

1885 Hannah O. Lovegrove, Job Hibbard,
Ann B. Branson, Gladastah J. Moore,
Thomas H. Matthews, Edwin Blackburn,
Solomon Shepherd, Joseph M. Spencer.
Baltimore, 10th Mo., 28th, 1885
which was read and was satisfactory.

25 The joint Committee appointed at a former sitting to consider the propriety of recognizing the First Day School Association of Baltimore Yearly Meeting, as an auxiliary to our Society, made a report as follows:

To the Yearly Meeting now sitting:

Report of Joint Committee on First Day Schools. Except one, all the Committee appointed to consider the propriety of recognizing the First Day School work of our Society, and should may then, to make recommendations in reference to the best way to accomplish this end, met.

After due and weighty consideration the Committee were united in recommending that the Yearly Meeting now recognize the work. They also favor that the Yearly Meeting recommend to the Monthly Meetings the appointment of committees on First Day Schools; that the Yearly Meeting appoint a small Central Committee on the subject, to advise and consult with the Monthly Meeting Committees, to which the latter shall report, and that the Central Committee annually make out a digest of these reports as their report to the Yearly Meeting.

On behalf of the Committee.

Isabella Tyson,

Eli M. Lamb.

which was read and accepted. To complete the recommendations of the committee, that a small central committee be appointed by this body, it was, on consideration, concluded to refer the matter back to the committee, with instructions that they nominate Friends for that service.

26 William Wood, in behalf of the Standing Committee to Record the Minutes of the Yearly Meeting, reported the service performed.

1885 The Committee continued last year to visit subordinate meetings, and encourage Friends to greater faithfulness in their religious duties, made a report as follows, viz.:

To the Yearly Meeting:

The Committee appointed two years ago "to unite with Friends or Committees of Quarterly or Monthly Meetings, to encourage Friends to greater faithfulness in their religious duties, and also to inquire into the apparent want of interest in many of those in the middle as well as in the younger walks of life, and to endeavor to suggest a remedy," submits the following as their report for the past year.

Report of Visiting Committee. Our method of work thus far has been by the appointment of conferences, at the Meeting House or private residence situated in any locality at which it seems desirable to hold one, either at the request of Friends living there or at the suggestion of members of the Committee. These conferences have been held under the care of the Clerks of the Committee jointly with members residing in that locality. Subjects pertinent to the welfare of Society are introduced and considered, and entire freedom of expression is encouraged.

Endeavors are made in these meetings to draw from Friends their views as to the cause of the apparent want of interest on the part of some of our members, and to find out if possible the remedy. In every conference held thus far a great deal of interest was manifested in the discussions of the subjects presented, and they were generally very satisfactory occasions.

Conferences of this character have been held in all of the Quarterly Meetings at the following places: Woodlawn, Pipe Creek, Little Falls, Howell, Back Creek, Ridge, Winchester, Fishertown, within the limits of Dunning's Creek Monthly Meeting, Menallen, Broad Creek, Faun, and Centre.

Some of the members of our Committee have felt called to individual labor in the smaller and isolated Meetings, and they express satisfaction and peace of mind as the result of their efforts, and it appears, in some cases at least, good was accomplished.

As a Committee we have worked when and where favorable opportunities seemed to present, and we are generally of the opinion that while we cannot point to great achievements, some good has been accomplished as the result of our labors.