

language of one of the Bible poets, grand old Isaiah, the time would come "when they (the people) shall beat their swords into plow shares, and their spears into pruning-hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more"; also, "They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain, for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea." But space and time alike forbid a farther enumeration of the beauties of the Bible, while the promises to the faithful, obedient ones, are many, and oh, how precious they have proved to many a weary, burdened soul, seeking peace and rest. No, do not let us depreciate the Bible; rather let us endeavor to hold up its truths to the world, that by obeying them, the people may be better and happier.

ELIZABETH H. COALE.

Holder, Ill., 9th mo. 18th, 1896.

### FACE TO FACE WITH TROUBLE.

You are face to face with trouble,  
And the skies are murk and gray;  
You hardly know which way to turn,  
You are almost dazed, you say.  
And at night you wake to wonder  
What the next day's news will bring;  
Your pillow is brushed with phantom care  
With a grim and ghastly wing.

You are face to face with trouble;  
A child has gone astray;  
A ship is wrecked on the bitter sea;  
There's a note you cannot pay;  
Your brave right hand is feeble;  
Your sight is growing blind;  
Perhaps a friend is cold and stern,  
Who was ever warm and kind.

You are face to face with trouble!  
No wonder you cannot sleep;  
But stay, and think of the promise,—  
The Lord will safely keep,  
And lead you out of the thicket,  
And into the pasture land;  
You have only to walk straight onward,  
Holding the Lord's own hand.

Face to face with trouble,  
And did you forget to look,  
As the good old father taught you,  
For help to the dear old Book!  
You have heard the tempter whisper,  
And you've had no heart to pray,

And God was dropped from your scheme  
of life,  
Oh! for many a weary day!

Then face to face with trouble—  
It is thus he calls you back,  
From the land of dearth and famine,  
To the land that has no lack.  
You would not hear in the sunshine;  
You hear in the midnight gloom;  
Behold, his tapers kindle  
Like stars in the quiet room.

Oh! face to face with trouble,  
Friends, I have often stood;  
To learn that pain hath sweetness,  
To know that God is good.  
Arise and meet the daylight!  
Be strong, and do your best!  
With an honest heart, and a childlike faith  
That God will do the rest.

—Margaret E. Sangster, in *Ladies' Home Journal*.

### CHRIST IND'WELLING.

It is said of George Fox that when he first came out as a reformer he had no idea of starting a new sect, but thought to reform some of the evils in the Church of England, of which his parents were members. Finding his views were not accepted, he left that Church, and, with other contemporaries, founded the Society of Friends, who suffered many persecutions, and it is recorded of them that they made no resistance to the unjust proceedings against them, but endeavored to live in harmony with all men.

One of their faithful observances was the injunction of Jesus, "Swear not at all," and the peaceableness, consistency and purity of their lives induced the British Parliament, in the year 1721, to enact a law permitting Friends to take an affirmation instead of an oath. In 1849 this affirmation, which consisted of these words: "I do solemnly, sincerely and truly affirm," was made permanent for Friends. This is one of the principles that has, with very few exceptions, been faithfully maintained up to the present time, and is now coming into use by others than the Friends.

The fundamental belief of Friends, from which all their doctrine springs,