

Poor

N^o 31

Concerning the Poor
1693

1693 Advised, that if any Poor Friend for the future Should Incline to Remove themselves & Families to this City, that before they unsettle themselves, they apply to the Monthly or Quarterly Meetings to which they belong for advice & Counsel, & that such Meetings do rather Advertise them to be Contented in their Places & Stations where Provisions & accommodations may be much easier and Cheaper Obtained than at **London**; Or if permitted by Certificate to Remove, that then the Monthly or Quarterly Meetings from whence they come, do take Care to Supply their Necessities, that the Friends of **London** may not be overcharged for the future.

1694 1694
Advised that Care be taken that Poor Friends Children may freely Partake of Education in order to Apprentiship.

1696 1696
Advised that such among Friends as are Endued with Plenty of outward Substance be timely & tenderly Advised to do good therewith in their day and Generation, – Especially with Regard to the Poor; That the Tokens of their Charity may Recommend their memorial, & be good Precedents to Generations to come. – That the Rich Remember the Poor, & do good in their Lifetime; & if they make any Settlement for the Use of the Poor, to take Advice & Counsel that it may be done so that Friends may not be Deprived of their Charity, & may be firm and according to Law.

1698 1698
As to the Endeavoring to procure an Act or Acts for Employing & Relief of the Poor Amongst us, and Building a Work house or Workhouses; It's Referred to

Poor

1698 to the Meeting for Sufferings to Proceed as the Respec=
=tive Counties, Shall give Directions to them and shall
send up Friends to Assist in Soliciting for the said
Act or acts from Each County if they see Meet.

1701

1701 'Tis Desired that no Poor Friends Children may
want any necessary Learning.

1709

1719 Advised & Desired, that where Friends want
Ability in the World, their Monthly & Quarterly Meet=
=ings Assist them, that the Children of the Poor may have
due help of Education, Instruction & Necessary Learn=
=ing; & that Children both of the Rich & Poor may be Ear=
=ly provided with Industrious Employments, that they
may not grow up in Idleness, Loosness & vice; but that
being thus Seasoned with the Truth, Sanctified of God,
taught Our holy Self=denying Way, They may appear
a Reputation to our holy Profession, the Comfort of their
Honests parents, Instrumental to the Glory of God, and
the good of the Generation coming on.

1710

1710 Agreed, That if any Poor Friend or Friends, for the
time to come, should Incline to Remove themselves &
Famelies from the Limits & Compass of one Quarterly
or Monthly Meeting to another, that before they Un=
=settle themselves They apply themselves to such Mee=
=tings to which they belong for advice & Counsel
therein, of which if the said Meeting to which they
apply do approve, that they then give a Certificate
Signifying such Meetings Consent to their Removal,
2nd When any Friend or Friends having such Certeficate
as above, shall bring their Certeficates to any Meet=
=ting to which it may be Directed, & the meeting ac=
=cept and Re^{cei}ve their Collection for the Poor, or
put the said Friend or Friends into any Service
of the Church in the Compass of the Meeting
they Remove into,

such

Poor

1710 Such Receiving their Collection of Employment may
well be deemed a Settlement within the Compass, of
Such Meeting; And altho Such Friend or Friends
may not be of ability to Contribute to the Collection for
the Poor or the Services of the Monthly Meeting, yet Such
Friend or Friends behaving him or themselves according
to Truth, & not any ways Chargable to the said meeting, for
the space of three years after the Delivery of his or their

Certificate, they may also then be well Deem'd to belong
 to the Meeting within the Compass of which they shall
^{3^d}so three years Inhabit. 3^d Servent Men & maids bringing
Servants a Certificate as Aforesaid being hired for one year, and
 Serving the Same faithfully & honestly, that then after Such
 years Service, They also may be well Deemed to belong to
 the Meeting within the Compass whereof they Served, if they
 Delivered in to the Meeting within that time, the Certifi=
^{4th}cate they had. 4th If any Professing Truth, Contrary to former
Removing Advice Remove without a Certificate, & fall into want,
without a and apply to any Friends for Assistance, that then the friend
Certificate to whom they apply may write to the Meeting to which the
 Distressed shall say he or they Did belong, to acquaint that
 Meeting of Such a Necessitous Person, & know how such
 Person or Persons did Stand in the Unity of Friends; and
 if such Necessitous Person, have not been Denied before
 they became thus Chargable, that then the Meeting from
 whence they Came & to which they Did belong, shall reim=
 =burse the Charges they have been at on their Account.

This agreement to Continue but four years,
 unless it be then Renewed.

1711

An Explanation of the fourth Article in the
 Last years agreement Relating to the Settlement of
 the Poor, as follows Viz:^t

If

Book; Book of Discipline 2; pp 236, 237; DigitalDivide, V. Otieno 3/6/2020

Website Image; Block 7, PDF page 2

238

Poor

¹⁷¹¹If any Poor Friend or Friends shall Unadvisedly
^{an}Remove from their habitations without a Certe=
*Explanation*ficcate, & fall into Want, and apply to any Friend
^{to the 4th}where they Come for Assistance, that then the Friend
*Article*to whom they apply, may write to the Meeting to
^{in 1710}which the Distressed shall say he or they did belong,
 to acquaint that Meeting of Such a Necessitous Per=
 =son, & know how such Person or Person did Stand
 in the Unity of Friends when they Removed, & if
 such Necessitous Persons have not been Denied,
 or were Owned, before they became thus Chargeable,
 that then the Meeting from whence they Came, and
 to which they did belong, do reimburse half the
 Charges which have^{been} Expended upon the account
 of the Necessitous, for any time not Exceeding three Months
 In which time the Meeting from whence they Came,
 Shall desire the Necessitous Person to Return, Which

they are desired to do with all Reasonable Expedi-
=on, so soon as health & ability of body shall admit,
& the Friends – where they are, are Desired to advise,
and assist them in such Return; after which neither
Meeting is obliged to Continue their care and Charge
in case they Refuse.

But if they be such as are not Friends, or are
Disorderly persons pretending to Profess Truth, then
Neither Friends from whence they Came, nor Friends
to whom they do come, are to be under any Obligation
to maintain such Necessitous Persons; Yet not to restrain
the Charity of any Particular Friend or Friends from
affording Present Relief to any Necessitous Person.

1714

1714 The agreement of the Yearly Meeting 1710 for the
Settlement of the Poor, with the Amendment of the
fourth Article the next year, is now agreed to
be Continued.

1718

239

Poor

1718

1718 The advise of 1709 Repeated, & with respect to
the poor the poor Among Us, it ought to be Considered, That the
are Our Poor both Parents & Children, are of our Famely, & ought
Famely & ~~and ought~~ not to be turned off to any others to be either
not to be Supported or Educated; and altho some may think the
turned Poor a Burthen, Yet Remember, where Our Poor are well
off Provided for, & Walk Orderly, they are an Ornament to
Our Society: And the Rich should Consider, It is more
Blessed to give than to receive; & he who Gives to the
Poor, Lends to the Lord, who will repay again.

1720

1720 As Mercy, Compassion & Charity are Eminently
no beggar required in this New Covenant Dispensation we are un=
to be among =der, So care of the Poor & Indigent among Us, to See there
Us- be no Begger in Our Israel, is the Concurrent advise of this
Meeting; That all Poor Friends among Us may be taken
none to be due care of, & none of them Sent to the Parish to be Relieved;
Sent to the That nothing be wanting for their Necessary Supply;
Parish which has been according to our Ancient Practice &
Testimony; & it has Long been of good Report, That We
have not only Maintained our own Poor, but also Con=
=tributed Our share to the Poor of the Respective Parishes
wherein we Dwell.

See Questions, page, 270

1721

1721

A Question being Proposed about the Settlement
of Friends before that made in 1710, -----

This Meeting Concludes, that all^{that} were not denied

Are to be Esteemed Members of the Several Monthly Meetings in whose Compass they then Resided; And it is the Sense of this Meeting, that it was not Intended by the Minute of 1710, affect the Settlement of Friends before that time.

1724

Book; Book of Discipline 2; pp 238, 239; DigitalDivide, V. Otieno 3/6/2020

Website Image; Block 7, PDF page 3

240

Poor
1724

1724 An Explanation of the Settlement of the Poor, Agreed to at the Yearly Meeting in 1724, But not to break or Interfere with any particular agreement of the ~~of the~~ Monthly Meetings of **London** among themselves, is as follows, viz:^t

That if any Friend or Friends for the future should Incline to Remove him her *to have* or themselves & Families from the Limits & Compass *Certificates* of one Monthly or Quarterly Meeting to another, that before they Remove, they Request a Certificate for Such their Removal.

When any Friend or Friends having a Certificate of his her or their good Behaviour, as above, shall *what may be Deemed A Settlement* bring such Certificate to any Meeting to which it may be directed, & the Meeting accept or Receive their Collection or put the said Friend or Friends into any Service of the Church, in the Compass of the Meeting they Remove into, Such Receiving their Collection or Employment, Shall or may well be deemed a Settlement within the Compass of Such Meeting: And altho' Such Friend or Friends may not be of ability to Contribute to the Collection for the Poor, or the Services of the Monthly meeting Yet such Friend or Friends behaving him her or themselves according to Truth, & no way Chargable to the said Meeting, for the Space of three years, may then also be well Deemed to belong to the Meeting within the Compass of which they shall so three Years Inhabit.

Servants Servent Men & Women, bringing a Certificate as aforesaid, being hired one year, & Serving the Same Faithfully, after such years Service, shall & may be well Deemed to belong to such Monthly Meeting within the Compass whereof they so Served.

Notwithstanding the Several Minutes of Settlement in Relation to the Poor, there hath risen some Disputes among Friends Concerning the same, We think it Necessary to Add, That if any Friend or

Friends do for the future,

Remove

241

Poor

1724 Remove from One Monthly Meeting to another, to Settle there, that then the Monthly Meeting to which Such are Removed, Shall as soon as possible Enquire of the Friend or Friends so Removed for a Certificate; & for want thereof that then the Monthly Meeting where such friend or friends are so residing shall write to the Monthly Meeting from whence they came, to Request A Certificate in behalf of such Friend or Friends; But if the Monthly Meeting where such are then Residing do neglect to write to the Monthly Meeting from whence they came for such a Certificate, for the space of three years after such Residence among them, that then it shall be deemed a Settlement to such Friend or Friends in such Monthly Meeting they have for three years so Resided, Unless such Person or Persons were Insolvent or Denied before their Removal. ----

We think the Minute in the Year 1711, may - Stand with the following alterations, viz:^t that the word, Poor, in the first line be left out; & that the whole instead of the half Charges be reimburs'd according to the Directions of the said minute.

1729

1729

Rules & Directions Relating to Removals and Settlements among Friends agreed upon by the Yearly Meeting held in **London**, in the Third Month 1729. ---

First, If any Friend or Friends for the time to Come should incline to Remove him her or themselves and Families, from the Limits & Compass of One Quarterly or Monthly Meeting to Another, before they Unsettle themselves, they apply to such meeting to which they belong for advice & Counsel therein; of which if the said meeting to which they Apply Do Approve, they give a Certificate Signifying Such Meetings Consent to their Removal.

Secondly

Book; Book of Discipline 2; pp 240, 241; DigitalDivide, V. Otieno 3/6/2020

Website Image; Block 7, PDF page 4

242

Poor

1729 Secondly. When any Friend or Friends having a Certificate of his her or their good Behaviour, and

Shall bring such Certificate to any Monthly Meeting to which it may be Directed, & the Meeting accept & receive their Collection, or put the Said Friend or Friends into any Service of the Church in the Compass *what may* of the Meeting they Remove into; Such Receiving their *be Deemed* Collection or Employment, Shall or may be Deemed *Settlement* ^a a Settlement within the Compass of such Meeting; & altho such Friend or Friends may not be of Ability to Contribute to the Collection for the Poor or the Service of the Monthly Meeting; Yet such Friend or Friends behaving him her or themselves Orderly in Conversation, & no ways Chargable to the Said Meeting, for the Space of three Years after the Delivery of their Certificate, or advice thereof from the Meeting from whence he she or they Came, may then also be Deemed to belong to the Meeting within the Compass of which they shall so three Years Inhabit.

Servants ^{3^d} Thirdly. Servant Men & Women bringing a Certificate as aforesaid, being hired one Year & Honestly Serving the Same in One Family, after such years Service Shall & may be Deemed to belong to the Meeting within the Compass whereof their Master or Mistress shall be proper Members.

