

Recent Publications

The Holy Spirit in Puritan Faith and Experience. By Geoffrey F. Nuttall, D.D. Oxford, Blackwell, 1946. Pp. xii, 192. 15s.

In this valuable volume the author gives a balanced view of the place in seventeenth century Puritanism taken by the doctrine of the Holy Spirit, and shows the teachings thereupon of the principal religious groups. He quotes from a large number of the religious writers of that day and has made extensive use of early Quaker literature. The book provides a comprehensive account of the doctrinal background of Quakerism and of the spiritual climate in which it arose. Dr. Nuttall shows clearly the connection between early Friends and those in the Puritan movement who were nearest to them. He finds a closer affinity between Quakerism and the more radical Puritans and less with the sixteenth century spiritual reformers in Germany than our historians hitherto have done. This is a notable addition to Quaker historical and expository writing, by a Congregationalist. The author is lecturer in Church History at New College, London.

Gulielma: wife of William Penn. By L. V. Hodgkin. London, Longmans, Green, 1947. Pp. xx, 227. 15s.

In this volume Violet Holdsworth assembles in readable form all the known facts about William Penn's first wife and has contrived a delicately woven fabric of original journals and letters which can be read with interest and pleasure.

In her introduction the author tells how originally she planned to re-tell the tales of the Penns and Peningtons in a new "book of Quaker saints", for an adult audience. The vestigial remains of this plan survive in the division of the book into six approximately equal sections of biography, centred respectively round Mary (Lady Springett), Isaac (Penington), Thomas (Ellwood), Gulielma (Springett), William (Penn), and Guli Penn. In this way the life of the heroine is traced through the doings of her family circle from the wartime winter of 1643 when she first saw light, to her death in that other winter fifty years later, when her husband was under the cloud which had covered him since the flight of James and his province was still in jeopardy.

Even with Henry J. Cadbury's welcome discoveries (given at large in the appendixes to this volume) the documentary material on Gulielma is so slight that the author has wisely approached this "woman of ten thousand" through her circle of family friends.

Although by virtue of this system it is only after eighty pages that officially we come to Gulielma, one never feels that the title is a misrepresentation.

Well-chosen illustrations (the one of Jordans burial ground indirectly resulting in the correction of a century-old error in grave markings) add to the attractiveness of this pleasing book. From it all, it is clear how little direct knowledge we have of the friend who was with Penn in the height of his endeavour and at the nadir of his political fortunes.

Quaker profiles. By Sir George Newman. London, Bannisdale Press, 1946. Pp. 134. 7s. 6d.

Comprises ten studies of George Fox, William Penn, Thomas Hodgkin, and other Friends, mainly reprinted from the *Friends' Quarterly Examiner*.

The Valiant Sixty. By Ernest E. Taylor. London, Bannisdale Press, 1947. Pp. 128. 7s. 6d.

Purists may quibble over the title Ernest Taylor has chosen for this product of his ripe experience and research, but none can fail to appreciate the happy way he has selected from sources to describe some aspects of the beginnings of Quakerism in the high dales of Yorkshire and across the border in Lancashire and Westmorland.

After a description of the coming of Fox to that country and the gathering of the first workers, the author proceeds to give a list of the sixty-six (twelve of them women)—accounted the "first publishers"—who were raised up "and sent abroad out of the North Countries." In describing the economic and social status of these early Friends, the author shows how they were mostly men of the middle sort, yeomen and husbandmen in the villages, craftsmen and shopkeepers in the country towns, "many of them of good capacity, substance and account among men." The information is conveniently tabulated on p. 43 where the men are classed as follows: Gentlemen 2; Yeomen 13; Husbandmen 17; Wage earners 1; Millers 1; Craftsmen and Shopkeepers 8; Schoolmasters 4; Soldiers 2; Other professions 2; Not ascertained 4.

The next chapter is devoted to a more extended study of the labours of Francis Howgill and Edward Burrough as representing the rest. The chapter "Worship and work" tells the story of the circle of Friends who met at Brigflatts near Sedbergh, and the final chapter gives a similar summary for the Craven district of Yorkshire.

There is a full index, and the work is pleasantly produced. It

is useful for the general reader to have these facts brought together in handy form, and will encourage the student to go back to the original sources.

Vida de William Penn. By Agostinho da Silva. Lisbon, 1946. Pp. 116.

A simply written popular Portuguese biography of Penn in the background of his time. There are no acknowledged sources and dates are few and far between. Among the curious errors produced we note Chess for Chester, and Lill for Callowhill. The "portrait in armour" is reproduced as cover illustration.

