

*From the First-day School Association of Baltimore
to that of Genesee :*

Dear Friends,—We have met once more in the capacity of a First-day School Association to review the work of the past year, and to consider ways of increased usefulness for the future.

It was with pleasure and interest that we listened to the message received from your Yearly Meeting. The epistles, generally, show an increased determination to find out why Friends' First-day Schools do not attract to them a larger percentage of our bright young Friends, who are so active in outside charitable work and who are so capable if their interest were once obtained, to give new life, zeal, and spiritual vigor to our Society. From all quarters we hear that there is difficulty in holding the interest of the older children. In seeking a remedy for this condition, we have had some practical suggestions offered in the addresses and discussions of our several sessions.

While the interest of the young cannot be aroused unless regular attendance is insisted upon by the parents, the force that keeps the child in the school should be a *pulling* force, arising from the interesting nature of the invigorating exercises of the school, rather than the *pushing* force exerted by the parents. Our best day schools aim to stir the minds of youth to lively action and noble accomplishment.

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