

5

During the early 1930's, the depression years, she, with others in Franklin, operated and maintained a soup kitchen for the unemployed. Her heart and purse were always open to the distress of the poor and needy. No hungry person was ever turned away from her door. Her generosity was a prime characteristic. However, there was no selfishness in her acts of charity, rather an ability to do good deeds under the will of God. Such an attitude toward philanthropy is truly a mark of a Christian.

Service for others

Her regard for the cultural improvement was manifested through her connection with the Franklin Library Association, serving as its chairman for many years and always giving it her support and assistance.

Her home was known for its hospitality, many people being entertained there. Visiting Friends, as well as local people always found it a very welcome place, also a beautiful and well ordered one, for she was an excellent housekeeper. Her lovely flower garden afforded her much joy and she spent many happy hours working in it. She was delighted to share her home and garden with others.

She scorned praise; if she was complimented for some good work or on some project she had ably handled she would say, "I only did what needed doing."

"To do justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with Thy God" - these words from the Book she loved are typical of her life and deeds of kindness.

6

MEMORIAL MINUTE

FURMAN LLOYD MULFORD who died in St. Petersburg Florida 12th month 12, 1953 was born at Millville, Cumberland County, New Jersey, 7th month 12, 1869—the son of Furman L. and Anna (Lloyd) Mulford. He attended Friends Central School, Philadelphia and entered Cornell University in 1888, graduating four years later from the School of Agriculture with the degree of Bachelor of Science. In early years he had become, at the request of a parent, a member of Makefield Friends Meeting near Dolington, Bucks County, Pennsylvania. There on 2nd month 21, 1905 he married Edith Eyre who died in Washington 10th month 1936. On 6th month 1, 1938 he married Emma May Cox in Newtown Pennsylvania. She died in 1946. After serving some years as superintendent of parks at Harrisburg Pennsylvania, he came to Washington in the summer of 1911 to begin a long and useful career as horticulturalist in the United States Department of Agriculture. His speciality in the Bureau of Plant Industry was the breeding of flowers, shrubs, and trees suitable for parks, gardens and streets in our eastern States. He carried on long series of experiments to develop hardy varieties of chrysanthemums, and prepared many bulletins for popular use on the pruning of shrubs, the care of shade trees and the cultivation of roses, delphiniums and other flowers. Accordingly he was often asked to be a judge in flower shows. His connection with the Bureau ended in 1939 when he reached the age of retirement.

On coming to Washington Furman Mulford transferred his membership by certificate to Alexandria Monthly Meeting which he attended faithfully and served loyally for almost twenty years. When the Friends Meeting of Washington, Florida Avenue, was founded in 1930, he became a charter member. In both meetings he was superintendent of First Day School and served repeatedly on Ministry and Counsel. Throughout the years he retained his connection with the Alexandria Monthly Meeting at Woodlawn. In 1916 the Baltimore Yearly Meeting appointed him representative on the Central Committee of Friends General Conference where he served uninterruptedly until his resignation in 1949. His service there was on the First Day School Committee, and later on the Advancement Committee. A concern he often voiced in Monthly and Quarterly Meetings was that intervisitation be more resolutely carried on by Friends. During the winters which, in later years, he spent in St. Petersburg he took part in building a new Friends Meeting and in beautifying the grounds.

It is true to say of Furman Mulford that he loved the Meeting above every other thing in his life. In one way or another his entire career pointed to this. Deeply mystical, he kept his own councils, and cultivated the habit of thinking long and deliberately. Self-assertion or dogmatism in any form seemed foreign to his nature. The simplicity and transparency of his motives are the qualities which—more than any intellectual gifts—endeared him to his friends. When on one occasion a friend expressed in exuberant words a decided preference for a new and special variety of daffodil, he remarked in his unassuming way, "All daffodils are pretty." As one grounded in the Quaker faith he probably felt that daffodils of all varieties reflect the glory of God; they cast on us a spell that is essentially divine. Memorial services were held at the Friends Meeting of Washington on 12th month 20, 1953; and on the same day at Makefield Friends Meeting in Pennsylvania.

Approved 1-18-54
Friends Meeting of Washington
C. Edward Behr, Clerk