

chafed and galled itself against the close bars thrown around it. There are certain things that no one, however wise, has ever received authority to dictate to another. Socially, human beings are largely dependent upon each other; but spiritually, each soul is a law unto itself. "I will put my laws into their mind, and write them in their hearts: and they shall not teach every man his neighbor, and every man his brother."

I will not specify any individual cases in which this intolerant spirit has manifested itself. The reader can, no doubt, recall too many now. In general, however, the talents born to the sphere of the liberal arts have been under the ban. With some even, poets have been considered scarcely worthy of acquaintance. Ban upon ban has been reiterated against music also. If a Jenny Lind should spring up out of our Society, soaring and singing to the nations, revealing the spirit in song to the people, I believe that she would be, in the terms of our Society, disowned.

Once, the story goes, a faithful hen patiently hatched and mothered a brood of ducks. One day, while on a piloting expedition, she wandered by the side of a pond. The little fellows instinctively took to the water, and left the old hen scratching and clucking and scolding and warning them against the treacherous deep. Ah! little ducklings, you have learned, and not from the wise old hen, that web feet were intended for swimming, and that the water is your own element as well as the land. Poor, anxious hen! Thou art attempting to tutor, not ducks but instinct—an invincible, infallible guide. Give over thy task, calm thy ruffled feathers, and let the little ones enjoy their season of glory. They will come again to shelter under thy wings, and will charm thee with new revelations from a wider world.

This coming influx from the spirit world may change the Society's views in some respects. It will court a near familiarity with the illustrious founders of our Society, and of the divine principles that they, through bitter persecutions, preserved to us and the world. At least our acquaintance with these will add greatly in bringing about new life and fresh activity. It is with this object in my mind that I have consented to write, for this paper and for you friendly readers, occasional articles

in review of noted Friends. If I happen to say anything too startling, too radical or too liberal, I say it in obedience to the influence of this radical and broader wave flowing in from the spirit sea. I believe that the mission of Quakerism is not fully accomplished. If ever there was especial need of faithfulness in our Society it is now. The eyes of the world are upon us still. The future beckons us on to new revelations and untried achievements. The past holds us back to conventional hulls and outworn creeds.

In this review let us study our illustrious Friends by the light that made them illustrious. Among all the characteristic principles and truths that Quakerism has been called upon to proclaim, let us pay due regard and reverence to those that separated our Society from the world in the first—spiritual worship, and the Christ within. For as we lose sight of this divine indwelling principle—this force behind all matter and all intellect, we will merge again into the common world. E. M. Z.

#### GENESEE YEARLY MEETING.

As the time approaches for our annual gathering in the capacity of a yearly meeting to transact the affairs of Society, as well as to be refreshed in spiritual life, the minds of many Friends, we believe, are turned in that direction with sincere desires that all may be done in harmony, forbearance, and love.

The fact that we meet, for the first time in our history, to transact all our affairs in joint sessions should cause each one to exercise greater care—to give others an opportunity to perform their duties by performing only our own.

Due regard should be shown our younger members, and those who are but children in spiritual things, that they may be encouraged in the fulfilment of their several duties, and thus be enabled by experience to grow in strength and become pillars in the church. How many tender plants wither and die for the want of a little care.

What power may emanate from such a gathering when sympathy and christian love settles upon the hearts of all? How necessary it is that youth as well as old age should become more thoughtful, and prepare the mind to receive the