

Joseph Green (1690-1740), THE FRIEND OF THOMAS STORY.

Joseph Green (1690-1740), the friend of Thomas Story, was the third or fourth son of Joseph Greene,¹ of Liversedge, near Leeds, yeoman, by Martha, his wife, daughter of Joshua Smith,² of Sowerby Street, Halifax. Where he was educated is not known, but he was probably apprenticed to his uncle, Thomas Greene, of Liversedge, merchant and manufacturer.

In 1711 he obtained permission of Brighouse Monthly Meeting, as was the custom at the time, to remove to London, and was resident in Pearle Street, Spitalfields, as a silk weaver and merchant, in 1720/1. Probably his sister Sarah, who became wife of John Mockett, a Quaker

¹ This Joseph Greene (1659-1719) was a son of John Greene, of Liversedge, yeoman and Kersey-manufacturer, who, with his father, John Greene (1596-1669), of the same township, embraced Quakerism, probably in 1652 when George Fox visited Hightown in Liversedge, and who records the opposition he received from Widow Greene, probably a sister-in-law of the elder John Greene. John Greene, the younger, father of Joseph Greene, was a much-persecuted member of the early Quaker Church, and as Besse and Friends' Register record, died a prisoner in York Castle in 1676 "for absence from his parish church [Birstall], and for not receiving the sacrament there."

John Greene's widow, Elizabeth, "daughter and heir of Thomas Leigh of Batley," as recorded by Dugdale in the pedigree of Greene of Liversedge in the Yorkshire Visitation of 1665-6, re-married with Robert Hill, of Bell-Broughton, co. Worcester, who died 1710, aged eighty. He was a much-persecuted Quaker Minister, and, according to the account of him in *Piety Promoted*, he convinced many by his labours.

² Joshua Smith (c. 1640-1703), a trader in cloth at Sowerby, was a Yorkshire Quaker Minister of some eminence in his day, and is several times named by both Besse and Oliver Heywood (in his diaries), as a much-persecuted Friend. His house was registered as a Friends' meeting-place in 1689. By his wife, Susanna (d. 1706), he had seven children; of these the eldest was John Smith (1667-1741), of Norland in Halifax, a leading and prosperous member of Halifax Meeting, who left in trust for Friends the "burying-place" at Sowerby street, which, although now built over, remains the property of Friends.

Of his four married daughters, Martha Smith (1662-1748) married Joseph Greene, father of Joseph Greene, of London, as we have seen, and Mary Smith (1669-1758) married Moses Greene (1669-1754), of Liversedge, clothier, brother to Joseph Greene, the elder. It will be seen that Moses Green and his wife, Mary Smith, survived their nephew, Joseph Green of London, who died 1740, many years, attaining to the ages of eighty-six and eighty-nine respectively, while Martha Green lived to be eighty-six, all remarkable ages for that period, and illustrating the healthy site of Hightown in Liversedge, a fact which is well known.

weaver, accompanied him to London as his housekeeper. He married in 1721, at or near Bath, Elizabeth Tubb, niece to Richard Marchant,³ of Marchant's Court, Bath, a substantial Quaker "merchant-taylor," to whom she was a business assistant. Joseph Green settled, upon his marriage, at Fort and Duke Streets, Spitalfields, on the site of the old Artillery ground. Here were born to him five sons and five daughters, only one of whom, Joseph Green, later of Spital Square, survived apparently to manhood or womanhood. The eldest son, Marchant Green (whose signature with that of his father occurs on a marriage

³ Richard Marchant (c. 1666-1739) was a son of John Marchant, of Bath, clothworker, and his wife, Elizabeth. He married at Bull and Mouth Meeting, London, in 1692, Elizabeth Fry, of George Yard, Lombard Street, daughter of Samuel Fry, of Devizes, co. Wilts, maltster; the bride was at the time of her marriage an assistant to John Field (c. 1648-1723), one of the editors of *Piety Promoted*, and whose many Quaker writings occupy over five pages in Joseph Smith's *Catalogue*.

