

## Current Literature and Additions to the Library

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*A selection of recent books and old books recently acquired are noticed here for their bearing on Quakerism past or present. Unless there is a note to the contrary a copy will be found in the Library of the Society of Friends in London.*

*Many of the books in the Library may be borrowed by Friends, and other applicants if recommended by a Friend. Apply to the Librarian, Friends House, Euston Road, London, N.W.1.*

*Stocks of books regarding Friends are to be found for sale at :*

*Friends' Book Centre, Euston Road, London, N.W.1.*

*Friends' Book Store, 302 Arch Street, Philadelphia, Pa.*

*Friends' Book and Supply House, 101 South 8th Street, Richmond, Ind.*

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*Two Centuries of Industrial Welfare : The London (Quaker) Lead Company, 1692-1905. The social Policy and Work of the "Governor and Company for Smelting down Lead with Pit Coal and Sea Coal", mainly in Alston Moor and the Pennines. By Arthur Raistrick. (London, Friends' Historical Society, 1938, pp. 152, illus., maps. 6s., 4s. 6d. to members of F.H.S.) This, the nineteenth supplement to this *Journal* touches a field of Friendly interest and activity not often dealt with by the Historical Society. Nearly two hundred and fifty copies have been sold already. The history here offered covers at much greater length the subject of the author's presidential address at our last annual meeting in March, 1938.*

At a time when industrial labour conditions were on the whole very hard, and when an organized welfare movement lay in the still distant future, the London Lead Company was pioneering in that field. Its popular name, "The Quaker Company", derives from the fact that its founders and many of its later directors were Friends. Its mines were for the most part concentrated in a high, bleak moorland district, where Cumberland, Northumberland, Durham and Yorkshire touch one another. Here in the middle of the eighteenth century, at Nent Head, rose a workmen's garden village.

To housing and gardens were added an association for providing corn at cost price when prices were high, a workmen's benefit fund, annuities, schools for workers as well as their children, libraries, lectures, reading rooms, a wash house and many recreational facilities. The company's medical officers were instructed to attend to all sick men and their families.

The company was also in the forefront in mining technique, maintained regular research work, and indeed its efficiency and its welfare work were interdependent. At the same time the return to investors of capital was always kept low, and is stated never to have exceeded  $2\frac{1}{2}$  per cent.

Dr. Raistrick also deals briefly with the business side of the company's history, which came to an end in 1905 after sustaining a long period of decline owing to world changes in mining and marketing. But its social policy was maintained throughout.

The book makes available a most interesting piece of social and industrial history based entirely upon research into the original records of the company itself, chiefly the minute books of the court of governors.

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*The Minute Book of the Monthly Meeting of the Society of Friends for the Upperville of Buckinghamshire, 1669-1690.* Transcribed, with Introduction and Notes, by Beatrice Saxon Snell, M.A.(Lond.). Printed for the Records Branch of the Buckinghamshire Archæological Society; pp. xix, 253. The early minute books of Friends' Monthly Meetings for business give not only a picture of the corporate life of Friends, but shed light on social and political life of the late seventeenth century. Friends to-day are gainers by the decision of the Records Branch of the Buckinghamshire Archæological Society to make the first volume of minutes of "Upperville Monthly Meeting" their first publication. The district, in which Jordans is the best-known Meeting House, contained the homes and saw the coming and going of a number of famous Friends. The introduction by Beatrice S. Snell is a valuable addition to the volume. It describes the geography of the Monthly Meeting, Friends' organization and terminology and has notes on the leading Friends who appear in the minutes. They include Gulielma Penn, John Archdale, the first Friend elected to Parliament and Governor of the Carolinas, Samuel Jennings, Deputy-Governor of West New Jersey, Thomas Ellwood who was Clerk of the Monthly Meeting and wrote the minutes for the whole period of the volume, Isaac Penington, and others.

