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## Editorial

**M**AURICE CREASEY'S Presidential Address to the Friends' Historical Society for 1961 was delivered at Friends House last October. It has been printed under the title "Inward and Outward: a study of early Quaker language" and will be in members' hands by the time they read these words. Additional copies are on sale at the published price of 3s. 6d. Margaret Harvey's Presidential Address for 1962, is entitled "Four Quaker rebels"; the date for its delivery has been fixed at October 4th next.

On Thursday evening, 1st March, 1962, the spring meeting of the Society was largely occupied by readings of three delightful essays by the late Roger Clark (1871-1961) who through his long and active life was a firm friend to many movements for educational and social advancement, and active in cultural and historical institutions and societies in Street, in Somerset, and in the West of England at large. He was also a devoted member of the Friends' Historical Society. The old Meeting House property at Claverham, Somerset, which was one of his special interests, was at one time held under the supervision of the Friends' Historical Society, although the supervision is now, more suitably, undertaken by the Quarterly Meeting.

Ten years ago, Friends commemorated events in the North-West of England, about Swarthmoor and elsewhere, which marked the early development in 1652 of the movement which is known today as the Society of Friends. A

decade later, 1962 sees us moving into a more sombre period when looking back over the span of three hundred years, for the Quaker Act (St. 13 and 14 Car. II, cap. 1) heralded nearly a quarter of a century of persecution which lasted into the reign of James II. But 1662 is an important date in other religious fields too. The Church of England, restored after the Interregnum, revised the Book of Common Prayer in 1662; and the Act of Uniformity, with the ejection of the non-conforming ministers from their livings, marked the beginning of organized continuous life of the free churches outside the established church.

As part of the commemoration of these events, Geoffrey F. Nuttall has edited a checklist of works dealing with the period. It is published as *The Beginnings of Nonconformity, 1660-1665* (obtainable from Dr. Williams's Library, Gordon Square, London, price £1), and includes an appendix listing the Quaker and anti-Quaker items for the years covered.

The Friends' Historical Society is most grateful to Geoffrey Nuttall for his counsel and advice which it has been able to call on during the last ten years when he has been chairman of the Executive Committee. The new chairman is Elfrida Vipont Foulds. Geoffrey Nuttall, we are glad to say, is remaining a member of the Committee.

Among the articles included in this number are two from Henry J. Cadbury, including a further instalment of "Swarthmore Documents in America" (a second addition to the collection since the original volume published as Supplement no. 20 to this *Journal* in 1940). Also of American interest is Jack Caudle's discussion of the site of William Penn's grave at Jordans; the plan reprinted, and the author's account, makes it difficult to avoid the conclusion that the present position of the headstone does not mark the Founder's grave.

William H. Marwick continues his account of 19th-century Quaker firms (see *Journal*, vol. 48 (1958), pp. 239-259) with a study of the commercial and industrial activities of the families of Pease, Backhouse, Priestman, Christy, Edmundson and Pim.

Two letters from J. Eliot Hodgkin to Theodore Compton, now in the University Library, Leeds, throw interesting

light on the continued existence of the old "traditional Quakerism" during the Evangelical period of last century (even though, in this case, the writer does not seem to have continued in membership), and illustrate rebellion against guarded education.

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## The Friends' Meeting House

*The Friends' Meeting House*: an historical survey of the places of worship of the Society of Friends (Quakers), from the days of their founder George Fox, in the 17th century, to the present day. By Hubert Lidbetter, F.R.I.B.A., pp. xvi, 84; 72 plates, 47 plans and elevations. York, William Sessions Limited. 1961. 35s.

"This is not a book written particularly for Friends or Architects, but it is hoped that it may be of interest to all who are either architecturally or friendly inclined—or both, or even to those who are neither. It is merely a record of what Sir John Summerson has called 'buildings of endearing simplicity.' "

Hubert Lidbetter, having disarmed criticism by this opening paragraph, proceeds to give us what is the best of all books, one written by an expert who not only knows but loves his subject. The illustrations, both photographs and plans, are delightful in themselves, and are admirably designed to bring out the points made. This is a book to be turned to again and again, for information and pleasure.

In this *Journal*, perhaps we may be forgiven for pointing out two historical errors. Hubert Lidbetter refers (p. 6) to "the meeting in the Gracechurch Street Tavern at 'The Bull and Mouth,' " but this is a confusion between two London meeting houses. The Gracechurch Street Meeting House was built on the *site* of the White Hart Inn, which had been destroyed in the Great Fire. The 'Bull and Mouth' was in Aldersgate, and was originally part of a large house of which the other part had been made into an inn.

Similarly, on page 37, it is not correct to say that the first *Westminster* Meeting House was at 12 St. Martin's Lane, opposite the present meeting house. Meetings had previously been held at other places in Westminster, particularly at the "Little Almonry", near the Abbey.

(These particulars have been kindly supplied by George W. Edwards.)