

MY RECENT VISIT EAST.

FOR YOUNG FRIENDS' REVIEW.

I thought during my recent absence that I should write a few lines for the REVIEW, but as often found my time so closely occupied that it was again deferred, and only now give a very brief synopsis of the time so pleasantly spent.

Leaving home on the sixth of second month, going first to Granville, in New York; then to Easton, attending Easton and Saratoga Quarterly Meeting, followed by Duanesburg, at Albany, N. Y.; Burlington, at Mt. Holly; Salem, at Woodstown; and Haddonfield, at Moorestown, N. J., with other regular and appointed meetings, numbering fifty-two during the fifty days absence from home, and it is only just to say that the full attendance on most occasions of special appointments, was largely due to the very willing efforts of our Friends in arranging the meetings to be most convenient for the locality. Then the much care in extending notice and invitations to Friends and others, with the prompt and liberal response of many from other denominations, can but reward them for the effort. And this, with the frequent acknowledgment of the kindly shake of the hand, and expression of approval and appreciation of the spoken word, all go to prove the growth in liberal thought that is removing so rapidly the feeling of jealousy and prejudice that has too long existed between societies. And had I the ability to express on paper or to hold the pen of a ready writer, I would write a letter to each of our members that is not already interested and engaged in some active service, inviting them to a more lively interest in the maintenance of our principles and disseminating them to the world, for, as in the days of Jesus, the common people hear them gladly. And while it is true that in some localities our meetings are small, and in the absence of children and

young people, it looks doubtful about continuing them. Yet in some of these; there is room and necessity for greater faithfulness on the part of the few. But I would not reprove, only encourage, and say that as an individual my faith in the essentials of Quakerism was never stronger, and if time and space permitted a detailed account of our late visit, I feel that some might be encouraged to greater faithfulness, but suffice it to say that our trip was a pleasant, and I trust profitable one, and we are truly thankful for good health and the many blessings during our absence, also our safe return, and the evidence of appreciation of our home Friends, when to our surprise, not long after our arrival, about twenty of them presented themselves to spend the evening with us.

ISAAC WILSON.

Bloomfield, 3rd. mo. 30th., 1896.

"Come, gentle spring;
Ethereal mildness come!"

Is an invitation the poet gives, and all who have lived in Central New York the past winter, will join, we think, in the request. For the past two months there has been a succession of falling snows, which is continued at the present writing, though so near to the April days. Without consulting science, we are inclined to think it may prove a blessing in disguise to the farmer, by affording protection from frost. However this may be, all animated nature will rejoice at the approach of spring; nor animated nature alone. The very streams that run on their way to the sea seem to share in the gladness. The swelling bud, the springing blade, seem instinct with life, and ready to utter the word rejoice. Birds have not yet come in force; blackbirds, the robin and thrush are still mute, but sparrows chirp among the trees, and twitter about the house-eaves. It is too early yet for the flowers—"those stars of earth"—but they will come; in the