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The following is a summary of the exercises of this meeting during its two sessions.

MINUTE OF ADVICE OF THE YEARLY MEETING ON MINISTRY AND OVERSIGHT TO ITS SUBORDINATE MEETINGS.

The Psalmist says, "Thine arrows are sharp in the heart of the King's enemies, whereby the people fall under thee." If sinners are to be convicted and brought under the humbling power of the Gospel, and under obedience to our King, the "arrows" must not be ours, but the Lord's. We must take the armor of God and the sword of the Spirit. May we be so consecrated to the Lord, and filled with His Spirit, that we shall not be able to hold our peace till the righteousness of the Church go forth as brightness and the salvation thereof as a lamp that burneth, and it shall also be as a crown of glory and a diadem of beauty in the hand of our God. When the Church shines in the beauty of holiness, many will be attracted. The will of God is the salvation of sinners and the sanctification of believers.

Mere form and ritual are unable to impart spiritual life. It is the Holy Spirit who has power to work directly on the heart. If we meet to wait earnestly on the Lord, there will be power. If we meet of prayer before a word is spoken. Ministers are not to be content to preach to others, but also to learn. To whomsoever we give the message, it is His message, not that of the speaker. We may speak through a carefully prepared discourse, but it is a great privilege to have a fresh message from Him to deliver to our brethren. A meeting led by the Spirit will have life, variety, freshness and power. We can not, however, expect to be guided in meetings unless we yield our lives to be guided by Him. "Thy will be done" should be our constant desire. Each member should endeavor to do faithfully his own part. Neither the eye, the ear, the hand or the heart can do the work of the other; they work harmoniously for the good of all. So should all members of the Church work together in love.

If unsound doctrine comes in, it must be through following our own ideas rather than the guidance of the Holy Spirit. Let us look only to God, and let our expectation be from Him, and keep to the use of sound Scripture words, avoiding the various "isms" that are afloat around us.

The exhortation of the Apostle, "Take heed to thyself and to the doctrine," is needed to-day. We must be right ourselves before we can speak or do right. Then may we be preserved in the presentation of the truth as it is in Christ, without subtraction, and without addition, and without compromise. Thus shall we have power to reach souls and win them to Him.

There is continual need for us to pray, "Open Thou mine eyes, that I may behold wondrous things out of Thy law." This is a progressive work, and we may see the truth in ever-widening circles. The Gospel is adapted to all classes and conditions of men. While the needs of the lowest and most degraded call for earnest labor, and to the poor the Gospel must be preached, we have been reminded that the mission of the great Apostle to the Gentiles was primarily to the better instructed people in the cities of the Roman Colonies in Asia Minor, who were able to maintain churches and intelligently to spread the Gospel to others. In the early days of our Society, George Fox was instrumental in gathering men and women of the great middle classes, fitted to reach those both above and below them, such as were eminently qualified to influence public sentiment for Christ, and to promote and carry on great and needed reforms. This fact should not be lost sight of in the present day.

We are to "commend the Gospel to every man's conscience in the sight of God." This can only be done by being ourselves in vital union with the Lord, and having fresh views of Christ and His truth, be able to bring forth out of our treasury things new and old. It is our privilege to be so filled with the Spirit that the message of the Gospel shall be as the overflow of a living spring.

(come not)

Concluding
Minute.

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We thankfully acknowledge the presence of the Holy Spirit during these sessions. We feel that He has blessed us and strengthened us in the services which we have been called to perform.

We now conclude to meet again next year if the Lord permit.

Jos. P. Elliott
Clerk.