

Yearly Meeting Attenders—Familiar Personalities

Shortly before his death Alfred Tuke Alexander¹ supplied the editor with the list which follows of London Yearly Meeting *habitués* :

JOSIAH FORSTER. Right hand of Clerk's Desk ; seemed to have something to say on all subjects. JOHN PEASE. " Silver trumpet of the North." WILLIAM BALL. Combination of a Minister and an Eccentric. MARY ANN BAYES. One of the old style Preachers ; would sometimes remove her bonnet when speaking. WILLIAM MATTHEWS. Minister well known. JOSEPH SMITH. Essex Farmer. SAMUEL BOWLY. Early Apostle of Temperance. ROBERT CHARLTON. Evangelistic fervent ; active in assistance to Freedmen after American Civil War. His wife, Catherine Fox, elder sister of Anna Fox (so notable for her eloquent intonations) (they were my cousins). SAMUEL FOX. Tottenham. JOHN MORLAND. Father of John M. and Charles M. LUCY MORLAND. His sister. ISAAC SHARP. The Traveller. JONATHAN GRUBB. Evangelist. EDWARD C. MAY. Tottenham. HARRISON PENNEY. Darlington. SARAH FORSTER. Tottenham. SOPHIA ALEXANDER. Close friend of my Mother ; Clerk in 1865 (and probably previously²) of Women's Y.M., died later in that year. WILLIAM THISTLETHWAITE. I remember chiefly as one of the Friends (including my parents when at Y.M.) who formed a sitting room party at " Four Swans," Bishopsgate. GEORGE SATTERTHWAITE. Ackworth Superintendent. ISAAC BROWN. Principal of Flounders Institute, Ackworth. JOSEPH PEASE, with a companion³ ; J.P., being blind, stopped to enquire who it was they were meeting. I do not remember J. P. so specially in Y.M. as his brother John Pease. JOSEPH HUNTLEY. Reading. JAMES BOORNE. Reading. JAMES CLARK. Street. SARAH B. SATTERTHWAITE. Afterwards wife of James Clark. THOMAS HARVEY and SARAH GRACE HARVEY. Leeds. JOSEPH SHEWELL. Minister. JOHN CANDLER. Minister. JAMES THOMPSON. Kendal. WILLIAM and HENRY MARRIAGE (Chelmsford). Brothers so alike it was difficult to distinguish them. ROBERT and CHRISTINE ALSOP. EDWARD BACKHOUSE. Sunderland, and wife ; usually appeared at Devonshire House Meeting, Sunday preceding Y.M. ; Entertained parties during Y.M. at " Castle & Falcon Hotel," Aldersgate. JOSEPH ROWNTREE (" of all England ") on side floor seat near right main Entrance. General exponent of grievances, frequently called to order by the Clerk. WILLIAM GRAHAM. By Pillar (side seat) to right of Clerk's desk. Consistent opponent of change or forward movements. Adult Schools were places where Men were " ever learning and never coming to the knowledge of the Truth." ALFRED LUCAS. Same side of House also an opponent but quite different spirit. " It's all wrong, dear friends, departure from our principles, but I love you all, dear friends, that's why I speak." J. BEVAN BRAITHWAITE. No Y.M. complete without him ; for many years chief author of Y.M. Epistle ; " Quaker Bishop " keeping Society

sound in doctrine; but broad-minded and would visit the B.I. meeting sometimes, and said "The Bedford Institute belongs to this (London) Quarterly Meeting." WILLIAM LITTLEBOY. Valuable in counsel and in sympathy with forward Movements. JOSEPH JOHN DYMOND. Secretary of Friends' Provident Institution; always worth listening to; sound judgment, broad outlook, helpful ministry. WILLIAM SCARNELL LEAN. Also helpful speaker; left us for Anglican Church and returned; I last met him at Y.M. at Birmingham. WILLIAM WHITE. Universally known "Father of Adult Schools." I remember his remark during a cold Y.M. no fire in Friends' Institute. "When Friends come to Birmingham won't we keep them warm! We are sent into the world to keep one another warm." HENRY STANLEY NEWMAN. Also universally known; one of the leaders forward of the Society. JOHN THIRNBECK GRACE. Bristol. WILLIAM EDWARD TURNER. Birkenhead. WILLIAM POLLARD. Lancashire. JOHN STEPHENSON ROWNTREE. Always to the point. ANN F. FOWLER. Gracious and choice ministry. JOHN and ANNA R. WHITING. Leeds. JOSEPH ARMFIELD. London. JOHN G. ARMFIELD. London. Regular feature in later years. THOMAS BARROW. Lancaster (and wife) very regular; seldom spoke, but I think in 1914 or 1913, spoke briefly from near the Clerk's desk. It seemed to me to be a parting message and so it has proved as he has not come to Y.M. since but I believe is still living.⁴ JOHN BRIGHT. I remember on one occasion entering from the yard, right hand door, taking seat on the long form on the floor of the Meeting House and speaking briefly to the subject under consideration.

¹ Alfred Tuke Alexander, of London (1842-1920), will be remembered particularly for his connection, over many years, with the Bedford Institute Association. He was a regular attender in later years of the First-day morning meeting at Devonshire House. He attended every Yearly Meeting from 1864, except the year he was present at Canada Yearly Meeting.

The Friend (Lond.) 1920, obituary notice and portrait.

² Sophia Alexander was clerk of the Women's Y.M. 1859-63, 1865.

³ Samuel Hare, of Darlington, was secretary to Joseph Pease and his constant companion.

⁴ Thomas Barrow died in February, 1919.

LINKS WITH THE PAST.—"I was born in 1857 and was taken in my infancy to visit Ann Ecroyd, born in 1780 died in 1859, who knew my great-great-great-grandfather, Richard Ecroyd, born in 1689 and died in 1787, thus constituting a single life between 1929 and 1689.

Again, Alice Ecroyd, mother of Richard Ecroyd, was born in 1647 and died in 1742, thus showing a case of hands between 1929 and 1647, counting 282 years.

THOMAS BACKHOUSE ECROYD,
Armathwaite, Cumberland, 1930.