

Ex Libris Margaret Fox

TO the short list of the known books from the Library of Margaret Fox¹ another volume can be added. At the Library Company of Philadelphia is a group of fifty-eight Quaker quarto pamphlets and broadsides, which were originally in a single bound volume. This is shown by the former shelf number which was retained for each of the pamphlets when they were bound separately in 1909, and by the serial numbers marked on the fly leaf of each item, and by the inked pagination which continues, after the seventy-second printed page numbers of the first item, throughout to page 1315 at the end of the fifty-eighth item. As with two other known collections from Margaret Fox (one for 1660 and 1661, one for 1670 to 1672), the pieces here are limited to a period of time—nearly all 1659 and a few 1660. This is an interesting period in Quaker history. Many of the pieces deal with the attitude of Friends in the last year of the interregnum, many with their sufferings, and of these the first four pieces and one or two later ones in the collection are among the rare items prized by American collectors, which deal with the persecutions of the Quakers in New England. The nine broadsides have been collected and bound in a thin folio volume. The great majority of the pieces have the imprint of Thomas Simmons; some represent other printers or are without imprint. Few, if any, appear to be completely unknown, though some may be quite scarce, or are unnoticed in Wing's *Short Title Catalogue*.

The first item in the original volume is Francis Howgill's *The Popish Inquisition Newly Erected in New-England*, 1659. Bound with it are two fly leaves of the original volume, and on the first of these is an inscription, "The Gift of John Abraham," on the second, "Ex Libris Margaret Fox", written in the same bold round hand of Daniel Abraham as in two earlier noted collections of bound quarto tracts. Under it is this inscription:

The Gift of John Abraham of Swarthmoor-hall in Lancashire Old England Grandson to Margaret Fox to Elizabeth Shipley in Pensilvenia in America The 30th Day ^{mo}/₇ 1750

¹ *Journal F.H.S.*, ix, 135; xxxiv, 27f; xli, 29, 85.

On the back of this leaf and facing the title page are these two inscriptions:

This rare and curious work as it relates to important circumstances in the History of the Quakers should be carefully preserved in the Library of the religious Society of Friends in Philadelphia.

Roberts Vaux 1829-

This work was intended to be presented by its owner Nicholas Waln to the Library Comp'y of Philadelphia previous to his lending it to Roberts Vaux and it is now presented to them by the hands of Richard Waln agreeably to his original intention. 3rd mo. 5th 1834.

All these persons are readily identified. Elizabeth, the wife of William Shipley (*née* Levis) had travelled in the British Isles as a minister in 1743-44. With the help of these inscriptions we can follow the history of the volume in question up to 1751 and since 1829.

This interesting association volume came to light in the course of the process of recataloguing lately undertaken at the Library Company of Philadelphia.

There is every reason to expect other books of Margaret Fox to turn up at unexpected times and places. Her library was not small, as its inventory value at the time of her death was £10, at that time a substantial valuation.¹

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The Puritan Contribution to Scientific Education in the Seventeenth Century in England. By Charles Edward Allan Turner, of King's College, London. Presented for the degree of D.Ph. (History of Education) in the Faculty of Science of the University of London, 1952. Typescript.

The appendix contains the names of over 80 Friends and a few more of known Quaker sympathies and connections.

A brief abstract and a list of the Quaker names is in the Library at Friends House.

The Baptist Quarterly, vol. 15, no. 5 (January, 1954), includes, at p. 226, a notice of a letter from Bourne (Lincs.) Baptist to the local Quaker meeting, warning them of the ill behaviour of certain villagers, who had forsaken the Baptists and joined themselves to the Quakers (7th February, 1703). This is the first entry in the Old Minute Book of the Bourne Baptist Church, the subject of a paper by the Rev. F. J. Mason.

¹ *Journal F.H.S.*, ii. 106; xliii. 54.