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Editorial

THIS, the first number of volume 54 of the *Journal*, opens with a paper, by A. Day Bradley of New York, collecting together from various scattered sources what is known of Friends in Bermuda up to the early years of the eighteenth century. Quakerism in the colony was never strong, and records are hard to come by to try and produce a coherent picture which would support the natural impression that Bermudan Quakerism was of slighter growth but of similar development overall to the story of the movement in the more clustered English colonies in the Caribbean.

The seventeenth century is also treated in a note contributed by Amy E. Wallis on the results of her enquiries into the identity of the Colonel Wallis of Shanagarry who makes his appearance in William Penn's *My Irish Journal*, edited by Isabel Grubb with an introduction by Henry J. Cadbury in 1952.

Stephen Morland brings fresh evidence to bear on the controversy in Somerset meetings concerning the marriage of John Whiting and Sarah Hurd in 1686. This evidence sheds light on a problem left unsolved by Ethel Crawshaw in an article in the *Journal* in 1915. John Whiting's *Persecution Exposed* is the narrative which puts flesh on the bare bones of Friends' minute books and sufferings records in the West of England and brings vividly to life many of the actors in the drama of Quakerism in that region for the last quarter of the seventeenth century when persecution was at its height.

The book makes no mention of the difficulty which John encountered over his own marriage—editorial judgment perhaps—and as such understandable from the first Quaker bibliographer—but more probably a personal wish not to advertise an affair which he thought best forgotten.

Kenneth Carroll continues his researches on this side of the Atlantic with a study on a small group of Quaker linen-weavers who were settled at Newport in the west of Ireland for upwards of twenty years from 1720. The venture did not prosper, and the Friends later moved back eastwards into County Roscommon, nearer to the established Friends' Meeting at Moate.

Michael Mullett of Lancaster University provides a brief inventory of the documents preserved at the Friends' Meeting House at Lancaster; a timely note, since the meeting house celebrated its tercentenary in 1977. The usual features on archives, notes and queries and recent publications are included—in the latter, notably, a review by Elfrida Vipont Foulds of Ormerod Greenwood's first volume of *Quaker Encounters*, entitled *Friends and Relief*.

Edgmont, the story of a township, by Jane Levis Carter (KNA Press Inc., 1976. \$15.00; £10 including postage from Edgmont History, Box 239, Gradyville, Pa., 19039) is the official Bicentennial Project for Edgmont Township, endorsed by the Delaware County Institute of Science and published in an edition limited to 2,000 numbered copies.

Edgmont in Pennsylvania, not far from Bryn Mawr, a township bounded by its neighbours Willistown, Newtown, Upper Providence, Middletown and Thornbury is named after Edgmond in Shropshire where Joseph Baker came from when he bought 500 acres of land in the new province in 1686. This is a most satisfying local history, with good and well-chosen illustrations in facsimile and old photographs. It covers in competent and professional fashion many aspects of social life, and is a handsome volume to boot.