^{4th} Fourthly. That the two Weeks Monthly or Quarterly Meeting giving a Certificate to any Person or Persons, Shall Speedily write to the Meeting, to which the Said Certificate is Directed, giving notice thereof, & if they Omit, writing, & the Person do not Deliver his or her Certificate, then the person Removing shall Still belong to the Meeting from whence he or She Came; But if Either the Meeting give Notice, or the Person Deliver his or her Certificate, then the Person Inhabiting three years as before, shall be Deemed a Member of the Meeting into which he or She is Come.

5^{thly}

243

Poor

1729 Fifthly. If any Professing Truth Shall Contrary to former advice, Remove without a Certificate, & fall into ^{5th} Want, & apply to any Friend for Assistance ^{^y^t} then the Friend to Whom they apply may write to the Meeting to which the Distressed shall say he She or they did belong & acquaint that Meeting of such a Necessitous person or Persons, to know how such Person or Persons Did stand in the Unity of friends, & if such necessitous Person or Persons have not been Denied, but owned before they became thus Chargable; that then the Meeting from whence they came, & to which they did belong shall reimburse the Charges they have been or may be at on their account; & if the Meeting from whence such Necessitous Person or

Persons did come shall Desire them to Return, which they are then Desired to do with all Expedition, as soon as Health & ability of Body will Admit, & the Friends where they are, are Desired to advise & assist them in such Return; But if such Person Shall refuse to return according to such advise, after the space of three Months, neither Meeting is Obligated to Continue their Care and Charge:--- Yet this is not Intended to restrain the Charity of any Particular Friend or Friends from affording Present Relief to any Necessitous Person.

6th Sixthly But if any Friend or Friends remove without a Certificate 'tis Desired, that the monthly Meeting from whence they came, should make Enquiry, & get Information whereto they are Removed, & write to Such Quarterly, Monthly, or Two Weeks Meeting, giving account of their Behaviour & Circumstances, & if such Friend or Friends shall Continue for the Space of three years after such account received, within the Compass of the Monthly Meeting whereto he, She or they are Removed, Behaving during that time Orderly, & no way Chargable, nor become Insolvent, may then also be deemed to belong to the meeting

Book; Book of Discipline 2; pp 242, 243; DigitalDivide, V. Otieno 3/6/2020

Website Image; Block 7, PDF page 5

244

Poor

1729 Meeting within the Compass of which they shall so three ^{years} Inhabit; Provided they were neither Disowned nor Insolvent before they Removed.

7th Seventhly. That nothing herein Contained shall Interfere with any Particular agreement among the Monthly Meetings in **London** respecting their Poor.---

8th Eighthly, that Every Quarterly or Monthly Meeting Communicate this Agreement to the Particular Meetings, in Order to it's being Publickly Read at the Close of Meetings for Worship, within three Months, or as often as they may see a Service in it, that none may Plead Ignorance.

We find Ourselves at this time Engaged to Request, That Friends in any part of this Kingdom, or other Places where Provisions & the Necessaries of Life are dear and scarce, Or Sickness doth Remarkably Afflict, would in proportion to such Scarcity or Affliction Exert their Charitable Assistance to the Poor; which is our Christian Duty, as Stewards of

to be Liberal to the poor in times of Scarcity

Sickness the many Mercies wherewith the Lord has Entrusted Us.

1733

1733 Whereas Different Sentiments have been in the Minds of Divers Friends with respect to the Minute of 1721, Relating to Settlements, A Question was put, What is meant by the word, Residence?-- It was thereupon Resolved in this Meeting, That the same shall be taken in the most Extensive Sense of the Word, as with ^{respect} to all Cases or persons Habiting in any Place before the Year 1710, not being then Disowned by Friends.

1735

1735 See Questions, page, 272

1737

1737 See Removals & Settlements, pa; 287 to 291

1741

245

Poor

1741

1741 It is the Sense of this Meeting, That all monthly Meetings Ought to take care of, and Sufficiently Support all Poor Friends within the Limits of Each Monthly Meeting; according to Our Present Rule: ⁺ and if such Monthly ^{meeting} by so doing is Overcharged, -- that then the Quarterly Meeting shall, on application made, give them such Relief as may be necessary.

all Monthly Meetings to Support their own Poor
**See Removals & Settlements*

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Website Image; Block 7, PDF page 6

250

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251

Preachers

N^o 32^d Concerning Preachers.

1689

1689 A Concern Coming upon Friends of this meeting Concerning Several Persons both Men & Women who go Rambling Idly up and down the Countrys un-derperence of Preaching Truth, who are out of the Unity of Friends in their own Country, whose Conversations and Examples are not Savory as becomes the Truth: Friends in the Several Counties should beware of

Caution against such as go up & Down Preaching who are out of Unity

Such, and give no Encouragment nor Countenance to them, but warn them to Return & Settle in their Places and honest Employments, & Seek Unity with their Own Meetings.

1695

1695 This Meeting Desires and hopes, that you whom the Lord hath Gifted with a Publick Testimony for His Name and Truth, will in this Day of Liberty be Diligent to Visit the Heritage of God in their Meetings, and most Especially those least frequented.

1698

1698 Where Friends in any County are really dissatisfied or Burthened with any that take upon them to Preach among them, Let them first be duly admonished & persisted in their own County with the Assistance of the Faithful approved Ministers & Elders of the Same Meeting & County, or adjacent County or Counties if need be; And if afterwards they will persist to Impose upon & Burthen Friends, then to be Publickly Testified against where they so Impose.

If any such after due Admonition will Travel abroad to minister out of Unity with Friends of their Own County, the Friends of those other Counties where they Travel should have due notice of them from Friends who have had them under Admonition

1699

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Website Image; Block 7, PDF page 7

252

Preachers

1699

1699 This Meeting Recommends to the Several Monthly and Quarterly Meetings in the Several Counties that they take Care to Advise, That those Friends that go forth with a Publick Testimony may such that are well approved at home by their own Respective Monthly or Quarterly Meetings, & are sound in Doctrine, and of Good Conversation, and in Unity with their own Meetings.

And if any Faithful Friends, or Meetings, be Burthened with the Contrary, Let them tenderly Clear their Consciences privately to the Parties Concerned, giving them Gospel Order; and if they don't answer it, nor receive due Admonition, that the Meeting to which they belong may be acquainted therewith: And the Second days Morning Meeting is Desired to be Sent This on this Meetings behalf, to the Several Monthly

& Quarterly Meetings, with the Copy of the Minute made relating to this Matter last year.

1702

1702 Agreed, that Friends in the Several Counties Should be Cautioned not to Receive any as Preachers among them, that are Denied by Friends or Testified against by the Monthly Meeting to which they Did belong.

1713

1713 There being Several Omissions Concerning Publick Friends Deceased, in the Accounts brought up, It is Desired, that care be taken to Send up to this Meeting, the time of their Decease, & of their Conversations, Labours & Services in the Work of Truth.

1716

1716 See Meetings for Worship, page, 186

1720

253

Preachers

1720

1720

to be Friends, in the Respective Counties & Meetings are Earnestly Desired & advised, That they Use prudence and Caution, so as not to be Imposed upon by Imposters or Cheats, pretending to the Ministry or Otherwise; & where there is Doubt or Question of the Ministry of any Persons in that Case, that Such be Called upon to shew what Certificate they have; And in *And* General it is tenderly Recommended to the Monthly & *Ministers* Quarterly Meetings, to see that Friends who Travel as *who Travel* in the Work of the Ministry do go in the Unity of the *to have* Meetings to which they belong, & with Certificates *Certificates* therefrom.

And farther, that it may become the tender Care of the Said Several Meetings to watch *Meetings to* over such as may be Young in the Ministry, to see *watch over* that they walk humbly and Wisely, that as on *young Minis-* the One hand nothing truly tending to the Glory of *ters & advise* them God, and the Edification of his Church and People may be Discouraged, So on the Other hand, where any thing appears which may make advice Necessary, That the Elders of the Church both Ministers & others, do-in the Wisdom of God give their Advice thereupon, with due regard to the State of weekness & Childhood that Such may be Under.

1723

1723

to avoid This Meeting taking under their Serious Consideration, the beauty & Credit of keeping Decency & good *Publick* Order in Our Meetings for Worship, Advise Friends *Opposition*

to a Minister every where to avoid Publick Opposition to a Minister not Disowned by the Monthly or Quarterly Meeting to which he or She Shall belong, by keeping on hats or Making any other appearances or Distinction of Disunion: But ^{not} if any Person pretending to be a Minister Shall give Cause,

of

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Website Image; Block 7, PDF page 8

254

Preachers

1723 of Uneasiness or Dissatisfaction to Friends in
giving Doctrine Behaviour or Conversation, the Person
Cause of so Offending to be Dealt with privately in a Gospel
Dissatisfaction Spirit & Way, and if that Shall not take Effect
to be Dealt with then that Complaint be made of Such Person to the
Monthly Meeting to which he or She shall belong,
See 1698 and that proceedings thereupon be accordingly
pa, 251 had, and the Affair Settled with all Possible
Speed & Expedition.

1727

1727 See Morning Meeting of Ministers, page, 195

1728

1728 We Earnestly Desire, that a tender & prudent
Care be on all Monthly & Quarterly Meetings,
pursuant to the advice of Last Meeting, to advise &
Caution against Caution as they see meet; And particularly against
indiscent Postures all Indecent postures & Gestures, unintelligible tones
& Tones and Sounds, Misquotations & Misapplications of
& Scripture, Which renders such a Ministry Contemp-
to be fully tible, And that they do not Grant Certificates to Mi-
Satisfied nisters to Travel abroad to visit the Churches, Un-
before they Grant til they have full Satisfaction of their Qualifications
Certificates for so great a Work, & are of Orderly Conversations,
being well approved at home. ---

See Scriptures, page, 316

1730

1730 Friends are Desired to Call on Strangers who
Travel in the Ministry for Certificates, there-
by in all Places to prevent being Imposed
upon, as far as may be.

See Meetings for Discipline, pa, 171

1731

Preachers

1731

1731

An Epistle of advice to Ministring Friends
that Travel ~ & c ~~~

Dear and well Beloved Friends,

The spirit of God being, The Foundation of all true Knowledg and Experience both in Ministers and hearers, We Earnestly Exhort, That all would Diligently wait upon and mind it; Ministers in their Publick Services Especially ought always to attend closely to their Several and peculiar Gifts, & Minister the Word Faithfully as it's Manifested & Revealed to them, observing a Decent & Modest Behaviour in the Exercise of their Ministry; & avoid Entangling themselves with the Affairs of this Life, that they may the better answer the holy warfare in which they are Engaged, And Let the hearers be watchful over their own Spirits, & not forwardly Judge or Censure the Testimonies which may be delivered amongst them; for if they be not very careful & Diligent in attending upon the Lord in Meetings they are liable to mistake in the Judgment they may pass on the Ministry. Now this being as we apprehend a matter of great Moment for the Preservation of Love and Concord in the Churches; and knowing the Danger & Ill-Consequences which attend an hasty & Censorious Judging of the Ministry, We thought it very necessary to Caution the Members of the Monthly & Quarterly Meetings, not to let their own Spirits sway them; But Let the Spirit of God Rule & Reign in the hearts of Friends, for that will preserve all in Sweetness & tenderness One towards Another; the due Observation of this, We Judge, will be a great help to Ministers in the Discharge of their Duty and Service to which they are Called.

And

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Website Image; Block 7, PDF page 9

Preachers

1731

And We Earnestly Request, That the Elders in Monthly & Quarterly Meetings Would be ready to Inform the weak, when Suitable Oppertunities present, that both Ministers & hearers pursuing one & the Same End, namely the Glory of God, & the good & welfare one of another, the Church may be

ministers Edified Increase & Flourish to the Consolation of
to keep the Faithful: On the Other hand We advise, that Mi=
good harmo =nisters have it very much at heart to maintain a
=ny with their perfect Harmony & good Understanding with the
Monthly Meet:gs Monthly Meetings to which they belong: & that as the
 said Meetings may Sometimes find themselves Con=
 =cerned to advise them respecting their Conduct in Mee=
 & ready =tings or otherwise that they Shew themselves ready to
to receive hear & receive advise, as well as Teach & Instruct.
advice

And Dear Friends, We further tenderly Advise all
 Monthly Meetings to take great care to whom they give
 Certificates when they Travel, to prevent the uneasiness
monthly which Sometimes falls on the Churches from a weak
meetings to and unskilful ministry; And Let the Elders where
be careful they see Occasion advise ministers to be very pru=
in giving =dent in their Conduct, not as Busy body's nor med=
Certificates =lers with Family or Personal Affairs in which they
 are not Concerned or required to be Assisting; and
 that they be very tender of one anothers Reputation &
 that of Friends among whom they Travel, neither
 giving Ear to, nor Spreading reports apt to raise in
 the minds of others a Lessoning or Disesteem of any
 of the Brotherhood, And as Soon as their Service in the
 Ministry is over, That they return to their Habitations,
 and there take a Reasonable and prudent care of
 their own Business, Household & Famely.