There are very interesting passages on the illustrations which the minutes provide of Quaker customs and principles and history, e.g. exact truthfulness, marriage, discipline, finance, persecution, separatists.

A succession of the minutes at almost any point in the volume gives a living picture of the cares, deliberations, triumphs and defeats through which the church government we know to-day was moulded.

It is to be hoped that both Meetings and Friends privately will support this venture of the Buckinghamshire Archæological Society by purchasing copies.

*People called Quakers.* By Doris N. Dalglish. (Oxford University Press, pp. 170, 7s. 6d.) The Society of Friends has in Doris Dalglish a writer who has a keen appreciation of the catholic and mystical quality of essential Quakerism. This appreciation is combined with a marked distaste for the modernist protestant humanistic view of the religious life, a view which has in recent times exerted on Quakerism a marked influence, which in her opinion is to be deplored. Her incisive style and piquant judgments, employed with this bias, have made a book which contains more frank criticism of Quaker weaknesses than we are accustomed to from our own writers. It will displease some, but its occasional flashes of friendly malice do not destroy, though they may sometimes obscure, the value of her judgments.

After a long introduction on modern tendencies in the Society there follows a series of chapters on great Quaker characters of the 18th and 19th centuries. They include Thomas Story, "the first Quaker poet", John Woolman, Thomas Wilkinson, friend of Wordsworth, and himself a poet, Stephen Grellet, Caroline Stephen, and a number of lesser figures in the 18th century.

The chapters are not so much short biographies as character studies. The author has a quick perception of the qualities of her subjects and she employs plenty of well-chosen quotations from their writings. Her easy style gives us a book that is a pleasure to read and that should do much to kindle a livelier appreciation of what Quakerism meant to some of the great Friends of the past.

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*Penn.* By Elizabeth Janet Gray. (New York: The Viking Press, pp. 298, illus. Obtainable from Friends Book Centre, London, 11s.) This attractive volume on the life of William Penn is designed to be read by young people who would not yet appreciate one of the standard lives. It succeeds in its purpose. It is well written and well produced, and the black and white drawings and pictorial end-papers by George Whitney all enhance its interest.

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*Children of Light. In Honour of Rufus M. Jones.* Howard Brinton, ed. (New York: Macmillan, 1938, pp. 416, 12s. 6d.) A volume of historical essays written in honour of Rufus M. Jones on the occasion of his seventy-fifth birthday. They include papers on William Penn's *Christian Quaker*, by H. G. Wood; *William Penn, Constitution Maker*, by Francis R. Taylor; a comparison of William Penn and John Woolman as contrasting Quaker types, by Catharine C. Miles; *Edward Byllynge and Cornwall*, by L. Violet Holdsworth; *Edward Byllynge and New Jersey*, by John L. Nickalls; *Hebraica and the Jews*, and early Friends, by Henry J. Cadbury;

*Latin Works of Friends*, by Anna Cox Brinton; *Mennonites and Quakers of Holland*, by William I. Hull; *Joseph Hewes*, by Charles F. Jenkins; *New England Quakers and Military Service in the American Revolution*, by Arthur J. Mekeel; *Quakerism and Home Life in the eighteenth century*, by Isabel Grubb; *The Quaker Contribution to the Old Northwest*, by Harlow Lindley; *Sir Thomas Fowell Buxton*, by Janet Whitney; *Timothy Nicholson*, by Walter C. Woodward; *Stages in Spiritual Development as Exemplified in Quaker Journals*, by Howard H. Brinton. The volume opens with a sonnet by T. Edmund Harvey and concludes with a list of works by Rufus M. Jones. It is indexed.

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*George Fox Dig'd out of his Burrowes, Or an Offer of Disputation.*  
 . . . Roger Williams. (Boston: Printed by John Foster, 1676, 4to, pp. 327. Reprinted by the Narragansett Club, with an Introduction by Rev. J. Lewis Diman. Providence, R.I., 1872, pp. 503.) This exceedingly rare work has been secured in the Narragansett Club's reprint, and is now for the first time available, complete, to readers in the Library, which has only a fragmentary copy of the original edition.

