

JOTTINGS.

[The following was received too late for last number.—EDS.]

FOR YOUNG FRIENDS' REVIEW.

I have been a reader as also a "gleaner" from the two copies of the REVIEW that have come to hand, and feel to express my cordial approval of the work thus far accomplished, trusting that it will deepen and widen into a field of useful labor, whereby not only our membership shall be benefitted, but others outside our fold into whose hands it may be a guest.

There is one feature, however, I should like to see changed, and that is, instead of contributors inserting their initials, or *nom de plumes*, sign their names. I have oft been led to query why it is that this practice is so universally prevalent in all publications.

Is it because the writer desires to escape having criticism personally applied, or is it diffidence in regard to the merit of their productions?

We are not all gifted alike, some having an aptitude of thought, a readiness of expression, and a fluency of language that others cannot acquire; and yet I conclude the readers of the YOUNG FRIENDS' REVIEW will agree "that all of truth is not revealed to any one mind, or to any distinct class of minds, but that all, if living up to the knowledge or light given them, have presentations that are worthy of expression, although they may be of limited proportions."

The crude fragment of granite is as pure and beautiful in its component parts as the lofty and polished column. Although it may not inspire the casual looker-on with the same intensity of admiration, but a close analysis shows its intrinsic worth and beauty. And here presents another thought, to which I would call the attention of the reader, and that is the supremacy or preference we are wont to give to the expressions of those who stand high among the masses of the people because of their eloquence of address; hence many times, too frequently, I fear, we accept their utterances without investigation, whereas, did we weigh

them in the balance, they might be found wanting; while the productions of those of an humbler sphere would contain much more than we had anticipated. Hence, in the conclusion of this subject, I would encourage all to give forth of the truths that an all-wise and beneficent Creator has given them.

An article on "Forms" in No. 2, by W. G., requests a general expression on that subject.

I agree with W. G. that rules and regulations are requisite in all organizations, but when the necessity for these rules and regulations have passed away by the lapse of time or change in conditions, and they are still maintained or enforced, I think we may safely term them "formalities" that are not infrequently detrimental. In many respects, Society is fast outgrowing them and living up to the necessities of the age, and a reasonable hope is entertained that progress in this respect will continue among us.

W. G. alludes to families sitting together in meetings, or, at least, the parents and such other portions as may seem desirable (and the foregoing, I conclude, embraces husband and wife), which proposition I fully endorse, and have made it manifest by sitting beside my wife in our home meetings for the past two years.

Now that all our sessions in Genesee Yearly meeting are held in joint session, I see no necessity for separating the sexes, but believe that benefit may be derived by adopting an opposite course.

J. D. NOXON.

Mendon Centre, 8th month, 1880.

The next First-Day School General Conference will be held at Race street Meeting House, Philadelphia, beginning on Fourth-day, Eleventh month 4th, at 10 a.m.

A few of our subscribers complain of not receiving an occasional number of the REVIEW. We believe the papers are sent, but if, after a special inquiry for them at their post office, they fail to get them, we will gladly forward others when notified.