

THE JOURNAL  
OF THE  
FRIENDS' HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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## Editorial

DURING 1971 two addresses were delivered to the Historical Society. The first, entitled "Quakers and Music" was given by Edwin H. Alton of Marsden Meeting on February 5; the second, the Presidential Address, by Stephen Morland, was delivered in the Autumn. This latter, a study of the administration of business in the Middle Division of Somerset Monthly Meeting during the eighteenth century, forms the leading article in this issue. It brings forward, by means of detailed local instances, a revealing survey of the difficulties which faced the leaders of a small group of rural Friends' meetings in trying to maintain their testimonies and support the discipline of the Society of Friends during a period when the enthusiasm of the early Quaker leaders was a thing of the past.

The Autumn meeting of the Historical Society in 1970 heard Jennie Ellinor deliver an address on the Friends' School at Clerkenwell, the predecessor of Saffron Walden Friends' School, and this address forms the basis of the second paper printed here. It sheds new light on the development of the institution which David Bolam studied in *Unbroken Community*, 1952.

Edwin H. Alton contributes a biographical and critical study of John Marriott the late eighteenth century Lancashire Quaker poet.

Also included are various bibliographical notes, information on historical research currently and recently undertaken,

notices of new publications, the usual section for Notes and Queries, and the index to volume 52 of the *Journal*, now completed.

Readers will realize that a Society such as ours, and the *Journal* in particular, must rely in large measure for its usefulness and effectiveness on the co-operation of its members and readers. We always welcome information as to new material of interest to Quaker historians, whether this comes in the form of articles submitted for possible publication, in notes or queries as to matters of historical or current interest, or in references to new publications or documents relating to the varied fields of activities in which Friends engage.