

3<sup>rd</sup> ed.

THE

# BRITISH FRIEND:

A Monthly Journal,

CHIEFLY DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS

OF THE

SOCIETY OF FRIENDS.

*"Stand ye in the ways, and see, and ask for the old paths, where is the good way, and walk therein" (JER. vi. 16).*

VOL. XXI.—Nos. I. to XII.

GLASGOW: ROBERT SMEAL.

MDCCCLXIII.

*No. VI. will probably be a few days delayed as usual.*

THE BRITISH FRIEND has been registered at the General Post Office for transmission beyond the United Kingdom.

## THE BRITISH FRIEND.

GLASGOW, 5TH MONTH, 1ST, 1863.

### Friends Travelling in the Ministry.

EXTRACTS FROM LETTERS OF RUSSELL JEFFREY.—  
2d Month, 21st.—We followed our luggage to the railway floating bridge that crosses the Hooghley to Hourah, whence we started at 11 A.M. for Burdwan. The company of natives (passengers by third-class) was astonishing—perhaps more than 1000, with all sorts of packages, making a very great chattering, and pushed about like so many sheep by the European railway officials, too many of whom bear sad marks of drunkenness and dissipation. William Hayller accompanied us to Burdwan, and was useful to us. We were glad to have him; as, since we have been lodging at his house, we have been pleased with his conduct, and felt for him and his brother in their lonely and exposed situations. We reached Burdwan about 2 A.M., and found an excellent hotel near the station, like a small mansion in a park. After our dinner we took a ghorie, and drove to the maharajah's palace. We could not see him till to-morrow; but he gave us an order to see his palace, gardens, &c. The palace was very sumptuously fitted up with complete suites of rooms in English style, noble staircase, statuary, and pictures. The gardens were well kept up with many choice flowers, and tanks abounding with large tame fish. In the menagerie were lions, lionesses, tigers, panthers, giraffes, a rhinoceros, alligators, monkeys, ostriches, pelicans, &c. W. Hayller returned in the night.

22d, First-day.—About 10 o'clock sat down by ourselves in our parlour, and about 12 we went to the palace. We were introduced to the maharajah, who received us quite alone. We afterwards went to the Church of England mission, where Whertbretch was—an extremely pretty church, with schools for about twenty boys and thirty-five girls. The only missionary there was a German named Stein. He proposed our having a meeting to-morrow evening at the mission school-room in the town at 6'30, and he would send notices. HENRY HIPSLEY and I had a delightful quiet evening alone at the hotel. The balmy air, the singing birds, the brilliant sky—were well suited to a First-day repose; and many are our preservations and comforts, not unattended with trials and discouragements within and without. May our faith and love to our God and Saviour increase more and more.

23d.—After breakfast the rajah sent a nice carriage and three servants, which took us to his boys' school, where 450 are educated. An English gentleman was voluntarily teaching the elder boys English.

There is no Scripture introduced; but a lesson they were reading on Truth opened the way for our addressing them on What is Truth? and the general untruthfulness of the human family. They were very attentive, and seemed to understand the subject. The heathen generally disregard truth and honesty too. We went next to the Government normal school, and to the Church mission school, where the Bible is taught; and the boys, about 250, seemed brighter. We went next to the jail—about 800 natives. No European, though sometimes a few, there. No native Christian has been a prisoner. The prisoners looked very healthy. They are well employed. The jail was clean, though its hospital did not seem so, or well attended to. We went at 6'30 to a meeting we had appointed at the English mission school. About 200 natives were present—very few English. The gospel message flowed freely to those thirsting after God. After the meeting many pressed around us, to know if we should remain or come again. They seemed hardly able to part from us, and said it was just such meetings they wanted. They were very few of them professed Christians. Some of the rajah's council of five were present. A cup of tea refreshed us on reaching the hotel, where we are most abundantly and nicely provided for; and in the close of the day we have gratefully to acknowledge, "Hitherto the Lord hath helped us." May we render to him all the praise.

24th.—Started at 11'20 for Monghyr, which we reached about 10'30 P.M., and drove to Wood's hotel.

