

Richard Smith and his Journal 1817:1824

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THE last chapter in Richard Smith's life begins at the time of the Yearly Meeting of 1823, when he offered himself for service in Africa, and was accepted.

A short *résumé* of the inception and aims of the Committee for African Instruction will explain what follows.

The Committee arose out of a concern which Hannah Kilham⁶² [1774-1832], a Sheffield Friend, first brought forward towards the close of the year 1819. Her views were two-fold—the personal instruction of individuals, and the establishment of an Institute for cultivating some of the unwritten languages of Africa, with the intention of composing elementary books and translating portions of the Scriptures.

The effort began by H. K. taking two African youths as pupils⁶³; she attained considerable proficiency in the Waloof language; and when the time came for inquiry as to the prospects of a mission station in Africa, the Committee received an unexpected offer from William Singleton,⁶⁴ of Loxley near Sheffield—under whose care the two youths had been for some time receiving English education—to go to Africa to make investigations.

William Singleton left London on the eighth of Twelfth Month, 1820, and reached England again on the eighteenth of Seventh Month, 1821; and, shortly afterwards, sent the Committee a full and very interesting report⁶⁵ of his voyage to the Gambia and to Sierra Leone. This report encouraged the Committee to dispatch a party, headed by Hannah Kilham, to make the first attempt at a settlement; but various circumstances delayed their start, and it was not until the autumn of 1823 that the preparations were complete and the mission left England; of the party R. S. was one.

When the proposed mission first came to the notice of R. S. is not stated, but it certainly aroused his attention and sympathy during the Y.M. of 1822; at which an address of the Meeting for Sufferings to the Inhabitants of Europe on behalf of the Oppressed Africans was read; and he dined with Friends interested in the project—Luke Howard,⁶⁶ John Eliot⁶⁷ and John Sanderson,⁶⁸ the Treasurer of the Committee. At a meeting appointed by Anna Braithwaite⁶⁹ at the end of this Y.M. “the words arose in my heart, Lord, choose for me, in allusion to African exercise.”

After his return home, we find :

1822.

6 mo. 14. Much exercised at Night, & queried whether it might not be safest to write to Jno. Eliot.

10 mo. 4. After my silent Meditation this morning felt freedom to draft a Letter to John Eliot, of which I afterwards wrote a fair Copy, and sent it by post, offering myself to go out there; w^{ch} resulted in peace.

Six days later he received the reply, “w^{ch} resulted in peace to my mind, & much relieved it.”

On account, no doubt, of the delays experienced by the Committee, no further steps were taken by R. S. till the close of the Y.M. of 1823, to which he was a representative, and journeyed on foot, as before: he again records the deliberations in detail. On the 29th of Fifth Month, he called on L. Howard, where was Robert Forster,⁷⁰ and referred them to his letter of the previous Tenth Month to John Eliot; and on the 2nd of Sixth Month, he appeared before the Committee, and was accepted to go to Africa. The Friends present were:—Luke Howard, Robert Forster, John Sanderson, William Allen,⁷¹ Peter Bedford,⁷² Edward Carroll,⁷³ Thomas Newman,⁷⁴ George Jones, Richard Cockin and wife,⁷⁵ James Cropper,⁷⁶ Jonathan Backhouse,⁷⁷ J. Tregelles Price,⁷⁸ Samuel Tuke,⁷⁹ and others. “After I returned to my lodgings, I was favoured with the reward of peace, though I felt somewhat embarrassed and bound up when the Members of the Committee put questions to me, particularly L. H., whether my view was Ministry.”

Being now launched on this service, R. S. did not return home at once; he was put in charge of the two

African youths, Mahmadee and Sandanee, and spent the next seven weeks as their tutor, during which time he was living with them at Friends' houses round London, mostly at Tottenham. The Journal recounts many comings and goings, though little to extract; the following are the most striking :

1823.