1736

257

Preachers

1736

1736 And as the Lord in mercy is breaking a fresh
 on Several of Our Youth of both Sexes, and fitting them
 for His Service, We Recommend it to the Elders in every
 Meeting that they tenderly watch over all young Minis=
 =ters, and advise & help them, as they in the Wisdom of
 Truth may be Opened there^{unto}; Nourishing that which
 is right, & comes forth in the Savour of Life, and Discou=
 =raging every thing that is Indecent or unbecoming
 the Ministry.

1737

1737 If any Friend who has been a Publick Minister
 among you, shall be guilty of such Practises as may
a publick Justly Deserve your Publick Censure, & shall be Publickly
friend Censured or Disowned by you, and afterwards upon
Censured tokens of Repentance may be again admitted into Mem=
or =bership; We do think meet to advise you, That such re=
Disowned =admission be not interpreted to give him or her the
Readmitted =admission be not interpreted to give him or her the
 &c Liberty ~~the Liberty~~ of appearing as a Publick Minis=
 =ter, until the Monthly Meeting he or She belongs to shall

Judge the Scandal given by such Person so far Removed,
as such Publick appearance may not Minister Occasion
of Reproach either from Friends or others, & in case
any shall shew themselves too forward in so appearing,
the Meeting to which they belong are Desired to give
them such advice as they shall See Suitable to their
Circumstances.

1738

1738 When, We Consider that it was the Power of the
Lord which first Gathered Us to be a People, & Ena=
=bled Our Ancients to bear a Faithful Testimony to His Name,
We cannot but Exhort you time after time to wait for
a Renewed Enjoyment of the Power of Truth upon your
Hearts, that thereby you may be Encouraged to Come
up in your respective Service, & in a Conscientious

Suffering

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Website Image; Block 7, PDF page 10

258

Preachers

1738 Suffering for the Christian Testimony you are con=
=cerned to bear: Our Blessed Lord Just before his
Ascension Commanded his Disciples & Followers to
wait at Jerusalem till they were Endued with Power
from on high knowing their inability, without the
sensible feeling of that Power, to speak in his name
for the Conversion of the Nations; 'Twas this Power
that Enabled them to speak boldly in the name of Je=
=sus; This alone made them able Ministers of Christ,
whose Preaching was not with Enticing words of Mans
Wisdom, but in the Demonstration of the Spirit & ^{of} Power. —
And seeing many of Us have Experienced much Spiritu=
=al Consolation, by waiting in Silence, & humbly Depend=
=ing upon the Lord alone, We Exhort Friends to be very care=
=ful to Observe the hours appointed for Religious Worship
and that when together, They Labour to feel their minds ab=
=stracted from visible Objects into a true Stillness and No=
=thingness of Self, wherein the true Teachings of the holy
Spirit are Witnessed by humble & Contrite Souls: in such
awaiting State you will have a true relish & Savour of the
Ministry of those who are Rightly Concerned by the Same
Spirit to Labour in Word & Doctrine among you.

1740

1740 Testimonys Concerning Publick Friends deceased
to be Recorded, — See Records, page, 281.

1743

1743
*See
1727, pa, 254
1731, p, 255
1736, p, 256

And Dear Friends We farther Desire and tenderly advise, as heretofore,* That the Quarterly and Monthly Meetings would appoint some Elder Friends sound in the Faith, and of good Discerning, to be advising and Assisting to those who may be concerned & to minister among Us, and in Love to caution them respecting such Mistakes, either in Judgment or Expression as through human frailty even good men may Sometimes be incident to.

And

259

Preachers

1743
accounts
of Publick
friends
Deceased.

And that in sending up to this Meeting the accounts of Publick Friends Deceased, care be taken where no particular Testimony concerning them is given, that nevertheless the Age, place of abode, Time of Death, & place of Burial, as also how long they have been Ministers, be Expressly mentioned.

1745

1745
Disorderly
persons who
travel up &
Down
preaching
without
Certificates
&c
to be stopped

Whereas it appears unto this Meeting that some Persons who are not in Unity with their Monthly Meetings where they Dwell, do travel up & down without Certificate or Recommendation, Imposing themselves as Preachers among Friends, to the Exercise & Trouble of the Churches where they come; We do Desire, that all such Friends as Travel in the Work of the Ministry with the Unity & approbation of their respective Meetings, Would be strictly careful not to Countenance or Joyn with any such Imposers; but rather to advise against such their Disorderly practise, and Endeavour to Perswade them to return to their callings & Habitations: and Friends of the several Monthly or other Meetings, where such Disorderly Persons may come are Desired to Enquire of them for their Certificates; by the want of which they may be able to Discover, that their traveling abroad is not with the Approbation of Friends where they Dwell, & who Consequently are the proper Judges of their call to, & Qualifications for the Work of the Ministry to which they pretend.

And We do in much Love Caution those Friends who are rightly Concerned in the work of the Ministry, to watch over their own Spirits, And not to be oversty rash or Censorious in passing Judgment respecting the State of those who hear them; but to manifest, that in the Exercise of their Ministry, they are led by the Love of God,

and

Preachers

1745 And that their principal Aim is, that they may be Instrumental to administer Spiritual Consolation and Strength to the Churches where they come.

And farther We Earnestly Exhort that none would Offer to Impose themselves as preachers in any Meetings of Friends, who are not themselves found faithful Against the Payment of Tythes, And in Observing the Other Branches of Our Ancient Christian Testimony.

1772

1772 At a yearly Meeting of friends held at **Newport** on **Rhod [Rhode] Island** y^e 6^{mo} 1772

The following is adopted as a rule of our Society, That when Publick Friends have it on their minds to travel out of the Verge of the Quarterly Meeting they belong to, that they acquaint the Elders of their Respective meetings with their Concern, for their advice before they move it to the preparitive meeting in order for a Certificate from the Monthly Meeting and also when they have it on their mind to travil out of the Verge of the yearly meeting that they proceed in like manner and take a Certificate from the Quarterly meeting they belong to Concurring with the monthly meeting therein — — — — —

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Book; Book of Discipline 2; pp 260, 261; DigitalDivide, V. Otieno 3/6/2020

Website Image; Block 7, PDF page 12

[blank page - follows page 261]

Prisoners

N^o33” Concerning Prisoners.

1676

1676 See Records, page, — 277.

1681

Advised that an Account be Yearly sent up of all such Friends as are in Prison or Prisoners, that We may know who are Detained Prisoners, and

who are Discharged; [^]Since ye yearly Meeting before & when Discharged also to Signifie the time of their Commitment, by whom prosecuted, & for what Cause. And that Distinct Accounts be brought up of all such Friends as have Died in Prison or Prisoners for their Testimony to the Truth, since the foregoing year=
=ly Meeting, with their Names, Ages, Dwelling places, Education, Callings, Time of Convincement, and the places of their Travel and Service, and time of Sufferings and Death.

1682 See Questions, page, - 269
and Records, page, — 278
1696 See Questions, page, — 272
1700 See Records, page, — 289

Book; Book of Discipline 2; pp 264, 265; DigitalDivide, V. Otieno 3/6/2020

Website Image; Block 7, PDF page 13

272

[follows page 265]

Questions

1742

1742 The Committee appointed to Consider the Queries instead of the former Queries have Drawn up the following; which were here Several times read duly Considered, & agreed to. And tis agreed by this Meeting, that the Several Counties send up their Answers to the said Queries to this Meeting Seperate from their Accounts of Sufferings which for the future are agreed to be taken in immediate=
=ly [^]after the accounts of Sufferings are Entered.

New Queries

- 1st. What Present Prisoners?
2. How many Discharged Since last year, when & how?
3. How many Died Prisoners?
4. How many Meeting houses Built? and what Meetings new Settled?
5. How many publick Friends Died & when?
6. What is the state of your Meeting? Is there any Growth in the Truth? & doth any Convincment appear since last year? & is Love and Unity preserved amongst you?
7. Is it your care by Example & precept to train up your Children in all Godly Conversation, & in the frequent Reading the holy Scriptures as also in plainness of speech, Behaviour & Apparel?
8. Do you bear a Faithful & Christian Testimony against the Receiving or paying Tithes? and against bearing of Arms? And do you admo=
=nish such as are Unfaithful therein?

*Altered
See, p. 273*

9. Do you stand Clear in our Testimony against
Defrauding the King of his Customs Duties or
Excise; or in Dealing in Goods Suspected to be Run?
10. How are the Poor among you Provided for? And
what Care is taken for the Education of their
Offspring?

11th

273

Questions

- 11th. Do you keep a Record in your Monthly and
Quarterly Meetings. of the Prosecutions and
Sufferings of your Respective Members? and have
you a Record of your Meeting houses & Burial Grounds?

1742

1744

12

It is Agreed by this Meeting, that the Eighth Query
be altered and Amended as followeth viz':

- Do you bear a faithful & Christian Testimony a=
=gainst the Receiving or paying Tithes, Priest's Demands,
and those Called Church Rates? Bearing Arms, and pay=
=ing, Trophy Money? And do you Admonish such as are
unfaithful therein?

1744

*the 8th
Query
Altered*

1760

At the Yearly Meeting held in **Newport** on **Rhode**=
=Island it was agreed and Concluded that the follow=
=ing Queries should be here Added.

- 1st. Are all Meetings for Religious Worship and
Discipline duly attended, the hour Observed, and
are Friends preserved from Sleeping or any other
Indecent Behaviour therein particularly Chew=
=ing Tobacco or taking Snuff?
2nd. Is Love & Unity maintained among you as becoms
Brethren, are Tale bearing, Backbiting, & evil reports
Discouraged & wher Differences arise, are Endeavors
Speedily Used to End them?
3^d. Are Parents of Children Careful to bring them
up in plainness of Speech, Behaviour, & Apparel
and in the frequent Reading the holy Scriptures to
Restrain them from Reading pernicious Books
& the Corrupt Conversation of the World?

4th

Book; Book of Discipline 2; pp 272, 273; DigitalDivide, V. Otieno 3/6/2020

Website Image; Block 7, PDF page 14

274

Questions

- 1760 4th. Are Friends careful to avoid the frequent Use of
Spirituos Liquors the Unnecessary Frequenting
of Taverns & places of Publick resort, & in all their

Conversation walk as becomes the Professors of the Blessed Truth, in true Moderation & Temperance on the Account of Births, Marriages, & Burials and all other Occasions?

- 5th. Are Poor Friends Necessities duly Inspected, they Relieved, or Assisted in such Business, as they are Capable of, Do their Children freely partake of Learning to fit them for Business, & are they and other Friends Children placed among Friends?
- 6th. Do no young or unmarried persons, make proposals of marriage with Each other, without Consent of Parents & Relations Concerned, nor keep Company with those of other Societies on that account?
- 7th. Do no Widowers or Widows make or Admit of proposals of Marriage too Early after the Decease of former Husband or Wife, & are not the Rights of Children by former Marriages Neglected?
- 8th. Do you maintain a Faithful Testimony against the Payment of Priest's Wages, Bearing of Arms, Training or military Service, & against Depriving the King of his Duties, or buying or vending of Goods Suspected to be Run?
- 9th. Are Friends Careful to make their Wills & Settle their outward Estates whilst in Health, and take Friends Advice therein when Necessary, and are Publick Gifts or Legacies applied to the Uses Intended by the Doners?
- 10th. Are Friends Clear of Importing Negroes or buying them when Imported, & Use those well where they are Possessed By Inheritance or Otherwise Endeavouring to train them up in the Principles of Religion?
- 11th. Are Friends Careful to Live within in the bounds of their Circumstances, & to avoid Launching into Trade & Business beyond their ability to manage & thereby break their Promises, & Neglect the Payment of their Just Debts, & are such as give Reasonable grounds of Fear on those Accounts timely Laboured with for their Recovery?

altered
See: p: 275

275

Questions

- 12th: Are there any belonging to this meeting Removed without a Certificate, Or are there any Come from other places Appearing as Friends who have not Produced Certificates?
- 13th: Are you Concerned Regularly to Deal with all Offenders in the Spirit of Meekness & Wisdom, without Partiality Or unnecessary Delay and where any Continue Obstinate to place Judgment upon them in the Authority of Truth?

