

## Mannerisms of Ministers

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James Jenkins, writing in his book of *Records and Recollections*, respecting his "excellent friend and frequent companion," Joseph Rand, of Newbury, Berks, who died in 1813, aged upwards of eighty years, narrates the following which was told him by his friend :

"He remembered SAMUELL BOWNAS,<sup>1</sup> and told me that once at the time of the Yearly Meeting BENJAMINA PADLEY<sup>2</sup> (I think) of Swansea, had preached a long time, to the great satisfaction of a crowded meeting at Grace-church Street, after whom Samuel stood up, and proceeded in his usual slow manner at the commencement of his sermons, when a smart little gentleman, dressed in black, walked from the door, to nearly the top of the meeting and there stopping short said aloud to Samuel : ' Sir, you make very poorly out, I advise you by all means to sit down, and let the Lady who spoke before you, take your place, for, she preached much better than you do.' Sam<sup>l</sup> Bownas made a short pause, and then replied : ' Have patience, friend, and things will mend ' and then went on. The little man *had* patience, and after standing still some time, said : ' Well, I think things do mend,' and then, walking back, resumed his former station near the door, where he afterwards listened with silent, and reverential attention to what Sam<sup>l</sup> Bownas delivered.

"I think it was Benjamina Padley too, that (he told me) always began slow, and without energy or that life which makes an audience feel, that he once heard an impatient auditor say to one who had brought him to hear her : ' Come, let us go,—this is poor dry stuff.' ' No, no,' said the other, ' stop until she pulls her hand out of her pocket.' He did so, and his perseverance was rewarded with pious delight. ' This was the case (continued Jos<sup>h</sup> Rand) with SAMUEL FOTHERGILL who never got into his *gears* until after he had for a short time put his hand under his wig.'"

<sup>1</sup> SAMUEL BOWNAS (1676-1753), one of the last of the first generation of Friends. See *Jnl. F.H.S.* i. xviii, etc.

<sup>2</sup> BENJAMINA PADLEY (1687-1753) was the posthumous daughter of Benjamin Padley, of Yorkshire. She became a noted Minister; married Richard Partridge, of London, in 1742. See *Jnl. F.H.S.* v, vii, x

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Monthly Meeting at Stourbridge, Worcestershire, 21 xii. 1714 :  
"William Bissell, of Dudley, laid before this Meeting his intention of going to Pensilvania and taking his family with him, and desired a Certificate, which Friends did consent unto."