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OF THE  
FRIENDS' HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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## Editorial

**R**ICHENDA SCOTT'S Presidential Address to the Society, on movements in nineteenth-century Quakerism, is the main article in this issue. The address was delivered at Friends House on 1st October, 1959, at a meeting held under the chairmanship of John Nickalls.

R. Wilfrid Crosland of Hutton-le-Hole, York, contributes some notes on Friends in Kirbymoorside and district. Dr. Marek Waysblum describes the plight of a Quaker shipmaster captured in 1677 by Algerian pirates, as reported in the Barbary states State Papers at the Public Record Office.

A useful guide to documentary evidence of the establishment and discontinuance of Friends' meetings during the major part of last century, is provided by Edward H. Milligan from Meeting for Sufferings and Yearly Meeting records. This number also contains a bibliographical notice on Isaac Penington by Miss Ruth Armsby (from her unpublished thesis at Friends House), and a further portion of the A. R. Barclay Manuscripts, continued from Vol. xlvi, p. 228.

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This year, many people are celebrating the Restoration of the monarchy in Great Britain in the person of Charles II three hundred years ago. The year 1660 has a claim to Friends' notice, because, with the onset of organized persecution, Friends were compelled more clearly to formulate their attitudes to legal authority, to civil government, and to the legitimate duties demanded under the constitution.

In national politics, 1660 saw in turn the breakdown of republican authority in large parts of the country; sporadic rioting in the towns in the winter and early spring; the advance from Scotland of George Monck at the head of his army; King Charles's Declaration of Breda; the Convention Parliament in April and the triumphal entry of Charles into London on May 29; the uneasy summer, and then the Fifth Monarchy outbreak in the winter. The cry "King Jesus, and their heads upon the gates", threw the city into a panic, and the proclamation of 10th January, 1661, forbidding the meeting of "fanatics", linked Quakers, Anabaptists and Fifth Monarchy Men all together.

For Friends, this period is noteworthy for the positions which Quaker leaders took up when securing the release of Friends from prison, where they had been thrown soon after the Restoration, and again by panic-stricken authorities in the upsets of the Fifth Monarchy rising. Two Declarations against wars and tumults were prepared in January, 1661. One was drawn up by George Fox and Richard Hubberthorne, but suppressed. A second, and probably similar one, was presented to the King on 21st January, 1661. It was published then, and has since been frequently reprinted, and appears at the head of documents reciting the development of Friends' peace testimony. These documents are evidence of a crystallizing and stabilizing period in an important field of Quaker thought. The printed *Declaration from the harmless and innocent People of God, called Quakers, against all plotters and fighters in the world* sets the tone for many succeeding documents in a long line of restatements of Friends' historic peace testimony.