

The handwriting of B. Bourne recommences 3 iv. 1748 ; he is careful to insert the decision of the Meeting in the index to the volume of minutes.

After a further service of nine years, during which time his successor, Jacob Post, was appointed to assist, B. Bourne, weakened by attacks of an asthmatic affection, departed this life 20 i. 1757 at the age of seventy-three, at Camberwell, and his remains were buried at Bunhill Fields.

No. 5. JOSEPH BESSE, 1746-1748

The brief interval in the clerkship of Benjamin Bourne was filled by Joseph Besse, who was at this time occupied with work for the Society of a secretarial and editorial nature. The minute which installed him, Meeting for Sufferings, 2nd of Third Month, 1746, runs thus :

“ This Meeting desires Joseph Besse to write the business of this Meeting, usually done by the clerk of the same, from this time and during the ensuing Yearly Meeting, and untill such time as the Meeting shall otherwise direct, and this Meeting will satisfy him for his trouble and Labour therein.”

Besse was born in 1683, so would be about sixty-four at this time. He died in 1757.

To be Continued

Nephew of Peter Collinson

“ At Bath, of a paralytic stroke, under which he had lingered ever since Oct. 26, 1802, Thomas Collinson, esq. nephew of the late eminent Naturalist Peter C. and formerly partner with Hinton Brown, esq. banker, whose daughter he married. He was distinguished by his progress in the various branches of science, and his readiness to communicate his knowledge. About ten years ago he made the tour of Europe, with his friend John Walker, esq., only son of his friend and patron Isaac W. esq. of Arnold's Grove, Southgate, whereby his curiosity was gratified to his utmost wish, and his observations on this excursion, which his modesty concealed from all but his intimate friends, would, if permitted to see the light, be a greater gratification to the learned than half the tours which are obtruded on them. Though bred in the principles of Quakerism, Candour taught Mr. C. to be the friend of mankind and even the misfortunes he had experienced in a profession to which he was ill-adapted did not oppress or debase his philosophic spirit.” He died in August, 1803.

Gentleman's Magazine, 1803, II. 795 ; Brett-James, *Peter Collinson*, 1925 ; letters in D.