And it is further Recommended, that all Contention and Personal Reflection and Smiting be kept out of Our Meetings, That all Friends be Careful to keep out of heats and passions & Doubtful Disputations, and that We Suffer no Turbulent Contentious persons amongst Us, in Ordering Or Managing the Affairs of Truth, But

that the Same be Managed in the Peacable Spirit and Wisdom of Jesus with Decency forbearance and Love to Each Other.

1770

At the Yearly Meeting held in **Newport on RhodIsland [Rhode Island]** This meeting having been under a weighty Concern on Account of Enslaving our fellow Creatures, Have Come to a Conclusion to make an alteration in our 10th Query and Substitute what followeth in the Room thereof
1770 (viz) ' Are Friends Clear of Importing Buying or any way Disposing of Negroes as Slaves, And do they Use those well that are under their Care not in Circumstances Through non-age or Incapacity to be Set at Liberty, and do they ^{give} those that are young Such an Education as becoms Christians, and are the others Encouraged in a Religious and Virtuous Life, and are all Set at Liberty that are of age, Capacity & Ability Sutable for Freedom

Book; Book of Discipline 2; pp 274, 275; DigitalDivide, V. Otieno 3/6/2020

Website Image; Block 7, PDF page 15

276

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277

Records

N°35” Concerning Records.

1675

See Discipline, page, 99.

1675

1676

Agreed, that Friends of the Monthly & Quarterly Meetings of each County be reminded to keep an Exact account among themselves —

1676
*what matters
are to be
Recorded*

1st. Of those that first brought the Message of Glad=tidings among them.

2nd.. Of the Sufferings of those First Messengers, whe=
=ther at Steeple houses Market places or Otherwise.

3^d. What friends first Received them, & their Message.

4th.. Of the Names, Travels, Faithfulness, & unblamable Conversations of all the Publick Labourers that are Deceased.

5th. What Judgments fell upon Persecutors.

6th Where the hearts of any Such Enemies have been turned to God, Let them and their Conversion be Recorded.

7th.. What Priests and others have written Books a=
=gainst Friends, and who have answered them.

8th.. Who have Suffered Loss of Goods, or Sustained Im=
=prisonment, with the Cause. Time & Manner of such Sufferings with the Names of their Persecutors.

9th.. Who have Died in Prison on Truths Account, and for what Branch of our Testimony: & that Tithes taken

away by force be Recorded as a Suffering for Truth.
 10th.. Of Signal Living Testimonies of Dying Friends.
 11th.. Of the Names of Persecutors, & the Names of witnesses
 to the Facts, whether Friends or Neighbours.
 12th.. If any have Apostatized That their Sufferings
 whilst Owing the Truth be Notwithstanding Re=
 =corded, & their Aposticies Signified.

13th

Book; Book of Discipline 2; pp 276, 277; DigitalDivide, V. Otieno 3/6/2020

Website Image; Block 7, PDF page 16

278

Records

1676 13th.. Of the Return of any Backliders or Apos=
 =tates and the Judgments befallen any of them.

And that in Sending the Accounts of these
 Matters, and of Sufferings, up to **London**, care be
 taken to begin where they left off last, & not to
 send the Same twice over nor Confusedly.

1678

That care for the future be taken to keep a par=
 =ticular Book to Enter Sufferings in Each Monthly
 Meeting; and that by the Monthly Meetings an account
 of the Sufferings be sent to the Quarterly Meetings; And
 that the Quarterly Meetings transmit the accounts
 Quarterly to the Clerk at **London**, that nothing be lost
 in their Cases of Sufferings for our Testimony. —

See Tithes page, 365.

1680

It is the Desire of this Meeting that every Quar=
 =terly Meeting enter such papers as they have had from
 this or such like Meetings in their respective Quarterly
 Meeting Books, the better to Secure them from being Lost.

1681

See Prisoners, page, — 265

1682

Agreed that Epistolatory Letters read in this
 Yearly Meeting be Entered in a Book, and that the
 Letters themselves be kept by the Clerk.

Draw up the Sufferings fair in a Book, and
 not too Close; All Tithes by themselves; so for Swearing,
 so for Conventicle Acts; So for Twenty Pounds a month,
 Each by themselves; Then take the Number of all that
 Remain in Prison, both Old and New & the Number
 of them that Died in Prison, & so keep a Number of
 them all along that are put into Prison, & that go out
 of Prison; & keep a Yearly Number who goes in, and
 who goes out; and bring them up Yearly to
 the Yearly Meeting.

1678
*Each
 Mon: Meeting
 to keep a
 Book to Enter
 Sufferings
 &
 Send accounts
 to the Quarterly
 Meetings*

1680
*Yearly
 Meeting
 papers*

1681
 1682
Epistles

*Method
 for keeping
 the Records*

Records

1689

1689 The abstract of Friends Sufferings from Several Counties being Considered, the Meeting thinks it most Convenient to have the abstracts made from the Records out of those Sufferings that came up to the Yearly Meeting and which are Recorded here; so that the Meeting does not Encourage the making abstracts in the Counties lest they should Lessen Friends Sufferings. And when an History is taken & Published, it Should be Impartially done, and Accounts of the Stops put to Persecutions, & of Return of Goods; and Discharge of Prisoners that have been Procured by the Solicitation of Friends to the Powers Whose Hearts the Lord Inclined to favour them.

1691

It's Desired, that Friends keep the Yearly Meeting papers together in a Book in Each Monthly and Quarterly Meeting.

1693

1691 It is Desired, That Friends at all their Monthly & Quarterly Meetings be reminded to Call for the Records of the Sufferings of Friends, to See that they be duly gathered Entered & kept, & accordingly sent up, as hath been advised; both of what Tithes &c are pretended to be due, & for how long a time, & the time when taken and by & for whom, & what goods are taken, & the value thereof, as well of those not Exceeding as those Exceeding the Sums or Quantities Demanded, it being a Suffering in both for Truths sake; they being in those particulars found Defective & Imperfect in divers Counties, which is an obstruction to the General Record of friends Sufferings, & therefore the Monthly & Quarterly Meetings are desired to take more Care for the future, That all Friends Sufferings, for Truth's sake may be brought as full & Compleat in all respects as Possibly may be.

1694

Book; Book of Discipline 2; pp 278, 279; DigitalDivide, V. Otieno 3/6/2020

Website Image; Block 7, PDF page 17

280

Records

1694

1694 Advised that when Friends send up their Yearly Accounts of Sufferings for Tithes &c as near as can be, they give account therewith how much is taken in value, & how much it exceeds the pretended value, & by and for whom. —

Advised to remember to keep a true Record of Manifest Judgments upon Persecutors, & Send up an account thereof with the Sufferings Yearly,

that the Just Judgments of God in pleading the Cause of the Innocent Sufferers, by Signally punishing their Persecutors, may be taken notice of as a warning to Posterity, as the heavy Judgments, and fearful Ends of Wicked Persecutors are Recorded in holy Scriptures and Books of Martyrs &c.

1695

1695 Advised to Send up with the Sufferings true Copys of Warrants, Writs or processes of Commitment attended by the Jaylors.

1698

1698 See Tythes, page – 368.
1700

1700 Advised that Friends keep exact & true accounts of all their Sufferings for Conscience Sake, both by distresses Sequestrations & Imprisonments that we may be Capable to give a true account thereof to the Government when Necessity requires. — And to give Speedy Accounts when Friends are Discharged, from Imprisonments, &c and by what means.

1705

1705 It is tenderly Advised, That Friends be careful to Stand faithful in their Ancient Testimony, And keep Exact Accounts of their Sufferings; — And when any Sufferings require Speedy care for Redress, & are written of to **London**, 'tis desired the

281

Records

the Case may be truly & fully stated, dated and Subscribed by the Sufferer & as often as can be Attested by some known Friends.

1737

1705 See Questions, page, 272
1740

1737 This Meeting being Informed, that there is a great Deficiency in Entering into a proper Book, The Testimonies which are given forth by Monthly & Quarterly Meetings Concerning Publick Friends Deceased, Therefore Order
1740 a Book to be got for that purpose, and the Testimonies to be Entered as they are brought up.

And that the Several Quarterly & Monthly Meetings from whence they come be particularly Careful to Enter the Same in their Book of Records, before the Said Testimonies are Sent up.

1746

See Sufferings, page, 351.

1746 Book; Book of Discipline 2; pp 280, 281; DigitalDivide, V. Otieno 3/6/2020

Removals & Settlements

1737 N^o"36" Rules for Removals & Settlements.
1737

1st 1st.. That all Friends shall be Deemed Members of the Quarterly, Monthly, or Two Weeks Meeting, within the Compass of which They Inhabited or Dwelt the first Day of the fourth Month 1737; Except such who are Settled Pensioners to, or have within one year last past been Relieved by, any Other such Meeting: in that Case he, she or they Shall be deemed a Member of the Meeting to which they are Pensioners, or by whom they have been so Relieved.

2nd 2nd .. That if any Friend or Friends shall remove him her or themselves & Famely from the Limits or Compass of one Quarterly, Monthly, or Two Weeks Meeting into Another, they shall apply to the Meeting to which they belong for a Certificate or Other Usual Recommendation, to the Meeting they are Removed, or purpose to Remove into which being obtained & Delivered to that Meeting such Friend or Friends shall from thence forward be deemed a member or members of the Meeting they so remove into Provided they were not Insolvent, or had been Relieved by the Meeting Recommending, or some other Meeting on their behalf, within the Term of three years preceding the Delivery of such Certificate.

But if any Friend or Friends who has Delivered a Certificate, or been otherwise Recommended, shall fall into necessitous Circumstances, & shall ask & Receive any Relief within the above Limited time of three years not having contributed to, or been Employed in any Service of the Church by the Meeting they were Recommended to; Such Friend or Friends shall then Continue to belong to the Meeting from whence they were Recommended,

Yet

Book; Book of Discipline 2; pp 286, 287; 12/2/2019; R HARDING

Website Image; Block 7, PDF page 19

1737 Removals & Settlements
Yet the Meeting within the Compass of which he She or they Reside, Shall Assist & Relieve him her or them, and give notice thereof to the Meeting

which Recommended him her or them; & upon that Meetings Receiving Such notice, They shall Immediately take the Necessary care of him her or them, & repay the Charge the Meeting to which they were Recommended has been at on his or their account.

3^d That no Friends or Friends Apprentices and other Servants excepted, shall gain a Settlement after the time above mentioned in any Meeting Unless Recommended by Certificate or other Usual Recommendation, & the Same duly Delivered to the Meeting they are Recommended to; Except the Meeting within the Compass of which they Reside Shall receive their Collection, or Employ them in any Service of the Church; their so doing shall Intitle such Friend or Friends to Membership with them, agreeable to the Restriction & Tenor of the Second Paragraph.

4th.. If any Friend or Friends shall fall into Want, the Monthly Meeting within the Compass of which they then Reside, shall take the Necessary Care to Relieve them: And in Order to prevent any Inconveniencies that may arise from want of knowing with Certainty to what Meeting a Poor Friend or Friends properly belong, at the time they fall into want, whereby it may be rendered Difficult for the Monthly Meeting which shall Relieve such Necessitous Persons, to Obtain repayment of the Charge They may be at on such Accounts, It is agreed, That where any Poor Friend or Friends shall become Chargable to any Meeting where He, She, or they may Reside,

and

289

Removals & Settlements

1737 and who at the same time are not proper Members thereof, That Meeting may apply to any Meeting where such Friend or Friends have been Members; and that Meeting upon notice to them given of such necessitous Friend or Friends, shall take the needful Care of them, and repay the Charge the Meeting in which they Reside hath been or shall be at: But if that Meeting shall apprehend such Necessitous Person or Persons do not belong to them, but have gained a Settlement Elsewhere They may fix them on any other Meeting where they have Gained a Settlement; & in that Case such meeting shall repay them the Charges they have been at.

5th -- 5th.. Single Men & Women Servants being hired one year, & Honestly Serving the Same in one Famely, after such Years Service shall belong to the Meeting of which their Master or Mistress shall be Members;

& if such Servants shall so Dwell with any who are not friends, then they shall be deemed Members of the Monthly Meeting within the Compass of which their Master or Mistress shall Live.

