

1883.

Comi
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Philan
thropic
Labor.

Emily L. Wood,	Elizabeth Iddings,
Rachel M. Russell,	Owen Underwood,
Shepherd Woods,	Sarah R. Way,
Job Hibberd,	Nathan Moore,
Josiah Griest,	Ann Moore,
Hannah G. Wright,	Hannah Way,
Cyrus S. Griest,	Elisha M. Davis,
Elizabeth M. Koser,	Galeb J. Moore,
David W. Branson,	Rebecca M. Thomas,
Ann B. Branson,	John's Hollingsworth,
Miriam G. Wood,	Cyrus Blackburn,
Daniel J. Wood,	Sarah W. Tudor,
Martha L. Sidwell,	Anna M. Sears,
William Williams,	Joseph J. Janney,
James M. Walker,	Anne K. Russell,
Eliza H. Walker,	Grace Ann King,
Hugh R. Holmes,	Francis Thomas,
Elizabeth J. Brown,	Levi K. Brown,
Phineas J. Nichols,	Seth L. Kinsey,
Margaret Hoge,	Harriet C. Hibberd,
Robert F. Roberts,	Richard J. Bentley,
Walter Walton,	Samuel M. Russell,
H. H. Hendrickson,	Thomas E. Taylor,
Rebecca Ballinger,	Edward Stabler Jr.
Howard Preston,	Sallie D. Coale.

On behalf of the committee.

Job Hibberd
Edith D. Bentley.

Which was approved. The committee are authorized to draw upon the Treasurer for the sum of \$100. or as much thereof as they may require, for printing and other expenses.

33.

Epistle.

The committee appointed on Second-day, produced an essay of an Epistle to the Yearly Meetings with which we correspond, which was read and approved. The clerk was directed to transcribe it, sign it on behalf of the Meeting, and forward a copy to the Yearly Meetings of Philadelphia, New York, Genesee, Ohio, Indiana and Illinois, respectively.

The same committee produced the following minute of the exercises of the Meeting:

Min-
ute of
Exerci-
ses.

On entering into a consideration of the state of Society, many minds were deeply exercised at the apparent want of interest in our meetings on the part of many of our members, and as every effect has its cause, it was shown that much of this is due to a neglect of the children. Where these are drawn to us early life, and care is used to explain to their young minds the workings of the laws of life, spiritual as well as others, the beauty of righteousness is unfolded to their view, and they come to love goodness for its own sake.

To attend our meetings becomes a pleasure, for they feel that the meeting of ourselves together for social worship is one of the best means of increasing our love to God and to one another, and we are told that on these hang the Law and the Prophets.

The subject of the alleged decline of our Society, and the propriety of making an effort to arrest that decline was brought up in the Meeting and received earnest and thoughtful consideration. The inquiry arose, what is meant by a decline of the Society of Friends? Is it that the Society as an organization is entering upon that condition of gradually increasing weakness which precedes and culminates in death?