6 mo. 18. L. H. shewed a Letter to us from W. Wilberforce to him, dated 2 mo. 22, 1821, on the subject of African civilization, wherein he recommended at least 3 years instruction of Natives in this Country. — Davis,⁸⁰ a Friend at Bath, was the person with whom he had conversed on the subject. W. W. tendered his subscription, which he wished was 10 times greater—remarked on the great reparation due to Africa from this Country, which, instead of facilitating Christianization, by commercial intercourse, had by a contrary conduct retarded its progress . . . [L. H.] read a sample of his Journal; if he had to begin again, would notice every Book he perused.

6 mo. 21. Felt freedom of mind to order a new suit of clothes at W. Edmunds, Tottenham . . . Informed of public Meeting lately held at Dorking by J. J. G.,⁸¹ when Floor of a room fell or slanted by reason of Beam giving way, but Meeting ended well.

During this time in London, R. S. paid a good many visits to schools, to get some insight into the methods adopted by teachers.

Luke Howard took Mahmadee and Sandanee to his house at Ackworth for the General Meeting there, and R. S. walked, in seven days, to rejoin them. After a week there, he left for Leek on the 5th of Eighth Month. Before he started, L. H. addressed him encouragingly at breakfast on the subject of his mission, telling him that the principal management, as regarded the men, would devolve on him. "My walking had been satisfactory to him since we were brought together." He reached Leek on the 7th, early enough to attend the Monthly Meeting, where he applied for a certificate for Africa, and "Friends freely and encouragingly united."

The next two months were spent in his usual varied pursuits, and the entries in the Journal show great diligence in the business of the office.

9 mo. 9. C. H. queried of me pleasantly, when did I go to Africa? and said, I had better stay, in his opinion. Thankfulness arose in my heart, being far different to what I looked for.

During the last few days in Ninth Month he wound up the various affairs of which he had charge and made his will; and there is some hint of the distribution of his personal possessions. It is pleasant to think that his parting with his brothers was affectionate :

1823.

9 mo. 29. . . . a Crown of Peace before leaving Alton, which was a tendering & Memorable season with the Family.

9 mo. 30. Taking leave of brother Thomas, a little from his Residence, was a memorable Season.

The parting from his brother-in-law is thus described :

10 mo. 1. Prepared my Account with C. H. who paid me my demand, for which I expressed to him my obligation. Took leave of him, at which he manifested surprize.

On the evening of this day, having been sent for by L. Howard to come to London at once, he left Leek by coach, travelling outside.

Another three weeks elapsed before the embarkation, occupied in preparations and purchases, and in learning lithography.

10 mo. 3. Attended the Meeting of the Committee. . . . I expressed a few words, particularly on the Subject of my return & trying departure from my Friends, on which P. B. feelingly expressed his hope.

10 mo. 13. Ordered Clothes at Silver & Co's, 9, Cornhill.

On the 25th of Tenth Month, 1823, the party, consisting of Hannah Kilham, Richard Smith, John Thompson and his sister Ann, of Cooladine, Enniscorthy, Ireland⁸² (who had been accepted shortly before), besides Mahmadee and Sandanee, went on board the brig *James* at Gravesend.

The Committee had prepared a set of "Ten Regulations to be observed by the Members of Friends' Settlement on the River Gambia," the first of which sets out :

The object of this undertaking is the instruction of the natives of Africa in the principles of the Christian religion, in common school-learning and in such arts and improvements (especially those connected with agriculture or gardening, and domestic economy) as may be found suitable to the situation and climate.

A short devotional meeting was to be held daily; there was to be cessation of labour on First-days, and meetings for worship were to be held twice; the settlers were to

meet monthly in conference ; and Hannah Kilham and Richard Smith were to be heads of the settlement and trustees for the property.

Some idea of the discomfort of the voyage may be reached from the dimensions of the *James* : she was of 140 tons burthen, eighty feet long, fifteen feet broad, about the size of a modern canal boat, though deeper in the water, as she drew thirteen feet : the mast was ninety feet high : at any rate, she proved that she was seaworthy. Encountering a heavy storm in the Channel, of which the *Memoir* of H. K. has a most vivid account, they took refuge a week later behind the Isle of Wight, and made a fresh start from Cowes on the 8th of Eleventh Month ; passed Madeira on the 21st ; had a few hours on shore, described in detail, at Teneriffe on the 28th, and reached Bathurst on the Gambia river on the 8th of Twelfth Month, 1823.

