

CORRESPONDENCE.

Playhouse, 4th mo. 13th, 1891.

Dear Cousin Julia,—

Mamma taught me that when impressed to do a loving act *never to delay*, so I write for others who cannot to tell you how glad we are that you asked the editor if he would print our messages for us? We would be afraid to do such a thing, lest we be told, as children often are, *that they must be seen, not heard*.

Loving yours,

HOPEFUL BAND.

Though I am more than five years old still, I am not very tall, and have to mount my stool to speak. I have been wondering who would respond to Cousin Julia's nice warm thoughts for the "Little Folk," but remembering that "wishing never did anything," if all simply wait and wonder who will write to please Cousin Julia, she will be left without a single word to encourage. I would be sorry if none had the courage to speak up, and let her know that we are taught manners enough to thank her at *least* for her loving interest in childhood's behalf. We little folk do like to be talked to cheerily, and we feel sure that many of life's lessons would be much easier and earlier learned if some such patient, happy hearted ones would just keep on telling us practical stories, embodying things hard for us to understand, and then show us how to live all these lessons. I think we all want to be good Christ-like children, if we could only learn the good way first, and keep treading in it, instead of learning so much that is naughty, which we have to unlearn and forget before we can walk steadily onward in the pathways leading heavenward. But maybe we do not try hard enough to do as we are taught. Then it is all right if we are left alone to struggle through the wilderness of worldly ways, suffering from our own naughtiness, until we feel desolated, hungered and thirsty enough to cry aloud for help and pray

"Lord hear this simple prayer I offer,
Help me to be good alway,
May I call right thoughts about me
While I drive the bad away."

When we will not mind and do what we are told, we must just be left to burn ourselves sorely, then we will keep away from the fire.

H. B.

NEBRASKA HALF-YEARLY MEETING.

The late Half-Yearly Meeting of Friends held in Lincoln, Neb., was a practical illustration of the growth in life and interest of our Society in the far west. Yet it seems to me it was but the dawning of a day to come, when Lincoln will be the center of a large and influential body of Friends in that State. A Friend from Illinois, who was in attendance, says: "How I would love to have all, who have a living interest in our great western field, know of the success of this gathering. I was never more agreeably surprised than at the attendance at this meeting—the third since its establishment. On First and Second days the meetings were held in a public hall. On Second-day fully 150 were present, all Friends (or nearly all). The business was conducted harmoniously and orderly—remarkably so when we consider the various localities in the east, whence they came, and so many having for so long a time been isolated from the Society, and had apparently lost all interest. The young people's meeting on First-day afternoon would have done credit to any of our older meetings. We have but one locality that can equal it." "The fields are indeed already white unto harvest," and the interest of late shown in our scattered ones of the west is already felt and appreciated. Let the work go bravely on and God will bless it.

S. P. Z.

Words are flowers, and deeds are fruit. We are told that it is by their fruits, not their flowers, that Christ's disciples shall be known.