

## Recent Accessions to

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A quarto volume containing three of the works of Laurence Claxton (d. 1667) has been purchased by the Library. They are

*The Quakers Downfal, with all other Dispensations their inside turn'd outward: . . . also a brief narration of the Quakers Conference with us the second of July 1659 . . .* London: Will Learner, 1659, 4to, pp. 72.

*A Paradisical Dialogue betwixt Faith and Reason: Disputing the high mysterious Secrets of Eternity, the like never extant in our Revelation. As touching God in Eternity, how he became time in flesh, and how he dyed in the grave, and ascended to his glory again. . . .* London: Will Learner, 1660, 4to, pp. 120.

*The Lost Sheep Found: or the Prodigal returned to his Fathers house, after many a sad and weary Journey through many Religious Countreys, . . .* London: 1660, 4to, pp. 64.

The author was in turn a Baptist, Independent, Ranter and Muggletonian, and there is some account of him in Muggleton's "Acts of the Witnesses", 1699, pp. 80-82, quoted in J. Smith's Catalogue of Antiquaker books.

The first two works are controversial, the third, largely autobiographical, covers the period 1630-1660, and is interesting as a plain account of himself by one of the wilder sectaries of the time. J.L.N.

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*Records and Memories*, by Eliza (Gregory) Clark, born 12. iii. 1833, widow of John Aubrey Clark, "the last of her generation" (11¼ × 8½, pp. 255, typed, twelve illustrations of persons and places, but no index or pedigree, c. 1915). Edward and Martha Gregory, living at the little village of Pucklechurch in Gloucestershire, joined Friends *post* 1668. Their son, William, married Mary Boulton, of Gaunts Ircot, in the parish of Almondsbury in 1709, daughter of JOHN BOULTON, d. 1709 (see "Piety Promoted"). The family removed to Yatton and remained there till 1876.

MORRIS BIRKBECK, the younger, of Blandford, Dorset, "was a frequent visitor at the Gregory homes, and so intimate in the families that he wanted to have Ann [daughter of Edw<sup>d</sup> and Ann Gregory], but she preferred Thomas Thompson, of Compton" (p. 30), and married him in 1782, and "was a most interesting woman".<sup>1</sup>

1789. "MARY RICKMAN had a meeting at Yeovil; had not much to say but much to the purpose. After dinner had a little to say which was very acceptable, and we parted in love" (p. 43).

SARAH HARRISON from U.S.A. and SARAH BIRKBECK appear on p. 34.

<sup>1</sup> There is much respecting Ann Thompson in *F.Q.E.* 1878. For William Ball on Thomas Thompson see Mrs. Clark's book (p. 91).

CHARITY COOK and MARY SWETT from U.S.A. passed through the Gregory country in 1801 (pp. 64f).

TILL ADAM SMITH is noticed on pp. 137, 149, 154.

There are some lively reminiscences of the compiler, beginning on p. 128: "My precious cat 'Peter' entered into the fun with about 15 dolls, headless, or armless, or legless—poor cripples!"

*Copy presented by Walter Dymond Gregory, of Toronto, Canada.*

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*The Historical, Philosophical and Religious Aspects of John Inglesant* (Purnerend, Holland, 1933, pp. xii, 188) by Meijer Polak, discusses the life and character of Henry Shorthouse and the qualities of his famous work. He sustains a charge of plagiarism and traces many unacknowledged passages almost verbatim to seventeenth century sources. A copy has been presented by the author.

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The file of *The Bombay Guardian* has been extended from 1903 back to 1889 by a gift from Percy Horne. Friends have been closely associated with the conduct of this Christian weekly, which was active in the campaign against the state regulation of vice in India. It is still appearing and is now published in Madras as *The Guardian*.

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Horace B. Pointing has presented a typed copy of his play, *The Man in Leather Breeches*. It is constructed about some incidents in the life of George Fox during the Commonwealth period, and its six scenes deal with Edward Burrough leaving home, an imaginary prison incident involving George Fox and Justice Bennet, George Fox meeting with Judge Fell and the justices at Swarthmore Hall, George Fox and Cromwell (an attempt to arrest George Fox at a meeting), and the death of Edward Burroughs in Newgate prison.

The author has not confined himself to historical fact and, in the interests of dramatic value, has exercised his imagination freely over many incidents. There are more than thirty parts, which can be taken by a much smaller cast of actors if necessary. The play was publicly performed at Welwyn Theatre in 1930.

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*The Mennonite Quarterly Review*, which is received in exchange for this *Journal*, is devoted largely to Mennonite History which has contact at various points with that of Friends, particularly in Pennsylvania. The July, 1933, issue discusses conscientious objectors to military service with special reference to three American studies of the subject:—Walter G. Kellogg: *The Conscientious Objector*, New York, 1919; Norman Thomas: *The Conscientious Objector in America*, New York, 1925; Edward N. Wright: *Conscientious Objectors in the Civil War*, Phila., 1931.

Friends and Mennonites were the most numerous among those who based their objection on religious grounds.

*The Emancipator*, which appeared at Jonesborough, Tennessee, monthly from 4th month to 10th month, 1820, was devoted exclusively to the cause of the slaves. It was conducted by Elihu Embree (1782-1820), a Friend, and was brought to an early end by its promoter's death. His *Manumission Intelligencer* of 1819 was the earliest of all American anti-slavery periodicals. Only one complete file of *The Emancipator* is known to exist and it has been reprinted entire, together with a sketch of Embree's life by Robert H. White, Ph.D. (Nashville, Tenn., 1932, pp. xii, 114).

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*Wakefield in the Seventeenth Century* by S. H. Waters (Wakefield : Sanderson, 1933, pp. xvi, 164) is "a social history of the town and neighbourhood from 1550-1710" based upon original sources. All the chief aspects of local life and government receive attention and in the chapter on "Religion and Education" there are details about the persecution of Friends, drawn from the Quarter Sessions Records as well as from Quaker sources.

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Arthur J. Eddington has given to the library a bound typescript *Inventory and Index to the Gurney MSS.* which were briefly described in *J.F.H.S.* xxix (1932), 31. He is also at work upon a calendar of all the more important letters in the collection which will give synopses and extracts of many of them and the full text of some of the most valuable. It is hoped after securing sufficient support to publish the work as a supplement to this *Journal*. The letters are very informing about the life of the Society of Friends in the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries. The travels of J. J. Gurney in America, 1837-1840, are an important feature.

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*Lettsom, His Life, Times, Friends and Descendants*, by J. Johnston Abraham (Heinemann, 1933, 4to, pp. xx, 498) is not only a very full life of John Coakley Lettsom (1744-1815) but a study of contemporary medical and social life and philanthropic activity, as much without as within the Society of Friends. Lettsom, who succeeded to John Fothergill's practice, was keenly interested in everything tending to human welfare and had a very wide circle of acquaintances in all ranks of society. Besides founding the Medical Society of London and defending Jenner's practice of vaccination, he founded the first of all open-air sanatoria in the Royal Sea Bathing Hospital at Margate. He was also much interested in prison reform.

Dr. Abraham has consulted an immense range of sources, both MS. and printed, for which he gives references, and he writes in an easy style which brings the reader into living touch with the subject. The value of the book is further enhanced by 144 illustrations and an index of eleven pages.