The party suffered severely from sea-sickness, and from the confinement within the narrow limits of the brig, which told seriously on R. S., whose habits had always included so much walking exercise. During the voyage R. S. copied the log-book into his Journal on most days ; a few extracts may be made :

11 mo. 1. Marvellous deliverance from imminent Danger about mid-Night, to all human appearance. [This was the storm in the Channel.]

11 mo. 16. Still weak low and debilitated. My Clothes are become too large for me.

11 mo. 18. H. K. much enfeebled.

11 mo. 23. Ann Thompson's Admonition to G. W. H. on his witticism on Scripture was relieving to my mind. Comforted in retirement, accompanied with love to the poor Sailors ; felt relief in handing a Bible to them. At the M SS account read by G. W. H. felt uneasy. . . . At the desire of H. K., read a part of 3^d Chapter of Penn's Reflections and Maxims to our company in the Cabin, after which we had a pause.

[The passengers in all numbered 11.]

11 mo. 24. G. W. H. this evening again speaking lightly of Scriptures, I expressed that it felt painful to me.

11 mo. 29. [At Teneriffe] To the Cathedral, when a Priest took umbrage at our hats, & we left the place.

12 mo. 8. Natives [came] on board ; some of them had a striking effect on my mind, so that I wept as it were for Joy, being much enlarged in heart towards them. . . . Gave present of Money and a Bible (in the name of company) to the sailors which was well rec^d.

On landing, the party were hospitably welcomed by the Commandant and the British community ; a merchant put a vacant house at their disposal, and the Commandant himself conducted them to Birkow (Bakkàoo, variously Englished as Barcou, Berkow, and Birkow) on Cape St. Mary, eight miles from Bathurst, near the sea, which was considered the best spot for the proposed experiment ; and had been pronounced by W. Singleton as the most favourable site he had visited. There they found a good stone house erected by the Government, which Sir Charles McCarthy,⁸³ the Governor of Sierra Leone, very readily placed at the service of the mission ; and here R. S. presently settled : he set about preparing a garden, digging a well, and improving the house, which had never been inhabited—a kitchen and storerooms were built, and the place generally made habitable.

12 mo. 14. On J. Thompson speaking about Sopha, H. K. remarked that idleness was a great sin of this country, which will have to be guarded against.

The women Friends opened a girls' school at Bathurst, and J. Thompson companied with R. S. at Birkow.

1824.

1 mo. 14. When I look back a little, since leaving England coming here *is felt* to have cost something, nevertheless, I have so far been supported & carried through to the praise of the Great Creator.

1 mo. 19. Felt some compunction at having destroyed some Ants in the sugar, by firing paper.

On the 8th of Second Month, H. K. and J. Thompson left to visit Sierra Leone ; and on the 11th, R. S. set off with the Alcaide of Birkow and Mahmadee as interpreter to visit the king of Combo, in whose territory Birkow was situated. He took with him a present for the king :

1 piece blue Baft.
5 Turkey red check Hkfs.
18 Childrens pocket Hkfs.
1 Umbrella.

1 Straw Hat.
16 Girls' work bags, printed calico.
14 Pin Cushions.
1½ quire Letter paper.

1824.

2 mo. 11. Arrived at Yendum, where the Alcaide & I alighted and rested $1\frac{1}{2}$ hour at the house of his Friend ; in the meantime, information had been sent to the King, who lives at a barricadoed town about $\frac{1}{2}$ mile further. . . . Several of the head Men accompanied us to the house of the King, which, though larger appeared little if any superior to the other houses ; many palm Trees. Skins were placed on the Floor, on which the Natives sat, and an English chair I was directed to. The King came soon & sat on a spotted Goat Skin that had grigees [charms]. After we were seated, his first communication to me through Mahmadee was an expression of his love to us. The Alcaide informed him, " I come down with my White Man to visit you, White Man wants to settle in your Land, & before he settles, he comes to see you." The King answered, " I am very glad of that." The Man which we staid with (head Man) then told the King, " They bring something to come to see you ; I opened all the things in my house to see what they bring you."

