

“The Forty Five”

JN volume xix, under the heading “On behalf of the King, 1745,” we printed a letter from Thomas Savage, describing the battle of Clifton; we now continue the subject of the connection of Friends with the rising of the Young Pretender, first noticing a recent publication: *The Forty-Five. A Narrative of the last Jacobite Rising, by several contemporary hands*, edited by Professor Charles Sanford Terry, Litt.D., etc. Cambridge University Press, 1922, 8s. 6d. net.

The method adopted by Professor Sanford Terry of the University of Aberdeen in his recent book *The Forty-Five*, combining into one narrative various original documents relating to the rebellion of the Young Pretender in 1745, has produced a valuable and full contemporary account of this important event in British history. The authorities laid under contribution number twenty, and have all been previously printed. This volume of 208 pages is supplied with maps of “The Highland Clans in the Jacobite Period” and of the route taken by Prince Charles Edward, also plans of the battle-ground of Prestonpans, Falkirk, and Culloden.

Interesting additions to the story of the Rebellion, not included in this book, written by Friends, have survived. In addition to the Savage letter referred to, printed in volume XIX, there was printed in *The Friend* (Lond.), 1874, pp, 63, 64, a letter by Thomas Rebanks, of Kendal, to Richard Hingston, of Penryn, dated a few weeks after the letter of Thomas Savage, which it seems well to place on record here, while the subject of the Rebellion is before our readers.

See also volume xviii—“The Acts of the Rebels.”

“Kend^l 13th 12th mo., 1745/6.

Dear Friend,—I immediately wrote to D. Keyton after y^e Receipt of thine to w^{ch} I had his ans^r the last post. That the Man whom he sent thy Son’s Box by, is lately arrived, has told to my Friend where he left it of w^{ch} he ha^s advis’d thee the 28th ult^o y^t and the Box too I hope thou hast received before this, the latt^r I expected had reached Penryn many months ago, but where it was left he cannot tell me.

To give thee a particul^r Acc^t how barbarously the rebels have used the Towns and Counties thro w^{ch} they march'd would fill a Volume more, especially in their return, every Family, yea, almost every person in a Family can tell a surprising Tale ; such a number of nasty, lousy Villains and Plunderers our eyes never beheld before, nor ever desire to see the like again ; to decypher them more particularly here is needless. The Public Prints w^{ch} circulate the Nation over, have done y^t to our hand. There might be about 2,000 clever stout fellows as any w^tever, some others of them men of good learning and finer sense that it was astonishing to think that men of their sagacity should be so warmly infatuated and attached in so bad a cause, but for the rest they were many of them old men and boys, mere Vassals to their Chiefs, an ignorant and stupid pack who bear the nearest resemblance to the ancient Banditti.

But as thy request is limited mostly to know how Friends in our part have fared, I am free to give thee a short hint whereby thou mayst judge of the rest. In their going south in a general way they behaved pretty well, only most of them ate and drunk heartily and paid little or nothing ; the Highland Clan, few of them had beds ; I pig'd twenty of them into my hayloft upon straw, they tarried here three or four nights. I had eight officers who had Beds—the rest of our Friends were not much throng'd, but came off wth the loss of Victuals, &c., but that Jn Wilson's son had much Leather cut, spoiled in the Fats. They collected the Excise, proclaim'd their king, which they did at most of the Towns between us and Carly.¹ At their first coming I was sent for to the Duke of Perth, whom I was twice with he was seemingly a corteous, humane gentleman, I should have gone along with him to the French ambassador, but time would not permit.

In their Retreat their countenances were changed, but indeed this Town had provoked them, tho' they were chiefly Country people come to Market w^{ch} began the Uproar.

Thou must know the Van Guard consisting of about 150, amongst them was the Duke of Perth in his chaise coming out of the High Street down ours. A mob begun to huzza, throw stones, clods, or any Thing they could get, which occasioned the Gentle Mens Men, in the Habit of Hussars,

¹ That is, Carlisle. See the same word in *Camb. Jnl.* i. 116.