25th.—We visited the Baptist schools. Little English taught, and in low condition. About thirty children present. We went to the jail, where were 450 prisoners, many in irons. They are employed in hand-making paper, mustard, oil pressing, weaving, spinning, rope and carpet making—all natives. They look healthy and clean. In the afternoon Alexander Christian sent a nice ghorie and two strong horses, to take us to some hot springs about five miles off, the temperature about 160°. Some natives were at a spring near wetting their foreheads for the remission of sins, and the priests were receiving the price money. In the evening we went to the Baptist chapel to a meeting. HENRY HIPSLEY's certificate was read, and we each addressed them. It was a refreshing time, and we trust owned of our good Lord.

26th.—Started at 9 to go by rail to Beehec, through a woody, hilly country, succeeded by extensive level plains, cultivated with indigo, white poppy, dahl, tobacco, castor oil, oats, wheat, &c., with groves of mango trees. We passed the Soane bridge, a mile long, thought to be next in extent to the Montreal bridge, and arrived at 9 P.M. at the castle-like mansion of Alexander Thomson. Our host and his partners were very kind to us, and, we hear, are very thoughtful and humane in the treatment of their Ryots, who number, we believe, 100,000, in forty villages. May our visit have been blessed to our friends, as our first introduction to an indigo planter's establishment was interesting to us.

27th.—We left about 5 P.M., and reached Benares

before 10 that night, by rail, crossing from the station a bridge of about 50 boats over the Ganges, to the city, and the Victoria Hotel, kept by a native Christian.

28th.—We called on J. Blake, of the London Missionary Society, who received us most cordially, and introduced us to two brother missionaries. The wife of one of them has a nice girls'-school and orphan asylum, which we went to see. They are taught and boarded, and seem altogether nicely cared for. We called also on the Baptist missionary.

3d Month, 1st, First-day.—We sat down together; my mind felt much cast down through abounding infirmities and discouragements, but towards the close things felt a little brighter. H. H. was enabled sweetly to supplicate for us. How needful the spirit of prayer and hopeful dependence for us amidst so much darkness around, and so many daily distractions and new circumstances.

2d.—Rose in the early, cool morning, and went, accompanied by our friend Blake, to the Church mission schools. We went on to the Monkey Temple, a very beautiful building, of an elaborately carved red stone, with a gilded spire, adjoining a very fine tank of water, and surrounded in part by fine old tamarind trees, amongst the branches of which and over the temple 500 monkeys wander about with graceful agility; some of their springs from bough to bough were wonderfully clever. The Hindoos worship a hideous figure called the Monkey God; and on the priest opening the door of the temple, we saw the ugly object of their veneration—certainly a living monkey is better than their dead god. "Arise, O Lord, scatter thy enemies, and let them who hate thee flee before thee," and thy light. We returned to our friend Blake's to breakfast, where we met three gentlemen, and afterwards called on Dr. Lazarus, a good physician, who attends some of the dispensaries; then on General Campbell and Colonel Cormac, who both received us most cordially, and freely allowed us to appoint a meeting for the soldiers, for Sixth-day morning, of which they will give notice. They most heartily welcomed us, and sympathized with our object, much more so than some professed soldiers and ministers of Jesus Christ. How much do some of those man-made systems hinder the free course of the life-giving word, when refreshingly sent forth from the fountain of living waters, through channels in their view too small, or not made in their fashion; and as regards themselves, if getting any pure water to hand to the people, it is frozen and fearfully cold before it is given them; but we have met with very few such in this land, where we trust the spiritual warmth accompanies the outward heat. We afterwards called on the Commissioner—chief man of the place. He received us civilly, and promises us an elephant to ride through the city on, and any other little matter that he can serve us in. We dined at Charles Horne's, the judge here. He is extremely kind and friendly. The commissioner, magistrate, and judge are, we hear, anxious to do what they can for us.