IN the course of each year various articles in learned and local journals come to hand, and it is earnestly desired that Friends would bring to the notice of the Editor any relevant material which might be overlooked. Among those received at Friends' Reference Library during the past year mention may be made of H. G. Tibbutt's *John Crook, 1617-1699: a Bedfordshire Quaker* (Publications of the Bedfordshire Historical Record Society, vol. 25 (1947), pp. 110-128) kindly sent by its author. This sketch supplements A. C. Bickley's short account of Crook in the *Dictionary of National Biography*, and gives as connected an account of his life as can now be gleaned from records. It includes anecdotes not previously recorded, and introduces many of the Friends who visited Beckerings Park in the early years. The work is well documented and includes a full bibliography of Crook's works based on Joseph Smith's *Descriptive Catalogue*, and the British Museum catalogue.

James Lomax has sent a copy of his article, *The Early Organization of the Quakers in Nottinghamshire* (Reprinted from *The Thoroton Transactions*, vol. 48 (1944), pp. 12, 2 plates). For this brief study of the first 150 years of Friends' work in Nottinghamshire the author has used the meeting records to good purpose, and introduces sufficient concrete examples effectively to demonstrate his points. The line-map is useful.

The publications of the Essex Record Office are always worth seeing, and any work from one on the staff is deserving of notice. Felix Hull, Assistant Archivist in that Office has used the Visitation Books of the Archdeaconry of Middlesex Jurisdiction in Essex covering the years 1662-1689 as basis for an interesting survey of *Early Friends in Central and Northern Essex* (in *The Essex review*, vol. 56 (April 1947), pp. 64-72). The work is necessarily incomplete as representing one side only of the picture, but the facts here collected provide interesting reading and valuable material for the study of

Essex Quakerism. The copy at Friends House Library is supplemented by a map in MS. both the gift of the author. Local civil and ecclesiastical records have been neglected by Friends, but on occasion they provide a valuable check on details in Besse's *Sufferings*, as well as much new material.

FRIENDS are frequently mentioned in volumes which never normally come to the notice of the Friends' Historical Society, and here local members may be of assistance in giving information concerning books and what they contain.

To this point there is an example in R. C. Latham's edition of *Bristol charters, 1509-1899* (Bristol Record Society's Publications, vol. 12, 1947). In the course of a valuable introduction on Restoration local politics there is a note (p. 54, note 7) how the corporation raised money in 1685 and 1686 by electing eleven Friends to the Council and fining them heavily for refusing the oaths of office. In fact the note should be corrected, for not all those elected were Friends—but some belonged to other dissenting bodies.

A history of the English Baptists, by Alfred Charles Underwood (London, Kingsgate Press, 1947, pp. 286. 12s. 6d.) provides various references to Friends, and one we have not previously met. In commenting (p. 132) on the good work of the London meeting of ministers which was established in 1714 and met at the Hanover Coffee House, the author states: "It declined a request from the Baptists of Burton, Northamptonshire, to send a learned minister to state the Baptist case in a public disputation with the Quakers. It advised both parties to seek 'other methods which will be less offensive, and more informing to those who are in search of the truth.'"

Biographical notices of printers and publishers of Friends' books up to 1750: a supplement to Plomer's "Dictionary": by R. S. Mortimer. (In *The Journal of Documentation*, vol. 3, no. 2 (September, 1947), pp. 107-125; Aslib (Association of Special Libraries and Information Bureaux), London. 7s. 6d. or \$1.75.)

This article comprises a list of almost three hundred entries (excluding cross references) of names or initials which appear in the imprints on Friends' books during the first century of their activity.

The notices are intended to supplement the Bibliographical Society's series of *Dictionaries* of printers and publishers, by H. R. Plomer, hence the alphabetical rather than chronological arrangement, and (in place of repetition) the references to that work for further information. In the main, notes are confined to imprint changes, the dates at which each appear, and some short indication of the main type of work each person undertook. The value of the list for those interested in the history of printing is clear from the fact that over eighty of the names are not in Plomer, and additional information of significance has been provided for sixty

more. The value to Friends is not only for these new facts brought to light, but in the provision of a catalogue from the evidence of imprints of all the avowed Friends' printers and publishers of the period. There is a useful index for provincial publishers.

An error which should not be allowed to go uncorrected is the attribution to Penn of *The Spiritual Bee*, of which the edition of 1667 is quoted (*vide* Smith's *Catalogue*, vol. 2, p. 282). This was almost certainly written by Nicholas Horsman the Oxford divine, and is not a Friends' item—although the *Extracts from the Spiritual Bee*, with preface by Luke Howard, published by William Phillips in 1823, can be so distinguished.

The wide field to be covered and the incompleteness of present information is obvious from the nature of the notes. Moreover, the names given here are but a sample of the whole number of persons concerned with the production and sale of Friends' books (*e.g.* of the forty-four names given in the list of *Dispersers of Quaker Books* (1664?), printed in *Extracts from State Papers*, Supplements 8 to 11 of this Journal, edited by Norman Penney, pp. 228-29, only two appear in this list). Nevertheless this article provides basic material for any extended survey of Friends' printers which may be undertaken.

