

A Quaker Courtship

THE character of the [second] wife of Isaac T. Hopper was extremely modest and reserved; and he took mischievous pleasure in telling strangers the story of his courtship in a way that made her blush. "Dost thou know what Hannah answered, when I asked her if she would marry me?" said he. "I will tell thee how it was. I was walking home with her one evening, soon after the death of her mother, and I mentioned to her that as she was alone now, I supposed she intended to make some change in her mode of living. When she said yes, I told her I had been thinking it would be very pleasant to have her come and live with me. 'That would suit me exactly,' said she. This prompt reply made me suppose she might not have understood my meaning; and I explained that I wanted to have her become a member of my family; but she replied again, 'There is nothing I should like better.'"

The real fact was, the quiet and timid Hannah Attmore was not dreaming of such a thing as a proposal of marriage. She supposed he spoke of receiving her as a boarder in his family. When she at last perceived his meaning, she slipped her arm out of his very quickly, and was too much confused to utter a word. But it amused him to represent that she seized the opportunity the moment it was offered.

L. MARIA CHILD, *Life of Isaac T. Hopper* [1771-1852], 1853, p. 370.

Isaac T. Hopper and his Quaker Library

NO man in the country [America] had such a complete Quaker library. He contrived to pick up every old rare volume connected with the history of his sect. He had a wonderful fondness and reverence for many of those books. They seemed to stand to him in the place of old religious friends, who had parted from his side in the journey of life. There, at least, he found Quakerism that had not degenerated; that breathed the same spirit as of yore. . . . His Quaker library was left in the care of his children, with directions that it should be kept where members of the Society of Friends or others interested could have ready access to it.

L. MARIA CHILD, *Life of Isaac T. Hopper* [1771-1852], pp. 380, 404, 477.

Where is this library now?

It is related by Sewel, the historian, that the havoc and spoil which Friends in Ireland underwent, about the year 1689, was enormous; the losses sustained by them, in one year alone, being estimated at £100,000.
Select Miscellanies, 1852, i. 141.