Quaker Contributions to Industrial Capitalism

17th C Wool & cloth Yeoman Quaker farmers in the Northwest (Fox country), already in the sheep economy, forced into the wool trade by distrainment Gurneys in wool for a century. Lending to worsted spinners led to the Norwich Bank, largest bank in England after the Bank of England. Iron 50% - 75% of iron industry in Quaker hands between 1700 & 1750 Ouaker family groups cooperating in several ways and very intermarried, develop the *metal infrastructure* of the English industrial revolution. British iron industry had languished, mostly from lack of fuel Solve fuel problem by developing rotated crop coppice farming, rather than using virgin timber (Eng denuded) Then develop the *coke smelting* techniques which produced bar iron ~1710 from pig iron, unsuitable for forges, but perfect for *casting*: leads to a huge cast iron consumer product market, esp pots & pans; then to steam engine parts. 1707 Had already patented the casting process Made *machinery* possible; therefore, the industrial revolution, esp 1724 replacing brass for steam engines; Darby supplying Newcomen, the inventor of the steam engine Also designed *slitting mills* for rod & bar and improved wire drawing. Four different family groups together represent all transition stages between isolated bloomeries on the old monastic model to full-blown blast furnace-foundry plants. Steel Benjamin Huntsman first to develop *cast* steel; extremely high quality. 1740s This literally makes the industrial revolution possible, because of the availability of quality, enduring machinery parts. Leads to English cutlery industry. Refuses election as a Fellow of the Royal Society for his accomplishment, and never takes a patent. Robt Ransome develops first tempered cast iron plowshare; 1720s Farm implements then an improved cooling method for better sharpness maintenance. Then the interchangeable parts plow—the very beginning of mass

industrialization

Brass Champion family develops patents that were vital to the industry's 1750s development First to make zinc in England. Pioneered worker community development. Mining 2 Quaker families acquire failing firms; soon merge to become the 1690s Quaker Lead Company. Controlled all lead in Br. Isles; largest mining firm in England until 1896. Major advances in worker relations and conditions. Silver Quaker Lead Company develops a superior furnace design and smelting process for drawing silver from lead ore. Becomes sole supplier of silver for the national Mint. **Transport** Leeds & Liverpool Canal—John Hustler 1764 Hustler both organized it and provided much of the funding Water communication across Eng through the growing industrial regions Later forms the Assoc of Worsted Mfrs Railroad Abraham Darby II (one of the iron families) first to put wooden 1752 sleepers on the road for wagons and phlanged iron wheels on the wagons—to save the horses, who were carrying ore directly Richard Reynolds (Darby's son-in-law) used iron rails to give his 1768 workers employment during period of low demand: first iron rails for roads Set a pattern for collieries having wagon rail-ways to the staithes on the nearby river Darby III builds the famous Iron Bridge at Coalbrookdale 1779 Avoids ferry over Coalbrookdale R. Revolutionary design, single span 100', cast iron, still there Pease and Backhouse families organize financing, largely among 1825 Quakers and others who trusted Quaker venture sense, for the first railroad in England; known as the 'Quaker Line' The Stockton and Darlington Railway ushers in the railway Early era in England; also finance the Manchester-Liverpool line 1820s Pease conceives the first passenger train; also begins using steam 1830s locomotion for the whole run, not just steep grades Pottery William Cookworthy discovers the Cornish deposits of China clay. 1755 Founds the English porcelain industry.

Watchmaking	Important for the industrial revolution because of both the materials and engineering advances, plus maritime navigation	
	The most famous clock & watch makers in this period were Quakers	
	Thomas Tompion—"father of English watchmaking"	1670s
	Edward East—clockmaker for Charles II	1660s
	Daniel Quare—clockmaker for William III and George I; the greatest clockmaker of his time	1708
	George Graham—known for the extreme beauty and accuracy of his scientific instruments; builds the original orrery for Lord Orrery; many important advances	1720s
	Benjamin Hunstman—seeking better springs for watches, his experiments in steel casting and his discoveries lay the foundation for the steel industry in Sheffield	
Soap	Joseph Fry and partners start a soap business that becomes Lever Brothers.	1770
On-board seawater still	Cookworthy develops first successful process for distilling drinking water from seawater. Still used today.	1760s
Energy	William Cubitt and Robert Ransome develop the first gas works for gas lighting.	1817
	William Cubitt designs the first wind-regulated vanes for windmills.	
	Arthur Albright the first to use phosphorus in matches, creating the 'safety match.'	1844
	Quaker firm of Bryant & May develops a production line, contributing to the organizational dimension of the industrial revolution; becomes one of the leading match companies in Europe. Invents "strike only on the box."	1861
Retail	The price tag—Though already a theoretical debate, Friends are the first to publicly display a fixed price for goods, out of a religious concern for truth—there is but one true price for a good: its cost plus a modest, reliable profit. The price should not depend on the bargaining skills of the merchant or the customer. And haggling meant too much talking.	late 17 th C
	Strawbridge & Clothier in Philadelphia and Macy's in New York help to redefine retail with very early versions of the department store—one store with a wide range of dry goods.	1868
Chocolate	Three great Quaker chocolate families: Fry, Rountree & Cadbury	
	Joseph Fry (apothecary) founds the British cocoa and chocolate	1753

industry. Cadburys the first to develop pure chocolate, having developed a 1866 technique for pressing out the fats: cocoa butter. Frys & Cadburys become British Cocoa & Chocolate Co. 1919 Rountree the first to conduct organized industrial espionage. Cadbury and Fry early innovators in advertising. All three firms become leaders in benign industrial relations and labor benefits. Banking grows out of 2 functions: Banking provide large personal loans, usually to customers 1700 accepting custody of valuables for safekeeping, usually from employees Two branches of origin: 1. Earlier & smaller banks start with goldsmiths Eg: Freame founds what will become Barclay—financed 1698 London Lead & handled silver supply to the national Mint 2. Larger number of banks built as adjuncts for the convenience of smaller domestic industries ~ 18th C — consolidated in 19th C 1765 Lloyds develops from the iron industry Norwich Bank (Gurneys) from woolen manufacture 1775 Legal constraints aid the Quakers: 1694 Bank of Eng makes banking illegal, tho goldsmiths not prevented from writing promissory notes 1707 law prohibits banking partnerships larger than 6 partners \Rightarrow fostered many local family (Quaker) banks Associations Assoc of Worsted Mfrs—John Hustler 1764 Midland Assoc of Ironmasters ~ 1700 United Chamber of the Mfrs of Great Britain 1785 Industrial London Lead, esp, introduces a new business structure for the large association of many small business units—the conglomerate Organization Instead of the single family, single site business

Industrial Welfare

Richard Reynolds

buys the woods of Manor Madely and has walks laid out for his workers:

provides a plot with housing for gardening at very reasonable rate builds schools & provides scholarships

London Lead provides health plans, pension plans, year-round production/employment schedule

Many firms provide housing, schooling and other benefits far ahead of wider industry developments

Though they are slow to give up the paternalist model of employee management and they resist the rising labor movement in the late 19th C

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