

Young - Friends' - Review.

"Neglect Not the Gift that is in Thee."

VOL. XIII.

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No. 10

THE HEAVENWARD CALL.

What shall I do, my Lord, my God,
To make my life worth more to Thee?
Within my heart, through earth abroad,
Deep voices stir and summon me.

Through strange confusions of the time
I hear Thy becoming call resound;
There is a pathway more sublime
Than yet my laggard feet have found.

My coward heart, my flagging feet,
Then hold me in bewildering gloom;
Come Thou, my stumbling steps to meet,
And let me into larger room!

The dearest voice may lead astray.
Speak Thou! Thy word my guide shall
be;

Oh, not from life and men away,
But through them, with them up to Thee!

It is not much that hands can do,
Keep Thou my spirit close to Thee,
Till every thought Thy love throbs through,
And all my words breathe truth divine!

With souls that seek Thy pure abode,
Let my unfaltering soul aspire!
Make me a radiance on the road,
A bearer of Thy sacred fire.

—LUCY LARCOM.

THE CLEAR CREEK COMMITTEE MEETINGS.

(Prepared for a First-day School Union.)

I have been asked to give some account of a visit made to Clear Creek, Ill., by members of the Executive Com. to arrange for the next General Conference of Friends to be held in Richmond, Indiana. Invitations having been given to the Committee by Friends of Illinois Yearly Meeting last year to visit at Clear Creek at the time of their Yearly Meeting, a party of Friends from New York and Philadelphia, started early on the morning of the 7th inst. for that place. At

Harrisburg, our party was enlarged by Friends from Baltimore, and at Tyrone we had further additions by Friends who had been to Centre Quarterly Meeting, so that by the time we reached Chicago, our party numbered more than 30. A ride to the South West on Chicago and Alton Railroad for about 100 miles, and then 6 miles further on the Illinois Central brought us to Lostant, where we found Friends awaiting us in their carriages ready to take us to their hospitable homes assigned us during our visit. Most of these homes are from 6 to 8 miles from the station.

Friends reside within a radius of two miles from the meeting house, known as Clear Creek, where the Yearly Meeting was established 22 years ago.

In every direction stretch rolling prairies, covered as far as the eye can reach with vast cornfields. The first settlers of this part of Illinois made their homes along the streams, which are well wooded with oak, maple and walnut timber. Gradually they push out on to the prairies of the great corn-belt, where we were told the entire failure of the crops had never been known, and here they have fine farms and have built for themselves comfortable homes surrounded with ample shade. A windmill seemed to be an indispensable adjunct to every homestead.

On the evening of our arrival the Literature Committee, having in charge the preparation of the Lesson Leaves met and had an animated discussion on the merits of these leaves. Some felt the needs of their schools were better supplied by the International Primary Lessons, but the greater part expressed satisfaction with the primary lessons, prepared by Lydia H. Hall in

Scattered Seeds, as being suggestive and in line with the most approved methods of teaching little children. It was thought these Lessons are simple and within the comprehension of those for whom they are intended. At the request of those wanting something different, it was, however, agreed to ask for further illustrations and suggestions for the aid of inexperienced teachers. The intermediate lessons, which have been considerably changed and improved in character in the last year, and also the advanced lessons met with general approval.

The next morning, on the 9th, the meetings of the Executive Committee began and continued for two days. Friends in the neighborhood were in attendance and were invited to participate in the deliberations of the Committee, and also Friends from their far away homes in Southern Indiana, Iowa, Kansas and Nebraska, many of whom had come 200 and 300 and even 600 miles to enjoy the Yearly Meeting and to mingle with their friends from the East. Two Friends came 2,000 miles from the valley of the Rio Grande, in New Mexico. Ample provision for dinner and supper during the week had been made on the Meeting-house grounds for the visitors and also the households of our hosts, that the house keepers might be more free from care, and have time and opportunity to mingle with their friends. An attractive feature of the occasion, were the groups of Friends gathered on the grass under the trees or on the porches for social chat with each other.

One noontime, we made a pilgrimage to the grave of Benjamin Teenny, a pioneer in the Anti-Slavery Cause, and a forerunner of Wm. Lloyd Garrison, Wendell Phillips, and a host of other worthies. He is buried in the little graveyard, adjoining the almost unused Meeting-house, about a mile from the present meeting property. Both the graveyard and Meeting-house are near a little stream which gives the name

to Clear Creek Meeting, and are surrounded by a luxuriant growth of timber.

The first session of the Meeting of the Executive Committee was occupied with First-day School affairs and an address by Wm M. Jackson on the intelligent study of the Bible, followed by a discussion in the same line. We were urged to a close and intelligent study of the Bible in the light of modern investigation, that we might make ourselves familiar with its history and literature, as well as gain spiritual instruction from its inspired pages. The Bible is not of supernatural origin, nor has it been preserved supernaturally, but it is the record of the religious development of a great people with a genius for religion. Its keynote is that of righteousness. J.B. Sunderland says, "with an emphasis that is sometimes fairly tremendous, do all the great writers of the Bible impress upon us the grandeur of the moral side of life, and the importance of justice, truth, mercy, but especially righteousness in human conduct." The Bible, in parts, is fragmentary, and often chronologically arranged incorrectly, but we shall find, all through its pages, the sublime thought that God has revealed himself to his children by the inspiration of his Spirit, often imperfectly, it is true, but as the Hebrew race became more highly developed this unspeaking voice became clearer and clearer until we come to the perfect manifestation of the Divine in Jesus of Nazareth. Is it not the part of wisdom to use the book rationally but reverently, to refrain from worshipping the letter, but to rejoice in the gifts of the Spirit which it offers to us? Surely Friends, who believe that to every man this Divine Spirit has been given, have nothing to fear from the intelligent and reverent study of the Bible.

The afternoon was devoted to the subject of education, and an interesting paper was read by Emma Speakman Webster. It was a plea for the higher education of Friends' children in our

own institutions of learning. Much interest was manifested in this subject at this time, and also during the Yearly Meeting when the report on education was read. Many Western Friends expressed a desire that their children might have the benefit of our excellent schools and Swarthmore College, but the distance and expense of travel are almost insurmountable difficulties. The State Normal Schools and Universities of the West are good, and many young people avail themselves of these, but several Friends said that while the intellectual training in these is good, they felt something had been left out of the education of their children morally and religiously, which they might have gained in Friendly institutions.

One session of the next day was taken up with a review of what Friends are doing in the various kinds of work in which the Philanthropic Committees are engaged, read by John Wm. Hutchinson, the chairman. This report led to a discussion upon the subject of temperance and kindred reforms.

