

ledged his indebtedness to the Bible and other sacred books which helped him in his search, but he affirms that it was neither man nor book but God himself who led him out of darkness. Do not these things go to prove that the voice of "God is the light of the world," and that it lighteth every man that cometh into the world. Shall we hesitate then to use this block as our corner stone?

It seems to me that we are standing on the threshold of a new epoch in the history of Christianity, and that the time is ripe as it has never before been for the sowing of the seeds of Quakerism. Who are to be the sowers? Our elders are passing one by one into the great unknown. Several who were with us one year ago have passed on before. Who of us are taking up their work and carrying it on? Are we preparing ourselves for the duties that must inevitably fall to our lot? When the mantle fell from Elijah's shoulders Elisha was prepared to receive it. Shall we not strive to do likewise?

Young Friends, it seems to me that the pure truths held by our Society must be presented to all the world. If we are not willing or are not able to do it, if we cannot inculcate these truths in Christendom, and then extend a helping hand to our brothers and sisters in the so-called heathen world, then they will, against heavy odds, revolutionize their national religions and bring the light to all Christendom. Truly,

"We are living, we are living in a grand and awful time,
Age to age our story-telling to be living is sublime."

We can no longer offer the excuse that there is no part of the vineyard under the supervision of the Society of Friends in which we can labor. During the last six months we could scarcely take up a copy of the "Friend's Intelligencer and Journal," or the YOUNG FRIEND'S REVIEW, that did not contain one or more articles showing that the older Friends are growing more willing each day to allow us to

help bear the burdens that they have borne all through the heat of their day.

May we who are the young Friends of to-day do our share of the work in such a way that we with future generations may look back and say:

"Oh, faithful workers! (men of old) resting far behind,
In your dark ages, since ye fell asleep
Much has been done for truth and human-kind,
Shadows are scattered wherein ye groped blind."

CATHARINE E. SHOTWELL.
4th mo. 26th, 1891.

UPHOLDING OUR PRINCIPLES*

What can I tell you in this five minutes that will do you the most good. Although I have not received "the greatest good to the greatest number," as my religion, in toto, as some have, yet I believe it is a worthy sentiment and ofttimes leads to something higher. I was undecided whether I should say something that would be most likely to please everybody, or whether I should endeavor to call your attention to some things I have observed in our own First-day school, and I believe they occur in other First-day schools, which it seems to me, are not in accordance with true Quakerism, or the best sentiments of advanced minds in many of the churches of to-day. The former would be easier and more pleasant for me, but the latter might be fraught with greater good to you. I do not ask you to accept *my* views, but I do ask you to put aside prejudice and take them to your hearts and homes for thought.

Our Society is small and modest, and surrounded on all sides by others more powerful and aggressive in their spirit, or as they say more zealous for Christ; and I do not wonder at true Quakerism becoming tinged with this foreign faith. Thus it becomes the

*Essay read by E. M. Zavitz at the First-day School Association of Genesee Yearly Meeting, Bloomfield, Ont., 6th month 17th, 1891.