6th -- 6th.. Apprentices shall gain a Settlement in that mee=
=ting within the Compass of which their Master or Mistress
Dwell at the time of his or her being bound, and
Living Forty Days with such Master or Mistress
afterwards: And in Case an apprentice shall be
turned over to another Master or Mistress, He or
She shall in Like manner gain a Settlement, after
Living with them Forty Days, in the Meeting with=
=in the Compass of which the Master or Mistress
Dwell, To whom He, ^{or} She, is so turned over.

7th -- 7th. . . Provided Always that nothing herein ~
Contained shall be Understood to hinder the Usual
and Necessary care of Friends in their Inquiry after
Conversation and Clearness respecting Marriage,
but

Book; Book of Discipline 2; pp 288, 289; 12/2/2019; R HARDING

Website Image; Block 7, PDF page 20

290

Removals & Settlements

1737^{but} Certificates or other Recommendation in
that Case Shall Continue to be required as heretofore
hath been from such Meetings as the Friend hath
belonged to. And Whereas Disputes may arise
about Settlements where the Man brings a Certi=
=ficate or Recommendation from his own
Monthly Meeting to another on account of Mar=
=riage, It is hereby Agreed, that such Certificate
or Recommendation shall not be Construed to
make a Settlement Unless his Removal be
Expressed therein.

8th.. 8th. . The Wife & Children to be Deemed Members
of the Monthly Meeting of which the Husband or
Father is a Member, not only During his Life, but
Likewise after his Decease, until they shall gain
another Settlement Elsewhere.

9th. 9th. . Provided always, & it is hereby Agreed,
That what Charge any Meeting have or may
be at, for the Relief of any Friend or Friends,
who were before this Settlement Members of
other monthly meetings, shall be repaid to the
said meeting by the Meeting to which they did
heretofore belong: And that if any Dispute should
arise about the Settlement of such Poor Friend

or Friends now under Relief, such Settlement
or Settlements shall be Determined according to the
former * Rules and Directions; which are not to
be made use of in any other cases.

Lastly, All Minutes, Orders & Directions
heretofore made and Recommended by this Meet=
ing Relateing to Removals & Settlements of friends,
are hereby Declared Void and of no Force Except
in the cases Provided for in the Ninth
Paragraph.

291

Removals & Settlements

1740 1740

It is Agreed, that no Proposition for altering
the Rules for Removals & Settlements of Friends
made in 1737, shall be Received by this Meeting,
Unless such Proposition shall be Signed in and by
Order of a Quarterly Meeting, or some other Meeting
which do Directly Correspond with this Meeting.

1747

See Discipline, page, 103

Book; Book of Discipline 2; pp 290, 291; 12/3/2019; R HARDING

Website Image; Block 7, PDF page 21

300

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301

Representatives

N^o 37th Concerning Representatives.

1672

1672 Advised, That One or Two of Each County
that are Concerned in the Publick Service of Truth
in Each respective County, do come up to this Meet=
ing Once a Year; to be Chosen or Elected by the Quar=
terly Meeting of each County Respectively for that
purpose.

See Yearly Meeting, page, 411.

1687

1687 Advised, That such Faithful Friends, One or Two
of a County be Desired to attend the Yearly Meeting,
as are most capable & fit for the Service thereof.

1688

1688 That Two faithful Friends in Every County
may be Desired to come up, who may be Enabled to

give a Certain account of the Condition & Sufferings
of Friends in their respective Counties.

1690

That Two Faithful Understanding Friends in Every
1690 County be Desired to come up, who know the State of free
Friends, in their respective Counties.

1691

1691 That Two faithful Understanding Friends in Every
County, who are truly approved in Universal Love
Unity & Peace among Friends from whence they come,
may be Desired to come up, who may be Enabled to give
a Certain & Clear account of the Condition & Sufferings
of Friends, & of Truth's Prosperity in their respective
Counties.

1700

1700 Agreed, that no County Send up less than Two-
Friends, nor more than Four be Entered.

advised

Book; Book of Discipline 2; pp 300, 301; DigitalDivide, V. Otieno 3/6/2020

Website Image; Block 7, PDF page 22

302

Representatives

1700 Advised, that Friends bring brief & direct
Answers to the Questions, drawn up at the Quar=
=terly Meetings & brought in writeing to the Year=
=ly Meeting.

1706

1706 See Questions, page, 272

1709

1709 This Meeting Understanding some Friends
not to go out that are Representatives go out of Town before
of Town before the Meeting is Ended; It is now advised & agreed
the Meeting that for the future, No Representatives go out of
Ends Town before the Meeting Ends, without first ac=
=quainting the Meeting thereof, that the Service of
this Meeting may not be Neglected.

1714

1714 Recommended that Friends take Care that
Qualifications those who are Desired & Appointed to come up to
Yearly Meetings may be men Fearing God, of good
Conversations of weighty Spirits, Prudent & Sincere,
and well acquainted with the Affairs of Truth at home.

1728

1728 Advised That the Several Quarterly Meetings of
Four to be the Counties & Cities do appoint at Least four friends
Appointed in Order that in Case a part should be Disappointed
by Sickness or other Accident; there may be a Suffici=

=ent Number to Answer the Service.

1730

County of York 1730 This Meeting gives Liberty, in regard of the Largeness of the County of **York**, that for the future they may be allowed to Enter any Number as Representatives not Exceeding Eight

1733

1733 And Dear Friends our tender and Brotherly Advice to your Several Quarterly Meetings, is that they would be Careful, annually

303

Representatives

1733 Annually to Depute such Friends to attend the Service of the Yearly Meeting, as are well acquainted with the Affairs of the Church, & Diligent Attenders of the Meetings for Discipline in the respective Counties & places where they Dwell, and whose practise & Conversation is answerable to the Testimony They Profess to bear.

1743

1743 We advise, that the Several Quarterly Meetings take care to appoint for their Representatives & Correspondents, Men known to be faithful & Conscientious in every Branch of Our Christian Testimony.

1746

1746 This Meeting Observing a Deficiency in divers Counties in not duly Attending this Meeting, Recommends, to the Several Quarterly Meetings,, The following Minutes viz^t:

A minute of this Meeting in 1728. (See page 302)
& A minute of this Meeting in 1733 (See page, 302 & 303)

1750

1750 The advice of, 1728; again Earnestly Recommended, — See Yearly Meeting, page, 419.

Book; Book of Discipline 2; pp 302, 303; DigitalDivide, V. Otieno 3/6/2020

Website Image; Block 7, PDF page 23

306

[blank page - follows page 303]

307

Salutations

N^o 38^o Concerning Salutations.

1715

1715 See Plainness, page, 226.

1718

1718 Advice Given against a Declention crept
in among Us, by Unbecoming Gestures, in Cringing
and Bowing the Body by way of Salutation,
which Ought not to be taught or Countenanced.

Book; Book of Discipline 2; pp 306, 307; DigitalDivide, V. Otieno 3/6/2020

Website Image; Block 7, PDF page 24

310

[blank page - follows page 307]

311

Schools

N^o 39th Concerning Schools.

1690

1690 See Children, page, 40.

1695

1695 Advised, That Schoos, and Schoolmasters who
are Faithful Friends & well Qualified, be placed &
Encouraged in all Counties, Cities, Great Towns or
Places, where there may be need; & that ^{such} School Masters
as much as may be, Sometimes Correspond One with
Another, for their help and Improvement in such good &
Easie Methods as are most agreeable to the Truth,
and the Childrens Advantage & Benefit; and that
Care be taken that Poor Friends Children may freely
partake of such Education in Order to App^rentiship.

1696

1696 See Children, page, 41, & 42.

1697

1697 Quarterly and Monthly Meetings are Desired to
take care, that in all Places where Schools are set up
for the teaching of Friends Children, that the Masters
be Diligent to Improve & forward their Scholars in
Learning, and keep them out of every thing that
would Corrupt good Manners.

1745

1745 See Meetings for Discipline, page, 179.

1751

1751 As the want of Proper Persons amongst Friends
Qualified for School=masters hath been the Occasion of
great Damage to the Society in many Places, as there=
=by well Disposed Friends are Deprived of Oppertuni=
ty's for the Education of their Children,

in

312

Schools

1751. in a Manner Consistent with a Religious Con=
=cern for their welfare have been necessiated
to Send them to those of other Perswasions where=
{=by the tender minds of Such Children have been
{in great Danger of being Leavened into the
{Language Customs and Habits of the World;
{from whence it is Difficult afterwards to Re=
{claim them: We Desire, Friends would attend
{to this Important Point; And in their Month=
{=ly Meetings Assist Young Men of Low Circumstan=
{=ces, Whose Genius & Conduct may be Suitable for
that Office; with the Means requisit to Obtain the
proper Qualifications, and when so Qualified, af=
=ford them the Necessary Encouragement for their
Support.

313

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314

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315

Scriptures

N^o 40^o Concerning the Scriptures.

1706

1706 Advised, that Parents and Guardians of Chil=
=dren do acquaint them with, & bring them up
in the frequent Reading of the Scriptures of Truth;
and also to Instruct them in the great Love of God
Through Jesus Christ, & the Work of Salvation by Him,
and of Sanctification through his Blessed Spirit.

1709

1709 We Recommend it as an Incumbent Duty on Friends
to Cause their Children to be frequaint in Reading the
holy Scriptures, & in Observing to them the Examples

of Such Children as in Scripture are Recorded to have early Learned the fear of God; and hearkened to his Counsel; Instructing them in the Fear & Dread of the Lord, planting Impressions upon their Spirits of Reverence towards God, from whom they have their Daily Support; Shewing them they Ought not to Offend Him, But Love Serve and Honour Him in whose hand all Blessings are.

1712

1712 We Exhort all Parents of Children to be very Careful to Educate and train them up in the Fear of God, and knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ according to the holy Scriptures, & be good Examples to them in all things.

1720

1720 Advised that no Friends Suffer Romances, PlayBooks, or other vain & Idle Pamphlets in their Houses, or Famelies, which tend to Corrupt the minds of Youth; But instead thereof that they excite them to the reading of the holy Scriptures & Religious Books.

Let

Book; Book of Discipline 2; pp 314, 315; DigitalDivide, V. Otieno 3/6/2020

Website Image; Block 7, PDF page 27

316

Scriptures

1720 Let the holy Scriptures be Early taught our Youth & Diligently Searched and Seariously Read by Friends with due regard to the holy Spirit from whence they came, & by which they are truly Opened: for they Contain Excellent Doctrine, Rules & Precepts, Divine and Moral, Insomuch that there will be no need to Enumerate or often to repeat Laws & Precepts like the Jews under aliteral and Lower Dispensation and Covenant than, We are Called into; the true Practice of the pure Religion given us will Answer all:

1723

1723 See Children, page, — 45.

1728. --

1728 Advised, That Ministers as well as Elders and all others, in their Preaching, Writeing & Conversationing about the things of God, Do keep to the form of Sound Words, or Scripture terms, & that none pretend to be Wise about what is there Written, & in such pretended Wisdom go about to Explain the things of God in the words that mans Wisdom teaches, But on the Contrary, that you would at proper times and Seasons when you find your minds rightly

Disposed thereunto, give the Youth to Understand,
that the Same good Experience of the Work of Sancti=
=fication through the Operations of the Spirit of God,
which the holy Scriptures plentifully bear Testimo=
=ny to, is to be witnessed by Believers in all Gene=
=rations as well as by those in the First Ages of
Christianity; In which Case some, Account of
your own Experience will be helpful to them:
And this we Recommend as the most Effectual ~~me~~
means for begetting & Establishing in their minds,
a firm Belief of the Christian Doctrine in Gene=
=ral as well as the Necessity of the Aid & help of the
operations

317

Scriptures

1728 Operations of the holy Spirit of God in the hearts
of Men in particular, Contained in that most Excel=
=lent Book the Bible; & for the preserving them from be=
=ing Defiled with the many Pernicious Notions & Princi=
=ples Contrary to such Sound Doctrines, which are at
this time Industriously dispersed in the Nation, to the
Reproach of the Christian Religion in General.

1729

1729 'Tis earnestly Recommended to all Friends, as much as
in them lies, to prevent their Children & Servants from
reading plays, Romances, & all such Books as have any
tendency to lead their minds from God, & Draw their
youthful affections to a Love of the World, & desire af=
=ter the Vanities & Evils that are therein. And also
to be very careful to prevent their Children & Servants
from reading vile and Corrupt Books (some of which
have been published of late) as manifestly tend to oppose
& Reject the Divine Authority of the holy Scriptures, &
to Introduce Deism, Atheism, & all manner of Infidelity
And Corruption both in Principle & Practice.

