

Quaker Waistcoats

The following ironical verses are attributed, with some hesitation, to John Byrom by Dr. Ward (Byrom's *Poems*, vol. i. pt. i. Chetham Society). They appeared in the *Chester Courant*.

“ Verses spoken extempore by a soldier the day after he received a flannel waistcoat through the bounty of the Quakers.

“ This friendly waistcoat keeps my body warm ;
Intrepid now I march and fear no harm.
Beyond a coat of mail a sure Defender ;
Proof against Pope, the Devil and Pretender.
The Highland plaid of no such power can boast ;
Arm'd thus, I'll plunge the foremost in their host,
Exert my utmost art, my utmost might,
And fight for those whose creed forbids to fight.”

Stephen Hobhouse writes :

“ These are the verses referred to on p. 189 of M. Hirst's *Quakers in Peace and War*, but I think it is clear they were written in irony by a Jacobite, and not by a loyalist, as she assumes.”

For the gift of waistcoats to the soldiers in the time of the rebellion of the Young Pretender, 1745, see xii. 48, xviii. 33, xxi. 18.

Sir Daniel Fleming

W. G. Collingwood, M.A., F.S.A., Lanehead, Coniston, Lancs., writes :
“ In connexion with the extract on p. 48, it is just a little remarkable that the people detained by Daniel Fleming were not Quakers. One was a known scamp (see Miss Armitt's *Grasmere*, p. 85). I am preparing for printing as a Tract in our Society's series the memoirs of D. F., with his letter to his son in which he says so much against the profession of arms as a career, and writes so much as a pacifist, that it really throws much light on his personal character—whatever he did in an official capacity.”

“ Ebenezer Wing, of Sandwich, Mass., was one night roused from sleep by a noise in an adjoining room. He sprang from his bed, only to have the door closed and held by some one on the other side. Slipping into the adjoining front room, he watched, through the glass over the door, two men possess themselves of his hard-earned money, from his old desk in the kitchen. He made no attempt to confront them, but in the town next day he told the facts withholding the culprits' names. Within two days the money was returned.”

Quoted in *The Quaker in the Forum*, by Amelia M. Gummere, 1910, p. 193.