

existed between the primitive Church and that of the early Friends, on the great leading points to which we specially referred ;—as to their creed—the character of their religious meetings—the bases of their ministry, and their views on church government. They both accepted in all its fullness, the truth of the real presence and headship of Christ. They were both free from the burden of ritualism and ceremonialism, and from the bondage and hinderance, in any form, of an order of clergy. They were both remarkable for their brotherly love, and for their care of the poor, the suffering and the unfortunate.

CURTAINS.

THOUGHTS ON AWAKING.

"But their minds were blinded ; for until this day remaineth the same vail untaken away in the reading of the old testament ; which vail is done away in Christ.

But even unto this day, when Moses is read, the vail is upon their heart.

Nevertheless when it shall turn to the Lord, the vail shall be taken away."—2 Cor. iii., 14, 15, 16.

Draw back the curtains, sisters ! let the light
 Spead full o'er me, gladdening both soul and
 sight,

I love God's sunshine gleaming on my face,
 I love His presence, and His perfect grace.

We are too prone to gloom in our sad world,
 We make it gloomy by our shades unfurled,
 Placing our screens and blinds lest air and
 light

Should be too much for our weak sense and
 sight.

This is an error, since a darksome room
 Will gather elements within its gloom
 Engendering disease, and, stagnant air
 Is rife with poisonous vapors everywhere.

Let us not shun God's presence shining in,
 Hiding ourselves behind our griefs or sin ;
 Nor shiver coldly, whilst the grace Divine
 Beams all around and waits on us to shine.

What are these curtains that we draw between
 Ourselves and God with too indifferent mien ?
 Whilst our starved hearts are craving for His
 grace,
 And linger, longing to behold His face.

Perhaps the darkest is our guilt and sin—
 A thick and cloud-hued curtain, and within
 No single ray from God can penetrate
 The dismal horror that it doth create.

Our life's transgressions and our sins of youth.
 Vail from our sight God's loveliest ray of truth.
 His pardoning mercy ; this and this alone
 Withdraws the gloom that o'er the soul is thrown.

There is the world, with tinsel bravery wrought
 We hide within it all our time and thought,
 But little light comes thro', and heaven's pure
 airs

Fail here to lift its weight of joys and cares.

Then self, self love, and selfishness and pride,
 In various forms, the Light Divine will hide,
 And He the enemy of all our peace
 Blinds our sad eyes that hope and joy may
 cease.

And doubts, and fears, and unbelief, will roll
 Their folds of misery round and round the soul,
 Poor soul ! yet struggling for a gleam of bliss,
 One hope, one remedy remains for this.

When He who bore for us life's griefs and woe
 Died on the Cross because He loved us so
 The temple vail twixt holy God and man
 Was rent for ever, and our life began.

Draw back the curtains ! own His perfect love
 Let in His Light descended from above,
 Bask in His sunshine, freely hourly given,
 And wait the opening of the gate of Heaven.

M. FELLOWS.

THOUGHTS.

It is not the position or the place we
 occupy that will make us happy—but
 the qualification for that place.

Religion is not a department of life ;
 if it accompanies us in business, culture
 and recreation, it is life itself. L. T.

It is not so much *what* we believe
 providing we believe that that will
 induce us to *act* the most unselfishly
 and truly. Z.