Richard Marchant's descendants intermarried with the well-known Quaker families of Divett, Goldney, Vickris-Dickinson, Harford, etc., and there are numerous entries of the family in Bath Abbey registers, which include several interesting burials from the house of Edward Marchant in Abbey Green. Amongst these are "The Lady Huntingdon," in 1723/4, the mother of Theophilus, ninth Earl of Huntingdon, husband of the celebrated and pious Selina, Countess of Huntingdon, founder of the sect associated with her name; and in 1724, "The Hon. Lord Bucklee" (viz. Richard Bulkeley, fourth Viscount Bulkeley, M.P. for Anglesey, etc.).

Richard Marchant had the honour of entertaining both Wesley and Whitfield at his house at Marchant's Court, as is mentioned in their respective journals. In 1739 Wesley preached in Richard Marchant's ground, but later, owing to the damage caused by the crowd to the trees, and thefts occurring, and having, said Marchant, "merited the displeasure of my neighbours," Wesley was forbidden by his Quaker friend to preach there again, upon which he makes some severe comments in his journal, as to the fear of man, and Marchant's money-bags, and his approaching decease (he died that year). Shortly before this occurs the well-known and interesting passage concerning Wesley's interview with Beau Nash, when the great preacher was entertained at Marchant's house.

Richard Marchant made his will in 1739, an abstract of which, an interesting one, was printed in *Quakeriana* (vol. ii. p. 185). In it he says: "I here make a confession that about the seventeenth year of my age it was the pleasure of Almighty God to convince my understanding and to give me a true sight of the way that leads to his Kingdom . . . and [I] received the Truth in the love of it," etc. He bequeaths "To my cousin (niece) Elizabeth Green's eldest son (Marchant Green), £50, and every other child she has or may have by Joseph Green, £20 each.

The Friends' Meeting-house at Bath was for many years at the top of Marchant's Court (off the High Street), now called Northumberland Place, but sometime after 1791, Friends moved to a Chapel in St. James's Parade, designed for the Roman Catholics, and "caused it to be made into a very neat unadorned place of worship." The Marchants were mostly buried in Meeting-house Court (1729-47).

certificate of Samuel Rudd, of Hertford, with Anne Ellington, of Wellingborough, in 1735), was born in 1721, and died of fever in 1740.

Joseph Green was a useful and influential member of Devonshire House Monthly Meeting, and is named upon appointments, 1726-1738, etc. For some time he acted as treasurer to the Meeting, and in 1736 the "Friends appointed have audited Joseph Green's accounts and find them rightly kept and fairly stated."

In 1738 he subscribed five guineas towards rebuilding Brighthouse Meeting House. Joseph Green's intimacy with his friend, Thomas Story, of Justice Town, near Carlisle, commenced in or perhaps prior to 1728/9, when he is mentioned by Thomas Areskine, a Quaker brewer of Edinburgh. Writing to Thomas Story, 18th Twelfth Month (February), from London, Areskine says: "J was at friend Joseph Greens in Duke Street, and both he and wife asked after thee with much respect, and desired both to be kindly remembred to thee."⁴ In 1730 Joseph Green signed a certificate for Story, addressed to Carlisle Monthly Meeting.

The earliest reference by Story to his friend, in his folio *Journal*, printed in 1747, is under date 7 December, 1732, when "I lodged at my sure Friend Joseph Greens, where I was made fully welcome as formerly." He had previously lodged in London in 1725, at Joseph Wyatt's, but owing to some serious troubles, Story was unable to keep his *Journal* from the early part of 1726 to the same period in 1728. In 1733 Story was again at Duke Street, "my usual lodging at my good Friend Joseph Greens." The same year he met Joseph and Elizabeth Green at a meeting at Windsor, and returned again to Duke Street, "where I was kindly received." In 1734 he was again "made welcome as before," on two separate occasions. The next year Story again "went to London, to my usual Lodging, at my kind Friend Joseph Green's, where I was kindly received and entertained."

Later on in the same year, 1735, he "was chearfully received at my agreeable and usual lodging at my Friend Joseph Green's," where he remained several months.

⁴ See THE JOURNAL, v. 30-33.

In 1736 he was once more at Duke Street, "to our mutual satisfaction," remaining there or in the neighbourhood some eighteen months. That year he met later at Hertford "my Landlord Joseph Green," and returning with him to London remained there some eight months, until June, 1739, when Joseph Green accompanied him to St. Albans, etc.

