

## Literature on Friends' War Victims' Relief

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The literature of Friends' work for the relief of civilian distress during the war makes an important part of the recent history of Quakerism. The principal work on the subject is

*A Quaker Adventure, the Story of Nine Years' Relief and Reconstruction*,  
by A. Ruth Fry. (London : Nisbet, 1926, 9 by 5½, pp. xxxii., 389.

This book, by the honorary general secretary in London of the Friends' War Victims' Relief Committee 1914-1923, is the history of Friends' work on the continent of Europe.

From small beginnings in France and Holland in the autumn of 1914 this grew to be the greatest work of its kind the Society has ever undertaken. Some 2,000 workers took part in it, of whom over 1,000 were English and nearly 800 American. The great majority of the workers were unpaid and nearly all those engaged in it during the war were Friends or others holding religious convictions against taking part in war. The London office passed over one and a half million pounds through its books, a large part of which came from the general public. In addition to this very large sums were raised in America.

The character of the work was adapted at each stage and place to the needs of the people in distress. An immense variety of effort resulted, ranging from the provision of food, clothing and medical service, to the reconstruction of agriculture and of permanent institutions.

The author has succeeded within the limits of a single volume in selecting such facts and experiences as give a lively as well as accurate, though necessarily incomplete account of what was attempted in each country and how it was carried out.

The book is divided into eight sections covering France, Holland and Belgium, Serbia, Russia, Austria, Hungary, Poland and Germany. The author's preface contains a valuable statement on the Quaker attitude to war and the spiritual impetus animating the work. Viscount Cecil contributes a generous appreciation as introduction and Rufus Jones an epilogue.

There are twenty-eight illustrations and two maps ; an alphabetical list of the two thousand odd workers and an index complete the volume. A German edition is now in preparation.

The following is a list of the principal other books dealing with Friends' relief work for civilians during and after the war :

Friends' War Victims' Relief Committee, *Reports*, First to Tenth. London : 1914-1923.

Emergency Committee for the Assistance of Germans, Austrians and Hungarians in Distress. *Reports*, 1914-1919. London.

- Anna B. Thomas : *St. Stephens House*, the Story of the Emergency Committee for the Assistance of Germans, Austrians and Hungarians in Distress, 1914-1920. London : 1921.
- Reconstruction : 1918-1920*. Journal of the Friends' Relief Missions in Europe. Succeeded by *International Service* : 1920-23.
- Edward Thomas : *Quaker Adventures* : Experiences of Twenty-three Adventures in International Understanding. New York : Revell, 1928.
- William A. Bell : *A Scavenger in France*. London : E. W. Daniel, 1920.
- Margaret B. Crook : *The Track of the Storm*. London : Headley, 1917.
- Rufus M. Jones : *A Service of Love in War Time*, American Friends' Relief work in Europe, 1917-1919. New York : Macmillan, 1920.
- D. Owen Stephens : *With Quakers in France*. London : C. W. Daniel, 1921.
- Lester M. Jones : *Quakers in Action*, Recent Humanitarian and Reform Activities of the American Quakers. New York : Macmillan, 1929.
- Edward A. Steiner : *Old Trails and New Borders*. New York : Revell, 1921.
- Ralph Fox : *People of the Steppes*. London : Constable, 1925.
- Muriel A. Payne : *Plague, Pestilence and Famine*. London : Nisbet, 1923.
- Joice M. Nankivell and Sydney Loch : *The River of a Hundred Ways*. London : Allen & Unwin, 1924.

Regarding earlier war relief efforts in which Friends were concerned, from the later years of the 18th century onwards, there is also a considerable body of literature in D awaiting detailed study.

JOHN L. NICKALLS.

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## Farmborough—Briggins

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In the possession of Edward How White, M.D., of Bournemouth, is a quarto Bible "Imprinted at London by Robert Barker, MDCXXX." On the flyleaf of "The Booke of Common Prayer," which precedes the Bible, is inscribed : "Mariabella Farmborough Her Bible 1685. She was Married unto Her loving Husband Peter Briggins on the 29th Day of October in the year 1689."

On other leaves are records of the families of How, Farmborough, Barber, Briggins, Bell, Zachary, Elliott, Tibbey.

On the back of the title page of the N.T. : "Thomas Farmborough and Mariabella his wife was married at Foster Lane Church y<sup>e</sup> 13 of January 1662" "Thomas Farmborough y<sup>e</sup> Son of Thomas Farmborough and Mariabella his wife, was borne in Mugswell St. in y<sup>e</sup> Parish of St. Olive Silver Street in London y<sup>e</sup> 4th 4 : 1663"—"Mariabella y<sup>e</sup> Daughter . . . was borne in y<sup>e</sup> Parish a foar s'd y<sup>e</sup> 21 of June 1665."

Mariabella Farmborough (c. 1626-1708) was a prominent Friend. See *Jnl. F.H.S.* ix., x., xvi.