At Baltimore Local Meeting on Ministry
IV 25-1906 and Oversight, held Fourth month 25 1906 - 17
members were present -

The minutes of last meeting were read.

Application — An application for membership with Friends was received from Anna L. Chilcoat, with a report from Margaret T. Carey and Mary McCullough that they had visited her at the request of the clerk, and approved of her being received. Our clerk is directed to forward her application to the Monthly Meeting with our approval -

Letter to students. — The following letter was directed to be sent to each one of the members of our Monthly Meeting who is away from home at school or college -

"The Meeting on Ministry and Oversight of Baltimore Monthly Meeting would have thee know of its continued interest in thy welfare while away from home to secure an education.

We feel confident that through faithfulness in thy work and the diligent use of opportunities for intellectual improvement thy character is being developed and strengthened for usefulness in the church when the time comes for its responsibilities to be shared by thee. It is our earnest hope that, while learning other lessons, thou will learn that only through Divine power received by faith in Jesus Christ can any of us overcome, not only temptations to evil, but the even more insidious enticements to neglect of duty. To yield to these is to suffer a weakening of one's powers peculiarly unfortunate for one who is in the formative period of life.

We would gladly share any trouble or perplexity which may come to thee, and we are praying for thy welfare, that in bodily and spiritual health thy life may grow in best ways - May our Heavenly Father keep thee in all thy ways, and give thee strength to acknowledge Him.

Discussion of topic. — The subject assigned for discussion was then considered - "Who is the proper person to present to this meeting a proposal to recognize a gift in the ministry"? Among the views advanced were the following.

Reading in the Discipline what are the duties of ~~an~~ Elders, and finding that they are charged to encourage the development of gifts, one might gather that an elder should be the person to present the matter of recognition to the meeting, but it is not the office, but the individual who has the discernment. It is probable that any one person would shrink from acting on his sole judgment, and would endeavor to find out privately how other Friends felt. There might be times when relationship or even prejudice would disqualify an elder from acting, so it is well that any one should be eligible for the duty of introduction. It is important that some responsibility should be felt in the matter, for we ought to be encouraging the development of gifts; it is a long time since we have recorded a minister.

Then adjourned

H. Mmm Carey } Clerks
John Bloany