

with texts or sentiments. Twenty-seven persons were present.

The programme for next association was then read. A very enjoyable time is reported. After a short silence the meeting adjourned until the last First-day of the next month.

NELLIE E. LOWNES, Reporter.

PROTEST AGAINST CHURCH BOYS' BRIGADES.

Elizabeth A. Rogers, president of the Crosswicks Peace Union Branch, is very earnest in trying to save the boys from military life, and sends us many acceptable thoughts. She says:

"I read in the last *Peacemaker* under "The Progress of Peace Sentiments" the following: "Every thoughtful peace man and woman who has keenly observed the signs of the times must be highly gratified at the progress of peace sentiments," but church boys' brigades do not denote "progress for peace." Military organization in the churches and military training in the schools do not tend to increase the desire for peace and arbitration among the people, while such great efforts are being made to create a martial spirit in this country with the *intent* of bringing our government under military control. She quotes Stevens:

"Detroit has twenty-seven church military organizations, containing 951 men and forty-three officers. The largest is the Baptist Cadets, with sixty-six men and three officers. Then comes the Maybury Cadets, an Episcopal organization, with sixty men, and the First Congregational Cadets with fifty-three, the first and last being armed with rifles. The Episcopalians have six companies, the Catholics eight, the Presbyterians seven, Baptists three, Congregationalists two and Lutherans one. Thirteen of the companies are armed with rifles and one with swords. These, it must be remembered, are all church military companies and have no connection with the civic societies of the state militia."—*The Peacemaker*.

GEMS FROM CHRYSOSTOM.

A. D. 407.

The following extracts from the writings of Chrysostom show that the views so expressed are not peculiar to Friends, but have been held and borne testimony to almost, if not fully, from the advent of Christianity. In the language of the wise man, "Is there anything whereof it may be said: see, this is new? It hath been already of old time which was before us."

G. S. T.

Genoa, Neb., 8th mo., 29, 1894.

"Men wrote as they were moved by the Holy Spirit; yet this was not independent of their own human understanding and personal character. The Prophet retained his peculiar faculties and style, only all his powers were quickened, energized by the Spirit to the utterance of words which, unassisted, he could not have uttered."

"Holy Scripture does not need the aid of human wisdom for its true understanding, but only the revelation of the Spirit."

"Prayer is the treasure of the poor, the security of the rich. The poorest of men is rich if he can pray, and the man who cannot pray is miserably poor. It is impossible that a man, who with becoming zeal calls constantly on God, should sin. He is proof against temptation so long as the effect of his praying endures, and when it begins to fail he must pray again. And this may be done anywhere, in the market or in the shop, since prayer demands the outstretched soul rather than the extended hands. Avoid long prayers, which give opportunity to Satan to distract the attention; prayers should be frequent and short. It is in this way that we can best comply with Paul's direction to pray without ceasing."

"Say not I have sinned much, how can I be saved? Thou art not able, but thy Master is able to so blot out thy sins that no trace even of them shall remain. In the natural body, though