

HUNTINGTON Y. F. A.

Huntington, Indiana.

The Young Friends' Association met on Sixth-day evening, fourth mo. 1st at the home of John and Alice Brown. The chairman called the meeting to order, after which a few moments silence was observed.

The paper for the evening was written and read by Samuel Nichols, the subject being "Golden Deeds."

"A golden deed is something more than fearlessness and self-exposure. It must have a grave and resolute fulfillment of duty behind it. The most remarkable characteristic of a golden deed is, that the doer is certain to feel it merely as a duty, and not ever once think of himself or his reward"

It is seldom that *valor* carries the soldier forward on the batt'le field, but often greed for fame or wealth, or fear of shame.

The *spirit* that gives itself for others, the temper, that for sake of religion, country, duty, kindred, or even stranger, will meet death or wear its life away in silence, is the one which accomplishes the "golden deeds of this universe"

A few noted instances were then given, commencing with the story of Damon and Pythias, Sir Philip Sidney, Joan of Arc, George Washington; in refusing to become *king*, and thus make a monarchy out of this fair land of ours. A short sketch of the work of Florence Nightingale, to show that her life was literally filled with golden deeds, also one of Clara Barton. Elizabeth Fry and Frances Willard were also brought forward for examples of lives filled with golden deeds. The last example mentioned was George Nusworth, third officer of the steamer "La Champagne," and his brave comrades.

The question of self-sacrifice was then brought forward, and the writer clearly showed that self-sacrifice was not always productive of golden deeds.

The paper closed with the following stanza :

"How e're it be,
It seems to me,
'Tis only noble to be good!
Kind hearts are more than coronets,
And simple faith than Norman blood."

The reading of the paper was followed by a general discussion, during which many different ideas on the subject were given; after this the business was transacted, followed by general social time. Then adjourned, to meet Fifth mo. 6th, at the home of Benjamin and Loretta Nichols.

CLOTILDE D. EDMONDSON,
Cor. Sec.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH OF THE LIFE OF JOHN GREEN- LEAF WHITTIER.

Prepared and read by Ernest H. Cutler, at the Y. F. C. A., of Arkona, on First-day afternoon, Fourth mo. 12th.

John Greenleaf Whittier, the noted poet, was born the 17th of December, 1807, at Haverhill, Mass., on the banks of the Merrimac river. His ancestors came from England some time in 1633. His great grandfather is reported to have introduced the first hive of bees into the settlement. His mother was Abigail Hussey, whose people had originally belonged to Boston, England. His parents were Quakers as were other members of the family. The poet had the great advantage of being country born and bred, the first sights he saw on 'side his home were those of nature and the first sounds were the music of the woods and streams. A little brook which foamed, rippled and laughed, ran near where the home garden smiled, and on its banks John Greenleaf and his brothers and sisters played. The birds, squirrels and woodducks were familiar objects. And the poet boy had his mind first awakened by the blue skies, the silent hills, and the stately trees which surrounded his home. The