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T. Edmund Harvey, 1875-1955

QUAKER studies (among many good causes) are the poorer by the death of Thomas Edmund Harvey at the age of 80 on May 3rd, 1955. He had been a member of the Friends' Historical Society ever since its foundation in 1903, and he was president in 1927. His presidential address, *Quaker Language*, was published by the Society in 1928 and was reprinted. He was a member of the Library Committee for about 23 years where his great knowledge of Quaker lore was much valued, and his enthusiasm was an encouragement. He has left a volume of Quaker MSS. to the Library.

As a Quaker historian he is probably best known for his introductions to the *Journal of George Fox* and to the *Short Journal* (Cambridge University Press, 1911 and 1925). Out of some twenty-five of his separately published works in the Library at Friends House, *The Rise of the Quakers* (1905) is one of the earliest and has been several times reprinted. He published other volumes, including *A Wayfarer's Faith*, 1913, *The Long Pilgrimage* (Swarthmore Lecture), 1921, *Silence and Worship*, 1923, *Along the Road of Prayer*, 1929, and *The Christian Church and the Prisoner in English Experience*, 1941, besides an account of *St Aelred of Rievaulx*, and some delightful fables, *Poor Raoul*, and *Stolen Aureoles*. In addition to these he wrote many pamphlets which have enriched the Quaker life and thought of our day.

Without attempting any comprehensive tribute to Edmund Harvey, it must be said that besides his wide and

deep learning in things both divine and human, the quick warmth of his sympathy, his daily dedication to the highest good of others and his lively humour endeared him to all who knew him.

Besides his service in the Society of Friends he was a social worker and reformer, and an educationist. He sat in Parliament some seventeen years in all, including both great wars, and did invaluable work in defence of the rights of conscience. A Friend has written that his qualities "gave him as an M.P. a moral authority in Parliament unequalled since John Bright."¹

Edmund Harvey left to the Library at Friends House a bound volume of MSS. which he had collected. These papers were entered individually on the catalogue of the library in or before 1925. The 93 MSS. in the volume include the following:

An autograph letter by Richard Farnsworth (undated and unsigned) to William ———.

An autograph letter from Ellis Hookes to Margaret Fell, 5.iii.1667.

A letter (contemporary copy) from Margaret Fell to Ambrose Apleby, [1654], endorsed in George Fox's hand.

Two letters (contemporary copies) from William Penn to the Meeting for Sufferings in 1696 urging that a paper on a form of words in lieu of oath be not printed.

Several papers in the handwriting of Thomas Ellwood.

A large number of 18th c. certificates relating to ministers, and some letters of interest mainly as autographs.

Ernest E. Taylor, 1869-1955

ERNEST EDWIN TAYLOR, who died 15th August, 1955, aged 86, was president of Friends' Historical Society in 1921. His presidential address, *The First Publishers of Truth*, was a study of the occupations followed by those Friends who first spread Quakerism through this country. It was printed in our *Journal*, vol. XIX (1922), pp. 66-81, and was later incorporated in *The Valiant Sixty*. Ernest Taylor was a constant and active member of F.H.S. from its foundation. He not only made himself familiar with the lives of the first Friends and the places from which they came, but linked them with the revitalization of Quakerism in our own day, and younger Friends were attracted by his presentation of the romantic realities of early Quaker life and

¹ *Scottish Friends Newsletter*, Summer 1955.