

Certificate granted to Daniel Wheeler, Jun., by Emperor Nicholas J., 1840¹

JHAVE learned from your letter transmitted to me by the Councillor of state Mr. Djunkovsky your desire to retire from the direction of the operation of drainage and cultivation of the environs of St. Petersburg, which you as well as your late father and brothers have continued with full success and great utility to this country during the period of 23 years.²

However painful it is to me to hear of your determination, yet having considered the reasons brought forward by you for joining the remnant of your family and for endeavouring to prolong its endangered existence,³ I had the happiness of laying before the Emperor your wish, and of presenting to Him your letter.

His Imperial Majesty has been most graciously pleased to allow you to withdraw from your appointment, and as it is contrary to the usage of the religious society of Friends to which you belong to accept of the decorations usually bestowed as tokens of the Imperial satisfaction, the Emperor has ordered that this Certificate should be given to you with the expression of the Imperial approbation and acknowledgement of your zealous and faithful service and of the honesty and devotedness with which you and your family have fulfilled your obligations, and of His Majesty's estimation of the benefit, which your exertions have produced to the agriculture of this Country.

I may farther inform you that His Imperial Majesty has on your recommendation most graciously appointed

¹ This document has been presented recently to D. by William Stephens and Helen Bright Clark. (Margaret Priestman, aunt of Helen B. Clark, married Daniel Wheeler in 1846, and married secondly Arthur Tanner in 1855.)

² See *Memoirs of Daniel Wheeler*, 1842.

³ For letters referring to the ill-health of the Wheeler family while they were resident in Russia, see THE JOURNAL x. 64.

your present Assistant John Müller in your stead, and according to your desire the English overseer of the Okhta farm will receive an additional salary of 1,000 roubles ass per ann. :—Moreover the Emperor as a testimonial of the useful services rendered to this country by you and by your family and in compliance with the desire expressed by you, has been graciously pleased to order: that the inclosed space of ground, situated in the private domains of the Emperor in the Tsarsko-Selo district, in which your late mother and sister were interred, should from this present time for ever be called the Burying ground of the Society of Friends and used as such.* This Imperial order has been communicated to the competent authorities and to the British Consul.

I feel a real pleasure in transmitting to you these undoubted proofs of the Imperial good will and I hope that even in your absense you will not refuse to communicate to your successor any information he may require and in case [of] your ever returning for a time to Russia that you will not fail to visit our Establishment for the drainage and Cultivation of boggy lands nor withhold at the same time any advice which your long experience may enable you to give.

* This is a piece of ground situated in the Zarsko Selsky district, within the private property of the Emperor of Russia, about ten miles from the centre of Petrograd in the grounds of the Shusharsky Farm.

In 1890 a certificate was procured from the Department of Appanages and Domains, from the translation of which certificate the above particulars are extracted.

The plot was granted by the Emperor of Russia on the 15th of September, 1840, in accordance with the wish of Daniel Wheeler, to be from that time a cemetery for the Society of Friends forever.

From the plan made in 1890 for the Meeting for Sufferings, when, on the suggestion of the late Thomas William Marsh, the Meeting ordered the repair of the burial ground walls, etc. (which work was carried out the following year at a cost of £34), it appears that there are two graves. On the headstone, placed four feet from the two "sarcophagi," is the following inscription—"Here rest the remains of Jane, wife of Daniel Wheeler, born A.D. 1773, died 1832, also of Jane, daughter of the above, born A.D. 1816, died 1837." One of the sarcophagi bears the inscription, "Jane Wheeler. died 1832"; the other "Jane Wheeler died 1837."

In First Month, 1915, the Meeting for Sufferings recorded the presentation by William Stephens and Helen Bright Clark, of Street, of the original Deed of Gift of the above-named burial ground, signed on behalf of the Emperor Nicholas I. by Prince Alexander Galitzin, under date 20th of September, 1840.

In conclusion I have only to express my wish that our Almighty and All merciful Lord Jesus Christ may pour out upon you His grace and if this be His Divine Will, that the health of your family may be restored.

Done in St. Petersburg the 30th of September 1840.
Of His Imperial Majesty
my most gracious Sovereign, Actual
Privy Councillor, High Chancellor
of all the Imperial orders, Post
Master General, Member of the
Council of the Empire, Senator,
Knight Grand Cross, &c., &c.

PRINCE ALEXANDER GALITZIN.

Imperial Councillor of State and
Director of the Prince's Chancery
Alexander Djunkovsky.

To Daniel Wheeler, Esq.,
of the Society of Friends in England.

George Fox to Elizabeth Hearbey, 1687¹

Edmuntun y^e 13 : 4 : mo :
1687.

Dear friend Eliz : Hearbey,²

J Received thy Letter dat: 6 : 4 : mo, 87 : And J was glad to hear these tender Lines from thee, & my desires are that thou may be p^rserved in y^e wisdome of God & humillity & J am glad thy Letter was stopt that thou shewed me privately at Benj: Antrobuses Chamber,

¹ This letter was catalogued for sale at Christie's in April, 1913, as part of the library of the late Sir Joseph C. Dimsdale, Bart. With five other Quaker MSS. it was withdrawn before the sale, and the six documents have since been presented to D. by the Dowager Lady Dimsdale. The letter is not in the handwriting of George Fox, but has every appearance of being an original. Fox frequently employed an amanuensis.

² The name Elizabeth Hearbey has not been found among the records in D. It has been suggested that "Hearbey" is an early form of "Harvey." From the registers it is evident that a family of Harveys was living at Saffron Walden at the time; Isaac, son of John and Elizabeth, was born in 1688.