

Notices Relating to Friends in "The Gentleman's Magazine" 1783 to 1786¹

1783

DIED, 4 December, "At Bristol, in her 52^d year, Mrs. Hannah Waring, one of the people called Quakers. A woman whose innate sweetness of temper, and spotless purity of heart, shone throughout her whole life and conversation" (a third of a column in most appreciative style, as to her perfections). "Her remains were interred with her ancestors on the 10th, in the Quakers' burial ground, at Alton in Hampshire" (Part II., p. 1065).²

DIED, 12 December, "At Amwell, co. Herts, John Scott, esq.; one of the people called Quakers, author of a pleasing poem, entitled *Amwell*, 17—, in 4to, republished 1776, 4to (See our vol. xlvi. p. 318), and of other poetical works printed 1782, 8vo. (See our vol. lii., p. 489); also of a most useful *Digest of Laws respecting Highways*, 1778, 8vo. To this subject he had particularly turned his thoughts; and in this book not only the law respecting highways and turnpikes is to be found, but a number of judicious and well-founded remarks on the construction and preservation of roads (See our vol. i. p. 20).

"The loss of this most active and public-spirited man will be more easily felt than expressed in his neighbourhood, and in the wide circle of his acquaintance. Of his zeal in the defence of his friend, Dr. Beattie, see vol. xlviii. p. 152" (Part II., p. 1066).

DIED, "Mrs. Vigor (see p. 806), at Windsor on Friday, September 12; and her loss will be severely felt by the neighbouring poor, amongst whom she was constantly searching after proper objects for the exertion of her charity and benevolence. Together with great cheerfulness of mind and equality of temper, she retained an uncommon quickness of apprehension and vigour of

¹ For extracts from years 1731 to 1783, see volume xiii.
For other notes, see page 67.

understanding, to the time of her death. Having lived much in the world, and being well acquainted with books, her conversation was the delight of all who had the pleasure of knowing her ; of the vivacity of her wit and her talents for observation, the public have had a specimen in the volume of *Letters from a Lady residing in Russia, to her Friend in England* ; which she was in a manner obliged to publish to prevent a spurious and incorrect copy from being obtruded on the world. At a time of life remarkable for apathy and indifference, she possessed a degree of sensibility, and a tenderness of feeling, approaching almost to weakness ; numberless examples of which will occur to her friends on perusing this faint sketch of a most amiable and engaging character ” (Part II., p. 892).³

QUAKERS ADDRESS TO THE KING, 21 March. “ The address of the people called Quakers, was presented to his Majesty, and read by Mr. David Barclay, accompanied by a select number of respectable friends, which was most graciously received ” (Part I., p. 267).

QUAKERS PETITION THE HOUSE OF COMMONS ON SLAVERY. 16 June, “ This day the following remarkable petition was presented to the House of Commons ” which was duly read ($\frac{1}{2}$ column, Part I., p. 534).

QUAKERS ADDRESS THE KING ON PEACE VERSUS WAR. “ Their address to the King, mentioned in p. 267, is too singular to be omitted. It was presented and read by Mr. David Barclay ; accompanied by Mr. Jacob Hagen, Mr. Tho. Corbyn, Mr. John Eliot, Mr. Dan. Mildred, Mr. John Wright, Tho. Knowles, M.D., and J. Coakley Lettsom, M.D., being introduced by the Lord in waiting.” ($\frac{3}{4}$ column ; signed 19 iii. 1783, by a committee of 78 Persons). To which the King replied : “ I always receive with pleasure your assurances of duty and affection to my person and family, and so do particularly upon the event of peace. You may be assured of my constant protection, as your uniform attachment to my government, and peaceable disposition and conduct, are highly acceptable to me ” (Part I., p. 535).

QUAKERS' YEARLY MEETING EPISTLE, signed by William Tuke (3 columns, Part I., pp. 524, 525).

1784

DIED, 31 December (1783) "At Topsham, Devonsh[ire], in her 84th year, Mrs. A. Collier,⁴ one of the people called Quakers" (Part I., p. 73).

