

A Quaker Newswriter

Continued from vol. xxii, p. 71

RICHARD COCKIN to his niece, Mary (Sanderson) Fox.

VII

A sheet, without opening words, gives a touching recital of the last illness and death of Richard Cockin's wife, Ellen, formerly Abraham (1758-1841), followed by a statement of his present condition, and closing with more news of Quaker happenings. Its date is probably 1841 or 42.

"John & Martha Yeardley are now engaged in a visit to the Families of Friends at Sheffield, and by a letter from one of my Dublin Correspondants, Sarah Squire and Sarah White are engaged in a similar service in Dublin. And I lately received a letter from Edwin O. Tregallis, informing that he and Richard Barret had just performed a similar visit in Plymouth Meeting."

VIII

"Doncaster, 19th of 10th mo. 1844. . . . Notwithstanding the increased feebleness that is the attendant of my very advanced age, which, altho' considerably lessening my ability for giving expression to what I desire to inform my correspondants with, yet I still continue to feel sincere love to flow in my heart towards those to whom I have been long united too, in the endearing bond of religious fellowship, and I also have many written proofs of my beloved Friends continued regard, one of which I received a few days ago, giving me an interesting account of the Marriage of R. B. Fox of Falmouth to H. C. Backhouses oldest daughter at Darlington, of which, no doubt, thou and your Relations at Wellington know as much about as I do.

"Katharine Backhouse might however informe me with some particulars that you may not have heard, respecting the very favoured Meeting they had on the occation, when

James Backhouse, John Hodgkin, H. C. Backhouse, Mira [? Maria] Fox, &c. &c. were publicly engaged, and that Eliz^h Fox of Falmouth added much interest to those present by appearing clothed with such a portion of Spiritual greenness: K. B. said She informed them with much interesting information respecting Edwin Tregalis and companion's religious servis in the West Indies, *all* of a pleasant discription.

"And I lately was informed by James Backhouse that he had had some agreeable information from Hobert Town, that they had lately had several additional applications for Membership with Friends, and that they had established another Mo. Meeting; amongst those who had applied to become Members was Daniel Wheelers Cabing Boy, who appeared now to have become a very respectable looking consistent Friend."

[Then follows a reference to an Address to be printed, "that thy dearly beloved Father, thirty years ago, assisted me in getting printed," and an expression of warm affection still felt towards John Sanderson and his home at Old Jewry, London.]

"On my latly considering what Friends were now living who were among my first correspondants, it appeared that thou was now become one of my oldest correspondants, altho I have a few older Friends with whom I correspond, as Tho^s Christy, W^m Gundry, Edward Pease, Anna Prise, Eliz^h Fox, and a very few others yet so it is that I have outlived most of them."

"A Prehistoric Quaker"

Extract from *The Hibbert Journal*, vol. xxii, No. 2, January, 1924:

"The Spiritual Legacy of Egypt to us" an Essay on the Spiritual result of the life of Akhn-aton of the 18th Dynasty in Egypt, 1375-1358 B.C. By Archibald Duff, D.D., LL.D.

Page 339. "One writer has gathered together all his qualities in these two statements: He was theoretically a Theist, and practically he was a forerunner of what we know to day as the Society of Friends."

Page 343. "The King might be called 'a Prehistoric Quaker' He was willing, on the grounds of humanity and the absolute brotherhood of all mankind, to let his Egyptian Empire shrink back into its ancient limits. It did so shrink."