

London, Dublin, Canada, New England, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Indiana, Western, Iowa and Kansas, which were read and approved, and the Clerk was directed to sign them on behalf of the Meeting and forward them.

52. An epistle to the absent members, and also one to the children, were read and accepted. The Meeting directed that 500 copies of the letter to the children be printed, and 200 copies of the letter to our absent members. Mary E. Carey and Catharine M. Brewitt were appointed to attend to their distribution.

53. The report of the Educational Committee was read and approved. They were continued to the same service this year.

54. The report of the Committee on Indian Affairs was read, and our Treasurer was directed to pay to the Associated Executive Committee our usual contribution of \$140 for the use of the Associated Executive Committee.

55. Anna K. Carey, Augusta L. Watkins and others, were named to copy the Epistles from other Yearly Meetings to be sent down to the Monthly Meetings. Susan B. Carey and Elizabeth R. Hopkins were named to copy the minutes of this Meeting.

56. The subject of holding the first session of the Yearly Meeting next year jointly, or separately, was considered, and it was decided to meet in joint session until the names of the representatives shall be called, and then, if it seems best, separate, and continue the business in separate session.

Under a deep feeling of praise and thanksgiving to our Heavenly Father, that He has answered our prayers, and been pleased to manifest by His Holy Spirit His presence amongst us from day to day we adjourn to meet again on Fifth day morning at 11 o'clock for Divine worship.

Joint Session

Fifth day Morning 11th month 15th.

57. Friends met for Divine worship. After a time of prayer and exhortation, the following Minute received from the Meeting on Ministry and Oversight was read, and the Meeting directed it to be sent to each of the Monthly

Meetings, with directions to have it read at the close of a First day morning meeting.

We have come together at this time under a sense of unusual loss, as we miss the presence and voice of some who have been wont to meet with us; but we have been encouraged in the thought that though the Lord may remove from us those who have served Him and helped us, He Himself does not remove, but continue with His people carrying on His work, and ever bestowing gifts for service upon those who yield themselves to Him.

In order that we may become efficient in the work of the Lord, it is of great importance that we should be free from all things that would hinder our progress. When our Lord said "The truth shall set you free," He did not refer to secular education, even the highest, though that will free the mind from many errors and superstitions, but He referred to Himself, to the truth as it is in Him; for this does liberate the soul, setting us free from the bondage of sin and of death, and giving us liberty to become partakers of His own character, that we may be like him, steadfast, loving and faithful. We have no power in ourselves; therefore let us not be satisfied with having joined ourselves to any set of men, to any opinions, or to any organization: we are to be joined to the Lord. Thus united to Him, and partaking of His Spirit, we shall not be found excusing ourselves from His service; but shall pray from the Master, "Here am I, Lord, send me."

We should ourselves be steadfast and immovable in the work of the Lord and in our own experience. If we have been set free to serve, set free from the power of sin, set free from the observance of rites and ceremonies, we are to remain free, and not be entangled again in any yoke of bondage. Every advanced experience included within it all the experience that has gone before. But who is there of us that has not at some time fallen back in some of these respects for a season? The secret of successful progress is to be found in the exhortation "Be ye therefore, have received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk ye in Him." As we therefore received him as our Saviour without reliance on our own strength, so let us trust and obey Him continually.

The place where the disciples disciples received the great