DIED, 11 January, "Near Cogges-Hall [Coggeshall], Essex, Osgood Hanbury, esq." (Part I., p. 74).

DIED, 9 June, "At Hertford, Dr. Dimsdale, of Bloomsbury-squ[are], son of the Hon. Baron D[imsdale]" (Part I., p. 477).

QUAKERS ADDRESS THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS ON THE SLAVE TRADE. Letter from Friend T. B. to Mr. Urban, enclosing it. It is signed by the Yearly Meeting held in Philadelphia, 4 x. 1783 by 535 members (one column) (Part I., p. 121).

LETTER to "Friend Urban" from "Ebenezer Barclay," asking a number of singular topographical, historical, etc. questions (Part I., p. 349).

DIED, March. "Between 70 and 80, on a visit to her son at Clapham, soon after she had got into the house, the wife of Mr. Tim[othy] Bevan, druggist, of Lombard str[ee]t and Hackney. His sister died lately in an advanced age" (Part I., p. 316).⁵

MARRIED, 13 July, "Abel Chapman, esq., to Miss Rebecca Bell" (Part II., p. 556).

DIED, 23 July, "At Falstead [Felstead], Essex, in her 105th year, Abigail Sewell" (Part II., p. 558).⁶

DIED, 17 August, "At Worcester, aged 29, Mrs. Thresher [*née* Jane Harry], wife of Mr. [Joseph] Thresher [Junior], surgeon, one of the people called Quakers" (*vide* J. J. Green's "Jenny Harry," in *Friends' Quarterly Examiner*, No. 189, where this account of about half a column is fully quoted). (Part II., p. 716.)

MARRIED, 6 October, "Joseph Gurney, esq., banker, in Norwich, to Miss Jane Chapman, dau. of the late Abel C[hapman] esq., of Whitby" (Part II., p. 796).

DIED, 20 October, "At Stamford-hill, Mrs. Catharine Bell, wife of Mr. Dan[iel] B[ell], coal-merchant" (Part II., p. 799).

DIED, 7 November, "At Newbury, Berks, Mr. Tho[mas] Letchworth, late of Kent street-road, an eminent preacher among the people called Quakers, and editor of a periodical work, under the title of *The Monthly*

Ledger, published a few years since," etc. (one-third of a column, highly appreciative of his Christian and humane character) (Part II., p. 878).

DIED, 19 November "At Plassey (Pleshey), Essex, Peter Smith, one of the people called Quakers, aged 100 years and 2 months.⁷ He was formerly a shop-keeper at Stebbing, in the same county, and had retired from business. He has left all his relations some small legacies, and £100 to the poor children at Stebbing" (Part II., p. 879).

1785

DIED, 9 January, "Mrs. [Hannah] Bartlett, wife of Mr. Benjamin B[artlett], F.S.A., of Lamb's Conduit-street" (Part I., p. 78).

ANECDOTE OF DR. FOTHERGILL (Part I., pp. 87, 88).

THE LATE JOHN BARNARD, ESQ., "son and heir to the great patriot of that name (see vol. liv., p. —), died worth two hundred thousand pounds, but dying without issue, he left his real and personal estates to his nephew, Thomas Hankey, Esq." etc. (Part I., p. 155).

MARRIED, "Lately, at Newcastle, Mr. Silvertop to Mrs. Pearson:—this is the third time that this lady has been before the altar [*sic.*] in the character of a bride, and there has been something remarkable in each of her three connubial engagements. Her first husband was a Quaker, her second a Roman Catholic, and her third is a Protestant of the established church. Every husband was twice her age; at 16 she married a gentleman of 32; at 30 she took one of 60; and now at 42, she is united to a gentleman of 84" !! (Part I., p. 155).

