this Meeting that Friends in their several Mo. Meetings do enquire into these things and advise against them."

"Quarter-Meeting, 1 day 11 mo. 1690 :

"A Query being made whether Frds at the Burials of their dead may give and receive from one another or from their Neighbours, Ribons, Gloves, Scarfs, Rings, or Money as the custom of the World hath been—the result of this Meeting is, that Friends stands clear from all such things and neither to give nor receive as aforesaid."

Copied from a Minute Book on deposit from Marsden Preparative Meeting, 1696-1733, referring to Lancashire Quarterly Meeting.