

Leading the Way

BEING a Series of brief Sketches of Quaker Inventions and Discoveries, and of Friends who have led the Way in various directions.¹

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LXXIV

NATHANIEL CARD (1805-1856) was born in Dublin and died in Manchester. "Mr. Card's name will longest be remembered from his connection with the United Kingdom Alliance for the legislative suppression of the liquor traffic, which great movement he was the means of founding in the year 1852" (*Manchester Examiner and Times*, 31st March, 1856).

LXXV

DR. BARTHOLOMEW FUSSELL (1794-1871) originated the idea of a women's medical college, which developed into the Women's Medical College of Pennsylvania, established in 1850. "His association with an elder sister led him first to ask 'Why should not women have the same opportunities as men.?' " (*The Woman Citizen*, New York, Oct. 7, 1922.)

"He was born in Chester Co., Pa. Moved with his father to Md., as a young man, where he worked as a school teacher by day, studied medicine at night, and taught slaves to read on Sundays. When he had graduated he practised in Pa., where he became successful. He married Lydia Morris in 1826. Their house at Kennett Square, Pa., soon became one of the regular places of refuge on the Underground Railroad and they entertained at various times nearly all the leaders of the anti-slavery movement who came to Kennett Square. His first wife died in 1840. In 1841 he married Rebecca Hewes and moving to York,

¹ The Editor would be glad to receive information regarding other inventions, discoveries, etc., or regarding other claimants to any of the inventions or positions introduced. The length of the Sketch bears no proportion to the importance of the subject.

The Editor is obliged for information received.

Pa., opened a school to which coloured youths were admitted.

“ His convictions about the fitness of women for the medical profession were due to the influence of his elder sister, Esther Lewis. In 1846 he enlisted the sympathy of progressive medical men and eventually, after considerable obstacles had been overcome, succeeded in founding the Medical College for Women, North College Avenue, Phila. He was never officially connected with the College, but regarded its foundation as one of the important results of his life. He spent a part of his later years at Pendleton, Ind., in the home of his son Joshua. Died at the home of his son, Dr. Morris Fussell, near Chester Springs, Chester Co., Pa, 14 ii. 1871.” (From Smedley’s *Underground Railroad*, 1883.)

LXXVI

JOHN COAKLEY LETTSOM (1744-1815), “ in 1770, founded the General Dispensary in Aldersgate-street (the first of its kind in London); he established the Sea-Bathing Infirmary at Margate; he was one of the founders of our own society [the Medical Society]; he was one of the founders of the Royal Humane Society; he was the first man to introduce into England the mangel wurzel.” (Lecture: “ John Coakley Lettsom and the Foundation of the Medical Society,” by Sir St. Clair Thomson, M.D., printed in *The Lancet*, January 12th, 1918.)

LXXVII

DR. ANN PRESTON (1813-1872), a member of West Grove Meeting, Pa., was the first woman to serve as a member of the faculty of the Women’s Medical College of Pennsylvania, and in 1867 she was elected Dean of the Faculty. “ Like most of the path-finding women she was a temperance worker and active in the anti-slavery cause.” (*The Woman Citizen*, New York, Oct. 7th, 1922.)

Furthey and Cope, *History of Chester County, Pa.*

LXXVIII.

GEORGE MIDDLETON JUSTICE (1792-1862) “ was a leading hardware merchant of Philadelphia . . . while many took part in urging upon the City the advisability of establishing a public observatory, the pre-eminent leaderships must be given to George M. Justice . . . who may

truly be called the founder of the public observatory. . . . The first notice of Halley's Comet in Philadelphia came from him. . . . The firm of G. M. and G. R. Justice was the first in Philadelphia to send out commercial travellers. The firm acted as bankers for their customers for many years." (*Ancestry of Jeremy Clarke and Dungan Genealogy*, compiled by Alfred Rudolph Justice, Phila., 1923.)

LXXIX

WINIFRED KIEK (*née* Jackson), of Adelaide, formerly of Manchester Meeting, is the first woman in Australia to secure the degree of Bachelor of Divinity (B.D.).

The Friend (Lond.), 1923, p. 237.

LXXX

WILLIAM WILSON (c. 1711-1793) was the founder of the Barnsley Linen Trade.

Life, by Burland, 1860; *Jnl.* xiv. 135.

LXXXI

THOMAS EDDY (1758-1827), merchant and philanthropist of New York, has been styled "the Howard of America."

Life, by Samuel L. Knapp, 1834.

LXXXII

CHARLES MAY (c. 1801-1860) "was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society in 1854 for his skill in constructing some of the most important astronomical instruments at Greenwich Observatory, with an accuracy never before attained." (*Jnl.* vii. 45.)

LXXXIII

DR. WILLIAM THORNTON (1761-1828), of Tortola, West Indies, and U.S.A., amateur architect—took his plan for erection of the President's house and Capitol at Washington, D.C., to President George Washington. . . . The Capitol building, probably the best known and most imposing structure in America, was erected substantially from his plans. (Jenkins, *Tortola*, 1923, p. 60.)

LXXXIV

WILLIAM COOKWORTHY (1705-1780) discovered Cornish china clay, and in 1768 "obtained a patent for the exclusive use of Cornish clay and Cornish stone in the manufacture of porcelain." (*D.N.B.*)

LXXXV

LINDLEY MURRAY (1745-1826) has been described as "the father of English Grammar."