The other session was given to the committee having the Religious Conference in charge. Dr. Janney made an address on the "Need of Greater Spiritual Development, dwelling upon the necessity there is, that with our intellectual training, greater care should be taken to cultivate the spiritual. Suitable reading and frequent withdrawal into reverential silence were great aids to our spiritual growth. One Friend thought that we, as Friends, have need to cultivate the religious life and devotional feeling in our families, more than many of us do, that in the hurry and bustle of our modern life, we find too little time for retirement and communion with our Father for strength and guidance, and that we are in danger of forgetting our valuable ancient custom of gathering into reverent silence as we assembled at our meals—one important means of cultivating a devotional feeling. Another

Friend thought that a great help towards this devotional feeling would be found in having stated times for reading the Bible in our families, and that a good time for this was after the evening meal, when the labors of the day were closed. The public meetings on First-day morning and afternoon were large and impressive. A solemn silence settled early upon the morning meeting, which was broken by fervent prayer to our Heavenly Father by five different Friends. These were followed by helpful sermons from various ministers. Probably the most noteworthy was the one by Robert L. Haviland from the text, "Charge them that are rich in this world that they be not high-minded, nor trust in uncertain riches, but in the living God, who giveth us richly all things to enjoy; that they do good, that they be rich in good works, ready to distribute, willing to communicate; saving up store for themselves, a good foundation against the time to come, that they may lay hold on eternal life." On Second-day morning the Yearly Meeting gathered in joint session, with an average attendance of about 125. There was less formality than in our Eastern Meetings and more freedom of expression as the various subjects, introduced by the queries, were considered. These Friends are alive to the importance of all our testimonies, and are active workers in the cause of temperance and in other lines of philanthropy. They gave no uncertain sound in their belief in our great fundamental principle—that of the indwelling of the Divine Spirit in every man to direct and guide, and they are earnest in the maintenance of our testimony to a free ministry of the Gospel—though they often long for more of the spoken word, and desire there might be more dedicated to this important service in our Society.

One session was given to the practical question of emigration further west. In the past, Friends, tempted by cheap land, have moved to distant

sections, without any concert of action. Consequently, many have been disappointed in the character of their land, and have made for themselves isolated homes, far away from any Friendly Association. It is thought that when this period of depression is over that emigration will again begin, and, with this in view, a concern arose in the Yearly Meeting last year, that an effort be made to aid by information and suggestion, those who contemplate seeking new homes, and that they should be encouraged to go in colonies in order to have better social and religious advantages. This resulted in a committee being appointed to make investigation and report this year. The committee had visited parts of Idaho, Utah, Eastern Oregon and New Mexico, travelling in all some 8,000 miles, and made a most interesting report upon the comparative merits of the localities visited.

After the business of the Yearly Meeting was finished on Fifth-day afternoon, an hour and a half was given to a devotional meeting, in which free expression was given to our appreciation of the kind and cordial hospitality with which we had been entertained, and the voices of many were raised in praise and thanksgiving for the privilege of having thus mingled with Friends from distant sections, all having a common interest and bound together in loving fellowships. Farewells were said, and we departed to our widely separated homes in the far east and west, bearing with us many pleasant and tender memories. C.

THE FRIENDS AT CLEAR CREEK.

From Friends' Intelligencer and Journal.

The Friends at Clear Creek, Illinois, live, as was previously mentioned, in quite a compact group. The road running by the meeting-house is sometimes called Quaker Lane, and the neighborhood is very commonly known as the Quaker Settlement.

The region here is level prairie, the soil rich, and from fifteen inches to three feet deep. It is commonly underlain by a stratum of porous clay, from which many tile, to drain "sloughs," and also to drain the roadside have been made. The Clear Creek neighborhood is part of the Oxbow Prairie, a well-known local designation, so called, I believe, from the belt of native woodland, the "timber," which extends in a semi-circle, something like an oxbow, on the southern side, partially enclosing the settlement. This timber grows on clay land, and lies along the streams; it is much like our woods of eastern Pennsylvania, containing oaks and other hardwood trees.

The Clear Creek Friends are farmers, practically without exception. They have experienced, of course, the serious depression of agriculture, because their products have been sold at very low prices, but they have been less seriously affected, I should say, than many farmers elsewhere. Their main crop is corn, which seldom fails to yield well. This year the crop is good, and at the time of our visit was practically "made," so that frosts could do it little damage. There is practically no wheat raised here; it is apt to freeze out in the winter and early spring. There has been a great deal of old corn carried over, and we saw loads of it on the way to the railroad towns, for sale at the prevailing better prices. The corn is usually not cut off, as is the custom in the East, but the ears are husked on the stalks, and hauled away, and the fodder left standing for the cattle to eat at pleasure during the fall and winter. Anything left by them is plowed down in the spring, and goes to fertilization. Oats is raised extensively, and does well; great stacks of the straw are to be seen now in the fields, and like the corn-fodder will be mostly consumed before spring by the horses and cattle. Clover is much grown, and two good crops in a season are expected; usually the second crop is cut well-ripened for seed, which makes a pro-

fitable crop Clover is plowed under also for manure, and the fertility of the land, I was told, has increased within the last ten or fifteen years, under this system. A good farm here, with ordinary buildings, is valued at nearly or quite a hundred dollars an acre, and though prices in a few years past have been depressed, any quickening of the agricultural demand would, I am told, soon bring back the hundred-dollar mark.

Fruit does well, apparently, though there is not much systematic attention paid to it. Oscar Bumgarner (whose wife is a daughter of Joshua L. Mills) brought to the meeting house grounds, during the committee meetings, some fine specimens of his grapes, of several different varieties, with wild plums, etc. He remarked that it was not necessary to go to the Far West in order to raise fruit,—the allusion here being to the fact that exhibits of grapes, plums, pears, and apples had been sent from irrigated lands in the Idaho valleys, and also grapes, etc., from New Mexico, to be shown to those who attended the committee meetings and the Yearly Meeting.

Our friend Oliver Wilson, who is the Clerk of Illinois Yearly Meeting, is prominently connected with the agricultural interests of the State of Illinois. He was for several years Lecturer of the State Grange, and is now Master. He has also been elected, recently, to a new place under the State law, that of superintendent of the farmers' institutes. His duties under this latter appointment will require his presence at Springfield, the State capital, for several days in each week. His acquaintance with the agriculture of the State is intelligent and minute, and no doubt he will do good service in his new place.

There is no movement here in the direction of macadamizing the roads. Material would have to be brought from a distance, and it is questioned by many farmers whether it would be economically an advantage. The roads are now

good for most of the year, though they get very deep when the frosts break up in the spring, and in time of heavy rain. The horses are only occasionally shod; most of the time they go "barefoot." Bicycles cut no figure; we saw them hardly at all in this part of the country, and the use of the horse and appreciation of his value seem to have yielded little to the furore over the "silent steed" which has prevailed in some parts of the country. "Good roads" would be valued here, no doubt, but it does seem to me a question whether the conditions of the prairie country do not suggest conclusions as to the subject very different from those commonly insisted upon in the East.

A very serviceable adjunct of social communication exists among the Clear Creek Friends, in the shape of a complete telephone service connecting their homes with one another, and also connecting them all with the railroad station and the outside world. This has been established some time, and is certainly very useful and convenient. Those who use it are organized as a "company not for profit," under the general State law, and by the payment of small charges annually the service is maintained without becoming burdensome to any one. I do not see why such telephone lines should not be generally established in rural communities, adding greatly to the convenience and pleasure of their social intercourse.