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*Quakerism and Public Service chiefly between 1832 and 1867, being a study of the emergence of the Society of Friends and its members into social and political activities.* By Erica J. J. Martineau. (Typescript, pp. 259.) The Library is indebted to Miss Martineau for a copy of this interestingly written study, which would attract a wider public if it could be printed. The author examines the reasons for the Society's eighteenth century aloofness from public affairs and traces the nature of and reasons for its gradual emergence into politics and local government through humanitarian activities. She also examines the kind of influence which Friends exerted. The two main chapters are on Friends in Parliament and Friends in Local Government. The latter examines the situation in four large Quaker centres, Birmingham, Bristol, Norwich and Darlington. Friends' work in connection with the Corn Laws and with Women's Suffrage are also discussed.

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*Chronique de la vie Quaker Française de 1750 à 1938.* By Henry van Etten. (Paris Société Religieuse des Amis, 1938, pp. 316, 22 Fr.) The author, a Paris Friend, has gathered together from widely scattered sources a fine array of information relating to French Quakerism, French interest in Quakerism, and to the connections of English and American Friends with France. A brief sketch of the

earliest period mentions several tracts in French about Pennsylvania in the sixteen-eighties. Two by Penn himself are *Brief récit de la province de Pennsylvanie* and *Lettre de Monsieur Penn, propriétaire et gouverneur de la Pennsylvanie, contenant une description générale de la province, 8 août, 1683*. These and others were designed to attract French Protestants to the colony. The forerunners of French Quakerism in the 18th century, the establishment of Friends' meetings among the descendants of the Camisards in the south of France near the end of the century, brief lives of the leading figures and the life of the meetings during the 19th century occupy the main part of the book.

The work of Christine Dalencourt in Paris and the later growth of other meetings there since 1918, arising out of Friends' war relief work, and leading to the establishment of a Yearly Meeting, are all dealt with.

A large number of passages from original documents are printed, many of them in full. The *Chronicle* will therefore be an indispensable source of information to any writer attempting a shorter and more popular history. An index would have improved the book very much; so also would the repetition as page headings of the chapter titles, instead of the book title.

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*Selected Mystical Writings of William Law. Edited with notes and Twenty-four studies in the Mystical Theology of William Law and Jacob Boehme.* By Stephen Hobhouse. (C. W. Daniel, pp. 395, 8s. 6d.) Eleven years ago Stephen Hobhouse published *William Law and Eighteenth Century Quakerism*. Since then he has devoted much time to a fuller study of Law's teaching. The present work places within our reach selections from nine of William Law's mystical works. These are followed by the editor's notes, which besides offering explanations for the help of the general reader, show the connection between Law's ideas and teachings and those of Jacob Boehme and the main stream of Christian mysticism. These notes are a new feature to any edition of Law's writings. A series of twenty-four studies follows, designed to introduce the reader to the main features of mystical teaching from the earliest times.

The debt of both George Fox and William Law to Jacob Boehme, the essentially mystical character of Quakerism, and the vital importance of a wider understanding of and sharing of mystical experience if Quakerism is to survive as more than a decaying husk, all these render the present work one of special value to members of the Society of Friends. It is the author's hope that it may be kept within reach for use, occasionally if not frequently, in private and family devotions.

