

Notes and Queries

KEY TO ABBREVIATIONS.

- D.=The Reference Library of London Y.M., at Devonshire House, Bishopsgate, London, E.C.
Camb. *Jnl.*=*The Journal of George Fox*, published by the Cambridge University Press, 1911.
D.N.B.=*The Dictionary of National Biography*.
F.P.T.=“*The First Publishers of Truth*,” published by the Friends Historical Society, 1907.
H.S.P.=The Historical Society of Pennsylvania, located at 1300 Locust Street, Philadelphia, U.S.A.
M.M.=Monthly Meeting.
P.M.=Preparative Meeting, except in art. on pp. 157ff.
Q.M.=Quarterly Meeting.
Y.M.=Yearly Meeting.

SEGIS.—The following quotation occurs on p. 89 of *Margaret Fox of Swarthmoor Hall*, by Helen G. Crosfield:—“The money goes so much out of the Country, to soldiers pay and sesis [?] that there is very little left in the country.” [Letter from Bridget Fell to her mother, 1660/61.]

John Dymond Crosfield, of Marlborough, writes, “Is not this word ‘sisis’ the same that is still used in Ireland, the ‘County Cess,’ meaning assessments, plural Cesses?”

WILLIAM HOLBEM, OF LEWES, EARLY SUSSEX QUAKER.¹—The following bequests made in the will of the above, dated 2 January, 1661/2, proved Arch. Lewes, may be of value in placing and dating the imprisonments of the Friends mentioned:—To *Ambrose Rigg*, 5l. for himself and other prisoners at Horsham; to *Joseph Fuce*, prisoner at Ipswich, 3l.; to *William Bailey*, lately a prisoner at Newgate

5l. Holbem also bequeathed 30l. to George Fox, Samuel Fisher, Edward Burwash [? Burrough], Francis Howgill, William Bayley and Charles Bailey “to be disposed of by them to such prisoners and others [*sic*] poor friends in and about London as they shall think fit.” The testator left an only daughter, who married out of the Society.—PERCEVAL LUCAS.

¹ The Friends’ Registers of Sussex state that William and Elizabeth *Holben* had a son, William, b. 1655, and a daughter, Ann, b. 1657. William, Senr., was buried in his own garden, at Willington, 10 x. 1662, and the entry adds, “His son buried 15 mo’s before.”

Besse states, under 1656, “As they were haling Richard Pratt away to Bridewell [Lewes], the People were very abusive, and pushed him, so that he was likely to fall, to prevent which, William *Hobbin* took hold of him; this was called an Attempt to rescue the Prisoner; for which Hobbin was fined 5l. and sent to Prison for refusing to pay it” (*Suff.* i. 709).

“RAILWAYS.”—The *Diary* of Abiah Darby in the last number of THE JOURNAL, gives (p. 83) an instance of this word considerably earlier than any in the Oxford English Dictionary. *How* much earlier depends on the question what new-style date corresponds to “1 mo. 31st, 1756.” Is it certain that a lady of forty would have adopted the new method of reckoning the commencement of the year?²

I may add that Sir James Murray would be happy to be referred to still earlier uses of the word, for the Supplement to the Oxford English Dictionary.—R. J. WHITWELL, Oxford.

A CURIOUS COINCIDENCE.—In this number of THE JOURNAL is given, as a “fill-up,” a note of the baptism of John Pain in 1738 (p. 187), handed in to the office by a Friend engaged in the North in genealogical work. On p. 131 there is a note respecting Mary Leaver. On the receipt of the note *re* John Pain, the Editor wrote to Richard Payne, of Newhill Hall, near Wath, Yorkshire, and his reply reveals the fact that John Payn[e] and Mary Leaver were brother and sister! R. Payne also states that Mary Leaver had issue Ann, Mary, and Dorothy, “all believed to have died unmarried,” which corroborates and expands the Editorial note on p. 131, taken from the Testimony to M. Leaver.

² Adopted formally by Friends in Y.M. of 1752. See Sir Harris Nicolas, *Chronology of History* (ed. 2, 1838), 180, 181. It may be worth noting that this, and subsequent, editions are more useful than the first (1833).

JOSEPH TAYLOR (x. 119, 126).—In the list of Friends visiting Ireland, attached to Ritty’s *History*, occurs the following, under date of 1728:—“Joseph Taylor, of Raby in the County of Durham, on his return from America.”

A QUAKER SOLICITOR GENERAL.—Jonathan Pim, K.C., recently appointed Solicitor General for Ireland, is a member of the Society of Friends and the first of that body to fill the position of a law officer to the crown in Ireland. He is a son of the late Thomas Pim and grandson of Jonathan Pim who represented Dublin in Parliament in the sixties.

He was educated at Oliver’s Mount School, Scarborough, and afterwards at Trinity College, Dublin; was called to the bar in 1886, and took silk in 1909. He was at one time Hon. Secretary to the Statistical and Social Enquiry Society of Ireland and took part in its proceedings.

The Pim family came to Ireland in 1655 and settled in the midland counties.

JOHN HULL.—George Fox’s travelling companion in America was John *Hull*; the MS. printed on p. 118 gives *Hall*, but this should have been *Hull*.

ELSON OR NELSON (x. 276).—A confirmation of the suggestion of Perceval Lucas is the case of John *Elson* of the Peel in London (d. 1701) who is frequently named John *Nelson* in the *Camb. Jnl.* (see index s.v. Elson.)