

6 That love to God which is a preparation for heaven, is also a qualification for the fulfilling of the whole divine law in our earthly walk. This will preserve us a united people, and will so rebuke the accuser of the brethren, that scandal and detraction will be uncongenial to our spirits and foreign to our lips.

In the travail of the Church for the spiritual health of its members, the Meeting passed into a concern in reference to the beloved youth upon whom so many hopes are placed, and for whom so many prayers are raised. A yearning was felt that parents may go in and out before their offspring with a safe and holy example, placing no stumbling blocks or occasions of offence in their way; also that Friends should avoid and teach the children to avoid frivolous and fashionable and dissipating associations, foolish talking and jesting, and pernicious and unprofitable reading, which if pursued will be stored in the memory, and even in seasons when the soul is seeking communion with the Lord of life, the tempter will bring up evil images and hurtful sentiments, and trouble, if not turn aside the seeking mind.

Friends were encouraged to a diligent perusal and circulation of those Holy Scriptures upon which our Religious Society has always placed so high a value, inasmuch that in its very early days, far in advance of all associations for gratuitous Bible distribution, its discipline required that the families of all poor Friends should be freely furnished therewith.

Friends were exhorted to purity and holiness of life, and to think upon those things which are pure, true, honest, lovely and of good report.

A sense of the great and increasing evil of Intemperance in the land, induced a strong desire that all Friends should be blameless in this respect, and that they should set a safe example to all those within the circle of their influence. A debt, in the way of example, was felt to be due to those before whom the snares of early life are spread, and to the struggling inebriate who is striving to reform, and who cannot take an occasional drink of any intoxicating beverage, without relapsing into intemperance. Whilst on our own behalf we put up the petition, "Lead us not into temptation," let us, in the power of God, and in love to our brother, see to it that we do not present to him, by example or otherwise, a temptation by which his moral power and his capability to reform will be awakened.

A concern was felt for the careful observance of that true Christian simplicity in which so many of our worthy predecessors and contemporaries have been led, and in which they have found safety and peace. How desirable it is that self should be of no reputation, that our adorning should be that which is highly esteemed in the Divine sight, and that we be concerned to seek honor not of one another, but of Him, who

7 can dignify with immortality, and crown with eternal life.

Then adjourned to meet in joint-session to-morrow, at 10 o'clock A. M.

20th of the month and 4th of the week.

The Meeting convened in joint-session, according to adjournment.

11. The London General Epistle was read, to our comfort and edification, and in order that our absent members and others may partake of its valuable counsel and sound doctrine, the Meeting directed 1500 copies to be re-printed for distribution, and we appointed Allen C. Thomas and Isaac Brooks, Jr. to attend to the printing and distribution.

12. The Minutes of the Meetings for Sufferings were read, and the various subjects, which have claimed its care the past year, have deeply interested us, and we encourage that Meeting to continue its labors.

The Report of the Committee on Colored Population is as follows:

Report of the Committee upon the Colored Population.

To the Meeting for Sufferings:

The Committee upon the Colored Population of our State, continue to act with the "Baltimore Association for the Moral and Educational Improvement of the Colored People." This Association has shown no abatement in its interest and labor on behalf of the Freedmen.

It has sustained 61 Schools the past year in Maryland, exclusive of those in the City of Baltimore, employing 64 teachers, and numbering about 5,000 pupils. Besides these Schools the Freedmen's Bureau has 82 Schools and about 4,000 pupils under its care in the lower part of the State.

In the City of Baltimore there are 13 Colored Schools, 39 teachers and 1312 scholars, a part of the regular School System of the city, and we are pleased to acknowledge the liberality and care shown by the authorities in their support and efficiency. They have recently raised their grade to that of Grammar Schools.

Besides these, there are about 30 private Colored Schools, mostly for young children - many of these are very small and inferior.

The Normal School is still an interesting feature in this work - the centre of it - and it is entering upon another year, with the promise of