

prompt to inspire some servant to the task. For, although we do not hire another to do our spiritual thinking, yet we maintain, and honor, and exalt to the altitude of revelation as no other denomination does, the ministering of the spoken word.

Thus, without the sound of organ, or the symbol of water and of wine, and without any pre-arrangement of man, the divinest harmony must prevail in every Friends' Meeting that is held aright, that is, in the power and presence of God.

These things may seem visionary, they may seem even foolishness to some, but I feel a certain and a sweet assurance that though these outward Churches shall crumble down and moulder in the earth, that though the earth herself shall grow old and pass away, I say I feel a certain and a sweet assurance that this temple of silent worship, this tabernacle of God's presence, shall abide for ever and ever.

THE SWARTHMORE CONFERENCES.

(Continued.)

FRIENDS' EDUCATIONAL CONFERENCE.

In the afternoon the first National Educational Conference of Friends began its deliberations. After some introductory remarks by Dr. Edward H. Magill, he withdrew from the chair, and requested William W. Birdsall to act in his stead. Emma Speakman Webster acted as assistant clerk.

A paper on "Friends and Schools" was read by Superintendent Joseph S. Walton, of Chester county, Pa. He expressed it as his opinion that in sparsely settled neighborhoods it is better for Friends to send their children to the Public Schools, believing that home influence is strongest during the first eight years of school life, while the influence of the teacher in the formation of character has more weight during the academic years. A training school for teachers is one of

the greatest needs of Friends' schools and closer supervision is another.

Edward Harry, of Georgetown College, Kentucky, said that all good teachers are Friends in the true sense of the word.

S. Elizabeth Stover, of New York, suggested that where there is a good school, not under the care of Friends, there might be a students' residence, in charge of a Friend, for Friends' children. She differed with superintendent Walton in thinking that the little children should especially be in Friends' schools.

A paper by Elizabeth H. Coale, of Illinois, on the same subject, was then read. She said that Friends should interest themselves in the election of School Directors and should frequently visit the Public Schools. The experiment of a students' home has been tried in their State with the best results.

The next subject, "Athletics in Our Schools and Colleges," was discussed in a paper by Edward B. Rawson, of New York. He advocated athletic games as one of the best means of promoting physical training, but disapproved of inter-collegiate contests. He also advocated athletics for girls, and rejoiced that our American women are regaining that beauty of form that was characteristic of the Greeks of old.

Walter Clothier, of Philadelphia, defended inter-collegiate contests, believing that they create fraternal feeling in colleges, tend to check hazing and class rivalry, and form a bond of good fellowship between the students and the authorities.

Mary R. Livezey entered an earnest protest against the brutal game of football.

Mary Anna Chapman made a plea for physical culture for women.

President De Garmo, of Swarthmore, advised anxious mothers to take the long out look. One reason why England has peopled the world, while France can barely maintain her own