

be spoken from. I saw the strong man bowed down, and his knees to fail—his joints all seemed loosening—it was a figure to set off against Paul preaching—the words he uttered were few and sound—he was evidently resisting his will—keeping down his own word-wisdom with more mighty effort than the world's orators strain for theirs :

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More frequently the meeting is broken up without a word having been spoken. But the mind has been fed. You go away with a sermon, not made with hands. You have been in the milder caverns of Trophonius ; or as in some den, where that fiercest and savagest of all wild creatures, the *Tongue*, that unruly member, has strangely been tied up and captive. You have bathed with stillness. O when the spirit is sore fretted, even tired to sickness of the janglings and nonsense, noises of the world, what a balm and a solace it is to go and seat yourself for a quiet half-hour upon some undisputed corner of a bench, among the gentle Quakers !

Their garb and stillness conjoined, present an uniformity, tranquil and herdlike—as in the pasture—“forty feeding like one.”

The very garments of a Quaker seem incapable of receiving a soil ; and cleanliness in them to be something more than the absence of its contrary. Every Quakeress is a lily ; and when they come up in bands to their Whitsun conferences, whitening the easterly streets of the metropolis, from all parts of the United Kingdom, they show like troops of the shining ones.

CHARLES LAMB.

## THE EMPRESS VICTORIA OF GERMANY.

The following graphic description of the new Empress of Germany is taken from the *New York World* : The consort of the new ruler of Germany is universally admitted to be one of the most talented and remarkable women of her age. The eldest daughter of the

Queen of England, she was born on Nov. 21, 1840, and after a courtship at Balmoral was married to the present Emperor (at that time Prince Frederick William of Prussia) on Jan. 25, 1858, at the Chapel Royal, St. James, London, proceeding immediately after the wedding to Potsdam, where she took up her residence with her husband. Although Frederick III. is a true Hohenzollern, both by inheritance and by tradition, his character has been largely influenced by the new Empress, to whom he is devotedly attached. The favorite daughter of the late Prince Consort of Great Britain, she has retained all her proclivities in favor of a liberal and constitutional form of Government, as opposed to the military despotism and autocracy favored by the late Emperor and by Prince Bismarck. These proclivities, which she imparted to her husband, naturally brought her into frequent conflict with the great Chancellor and with Prussian bureaucracy, who have never professed much sympathy for her whom they describe as “*Englanderin*.” The latter returns this dislike with interest, and it has become especially embittered since the partially successful attempt made to bring Prince William into unfilial opposition to his parents. So strong is the antagonism at Berlin against the new Empress that had her husband died at San Remo during the past few weeks it is doubtful whether it would have been prudent for her to return to the “*Athens on the Spree*.” Prompted by the jealousy of the German surgeons and physicians whose incompetent services in behalf of the new Emperor have been discarded in favor of the Scotch specialist, Sir Morell Mackenzie, the latter and the Empress Victoria are held responsible by the Berlin public for the failure to check the malady of Frederick III.

It should be added that the new Empress is devoted to art, literature and science and that she has done much to encourage them in every direction in Germany. She is an accomplished musician, very clever with the pencil,