Clear Creek's nearest railroad station is Lostant, on the Illinois Central road, some eight miles east of the meeting-house. Varna, on the Chicago and Alton road, is about nine miles south of the meeting-house. To go or come to Clear Creek via Lostant, a transfer must be made either north or south of that point, from a road to Chicago. Our party from the East, on the 7th instant, went from Chicago, over the Alton road, to Wenona, (two stations east of Varna), transferred there to the Illinois Central, and went six miles

north to Losant. The distance, by rail, from Chicago, is about 115 miles or counting the drive from the station, 123 miles.

The settlement at Clear Creek, compared with others of Friends which I have visited has many points of resemblance to those at Fall Creek (Pendleton) in Indiana, and Coldstream, in Canada. No one can visit here, at such a time and in such a way as we have been privileged to do, without being freshly impressed with the great characteristic common to all these settlements of Friends, — their unaffected and sincere hospitality. It is surely a testimony of great value to the influence of the Friendly system that there should always be found in communities like those I have mentioned (and many more, besides), such real kindness and serene simplicity of social life. In this particular, at least, I cannot believe that there has been any declension amongst us. The inherited usage of friendliness to all, and of special willingness to serve each other, has certainly not suffered as the years have passed. It is seen probably at its best in communities closely knit together by long acquaintance, and by ties of kinship and marriage, such as this at Clear Creek.

We were all impressed with the good order in the proceedings of the meetings, and in and about the meeting-house. The sessions began with punctuality and were terminated in good time, — usually under the watchful care of Joshua L. Mills, who kept in mind the need of being prompt in gathering, and not unduly protracting the sittings. The clerks of the different meetings were competent and evidently well accustomed to the methods of Friends. In the large dining-hall, about one hundred were seated at a time, and before any began to be served a brief silence was observed, as at a Friend's table in our homes. This usage, it was stated, was proposed a few years ago by a young Friend. It was remarked

by all as very pleasing, and as being a good example—where it could be followed—for our eastern dining-room arrangements at meeting times.

The homes of the Clear Creek Friends can be located readily, as you approach, by the groves of fine trees, very commonly maples, by which the buildings are surrounded. They are true homes, and those who are privileged to visit them, as we were, will come away, unquestionably, with many pleasant and long-surviving impressions.

H. M. J.

RED LETTER DAYS.

Thinking the readers of the YOUNG FRIENDS' REVIEW might be interested in hearing of what can be seen in two and a half months abroad I will give a brief sketch :

At noon on the 16th of 6th month my father, mother and I were waved a good bye from the shore by our dear ones, who had gone to New York to see us off on the steamer Nordland, of Red Star line. Being bound for Antwerp, there were many Germans on board. We made the acquaintance of some Americans whose experience in traveling was helpful to those making a maiden trip. After various episodes of a pleasant order, such as seeing a whale spouting near the vessel, passing through phosphorescence at night, and an occasional steamer in view, we hailed land on the afternoon of the 26th. Eddystone light-house, a mere speck on the distant horizon, was followed by Start Point on the south coast of England. The hedges and green fields were seen in vivid contrast with the grey rocks. On First-day morning we were greeted by the cliffs of Dover, stretching their white line for miles.

Episcopal service was held in the saloon, conducted by Prof. Bragg, of Vassar College, on one First-day. He gave us a fine sermon, and afterwards an interesting lecture on Paris,

his native city. The second First-day the Episcopal service was read by a minister on board.

The Belgium coast was beautiful with its seaside resorts, its low shrubbery and sea wall. When Flushing was reached an enchanting scene broke upon us. The red roofs, windmills and fine public buildings were all plainly visible. A quarantine officer came on board and the mail bags were sent off. We ran half way up the Schelde River and then anchored until high tide. Six o'clock on the morning of the 28th we were landed at Antwerp. After passing through the Customs we drove to a hotel, left our baggage, and engaged a carriage for two hours. Among the wonders of this quaint old Belgium city is Ruben's home, and the 14th century cathedral containing several of Ruben's masterpieces. A young lady from the Nordland accompanied us in the afternoon to The Hague. It was a novel experience to us to be put in one of the little compartment cars which we grew to know so well later. The next morning the Gaze party joined us from London. Nine of the eleven being Americans, we found very congenial company. The Musee Royal and the old prison were visited in the morning and Scheveningen, a fashionable seaside resort, in the afternoon. The following morning a fifty minutes' ride, through fine grazing lands dotted with Holstein cattle and crossed by ditches, brought us to Amsterdam. We were shown through the Royal Palace where the young Queen spends about eight days annually. The Ryks Museum contains a fine collection of old masters' and modern paintings. Amsterdam being the finest diamond cutting city in the world, we procured a permit to visit the largest establishment, where we were shown all the processes and some of the gems completed. 7th mo. 1st, we started for Cologne, where we spent some time in viewing the exterior and interior of its magnificent cathed-

ral. The Church of Saint Ursula (12th century) contains the bones of countless martyrs in uncanny mural decoration. In the evening we drove to a fine beer garden, where the elite of the city go to enjoy the entrancing music and the beautiful flowers. On our return drove past block after block of imposing modern houses. On the morrow took train for Konigswinter, at the foot of the "Castled crag of Drachenfels," where we were transferred to a mountain railway. When we reached the summit, 1500 feet, a heavy mist prevented our getting the grand view which this eminence affords. Lunching at the inn near the summit, we had occasional glimpses of the beautiful Rhine valley. Descending, we resumed our way to Coblenz, which is at the confluence of the Rhine and Moselle. Ehrenbreitstein, a massive fortress, is on the opposite side of the river. From Coblenz we took the morning boat up the Rhine, through the storied places which poets have loved to describe. Castle after castle followed in quick succession—some restored and some in ruins.

Landing at Rudesheim we took the mountain railroad up the Niederwald, 740 feet, to where the colossal statue to United Germany stands. The day was perfect for revealing the magnificent view from this point. Wiesbaden, a fashionable watering place, was reached before night, and we were glad to have so pleasant a place to spend a day of rest. Some of the party went to the Episcopal Church in the morning of 7th mo. 4th, and in the afternoon we walked to the fine Greek Church, which was built by a Russian prince in memory of his wife.

