

Fincham of Norfolk and Suffolk

ANOTHER Quaker incursion into family history (see vol. xx. p. 2) is referred to in *Historical Notices of the Village and Parish of Fincham, in the County of Norfolk*, by the Rev. William Blyth, M.A., Kings Lynn, 1863, 190 pages.¹

Chapter xvi. p. 130, introduces us to JOHN FINCHAM, of Thelnetham, "a considerable landed proprietor, from whom we have known and manifold descent." His second wife was Dorothy White, of Thetford, married 1681. "He was among the first in these parts to adopt the tenets of the Society of Friends, when that body took its rise in this country about 1670 or 1680. And, dying in that community, he was buried in their burialground at Hopton, Suffolk. His will is dated 11th month (January), 1710/11, and was proved December 13th, 1712." The name does not appear in Besse's *Sufferings*, or has it been found elsewhere.

The only surviving son of John and Dorothy Fincham was BENJAMIN FINCHAM, I. (d. 1727). "He married Mary Browne, of Hempnall [near Norwich], and lived at Diss, and was, I suppose, the founder of the well-known banking establishment in that town." He was buried in Friends' burialground at Tasburgh. He had two sons (Benjamin and Zachariah) and a daughter, who married Dr. Goddard. Zachariah (1722-1767) married Elizabeth Heywood, of Diss, 1743. His family had a Quaker birthright, but were all baptized in early life.

BENJAMIN FINCHAM, II. (1716-1789), married Hannah Simpson, of Diss—issue, Benjamin and Hannah. Hannah died in 1827, aged 84.

BENJAMIN FINCHAM, III. (1741-1820²), married, in 1763, Margaret Hopson, of Norwich, where he lived sometime in a house said to have belonged to the notorious Kett. He removed to Wymondham and later to Epping. He was buried at Southwark. The children were John, Benjamin and Margaret, who all died young, and William. James Jenkins notes in his *Records and Reminiscences* under date

1815: "3 mo. 1. deceased my much esteemed friend, Margaret, wife of Benjamin Fincham of Epping" (p. 887), and in 1820 he wrote that "among the number of those with whom I am no more to enjoy pleasurable converse in this world" was "Benjamin Fincham, late of Epping, in the 80th year of his age. Whilst in London I visited his grave at Long Lane Burialground" (p. 1015).

WILLIAM FINCHAM (1769-1846) lived at Parkstone, Dorset, and married Sarah Rolles (c. 1774-1846), of Poole. They had a son, William.

WILLIAM COLE FINCHAM, of Blanford, married in 1855, Harriet, daughter of Robert Baskett, of Spettisbury, and had no issue. "He was the last member of the family educated in the communion of the Society of Friends; he was baptized into the Church of England in 1861."

The entries of Fincham in the Friends' Registers for Norfolk and Norwich extend from 1673 to 1827. The Quakerism of the family ended in 1861.

¹ H. W. Fincham, Esq., F.S.A., kindly lent us a copy of this book. Mr. Fincham is Knight of Grace of the Order of St. John of Jerusalem, and Hon. Assistant Librarian to the Order.

² Blyth gives 1789, 1820 would seem to be correct.

George Fox's Caution Respecting Printing of Books and Papers

"Friends. To you all that answers any books or writes forth any papers to be printed, let them be sent to Robert Drings, at Moorfields to be seen and read before they go to the press.

"Let this go among all friends every where to be read in Yorkshire.

"GEORGE FOX."

From a modern copy in Kaye Papers, 4to, belonging to Charles J. Holdsworth.

The Early Life, Correspondence and Writings of the Right Hon. Edmund Burke, by Samuels, 1923, contains correspondence between Burke and Richard Shackleton, with a portrait of the latter.