1889

Minute of Exercises

In assembling in our Annual Meeting for the first time in the New Meeting House, with an appreciation of the comfort and convenience it affords, we trust our hearts were turned with thankful feelings to our Heavenly Father from whom all our blessings come, and who alone is able to rightly direct in all labors for the advancement of truth and help of humanity.

We have been favored with the company of Ministers from other Yearly Meetings, together with those of our own, whose salutary and encouraging messages of Gospel Love were grateful to many hearts.

Minute of Exercises

The exhortation to be ever watchful to the opening and unfolding to our spiritual understanding of our Father's voice was feling presented to us and with the loving admonition and practical counsel handed forth have been as a refreshing shower.

The exercises that have been laid before us in great harmony and concord, breathing the same loving spirit, are calculated to strengthen our oftimes drooping and almost desponding spirits.

The importance of our frequent reading the Scriptures of truth, was brought to our attention, and a caution expressed that we do not fall into a formal, lifeless habit of reading them, but with a prayerful desire to understand them, which alone can be derived from the source whence all true Scripture is given.

It was the exercise of a brother, that there are times when the Scriptures are sealed, and for two years after he felt called to speak in the assemblies of the people, he did not feel at liberty to quote from them, but as he was attentive to the voice of God in his own soul, the seal was broken and they became a source of instruction and help. A message was given to meet a condition introduced by the Scripture language, "who shall roll away the stone" and the fervent exhortation to that condition which had pierced its Saviour, and bitterly mourned in secret at the door of the sepulchre that it should realize the spiritual fulfilment of the outward event, and know the angel of purity, white and sinless to roll away the stone, and give it again to see the beauty of Holiness in the face of the risen Lord.

It was brought to our notice by one of the Epistles, the benefit and interest that had been derived in social gatherings at stated times thus bringing the old and young together, and forming a more intimate acquaintance with each other, engaging both

1889 in works of an elevating character, thus keeping the youth from seeking associations and amusements that are harmful.

The subject of education claimed much attention, and a deep interest was felt that we extend our aid in this direction as far as the means at our disposal shall warrant.

Minute of Exercises

The subject of Temperance is felt to be one of vital importance, and we regret very much that we cannot say the dark spots that have so long marred our records, are not yet removed. We can say they are lessened since last year.

Our meeting has been larger than usual, and we are glad to note an increased attendance of our young men, and the unity, condescension and brotherly love manifested, has enabled us to dispose of the many subjects that have come before us with satisfaction and comfort.

The report of the Committee was read and met the approbation of the Meeting, and the Minute as submitted, is directed to be printed with the extracts of our proceedings for the benefit of our absent members.

36 Louisa J. Roberts and Sarah J. Hare visit this Meeting

Women's Meeting having informed that our Sisters, Louisa J. Roberts and Sarah J. Hare, had expressed a concern in that Meeting, to visit their Brethren in Gospel love, their concern was united with, and their visit made at this time. We trust that the tender words of sympathy and encouragement spoken to us, may find lodgment in our hearts and strengthen us in the trials and temptations, to which we are subjected in our daily contact with the world.

37 Isaac Wilson and Joel Birdsall visit Women's Branch.

Our friend Isaac Wilson spread before the Meeting a deep concern that he felt, to ask the privilege of making a visit in Gospel love to our beloved Sisters at the close of the business of their Branch, if united with by them.

This concern as expressed was cordially united with and he set at liberty to accomplish the same.

Our friend Joel Birdsall, at his request, was also set at liberty to visit Women's Meeting, in company with Isaac Wilson