

hostess, but frequently two long tables were spread in succession for the delectation of the company. The Friends generally assembled about three o'clock in the afternoon, and sewed until nine, when the work was laid aside, and a short time given to the social entertainment of the husbands and escorts, who arrived punctually at that hour to take them home.

At that time there were not only middle aged married friends in the Meeting, but quite an attractive set of young girls, and a number of young lawyers belonging to other denominations found out the charm of the Sewing Society, and regularly appeared at the magic stroke of nine. These young people would often stay, for a good time, after the more sedate had said good bye, and it was more often eleven than nine o'clock, before the Sewing Meeting was ended.

This little sketch would be incomplete if no mention was made of Friend Polly Kelso, who for many years undertook the cutting out of the garments which were to be made, which was indeed an arduous task. This friend, whose name should have been Dorcas, gave up her life to good deeds, and numberless little garments each year passed through her hands. The only trouble was that her patterns dated back to her own childhood, and the children of the poor were endowed with low necked dresses, and although the friends deplored this, they dared make no complaint, and thus seen to undervalue the services so freely given.

As time passed on, and many of the most active members were no more, the Sewing Meeting was removed to the Meeting House, and a committee appointed to do the cutting out; a simple tea being provided. For a long time it was quite well attended, and then the hour for holding it was changed to the morning. It was carried on actively for awhile, but as the busy housekeepers were often unable to spare their mornings, it died a natural death, and is at present a thing of the past.

The Baltimore Association to

Advise and Assist Friends of the Southern States.

The following account is taken largely from the first report of this Association, written in 1865, by the President, Francis T. King.

Soon after the breaking out of the Civil War 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 the individual efforts to aid them, and "The Baltimore Association of Friends to Advise and Assist Friends of the Southern States" was formed.

There was no expectation at first of anything but a local effort but the interest which was felt was simultaneously manifested throughout all the Yearly Meetings, and this Association became the medium of dispensing their liberality also.

During the Spring and Summer of 1865, directly after Shermans March, Francis T. King and John Scott, representing the Association,