1730

1730 We Did Last Year, and do now again Ear=
=nestly Recommend and Beseech all Friends to ad=
=monish and Exhort the Youth under their care,
not to read but refrain all such Books as tend
to make void the Divine Authority of the holy
Scriptures, and to promote prophaneness and
Infidelity in the Earth.

1731

Scriptures

1731

1731 'Tis Recommended to all heads of Families that they do Frequently call their Children & Servants together, & in a Solemn Religious way cause them to read the holy Scriptures; & in so doing that they humbly wait upon God with their Families, for Instruction & Counsel to them Respecting Christian Faith & Practise.

See Children, page, 46, & 47

1732

We tenderly & Earnestly Advise & Exhort all Parents and Masters of Families, that they Exert themselves in the Wisdom of God, & in the Strength of his Love to Instruct their Children & families in the Doctrine & Precepts of the Christian Religion contained in the holy Scriptures: & that they Excite them to a diligent Reading of those Sacred Writings, which plainly Set forth the miraculous Conception Birth, Holy Life, Wonderful Works, Blessed Example, Meritorious Death, & Glorious Resurrection, Ascension & Mediation, of Our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, And to Educate their Children in the Belief of those Important Truths, as well as in the Belief of the Inward Manifestation & Operation of the Spirit of God on their own minds, that they may reap the Benefit & Advantage thereof for their own Peace & Everlasting Happiness, which is infinitely preferable to all other Considerations: We therefore Exhort in the most earnest manner that all be very Careful in this respect, a neglect herein being in our Judgment, very blameworthy; & further where any Deficiency of this appears, We recommend to Monthly & Quarterly Meetings that they stir up those whom it may concern to their Duty therein.

1733

Scriptures

1733

1733 And Dear Friends we must Remind you to take all Convenient Oppertunity's to put your Children upon Reading & meditateing in the holy Scriptures; which having proceeded from the Dictates of the holy Spirit do afford the most Comfortable & Salutary Instructions of all Writeings whatever, as we have heretofore often advised, & particularly in Our Epistles of the two Last years, in which the advices on this head being Large & Comprehensive We referr thereto.

1734

1734 As there hath been heretofore, so there yet Remains upon this Meeting a peculiar regard to & Weighty Concern for the Offspring of Friends, that the rising Generation might be trained up in the Principles & Practice of the Christian Religion, in order whereunto, as formerly so now again. We Recommend an humble waiting upon the Lord, for the Manifestation of his Power and Spirit; & a Diligent reading the holy Scriptures in your Families: And that Masters of Families, Parents & Guardians of Children, at proper & Convenient seasons, would Stir up those under their Care to Diligence herein, Shewing them that those Sacred Writings do contain the Doctrines & Principles of Our Profession. & Explaining to them, as the Lord by his good Spirit shall Enable, the Grounds & Causes Inducing Friends to Distinguish themselves by not Conforming to the vain Fashions and Corrupt Customs of the World. And that one great End of Christ's Coming was to form to himself a People, who by their Lives & Conversations should be patterns of that Simplicity, Holiness & Charity which Our Great Lord himself in the most Perfect manner Exhibited, Leaving us an Example that we Should follow his Steps. —

By

Book; Book of Discipline 2; pp 318, 319; DigitalDivide, V. Otieno 3/6/2020

Website Image; Block 7, PDF page 29

320

Scriptures

1734 By Simplicity, We Understand an inward Sincerity & Lowly Disposition of mind, producing that plainness of speech Habit & Manners which Christ himself, & his holy Apostles, Recommended. — By Holiness, an Internal purity & Renovation of Soul, wrought in us by the Grace of God, the Fruits whereof are, a Devout and Religious Behaviour Justice and Inoffensiveness in all our Dealings & Conversation. — By Charity, that Spirit of Love, Compassion and forbearance, wherein Consists the Sum & Substance of Religion, the Introduction of that Universal Peace & Good-Will upon Earth, which is the Great Design of Christianity, as well as the Badge and Characteristick of our holy Profession; By this Saith Our Blessed Lord, Shall all men know that ye are my Disciples, if ye have Love One to Another, John.13.35.

As it hath been frequently the care & Concern
 1735 of this Meeting, to advise Parents & all who have
 the Tuition [^]& Education of Children, to bring them up in the nurture and Admonition of the Lord, We are
 still Sensible that there is Occasion to repeat [^]our tender
 advice & Exhortation, that you would lay this Mat=
 =ter Closely to heart, for 'tis Certain that the preser=
 =vation of your Offspring in the way of true Reli=
 =gion & Godliness is of much greater moment to their
 happiness both in this Life & in that which is to
 Come, than any thing else you are Capable of
 doing for them; and therefore, We renew Our advise,
 that you be Diligently Excercised in such a Godly
 care, Waiting upon God for Wisdom from him first
 to walk wisely & Circumspectly before them your=
 =selves, & then you may with more weight and
 Authority, in the Meekness of that Wisdom
 Instruct

321

Scriptures

Instruct, Advise, Exhort & Rebuke, as you
 1735 Shall See Occasion: And we think it will con=
 =tribute very much to your Success in these Endea=
 =vours, if you put them frequently in a Solemn man=
 =ner upon Reading the holy Scriptures, Especially
 such parts of them as relate to the great Doctrines &
 precepts of the Christian Religion, & then wait up=
 =on God with them, that you may become Instrume
 =ments to open their Understandings, & [^]in the Sense
 of what they read of His Power and Wisdom, press
 them Closely to the Practice of what they read:
 Such an Excercise as this begun Early, & frequent=
 =ly Repeated, We Recommend as the Indispensible
 Duty of all Concerned, & the most Likely means
 for the Preservation and Improvement of Chil=
 =dren in the way of Truth; & thro' the Lords Bless=
 =ing to Secure them from being Prevailed upon
 by the many false Deceitful Spirits that are gone
 forth into the World, tending to Subvert the
 Christian Faith, & a Practice and Conversation
 agreeable thereto.

1736 1736
 See Children, page, 48.

1737 1737
 See Kings & Governours, p. 132.

1745 1745
 See Meetings for Discipline, p, 179.

331

Servants

N^o41^o Concerning Servants.

1703

1703 Advised that Servants professing the Truth behave themselves in Due Subjection Humility & plainness, as becomes their Profession and places; and Likewise that Masters and Mistresses behave themselves towards their Servants According to the Apostles Direction, Eph, 6.5, 6. Colos^a 4.1. – 1 Tim^o: 6,1,2, Tit^l: 2,9,10. – 1 Pet^r: 2,18,19,20.

1718

1718 A Religious Care is Recommended toward Our Servants, that all Appearance of Pride, Idleness, and vain Conversation in them may be Discouraged & that they may be Exhorted to attend first day and Week day Meetings and have a Sense of Gods Love upon their Spirits, and therein Partake with us of the Sweetness of Truth; and in the Discharge of their Duty to God, and to their Masters & Mistresses, know Peace in themselves.

1737

1737 See Removals & Settlements, page, 288, 289.

Book; Book of Discipline 2; pp 330, 331; DigitalDivide, V. Otieno 3/6/2020

Website Image; Block 7, PDF page 31

335

Singing

N^o42^o Concerning Singing.

1675

1675 It hath been and is our Living Sense & Constant Testimony according to Our Experience of the divers Operations of the Spirit & Power of God in His Church, That there hath been and is Serious Sighing Sensible Groanings, and reverent Singing, breathing forth an Heavenly sound of Joy with Grace, with the Spirit, & with Understanding, in Blessed Unity with the Brethren, while they are in the Publick Labour and Service of the Gospel, whether by Preaching, Praying or Praising God, in the Same Power

and Spirit, & all to Edification and Comfort in the Church of Christ, – which therefore is not to be Quenched or Discouraged by any: But where ^{any} do or shall abuse the Power of God, or are Immoderate, or do either in Imitation, which rather Burthens than Edifies, Such ought to be privately Admonished, unless Rebellious; for that Life Spirit, and Power is Risen in the Church, which doth Distinguish, & hath Power Accordingly to Judge.

Book; Book of Discipline 2; pp 334, 335; DigitalDivide, V. Otieno 3/6/2020

Website Image; Block 7, PDF page 32

338

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339

Steeple house Rates

N^o43rd Concerning Steeple house Rates.

1688

1688 See Sufferings, page, – 350.

1693

1693 Advised, That Our Christian Testimony against Steeple house Rates or Lays, be Faithfully maintained.

1703

1703 See Tithes, – page – 369.

1727 See Tithes, page, - 372.

1732 See Tithes, page, 372.

1733 See Meetings for Discipline, pa, 173.
and Tithes, page, pa, 373.

1744 See Questions, page, ... 273.

Book; Book of Discipline 2; pp 338, 339; DigitalDivide, V. Otieno 3/6/2020

Website Image; Block 7, PDF page 33

342

[*blank page*]

343

Stock National

N^o44th Concerning the National Stock.

1672 & 1676.

1672 The Uses for which it is Collected.

& 1. For the Service of Truth beyond Sea.
1676 2. For Books Disposed of and given away to
the Chief Rulers and Others.
3. For Packets of Post Letters with accounts
of General Sufferings, & Charges of Recording, &
often Transcribing the Same.

1679

1679 Disbursements out of the National Stock to be
such only as shall be agreed & Directed by the
Weekly Meetings for Sufferings in **London**, and
not any other.

1682

1682 Agreed, that for keeping the Moneys of the Na=
=tional Stock, at every Yearly Meeting, Three Friends
shall be Chosen, & those Three of the Six that have
Served Two preceding Years, shall Yearly be Dis=
=missed and others to be appointed in their Room as
aforesaid, So that the Number of Six may be Still
Compleat, Who Shall have the keeping of the Cash
for the General Service Intended.

1692.

1692 Advised, That for the future when there
shall be Occasion for a Contribution, Friends that
come up from the Several Counties, bring with them
an Account of the Total sum of Each Collection, that
may be made in their Respective Counties, to the
next Ensuing Yearly Meeting,

after

Book; Book of Discipline 2; pp 342, 343; DigitalDivide, V. Otieno 3/6/2020

Website Image; Block 7, PDF page 34

344

Stock National
after such Collection is made that it may be
Compared with the Accounts here for
Friends Sactisfaction therein.

1698

Ordered, That when a Collection is made
in the Several Counties, It may be Sent up to
their Correspondents here to pay to the ~~several~~
meeting for Sufferings, and the Friends of the
Several Counties, when they come up to the next
Yearly Meeting, to bring up the total Sum
Collected and Returned in their County to
the Yearly Meeting.

1732

See Yearly Meeting, page, 416.

Book; Book of Discipline 2; pp 344, 345; DigitalDivide, V. Otieno 3/6/2020

Website Image; Block 7, PDF page 35

Sufferings

N^o 45th Concerning Sufferings.

1672

1672 Advised, that Friends be Exact and brief in drawing up their Sufferings in Each County, of the Times, Names, Causes, and Places of both Friends and their Persecutors, Distinctly, and Send them up to the Next General Meeting.

1675

1675 Agreed, that Certain Friends of this City be *Meeting about* here nominated to keep a Constant Meeting *Sufferings* about Sufferings four times in a Year, with the Day *first appointed* and time of Each Meeting here fixed & Settled.

Agreed, that a Meeting of these City Friends under Named be every fifth day of the week before each Term.

Ratcliff.	Arthur Cook.	and Richard Mew.
London.	John Osgood.	and Thomas Rudyard.
Wheler Street.	Francis More.	and William Welch.
Westminster.	Gilbert Lattice.	and James Beech.
Peel. ~~~	John Elson.	and John Staploc.
Southwark.	William Shewen. & Walter Myers.	

These Friends before Named, with as many as are *Publick Friends* free of the Second Days Morning Meeting of Publick Friends, *Members* to Meet together as aforesaid.

That at Least one Friend of each County be appointed by the Quarterly Meeting thereof, to be in readiness *one of* to repair to any of the said Meetings at this City, at *Each County* such times as their Urgent Occasions or Sufferings shall Require.

That the Agreement about the Meetings for *P*Sufferings four times in a year in **London**, be read to the Second Days Meeting of this City, constantly before the day of the Meeting Appointed.

That

348

Sufferings

1675 That the respective Quarterly Meetings be Encouraged in the Love of God, & Bowels of his Truth to take care of such Poor Friends as have been wasted much with Sufferings, & where any County is not Sufficient to the Losses, among themselves, that they be mindful of the Order of Truth agreed to, of recommending their Case to the Adjacent Counties.

