

In regard to answering the Queries, the Yearly Meeting directs Monthly Meetings to answer the Queries to the Quarterly Meeting, so as to represent the state of their members at the time; but Quarterly Meetings preceding the Yearly Meeting are directed, in making up the summary answers for the year, to take into consideration the answers received from the Monthly Meetings during the year. We have again felt the importance of our meetings for worship. All should attend: but those who may be prevented from attending the mid-week meetings, should certainly be present on the First day of the week. No small thing should be allowed to keep any away. Those who do not meet together miss a great blessing. Each has some service to perform. The healthy development of the Church depends on the healthy development of each member. As the spiritual life develops in each individual, the spiritual life of the Church as a whole increases. We feel the value of our organization, in that it gives opportunity for the exercise of individual gifts, as well as for united work, and there is a mutual interdependence of the Church and her members. We have no clergy or laity, and hence the life and power of the Church, and the responsibility of our meetings rests upon the individual members. We do not know upon whom the Power of the Lord may come; it may strike upon the floor, as well as in the gallery. Every organization should be carried out with reference to the Principles upon which it rests, and so the best work will be accomplished. What might be well in a monarchy will not do in a Republic. True restriction is not bondage: there is a principle of restriction, as well as a principle of liberty. Our watchword should be, "All thy children shall be taught of the Lord." While the foundation is the absolute guidance and government of Christ, we may rejoice in the liberty which exists in the great fraternity of Yearly Meetings. Not only in the Church, but in the world also, should we show ourselves to be followers of the Lord, and whatever we do, we should do it as

unto Him. We should be Christian men in our business, in all the occupations of our life. We should be careful how we speak of others: the tongue is an unquenchable fire, and detraction may consist in the unkind word, or even in an allusion.

We feel the value of the advice, "Be careful to make a profitable and religious use of those portions of time on the First day of the week which are not occupied by our meetings for worship." The reading of the so-called "Sunday newspapers," and all things calculated to draw away the mind from religious exercises and duties, should be carefully avoided on that day. The reading of hurtful literature of all kinds is to be guarded against, at the same time remembering that it is perhaps equally important to afford to our children and our members the opportunity of reading attractive good literature, and to encourage them in the perusal of it.

We have again been deeply impressed with the obligation resting upon us to place before the public the cause of peace, not only holding a testimony in its support: but also a positive testimony against war and warlike things. The present seems to be a time peculiarly fitted for increased activity, in relation to this subject.

33 The Minutes of seventh and second days were read and accepted.

34 The Queries were read and the answers from the subordinate Meetings, and the following summaries were adopted as representing the condition of the Meeting at this time:

Summary Answers.

Ans 1 All our meetings for worship and discipline have been held and well attended, except one for discipline and three for worship. First day evening meetings are small and more punctuality is desirable on the part of some. Unbecoming behavior avoided.

Ans 2 Friends appear to maintain love toward each other becoming our Christian profession. Pre-bearing and detraction are discouraged, no apparent differences amongst us.