

the cotton States, as then you can see the "king" plucked by hands our veterans made free. It creates in one of these veterans a happy feeling, and although the cost was great, he is glad the deal was made that gave them freedom.

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WHAT WERE, WHAT ARE, AND WHAT WILL BE, FRIENDS VIEWS OF MUSIC IN MEETING?

MUSIC is considered, with the exception of poetry, to be the greatest of the fine arts, therefore it must hold a prominent place in the minds of the people.

It has a special charm of its own which delights the child and at the same time comforts the grandmother.

We find it in the theatre and in the church, at the wedding, and at the funeral, in connection with war and with peace. It occupies an important place in Scripture, both in religious worship and in social festivities. We hear of musical instruments from the time that we have any knowledge of humanity. So it has been handed down to us without losing any of its charm. It has been said that a song can be read and create as much feeling as though it were accompanied by music.

In most instances this can hardly be true, for music, having that special element of its own, heightens the effect of the words. Indeed, it seems as though we can in some selections understand the feeling which the words were intended to convey, by simply hearing the music, when the musician strikes the chords of the "Thunder-storm" or the tones of the chapel bell, or the sad strains of the "Dying Nun."

Upon having heard something which impressed us as being restful, soothing, we speak of it as being musical. So music, in time of joy or sorrow, gives that indescribable feeling which nothing else can.

Friends have aimed to have simplicity as one of the main features of their

religion, and perhaps have been afraid that introducing music in meeting would have a tendency to mar that silence which has held and does hold us so beautifully together. Still, I think there are very few Friends who are not fond of music. I'm not speaking of instruments made by man particularly, for can we have sweeter music than the song of nature—such as the notes of the bird, the rippling of the brook?

Byron says:—

"There's music in the sighing of a reed,
There's music in the gushing of a rill,
There's music in all things, if men had ears,
Their earth is but an echo of the spheres."

Still, although most Friends are fond of music, I think comparatively few of them, either now, or in the generations to come, would care to have singing in meeting. This may seem strange, until we realize that

"The temple of our purest thoughts is
silence."

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Dr. I. K. Funk, the well-known New York millionaire reformer who is doing much to combine Populists, Prohibitionists, Socialists, single-taxers and others under one banner, said in a recent speech; "We may be called in the future as in the past dreamers, sentimentalists, visionaries, for placing questions of conscience above those of meat and shelter and other material advantages. Moses was such a dreamer, so were Plato and Christ and Savonarola and Luther and Wilberforce and Garrison. There are larks and nightingales and eagles, and there are toads and moles, groundlings, all after their kind. Some are created to croak and grovel, and some to roar and sing. Are the lark and nightingale to stop singing because down in the bogs ducks and geese and frogs do not like it? We shall continue to soar and sing, notwithstanding the quackings and croakings in the political lowlands."