The King answered him, All is right, and what we come for to see him is all very good : he is very pleased with the things. If any body comes to settle in another strange Land, if he come to the Master of the Land and shew himself to him, it is all right ; something might happen, he (the Master) can help them ; but if they not come to him first, if any injury happen, he can not help them ; so if the King only *heard* of us being in the Land, if any injury happen, he can not help us.

The head Man then opened the Present ; the King said he never had so fine small Bags before. (3 of his Wives were also pleased with the Bags & Pin Cushions.) The King expressed himself well-pleased with the present and much obliged to us for our Kindness, and the Alcaide did right to come with us (instead of sending his son).

Our Certificate was read, which was interpreted by Mahmadee, and enlarged upon by the Alcaide, which I judged took up an hour. The Slave Trade was spoken about. . . . Sandanee's and Mahmadee's instruction in England was explained by the Alcaide, which the King said was very kind of the Friends.

School instruction was spoken about : the Alcaide said his children were taught the Arabic, & he had no desire for them to learn the English language. A proposal was made to the King through the Alcaide for taking a youth in about 2 months : the King said, he cannot tell yet, till he see how we settle first ; when we are ready to receive the Boy, to let the Alcaide know, who will send word to the King ; who not yet settled in his Mind whether he will send a Boy.

2 mo. 19. Went to Barracks respecting Boat, where I had an opportunity for a few words to Soldiers, particularly to one for swearing.

3 mo. 21. Darned Duster & hemmed a Dish Cloth in evening.

The two young Africans often gave a good deal of trouble :

1824.

3 mo. 28. Mussa [one of his servants] tenderly addressed Mahmadee respecting his conduct towards me.

3 mo. 29. Preserved in much serenity in a trying situation with S. and M. this evening, whose conduct exceeded all bounds of decency. . . . The House this evening had the appearance of a Tavern, broken chairs, lantern, &c., thrown about the Room. . . . Still continued to be tried with Mahmadee's malignant disposition, who peremptorily demanded his Box, which I refused.

On the 8th of Fourth Month, he heard that H. K. and J. T. had returned from Sierra Leone to Bathurst, and on the 11th went over to attend the Monthly Conference. In the meeting for worship "desires that an increased Degree of knitting together might be experienced" were expressed.

4 mo. 22. Sat with J. T. at 12 : my Mind exercised on his account.

[It would appear from Luke Howard's letter of 6th mo. 7th, 1825, that some references to differences between R. S. and J. T. have been omitted from the transcript.]

On the 26th of Fourth Month, R. S. made an expedition up the river to Jillifree and Albreda. The French Commandant at the latter place had been a prisoner of war at Leek, where R. S. had seen him !

5 mo. 24. A little Light seemed to break in as to my stay in this Country ; I look a little towards a year.

About this time the girls' school at Bathurst was given up, and the whole party gathered at Birkow. A month's residence there "satisfied them of the eligibility of the place for a permanent settlement, but of the impossibility of their all remaining there during the coming rainy season. Moreover, the Government had intended this building for a convalescent hospital for the general use of the Colony ; and as the house comprised but one sitting-room and two lodging rooms, the idea of receiving young persons to be trained as teachers was quite impracticable." In these circumstances, it was decided that H. K. and the Thompsons should return to England before the rainy season, and they sailed on the 24th of Sixth Month. John Thompson died on the voyage, from a chill caught on board, not from the climate.

A few more extracts may be made :

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1824.