In September, the same year, Story was again in London, at "my usual Quarters, at my dear Friend Joseph Green's ; where I was received with kindness and respect, as in all former times." Here he remained some seven months, until April, 1740, when Story, "accompanied by my Friends Joseph Green and Thomas Whitehead," went to St. Albans. The last entry in Thomas Story's *Journal* is as follows :—

That Night I remained there [at Hertford] and on the First of the Seventh Month [September] accompanied by several Friends from Hartford, and others also from London, who met us half way, I went thither in the Evening to my usual Lodging ; where I was as well received as ever ; though at that Time it was truly a House of Mourning ; for my kind and good Landlord, Joseph Green, a Man of Sincerity and Truth, and his eldest Son [Marchant], a hopeful Youth of about 19 Years of Age, had been lately buried, Dying within a few hours one of another, and left one of the most mournful Widows and Mothers I have ever observed ; for they loved each other most tenderly, after having been married about 20 Years ; and having three other younger Children, the whole care of them fell upon her, with the Weight of all their Affairs and Business in the World, which was very considerable ; and the Concern which fell upon me, in Cumberland, (when I heard of this Stroke of Providence) for the Widow and Children, if peradventure I might be helpful or serviceable to them in any kind, had hastened me thither much sooner than otherwise I intended.

Joseph Green had died of fever at his house at Fort and Duke Streets, Spitalfields, 31st July, 1740, aged fifty, and was buried at Friends' Burial Ground, Whitechapel, 4th August, so that Story arrived about a month after his decease. Marchant Green had died the same day as his father, but the funeral of the latter appears a day later than that of his son. The three younger children alluded to by Story were Joseph, then aged sixteen and a half, later of Spital Square, John, aged twelve, who also died of fever this year on the 6th of October, about a month after Story had joined the sorrowing household, and



Photo H. G. Summerhayes.

THOMAS STORY'S DESK.

See page 85.

either Ann, born 1722, or Patience, born 1731, of whom we have no further record.

The editor of Story's *Journal* concludes the account as follows :—

The Authors Account breaks off here, which seems somewhat an abrupt Period ; and as the Editors have not been able to discover any further Prosecution of the Work amongst his papers, they apprehend it may not be amiss to add, that he continued in London, sympathising with and assisting this afflicted family, some part of the ensuing Winter ; where he was seized with a paralytick Disorder, which affected him to such Degree, as deprived him very much of his Speech, and confined him within Doors till the Return of the Spring, when he regained a little Strength and got out to Meetings ; but was still not so far recovered as to be able to hold a Discourse long, his Memory being also greatly impaired by the said Disorder : Nevertheless he continued sweet in Spirit, and pleasant and chearful among his Friends, whom he was always glad to see and be in Company with. He likewise diligently attended the Yearly Meeting at London this Season [1741], though he spoke not much in it. Before the End of the Summer he grew so much better, as that he travelled down to Carlisle.

Thomas Story never fully recovered from his paralytic seizure ; he died at his house at Justice Town, near Carlisle, 24th June, 1742. By his will, dated 7th September, 1741, and proved in London (with the codicil annexed) 3rd November, 1741, he left his friend Joseph Green's widow, Elizabeth Green, £100, not only, we presume, on the score of a long friendship, but as some recognition of her kind care in nursing him when ill in London.

By his codicil Thomas Story left the manuscript account of his travels, which was to be found in a trunk at his lodgings (at Elizabeth Green's) in London, for publication by his executors if deemed suitable. This was printed later *in extenso*. His desk he left with Elizabeth Green, and for five generations it remained in the family of Joseph Green's descendants, until, in 1894, it was presented by the present writer to the Meeting for Sufferings at Devonshire House, where it is much valued, and where, upon a brass plate, is recorded the names of the owners since Thomas Story's day. The desk is a large mahogany one, standing on an oak frame with four legs. It has two sloping sides, with a sliding false bottom and secret drawers. As the original manuscript of the

Journal is preserved at Devonshire House the desk is a fitting receptacle for it. It may be mentioned that, although this desk was long known in the family as "Thomas Story's desk," and had been repeatedly taken for church rates during the life-time of Joseph Markes Green (1771-1840), of Saffron Walden, a great-grandson of Joseph and Elizabeth Green, its history had been lost in obscurity until unearthed by the present writer.

