

been conferred—and especially to our young men and young women—to prize these gifts highly, to guard them jealously, to stir them up when sloth, self-pleasing, or worldly cares are in danger of smothering them. The service of Christ is an honourable one, ever to be pursued in a lowly, trustful spirit, whether the labourer's appointment be amongst the heathen in the foreign mission field, amongst the heathen of our own land, or in upholding a practical presentation of spiritual Christian truth in connection with the affairs of our own Society, or in our intercourse with others.

Whilst the Christian ministry is far from being exclusively concerned with vocal service in the times of congregational worship, we have been impressed with the extreme importance of the right holding of these meetings, and have greatly desired an increase of an anointed ministry, "handling aright the word of Truth." A separate communication is addressed to our friends on this subject by the Yearly Meeting on Ministry and Oversight.

In harmony with what we have already expressed in relation to the inclusion of all the business of life within the scope of Christian practice, we have considered the deplorable extent to which secret commissions are offered and taken, in commercial and professional life. We believe that a commission paid to an agent, or to anyone holding a post of trust, to induce such a person to act otherwise than as he might have done in the absence of such a payment, is wrong, on the part both of the offerer and the receiver. These payments are virtually bribes which inflict injustice upon honest men. We earnestly advise our friends to adhere to a true standard of integrity in all their transactions, and to be willing cheerfully to make the sacrifices which this may involve.

In offering this counsel we are not ignorant of the very real difficulties in which those engaged in trade are often placed from the practices referred to. We are aware that these difficulties are acutely felt both by assistants and travellers, by young people beginning business, and by those at the head of large establishments. It has been pointed out that something may be done to remove temptation by the payment of adequate remuneration to assistants, also that the heads of trading concerns do well to maintain a careful oversight of the accounts and acts of their agents. "Render unto your servants that which is just and equal," was the apostolic teaching to masters. George Fox was accustomed to visit the sessions, and to urge the magistrates to use fairly the powers at that time given them for fixing the wages of labourers ;

he was also shunning idleness, the same principle in their application to business relations. He was much more than a man who queried the law of obeying the commandments of Christ.

but his earthly possessions, kept void of vanity, and the temptation repeatedly of the practice.

Closely connected with the heart are the elements of peace and war. the Doukhobors, whose residence was in the West, have been persecuted and reminded by the military system of moral well-being.

We rejoice in the holding of the Yearly Meeting, an arresting thing in the life of the people. It has preserved a warm desire for peace, and may share in the making of the world. Several of our friends are tially peaceable, and of that kind of peace by a cultivated mind.

Our warlike friends, a large number, as well as those associated with the Mission Meeting, are things that are