

Committee have been unable to perceive any sufficient reasons for making such an important change in the name of our religious body: a change that would break the historical continuity which has always united us with George Fox and the Early Friends, and with the other bodies in our connection.

On behalf of the Committee

Julia Valentine

Richard H. Thomas

- 49 The Epistle from Indiana Yearly Meeting having now come to hand, was read, completing the reading of the Epistles addressed to the Meeting this year. We appreciate the value of this intercourse between the Yearly Meetings, and have directed the following Summary of the contents of these Epistles to be inserted in our Minutes:

Summary of Epistles Received, 1890.

London Friends say that the receipt of our Epistle, touching many points of common interest, has again stimulated the feeling of love and brotherliness which has always existed between us. This Yearly Meeting has been marked by a spirit of praise and hopefulness, and an earnest concern for the spiritual interests of the Church. They rejoice that the subject of Peace is increasingly occupying the attention of our fellow Christians of all denominations. The advocacy of Peace on grounds of economy, expediency, or even philanthropy, important as these are, has often failed to a large extent, when the time of trial has come, and the position taken by Friends on that subject, that war is incompatible with the spirit of Christianity, is, they believe, the only one which will stand in times of national excitement.

The Adult School movement is still extending, and has been the means of building up many Meetings. Our testimony to the freedom of the Gospel ministry gives us an especial hold over the working men of our land, whilst the fact that the scholars themselves carry on so large a portion of the work of such schools, enables our young men in business, who have but few hours of leisure, to enter successfully into this field of service.

The great cause of Temperance continues to occupy the attention of their members, and some progress is being made.

Dublin Yearly Meeting refers to the Epistles received from other Yearly Meetings, and the letters from Friends in India, Madagascar, Africa and China, as having tended to unite them closer in brotherly love and sympathy with the various portions of our Society, and to enable them to bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ. They are cheered by reading of the steady progress of mission work in America, and of the blessing that has attended it. They desire that it may continue to be carried on in dependence on Him, who is the source of all strength, and with an eye single to His glory. Similar work is carried on in several places in Ireland by their members, but the

circumstances prevent many from being drawn into our Society. The committees to visit, all their Meetings have been helpful and strengthening to many, especially in the small country Meetings. They were united in petitioning Parliament against the opium traffic between India and China, and also in addressing the International Conference in Brussels, protesting against the African slave trade, and the introduction of alcoholic spirits and fire arms into that continent. They are urging Parliament to adopt restrictive measures towards the liquor traffic, and are encouraging Total Abstinence Societies and Bands of Hope among their membership.

Canada was cheered by the evidence that fresh laborers are being constrained by the love of Christ to fill the vacant places of those who have entered into rest. A greater number than usual of young people were in attendance. Their loyalty, zeal and love for the extension of the kingdom of Christ encouraged the hope that, instead of the fathers, there may be the children with increasingunction of the Holy One, with clear perception of Divine truth, and courage to maintain and proclaim it.

The missionaries in Japan, under the care of their Home and Foreign Missionary Society, are hopeful, and of good courage.

There is a brighter prospect than heretofore that Redding College will again be opened, but persistent efforts will still be required. They feel that the tie which binds Yearly Meetings together is not a rope of sand, but a ^{strong} ~~solid~~ ^{cord} not legislative enactment, but the unity of the spirit in the bond of ~~truth~~ ^{love}.

New England has felt the absence of an unusual number of those who have recently been removed from the Church militant to the Church triumphant, and expresses sympathy with us of Baltimore Yearly Meeting, which has been having a similar experience. The words and influence of the departed, however, still remain, and others are being qualified and anointed for the Lord's service, so that the ranks are not being dented, but filled.

The reports of their mission at Ramallah, Palestine, are encouraging, and have awakened renewed interest in the work of the Lord in that land of such promise.

The Freedmen's Normal Institute at Maryville, Tenn, is showing increased usefulness. New England Yearly Meeting has appointed three delegates to attend the Peace Congress in London this year, with a memorial addressed to it.

New York Friends felt that there was a great responsibility, as well as a great privilege, in assembling, as a Yearly Meeting. Being permitted to be workers together with God, and with one another, we should draw near to Him, and having His love shed abroad in our hearts, be bound more closely, also one to another. The Epistles, as well as the living messengers from other Yearly Meetings, reminded them that the circle, which includes those endeared by kindred thoughts, and