

had it made on purpose. Drinking tea one day with *friend* Berkeley, he asked him whether he had ever seen such a curious thing. Berkeley said that silver ones were much in use in England, but that he had never seen a gold one, and Ebenezer replied, "Aye, that was the thing. I was resolved to have something finer than anybody else. They say that the Queen has not got one." (Quoted from p. 120.)

THE TERM "QUAKER"

(*Supra.* 4-5) Mr. Geoffrey C. Scrimgeour, the Clerk of Cheshire County Council, writes with reference to the document on which our Query was based that

the reading given in the printed version is an error. The word should be "Coaker," meaning a harvest labourer. Had we but known at the time, this elucidation and explanation had already been printed as one of a number of interesting items in *Letter from the Past* No. 5, entitled *Quaker by Error*, which appeared in the *Friends Intelligencer* (Philadelphia), 24.v.1941, p. 330, which the author, Henry J. Cadbury, has kindly brought to our notice.

We would take this opportunity of bringing to the attention of those who do not know it this lively historical series which still continues in the *Friends Intelligencer* and has already passed its century.

Recent Publications

Margaret Fell, Mother of Quakerism. By Isabel Ross. London, Longmans, Green, 1949. Pp. xvi, 421, 4 plates. 21s.

For the historian of Quakerism this is the book of the year. By patient study and careful research, combined by a deep appreciation of her subject, by family piety and an extensive knowledge of Swarthmoor and its countryside, Isabel Ross has here presented a comprehensive survey of material connected with the woman who, from the time of George Fox's first coming to Swarthmoor in the late June days of 1652 until her death half a century later, did so much to support and refresh the leaders in the movement which became the Society of Friends.

In this valuable book Isabel Ross gives a picture of Margaret Fox's remarkable life with such wealth of detail from original letters and sources that one is sometimes in danger of losing sight of the main outline. But the volume is more than a biography, it is a broad survey of the development of Quakerism during the first twenty years of its corporate existence as the events touched the "Mother in Israel." If from that time forth the scope diminishes,

it is because (with the development and organization of local meetings for business, which naturally looked to London, the Meeting for Sufferings, and ultimately to the regular Yearly Meetings) Swarthmoor was no longer the main centre of Quaker activity. It was part of the triumph of early Friends that the leaders could serenely share their power in a growing movement. The reader studying Margaret Fell's sentiments revealed in this volume can detect no suggestion of jealousy or unco-operative hesitation.

In the later periods the surviving evidence is more of a family nature, and it seems likely that Isabel Ross has found long gaps which it is difficult to fill. This may account for instances in which the author is less sure in her emphasis. For example, in her anxiety to place a favourable construction on Margaret Fox's activities during her last visit to London, Isabel Ross has perhaps been less than just to Friends with Tory sympathies and to the Friends who were dissatisfied with the statutory form of affirmation then lately approved by Parliament. But light on events of this period can well be obtained from other sources, and it is for its view of the early years of Quakerism that this work will be valued.

In so well-produced a work the index should have been completely comprehensive.

Edward Burrough, a Wrestler for Truth, 1634-1662. By Elisabeth Brockbank. London, Bannisdale Press, 1949. Pp. 176, 1 plate. 7s. 6d.

Through the death of Elisabeth Brockbank on 13.vii mo. 1949, the Friends' Historical Society has lost a keen member, and a past president. Her presidential address in 1939 on *The Story of Quakerism in the Lancaster district* was printed in the *Journal* for that year. Her *Richard Hubberthorne* was published in 1929.

One cannot but admire in this fascinating story of an early Friend from the time of his disownment by his father until his death in Newgate, London, the stalwart personality of Edward Burrough and of his companions who together made Quakerism the dynamic force it was. Special attention may be drawn to the account of the stirring years of the early missions from the North (II. Chap. 2, The assault on London; Chap. 3, Bristol and the West Country), and to the account of Edward Burrough's Vision (III. Chap. 9), which last merits further study to seek its meaning and what justification there was for the use made of it during the Wilkinson-Story controversy.

This story is not new, there are some over-simplifications, and the references to sources are not so clear as might be desired, but it is useful to view the growth of Quakerism through Burrough's eyes and to have him so well fitted into the background of his native Westmorland. There are useful appendices, but the index leaves something to be desired.