DIED, 29 January, "of a paralytic stroke, Mr. George Witchell, F.R.S., and head master of the royal academy at Portsmouth. This excellent astronomer, born in 1728, was descended, by the mother's side, from the celebrated watch and clock maker, Daniel Quare, and was himself brought up to that business. He, as all his progenitors for many generations had been, was educated in the principles professed by the people called Quakers; but quitted them, on arriving at years of maturity, for those of the Church of England, or rather those which were professed by Sir Isaac Newton, Dr. Samuel Clarke, Mr. Whiston, and many others; and

perhaps, no man ever understood, or could defend them better than Mr. Witchell did. He cultivated the study of astronomy very early indeed, for a communication on that subject from him may be seen in the first *Gentleman's Diary*, which was published in 1741. Much about the same time, or soon after, he became a pretty constant correspondent of Mr. Urban, sometimes under his real name, but more frequently under the initials, G.W. In 1764, he published a map of the passage of the moon's shadow over England in the great solar eclipse which happened on the first of April that year, the exact correspondence of which to the observations gave him great reputation. In the following year, he presented to the commissioners of longitude a plan for calculating the effects of parallax and refraction on the distance of the moon, from the sun or a fixed star, for facilitating the discovery of the longitude at sea, and for which he was gratified with a very handsome reward by the said commissioners, and in 1767, he was appointed master of the Royal Academy, on the recess of the late Mr. Robertson" (Part I., p. 156).

DIED, March, "At Aglionby, Cumberland, Mr. Joseph Bond, aged 102, one of the people called Quakers" (Part I., p. 236).⁸

DIED, 11 March, "At Graysouthen, near Cocker-mouth, Mr. Joseph Watson, in an advanced age, one of the people called Quakers, and many years a reputable flax-dresser at Whitehaven" (Part I., p. 237).⁹

DIED, 20 April, "At Laleham, Middlesex, Mrs. Penn, widow of the late Hon. Richard Penn, formerly proprietor and governor of Pennsylvania in North America" (Part I., p. 326).

BIRTH, April, "The wife of Mr. Joseph Cockfield, of Upton, a son" (Part I., p. 402).¹⁰

QUAKERS AND PEACE, "The principles of peace, which characterise the Society of Quakers and forbid them from taking any part in wars, or to partake of any profits arising from wars, have been lately eminently displayed by one of these peaceable people, who, being involuntarily drawn in by his partners, to take part in some privateers during the late war, on receiving his dividend, sent his son to Paris to notify the names of all

the ships taken by these privateers, and to apply to Dr. Edw[ard] Long Fox, Hotel d'York, Rue Jacob à Paris, to receive their respective proportions of his share" (Part I., p. 234).

LETTER from William Sewel to Springett Penn in Latin, dated Amsterdam. Also letter of W^m. Penn to his son, the said Springett Penn (Part II., pp. 504, 505).

MARRIED, 19 July, "At the Quakers' meeting at Winchmore Hill, Mr. Benjamin Head, merchant of Tottenham, to Miss Maria Hewson" ¹¹ (Part II., p. 664).

DIED, 29 July, "In Fleet-st[reet] Mr. Alex: Forbes, apothecary" (Part II., p. 665).

DIED, 3 October, "At Lancaster, aged 88, Myles Birket, esq., one of the people called Quakers" (Part II., p. 836).

DIED, 19 October, "At [the manor-house], Great Ealing [Middlesex], Tho[mas] Gurnell, esq." (Part II., p. 837).

DIED, November, "At Whitby, aged 80, Mr. John Palmer, one of the people called Quakers" (Part II., p. 920).

DIED, 25 November, "At Marybonne, Mr. Opie, an eminent painter" (account of him.) (Part II., p. 1008).¹²

1786

DIED, 10 March, "At Clapham, Mr. John Masterman," (Part I., p. 269).

DIED, 8 April, "In Henrietta-str[ee]t, Convent Garden, Mr. Wright, banker" (Part I., p. 353).

