

Thou givest him a little power to go and to do, and at once he grows big in his own eyes : but how little we are in Thy sight ! Oh, how insignificant man is,—how forgetful ! Thou instructs him and yet he will not remain taught. David said : “ What *is* man that Thou art mindful of him ? ”

Thou givest man the opportunity of the right or of the wrong ; and he chooses the wrong. Thou givest him worldly prosperity, with a little control of worldly things, and in time he comes to worship these. But in the end confusion and humility over takes man. He comes down to the dust whence he sprang. Both idolatry and pride will be made low.

Oh, man, when wilt thou learn to love God, and Him only serve ?

H. H. W.

A CHANGE COMPLETED.

There was one matter of procedure in the Yearly Meeting the present year which may have passed without the full notice it deserved. It marked what seems to us to be the completion of a change which has been going on in our Yearly Meeting for a number of years, and which—as just suggested—appear to be now entirely accomplished. This is the establishment of the full equality of the two branches of the meeting, and their formation as one body. To all intents and purposes Philadelphia Yearly Meeting now consists of two equal and coordinate branches, one held by the men, the other by the women. The title which has been given to the women's meeting of the “ Yearly Meeting of Women Friends,” has become a misnomer ; it is properly Women's Branch of Philadelphia Yearly Meeting.

The particular step taken this year, and which completes [the procedure by which the Yearly Meeting has become a united body, with two equal chambers, was the sending by the men of the minute appointing a financial committee over to the women, and their addition

of a number of Women to the committee. This never was done before. For several years it has been usual to submit to the women the nomination made by the men's committee for Treasurer of the Yearly Meeting the coming year, but the examination of the Treasurer's accounts, etc., has been performed by men's meeting alone. There now remains no business of the Yearly Meeting, we believe, in which the united action of both branches is not required, in order to render it complete.

Under these circumstances it may very properly be considered whether it is not desirable to define more distinctly in the Book of Discipline the manner in which the yearly meeting is constituted, and the equal relations of its two branches. The older usage was very different from that which we have now reached. Women's meetings for business, in the Society as it existed in the beginning of the present century, were more nominal than real. Their share in the Society's affairs was practically very small. Even now in England, all business of importance is done by the men, and we find in a lively and interesting article by Jane E. Newman, in the latest issue of Friend's Quarterly Examiner, a clue to the manner in which the women members—very naturally—regard the situation. She says :

“ But where the women's meeting (and we have known more than one) is chiefly occupied with reading aloud extracts from the Book of Discipline, to fill up the time till men Friends come out, some reform is certainly needed. If women Friends are to have a meeting, they ought to try to make it worth holding. Their time is as valuable as that of men Friends.”

The thought amongst us has been that our members were not divided in their rights by a line of sex. This has been more and more fully recognized in practice as time went by, and the equality of the women's meetings has been steadily approached. In