Joseph Green made his will, which was proved in London after his death in 1740, in February, 1734. It was witnessed by Story, John Row and Edward Hall. His trustees were his wife's uncle, Richard Marchant, of Bath, who shortly pre-deceased him, Benjamin Bartlett, of Bradford, apothecary, his first cousin-in-law, and to whom Dr. John Fothergill was apprenticed, and Joseph Clio, of Bromley-by-Bow, linen draper. The will is an ideal one, the testator remembering, not only his beloved wife and children, but his mother, to whom he leaves £20, and his brethren and sisters and servants, to some of whom he leaves annuities for life. He forgives his brother, Thomas Green, now in Pennsylvania, the sum of £50, "being a debt due to me, for which he drew a bill on me payable to Thomas Penn, which I paid him" with interest. Joseph Green draws his will as one who feared God, as may be judged by the wording of his will. He concludes, "My children, which shall be living, I pray God the Almighty to bless and direct to his own glory."

Elizabeth Green, Joseph Green's relict, was a signatory at the marriage, at Longford, of her son, Joseph Green, with Mary Gurnell, in 1745. Nothing more is known of her later history, the register of her death not being forthcoming, but no doubt she was buried with her husband at Whitechapel before 1751, as she is not named in the will of that date, of her son, Joseph Green, who died in 1762.

Elizabeth Green's nephew, "Marchant Tubb, Esq." (1732-1791) (one of the eleven children or more of John Tubb, of Bath, and named by his uncle, Richard Marchant, in his will in 1739) was a wealthy sugar-planter in Jamaica, who, with his wife, Ann, lies buried under a handsome marble tablet in the chancel of Ringwould church, near Dover, with the arms of Tubb impaling those of his wife.

He was resident in Bedford Square, London, at the time of his death, but had also a house at Richmond, Surrey.

A singular coincidence occurs at Dover, close to Ringwould, where Marchant Tubb is buried, where a well-known firm of clothiers is "Marchant & Tubb," though in no way related to Elizabeth Green's nephew.

JOSEPH J. GREEN.

An Early Certificate of Removal.¹

Lancasheere.

ffrom our Men & Womens Mo^{thly} meetings att Swarthmoore this 7th day off y^e 6th moth 1688.

Whereas Margarett Gawith formerly an Jnhabitant in this Country & a Member off this meetinge : & off later yeeres hath had her residens Jn or about Corke Jn Jrelande : Vnto w^{ch} place shee Js desirous to returne againe to liue : & make her aboade Jn :

These may therfore Certifye ffreindes off y^e particular Monthly or Quarterly Meetings off Corke or elsewhere Jn Jrelande.

That y^e sayde Margarett Gawith hath liued amongst ffreinds Jn truth ffrom her youth vppe vnto this time : & hath behaued her selfe [*paper torn*] y^e gossell in sobriety & a good Conversation & hath nott beene concerned with any as to marriage that wee euer knew, or hearde off.

witness our handes :

Thomas Lower.
Robert Salthouse.
William Beck.
Tho : Walker.
James Harrison.
John garnett.
John ffell.
Willm̄ Salthouse.
Robert Briggs.
John Gaueth.

Sarah ffell.
Alicce Cooper.
Sarah Cooper.
Elizabeth Sharpe.
Margratt ffisher.
Rachell Abraham.
Alicce Sallthous.

Will Satterthwt.
Daniell Abraham.
Miles Birkett.
John Cowell.
George Holme.
Abraham Cleayton.

Margrett ffox.
Mary Lower.
Ellisabeth Harison.
Agnes Saterwhett.
Mary ffell.
Jaine Cowell.
Margratt ffisher.
Jssabell Simson.
Margratt Kirby.
Sarah Hathornthwite.
Alice gibson.
Rachell Townson.
Ellizabeth Becke.

¹ From the original in the possession of J. Ernest Grubb.