DIED, "At Spalding, in his 66th year, William Hawkes, treasurer to the body of adventurers in Deeping fen. He was of the society of Christians called Quakers. This distinction was in him merely nominal, for he retained the moral purity of every sect without their formalities—he had a soul superior to pride, for he deemed it a meanness in the creature, and the extinction of the Christian—he discharged a multiplicity of private trusts with a peculiar sagacity, an indefatigable industry, and a rare fidelity—he stretched forth his hand to honest poverty with a secret liberality—he met with ardour the wishes of oppressed merit—he was a man of singular

penetration in useful knowledge—so devoid of passion that he seemed not to feel it—he had his foes and his faults, because he was a man—the number of the last was small, and of the first still smaller—his familiars must long lament him, and the necessitous for ever.—Go, reader, go, emulate a character so fair—and if thy heart should labour for expression, say, ‘ There died the friend of man ’ ” (Part II., pp. 618, 619).¹³

QUAKERS OF WANDSWORTH offer thanksgiving to God for the King’s escape from assassination, 20 August (Part II., p. 712).

LETTER FROM JAMES NEILD AND OTHERS TO DR. LETTSOM *re* John Howard (Part II., p. 723).

LETTER FROM DR. LETTSOM *re* Howardian Fund (Part II., pp 723, 724).

DIED, August, “ At West Ham, advanced in years, of an inveterate cancer in his face under which he had long laboured, Mr. Zachariah Cockfield, timber-merchant, and many years a captain in the Norway trade ” (Part II., p. 810).¹⁴

DIED, 13 November, “ at Battersea, Thomas Tritton, esq., an eminent brewer and father to Mr. T [ritton], banker ” (Part II., p. 1003).

DIED, 16 November, “ In Lombard-str[ee]t, Tho. Knowles, M.D., physician to the Eastern Dispensary ” (Part II., p. 1003).

DIED, 21 November, “ Sir Edw. Wilmot, bart. of Chattlesden, co. Derby, in his 94th year. He had been physician to the Royal Family for 42 years ” (N.B.—he was son-in-law to Dr. Richard Mead by Ruth Marsh, a Quaker, his wife) (Part II., p. 1003).

MARRIED, 7 December, “ At the Quakers’ Meeting-house at Longford, Thomas Woodroffe Smith, of Great St. Helen’s, merchant, to Elizabeth, daughter of Samuel West, of Maidenhead, late of London, merchant ” (Part II., p. 1091).

JOSEPH J. GREEN

To be continued

NOTES

For note 1 see page 60.

² Hannah, daughter of Samuel Waring, Sen., died 4 xii. 1783. A letter from her to Ann Fothergill, from Alton, 1 iv. 1781, is in D.

³ For the Vigor family, see THE JOURNAL, xiii. 35, 69, 158.

⁴ Ann, wife of Benjamin Collier, of Topsham.

⁵ Hannah, wife of Timothy Bevan, died 28 iii. 1784. Susannah Bevan (?sister of Timothy) died 29 ii. 1784, aged 83.

⁶ No Friend of this name occurs in the Essex Burial Registers.

⁷ No centenarian of this name is found in the Essex Burial Registers—there was a Peter Smith who died 13 ix. 1784, aged 75.

⁸ No centenarian of this name is found in the Burial Registers for Cumberland—a Joseph Bond of Aglionby died 24 ii. 1785, aged 93.

⁹ There was a Joseph Watson of Greysouthen, who died 1 iii. 1785, aged 67.

¹⁰ Zechariah, son of Joseph and Elizabeth Cockfield, was born 17 iv. 1785.

¹¹ Hannah Maria Howson was the bride married 19 vii. 1785.

¹² John Opie died in 1807. "Opie was one of the few who have the privilege of reading their own obituary notices. . . . How this mistake occurred is not known."—*John Opie and his Circle*, 1911, p. 57.

¹³ William Hawkes, of Spalding, grazier, died 27 vi. 1786.

¹⁴ Zechariah Cockfield, died 1786, viii. 22, aged 78.

Presentations in Episcopal Visitations 1662:1679

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DURHAM

BISHOP AUCKLAND. Auckland St. Andrew 1662.
Nov. 4. Josephū Avery, Emmanuelem Grice, Johem
Langstaffe, Johem Malton (morf), Anthm Hodgshon,
Gulielmū Barnes (eḡ), Georgiū Wilson, Gulielmū Heavyside,
Edrūm Lampson & Henr Harbuckler—Quakers.