

more reverential silence than that which covered the meeting soon as we took our seats. It was broken by our Friend, Isaac Wilson:—"My heart was touched with feelings of thankfulness as we dropped into silence; or, in other words, how thankful we should be for our parentage, or what has taught us silence. The most of the religious world have not attained this silence; we receive Divine impressions in silence. I went back to my youth; I failed to see then, despite parental teaching, the greatest blessing even of communing with our Heavenly Father."

In a later discourse Isaac was deeply exercised that elders take the full responsibility of their positions. When they accept the position given them by their meeting they seek for a Divine qualification. A living, rightly-exercised eldership is not second to the ministry. He related how in his youth, when he felt his mouth should be opened, he had been encouraged by a living elder who never spoke a word to him, but by that deep spiritual insight that elder knew that he should open his mouth, and he could not resist that power.

First-day morning the house was nearly filled with Friends and others. The silence was broken by words from Isaac Wilson, accompanied by a baptizing power that it seems vain to try to mention on paper. To be fully appreciated we must hear for ourselves. When our Heavenly Father sends His servants in love to visit us it behooves us to receive their messages and remember, by obedience to Christ within, we may all see and taste for ourselves. He spoke from the parable of the mustard-seed, and made it so plain even the youngest in religious experience could understand.

In the afternoon the First-day School Conference met at 3 o'clock, in which our dear Friend was again exercised on our behalf in earnest supplication. Interesting reports were read from two schools, the other two not being in session at present; one

expects to re-open soon. Readings, recitations and essays followed by the scholars, then a number of questions, given for discussion, relative to the up-building of meetings and schools. Time was far too short; some were read and referred to committee to appoint some one to treat the subjects more fully in essays for our next conference. I feel by these questions greater knowledge of the best methods for us was brought out than could be obtained otherwise. We closed with an exhortation from our Friend to the young people. He said seldom had he been privileged to be in a meeting where there was so much concern on the part of the young to learn of the fathers' and mothers' and they have a right to ask and receive.

Although rainy First-day afternoon and all Second-day, the meeting-house was nearly filled Second-day morning when the Clerk read the opening minute, bespaking an interest which, despite the long rides necessary for some to take in the rain to be there.

After the reading of the minute of our Friends, Isaac and Ruth Wilson, from their Monthly Meetings, expressions of thankfulness for their company were made by many, and seemed to be the feelings of the whole meeting.

Isaac expressed a desire early in the meeting that those who felt they had anything to say, (he spoke more especially to the young), to give expression to their thought, and let none smother or suppress. No one is more helped than the one who is faithful in speaking what they feel. It strengthens in all that is good. The usual routine of answering the queries, and the other business, claimed the attention of the meeting, including the epistle to Prairie Grove Quarterly Meeting. During recess both days a bounteous lunch was prepared, making it much pleasanter than it otherwise would have been, affording an opportunity for social mingling, which I trust was beneficial to all. The backs of the