

Executive Council

Francis T. King (Chairman)

Jno. C. Thomas (Sec.)

Helen White

Dr. James C. Thomas

Helen Tyson

Dr. Calist. Winslow

Our motion it was resolved, that the expense of printing the Reports of the Association for the past year be defrayed from the funds of the Association.

Francis T. King reported, that he had just returned from North Carolina, and that the proposition to establish an Agricultural Department, in connection with the Association, was received with the greatest interest and satisfaction by the friends residing there.

Then adjourned.

Jno. C. Thomas
Sec. pro tem.

REPORT.

To "Baltimore Association of Friends to advise and assist Friends of the Southern States."

In making our first general report it is proper that we should refer to the origin of our Association.

Soon after the breaking out of the rebellion, Friends from North Carolina occasionally passed through Baltimore on their way to the West, but during the autumn of 1864 such arrivals were so much more frequent, and the families, in most cases, so destitute, that it was concluded to combine our individual efforts to aid them, and "THE BALTIMORE ASSOCIATION OF FRIENDS TO ADVISE AND ASSIST FRIENDS OF THE SOUTHERN STATES," was formed.

We have kept a regular account of our operations, and have acted through committees with all the care and system in our power, but do not think it is required of us to make public the details of our aid to brethren, under temporary and unexpected privations, many of whom had formerly given freely to others.

It is due, however, to the contributors of the fund, that some report should be made, if it be only as a record of the love, sympathy and interest which have bound us together as a people, at a period when nearly every other tie between the North and the South was severed.

We had no expectation at first of any thing but a local effort—but the interest which we felt was simultaneously manifested throughout all the Yearly Meetings, and we became the medium of dispensing their liberality also.

During the spring and summer of 1865, directly after Sherman's march, two of our number twice visited North Carolina to distribute provisions, clothing and money, and during that year we forwarded to the West about four hundred members, adults and children, fifty of whom arrived here destitute at one time.

Though we discouraged this emigration, we could not wonder at it, as they fled from the ravages of war to join relatives who had prospered in the West, and who gave them cordial welcomes. Some of these families, however, have been returned by us to their former homes, and they are now cultivating their farms with commendable energy. There was peculiar difficulty attending the journey of four hundred miles to Baltimore; and the conversion of their currency into ours at a loss of several hundred per cent. generally landed them in our city destitute of funds and clothing, and eight hundred miles of travel still before them. Many of the young men in escaping conscription had to travel on foot at night, wade rivers, and sleep in the woods. Several of them were fired at and wounded.

Whilst thus engaged in aiding our Brethren, and endeavoring to relieve their physical wants, we soon discovered that there were even stronger claims upon us to educate their children, many of whom, from the need of their labor at home, the scarcity of books and the conscription of teachers, had lost four years of instruction, the period of a country child's school life.

One of our number again visited North Carolina at the time of the Yearly Meeting in the 11th month, 1865, and there met in consultation our friends Joseph Crossfield, of England, Samuel Boyce, of New England, and Marmaduke C. Cope, of Philadelphia, and conferred with the Education Committee of North Carolina Yearly Meeting. After carefully considering the whole subject, the Association concluded to appropriate \$5,000 to the Boarding

and in refitting the furniture and school apparatus, and \$2,500 to pay the board and tuition at the school of the children of Friends who had suffered most by the war, which has since been done. Secondly, To establish Primary Schools in every Friends' neighborhood, under the direction of our Association, and to appoint a competent Superintendent, to devote his whole time to their supervision.

We refer with satisfaction to the accompanying Report of our friend, Jos. Moore, late of Earlham College, Indiana—who accepted the office of Superintendent—to whose Christian interest and devotion to the work, much of our success is due.

Our expenditures have been for
Repair of Boarding School House, refitting
Furniture and School Apparatus, and Tuition of 36 children at the Boarding School, \$4,817.50
Thirty Primary and one Normal School, and aid to new School Houses, 4,710.36
Relief to families and individuals, 12,936.40
Office expenses, stationery, stamps, &c., . . . 90.05

Total expenditure, \$22,554.31

A statement of our receipts from each Yearly Meeting will be published hereafter. The funds have always been kept at interest.

We are satisfied that the most useful pecuniary aid to families that we can now render, and one that will be most general in its application, and permanent in its results, is to assume the expense and oversight of the Schools (except the Boarding School) until our friends recover from the effects of the war, and we succeed in establishing a system which will sustain itself.

Our fund is ample to carry on this work now organized, for the next two years, employ a Superintendent of Schools for three years thereafter, and afford such physical relief as may be needed the coming winter.

The subject of improved agriculture has claimed the attention of our Board, and our President has been directed to confer with North Carolina Friends at the time of their Yearly Meeting, next month, and submit to us a plan for accomplishing this very important object, without it, it will be impossible to prevent the emigration of many young people whose energy and ambition have been stimulated.

Our Superintendent is directed to visit Friends' Meetings in East Tennessee, as early this Autumn as his North Carolina engagements will admit of, with a view of bringing those schools under our aid and supervision.

We would particularly acknowledge the sympathy and interest of our Brethren of London and Dublin Yearly Meetings, whose great liberality has enabled us to enlarge and prolong our labor.

In conclusion we would express our increasing interest and great confidence in the work, and our gratitude to our Heavenly Father, for his blessing upon it.

On behalf of the Board of Managers,

FRANCIS T. KING,
President.

BALTIMORE, 10th Mo., 23, 1866.