Authority, Leadership and Concern: a study in motive and administration in Quaker relief work. By Roger C. Wilson. London, George Allen & Unwin, 1949. (*Swarthmore Lecture.*) Pp. x, 78. 3s. 6d. and 5s.

From 1940 until 1946 Roger Wilson was General Secretary of Friends Relief Service, and this book is the valuable fruit of his thought and experience. It is useful to the historian not only for its consideration of motives underlying Friends' relief work, which probably have not changed greatly through the generations with the expanding opportunities for their expression, but also for the apt illustrations from earlier times which show the modern relief work to be firmly based on a continuing Quaker concern.

Brothers of the Spade: Correspondence of Peter Collinson, of London, and of John Custis, of Williamsburg, Virginia, 1734-1746. By E. G. Swem. (Reprinted from the *Proceedings* of the American Antiquarian Society, for April 1948.) Worcester, Mass., 1949. Pp. [ii], 17-201, 3 plates.

This correspondence, now printed for the first time from the Collinson letters in the possession of the American Antiquarian Society, and the Custis letter book in the Library of Congress, is valuable source material for the history of eighteenth century botany and horticulture.

Peter Collinson, one of the band of Quaker Fellows of the Royal Society, has an honoured name not only for his introduction of over 180 new botanical species into Britain, but also (as the editor of this correspondence points out) for his influence on American colonial botanical study. The letters here reproduced largely concern the joint interest of Peter Collinson and John Custis in the exchange of plants and the study and enrichment of their gardens.

Abington Friends Meeting & School, 1682-1949. By Horace Mather Lippincott. Pp. 84.

This attractively illustrated little piece of Pennsylvanian Quaker social history is more than a chronology traced back to the day when Richard Wall settled at Shoemakertown and presented to Philadelphia Monthly Meeting his removal certificate from a meeting held at Stoke Orchard in the county of Gloucester, the 26th day of the 4th month 1682. H. M. Lippincott mentions earlier works on the history of the Meeting; the doings of many public Friends of an earlier day are brought to life often with telling quotations from the records. He continues the story with recollections obtained from living Friends—a source for Quaker history which every

generation should take heed of before it is too late. Of the illustrations we would single out the reproduction of Robert Sutcliffe's charming drawing of Abington, 1805, showing Friends going to meeting, taken from his *Travels in North America*, 1811; but this and some others lack indication of where the original may be found.

THE *Haverford College Bulletin*, vol. 47, no. 3 (November, 1948) includes on pages 15-20 the Report of the Curator of the Quaker Collection, 1947-1948. Thomas E. Drake records the gift of over 800 Quaker manuscripts from various sources, as well as the acquisition of several rare pamphlets, both Quaker and anti-Quaker, including a copy of John Pitman and Jasper Batt's *Truth Vindicated and the Lyers Refuge Swept Away* (1658) from George Fox's personal library given by Henry J. Cadbury. The collection provides service in a wide field of research, but the Curator regrets the time-lag in cataloguing, due to college policy which results in Quaker material having to give precedence to books needed for the academic curriculum. The staff exchange with Friends House Library, under which Muriel A. Hicks spent a couple of months at Haverford, is mentioned with appreciation.

SOME new evidence on *The Imprisonment of John Bunyan* is brought to light by Joyce Godber, county archivist for Bedfordshire, in the April 1949 issue of the Congregational Historical Society *Transactions* (vol. 16, no. 1, pp. 23-32). Friends will remember that Bunyan was released on the general pardon of 1672 along with more than 400 Friends. In the same issue is an interesting article by Norman G. Brett-James on *Nonconformity in Mill Hill village before 1807*.

Periodicals Exchanged

Receipt of the following periodicals is gratefully acknowledged :—

- Bulletin of the Friends' Historical Association* (Philadelphia).
- Wesley Historical Society, Proceedings.*
- Presbyterian Historical Society, Proceedings.*
- Presbyterian Historical Journal* (U.S.A.).
- Unitarian Historical Society, Transactions.*
- Mennonite Quarterly Review* (U.S.A.).
- Institute of Historical Research, Bulletin.*