to turn about & fire by w^{ch} 3 men were killed & then all rode away with the utmost Precipitation, down our Street and over the Bridge for diverse 1000^s were rising ; we many of us fear'd the miserable Calamities this would bring upon us, if not speedily prevent^d. 2 more Friends and mySelf therefore exerted our best endeavours to stop great numbers running down the Street, many wth Firelocks. Our May^r & Record^r were out of Town, but we applied to 2 Justices to suppress the Mob wthout Loss of time or they would be too powerful and w^tever the consequence might be wth The Van Guard, as Their Army was behind w^t could be thought would become of us & the Town. They Unit in Judgm^t, sent the Bell man & divers Others, with Orders to disperse without Delay ; & as the Men rode away no more Mischief was done, but a Serv^t of the Dukes wounded, & a Hussar killed. The next day came in their army provok'd at w^t had been done & as Lord George Murray's Horses were sent to a Stable out of Town, several Country men seiz'd of 4, dismounted the Men & rode away, with them, for w^{ch} the Innkeeper made satisfaction ; but still they threatened to burn the Town for Insult, and had not the Duke and his Company come back again, for they could not get forward, the Country was risen up, its still thought it would have been laid in ashes. The Duke had a Horse & a Portmanteau run away wth, for w^{ch} a Contribution was demand^d and 2 Justices secured as Hostages, 'till the money was paid, w^{ch} was done about 10 on Second Day ; That morning the clans did Abundance of Mischief by plundering the Houses for w^t Eatables & drinkables they could get & robb'd an industrious honest Friend, William Oddy, of £30 in cash and £10 in cloth and abused him severely besides, who perhaps have not left him more than they got, but his & some other's Cases, will be under Fr^d's consideration to relieve ; they broke my windows very much, pillag'd of good Bread and Cheese, took me Prisoner for $\frac{1}{2}$ an hour, present'd pistols and naked swords to my Breast, wth bloody threats they would kill me, but that I was not so much afraid of as their getting my money, my Watch, Shoes and Buckles : the Comon Cry was, your Brogues, so that many were stript of their shoes, however I play'd them the Slip & got away without suffering anything ; it was my own Curiosity to see w^t they called Their Prince y^t exposed me to so much Danger. At their

going out an house was by them set on Fire next our Meeting House, on which the Fire Bell rung and an Engine was sent for.

When the Rebels heard the Bell, they thought it was to alarm the Town to destroy their Rear, w^{ch} made about a 100 come back in a fury, but when they were informed bett^r were easy ; the Fire was extinguished without doing much hurt and that was the last time we saw them (save the Prisoners y^t came from Carlisle) and we are now in strong hopes we shall never see them more.

My Usher's Father, a Friend at Shop (betwixt Kendal and Penrith) was harassed exceedingly by 'em—having had 300 Horse and Foot of a night ; all in the Road were badly used—a worthy Friend near Carlisle, Jonathan Ostell, who is an able minister, was in great danger of his Life, w^{ch} was begg'd might not be put in execution by a Gentlewoman amongst them, in that she believed him to be a different Person to what he was represented.

A Detachment came near this Corporation again that night and a Spy was sent out but meeting with some of the King's soldiers and Sentries at the Bridge, delivered us once more from the flames.

The next day General Oglethorpe with 600 Dragoons came in at 10, but never alighted but stayed a little and went forward. In the afternoon at 3 came the Duke and his Army, a fine sight it was and acceptable to the Inhabitants. They were well pleased at the marks of loyalty shewn them, having not seen the like in all their journey. They were met at the verge of the Town by the Mayor and Alderman in their Formalities with 15 or 16 Flags or Ensigns belonging to the Companies of Tradesmen displayed before them, with such demonstrations of joy, was a glorious sight. They were generously entertained, few private Houses took anything. A great many Officers of distinction lodged at Friends' houses. I had an Earl's brother and a Captain of considerable note, and two officers more—they were well pleased with their quarters and took nothing.

The next night the Duke, after the skirmish at Clifton, took up his lodgings with a Friend, and many of high rank lodged with friends near Carlisle during the Siege ; a great deal of civility has been shewn our people by the Duke and all with him, one might frequently hear them blessing

Quakers in walking the streets. Much more might be said, more than can be contained within the compass of one sheet, but I have not time, and it is so intensely cold that I am obliged to warm me sundry times during my scribbling this. The rebels took up here 46 prisoners on First-day—for no other reason but to satiate their wicked purposes—stript them of their shoes, and made them go on foot to the City of Carlisle, with their hands tied to their backs with ropes, two of them were Friends who staid there until the Duke got possession, and then were released.

Thy real obliged Friend

THOMAS REBANKS.

The original letter of the foregoing was in the possession of Christiana A. Price, of Glenvellyn Cottage, near Neath, in 1874. She was a great-grand-daughter of Richard Hingston.

In a manuscript in **D** there are particulars of the losses of Friends caused by the soldiers of the Rebellion. In a report thereon from Derbyshire, 13 x. 1746, we read :

The loss of our Friend, Tho^s Cocking (a shoe-maker in Ashbourne) by y^e Rebel Army in their march to and from Derby being laid before our Quarterly Meeting, he's of a fare reputation, low in circumstances, and has a pretty large family, He makes y^e loss only £4. 9. 8. but is judged to be much larger, having had a party of them two nights (one night near 40) and they took from him in boots, shoes, &c., to y^e amount of £2. 6. 6.

