

quality of love. The younger ones, quick to discern this inconsistency, grow luke-warm, and estranged from the Society. Our Society has lost many a promising genius and many a brilliant talent because some already enjoying the popular favor could brook no equal. But if we have that love that desires the best for each and all, that can fellowship with rivals, and forgive enemies, instead of driving from our ranks the bright minds and promising talents, we would help them to discover the sphere in society and the world that God designed them for, and is fitting them to fill.

Again, the meetings may fail in their duty towards our young members by not being broad enough to recognize the diversity of gifts. This is not so great a crime as the last; it is rather a sin of ignorance, but nevertheless it has been fruitful of disaster to our Society. The broader culture of to-day is helping us to correct this error, but it still needs our attention and thought. Give all liberty to follow out the bent of their genius, for if we attempt to tutor genius, beware lest we be found tutoring God. Each stands responsible to God alone for the fulfillment of life's work. The Society should be made broad enough for the legitimate exercise of every God-given power.

It should not be tenacious about non essentials. Our Society is peculiarly blessed in that it is not bound together by creeds or confessions of faith. The cementing bond with us is love. To be *one* in spirit is a greater safeguard to harmony than subscribing to a long catalogue of articles of faith. If there be *one* spirit, and that one of *love*, all the conflicting opinions about the divinity of Jesus Christ, miracles, or any other subject of contention, will not cause a ripple on the surface of the Society.

One of the great secrets in maintaining sympathy and fellowship with the young, and with the older as well, is found in the cultivation of a spirit of

forgiveness. It is said that youth is wayward. Experience has not yet taught it all the forbidden paths. If it wander, if it sin, it cannot return, except through forgiveness. The forgiving element in love is the saving principle. In being overanxious and critical towards petty errors we distrust the power of God's forgiving love to save.

Youth is active, and I conceive it to be the duty of the Society to enlist this spontaneous activity in its important and manifold fields of labor. There was a time when our Society was drifting away from religion into theology, from practical realities into forms and customs; then the opportunities for developing youthful interest and labor were scarce, and our Society was ebbing low. But we are waking up to the fact that religion is in *doing*, as well as in believing. The First-day School work came to our aid, opening up new and pleasant fields of labor for the exuberant activities of the young. Following this came the philanthropic work fraught with a multitude of opportunities for labor in His name, who said, "Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these, my brethren, ye have done it unto me."

Right here I might answer that I can discover no necessity for any other national, or international organization, in behalf of the young people, than those already established. It seems to me that the "Yearly Meeting," with its spiritual concerns, the "First-day School General Conference," looking after the welfare of the children, and the "Philanthropic Union," reaching out on all sides for the betterment of humanity, embrace every subject worthy of an organization, and furnish opportunities enough for each worker. The two latter organizations are but in their infancy, and need active workers everywhere to complete their development. The organizations formed by man are unlike those formed by God. The first heart-beat of life sends the blood through the arteries, capillaries and veins already prepared for the