

ministers to invite some younger Friend to share in the service. Further, under our system of free ministry, the collective body is largely responsible for arranging the human conditions and developing the human material from which the Holy Spirit can bring forth enlightened and effective ministry. Where there is no special class set apart and trained for the work, it is essential that there should be a general high level, not alone of spiritual life, but also of religious knowledge. It is not the part of true humility to expect the Divine Spirit to save us trouble by doing our work for us. And hence meetings will do well to take religious instruction under their special care, and to make arrangements for helpful collective study of the Scriptures.

CONCLUDING THOUGHTS.

We have before us a great work. The cry for spiritual religion—from village and city, from the unlearned and the educated—was never louder than it is to-day. Does the cry pierce our hearts, as we sit immured in meetings, which too often fall far below our ideal, but which might be replenished by our consecration of service into wells of spiritual life for the world? And, if we hear the call, do we burst the bondage of routine and brace ourselves to the work? Are our loins girt and our lamps burning and we ourselves alert for the voice of our Lord? In Him there is no failure. The failure is in our want of consecration. We owe all that is worth anything in our lives to His love. We hold this gift—the “sacred burden” of the “life we bear” as a stewardship to be used for Him. Is not Jesus Christ worth serving? Is not His work of uplifting men worth helping on? It is little we can give Him—broken hearts, lowly minds, sin-marred lives—but let us give it freely, with every talent of mind or circumstance or experience with which He has endowed us; that He may sanctify the gift by His Spirit, and make us worthy, as congregations and as individuals, of being used in His supreme work of saving the world.

Signed in and on behalf of the Meeting,

J. B. HODGKIN,

Clerk.