

"An Agricultural Meeting was held at New Garden during the late session of North Carolina Yearly Meeting, and about 350 Friends were present, of whom about fifty were females. Eli Jones and myself addressed them, and the deepest and most practical interest was manifested. Opportunity was given Friends from all the Quarterly Meetings to speak, and much valuable information was elicited, showing the undoubted health of the country in five of the Quarterly Meetings, the natural fertility of the soil, abundance of labor, and a good market for the sale of produce. Friends are anxious to form Agricultural Clubs in each of the Quarterly Meetings, and act in concert with a resident Superintendent of Agriculture, who should have a depot for seeds, farming implements, &c., or a small model farm, at a central point—our Association was pledged to move promptly in the matter.

"We need a separate fund of about \$4,000, to inaugurate effectively a new system of agriculture, towards which \$1,100 have been contributed by eight Friends. Cannot voluntary offerings come in to make up the amount by the first of the year?

"Much has been said lately in the papers about the emigration of North Carolina Friends to the West—there has been comparatively little of it for a year past; the report has arisen from the fact that others are emigrating largely—the last train, numbered 518 persons, of whom 300 were under fourteen years of age—but only eleven, including children, were Friends, and twenty-two were colored persons.

"There is no doubt that for a year to come most Southern Friends will find it hard to struggle against the effects of the war, but there is a commendable energy among them to rise above these difficulties, especially by adopting an improved method of farming, now that they have free labor and the offer of aid from our Association."