LXXXVI

THOMAS WHITWELL (1837-1878) lived at Stockton, Co. Durham. He "established his reputation as a metallurgist and was the author of several useful inventions connected with stoves and furnaces" (*Biog. Cata. London Friends' Institute*, 1888, p. 722).

LXXXVII

JAMES LAWS (-), of Germantown, Pa., was a tanner in Philadelphia. "He introduced the growing of grapes under glass in this country and continued it at his place in Washington Lane." (*Quakers in Germantown*, 1923, p. 25.)

LXXXVIII

PRISCILLA WAKEFIELD (1750/51-1832), of Tottenham, was "one of the earliest promoters, if not the original suggester of those beneficial establishments now so generally known under the name of Savings Banks [1798] and the one at Tottenham is said to have been one of the earliest." (*Biog. Cata. London Friends' Institute*, 1888, p. 680.)

LXXXIX

MARK NEWBURY (-1683) was "the founder of the first bank in the State of New Jersey," 1682. (Clement, *First Settlers in the Newton Township, N.J.* (1877), p. 40.)

XC

JAMES C. HALLOCK, the Father of the New York Clearing House, was born 12th mo. 3, 1809, at West Farms, Westchester Co., N.Y., and died in Brooklyn, 10th mo. 5, 1885; a member of New York Monthly Meeting (held at 15th Street). In 1852 he proposed arbitration between the banks of New York, in the form of a Clearing House. As the bankers would not consider the London plan, he invented an original method, the most expeditious ever devised, and at the end of a year got them to adopt it. The Clearing House was opened October 11th, 1853, since which there has been peace and harmony between the banks. Theretofore the banks of the City kept accounts with each other, Friday being the regular settlement day, and were

periodically in a state of private war over their accounts by forcing settlements with certain banks on other days.

This statement is condensed from a biographical sketch by James C. Hallock, son of the above-named, who is a physician, and an expert and advocate on clearing of out of town checks, on which subject he published a book in 1903. He states that his father was never in the banking business.

Information from John Cox, Jr. of New York.

XC I

REUBEN HAINES (1786-1831). A booklet recently issued by the American Guernsey Cattle Club gives the story of the Guernsey cow in America. Its first importer was Reuben Haines, a Friend of Germantown, in 1818. He lived at the "Wyck," the oldest house in Germantown, and now occupied by a direct descendant, Casper Wister Haines. The old barn where it is supposed the early imported Guernseys were quartered was made into an attractive colonial dwelling about twenty years ago. (*The American Friend*, 14 vi. 1923.)

Letter from C. W. Haines, 1923.

XC II

"MRS. T. G. MASON (*née* MISS LAURA HEATH) passed her examination as a Chemist in 1888 and was the first woman to qualify as a Chemist by examination in New Zealand. She was for some years in sole charge of the Wellington Hospital Dispensary." (*The Ladies' Mirror*, June 1st, 1923). Mrs. T. G. Mason is a Friend.

XC III

THOMAS YOUNG (1773-1829), M.D., F.R.S., "was, without doubt, the greatest man of letters and of science that has sprung from the ranks of the Society of Friends." (*F.Q.E.*, 1868, p. 374).

"His skill was tasked to the utmost in his attempt to decipher the three-fold inscription on the stone brought from Rosetta in Egypt and placed in the British Museum. . . . This famous stone has furnished the key to unlock the mysterious language of ancient Egypt, and though no single scholar owns the complete discovery, yet none seems to have a claim to the honour of overcoming the earliest and greatest

difficulties which can be placed in comparison with Dr. Young, and his name must always be prominent among the eminent men who have brought to light the treasures of a remote antiquity." (*Biog. Cata, Lond. Friends' Inst.*, p. 756.)

XCIV

JETHRO WOOD, the inventor of the cast iron plow, was born at Dartmouth, Mass., 3d mo. 16, 1774, only son of John and Dinah (Hussey) Wood, members of Dartmouth Monthly Meeting. He married Sylvia Howland at White Creek, N.Y., 1st mo. 1, 1793, and died about 1840.

Bent on inventing a better plow, he experimented by carving wood and raw potatoes to get an ideal curve. He was living at Scipio, N.Y., when he took out his first patent, in 1814, and his second patent, for an improved moldboard and cast iron standard joining it with the wooden beam. He manufactured his plows, but the business was much injured by infringements until 1845, when the Courts settled that all manufacturers must pay his heirs royalties.

NOTES

XL. C. Francis Jenkins, 5502, 16th Street, Washington, D.C., writes : " Thanks for notice in vol. xix. of my invention of the Motion Picture Projector (completed in 1893-4), of the type which is now in use in every theatre the world over. I send examples of my latest activities, namely Photographs and Motion Pictures by Radio. If, as I maintain, pictures which speak a universal language contribute very greatly to understanding between peoples of unlike tongues, then when pictures are grafted onto the boundless range of the radio, I shall feel that I have contributed my bit with other Friends to world peace."

LXVII. Ada Salter was the first *woman* Labour Mayor in the country.

LXXIII. The dates of Jonathan Dodgson Carr are 1807-1884. He resigned his membership among Friends in May, 1869, and his son, Thomas William Carr, in August, 1868 ; it is said that the reason for so doing was that they took their Bibles to meeting with them, a practice not approved by Friends in that day.

To be Continued