

The guarded religious education of Friends children has claimed our serious consideration, as a subject of vital importance to the welfare and best interests of this religious society. To secure them against the contaminating influences of the world around us, to improve their minds with useful knowledge, and encourage their growth in piety and virtue, are the objects that should claim the assiduous care of parents and guardians, and we assuredly believe that a blessing from on high will rest upon this labor, under a sense of religious duty, and with a reliance upon divine aid.

The saving power of divine grace, is offered to the acceptance of the whole human family; like the good seed which "the sower went forth to sow," it falls upon every variety of ground, and the harvest depends upon the state of preparation, as well as the subsequent cultivation of the soil. If it falls by the wayside and the fowls of the air destroy it, or if its growth is obstructed by thorns and noxious weeds, the responsibility will rest upon those whom divine providence has made the recipients of His bounty, and the guardians of His dependent children. We believe moreover that in the guarded education of youth, a solemn responsibility rests upon the religious society to which they belong, especially when they are recognized by that body as members by birthright. To provide for them suitable schools, where their intellectual faculties may be improved and their spiritual welfare promoted, we regard the imperative duty of our religious Society.

The corrupting influence of a licentious literature, has claimed our attention as one of the most insidious poisons to which the inexperienced mind is exposed. We have been reminded, however that the same facilities of the press, by which the poison is diffused, may be made available to apply the antidote and therefore the publication and circulation of books adapted to the promotion of piety and virtue, becomes a duty of high importance.

We were led into lively exercise in considering the subject of pernicious reading, and it was believed that the

just step towards that evil was often found in too much neglecting, or too lightly estimating the great truths contained in the Holy Scriptures; and our members were affectionately exhorted to a more frequent reading of these precious writings, with an humble desire that the great truths therein testified of, may in due time be opened to the instruction and confirmation of their minds.

Our righteous testimony against a hireling ministry claimed our serious consideration, and it was believed that this testimony can be most efficaciously borne, by all our members seeking to dwell near the witness for God in our own souls, and by an entire dependance upon the renewed qualification through an anointing of the Holy unction, to every one that stands as a public witness for God in the assemblies of the people. Then will the Gentiles be brought to this Light, and Kings to the brightness of its rising.

Much sympathy was expressed on behalf of the greatly wronged Aborigines of our country, and the deeply oppressed Africans, and Friends were encouraged to be faithful in using every right opening to render true service to these people, under that spirit which breathes peace on Earth and good will to all men, remembering that it is only as we act in accordance with the minds and will of God, that we can promote the work of righteousness or His Glory.

Having been mostly favored through the several sittings of this Meeting, with a comforting evidence of the presence of the Great Head of the Church, baptizing us into a spirit of brotherly love and condescension for which our hearts are tendered in gratitude to the Giver of all Good, the Meeting adjourned to meet again at the usual time next year, if consistent with the Divine will.

Benjamin Hallowell
Clerk