That Notwithstanding the Meeting about Sufferings by the Nominated Friends of this City, It is Consented & agreed, That in any County, Meeting or Place in **England** or **Wales**, where any Deep Sufferings may happen the Monthly or Quarterly Meetings may both State ^{their} Case fit to be presented to those in Power, & Send up One, Two or three faithful Friends with their Case so Stated to be presented, to attend those in Power therewith the Relief, if they be ^{moved} thereunto, or find a Necessity Lying upon them to Endeavour for Relief; & this is a most Likely way to be Effectual in their Applications.

1676

1676 See Records, Article the 12th, & the Last p, 277 & 278.

1678

1678 Mention is first made of the Weekly Meeting for Sufferings in **London**.

And See Records, page, 278.

1679

1679 Agreed, that any Quarterly or Monthly Meeting has any Extraordinary or Grievous Sufferings in their County, that they would have Printed forthwith, that they give notice thereof & Send up the Same to the Meeting for Sufferings.

1681

1681 That when Sufferings are sent up in Order for Redress, of any particular Case, the Same be writ down as well to the Loss Sustained, Goods Distreined, Severe & Illegal treatment or Usage, by Justices or Other Persons; Plain, pertinent & Distinct as to Matter

of

349

Sufferings

1681 of Fact only; without any reflections upon the majestates and Persons by whom Friends have Suffered, or against whom any Complaint is made.

That Sufferings sent up to be recorded here, be first Perused by the Quarterly Meeting, & Signed.

1682

1682 And when Necessity Requires that Accounts of Sufferings, Be sent up with such speed, that they Can= not stay to a Monthly or Quarterly Meeting; that such accounts be viewed & approved under the hands of three or four Friends at Least, to prevent Mistakes, & Loose Uncertain Accounts of things Complained of: And that before any Accounts be entered in the Quarterly Mee= ting Books, the Same be plainly & orderly Drawn up by Some knowing Friends in such Concerns.

Upon Consideration of Sufferings in General, --- It is the Advice of this Meeting, that in Cases of Diffi= culty, and where Friends who are Sufferers Stand in need of advise, in any particular Case, they Send up their respective case to the Meeting for Sufferings in **London**

1684.

1684 If a Friends Goods be Seized, and a Neighbour Buy them from the Sheriff, & they by Bill of Sale be made over to him, and he Leave them in the Sufferers Possession; It is a Suffering Case, and to be Recorded as it is in itself.

'Tis thought most Convenient that all particular Accounts of any Great & Extream Sufferings which Require Speedy Application or Complaint to the Kings &c -- After Carefully Drawn up & Signed by the respec= tive Sufferers, & the truth thereof if Possible, Certi= fied by some Other Faithful Friends of the same County or Neighbourhood, known here;

That

Book; Book of Discipline 2; pp 348, 349; DigitalDivide, V. Otieno 3/6/2020

Website Image; Block 7, PDF page 37

350

Sufferings

1684 That then they be brought up by One or Two Understanding Sound. -- Friends that may be capable to present them if need Require, having knowledge of the particular Cases, & that no such accounts be Sent up unsigned.

1688

1688 And it is the Desire of Friends Generally, *monthly* That you all be careful in your Monthly and Quarterly Meetings in Collecting the Sufferings of Friends by Priests & Impropiators for their Tes= timony against Tithes; And what goods are taken *to Collect* from them on that account, with the value thereof,

Sufferings & also about repairs of Steeple houses; and about not Swearing; and all other Sufferings on Truths account: & Let them be carefully Recorded, & Witnessed, and Copies sent up to **London** from your Quarterly Meetings to your Correspondents: That the Sufferings of Friend for their Testimony may not be Lost.

1689

1689 See Records page, -- 279.

1693

1693 The Meeting for Sufferings is Intrusted with the Care of all Sufferings of Friends for Truth & Conscience Sake, as at first Intended.

See Records, page, - 279.

1695

1695 See Records, page, - 280.

1700

1700 See Records, page, - 280.

1703

351

Sufferings

1703 And where any Friend or Friends shall be prosecuted upon any Branch of their Testimony for the Truth; That such Labour in a Sense of the Weight of their Testimony with the Prosecutor, before or at the Beginning of his Prosecution, that So if Possible, the Witness of God in him may be reached, & he Convinced that their refusal to Comply, proceeds not from Obstinacy, or Self-Interest, but from a Godly Care to preserve a Conscience void of Offence towards God and Man.

1746

1746 This Meeting Desires, that for the future an Account of all Proceedings in Such Suffering Cases as Come under the Care of the Meeting for Sufferings, and the Issue thereof, may be duly brought or sent to that Meeting in Writeing; Specifying the Places or Counties where Such Sufferers Dwell, with the Several Proceedings in the Said Cases, in Order to be Duly Recorded.

1774

1774 At a yearly meeting held for **New England**

This meeting being under a Weighty Concern for friends who are or may be under Sufferings & Difficulty from the Powers of this world on account of our Religious Testimony to appoint our friends - - a Committee who are defined to take Cognizance of all grevences arising amongst us wherein any friend or friends may be affected either in Person Property or in regard to our Christian testimony

afore said and to advise Counsell & assist as best wisdom may direct, and they are desired to meet once a month

Book; Book of Discipline 2; pp 350, 351; DigitalDivide, V. Otieno 3/6/2020

Website Image; Block 7, PDF page 38

352

Sufferings

month or oftner if need bee That Seven of Said Committee constitute a meeting, which may Transact the Business thereof, And that any agreaved Friend or friends may apply to them Ether in a Collective or Seperate Capasity as the Circumstances of the case may require, and that said Committee in a meeting Capacity draw on the Treasurer of this meeting for the monies that shall be necessary for the purpose afore said who is ordered to pay the Same - -----
And that this Committee view and Judge of maniscrips propos,d to be printed and Correspond with the meeting for Sufferings at **Philidelphia** or Elsewhere.

1781

1781

The Testimony of many Friends in the Non=payment of Taxes part whereof goes for the Support of war coming under Consideration of this meeting -- It is our Sense and Judgment that the Several monthly meetings Collect accounts of the Sufferings of our Brethren on account of said Testimony and Send them up to the meeting for Sufferings there to be Recorded after due inspection, in friends Book of Sufferings as our Brethren Testimony for the Truth against the appropriation of any port thereof to the purposes of War - - And it is Recommend =ed to friends that Labouring to be preserved unbiased herein, as to the power which are, or may be, they keep a Single Eye to the Testimony of truth against War & Fighting - ----

353

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Book; Book of Discipline 2; pp 352, 353; DigitalDivide, V. Otieno 3/6/2020

Website Image; Block 7, PDF page 39

356

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Tale-bearing & Backbiting
 N°46” Concerning Tale-bearing & Backbiting.
 1689

1689 Advised to watch against & Shut out
 all Occasion of Offences, Contentions & Divisions,
 And in the Name of the Lord to stop & Judge down
 all Whisperings, Tale-bearings & Backbiting & evil
 speaking tending thereunto, & to be kind & tender
 hearted One to another, And Earnestly Labour and
 press for Universal Love, Union & Peace in all the
 Churches of Christ.

1692

1692 Advised, to be careful & Watchful against
 all Whisperings, Backbitings & Talebearing, to the De=
 =faming Friends, or Others; and put a Speedy Stop
 thereto, & pass Righteous Judgment upon all Whisper=
 =ers & Backbiters who appear Instruments of Divi=
 =sion & Offences, Contrary to that Peacable Truth &
 Gospel, We Profess; & where any have Received Offence
 against any other, first to speak privately to the ~
 party Concerned & Endeavour Reconciliation between
 themselves & not to whisper or aggravate matters a=
 =gainst them behind their backs, to the Making
 parties, and the Breach wider.

1695

1695 Let those Just & ancient Commands of God be
 Observed, Lev:19.16 “Thou shalt not go up & Down as a
 “ Tale bearer among thy People, & Exod: 23:1. Thou shalt
 “ not raise a false report, & Psalms, 15:3 he that Backbiteth
 “ not with his Tongue, nor Doth evil to his Neighbour,
 “ nor taketh up a Reproach against his Neighbour &c
 “ ‘Tis only such Innocent ones that shall abide in

the

Book; Book of Discipline 2; pp 356, 357; DigitalDivide, V. Otieno 3/6/2020

Website Image; Block 7, PDF page 40

Talebearing & Backbiting
 1695 the Lords Tabernacle & Dwell in his holyhill:
 Wherefore in the Fear of the Lord, Stand against
 all Whisperers, Backbiters, Talebearers, Defamers &
 Slanderers; & against all Whisperings, Backbitings,
 Tale-bearings Reproaching & Slandering, & put a
 Speedy Stop thereto as much as in you lies; For
 such works of Darkness & Envy tend to Division

& Discord, & the righteous Law of God goes against both the Authors, Fomentors, Receivers & Encouragers thereof. See Prov: 11. 13. & 18, 8. & 20, 19, & 26. 20. 22. & also 2, Cor. 12, 20.

1719

1719 The former advise of 1695, repeated, with this Addition, & therefore if you hear a report of a friend be careful not to report it again but go to the Person of whom the report is and Enquire if it be true or not [*four words crossed out*] & if it be true, then Deal with such a person for it, according to the Doctrine of Christ, Matt:18. —But if false then Endeavour as much as in you lies to stop such Report, for as Soloman says a Good name is rather to be Chosen than great Riches, Prov:22, 1.

1721 1721. The advices of 1695 & 1719, Repeated,

1725 1725. The former advices again Repeated,

1727 1727, The Same again Recommended.

1733

1733 We think proper to Exhort Friends Every where to avoid all Whisperings, Backbitings & Tale bearings tending to Blemish the Reputation of any, or to Sow Discord, & Create evil Surmizings One of another: A Practise which Ought to be Zealously Discouraged, as being of a most pernicious Consequence

359

Tale bearing & Backbiting

1733 Consequence to Society; Tis therefore Recommended, That when any Shall hear a report of such a Nature, they take an opportunity to acquaint the Person Concerned thereof, before they again report, or be Instrumental to Spread the Same: and in Order to Stop the Mouths of all Talebearers & Slanderers, Friends would do well to manifest their Aversion to Such a Practice: "The North Wind, Saith Solomon" driveth away Rain, so doth an angry Countenance a Backbiting, Tongue. Prov. 25. 23.

See Defamation, page, 93 & 94

1744

Whereas it may so happen, that some Friends may Suffer much in their Reputation & Character, by a Detracting Spirit, which too much Prevails among some bearing Our Name, Who shelter themselves under a pretence, That they say no more than they have heard from others; But will not Discover who they are: Wherefore to prevent this evil of Reporting and Talebearing to the Prejudice of Others; It is agreed that such Reporters or Talebearers Shall either Discover the Authors or be

Dealt with and Testified against, as Authors
Thereof.

Book; Book of Discipline 2; pp 358, 359; DigitalDivide, V. Otieno 3/6/2020

Website Image; Block 7, PDF page 41

364

[blank page - follows page 359]

365

Tithes

N^o 47th Concerning Tithes.

1675

1675 Advised, That our Ancient Testimony against Tithes,
which We have Born from the beginning, and for which
our ancient many have deeply Suffered, Some not only the Spoiling
Testimony of their Goods, but Imprisonment even unto Death, be Care=
to be Upheld. =fully & punctually upheld and Countenanced in the Power
Offenders to of God; And that all those that Oppose, Slight or Neglect that
be dealt Testimony, be Looked upon, and Dealt withal, as unfaithful to
with the Ancient & universal Testimony of Truth, according to
Gospel Order established among Us.

That Truth's Testimony against Tithes
Innocency in and Friends Innocency in Suffering be kept to; and tho'
Suffering Innocent Endeavors may be used to Save them from being
to be kept taken away; Yet that Friends be careful of Violent Strug=
see 1689 =ling to detain them, when the Adversary comes to take
p. 367 them by Force.

1676

1676 That Tithes taken away by Force be recorded as
a Suffering for Truth.

No Consent That all Friends have a Care that they nei=
=ther Openly nor Secretly Consent to the taking away of
their Tithes, nor to the Payment of them by any One
whatsoever on their behalf, but keep faithful to
their Testimony.

1678

And because Some have not kept an Account
1678 of the Tithes in kind, that have been taken from
of Tithes them, as if that were no Suffering, because the
in kind Priests and Impropiator's pretended Due; We find
ourselves engaged in Spirit to desire you to
reckon that of Tithes, amongst the Other Suf=
=ferings that you Send up;

and

Tithes

1678 and for the time to come, to take the Same Care of Recording all taken away upon that Account in your Book of Sufferings.

