

Walker, Jr.; and not only is the handwriting identical with that in the almanac, but often the expressions are very similar, leaving no doubt that it was Walker who made the marginal notes. He refers as follows to the benefactor of the town of Boston, and mentions a physical peculiarity not generally known: —

"Thursday 3. [March, 1743.] Peter Fannil Esq^r between 2 & 3 a clock in y^e afternoon dyed of a dropsical complyca, he was a fat squat lame [man,] hip short went with high heeld shoe (In my opinion a great loss too This Town aged 42. 8 m) & I think by what I haue hear'd has done more Charitable deeds than any man y^e euer liv'd in this Town & for whom I am very sorry.

"March 10. Peter Fannil Esq^r burried. Bearers Mess^{rs} Tom Lechmere Josh. Winslow Jun^r Wheelwright And. Oliuer Jun^r Gooch Jun^r Wendall went round y^e Town house

"Thursda 10. Burried Peter Faneuil Esq^r in 43^d year of age a fat corpulen brown squat man hip short lame fro childhood."

Benjamin Walker, Jr., the writer of this Journal, was the son of Benjamin and Palsgrave Walker, and born in Boston on Jan. 24, 1679-80. He was a shopkeeper, and associated in business with his younger brother John. His family is mentioned in Sewall's Diary (vol. iii. pp. 371, 372); and additional facts concerning it are given in "The New England Historical and Genealogical Register" (vol. xv. pp. 53, 54). I have but little doubt that he was a kinsman of Isaac Walker, the partner of my great-great-grandfather, Joshua Green, and that these papers came through this mercantile connection. Their firm were extensive owners in a tract of land, known as "the Green and Walker grant," and comprising a large part of the present towns of Heath and Rowe, in Franklin County of this State.* The sons of these partners, Joshua Green, Jr., and Edward Walker, after the dissolution of their fathers' firm by death, kept up the same business, under the same style of Green and Walker; and this fact undoubtedly explains the drift of the Journal and this little pamphlet.

The almanac bears on the title-page the name of William Nadir as the author, and to it are appended the mysterious letters L. X. Q. It is well known that this name was the pseudonym of Dr. William Douglass, a Scotchman by birth, who came to Boston in the early days of his professional career. He had received his medical instruction in Paris and Leyden, and was a man of good education and many accomplishments,

* Holland's History of Western Massachusetts, vol. ii. pp. 382, 419.