

A self-imposed silence in man's will is no less formal and hurtful than unde wanting fitness or power. Where the Comforter is known in his living presence, can we doubt that there would be a living ministry answering to such a Pentecost, refreshing weary souls, and testifying to those who are afar off the mercy and tender compassion of him whose blood cleanseth from all unrighteousness? How often would the Lord Jesus be lifted up before the people, and his pleading voice heard, "Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest."

In connection with the second query, we were reminded of the new commandment given by our Lord as the Law of the New Covenant ratified with his own blood - "That ye love one another as I have loved you." This is not simply a negation - the absence of enmity or hate, but an active, restraining, vernaculating, sympathizing love. As the fulfiling of Jesus, he calls us to love as he has loved; to forgive as we have been forgiven. As this love reigns in the heart, it must manifest itself in our thoughts, our words and our action. We shall cherish that living sympathy for others which will draw us into frequent prayer one for the other, and in which we shall be prepared to speak the word in season, whether of counsel or cheer, to him that is in want.

Parents were exhorted to remember that the family is a divine ordinance given for man's blessing and the continuance of the human family - designed to be the training school for earth and for heaven. What a proof is it of the confidence of our Father in heaven, when he commits children to us to train for himself! Let parents accept them as pledges of his love, and, under a sense of their stewardship, lift their hearts in the fullness of believing trust, unto him who is able in the riches of his grace to supply all their needs.

In regard to the choice of our reading, is there not wisdom in choosing the most important subjects, and in reading the best books first?

He who does this habitually, will find his taste cultivated and refined, and that he has neither the time nor the inclination for any other. What a privilege it is to be thus associated with the best thoughts of the greatest, the wisest and the best minds of all ages! How much better than pitting away precious hours over flippant publications. Parents were encouraged to make their homes attractive to their children, and to be liberal in providing their families with suitable libraries.

Then adjourned to 3 1/2 o'clock this afternoon, to meet in joint session.

At the hour adjourned to, Friends met in joint session.

16. The consideration of the Book of Discipline, as reported by the meeting for sufferings, was resumed, and, with some changes, united with. The Discipline, as now revised, was referred back to the meeting for sufferings for publication, with authority to make such verbal and other slight corrections as may be found necessary. The new rules are to go into effect 1<sup>st</sup> month 1<sup>st</sup> 1877.

Then adjourned to 10 o'clock to-morrow morning, to meet in joint session.

4<sup>th</sup> of the week and 25<sup>th</sup> of the month.

Friends met in joint session according to adjournment.

17. The Indian General Epistle was read to our comfort and edification, and in order that its valuable contents may be laid before our members and others, we direct that 1000 copies be reprinted. In attend to the reprinting and distribution we appoint Allen C. Thoms, Isaac H. Thompson, Zachariah H. Saul, Thomas H. Long, Richard H. Thomas, Bowling H. Winston, John Putnam, Thomas Netherland and Joseph A. Illiffe.

18. The following report from the Committee on General Meetings was read, and believing that the blessing of the Lord rested in these meetings, the Committee was continued and encouraged for further service, as may may open, to report next year.

In the Yearly Meeting:

The Committee on General Meetings report that they have held series of