

schools would regret exceedingly any deviation from the International Lessons, as it is often attended, especially the Bible Class, by those of other denominations, who are studying and are interested in the same lesson, thus giving us an excellent opportunity to give our version of these lessons and promulgate the views of Friends. Our school, I believe, is no exception in this respect. We may think we may choose lessons more in accordance with our views, yet I do not consider the choice made in the International Series objectionable, and I believe we would lose much more than we would gain by any such change as contemplated. I would suggest, therefore, that the International Lessons be followed until the next meeting of the General Conference, when the system would be thoroughly tested, and an opportunity afforded then to discuss the whole question by the many who are interested in the First-day School work. We do not want any of our schools to go back to the lessons prepared by other denominations, which will be the tendency if the proposed course is adopted. We believe those who have had the work of preparing our lessons have done their work well, and I hope they will be instructed to follow the International series of lessons. S. P. Z.

### BEAUTIFUL ILLUSTRATION.

There are ponds in the woods of the North whose waters are so clear, and whose bottoms are so clean, that they can with truth be called great pools. I have gone to them every year, not to fish in them, not to hunt their shores, but simply to gaze into them. I have gone to them by day, to see the mountains in them; to see the sun, and the sky, and the white clouds; the trees on the borders, and the flecked rocks that line their banks. I have gone to them

at night to see the stars and the moon, and the dark blue mystery of the firmament when the brightness of its cerulean gleam, as it glistens at noonday, was tempered and shaded to a sober and more grateful tone. And in these pools—these great pier-glass mirrors of nature—leaning over the sides of my boat, I have seen the world and the sky stand out with a splendor, a beauty, a suggestiveness of appearance, that the open vision of the day could not bring me.

The New Testament is such a pool, in the spiritual world, friends. The great mountain-like truths of God's being and conduct; the ever-green growths of His daily providences; the sober but majestic fulfilments of the old prophecies; the star-like facts of life; the blue dome of the destiny of the race; yea, and the cloud-like passages of His eternal decrees, lifted high above human analysis, moved on by invisible currents of His ordering, all these are reflected from the pure depths of the teachings of Jesus. And all these you can see, I can see, all men can see, if they will but contemplate with earnest, prayerful, soul-seeking vision the sayings of the Son of Man. —[Rev. W. H. H. Murray.]

It is by prayer on earth that the soul is tuned for eternal praise in heaven; and the more we pray in a proper manner, the more we shall have cause for praise here below. The praises of a higher sphere will be, as it were, the echoes and antiphons of our prayers in this.

“You can meet the best argument with another argument: but when you have once evolved a fact, it stands forever unassailable by any other fact.”

We are ever ready to hear and speak of the faults and failings of others, but how averse to scrutinize our own conduct.