- 6 mo. 5. Annoyed & tried by Sandanee, who was intoxicated and threw an Iron at me with great vehemence.
- 6 mo. 14. Went with J. T. to most of the Merchants [at Bathurst] to inquire if Sandanee & Mahmadee owed them money.
- 6 mo. 22. [When, no doubt, feeling the coming departure of his companions] On board the *Sarah*, when in cabin, felt comforted in Mind on reflecting that my time was not yet come.
- 6 mo. 30. The Alcaide came and informed that he had seen the King, who sent his Service, & offered to do anything in his power to serve me. Informed J. T. Watch was found in the Bush.
- 7 mo. 6. Redeemed Humman Jie from domestic slavery for \$35.
- 7 mo. 7. Information that Sandanee was put in Jail. [Note by L.H.—“for being drunk and I conclude riotous.”]

The printed reports of the Committee contain no letters from R. S.: those from H. K. and J. T. make only slight incidental mention of him and his work; neither is much help to be had from the *Memoir of Hannah Kilham*, in which R. S.'s name occurs but occasionally. He worked mostly independently, with frequent help from J. T. With native labour supplied by the Alcaide, the settlement had been brought to a good degree of efficiency. On her return home, H. K. prepared, as a memorandum for the Committee, a clear review of Birkow when she left it, which gives a better idea of the work done by R. S. and J. T. in the six months than can be gathered from the Journal itself:

The establishment was left as agreeably settled as could be hoped for, and more so than we could have expected, for so short a time of residence. The garden, of about half an acre, enclosed, and several fruits and vegetables in cultivation. The distance, indeed, nearly a mile from the house; but the situation good, and the soil fertile. A well made in the garden, which gave for it and for the family, a constant supply of good water. A kind of carriage, prepared for bringing up water in a cask for the house, drawn by a horse, the first taught to perform labour in that district, and the wheels the first pair ever used at the Cape. The plough sent out by the Committee had been brought into use, and the land near the house was preparing against the rainy season. The house department was pretty well settled, and an inventory taken of the linen and other articles. Provisions had been laid in against the rains, so as to prevent the necessity of much communication with the island, as it is then often difficult. A young native married couple were living with R. Smith in the house. The wife, who had been our scholar and servant at Bathurst, can cook, wash, mangle, &c., having been accustomed to European families. She speaks English, Jaloof and a little Mandingo. A boy on the premises

can interpret Mandingo for R. Smith who is now about to apply to the acquisition of that language for himself. A set of lessons has been prepared in the Mandingo, a copy of which is left with R. Smith for his use. A school had been opened on First-days, for the instruction of the boys and girls of Birkow in Mandingo. There was also an evening school for the few young people of the family. These schools were intended to be continued by our friend, R. Smith. The stores, farming and other implements and school-apparatus, were removed to the Cape; the store-room neatly fitted up with shelves, and the things arranged. Our friend, R. Smith, is well-qualified to act in these concerns, and he has the esteem and confidence of the people. The disposition of the Alcaide of Birkow was very open and friendly toward us to the time of our departure, as was evinced by his sending his children to our school, which, in the first interview at Bathurst, he had declined. The Alcaide informed John Thompson, when about to take leave of him, that he regarded him as his son, and that if any one were to offer an injury to R. Smith, he should consider it as done to himself. We found that we could now leave Birkow with satisfaction, although deeply attached to the cause in which we were engaged.—(*Circular from the Committee on African Instruction*, dated 10 ix. 1824.)

But the arrangements which seemed so comfortable to H. K. were not destined to last; a fortnight after the *Sarah* had sailed, R. S. was feverish, and though he worked on diligently for a few days, by the 22nd of Seventh Month he was "much exhausted and no appetite for Meat, but thirsty: lay down most of day—felt better in the evening." This is the last entry; a letter from Captain Grant tells the rest. R. S. sent in to Bathurst on the morning of the 24th for medicine, which the doctor sent, at the same time urging him to come in to the hospital. Feeling better on the 25th, he postponed doing so till the next morning: when, though carefully tended in the hospital, he failed to rally, and passed away on the 30th—Mr. Morgan, a Wesleyan missionary, and Sandanee being with him all night.

