

from them and the light thus thrown upon the lessons.

I feel that we have sustained a loss in many ways by departing from the International Series. The words of Robert S. Haviland, in a recent number of the *Intelligencer and Journal*, so fully express my own sentiment on the subject, I repeat them: "The Society of Friends has a mission in the world or there is no good reason for its continuance. If we are concerned only to save its life by efforts among our own members, we are in the condition which Jesus referred to when he said, 'Who-soever will save his life shall lose it.' If we would convert the world we must meet the issues of to-day, and present our thought upon that which the world is thinking about, and make our Lesson Leaves of sufficient interest to claim the attention of those outside of our own Society. If, when they are considering charity or hope, we insist on presenting patience or meekness, or some other Christian virtue, what hope can we have of instructing them? Meet the issues that the world makes as Friends, and we will have a hearing, and convincements will follow. Truth is stronger than error, and if we are faithful to present the truth by voice and pen and life we need not fear the combined forces of error"

In my primary class, as I gathered the little ones around me for a "story," I found nothing of greater interest to them than the dear old Bible stories, told in language suited to the understanding of a child, and, young as they were, I found the lessons drawn from the Bible narratives impressed them more deeply than any others. With what eager interest would they follow on the blackboard the journeys of Paul or the travels of our Lord.

I believe persons of all ages and intellects of every capacity can find not only abundance to interest and instruct them but food for thought, yes, and for the life of the soul, in this God-given book to man.

"CELEBRITIES OF THE SOCIETY OF FRIENDS."

The Committee of this evening's entertainment has made it my duty to present an article on the "Celebrities of the Society of Friends."

After giving the subject some thought, I found I had a task far greater in scope than I had the ability to perform, and that by making such an article interesting and instructive, by giving short sketches of the lives and services of so great a number, would require more time than would be at all proper for me to use on this occasion. The truths or principles upon which the Society was built were taught by George Fox and his contemporaries for quite a number of years before the Society was formed. It was a remarkable coincidence that although Fox is credited as being the founder of the Society, yet, at the commencement, or perhaps before he commenced his public ministry, and unknown to him, the same truths were being disseminated in Scotland and other parts of England by others.

Fox was the moving spirit in establishing the first Meeting of the Society at Leicestershire, Eng., in the year 1648. The name assumed or given to the infant Society was that of "Friends," giving as a reason that they desired by it to bear testimony to their belief in the sonship of the blessed Jesus and their wish to be his followers, by living out the principles which he taught. Jesus said to his disciples: "Ye are my friends if you do whatsoever I command you. Again I call you Friends, for all things I have heard of my Father I have made known unto you."

In reading up the history of the Society I am fully impressed with the thought that all those whose names are recorded as having lived in the 16th and 17th centuries, and especially during that lamentable period when rank superstition held high carnival in the minds and practices of the then many