Second-day morning left for Frankfurt, where carriages were procured for a drive through the interesting old city. The early home of the Rothschilds and Marten Luther's home were pointed out. In the afternoon took train for Heidelberg, where the chief point of interest is the old castle with its wine

tun holding 49,000 gallons. The towers, dungeons and halls of this immense pile are full of historic associations. We drove through the town, where the university buildings are scattered about, and across the Neckar river. Strassburg was reached at 10.30 that evening, where we met our new conductor. Strassburg Cathedral is a noble structure and the view from the roof is grand. The famous clock is a marvel of inventive skill. In the morning took train for the Falls of the Rhine. Our route lay through the Black Forest, where we passed through forty tunnels in making the ascent. The scenery was grand beyond description. The elevation was 2,700 feet before we commenced to descend. At Neuhausen the Rhine suddenly came in view, having the green hue of Lake Constance, a short distance away. We stayed in this beautiful spot where the roar of the Falls was in our ears all night, similar to the Cataract of Niagara. In the evening colored lights were thrown upon the Falls. After viewing the Falls from all sides the next morning, we started for Zug. This ride, part of the time by Lake Zug and in full view of the Rigi, was charming. At Arth we changed for mountain railway again, and went up and up until we reached the summit of the Rigi, 6,000 feet above the sea, where we spent the night. Clouds enveloped us in the evening and early morning but broke away so as to reveal the grandest view we yet had seen. The distant snow-capped peaks, the near valleys studded with Alpine lakes, all formed a perfect picture. We were compelled to leave this magic scene and take boat at Vitznau across beautiful Lake Lucerne to Lucerne. The monumental lion by Thorwaldsen and the Glacial Garden were admired in a pouring rain. On the way to the train in the morning we crossed a wooden bridge, 400 years old, with quaint war pictures painted on the girders. Passed several mountain lakes while making

our way to the Brunig Pass, which is over 3,000 feet in elevation. This is considered the most picturesque of all places in beautiful Switzerland. After reaching the level again we went by the side of the Aar River to Brienz, where we took a little steamer across Lake Brienz to Giess Dach. Here is a waterfall, which plunges in broken leaps a distance of 1,000 feet into the lake below. The sunset from Hotel Giessbach, the illuminated falls in the evening, the climb the next morning of one mile to the top of the Giessbach Mountain, are all indelibly photographed on the retina. Boat was taken to Interlaken, where we spent another day of rest. The Scotch Presbyterian Church was the only one holding services in English, so we attended there. The Jungfrau Mountain, as seen from our hotel, the first evening with two rainbows spanning its snow-capped crest, the second evening with the full moon rising over it, called forth admiration from the townspeople even. Second day morning as we ascended the Scheidegg Mountain by railway to a point above snow line, (6,184 feet) where we could look directly up to the Jungfrau, the Monch and the Eiger; all over 13,000 feet. Here we walked to the Eiger Glacier and into an ice grotto. Snow balling on July 12th was a treat. The view of the Lauterbrunnen Valley and the Metterhorn in the distance was fine. The next morning took train for Berne, where we spent a few hours, then on to Lausanne on Lake Geneva. We enjoyed this side-hill, crooked, old town with its view of the Lake, where Gibbon finished his History of Rome. On the 14th we steamed down Lake Lemman, as it is there called, to Geneva. Driving about this beautiful city we saw so many fine new buildings and many historical places. In the afternoon returned by boat to Lausanne and in the evening took the night express to Paris, which was reached by 7.30 the following morning. A week was spent in this

city of beautiful sights and a full week it was. Ten days in and about London, one at Oxford, and then one at Warwick, where we drove to the ruins of Kenilworth Castle. The two days at York were full of interest. We looked up the grave of John Wovlman, having previously visited the spot where George Fox was buried in London.

Space will not permit a description of the three days spent with our kind English Friends at the Scarborough Summer School. We bade them a reluctant farewell on the morning of the 10th and started for Melrose, where we spent two nights. The drive from Melrose to Abbotsford and to Dryburgh was a memorable one, associated as both are with Walter Scott. Our two days in Edinburgh were full of sight-seeing. The trip by boat to the massive cantilever bridge over the Firth of Forth was not omitted.

Seventh-day we made the tour of the Trossachs, through enchanted land, by rail, stage coach and steamer to Glasgow. Here we attended Friends meeting and dined with Margaret Grey who is the soul of hospitality.

Second day on to Carlisle which we found very quaint. The following morning took train for Keswich where coaches were in waiting to convey passengers through the English Lake District. Our ride of sixteen miles would have been full of delight had not the rain descended most of the way. Grasmere, so closely associated with Wordsworth, was passed and then came Ambleside, where we took boat on Lake Windermere for the extreme end and there a train was in waiting for Ulverston. Swarthmore Hall and meeting-house were visited. Liverpool only claimed a few hours of our time as we preferred to spend the night in Chester—that grand old town! Rhyl, in Wales, entertained us very agreeably for a night, and the day following we crossed from Holyhead to Dublin. Two whole days were spent in Ireland's capital, which has some fine buildings. A large

Friends' meeting was enjoyed on First-day. Cork and Queenstown were honored with the two last nights spent on Britain's soil, as on the 25th of 8th mo. we took passage on the Cunard steamer Aurania for New York, which was reached in seven days.

Looking back upon our wanderings, we could clearly see, all the way, God's hand guiding us, safely helping us and richly blessing us, and our hearts were filled with gratitude.

JANE C. WASHBURN.

WOMAN'S OPPORTUNITY.

Whenever your life touches another life, there you have an opportunity. The finest, the most delicate, the most irresistible, force lies in the mutual touch of human lives. To mix with men and women in the ordinary forms of social intercourse becomes a sacred function when one carries into it the true spirit. To give a close sympathetic attention, to every human being we touch; to try to get some sense of how he feels; what he is, what he needs; to make in some degree his interest our own—that disposition and habit would never deliver any one of us to isolation or emptiness. There is but one sight more beautiful than the mother of a family ministering happiness and sunshine to them all, and that is a woman who, having no family of her own, finds her life in giving cheer and comfort to all whom she reaches, and makes a home atmosphere wherever she goes. Though she have not the joy of wife and mother, she has that which is most sacred in wifely and motherhood. She shares the blessedness of that highest life the earth has seen, of Him who, having no home nor where to lay His head, brought into other homes a new happiness, and who spoke the transforming word, "It is more blessed to give than to receive."

Every day a little life, a blank to be inscribed with gentle thought.

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BY S. P. & EDGAR M. ZAVITZ

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The Inter-Conference at Clear
Creek, Ill., a report of which we have
been favored with for our readers,
seems to have been a success in every
way. Having had one in our own
neighborhood two years ago we know
something of the advantages it affords,
and we rejoice to hear the enthusiastic
reports from the Clear Creek meetings.
As was expected, Richmond, Ind., is the
place decided upon for the General
Conference next year. Circumstances,
however, will necessitate a change in
the mode of entertainment, which
course, if it prove satisfactory, may be
continued in the future. The Confer-
ence at Richmond will be an important
event, as it will greatly determine the
future course of the Conference. And
now is the time to begin to arrange for

an attendance there. "Nothing suc-
ceeds like success," is a very true say-
ing, and thus may the enthusiasm
augmented at Swarthmore, and later at
Clear Creek, be an impetus at the
Richmond Assembly.

We are grateful for the account of
the European trip of our Friends,
Joshua Washburn, wife, and daughter
for the REVIEW. In a private note the
daughter says that they "kept well all
their journeyings." She also states that
"Friends in Great Britain were cordial
and hospitable in their greetings and
made us feel at home. We attended
Meeting at the Devonshire House and
Westminster while in London, and
found a nice large and lively Meeting
at the latter place. All of the Friends'
meetings attended were remarkable on
account of the concern spread through-
out, evinced by the testimonies from
young and old."