3d.—Went before breakfast to the jail and lunatic

asylum, and blind and indigent institution—the latter a nice place, founded by a native. The jail beautifully clean, roomy, and prisoners classified; the boys taught in a school, some few learn English. The prisoners are employed in weaving carpets, towels, and also silver thread, shawls, and gold brocade, valued at £30 for 8 yards. Many were employed in grinding meal, others pressing mustard oil, and paper-making. Though many were in irons, they looked healthy and fairly cheerful: there were about 1600, all natives, and 130 lunatics.

4th.—The heat is so great, that from 11 to 5 we sit writing or occupied in our rooms, with the Venetian blinds closed, to keep out the hot air. Thermometer 90° in the shade. About 7 we started in a ghorie, accompanied by the magistrate's champrosee on horseback, for Assi Ghul, a landing-place, about three miles off on the Ganges, where the Rajah's boat was waiting for us, nicely covered and cushioned, moved by paddle-wheels turned by the foot. We went slowly about two miles down the Ganges, to the bridge of boats. No language can describe the Oriental beauty of the various ghats and buildings. The river makes a half-moon course; and the ghats are ascended by steps from 60 to 100 feet high, some new, some old with the trees growing in the ruins—the picturesque forms of the numerous temples in the morning sun, with the gilded cupolas—the strings of water-carriers in night dresses—a horse, a donkey, some goats—but above all the hundreds and thousands of bathers in the holy river, at this their most holy city—and washing their vessels, or performing their devotions—make up a picture as unique as it is wonderful and painful in the extreme. When we feel that this city is almost wholly given over to idolatry, we, humanly speaking, seem powerless amongst it all.

Respecting RUSSELL JEFFREY and his companions, "our own correspondent" in Calcutta writes us as follows:—"We have had two notes from Joseph B. Pease, since he and his party left this, and as they contain a few words about their movements, I am dropping thee a few lines, hoping they may prove acceptable. The first note is dated Burdwan, 23d of 2d Month, 1863. The Rajah received the Friends very courteously when they presented their letter of introduction. On the evening of the 23d they held a public meeting, very much to their satisfaction; about 200 were present. They visited the various schools, &c., in a carriage kindly sent for their use by the Rajah. On their way from Burdwan to Benares they halted at Monghyr, to visit some friends of ours, to whom we gave letters of introduction to the Friends. They seemed very much pleased with their visit to Burrows and Thomson, who gave them a good deal of insight into Mofussel (country) life. They went through the indigo factory, and rode through Judgespore station. It was the celebrated Judgespore jungle at the time of the mutiny. The whole tract of land was given free for ever, I believe, to the above firm, for services to government during the mutiny, and the property has been cleared and made very valuable. The party intend to remain in Benares

for eight or ten days, until the 9th of this (3d) month, as they wish to attend a missionary conference at Mirzapore about that time. They reached Benares on the evening of the 27th of 2d Month."

In pursuance of his religious labours, since our former notice, RICHARD H. SOUTHALL has within the last few weeks attended the remaining meetings of Friends, on First-day mornings, in Staffordshire and Warwickshire North; and has held public meetings for worship for those not in profession with us, at Stoke-upon-Trent, Dudley, Coventry, Warwick, and Stourbridge, on First-day evenings; at the close of all of which religious tracts were distributed, kindly supplied for the purpose by the Manchester Association.

Our friend MARY ANN WILLIS, by minute of Richmond Monthly Meeting, visited Sunderland on the 21st and 22d ult. A public meeting was held on Third-day evening, in Friends' meeting-house, which was well attended, and considered a remarkably quiet and good meeting, MARY ANN WILLIS being largely engaged in the ministry.

EDWARD BREWIN, with certificate from Leicester Monthly Meeting, had a meeting at Wyresdale, on Second-day, the 13th ult., and a public meeting at Quernmore in the evening; another at Yealand, on Sixth-day, the 17th, and attended the meeting at Lancaster on First-day morning, the 19th; and had a public meeting in the evening; proceeded afterwards to Southport.

