

MILLS.—At her home at St. Thomas, Ontario, 3rd mo. 28th, 1897, Anna M. Mills, in the 92nd year of her age, a valued elder of Lobo Monthly Meeting, Ontario.

This dear Friend was born in 1806, in the State of New York, and when quite young removed with her parents to Canada. Her husband whom she survived 11 years, was Isaac Mills, of Sparta. Their married life extended over a period of 61 years, and their hospitable home was the scene of many friendly minglings. The sterling worth of her character, her beautiful Christian spirit, and her kindly sympathy endeared her to many hearts, and has left an imperishable influence. Through the greater part of her life she was a diligent attender of our religious meetings, where her solid, reverential deportment added much to their impressive dignity. Her judgment being excellent and ready, and freely exercised for the welfare of others—long she has dwelt among us, a wise counsellor and a friend in whom no confidence was misplaced. Her latter years have been spent mostly in a wheeled chair, the last two years confined to her couch, blind and helpless, suffering often—but always cheerful and patient, and considerate of those who were kindly ministering to her necessities. With mind clear and faith unshaken, she was ready and longing to be at rest in her Father's own good time. "She hath done what she could," and those who have witnessed her precious example will cherish her memory, renewing their confidence in the Divine power who is able to sustain through all the vicissitudes of life by the strength of "His everlasting arms," and at the last, "He giveth His beloved sleep."

Do to-day's duty, fight to-day's temptation, and do not weaken and distract yourself by looking forward to things which you cannot see, and could not understand if you saw them.  
—Charles Kingsley.

## OATHS, AND THE OBJECTIONS THERETO.

COMPILED PRINCIPALLY FROM THE WRITINGS OF FRIENDS.

"An oath may be defined as an asseveration or promise made under non-human penalty or sanction." Writers among civilized nations have sometimes defined the oath as an appeal to a deity, and for a violation of it the Romans invoked the lightnings of their gods upon the perjurer. The form of oath varies with different nations. Stretching forth the hand toward the object or deity sworn by is a natural gesture. The lifting of the hand toward heaven was also an Israelitish form of oath. This has established itself in Christendom, and has continued to modern times. In France a juror takes oath by raising his hand, saying, "Jejure." The Scottish judicial oath is taken by the witness holding his right hand uncovered and repeating after the usher: "I swear by Almighty God, and as I shall answer to God at the great day of judgment, that I will." In many parts of the United States the oath is administered by holding the Bible in the right hand, and at the close of the formula kissing the book. In the western States the Scottish form by the uplifted hand is generally adopted. Under Christ's injunction, "Swear not at all," many early Christians seem at first to have shrank from taking oaths, the writings of the Fathers showing efforts to resist the practice; Chrysostom in particular inveighing against the "snare of Satan." At the time when the Society of Friends arose there were frequent and radical changes in the British government, to secure which oaths of allegiance and supremacy, often inconsistent with each other, were imposed upon the people. These oaths, and all others, George Fox felt bound to decline, being persuaded that swearing, in all cases and