THE SUMMER SCHOOL AT SCARBOROUGH.

Scarborough is a town on the north-
east coast of England, in the County
of York, once particularly noted for its
castle, the ruins of which from a high
promontory still overlook the bay. In
the description beneath an engraving
of the old castle before me, I find the
words: "In 1655 the castle was the
prison of George Fox, the founder of
the Quakers, who at different times
was confined in three different rooms.
One he likened to Purgatory, because
it was filled with smoke; another had
no fire-place or chimney, and his body
became numb with damp and cold;
but he suffered most in the third, into
which the wind drove the rain until the
water came over his bed and he had
to try and skim it up with a platter.
His jailors made a threepenny loaf last
him three weeks, and steeped worm-
wood in his water. Three years later
he was free, and was invited to preach
at the castle, and was received there
with great kindness and honor."

To-day Scarborough is a noted summer resort. The famous prison-house of George Fox is in ruins, and within its sight the English Friends this summer held a memorable series of meetings for the advancement of Truth, and the study of the Bible in the light of to-day. The school lasted two weeks, and addresses were given by some noted Biblical scholars, many of whom are not members with Friends. About seven hundred members of the school were in attendance, among whom were a number of our branch from America. "One interesting feature of the school was the presence of a large number of visitors from the 'Liberal' body of Friends in America," says the British Friend. (We like the term "Liberal" as frequently applied to us by the English Friends.)

The principal lecturers at this school were Dr. Moulton, of the University of Chicago; Prof. Gray, of Mansfield College, Oxford; Dr. J. Rendel Harris (a Friend); Prof. F. R. Glover, of Kingston, Ont.; Bernard P. Grenfell, a discoverer of the Logia of Jesus recently found in Egypt; and Prof. Rogers, the Assyriologist of N. Jersey. Many others presented valuable papers also.

The British Friend says:—"In his introductory address Dr. J. Rendel Harris, the moving spirit of the Summer School, struck at once the note of fearless and reverent inquiry. The inception of the school, he said, was due to the conviction that our Society, which set out to lead the world, had now come to follow, in matters of sacred and secular learning, the lead of others. It was now time that the intellectual work of the Society should cease to consist in the enunciations of exploded propositions. We had, therefore, called in experts upon the Bible, who were a fearless body of men, not afraid of the noise of the nail being knocked into traditions of the past. From them we should learn what new light was now bursting forth from the

Scriptures and around the Scriptures. Biblical science was never so interesting as it is now, and the Society of Friends should not be contented without going to dig in the field where anybody had unearthed a new principle, and should determine to know the name and nature of any new star which appeared in the firmament of Biblical enquiry. Such had been its early attitude. Quakerism began with quite a row of scholars. George Fox dabbled in Greek and bought a Greek lexicon. The preaching of the Inward Light was believed to be consistent with the prosecution of all sacred and secular learning."

The subjects treated of were many. Dr. Moulton lectured on "The Literary Study of the Bible"; Prof. Rogers on the "Story of Creation." "Buried Cities of the East," &c; Prof. Gray gave information as to the structure and history of the books of the Old Testament, and Dr. Harris gave brilliant lectures on the New Testament; Dr. Horton on "The Bible and the Spirit."

This Summer School was undoubtedly a great success. We shall hope to give readers of the REVIEW something more of the work done there, and we would like to see its influence leavening our own Body of Friends.

It is a fact, and the fact has been a weakness to us, that we are not so far in advance of our surroundings as were the early members of our Society. We need to rouse ourselves to our opportunities and dwell in the brightest light that comes from God to His children. We need a more thorough study and knowledge of the Bible, and that in the advancing light of the age. The Christian world is not content any longer with the merely traditional knowledge of the Bible, and above all Societies *ours* should not be. When we cease to be searchers after the Truth and are no longer drawing our inspiration from the Truth itself, we

cease to be living members and our Society loses its life. The age is one of critical investigation. Men here and there are delving into the rubbish of the past in search of the pure gold, and when they find it and present it to us, free from the dross—we do not recognize its worth. We should accustom ourselves to better food. I believe we could not more profitably employ the time at our General Conferences than by devoting at least two sessions to such work, with the help of the best informed persons, as was presented at the recent Summer School at Scarborough.

S. P. Z.

Coldstream, 9th mo. 30th.

GRANVILLE QUARTERLY MEETING.

To the YOUNG FRIENDS' REVIEW:

Our Quarterly Meeting opened Third-day, 8th mo. 24, with the usual Business Session.

Fourth-day morning Isaac Wilson opened the meeting with prayer.

Joel Borton, of Woodstown, N. J., spoke from the text, "Thou shalt have no other Gods before me" He spoke of the necessity of loving and serving God first of all, closing with some excellent advice to young people.

Isaac Wilson preached a powerful sermon from the text, "Let your light so shine," etc, emphasizing the idea that it would shine and enlighten other hearts, if we only let it shine and enlighten our own.

John Stringham, of New York city, next spoke on the existence, power and goodness of God, who is above all, over all, and in all, and of our dependence upon Him for life physical and spiritual.

Joel Borton also spoke a word of encouragement for our small meeting in the Business Session, and several spoke in praise of the advices in our discipline.

The Philanthropic meeting held at 3 p m. was opened by a few remarks

from the chairman, G. Myron Allen, stating as our reason for choosing Temperance for our subject, that if the liquor traffic could be abolished there would be a marked improvement in all the other branches of philanthropic work.

Hannah B. Allen read a paper, advancing a strong argument in favor of legislation on the temperance question. We were reminded that this is a work in which the united efforts of men and women are called for in order to reach such as are in need of help.

Fourth-day evening the meeting was opened with prayer by Joel Borton.

Isaac Wilson, Joel Borton and John Stringham, all spoke on the subject of Salvation, showing that it was the Spirit of Christ within (of which the outward blood was the type) which alone can save and cleanse our souls from sin if we will be governed by it.

Fifth-day morning Isaac Wilson preached from the text, "And God gave man dominion over the fowls of the air, and the beasts of the field, and every living thing," showing clearly man's responsibility to keep the garden of his heart pure, governing all his powers and propensities, typified by the fowls and the beasts.

John Stringham spoke of the supreme intelligence of God's love and care for us; how that in obedience to God's laws we shall become fit for God's kingdom here and hereafter

Joel Borton spoke from the text, "Behold the Lamb of God which taketh away the sin of the world," showing that notwithstanding the theories of adverse critics the Bible is literally as well as figuratively true, and while from its inner spiritual meaning we may draw truths for the nourishment of our souls; we could not have the spiritual meaning without the outward test, and the history itself is authentic and adapted to the needs of mankind in all ages.

LEMOYNE D. ALLEN.

Granville, N. Y., 8 mo. 30th, 1897.

SEPTEMBER DAYS.