*The Rise of Quakerism in Amsterdam, 1655-1665.* By William I. Hull. (Swarthmore College, Pa., 346 pp., illus., Friends Book Centre, 20s.) Dr. Hull here reaches the fourth volume of his series on Quakerism in Holland. After a preliminary survey of the ground in which the seed of Quakerism was sowed, he deals at length with the work of the two first sowers, William Ames and William Caton and collects, probably, more material about them than is to be found in any other single work. This is followed by shorter studies of other prominent Friends including Samuel Fisher, John Stubbs and half a dozen less known names of those who preached in Holland. The methods pursued in spreading Quakerism are described, meetings public and private, discussions, literature. The opposition and persecution met with, the impression made by the James Naylor incident and the places where the most converts were made, all these receive attention, and are described with ample use of original documents. The manuscripts reproduced as illustrations direct from negative photostats are unfortunate. The use of positives would have given the feeling of the originals better, and also have been more legible. But the book is generously illustrated, fully indexed and well produced, and it forms a worthy addition to the fine series of which it is the latest volume.

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*A South Down Farm in the Sixties.* By Maude Robinson. (Dent, pp. 78, illus., 5s.) The author, whose volumes of stories about early quaker life are so much appreciated, here describes her own childhood on a large farm in Sussex not far from Brighton.

The distinctively Friendly features of the life, the visits to meeting, six miles distant, as well as the social habits and customs of that day are livingly and lovingly described. The photographs and drawings reproduced add to the interest of the volume.

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*William Penn's Early Life in Brief, 1644-1674.* By Albert Cook Myers. (Published by the author, Moylan, Pa., U.S.A., 1937, pp. 83, illus., \$5.00.) This modest outline of the first thirty years of Penn's life recounts the facts with the brevity required by the limits of fifty-four pages of narrative. The reader must await a later volume for the treatment to be expected from the specialist. Three new points however have been noticed. A full inventory of the contents of each of twelve rooms (from the hall to the servant's bedrooms) provides material for a picture of the interior of the house at Walthamstow which Admiral Penn occupied in 1668. The source for the inventory is not given. Evidence for Penn's Dutch ancestry on his

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mother's side is provided from her father's and first husband's naturalization papers, 27 February, 1634-1635 (Irish Patent Rolls).

An authoritative outline for Worminghurst Place, Penn's Sussex home in the years following 1676, is provided in the enlargement of a sketch made for a survey dated 1707, the present ownership of which is not mentioned. There are fifty-four illustrations, most of them whole plates, besides a few facsimiles of writing.

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*Willam Penn his own Account of the Lenni Lenape or Delaware Indians*, 1683. By Albert Cook Myers. (Published by the author at Moylan, Pa., 1937, pp. 107, illus., \$4.00.) A. C. Myers here publishes that notable description of the Indians which William Penn wrote in August, 1683, ten months after his arrival in his colony. He incorporated it in his *Letter to the Committee of the Free Society of Traders* (of Pennsylvania) which he published in the same year. Besides the original edition and its succeeding reprints, now very rare, it may be found in Penn's collected *Works*. A reprint of the original edition was made in 1881. The letter appears also in the selection of Penn's writings in *Everyman's Library*, London (1915) and in Albert Cook Myers: *Narratives of early Pennsylvania, W. New Jersey and Delaware*, New York, 1912, with notes similar to those in the new volume. The part dealing with the Indians survives in a MS. in Penn's own hand, and this MS. forms the basis of the present issue, which differs slightly from the preceding editions.

An appendix contains seventeen documents connecting William Penn and the Indians. They include letters by Penn, paragraphs from concessions and agreements, instructions to his agents, deeds of sale, receipts and other documents, all relating to Indians. Many of these are reproduced in facsimile as plates. There are some thirty illustrations in the volume, which is also indexed. Unfortunately it lacks a table of contents, though the illustrations are listed.

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*Pennsylvania Constitution of 1776, a Study in Revolutionary Democracy*. By J. Paul Selsam, Ph.D. (Philadelphia: University Press, and London: Oxford University Press, 1936, pp. 280, 11s. 6d.) This is a detailed study, based upon original authorities, of the political struggle within Pennsylvania at the time of the American Revolution. The influences at work, as throughout American history, were immigration and the strongly democratic views of the frontier regions against the wealthier conservative element of the older settlements, in which in this case the Quakers figured so strongly.