

Notes and Queries

APOTHECARIES

"The firm of Corbyn and Stacey", by T. D. Whittet and Juanita G. L. Burnaby (*Pharmaceutical journal*, 9 Jan. 1982, pp. 42-48) gives some detailed biographical information concerning the Clutton, Corbyn, Messer, Morris and Stacey families, members of which were concerned in the long-running pharmaceutical firm which was finally wound up in 1927.

BESSBROOK, Co. ARMAGH

Views of houses and spinning mill at Bessbrook, planned largely by John Grubb Richardson between 1845 and 1870, appear, together with illustrated summary descriptions of manufacturing processes, in the chapter on "Flax and linen" in W. A. McCutcheon's monumental *The industrial archaeology of Northern Ireland* (Belfast, Her Majesty's Stationery Office, 1980).

BRISTOL YEARLY MEETING, 1738

Quoting from *The Political State of Great Britain*, Aug. 1738, Hillel Schwartz (*The French Prophets*, University of California Press, 1980, p. 202) recalls how two women prophets, staying with Thomas Whitehead (merchant and Friend, d.1748), attended one of the sessions of Bristol Yearly Meeting in the spring of 1738 and sat in the gallery at the Friars Meeting House. At the close, one of the women stood up, and "Removing her outer clothing, she appeared

in a sackcloth gown, strewing ashes on her head, and began such a Raving, with Postures so Frightful, that the Meeting broke up immediately. Thrust from the building, Whitehead and the prophets were mobbed and stoned."

FEMALE MORTALITY

Martha Vicinus, *A widening-sphere: changing roles of Victorian women* (Indiana University Press, 1977) includes an article by Sheila Ryan Johansson which quotes from Joseph Fox's paper "On the vital statistics of the Society of Friends" (*Journal of the Statistical Society of London*, vol. 22, June 1859, p. 220). Fox showed that female mortality among Friends was consistently higher than that for Quaker men between the ages of five and sixty, yet it was also true that Quaker female expectation of life was consistently higher than that for females in the general population at all ages up to 75 years.

E. D. MOREL

Catherine Ann Cline's *E. D. Morel, 1873-1924: the strategies of protest* (Blackstaff Press, 1980) traces Morel's "hereditary instincts" from the de Horne family (for two centuries Quakers) identifying himself with the ethos of his forefathers. The part played by William Cadbury in supporting Morel's movements in Congo reform and the Union of Democratic Control is usefully and succinctly brought out.