September days, so mild, so calm,
 The leaf untinged, the woods still green,
 A pause between the opening year
 And its decay. October hues
 Shall flush the woods with orient dyes.
 Signs of decay ; November's surly blasts
 Shall scatter leaves, so withered, bear
 them on the gale

To sheltered groves, where lying deep
 Will rustling, hear them, echo, to the
 rabbit's tread ;

Then trees bereft, of vernal hues
 And foliage bright, shall stretch
 Their arms abroad, as if imploring aid.
 And nature, ever kind, will clothe anew ;
 And thus forever on, still on, the process
 goes.

And if apart, in some sequestered nook,
 We silence keep, the ear perchance
 May catch the sound of harmonies, before
 unheard.

E. AVERILL.

THE FUTURE OF ARBITRATION.

BY HON. GEORGE S. HALE.

The misfortune of yesterday is the stepping stone of to-morrow's success. Without difficulty there can be no struggle ; without struggle there can be no progress ; without progress there can be no victory. Therefore, I do not regret, but rejoice, that, like every other good cause that ever had its struggle and its difficulty and its progress, ours has that which consecrates and advances it.

It is our object this evening to consider what have been the causes of stumbling and the rocks of offence which have stayed our progress hitherto. Upon this subject I have no hesitation in endeavoring to be independent. I had the honor, at our last meeting, of telling you what I thought was the great obstacle to our hope for success. I venture to tell you now that I think that was, and is, the obstacle, and that what I ventured to suggest then is still something which I may properly continue to suggest. I then reminded you—and I shall have no hesitation in quoting myself since I

then quoted the sacred book—that the wise course in politics was that announced and recommended by the Saviour : "If thy brother shall trespass against thee, go and tell him his fault between thee and him alone. If he shall hear thee, thou hast gained thy brother. But, if he will not hear thee, then take with thee one or two more, that, in the mouth of two or three witnesses, every word may be established. And, if he shall neglect to hear them, tell it unto the church ; but, if he neglect to hear the church, let him be to thee as a heathen man and a publican." As I explained it then, let him suffer the boycott of the world, if he disregards the adjudication of honest and impartial tribunals.

I suggested, then, that there should be some effort to prevent the danger that the Great Powers would never consent to submit to the final determination of any body of men, however high in reputation, superior in ability, or honored for whatever they had done, great questions of political importance. It seems to me it is that which has wrecked our treaty. If you will trace and endeavor to explain the objections which step by step have been presented to it, you will find that they were largely, in substance and character, objections to the binding nature of the plan that was submitted to them. Limitations of that kind were made by the negotiators themselves. In the treaty itself you will find an attempt to limit the submission of great questions of a political character to a tribunal which should be beforehand uncertain or whose make up might be unknown. You will find that the amendments proposed in the Senate are still and steadily of that character. I cannot delay to enumerate them all to you now. Remember, first, the proposal that no arbitration should be made in a single instance—even if the court were all created and established and its doors open, waiting for the applicant—without the approval of the Senate ;

further, that all questions of domestic and foreign policy should be excluded; that no territorial claims should be submitted. My proposition is that, while you should not exchange your proposals for an arbitration, while you should throw open your court, while you should select your judges, while you should place above the entrance the sign, "Justice Among Nations Administered Here," you should say to them: "We do not insist that you shall come here, with bowed heads, submissive to any declaration that we may make. We, rather, invite you to come here with your differences, as between man and man, to come with the pledge of honor that you will expose to us every fact, and all the evidence which is in your secret archives, as well as in the pigeon-holes of your lawyers; that you will then, having presented to us what you claim, what you know, what you believe, invite us to recommend to you, as honorable men, what you ought to do."

Can any man or woman here present believe that, after such a hearing, before such a tribunal, with such a decision, there ever would be a moment's doubt as to the result of such advice—advice dictated by a conciliatory spirit, dictated by a desire for justice, not dictated by a desire for the exercise of power, but with the consciousness that any recommendation thus presented must not be only supported by the "ipse dixit" of a tribunal, but be such that it could meet the inspection and obtain the support of the whole judging world? Can any man doubt that such a recommendation would have even more force than the mere obligation of a binding award! Who can doubt that men would pause and think, and that the enemy who finally refused to accept such a recommendation would, by the boycott of the world, be made a heathen man and a publican? Does any man doubt that a tidal wave of public opinion would sweep away any opposition to a judgment thus conceived and thus supported?

There are some objections, I admit, some difficulties which we shall meet with, which, perhaps, never can be removed until a tidal wave of public opinion shall sweep over us all. But those things must be left to the exercises of an enlightened public opinion, and to the general result of the influence of such bodies and such men and such women as I see before me, operating in their several spheres, and operating with a greater power than the Senate or the House of Representatives of the United States can ever exercise in the administration of their duties, as they see fit to perform them. I say, then, finally, my recommendation would be, Insist upon your treaty, insist upon your court, insist upon the opportunity for final and decisive arbitration. But open the door to those timid Senators who were so much afraid that England would get the advantage of them. Let them feel that, when the award was made, they might set it by, turn aside, and refuse to obey it, if they so desired. Give them that solution, invite them in with that protection, and see if the result is not as decisive and even more desirable than it would be under an attempt to compel them.

NOTES BY THE WAY.

III.

BOISE CITY, Idaho.—Our next stopping place was at Orchard, consisting of two houses and the school house, which is occupied when in session by 5 or 6 pupils, here we visited the fruit farm of the Orchard Fruit Co., and saw a most complete system of cultivation and irrigation, due in great measure to the fact that its owners and operators are eastern capitalists. We found 27,000 prune trees, 6000 winter pears and 200 apples, and 6200 prunes on the adjoining land. The trees were four years planted, but the owner's theory being that they should not bear until five years

old, he had prevented their fruiting by pinching off the blossoms and fruit. The irrigation is accomplished by a furrow on each side of the trees made by a single shovel plow about three feet from the trees, this is performed at least three times in the season, the ground being thoroughly cultivated between times, and I never saw ground so thoroughly clear of weeds. The water is obtained by damming a small stream with a combined dam of masonry and earth, to prevent the operations of the muskrats, and faced on the inside with a facing of broken rock, the dam being more than a mile in length and so arranged that it can be raised as the wants of the case may require, this makes a storage reservoir of several hundred acres, and is probably the most expensive plant in the state. For parties using the water they charge \$480 per cubic foot of water said to be equivalent to \$1.25 per acre.

The next place we visited was Nampas, where we were assiduously waited upon by M. A. Kurtz, a former resident of Omaha, and well acquainted with many of the old time Columbus folks. We were furnished with conveyances, and himself and Mr. Partridge accompanied us to inspect the crops and system of irrigation in use here, which is by diverting the water of Boise river, an unfailing mountain stream, with a system of storage basins for holding the water when in excess of its use. He showed us his orchard of 2700 apple trees and 2286 prune trees, from which latter he expects to gather this season (the first in bearing and four years from planting) 100 pounds of fruit per tree, and on his apple trees, having the most perfect fruit I have ever seen, he expects to realize from one to three dollars per tree, and from my observation I think he will not be mistaken. He expects to ship to Chicago or New York and as a whole to realize about \$4000 from the orchard this year. The land around this city of 1000 inhab-

itants is beautifully located for the purpose of irrigation, the price ranging from \$10 to \$20 according to position and improvements. He sprays his trees with one pound of paris green to 200 gallons of water, and thins his fruit when half grown, thus giving him an opportunity to destroy any wormy ones which he may find.

