

FOR YOUNG FRIENDS' REVIEW.

The Young People's Society of Prairie Grove, Iowa, held a very pleasant meeting, 6th mo. 30th. The subject appointed for the meeting—"Is the World Growing Better?"—was opened with an excellent paper by Lizzie E. Russell, followed by a paper upon the subject by James D. Steer and Hannah M. Russell. The papers called for the remarks from a number of Friends present upon the various reforms and works engaged in by different Societies and individuals throughout the world, who are laboring for the uplifting of humanity, and while some thoughts were expressed, seemingly discouraging to the idea that the world is growing better, in view of the present opportunities and advantages afforded, the general opinion was that we are improving rather than otherwise; that the labor of those who had and are giving their lives for the betterment of the world, had not been in vain; that the good seed sown everywhere was even now producing a bountiful harvest, and the prospect of future rich rewards was very encouraging. Following the consideration of the subject, readings and declamations occupied the remainder of the time, all of which were interesting and instructive. The subject for the next meeting to be held 7th mo. 28th, is "Truth."

J. D. S.

Winfield, Iowa, 7th mo. 5, 1895.

## OUT WEST.

EDWARD COALE'S LETTERS.

### I.

It is hard for local tourists in articles of this character to keep from detailing accounts of sights and scenes that have long since been new, and have been travelled over and reported from every conceivable point.

Wife and I left our prairie home, in Illinois, on 6th mo. 5th, for an extended visit to various points in the west, not altogether religious work, but largely to see the vastness of the mighty domain

we call "our country," and to behold with our own eyes a few of nature's handiworks as they are only to be seen in that region that comes so near to having its "center nowhere, its circumference everywhere"—the far west. The west, where is it?

We were especially glad to note the luxuriant growth of all vegetation in the states bordering on the Missouri.

In the Kansas River Valley, west of Kansas city, much of the corn, on the 6th mo. 6th, was from two to four feet high, and in fact so far as we have seen, both in Kansas and Nebraska, the prospect for corn, oats, millet and grass is most flattering; indeed it could hardly be better where the farmers have done their duty. Wheat in many places will be light. The corn is much of it quite weedy, partly owing to the mode of preparing and planting. Much of the corn is listed—a method much in vogue and increasing as it becomes better understood, but it is certainly a bad method for a poor farmer, for it takes promptness and skill in cultivation. Probably many of your readers do not understand the term "listing." It is a method whereby one man and three horses can prepare the ground and plant the corn at one operation, and do about ten acres per day. It is simply a plow with two mold-boards throwing the dirt out right and left, a subsoiler stirring from one to two inches in the bottom of the furrow and followed by a drill, all in the same machine, compact and efficient when properly handled. The planted corn is of course in the bottom of the furrow, hence every farmer will see the necessity for care and skill, especially in the first cultivation.

Of course everybody is happy after the sad experience of the past year, and glad they were not of the number who "shook the dust from their feet."

The hard times have been a little hard on some of our Friends, but we hope they will try and let better counsel prevail.

Our first religious service was at