R. S. had rarely been really well ever since he left England: the journal in Africa indicates that he was seldom feeling "fit," being constantly troubled by the functional derangement caused by the confinement on the voyage. The official description of the climate of the Gambia can say no more than that it is "fairly healthy in the dry season;" no doubt he was often about and at work when he had better have rested. He laboured assiduously at the garden, and mentions more than once

that he was wet to the waist in crossing creeks between Birkow and Bathurst. It is possible that he was not so strong of constitution as his friends supposed—that his privations in America had sown seeds of weakness which had been kept in check by an active life in Staffordshire, but were ready to develop when the opportunity occurred. Captain Grant, in his letter, attributes the final breakdown to over-exertion on the morning of the 22nd, when R. S. was ploughing with horses that had not been employed in that way for several days and were “rather ungovernable.”

Those who wish a very detailed account of this missionary enterprise on the Gambia may consult the *Memoir of Hannah Kilham*, which devotes eighty-eight pages to the subject. A year later she realised that her admonition about idleness had been perhaps too hasty. “We were ourselves often too closely occupied, and health, in some of us, consequently suffered. . . . Now I regret that we did not more frequently urge their leaving anything undone, rather than endanger their health by so much exertion.”

JOHN D. CROSFIELD

(To be concluded)

⁶² For Hannah Kilham, see THE JOURNAL, x. 52. Her *Memoir* was prepared by her step-daughter-in-law, Sarah Biller. See also *The Life of Alexander Kilham* [1762-1798], *Methodist Preacher*, Nottingham, 1799.

Various lesson-books in Mandingo and Jaloof, etc., were published between 1823 and 1828 (several in D.).

⁶³ The information respecting these two African youths is fragmentary, but apparently they had been common sailors before the mast, and were removed from some ship in an English port; and later, in 1823, their emancipation was effected in Africa, the sum of £46 7s. having been paid therefor. One, Sandanee, was from Goree, on the west coast of Africa, and the other, Mahmadee, from the banks of the Gambia. They both spoke the Jaloof (or Waloof) language. They were placed under the care of Hannah Kilham in Third Month, 1820, and later received instruction from William Singleton at Loxley, and William Impey at Earl's Colne. They were frequent visitors at Friends' houses around London. Favourable reports of conduct and progress were issued from time to time.

It must have been a great disappointment to those who had befriended them that when again in the country of their birth they should relapse into pernicious ways and belie their early promise. Mahmadee left the service of the Committee and established himself in a Mandingo

village. Sandanee disappeared from view under the care of a Wesleyan minister at Bathurst, not having "evinced a stability of conduct equal to his talent for conducting a native school."

⁶⁴ William Singleton (c. 1770-1832) apparently of Nottingham was a master at Ackworth School from 1807 to 1812—"an excellent teacher of reading, who rejoiced in raising the enthusiasm of his pupils by setting them to repeat together passages with such energy as to make the girls' wing ring again" (*Hist. of Ackworth School*, 1879). "He was a fine-looking man, erect and dignified, with hair combed straight back and cut at the neck" (*From the Lune to the Neva*, 1879).

Singleton, after leaving Ackworth, opened a boarding school for boys at Broomhall, in an old residence situated in what was then a suburb of Sheffield; George Edmondson (1798-1863) was his apprentice and future son-in-law (*Quaker Pioneers in Russia*, 1902, pp. 27 ff.). In 1814 he wrote *Mentor and Amander, or a Visit to Ackworth School*, in which he expresses disapproval of certain teaching and action. By 1823 he had left the Society, having given dissatisfaction to the Elders and others by his ministry. See his letters from Loxley to Friends of Balby M.M. in his *Result of a Seven Years' Mission*, 1823.* The next year he addressed the Y.M. by letter from "Owlerton, near Sheffield," and later wrote some *Strictures on the Yearly Meeting's Epistle* of that year.

⁶⁵ This report was published in the Report of the Committee in 1822. In 1823 £20 was paid "as a gratuity, to William Singleton, in consideration of the use of his Journal for the Report published."