Our next stopping place was Boise City; here we took a ride out to the natatorium where parties don bathing suits and go in bathing in a fine large building, covering a pool of warm water fed from a hot spring near by, which has to be reduced in temperature for bathing, as eggs may be cooked in the original spring. I did not incline to try the sport but those who did said the sensation was very fine, but I will have to defer a further account of our visit here until next time.

IV.

In the morning we were waited on by Mrs. Green, wife of a prominent citizen of the place, and president of the Irrigation Co., who with three teams escorted us over the country for a distance of thirty miles, to see the lands and the crops, and this being in the longest settled part of the country of course, the land was more developed, fruit now being the general hobby, though more attention is given to crop farming than many other places the hay crop being the principal, both timothy and alfalfa of which heavy crops are raised from three to five tons per acre, of a season. We also passed a number of fine orchards from one to five years planted, (the latter in bearing) and the difference between proper cultivation and neglect either wholly or temporary is quite marked. The water for irrigation is taken directly from the Boise river, a rapid mountain stream, without any dam by a canal forty feet wide at the top and twenty-five feet in the bottom with a depth of four feet of water, and is fifty-two miles long and laterals sixty-eight

miles, in addition to which the farmer's laterals extend a distance of 500 miles. About 200,000 acres may be covered by the above system, the most perfect of its kind we have yet examined. The average price of land is \$20 per acre, which includes a perpetual water right, and, as with all these water rights, is recorded and becomes a part of the real estate. In addition to this an annual maintenance fee of one dollar per acre is charged, one inch of water will furnish about two gallons per minute, or as it is sometimes stated, one cubic foot of water is equivalent to seven and a half gallons per second, or 450 gallons per minute, and will water about 100 acres; from one half to one inch will water one acre according to the condition of the land.

The first orchard we saw here of sixty-four acres, uses twenty inches of water, and 160 acres of timothy, which cut three tons to the acre, uses seventy-five inches of water. Our next stop was at Caldwell, and took teams provided for us and rode out seventeen miles to view the Riverside canal and the country tributary to it, and extended our trip three miles into the State of Oregon. We then returned and had a most hospitable reception by the residents of the neighborhood, and after a good time socially, we separated for the night, being quartered among the residents. As usual the phenomenal growth of fruit and vegetables struck us as very remarkable and as more attention has been given to general farming at this place, it tells for itself. The crops of alfalfa look very fine under the proper care, and the difference between careful energetic farmers and those of slovenly idle habits is very apparent.

This canal when entirely completed will be twenty-eight miles long, is fed directly from the Boise river and is capable of watering 15,000 acres exclusive of 5000 acres good land in

Oregon. The cost for a perpetual water right with the land is seventy-five cents per acre per annum for maintenance, for water alone, \$10 per acre is charged with the same maintenance fee as above. The water right is payable one-fourth in cash, the balance in equal payments in one, two and three years at eight per cent. on deferred payments. On our return from Riverside we were taken in charge by the citizens of Caldwell, and taken on a tour of twenty-eight miles round the city. We stopped to see a fruit farm four years from the sage brush and here we saw raspberries both red and black, six feet high and full of fruit at that, also dewberries and blackberries strawberries being past their season. The dewberries were planted in hills six feet apart, and each plant was about four feet high, and twelve feet in circumference and full of luscious berries one inch long. The next place we visited, fruit abundant and the growth all that could be desired, yet here was a case where a man may have more than he can attend to properly and his fruit suffers in consequence, for the want of water at the right time. Many of the farms along the river are lower and nearer the water, and have been largely devoted to general farming of grains and grasses, of which they exhibited a fine showing.

G. S. TRUMAN.

HENRY DRUMMOND.

It sometimes happens that a man, in giving to the world the truths that have most influenced his life, unconsciously writes the truest kind of character sketch. This was so in the case of Henry Drummond, and no words of mine can better describe his life or character than those in which he has presented to us, "The Greatest Thing in the World." Some men take an occasional journey into the thirteenth of 1 Corinthians, but Henry Drum-

mond was a man who lived there constantly, appropriating its blessing and exemplifying its teachings. As you read what he terms the analysis of love you find that all its ingredients were interwoven into his daily life, making him one of the most lovable men I have ever known. Was it courtesy you looked for, he was a perfect gentleman. Was it kindness, he was always preferring another. Was it humility, he was simple and not courting favor. It could be said of him truthfully, as it was said of the early apostles, "that men took knowledge of him, that he had been with Jesus."

Nor was this love and kindness only shown to those who were close friends. His face was an index to his inner life. It was genial and kind, and made him like his Master, a favorite with children. He could be the profound philosopher or the learned theologian, but I know that he preferred to be the simple friend of children and youth. Never have I known a man who, in my opinion, lived nearer the Master or sought to do His will more fully.

I well remember our first meeting in Edinburgh twenty-four years ago. He was still a Divinity Student in the University, but he generously gave himself to aiding me in every possible way. There was nothing that he would not undertake to do to help to spread the evangelistic work among his friends in the University, and, later on he began special meetings for young men in various towns in Great Britain. The friendship then begun has been strengthened ever since, not only by his lovable nature, but by the great blessing God has used him to be in my own life.

Never have I heard Henry Drummond utter one unkind or harsh word of criticism against any one. He was a man who was filled with love to his fellowmen, because he knew by experience something of the love of Christ. He was one of the easiest men with whom to work, for he thought more of the common object than of aught else.

The news of his death has brought

a sense of the deepest loss to all his friends in every part of the world. He was a man greatly beloved, and my own feelings are akin to those of David on the death of Jonathan. But although the life on earth is ended, God has called His servant higher to a sphere of greater usefulness. And when at last we meet again before our Lord and Master Jesus Christ, whom we both loved and served together in years gone, we shall no longer "see through a glass darkly; but then face to face," and things which we could not see alike here below we shall fully know in the light of His countenance, who brought our lives together and blessed them with a mutual love.—*D. L. Moody in the American Friend.*

A CHRISTIANITY WHICH BEARS ITS OWN WITNESS.

In the beautiful tribute of D. L. Moody to the memory of Henry Drummond, which we printed last week, everybody who read it must have been struck by the words, "Some men take an occasional journey into the thirteenth of 1 Corinthians, but Henry Drummond was a man who lived there constantly . . . making him one of the most lovable men I have ever met. It could be said of him truthfully as it was said of the early apostles, that 'men took knowledge of him that he had been with Jesus.'" "Never have I known a man who, in my opinion, lived nearer the Master or sought to do His will more fully."

These are the words of one who is a good judge of men, and one who knows what it means to be a Christian. He did not agree with all the views of Prof. Drummond, but he saw that his friend had found the secret of life, and that he was before everything else one of Christ's men. He did not estimate him for his work as a scientist, or for his preaching, or for his religious views and writings. He finds that the great thing about Henry

Drummond was this, that he lived constantly in the 13th of 1 Corinthians, and that everybody who knew him felt that he had been with Jesus.

