

Quaker Life in Lurgan, Northern Ireland

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I have attempted to use the exact spellings [*in italics below*] shown in "The Hollingsworth Register" article, so some words may look weird, but are understandable. Also, my comments on the information below are highlighted in **bold red font**. I also put this information in tables, whereas the original information in "The Hollingsworth Register" is in bulleted format.

The Hollingsworth family was deeply involved in the Quaker community in Lurgan, Northern Ireland. Here are some of the weddings that were witnessed, as listed in Source 500. I do not know if these dates were corrected for the Quaker Calendar.

Date	Details
May 9, 1673	<i>Robert Chambers and Jain Wright, signed by Valentine. The Wright family were probably the most important in Lurgan Meeting. Many of the meetings were held in the house of Jain's father, Mark Wright.</i>
April 10, 1674	<i>William Matthews and Margery Harding, Wit. Valentine Hollingsworth.</i>
January 12, 1675	<i>James Greer and Eleanor Rea, wit. Ann Hollingsworth and Mary Rea. Mary Rea was the sister of Valentine's first wife, Ann Rea. Ann Calvert was the 2nd wife of Valentine (who did not sign). This shows a friendship between the two families.</i>
July 5, 1676	<i>Hinion [John Note: Minion?] Simpson & Margaret Noble, wit. Valentine Hollingsworth.</i>
March 7, 1676	<i>William Crooke and Mable Mason, wit. Ann and Valentine Hollingsworth.</i>
March 17, 1676	<i>Timothy Kirke and Katherine Robinson, wit. Ann and Valentine Hollingsworth. (NOTE: This family later migrated to Delaware and became members of Newark Monthly Meeting).</i>
January 29, 1676	<i>John Robson and Sarah Atkinson. Sarah was a sister to Henry Hollingsworth's wife. Later, a fuller account will be given of Henry, oldest son of Valentine.</i>
September 17, 1678	<i>George Harland and Elizabeth Duck, wit. Henry Hollingsworth. This couple came to America at the same time with Valentine. George's brother Michael Harland also came with Valentine. The Hollingsworth and Harlands intermarried many times.</i>

Date	Details
April 28, 1682	<i>Thomas Conaway and Mary Hollingsworth, wit. Ann, Katherine, Valentine, Henry, and Thomas Hollingsworth, also Elizabeth and Margaret Calvert. This was a family affair. Ann, the mother; Katherine, the sister; Valentine, the father; Henry and Thomas, brothers to the bride. There is an interesting historical story in the minutes of the Newark Meeting that will be told later.</i>
May 19, 1682	<i>John Fawsett and Judith Thwayts, wit. Valentine, Henry, and Ann Hollingsworth. This later marriage happened about the time that Valentine and his family, except Henry, sailed for Penna.</i>

While the Quaker religion was suppressed, Quakers were still expected to tithe to the Church of England to support it. These tithes were taken forcibly from the Quakers. William Stockdale, a Scottish Quaker who migrated to Ireland documented the suffering of the Irish Quakers in his book “A Great Cry of Oppression” (published in 1683 and a very rare book with only two copies known to exist).

Year	Details
1672	<i>County Ardmagh. Valentine Hollingsworth had taken from him for tithe, by Edmund O’Maghan, for the use of the foresaid, twenty-six stooks of Wheat, three car-loads of Hey, twenty-six stooks of Oats, and twenty-six stooks of Barley, all worth two pounds, eighteen shillings</i>
1673	<i>Valentine Hollingsworth had taken from him for tithe by Edmund Maghan and Thomas Proctor, Corn and Hey worth two pounds. (Here, I insert another entry that does not apply to Valentine, but it does show more of the suffering the Quakers had to bear for their convictions.) Francis Hobson had taken from him for tithe, by the said persons, twenty-six stooks of Wheat, fifteen stooks of Barley, and thirteen stooks of Oats, all worth four pounds. (And if this was not enough – The writer’s per.) Being also sued in the Bishop’s Court at Ardmagh for two pounds tithe of [Milches?] by the aforesaid George Walker, and by a warrant from two Justices of the Peace, upon a definitive sentence was taken by David Mulligan, Constable, the second day of the sixth month, and committed the Gaol of Ardmagh, and was Prisoner two years and four months and about the thirtieth of the tenth month, 1675, died in said Gaol.</i>
1674	<i>Valentine Hollingsworth had taken from him for tithe for the use of the said Thomas Smith, seven loads of Hey, eleven stooks of Wheat, nine stooks of Oats, eleven stooks and a half of Barley, all worth three pounds, four shillings.</i>
1675	<i>Valentine Hollingsworth had taken from him for tithe, by the said Daniel, for the said Thomas Smith, twenty stooks of Wheat and Maslin [John Note: a mix of different grains], twenty-two stooks of Oats, eight stooks and a half of Barley, and seven car-loads of Hey, all worth 4 pounds, fourteen shillings.</i>

1676	<i>Valentine Hollingsworth had taken from him for tithe, by the said Cantelan, thirty-seven stooks of Wheat and Rye, forty stooks of Oats, eighteen stooks of Barley, and nine loads of Hey, all worth two pounds, five shillings, eight pence. (Valentine Hollingsworth had nothing taken in 1677 or 1678, although the list of those who had property taken was much larger than in previous years.)</i>
1679	<i>Valentine Hollingsworth of the said Parish (Segoe) had taken from him for tithe, by William Gibson, five stooks of Barley, three stooks of Oats, and three loads of Hey, all worth six shillings, ten pence.</i>
1680	<i>Valentine Hollingsworth had taken from him for tithe, by Rory O' [damell?] and Arer O'Neill, for the use of the said Thomas Smith, thirty-three stooks of Wheat and Rye, fourteen stooks of Barley, thirty-three stooks of Oats, and some Hey, all worth two pounds, seven shillings, sixpence.</i>
1681	<i>Valentine Hollingsworth had taken from him for tithe, by Ever O'Neill [John Note: possibly the same as "Arer O'Neill" from the entry immediately above?] and Rory O'damell, for the said use, ten loads of Hey, thirty stooks of hard corn, twenty stooks of Oats, and twelve stooks of Barley, and by the said Ever and others, Apples worth one shilling, and by Elizabeth Pow, seven stooks and a half of Barley, one stook and a half of Oats, and two car-loads of Hey, all worth four pounds, five shillings.</i>

"Valentine now had enough. If a woman could start and sieze his goods, what would happen next year? Anyway William Penn had been in his area and had promised religious freedom to him and his in Pennsylvania. So on the 25th day of the 5th month, 1682, Valentine Hollingsworth asked Lurgan Monthly Meeting, Ireland, for a certificate of removal for himself and also for y^e rest y^t go with him. He probably sailed within a month. His son, Samuel Hollingsworth, in making a deposition before the Mayor of Philadelphia, said: "they came into Pennsylvania in the latter part of 1682, and were at Chester, Pennsylvania, the day that William Penn arrived." From this it appears that Valentine and all his family except Henry, probably arrived a month before the arrival of Penn."

A "Stook" is a bundle of sheaves which was stood up in a field for the grain to dry (picture to the right).

