

PELHAM HALF YEARLY MEETING OF FRIENDS.

Pelham Half-Yearly Meeting of Friends was held the 22nd of 2nd mo., 1896.

Thinking that some hearts might in a little measure be strengthened, and others gladdened by a testimony recorded of the above Meeting in the pages of the YOUNG FRIENDS' REVIEW, the writer, being a silent participant therein, is made willing to do what seems left—to “gather up the crumbs that fell from the Master’s table,” and present for whatever use my Heavenly Father secs fit.

Owing to the very cold weather and blockaded condition of all roads, with the uncertainty of travel by train, not many outside of Pelham were present. The attendance from the surrounding community, also, was much smaller than usual; nevertheless we felt that the Master’s promise, “That wherever two or three are gathered together in My name, there am I in the midst,” was truly verified. The overshadowing Presence seemed to encircle, and messengers were chosen to hand forth the bread, which was blessed, broken, and given by the Master for distribution to those assembled.

Tenderly were we reminded that “God so loved the world that He sent His only begotten Son into the world, that whosoever believeth in Him might not perish but have everlasting life.” The call to “Mind the Light” was impressively reiterated in our hearing, thus adding another opportunity—an added responsibility. O, may we be obedient children, lest condemnation be ours for unavailed advantages.

Earnestly was the caution uttered against a spirit of lukewarmness, given in Scripture language, citing that addressed to the Laodæcians: “He that hath an ear let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the Churches.” “I know thy works, that thou art neither cold nor hot; I would that thou wert cold or hot; so, then, because thou art luke-

warm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spew thee out of my mouth.” Are we guilty? God knows. Let none say to another, *thou art the man*, but let each examine himself or herself carefully, and honestly search the heart, for, “As is the heart so is the man.” God will not be mocked; let us not deceive ourselves, nor be satisfied with the husks, “As far as appears.”

The pure mind was stirred up by way of remembrance “to let our light shine.” If the heart is illumined by the love of Christ, the Light thereof will shine without an effort. It is because of impurities in the candle that makes the light sputter and sometimes go out. Just so the light of spiritual life may be born in the soul, and because of worldly-mindedness the Light sputters and struggles for existence, so that often there is no Light except in name or membership in the Church Militant.

Earnestly were we counselled not to stumble over the failings of another. To remove first the *beam* from our own eye, then we may see clearly to take the *mote* out of our brother’s eye. How prone are we to watch for faults in another! “What matters that to thee,” says Jesus, “follow thou me.” If we are striving with all our might to keep close to the Christ—our guide—we will have no time nor disposition to criticise other’s doings, only to mind our own business, and to be sure to keep within the footprints of the Divine Master whom we profess to follow.

Exhortation extended towards the too eager pursuit after the things of the world is applicable to all, for “a man’s life consisteth not in the abundance of the things which he possesseth.” Jesus said unto his disciples, “If any man will come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. For whosoever will save his life shall lose it, and whosoever will lose his life for my sake shall find it. For what is a man profited if he gain the whole world and lose his own soul?