

1873 Report, which was satisfactory to the meeting:

To the Yearly Meeting now sitting:

The Standing Committee to disburse the interest of the Fair Hill Fund for the purpose of School Education, report:

That during the past year we have expended for school purposes, within the limits of our several Quarterly Meetings, the sum of \$924.69, being a little less than the income of the Fund. Most of this has been devoted to the aid of schools, but in a few cases private individuals have been assisted, nearly all of whom wished to prepare themselves for teaching. Ten schools have been aided the past year, one which heretofore had received considerable aid is now self-sustaining.

It is a source of encouragement to the Committee that twelve of those who have heretofore received assistance, have been engaged in teaching, and one has refunded a further portion of the money expended in her case, which has been paid over to the Committee in charge of the Fund.

On behalf of the Committee

Edwin Blackburn, Clerk.

Baltimore, 10th month 30th, 1873.

The Report was handed to the Clerk of Women's Meeting.

Adjourned to 3 o'clock this afternoon.

Fifth Day Afternoon.

Friends assembled near the time adjourned to.

The Friends appointed to endeavor to embody some of the exercises of the Meeting for the benefit of our absent members, produced the following minute, which was satisfactory to the Meeting, and was directed to be inserted in our printed Extracts, as follows, viz:

On entering into a consideration of the State of Society, an exercise of deep feeling spread over the meeting. The apparent neglect in the attendance of some of our subordinate meetings, called forth much expression as to the nature and effect of true worship. It was shown that, as the body requires regular supplies of nourishment to sustain it, so also the soul must have its daily food in order to live. As in the beginning, man only became a living soul when God breathed into him the breath of life, so must he continue to be fed with the Heavenly Manna, or he will languish and die.

The setting apart of stated times for social worship does not prevent this constant communion between the soul and its Maker, but intensifies and

1873. increases the love we have one for another, for love to God produces love for our fellow men. In this way the assembling of ourselves together for Divine Worship, has been a means of strengthening the good in all ages of the world. We were encouraged to renewed diligence in this reasonable service, and assured that no loss, pecuniary or otherwise, would befall those whose first choice is the Kingdom of God and His Righteousness. For on the regular holding of our religious meetings, in the authority of Truth, is based the very existence of our Society.

A deep concern was expressed in relation to prayer; the most solemn services in which the human soul can be engaged. The exhortation of the blessed Jesus was adverted to - "when thou prayest, enter into thy closet," and "pray to thy Father which is in secret, and thy Father which seeth in secret shall reward thee openly." True prayer is the earnest desire of the soul to know the Father's will concerning it - a feeling of hunger and want - a sense of its nothingness, and of His fulness. Those who abide continually in this humble, seeking state, may be said to pray without ceasing; they will realize a being joyful in the house of prayer, and fruitful in the field of offering. Vocal supplications under a constraining sense of religious duty, and in the presence of others, is often blessed by a flow of divine love, while those who are thus engaged, are baptized by one spirit into one body.

"Friends mind your calling" was the impressive exhortation addressed to this Society in its earlier days, and we have felt that the same injunction is equally applicable to us now. While the principles and testimony of Truth, which we profess, are advancing in the world, how important it is that we be found leading lives of purity and uprightness, in order that we may be instruments in the Divine hand to advance in the hearts of mankind, the Redeemer's kingdom of peace and love.

The religious training of the children and youth, has claimed our serious consideration as a duty of paramount importance. - Although all rational minds are, at times, brought under the tendering visitations of Divine grace, by obedience to which they may be guided aright, yet we know that many are led astray by pernicious examples and ironical teaching, from which it is the duty of parents and guardians to shield them. Were more care used to impress on the minds of the young the plainness and simplicity becoming the Christian life, it would enable them to escape many of the evils which are the natural result of a conformity to the vain and foolish customs of the world.