

And many a day have we wrought  
 With a mingling of hope and fear ;  
 Wrought and sought for the precious ore,  
 The golden sands and light of lore,  
 'Within these walls so dear.

All thanks to the cherishing care  
 That knowing the needs of our youth,  
 And with strength to lead and wisdom to guide  
 In ways so pleasant and paths so wide,  
 The paths of honor and truth.

Have helped us thus far on our way,  
 'Til we've learned how to dig and to climb  
 To the depth of the mine, or the mountain  
 height,  
 How to work in the darkness - 'Til up to the  
 light  
 We bring the problems of time.

The ways of our future are near  
 With duties and mysteries rife ;  
 May our virtues be strong and our visions be  
 clear,  
 As mingled with song or with sighing—we hear  
 The deep diapason of life.

Yes, our future lies out like a sea  
 Whose surface is just in view ;  
 Waiting and wondering each of us stands,  
 Ready to grasp the oar in our hands,  
 And leave the old for the new.

The old—what say we? the past,  
 The beautiful past that was ours ;  
 The precious friends so dear and so true—  
 No, we'd keep the old though we welcome  
 the new,  
 The fruits as well as the flowers.

May their ble-sings go with us through time,  
 Ere the blessings their counsels have given ;  
 And may it be granted to hear as we wait  
 In garments of white at the beautiful gate,  
 Their welcoming voices in Heaven.

Let us ask for the wisdom we need,  
 Let us seek for the way that is right ;  
 In the world there's a work He will call us to do,  
 The hours hasten on—the laborers are few—  
 And the harvest already is white.

And may He who has power over all,  
 In His wisdom, forbearance and love,  
 Cleanse each heart from its weakness as gold  
 from its dross,  
 Give us strength 'gainst temptation to take up  
 the cross,  
 Though we wait for the crowning above.

A. H. G.

## THE GENERAL CONFERENCE.

The sixteenth General Conference of the First-day School workers belonging to the seven Yearly Meetings of Friends of America, convened at Sparta in Ontario, Canada, on the 20th and 21st of last month, All the Yearly Meetings were represented except Illinois. There were present six delegates from Indiana Association, three from Ohio, one from Baltimore, eleven from Philadelphia, six from New York, and six from Genesee. Many others, not delegates, were in attendance.

The reports of the Executive and Literature Committees, and of the Associations of the seven Yearly Meetings, together with an essay from each bearing on F. D. School work, with discussions thereon, was outlined as the programme of the Conference.

There were four sessions held in all, of two and a half hours each, and many points of interest in F. D. S. work came up, and were fully and freely discussed. The reports from our several Associations were full of encouragement, and presented forcibly the deep root this important branch of church work has taken in all our Yearly Meetings. The reports of the committees were adopted. Some of the papers read seemed a little foreign to the work, while others caught the spirit of the Conference and were heartily endorsed and appreciated. The spirit in which the work of the Executive and Literature Committees had been done for the past two years received warm approval, and much encouragement was given them in the fulfilment of their arduous tasks. The popular theme for discussion throughout, and the one subject which would "up and out" at every opportunity was the "Lesson Leaves," in all its phases. And no wonder for it is one in which every school is directly interested. This, together with the well known fact, that a difference of opinion had existed as to the propriety of the following, the "International" series of lessons, added interest to the subject.