JOHN L. EDDY, of Ohio, after attending a public meeting on Fifth-day, the 5th of 3d Month, at Cootehill, proceeded to Dublin, with his companion, JOHN B. HAUGHTON, of Cork; attended Sixth-day meeting in the city, also First-day morning meeting, and a public meeting at seven in the evening, when some tracts were distributed. At his request a public meeting was appointed at Kingstown, in the Wesleyan Methodist chapel, at which from seventy to eighty persons were present; at the conclusion some tracts were circulated. On the 10th, Third-day, he attended the Monthly Meeting in Dublin, on Fourth-day at meeting with Friends of Churchtown, and in the evening at a public meeting there, which was but very thinly attended; at Fifth-day meeting in Wicklow, and a public one in the evening, which was well attended, though not crowded.

Lancashire and Cheshire Quarterly Meeting was held at Manchester on 15th and 16th ult., and was largely attended. Our dear friends J. L. EDDY, of Ohio, and EDWARD BREWIN, of Leicester, with certificates, were present, as also JOHN PEASE, JOSIAH FORSTER, and GEORGE BOTTOMLEY, part of the Yearly Meeting's committee. JOHN L. EDDY was at Wilmslow meeting on First-day, the 19th ult., at Ashton-on-Mersey on Fourth-day, the 22d, and at Manchester Meeting on Fifth-day, the 23d of 4th Month. On Sixth-day, the 24th, he proceeded, *via* Holyhead, to Dublin, intending to be at the Yearly Meeting there, which commenced on the 26th.

JOSEPH THORP, of Halifax, arrived in Dublin from the north on Second-day, the 30th ult. He attended meetings in the city as they came in course, visited

families and individuals every day, attended Monthly Meeting on the 14th inst., at which time he laid before Friends his concern to hold a public meeting in the city; it was accordingly held on First-day evening, the 19th inst., at seven o'clock; the meeting-house was nearly full; at the conclusion tracts were distributed. On First-day, the 5th, he attended the funeral of John Moss; there was a large gathering of Friends at it, the meeting-house being full. On First-day, the 12th, he was at the second meeting of Churchtown, near Dublin.

The sub-committee of the Yearly Meeting appointed to visit Essex, consisting of ROBERT ALSOP, WILSON BURGESS, JOSEPH CROSFIELD, GEORGE PALMER, and THOMAS HEMMOTT, finished their service at the Quarterly Meeting held at Coggeshall, on the 14th ult. Their visit has proved very acceptable to Friends, they having assiduously attended, not only all the particular meetings, but called on the members at their own habitations, and even those not in membership, who attend our meetings. These visits were often times of religious service, and will doubtless by some be held in grateful remembrance. In many, if not all the particular meetings, the committee invited the members and attenders of meetings to a social interview, sometimes at Friends' houses, which were times of great interest, when valuable and instructive information was given, and the best welfare of the Society promoted. These social interviews also opened the way for the gospel message, as well as for vocal prayer, and had a uniting tendency. At the conclusion of the Quarterly Meeting the services of the committee were gratefully acknowledged by several Friends in a feeling manner.

#### Ministers Acknowledged.

By Gloucester and Nailsworth Monthly Meeting, held 4th Month, 8th, SAMUEL BOWLEY, of Gloucester.

By Hardshaw West Monthly Meeting, held at Liverpool, on 26th of 3d Month, DYKES ALEXANDER FOX.

DUBLIN YEARLY MEETING.—The following ministers are in attendance—JOHN L. EDDY, of Ohio; JOSEPH THORP, of Halifax; JOSEPH JESPER, of Preston; JOSEPH JOHN DYMOND, of Bradford; ANNE GARDNER, of Aberdeen; MARY ECROYD, of Bradford.

At the Quarterly Meeting for Ulster province, held on the 12th and 13th of this month, the newly established meeting for worship, held at Carrick-on-Suir, at 11 o'clock on First-day, and 10 o'clock on Fourth-day, received the approval of Friends.

The meeting at Perth is held at the house of JAMES FENWICK, Commercial Street, Bridgend.

"FRIENDS IN CANADA."—We quote as follows from *Friends' Review* of 3d Month, 28th:—

In *The British Friend* of the present month it is stated, on the authority of a letter from a Friend in Norwich, Canada, that "instead of Friends there constituting any longer a part of New York Yearly Meeting, they are to convene by themselves in a Yearly