It means that he had the kind of Christianity which the New Testament endorses, a kind of Christianity which gets all through a man, and works out through him again, so that he is himself monumental evidence of its power, and of its divine vitality. Life in the 13th of 1 Corinthians is much easier than life in the 7th of Romans, but strangely enough most Christians take up this never-ceasing struggle with the body of death, which they drag through life with them, and when a man appears who cuts loose from the "old man of death," and really lives a life of Christ-like love, it is almost an innovation in the Church.

We are all meant to be beloved disciples, and this rare testimony which comes from a modern apostle regarding a dead soldier of the cross ought to be the natural epitaph for all departed Christians.

Love is just as universal a power in the kingdom of God as gravitation is in this visible kingdom. What should we think if we found that half the planets showed no response to the power of gravitation, but moved in a haphazard orbit! It would be no more anomalous than for Christians to fail to live in the 13th of 1 Corinthians, to keep Moody's phrase, or to fail to be swayed by love. This failure explains why Christians have a comparatively small influence in the world. They do not bear evidence in their lives, in their dealings, in their faces, in their words, that they have reached a new kingdom and a new centre of life. They have to tell people that they are Christians, or it would never be found out, and often they have to be urged for a long time to induce them to tell their great secret! This is all wrong. A Christian ought to be as self-evident as the sun in the sky, so that even a blind man or a deaf

man would feel his Christianity. Let us try to improve the quality of our Christianity. Let us go to living in the 13th of 1 Corinthians, though it may perhaps be necessary to begin in Galatians 2 : 20.—*American Friend.*

RURAL FREE DELIVERY.

It is reported that the experiments which have been made by the Post Office Department in the free delivery of rural letters have, so far, resulted very much to the department's satisfaction. Fifty thousand dollars was appropriated last winter by Congress for this use, and tests of the feasibility of the plan were made in various parts of the country. Early reports which have come in, especially from some districts in Maine and Vermont, tell of the satisfaction of the farmers with the new service, and of their willingness to profit by it. It is found that they take many more daily newspapers when they can have them delivered, and also that the number of letters carried shows a vigorous increase. The rural carrier makes a trip a day over a distance of between sixteen and twenty-four miles. He supplies his own conveyance—horse and cart or bicycle. It has been found that responsible men are willing to do this work for an annual stipend ranging from \$175 upwards, the average pay being about \$300. It is estimated that at that rate sixty millions dollars (about half the annual pension bill) would provide free rural delivery all over the United States. That would mean, among other things, employment for 200,000 persons. The rural carriers are allowed to eke out their stipend by any supplementary enterprises that do not interfere with their duties, as to sell stamps or stationery and receive and deliver express parcels or telegrams. Where farmers live some distance from the road their mail is left in boxes at convenient point by the roadside, from which also letters are collected.—*[Harpers' Weekly.]*

THE DEPUTATION TO THE QUEEN.

It is a circumstance of rare occurrence when a personal interview is granted by the reigning monarch of the British Empire to deputations from Nonconformist bodies. Several such have, however, been given during the past few weeks of Jubilee celebration. The Society of Friends possesses a special privilege, which was granted to it in the time of William Penn, by which it has the right of personally presenting its Addresses to the Throne. This opportunity was accorded to twenty Friends, who went as a deputation from the Meeting of Sufferings, to present an address of congratulation to the venerable Sovereign of these realms on the sixtieth anniversary of her accession. Sixty years ago an audience was granted on the occasion of the Queen's coronation, and another ten years ago when John Bright accompanied the deputation.

The 15th ult. was the day appointed, and the deputation met at Windsor under the efficient leadership of John Edward Ellis, M. P. It was one of the most beautiful of summer afternoons. Nature had put on her most charming smile; bright with unclouded sunshine, yet cooled with a soft northern breeze, nothing was left to be desired for such an occasion as a visit to the Royal Home at Windsor. Nor was the reception accorded by our courteous and aged Queen any less gracious.

Strikingly in contrast is the favoured position of the Society of Friends to-day with that once occupied by the adherents of George Fox, when they had to pass through such bitter persecution for their steadfast allegiance to conscience and truth. Multitudes suffered imprisonment, and many martyrdom, because they would not take an oath, and swear loyalty to King and Crown. They strove to live their loyalty as peaceable citizens, whilst faithfully serving God and man. If we

pause to note the change that has come about, it is that we may honor the fidelity of those who purchased our liberties and wrought out our religious freedom by the sacrifices they made, and, in our day of Christian toleration, worthily uphold the name we bear.

The deputations passed through the ancient gateway, and under the shadow of the stately towers whence Norman, Tudor, and Guelph have for centuries directed the destinies of the nation, and guided or sanctioned the legislation of successive ministries and parliaments; whence our Queen has exercised her generally wise and beneficent rule during the longest period that it has been permitted to any monarch to sway the sceptre of this great Empire. Ample time was allowed the visitors to stroll about the State Apartments, which overlook the park, and to inspect the treasures of ancient and modern art, and the collection of interesting historical mementoes which are carefully preserved. Deputations from the Baptist and Congregationalist, and from the Presbyterian and Unitarian bodies were received; after which that from the Society of Friends was ushered into the Green Drawing room. The Queen was seated in a richly upholstered and gilded chair, herself a model of simplicity in her attire; on her left was the Princess Beatrice, wearing the symbols of early widowhood, whilst the Duchess of Buccleuch, and other Ladies-in-Waiting, the Earl of Lathom, the Duke of Portland, the Home Secretary, and several other attendants made up the courtly group.

The Queen listened attentively to the Address, which was impressively read by J. Ed. Ellis. In response she said, "I thank you, gentlemen, very warmly for your kind and loyal address." The Queen then handed her formal reply to J. Ed. Ellis, which, with the Address, will be found in another column. J. Ed. Ellis then stepped forward, stooped, and kissed the royal hand; after which he introduced Jona-

than B. Hodgkin and Joseph Bevan Braithwaite as the composers of the Address, the Queen holding her hand for a similar salutation, bestowing a specially gracious smile on our venerable Friend, as he stooped to receive the royal greeting.

Immediately after the Friend's withdrawal the deputation from the Royal Society, including Lord Lister, Lord Kelvin, and others, in full court dress, entered the Queen's presence.

The deputations of Nonconformists were requested to appear in ordinary morning dress, so that no difficulty arose such as was presented to our friend J. Allan Baker when appearing as a member of the London County Council. The military element which invariably prevails in the precincts of royalty was greatly minimized; save for the fact that all the officials wore swords, we saw no military display, beyond the habiliments of members of the Court.

The countenance of the Queen wore traces of her past sorrows, whilst bearing with cheerful dignity the weight of a reign of over sixty years. The visit will doubtless have left on those privileged to be present, as it has on the writer of these lines, ineffaceable memories, and a feeling of deepened interest in the Sovereign who has reigned so long and so worthily over this wide-reaching Empire.—[*British Friend*].

Calumny always makes the calumniator worse, but the calumniated never.

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