

benefit if indulged in moderately and with judgment. Yet I doubt not that all amusements may be carried to such excess, or wrongful use, as to become entirely inconsistent with the principles of the Society of Friends. I do not believe any cast-iron rule can be laid down as to what Young Friends may or may not do, and how far they shall or shall not go in this or that amusement, but I do think it should be the mission of all Friends to carefully study the tendencies of the times, and endeavor to use their influence against this or that popular fad which seem likely to sway the people toward paths of extravagance, corruption or immorality."

ESTHER POTTS, Sec.  
Trenton, N. J., 12th mo. 31, 1895.

#### NEW YORK AND BROOKLYN.

A regular meeting of the Young Friends' Association of New York and Brooklyn, was held in New York, 12th mo. 22nd.

The History Section reported through Franklin Noble the conclusion of their review of the History of Delaware County. Reference was made to the excellence and number of Friends' schools over a century ago, and of the opening of Westtown school in Fifth month, 1799, as being the first Friend's boarding school in America.

Brief biographical sketches were given of John Bartram and Benjamin West, both as of special interest to Swarthmarians, and to correct misapprehensions concerning them—the eminent botanist, unfortunately as we now realize, having been disowned in 1758 for his Unitarian views; and the latter never being a Friend, although the rest of his family were members before or after his birth, was never restrained by the Society in his art education.

Cynthia Knowlton for the Literature Section gave a sketch of Emma Marshall's book entitled "Life's After-

math." She also referred to the newly published "Quaker Lyrics," and read one of the short poems.

Charles McCord, of the Discipline Section, quoted the mention concerning overseers in the Disciplines of the various Yearly Meetings.

Elizabeth A. Hallock gave the report for the Current Topics Section, and among other subjects spoke of the recall of the American Missionaries in Turkey, by our Government requiring their going aboard the war vessels provided for that purpose. And also spoke of the President's warlike message being the great topic of the day, and of its being of deep concern to Friends.

The paper of the evening, written by Frank J. Russell, and read by Edward B. Rawson, was on the topic of "Citizenship," and was replete with encouragement for our folks to take more interest in public affairs by doing something individually in voting and in using interest as far as possible otherwise, in the endeavor to obtain good government. The discussion following soon took up the consideration of the President's message in the differences with the British Government, and the dangerous warlike spirit aroused in consequence of it. A number of members spoke at length and earnestly of the threatening danger to Friends' principles of peace and arbitration, and of the earnest need for us all to use every influence to bridge over the crisis of the public fever for war, until the sober second thought should bring a realization of its horrors and prove a safeguard for Christian brotherhood.

A special committee was appointed to take definite action in behalf of the Association, to communicate with Congressmen and with the public through the press, as well as hold a public meeting, if deemed best, in order to further the cause of peace.

A regular meeting of the Young Friends' Association of New York and