⁶⁶ Luke Howard, F.R.S. (1772-1864), of Tottenham and Ackworth, was a scientist and *littérateur*. He was deeply interested in the Journal of Richard Smith and his work in Africa. In 1836 he resigned his membership among Friends, in connection with the Beacon Controversy. In his magazine, *The Yorkshireman* (1833-1837), there are references to Richard Smith, and letters to Toft Chorley are among the Richard Smith MSS. in D.

⁶⁷ John Eliot, the fourth of the name, see *Eliot Papers*, 1893 (1771-1830), is described as "pious and studious" and credit is given him in *Eliot Papers* for the preservation of family records. He was a bachelor, of Bartholomew Close, and said to have been extremely shy.

⁶⁸ John Sanderson (1781-1841) was treasurer to the Committee on African Instruction and signed a circular to the subscribers in 1824. He was a trustee of Yoakley's Charity. He was a London merchant in Old Jewry, with residence at Tottenham.

⁶⁹ Both original and Chorley transcript have *Hannah* Braithwaite—doubtless *Anna* Braithwaite (1788-1859), wife of Isaac, was the Friend intended.

⁷⁰ Robert Forster (1791-1873) was a son of William Forster, of Tottenham, in which town he lived and died. He was a land-surveyor and estate agent. He had six sisters, all of whom, with himself, died unmarried. His brothers were the well-known Josiah and William (*Recollections of the Forster Family*, 1893). Correspondence between R. Forster and Toft Chorley is with the Richard Smith MSS. in D.

⁷¹ William Allen, F.R.S. (1770-1843), minister, philanthropist, and scientist, prominent in all good works.

* This pamphlet was sold for one shilling, "the profits (if any) will be devoted to the cause of Africa." Some of his letters relating to his visit to Africa are in the possession of his great grandson, John W. Singleton, F.L.A., Borough Librarian, Accrington, and have been on loan in D.

⁷² Peter Bedford (1780-1864) of London and Croydon, "the Spitalfields Philanthropist," and friend of thieves.

⁷³ Edward Carroll (1784-1865) was a son of Isaac and Ann (Fisher) Carroll, of Cork. He removed to Uxbridge, near London, and there married Anna, daughter of Richard and Elizabeth Lowe, of Worcester, in 1816. Anna Carroll (1787-1850) was a Minister and her husband seems to have been in the same position. From the Testimony of Reading and Warborough M.M., issued in Third Month, 1851, we learn that her husband and she, after leaving Uxbridge, resided at Tottenham, Liverpool, Birmingham and Reading. "Anna Carroll visited most of the Meetings of Friends in Great Britain and Ireland, and frequently held meetings with persons not professing with Friends." Towards the close of 1850, her husband took her to Brighton, hoping that residence there might restore her health, but she died and was buried there in Twelfth Month, 1850.

His wife's death seems to have unstrung Edward Carroll's mind—there is a manuscript in D., which is a copy of a letter from him, commencing: "Osboldwick dreadful prison n^r York @ Tho^s Allis's * place of awful solitary Confinement 8th month 1851," and referring to "cruel wicked Ja^s Backhouse in bringing me to & placing me in this dreadful abode of death." There is a strong appeal to be allowed to return to his native place, Cork, and in response to this he was sent to the care of his relatives, Abram and Jane Fisher, at Youghal, but his death took place at Bloomfield Retreat, near Dublin.

A photograph of E. Carroll is in the possession of Ernest H. Bennis, of Limerick, a collateral descendant.

⁷⁴ Thomas Newman's name occurs among Friends on the African Instruction Committee. Was he a country member and the same as Thomas Newman, of Worcester, who died there in 1852, aged seventy-four?

⁷⁵ Richard Cockin (1753-1845) lived at Doncaster and was a well-known Quaker. MSS. of his, giving accounts of various attendances at London Y.M., etc., are in D. For his wife, Ellen Abraham, see THE JOURNAL, xiii. 45.

⁷⁶ James Cropper (1773-1840), philanthropist, of Liverpool, interested in the abolition of slavery, founder of Penketh School.

