

useful. He acknowledged the need for the spoken word, and said that it should not lead to the abandonment of our meetings for worship, but that other and auxiliary methods of increasing interest be used, these should follow the meetings for worship.

Under the head of the second query, reference was made to the epistle sent out from Darby and Harrowgate Preparative Meeting in England to all Meetings bearing the name of Friends. This was sent out in answer to the epistle of the Fourth and Arch Street Friends in Philadelphia last year, also sent to all bodies bearing the name of Friends. It excited the greatest interest and many expressions of kindliness and fellowship to our English brethren. The matter of answering the epistle was left in the hands of the clerk. The thought was expressed by one Friend, in connection with the idea of unity with the English Friends, that we should be careful to preserve the liberty of action we now possessed by virtue of our independent position. Another friend expressed the thought that no matter where the epistle of the English Friends had come from, it was a thing calculated to do good, and that we should appreciate it as a thing from on High, and one inevitably calculated to do good, and that we should profit by it. The whole impression created by the episode was distinctly for good. The meeting than adjourned for the day.

In the evening a most interesting session was held, the educational meeting. It was addressed by William Birdsall, president elect of Swarthmore College, and Daniel Batchelor, both now of Friends' Central School. The meeting was largely attended and highly appreciated.

On Third-day morning, the 24th, the weather was somewhat more propitious, though still cloudy, and the Yearly Meeting gathered in joint

session in the Women's Meeting House.

The business consisted in the reading of the report of the Philanthropic Committee. The report began with the statement that the committee hoped to show sustained work and marked improvement. Conferences are held at the time of Westbury Quarterly Meeting.

New York Monthly Meeting holds a conference on the evening of every Monthly Meeting during the fall and winter, and Philanthropic Conferences are held at the sessions of Nine Partners and Shrewsbury. Plainfield Half-Yearly Meetings and eight Philanthropic Meetings have been held under the care of Flushing Monthly Meeting, which received aid from those not members of the Society.

The various heads of the report were "Mission Work Among Women and Children," "Purity," "Demoralizing Publications," "Temperance," "Tobacco," and "Work for Colored People," "Capital Punishment," "Indian Affairs," "Prison Reform," "Cruelty to Animals," and "Peace and Arbitration." All these showed signs of activity. Some caused wider comment than others in the meeting. This was particularly the case with the question of war, of work among the colored people, and capital punishment. In the matter of the question of war, President elect Wm. W. Birdsall, of Swarthmore College, urged Friends to use their influence against the practice of capturing private property at sea. Daniel Gibbons called the attention of Friends to the fact that a feeling was growing up in favor of the retention of the Philippine Islands in defiance of the spirit of our own solemn declaration at the outbreak of the present war that we did not desire to rob Spain of her territory, and urged Friends to use their influence against the act and the policy of aggression, and of standing armies and navies which it embodied. Under the head of capital punishment