

It is then blown about with every wind of doctrine, and, in its results, proves its possessors to stand on the unstable sand of the sea. Hence the deluded not a few within our own family and fold.

It is only that faith which exorcises the world, in which we can hope availingly to build up ourselves, and through which we may evidence that badge of discipleship, that we love one another.

Our important testimony against the use of spirituous liquors, claimed the lively concern of Friends.

This righteous testimony, we believe, is gaining ground.

Satisfactory reports from many Quarterly meetings furnish evidence that Friends have very much abandoned themselves to a drink. But it was testified, however, that intemperance is not confined alone to the abuse of outward things.

The practice of attempting to hold communication with spirits of deceased persons was a cause of much exercise, and

Friends were cautioned against this manifest delusion, and it was recommended that this concern go down in our hearts. To be truly temperate in seasons of wild excitement upon moral and religious subjects, is the prerogative of him who is grounded in Christ, the rock of ages, the foundation which no storm of persecution, nor seductive allurements of worldly policy can shake or disturb.

The awful convulsions which seem now to threaten another hemisphere, remind us forcibly of the great need there is to recur to this alone foundation.

There is no hope that wars and fightings will cease until Christ's Kingdom shall be established in the hearts of men. The name of the Redeemer is again invoked, as it has often been, to sanction the incalculable miseries of war. For this land, we, at present, may have little occasion to fear for the integrity of our own habitation. We may remain in ignorance of its desolating evils, except through the knowledge received from description - yet should we not the less feel that the immunity of our highly favored country is of the Lord's mercy, and that his just judgments may be yet sent to teach its inhabitants that righteousness alone exalteth a nation. The same spirit will bring about the same results; and we have been cautioned against mingling

in political affairs, that we may be enabled, with clean hands, to bear a faithful testimony against violence and oppression, in all its forms, few of which require a more constant and unceasing testimony than Slavery - and which friends were encouraged to maintain by every method which Truth may point out.

The subject of treating with offenders was felt to be of great consequence, and that it should be always done in gospel charity and patience, with a view to restoration - also, that the testimony should only go forth the honor and advancement of Truth.

In considering the answers to our sixth query, lively exercises sprang up on account of the deficiency apparent in regard to a hireling ministry. It was shown to be the fruitful mother of false doctrines, and the apologist of many of the public evils that afflict the world.

Friends were exhorted to gather to their little Meetings, and there wait in that silence and humiliation, wherein the heavenly judgment is taken away, as a powerful living testimony to the only source of a true gospel Ministry - believing, as we do, that the only qualification for service in his church, is learned in the school of Christ.

The subject of a rightly guarded education for our youth has again claimed the earnest attention of this Meeting.

In view of the present common school system, which has drawn a large portion of our children from the superintendence of Friends, we have been engaged in weighty consideration of the consequences that must inevitably follow, if their instruction is committed to others, who are not of our religious principles. The education in literature and science was felt to be of secondary importance, if, with it, these great testimonies we uphold are not ingrafted upon the tender and plastic mind - if the frequent reading of the Holy Scriptures, and the withdrawal from outward pursuits to wait for Divine counsel and guidance, be neglected.

In conclusion, we have felt that through this large annual gathering we have been favored at times with that Holy Presence, which has enabled us to transact the business before us with much harmony and brotherly condescension - and we trust, we are not a forgetful people - that the ring of Ancient Goodness is still mercifully at hand.