

## TRENTON FRIENDS' ASSOCIATION.

The regular, and also annual meeting of the Trenton Friends' Association was held 12 mo. 28th, 1896. The officers for the ensuing year were installed, and the retiring Secretary read a summary of the year's proceedings. She noted a renewed interest in association work since we entered our new quarters, and gave a list of papers read during the year, which covered the ground of Friends' History and Biography, Temperance, Peace, First-day School work, Poetry, &c.

The programme for the evening was then taken up and the paper, "The Various Branches of Friends and their Differences," by Edmund Willets, was read. This was a well-written article, treating of Friend's doctrine and forms of worship, which were the causes of the separation and giving the names of the different branches. The discussion which followed brought forth many new points and showed much thought upon the subject.

"Should Friends have a Catechism," was a paper prepared by Caroline Preston. It was very clearly and concisely written, and from her point of view shows the need of a catechism in our First-day School, for, as she writes, "One of the objects of the Sabbath or First-day School is to teach the religious views of the Society to which the pupil belongs, and an apt scholar is supposed to know something of the distinctive tenets of the Society. It has seemed in my humble judgment one of the mistakes we have made that we have not put our belief in such shape that the average pupil would be able to give a definite answer to the oft repeated question, What do Friends believe? The discussion which followed showed much difference of opinions as to the need of a catechism, but all seemed to think that there was a necessity of some standard of Friends' principles which could be taught in the First-day Schools.

Seth Ely read a portion of his paper upon "The Proceedings of the Religious Congress at Swarthmore." He quoted from the paper by Dean Bond, read before the Congress upon "Spiritual Religion," and J. W. Plummer's remarks in response to it defining Spirit and Religion. Owing to the lateness of the hour the paper was discontinued, to be finished at the next meeting.

We are much indebted to William J. Hall, of Swarthmore, for his entertaining and instructive illustrated lecture upon "The Children of the Other Half," given in the Meeting House, under the auspices of the Association, upon Twelfth mo. 14th, 1896.

A. C. REEVES,  
Secretary.

## FISHING CREEK HALF-YEARLY MEETING

FOR YOUNG FRIENDS' REVIEW.

Fishing Creek Half Year Meeting was held 12th mo., 24th, 1896, and the Monthly Meeting of Friends at Millville the 23rd, the Youths' Meeting the 25th.

Isaac and Ruth Wilson were with us at the Half Year Meeting, the Youths' Meeting, and remained over First-day, thus continuing the feast.

The Gospel message flowed pure and free, and much food for thought was given forth. A few of the morsels might be gathered and passed on without diminishing our own store.

Christ must be born in us, or it profiteth us nothing.

Though Christ a thousand times,  
In Bethlehem be born,  
If He is not born in thee,  
Thy soul is all forlorn.

If the Christ power enter in or is born in us, it will drive out all that is impure, all that defiles. There will be no room for the intoxicating cup, the cigar or cigarette, the impure word, the foul oath, nor the uncharitable feeling against our neighbor.