

BREAKING THE ENVELOPE.

BY JOSEPHINE POLLARD.

All white and pure on the ground it lay,
A letter directed to May, sweet May;
We could only guess what it might reveal,
For nobody ventured to break the seal.

It had come from a distance, that we
knew—
From a lover quite fond and faithful, too,
For every year on a certain day
There was always a letter for May, sweet
May.

March came along in his blustering style,
And gave the letter a frozen smile,
As if he guessed what it might contain,
And buried it deeper in mud and rain.

At last, after many a sore mishap,
It landed safely in April's lap,
Whose pulses madly began to stir
When she found it wasn't intended for her!

Oh! ah! indeed! and alack-a-day!
A younger sister was Mistress May!
And the jealous maiden began to cry—
I couldn't begin to tell you why.

Sadly soiled on the ground it lay,
This letter directed to May, sweet May;
Torn were the edges and pale the ink,
But she broke the envelope and, what do
you think?

Out popped the violets, bright and blue,
And apple-blossoms—oh! not a few!
Down they tumbled, a perfect shower,
Till the woods and the fields were all in
flower.

That was the letter so gladly torn
From its stained envelope one bright May
morn,
And bud and blossom were but a part
Of the treasures locked in old Winter's
heart.

YOUNG FRIENDS' ASSOCIATION

The Young Friends' Association, of Coldstream, met on the evening of 4th mo. 24th, at the Meeting House, and held an interesting session.

The Meeting was opened by a period of silence, followed by the reading of a chapter from the Bible. Another brief silence, then the reports from the different sections were taken up.

Eugene M. Zavitz, Chairman of the History Section, reported that they

were reading portions of Sacred History; were beginning with the life of Moses.

Noble Zavitz, of the Literature Section, stated that an article in the *Intelligencer and Journal* of 4th mo. 18th, written by the author of "Quaker Idyls," had claimed the attention of that section. William Brown reported that their section had decided to take up the study of our present Discipline.

S. P. Zavitz, of the Current Topics Section, called attention to the present movement in Great Britain and the United States for the settlement, by arbitration, of all disputes which cannot be adjusted by diplomacy, between the two countries; also to the subject of Religious Teaching in our Public Schools, advocating Secular Schools.

Ethel Zavitz, on behalf of the History Section, presented a paper, giving a sketch of the life and character of Moses, which was followed by the reading of a poem entitled "The Burial of Moses," by Adelia Vanderburg.

Remarks on the life and work of Moses, and the lessons which we of to-day can glean from his obedience and disobedience were made.

I. C. Z. Cor.

NEW YORK AND BROOKLYN.

The Young Friends' Association of New York and Brooklyn held its regular meeting, 3rd mo. 22nd, in New York.

Edward B. Rawson stated that the Kindergarten Committee appointed at the last meeting advised those members who are interested in the founding of free kindergartens to attend the philanthropic meeting in Brooklyn, to be held on the 3rd of 4th mo., the subject of free kindergartens being in a line with "Mission Work among Women and Children."

The History Section, according to Franklin Noble's report, have been reviewing a History of Long Island, by Benjamin B. Thompson, who had so little sympathy with Friends' that.