Report from Kendal mentions £160
do Staffordshire £24 and upwards
do Lancaster £29. 10. 6. “ the rebels march through this County was above ffifty miles and came back the same way.”

Report from Carlisle M.M. at least £50
do Cumberland £11. 18. 0

Joseph Besse states, in his *Sufferings*, that the total losses amounted to £389. 18. 2, “ exclusive of those who willingly sustain the whole or party of their own loss.”

From the Yearly Meeting of 1746 Friends sent an address to the King acknowledging his “ paternal care for the safety of his people . . . in permitting one of his Royal offspring [the Duke of Cumberland] to expose himself to the greatest of dangers for their security.”

The following was written by J. Holme Nicholson, of Owens College, Manchester, and was printed in *The Palatine Note Book*, 1 June, 1881, in Manchester :

In the *Acts of the Rebels*, by James Ray, of Whitehaven, mention is made of the aid afforded by the Quakers to the Duke of Cumberland in the pursuit of the Pretender's army as it retreated northwards (chap. xi. 6-7) :

" Their Elders gathered themselves up together and said unto the People ; Oh Friends ! let us now Walk circumspectly, for this is a time of Tryal.

" Let us take heed to ourselves, that the Sword be not unsheathed among us, but let us contribute abundantly unto the King's Fighting-men, not of the Weapons of Darkness, but Vestments of Warm Raiment that their Earthly Tabernacles may be covered with a Warm Covering, and it was so."²

In turning over some family papers some time ago I found a document in the handwriting of the last century (I believe in that of my great-grandfather, who lived not far distant from Sedbergh), endorsed : " The Quaker's letter to his Royal Hyness William Duke of Cumberland at the taking of Carlisle December 31st, 1745," which affords additional illustration of the loyal feelings of the Quakers, and of the apprehension of the peril in which the religious liberty of the nation would have been placed if the Stuart dynasty had been restored. The following is a copy of the letter, which, so far as I know, has not been published before :

" Sedbergh Dec. 31 1745

" William Duke of Cumberland

" Most Gracious Friend

" Being deeply affected with the present Melancholy Circumstances of affairs in those Northern Parts, occassioned by an Unnatural Rebellion, we do with the greatest regard for thy Royal Father & his Illustrious Family, Declare our utter abhorrence of so base a Design.

" And considering that Rebels have most greivously plundered wherever they came, we apprehend thy present Situation cañot be that of the best ; therefore with the greatest unanimity we beg leave to Demonstrate our Hearty

² See vol. xviii. p. 33. For the gift of waistcoats see xii. 48. [ED.]

Concurrence in a Small but necessary & comfortable Subsistence.

“ Most gracious friend. As thou has been graciously pleased chearfully to engage in so great & hazardous an undertaking in order to preserve not only the properties of the country but what is infinitely more valuable the Right of Liberty of Conscience which we as a Society do freely Acknowledge our Selves Deeply obliged for. We farther beg Leave to Request that thy generous Regard for the Nation may not prompt thee to expose thy Self to too much Danger; thy magnanimity is not in the least Disputed, but be assured of this, that if mischief should befall, all true English men, (who we believe are not a few) would unavoidably Droop under it. May God preserve thee! We conclude for ourselves & the Rest of our Brethern thy very much obliged Sincere Affectionate Friends

“ J.W. ; J.B. ; J.S. ; J.A. ; T.L.

“ P.S. A List of Provisions
Two Loads of Bread, one of Cheese, and another of Beef, Hams, &c. which we believe are all well prepared.”

Copied for The Journal by Robert Muschamp, of Radcliffe.

George Fox to Friends in Holland

The autograph letter of George Fox to Friends in Holland, dated from Harwich, 23 viii. 1677, which was referred to in *Jnl.* ii. 2, has recently been sent up to Devonshire House by the exors. of Caroline Brown, of Gloucester, it having been the desire of our late Friend that the letter should be placed in the Friends' Reference Library.

The letter has appeared, *verb. et lit.*, in the George Fox Tercentenary Number of the *Bulletin of Friends' Historical Association*, vol. xiii. no. 2 (1924).

DONKIN, “QUAKER HIGHWAYMAN.” A correspondent sends us a newspaper cutting referring to the pamphlet, issued in 1754, giving *The Surprising Life and Dying Speech of Thomas Donkin, the Quaker*, from “The Yorkshire Post.” There is a full description of this anti-Quaker piece in vol. iv., written by Albert G. Linney.