⁷⁷ Jonathan Backhouse (1779-1842) was of Darlington, banker and railway promoter. In 1811, he married Hannah Chapman Gurney (1787-1850). J. and H. C. Backhouse travelled extensively in the ministry in Great Britain and North America.

⁷⁸ Joseph Tregelles Price (1784-1854) was a son of Peter and Anna Price of Cornwall. He was engaged in the iron manufacture at Neath in South Wales. He was the prime mover in the formation of the Peace Society; on the 4th of June, 1814, he convened a meeting at Plough Court, attended by William Allen, Frederick Smith, Basil Montague, and others, to consider the establishment of a Society for the promotion of permanent and universal peace, but owing to the unsettled state of international affairs, the Society was not launched until 14th June, 1816. In 1819, while on a visit to Paris he was able to induce the

* Thomas Allis, F.L.S. (1788-1875), was Superintendent of the Retreat, York, from 1823 to 1841, following George Jepson and being succeeded by John Candler. After his retirement he appears to have taken charge of private mental cases, at his house at Osboldwick. He was a noted ornithologist, and one of the earliest members of the British Association. His only daughter, Elizabeth, married William Pumphrey (1817-1905), of York and Bath (*The Friend* (Lond.), 1905, p. 265).

formation of "La Société de la Morale Chrétienne," which had for its object the abolition of slavery and of capital punishment, etc.

See *Annual Monitor*, 1856.

⁷⁹ Samuel Tuke (1784-1857), the preacher and writer, of York, son and grandson of illustrious Quakers.

⁸⁰ This was probably William Davis who wrote on various ameliorative and philanthropic subjects, e.g., *Friendly Advice to industrious and frugal Persons, recommending Provident Institutions or Savings Banks* (4th ed., 1817). (At this time William Davis was one of the managers of the Provident Institution in Bath.) This is an interesting 16-page book. After referring to the value of small savings and the result in lives of persons of note, the subject is further dealt with under the following heads—rate of wages, setting out in life, early marriages, industry, frugality, education, clubs, adult schools, pride, dress, fashion, borrowing and pawning, ale houses, dram shops, gaming, etc. According to Joseph Smith (*Cata.* i. 516) Davis was of Minehead, then of Taunton and afterwards of Bath.

The *Annual Monitor* for 1840 records the death of a William Davis, of Taunton, in 1839, aged eighty.

⁸¹ Doubtless Joseph John Gurney (1788-1847). There is a record of his visit to Dorking, but no mention of the *contretemps*.

⁸² "Our dear young friend John Thompson took a heavy cold, which was succeeded by an inflammatory fever, that terminated in his removal, on the 6th of 7th month, fifteen days after their departure from the African coast" (*Circular from the Committee on African Instruction*, 1824). His age at death was twenty-three. The *Annual Monitor* for 1825 thus records his death: "It pleased an all-wise Providence to permit the termination of his disorder to close his continuance in mutability."

⁸³ Sir Charles McCarthy (1770?-1824) was Governor from 1812 to 1824. He was mortally wounded in a battle with the Ashantees (*D.N.B.*).

Books Wanted

THE Library Department at Devonshire House has been engaged for some time in supplying Friends' literature to public and private libraries and other institutions, and has made up sets of various periodicals for the British Museum, Universities' Libraries, National Libraries of Ireland and Wales and many town libraries. It now appeals for help from those who have such literature for which they would be glad to find positions of usefulness.

Here follows a second list of Wants (for previous list see xiv. 88):

GLOUCESTER PUBLIC LIBRARY:

Annual Monitor, early issues.

DEVONSHIRE HOUSE REFERENCE LIBRARY:

Autobiography of Frederick Douglass; *Johnny Darbyshire, a Country Quaker*, 1845, and *Duganne's Fighting Quakers*, 1866, both fiction.

CHARLES J. HOLDSWORTH, ALDERLEY EDGE, CHESHIRE:

London Y.M. folio Epistles, all prior to 1694 (except 1686), also 1697-1700, 1702, 1704, 1706.