

From Margaret Fox's Library

PERHAPS books owned by Margaret (Fell) Fox are extant in England and known about. That they should turn up in America is somewhat surprising. As a sequel to earlier articles on George Fox's Library in this *Journal* (xxvii, xxix, xxx)¹ I may describe the following :

1. At the Library of the Representative Meeting, 302 Arch St., Philadelphia. A thick bound quarto volume of 29 Quaker tracts mostly dated about 1670-2. The first 128 leaves are numbered by hand, presumably for the census of George Fox's writings, since the subsequent pieces are not by him. The clasps and the front cover are missing ; the back cover resembles the binding of the volumes from George Fox's library now at Friends Reference Library, London, while corresponding to the " GF " stamped on some of the latter (*Jnl. F.H.S.*, xxx., 15), it has " M F " stamped in the leather. There is no other evidence of ownership.

2. At the Library of Congress, Washington, D. C. A thick bound quarto volume of Quaker pamphlets, printed in 1660 and 1661. On the fly leaf " Ex Libris Margaret Fox " in the hand of Daniel Abraham,² and in a later hand " James Birkets Book bo't of Alice Abrams 1778—No. 1. containing 44 Tracts."

3. At the Library of Congress, Washington. *A Battle-Door for Teachers and Professors* by George Fox, John Stubbs and Benjamin Furly, 1660. Bound in suède leather. On

¹ I may take this opportunity to report that I have picked up one more of the pamphlets formerly bound together as Volume 55, having identified it in the manner described in *Jnl. F.H.S.* xxix, 69f. It is a copy of " Truth Vindicated and the Lyars Refuge Swept away " by John Pitman and Jasper Batt, (1658). Leaves 284-319 (numbered in Fox's handwriting).

As confirmation of identifications so seemingly precarious I may add that I now notice that when the nine pamphlets attributed to that volume are arranged in the order of the MS pagination they fall in the chronological sequence that characterizes the complete volumes of pamphlets surviving from that library,—1658, 1658, 1658, 1659, 1659, 1659, 1660, 1662, 1663.

² Son-in-law of Margaret Fox, being the husband of Rachel Fell. A similar history is that of the copy of Fox and Hookes, *The Spirit of the Martyrs Revived*, sent by the latter to Margaret Fell in 1678. Many years later it was in the possession of John Abraham, son of Daniel and father of Allis. See *Jnl. F.H.S.*, ix, 135.

the fly leaf "Daniel Abraham of Swarthmore Book" is written in his own hand, but no name of earlier or later owner. Bequeathed to the present ownership by William Lukens Shoemaker, a collector of Washington, it may very probably have descended through the same channels as the preceding.

The fly leaves contain also a manuscript list of contents with 16 titles, showing that originally 15 Quaker broadsides were bound in with and following the *Battle-Door*. This list, as a photostat promptly disclosed to me, is in the unmistakable handwriting of George Fox.¹ Thus the volume's history is carried back to an earlier generation. Since one of the pieces is dated 1674 they must have been bound some time between that year and Fox's death in 1690/1. If as suggested the book belonged at Swarthmore and to Margaret Fox, he must have made the index in it either in 1675-7 or 1678-80 since he was not there at any later time.

There is, however, another possibility no less interesting. Daniel Abraham may have inherited the book from Fox himself. Among his books at London listed in 1695 as "G.F.'s Books at W[illiam] M[eade]'s" were three copies of the *Battle-Door*, two of them bound with broadsides (Nos. 4 and 8; *Jnl. F.H.S.*, xxviii, 4). This would then be another survivor of that notable library, and in America! Unfortunately the fore edges have been trimmed back when the book was rebound in the Eighteenth Century, so that the tell-tale number upon them that would have at once proved this identification is gone (*Jnl. F.H.S.* xxix, 67 and xxx, 13), as it is with another rebound copy of the *Battle-Door* with broadsides at London that is also connected with Fox (*Jnl. F.H.S.*, xxx, 18 note). The broadsides have not been kept in the rebinding of the Washington copy, which again is unfortunate as some of them would have been to-day quite rare, if not unique.

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¹ See facing plate, from a photofacsimile given by Mr. Volta Parma, Curator of the Rare Books Department in the Library of Congress, Washington to Isabel Ross, who has kindly lent it for reproduction.

1. her if first the battel door by gff &
j. st. b. f. 1660
2. to the king & at his counsell at whight
hall to left of the crull suferings
by gff. d. j. o. r. w & many others about 1661
3. a representain of the gouernment of england
to oler protector of ther sad suferings
Edward piteuoy. r. f. & others 1661
4. a sermon from heaven ~~to~~ to new castell
by w. d.
5. a word in season by st. crisps.
6. woe vnto the toorne of cambreg. h. b.
7. som thing aganst swaring by gff the
yonder 1660
8. an answer ~~to~~ to the oathes of allegance
by r. h. & g. f. yonger 1660
9. a vison of w: baly
10. to the city of london by m. ff. 1660
11. the secret shutting of the wchall reuoyse
by j. n.
12. to all thoes that be in authority whom the lord
is iudging by j. n. 1660
13. a loing aduertisment to all thoes that jare
to gether to persecut the mosem
by j. v. 1670

LIST OF BROADSIDE TRACTS, IN GEORGE FOX'S HANDWRITING,
see p. 28