Antinomianism in the period of English history, 1640-1660. By Gertrud Hühns. (University of London, Ph.D. thesis, 1947, pp. ii, 226, 15, typescript.)

This thesis is concerned with the political influence of a search for spiritual truth. The author finds the dominant characteristic of antinomianism in assertion of the absolute significance of human behaviour.

From an account of European developments in antinomianism to the time of Calvin, the author proceeds with studies of early seventeenth century thought in England, the rapid growth of antinomianism in the Parliamentary armies, the reaction at the close of the war, and the Millenarian development. Next comes a chapter entitled "Dissolution and end: the Quakers" (pp. 176-192), which is followed by a final chapter on New England, and the conclusion.

The chapter on Friends shows familiarity with contemporary literature and secondary sources. Points of similarity and difference between Friends and the antinomians are well brought out—as, the parallel beliefs in enlightenment and rebirth; Fox's decision to preach Truth rather than be a physician to heal bodies—the author contends that if an antinomian he would have tried both. In giving extended treatment to James Nayler (spelt Naylor) the author points out the similarity of the effect of the Nayler episode in Quakerism to that of the Fifth Monarchy fiasco in the country at large—both hastening the establishment of tradition and strengthening the forces of law and order. The alteration to quietism in the attitude of Nayler himself is well brought out—from the militant attitude that having seen the light he could not be silent, to the quietistic acceptance, and commiseration with

persecutors—the “ heart blind ” who cannot discern the way. The Wilkinson-Story controversy is seen as the final fling of the irresponsibles, when Friends were finding the unity of the will of God in the unanimity of the organized meeting.

The author's touch sometimes fails because variations and changes in Quaker thought which occurred even within the first decade of the movement are not always appreciated. Thus the survey of Friends' attitude to government is incomplete: their view was not wholly negative, acquiescent because government was needed to suppress evil-doing, but reaching out through Audland's phrase: “ godly Magistrates I own, and honor in the Lord ” (*Schoolmaster disciplin'd*, 1) to active support of good government.

The work would benefit from improved planning and is marred by infelicities of expression.

The first Triple Alliance: the letters of Christopher Lindenov, Danish Envoy to London, 1668-1672. Translated and edited with an historical introduction by Waldemar Westergaard. New Haven, Yale University Press, 1947. Pp. lxxviii, 528. \$6.

SOME material for Friends' history scattered in British archives has been collected in *Extracts from State Papers*, edited by Norman Penney. Yet more is available in the calendar series issued by the Public Record Office, but even in foreign archives some information is to be found. Some of this has come to light in the publication this year of Lindenov's letters from the Danish Rigsarkiv. There are references to Friends' obstinacy in meeting despite the Conventicle Acts, but the chief interest is to be found in the news of Penn's imprisonment in December, 1668, for the authorship of *The Sandy Foundation Shaken*, and how, when he was taken “ another and different piece of writing containing six or seven remarkable propositions against the English church fell out of his pockets ” (p. xxxvi).

Some salient extracts follow:

Lindenov to the Danish Chancery
London, December 10, 1668

p. 54 . . . Sir William Pen, son of one of the lords of the admiralty, has had printed during these days a quite ungodly and blasphemous *scriptum*, in which he questions the Holy Trinity. For this the printer has been put in irons and in prison, while he, the author of the book, has gone into retirement. The Quakers and fanatics have for some time been quite insolent, particularly in Newcastle . . .

Lindenov to the Danish Chancery
London, December 14, 1668

p. 56 . . . William Penn, who is the author of the blasphemous *scriptum* against the Holy Spirit as well as the Holy Trinity, was seized yesterday and put in prison.

(warrant Dec. 12. Calendar S.P.D. 1668-69, 98)

Lindenov to the Danish Chancery
London, December 22, 1668

p. 60 . . . At the time that William Penn was put in prison for impious authorship, another and different piece of writing¹ containing six or seven remarkable propositions against the English church fell out of his pockets ; and it has been resolved in council that he is to be closely examined concerning these papers . . .

¹ Penn's first work was *Truth Exalted*, the second *The Sandy Foundation Shaken*, both printed in 1668. The latter caused his imprisonment in the Tower. See Pepys, VIII, 227n.

Periodicals Exchanged

Receipt of the following periodicals is gratefully acknowledged :—

Bulletin of the Friends' Historical Association (Philadelphia).

Quakeriana Notes.

Wesley Historical Society, Proceedings.

Presbyterian Historical Society, Proceedings.

Presbyterian Historical Journal (U.S.A.).

Unitarian Historical Society, Transactions.

Mennonite Quarterly Review.

Institute of Historical Research, Bulletin.