

Conference that were held at West Liberty, Iowa, on the 10th and 11th of 9th mo. Together with a brief account of our trip to Liberty I send some few notes of the meetings.

We left our house, at Prairie Grove, about eight o'clock Second-day morning, 9th mo. 9th, 1895, for a drive of forty miles, to West Liberty, there to attend our Quarterly Meeting and Conference. The day was very warm, so we drove leisurely; rain the night before had settled the dust, and the roads were good, so that we enjoyed the drive, even though it was warm. We reached Columbus Junction about eleven o'clock, where we watered our horses, then continued our journey until we should come to a pleasant place where to partake of lunch; this we found soon after crossing the Cedar river, in the edge of the timber not far from the river bank. I neglected to say there were four of us in the party—Jas. Phillips and wife, my cousin, Lizzie E. Russell, and myself. While Jas. and I took care of the horses, the girls unpacked the lunch, of which we partook with right good will, as all confessed to being hungry; after a stop of an hour here, we again resumed our journey. Arriving at West Liberty shortly after four o'clock, we hid ourselves to the hospitable home of Elijah and Esther Hogue. These Friends were not looking for "Quarterly Meeting folks" until the next day, but the welcome we received was none the less cordial for that. We remained with these Friends over night, having a delightful visit. Third-day morning, at ten o'clock, the select meeting convened. Not being "select" members, we concluded to make some calls, but our good intention of making calls was broken, for upon going to Lizzie Childs we were persuaded it was right for us to remain with her for dinner, which we did, and our call was very pleasant. We were soon made aware that it was time for us to be on the move, as the Conference met in the meeting-house at 2.30 o'clock, thence we proceeded, where

we found a goodly number already gathered. After a short time spent in exchanging greetings, the meeting assembled. Both the clerk and assistant were absent, and Phœbe E. Russell and Harry P. Hartley were named to act as clerks for the day.

The Conference was opened by Isaiah Lightner appearing in supplication, after which the clerk read the 8th chap. of Romans. Very interesting and encouraging reports were then listened to from the several schools belonging to this Conference; from these reports and the remarks following, I gathered the idea that there was a growing interest in the First-day school work in this part of the field; the schools do not report a very large membership; but, as was reported, if the numbers were as great as the interest manifested, the schools would be large indeed. The topic decided upon, to be presented at this Conference was, "Is the influence of the fundamental principles of the Society of Friends increasing or decreasing?" There were three papers prepared upon the topic and read before the Conference—one from Marietta school, by Ruth Packer. She thought the influence of Friends in regard to a "Living faith that God would teach His people Himself," in regard to "Prayer." "Peace and Arbitration," and philanthropic work in general, had been productive of much good and were still increasing; that we should do our duty by living up to these principles we profess, and by our example teach others their beauty. The paper from Wapsieonoc school, prepared by Walter Ponnall and read by his wife, advanced the idea that all the new religion, called liberal, was tinctured with the doctrines of Friends, and to the Friends responsible for its liberality. Prairie Grove school was represented with a paper by Jas. D. Steer. The writer of this paper thinks that the influence of the principles of Friends is increasing along nearly every line. From our knowledge of present conditions, compared with those of the time at the rise