See Records, page, 278

1682

1682 *Executors* It is the Sense of this Meeting, that the Executors who have a Testimony for Truth, have a Testimony against the Paying of the Tithes pretended to be due from the Testator, and ought to bear his Testimony against Payment thereof.

1687

1687 We do in the Love of God, & his blessed Truth, and Testimony of Jesus Christ, recom=
=mended to your tender & Christian Care, That Friends in the Several Counties; Do sincerely keep to their Ancient & Christian Testimony against that old and great Oppression of Tithes for which many faithful Friends & Servants of Christ have deeply Suffered; (Some till Death in Jays) and Several Still do Suffer, whereby

Tithes taken it appears that the Priests, as they were the first, *with or* So they are like to be the last Persecutors for *without* Conscience Sake;— And also, We request

Law it of you carefully to Collect, & make Return *to be Record* =
=ed of all Friends Sufferings for Tithes, as well as other Sufferings, whether by Imprisonments, or by taking away Goods, as, Corn, Cattle, or Other Goods, either by or without Law, both which are Sufferings, & ought to be accounted of, & Entred upon Record in behalf of all faithful Friends, who Stand Clear in their Testimony for Truth.

who

Tithes

1689

We desire your Testimony against Tithes may be 1689 kept up in the peaceable Spirit of Christ, as becomes true Christians, rather Suffering patiently in the Spoil=
not to =
Strive =ing of your Goods, than any way to Strive or Struggle *with the* Spoilers, to retain them by Force, but Singly *Spoilers* Commit your Cause to the Lord, who will plead it, and Judge Righteously.

1690

1690 That all Friends be faithful in their Testimony against Tithes of all Sorts, knowing that Since they were Ended by Christ, they were Imposed & Originally Sprang from that Anti=christian Root & Popish Usurpation in Church & State; And that Friends would tenderly Consider, that where any decline their Testimony, or are Negligent in this weighty Case, They do thereby Increase the weight & Burthen of Sufferings upon them that are faithful, and Strengthen the hands of their Adversaries.

1691

1691 That the Christian Testimony against Tithes, may be duly kept up, and such as are unfaithful therein be diligently Exhorted to Obedience and Faithfulness to Christ Jesus, that they may not Strength= =en the Persecutors hands, Increase Other's Sufferings, nor make Said Truths, Testimony therein, which so many have offer'd up, & laid down their Lives for.

1692

1692 That Friends be careful & diligent to keep up their Ancient Christian Testimony against the Oppression of Tithes; For the more faithful and unanimous Friends are therein, We are really perswaded, the Lord will the Sooner make way for our Ease and Deliverance from that Burthen.

1693

Book; Book of Discipline 2; pp 366, 367; DigitalDivide, V. Otieno 3/6/2020

Website Image; Block 7, PDF page 43

368

Tithes

1693

1693 Advised, That our Christian Testimony against the grand Oppression and Anti= =Christian Yoke of Tithes, Born & greatly. Suffered for, be faithfully Maintained in all respects.

1696

1696 With respect to a Proposal about taking a Farm. & Agreeing to pay so much the more to be Exempted from Tithes; It's left to the Several Monthly & Quarterly Meetings, to advise Friends to be careful that nothing be done that tends to weaken our Testimony against Tithes by any; & that Such be admonished as they See Cause.

1698

Advised, That Our Ancient Christian
1698 Testimony, against Tithes be not avoided
or Shun'd by any indirect ways or Courses
with Landlords, or Otherwise: And that Friends
be Careful to keep a true Record of the Value
of what is taken from them, on that Account,
in the field, or otherwise, whether it Exceeds
the Demand or not; with the respective date
of Each Suffering; & the Time when any
Suit is Commenced.

1701

1701 Our Testimony against Tithes & Forced
Maintenance in this Gospel Day, being received
from Christ our Head & High Priest; is not of our
own Making or imposing, nor from the Tradi=
=tion of Men: but what we have from Him, by
whose Divine Power we were raised up to be a
People, & by which, We have been preserved to
this Day; knowing that his Ministry & Gospel
are free, according to his own express Command,
Freely

369

Tithes

1701 Freely ye have received Freely give
1703

1703 This Meeting taking Notice, as well from the
Accounts of Sufferings brought in from divers Coun=
=ties as Relations by Several Friends now present, that
in many Places Advantages are taken upon Friends, by
Stoppages making Stoppages upon them in the Way of Trade, or by
Debtors, or Otherwise, or by Kindred or Neighbours, Laying
down the Money for Tithes, or Church Rates, so called, and
that this way of proceeding grows & Increases upon
Friends in many Places.

It is therefore recommended, as the Sense & Advise
of this Meeting, to the Several, Quarterly, & Monthly
Meetings, to Stir up Friends in their respective Meetings
to Zeal & faithfulness, in this respect; That they may
not Consent to, or Connive at, Such Payments, Stoppages,
or Discountings on such Accounts, But to deal plain=
=ly & earnestly with their Relations or Neighbours
who Shall so pay, or others who shall So Stop or Dis=
=count, And not discharge the Debt by Crossing their
Books, if Tradsmen or Otherwise, but keep the Debt
Still in demand; And be as wary & Careful as they can
for the future, to keep Such Persons, as much as in
them lies, out of a Capacity of Stopping upon them,
that they may thereby discourage all Such ways of
proceeding; which tend to weaken or Lessen their Testi=
=mony; And not to bring in Such Stoppages as Suffer=

=ings, inasmuch as they do not discharge the Debt, which if they Should do, They would thereby allow the Stoppage, & So let fall their Testimony.

This Meeting declares it is their Sense & Judgment, that no Friend in Truth can *Impropriate Tithes* either Pay or Receive Improprate Tithes, being Inconsistant with our Christian Testimony; & it's desired Friends of the Several Counties may be Advised thereof.

1706

Book; Book of Discipline 2; pp 368, 369; DigitalDivide, V. Otieno 3/6/2020

Website Image; Block 7, PDF page 44

370

Tithes

1706

1706 This Meeting understanding that notwithstanding the Judgment and Advice formerly and frequently given by this Meeting against the payment of Tithes, & more particularly in the year 1703 against the Paying or Receiving of Tithes, by any that profess the holy Truth with Us; there are Some Persons who go under our Name do yet continue not only to pay them, but Some few also here, and there, having Estates in Improprate Tithes, (which are the Same in Nature Ground & Root with the Tithes paid to the [*illegible*] Priest) Do not forbear as yet to Receive them, to the great Dishonor of our holy Profession, and Grief of Faithful Friends (tho' others have Consentiously & very honourably given up & Released them) This Meeting thereupon doth now again Signify, as the unanimous Sence & Judgment of Faithful Friends, That for any among us in this Gospel Day to Pay or Receive Tithes, (which were a part of the Cerimonial Law, belonged to the Levitical Priesthood; & were Abrogated, and taken away by the Coming, & Death of our Lord Jesus Christ on the Cross) doth directly Oppose, & tend to overthrow the ancient Christian Testimony of Truth against Tithes; which hath been born by Friends from the beginning of our Day not only by Word & Doctrine, but by deep Sufferings, & Sealed even with the Blood of Some of Our Dear & faithful Brethren, who have chearfully Laid down their Lives, by long & hard Imprisonments in Confirmation of that their Conscientious Testimony. In the Sense hereof this Meeting doth earnestly Recommend to the Several Quarterly & Monthly Meetings every where of Friends; That they be Careful

& diligent to make general Observations how Friends do answer and bear up that Testimony against Tithes in their Practices;

and

371

Tithes

1706 And if they Shall find any going Under our Name, that do either Pay or Receive Tithes, that they use their best & Utmost Endeavors in the Spirit & Order of the Gospel, and in the Excercise of great tenderness and Brotherly kindness, to Inform, Convince, Exhort, Admonish and Reprove, as they see Cause, all Such without respect of Persons, in Order to gain and bring them to the acknowledgment and Obedience of the Truth in that particular. —And if after Such tender & gentle Dealing with them, any Such Shall Continue in their Unfaithfulness & Opposition to the Principle & Christian Practice of Friends in that Case, That then the Monthly or Quarterly Meeting unto which such Person shall be reputed to belong, having Excercised Christian Patience & forbearance towards Such, & finding themselves Clear in the Sight of God, Do manifest & Declare, that Such for their Unfaithfulness & Opposition to that our Christian Testimony, are unworthy to be Admitted to the Meetings for Business amongst Friends, Or to be Received to Join in the Collections made by Friends for the Service of the Church of Christ: And if after that, such Persons shall persist in Such their unfaithfulness and Opposition, That then the Monthly, or Quarterly Meeting proceed further in the Lord's Power to give Judgment for the Clearing of Truth and Friends, as in the holy Counsel and Wisdom of God, they shall be directed and Guided therein.

1724

1724 Former Advices again Recommended.

1725

1725 'Tis Advised & earnestly recommended, that in as much as it doth Appear there is in Some places a Shortness & deficiency in bearing a Faithful Testimony against Tithes; that if any Monthly Meeting which have Such Members; after a deliberate dealing with them,

In

Tithes

1725 in the Wisdom of Truth, & the Meek Spirit of
The Gospel, for their help & Information,
Friends have recourse for their further pro=
ceedings to the yearly meeting's Minute 1706.

1727

1727 It doth Appear to this Meeting that Friends
in divers places are Under Difficulty on Account
of Stoppages made in respect to demands for
Small Tithes, & Church Rates, so called; and for
Illegal Seizures without warrants on such Ac=
counts, which are in Some places made, whereby
we apprehend a voluntary Compliance is implied,
which doth tend to weaken & lay wast Our
Testimony; And therefore this Meeting doth
tenderly, Renew the Caution & Advice there=
upon given in a Minute Made in the year
1703, Whereunto We Refer. ^x

1730

1730 Friends, are heartily desired & Intreated to
Read & Disperse **Anthony Pearson's** Great Case of
Tithes, hoping it may have this good Effect, if
read with a Single Eye, to Manifest the Incon=
sistency of Tithes with the Gospel Dispensation.

1731

1731 Former Advises of this Meeting again re=
commended. And particularly that in 1706.

1732

1732 Recommended to the Several Quarterly &
Monthly Meetings, tenderly to advise & Earnest=
ly to Exhort Friends to be Careful in bearing a
faithful Testimony against the Antichristian
Yoke of Tithes, Priest's Maintenance,
and

Tithes

1702 And Church Rates so called; the want whereof in
[sic] Some places hath tended to the Uneasiness & Sorrow of ma=
ny Brethren, & added to the Sufferings of Such as have
Stood faithful in this our ancient & Christian Testimon^y
mony.

1733

This Meeting Observing a Remisness in Some
Places in respect to our Testimony against that
Antichristian Yoke of Tithes; An earnest Concern &
Zeal has been on the Minds of Friends, that all
Might be Excited & Stired up to faithfulness there=
in; In Order whereunto, We think necessary to put
you in Mind, That the Zeal of our Friends who have

abode faithful in their Testimony against Paying Tithes, Steeplehouse Rates, & Priest's Maintenance, has greatly tended to the Opening the Eyes of Many not only in this, but also in other Countries: — We received last year an Account from **New England**, where Our Friends formerly underwent grievous Sufferings, that a Law is made Exempting them from paying either to the Maintenance of the established Ministers, Or the Repairing of their Worship houses: — And it is Our Belief, That if all Friends here had been faithful in their Testimony against Tithes, the Time of our Deliverance from that Oppression, under which this Nation yet groans, would have been nearer at hand. We do therefore earnestly Exhort to a Close coming up in that & every other Branch of our Testimony, tending to the promotion of Gospel Liberty; which it has been our Concern ever Since, We were a People, thro' manifold Sufferings' to Maintain. And if any Weakness or unfaithfulness Shall appear among the Professors of Truth, We hope faithful Friends & Brethren will not be wanting to administer help;

and

Book; Book of Discipline 2; pp 372, 373; DigitalDivide, V. Otieno 3/6/2020

Website Image; Block 7, PDF page 46

374

Tithes

1733 and Admonition in the Love & Counsel of God, as they shall see Occasion, for the restoring, and Strengthening of Such; according to the advice given by the Apostle, Gal:6.1, "Brethren if a man be overtaken in a fault, Ye which are Spiritual, Restore such an One in the Spirit of Meekness."

See Meetings for Discipline, pa: 173

1734

1734 And, Dear Friends, for the Sake of those particular Persons in Some places, who yet continue remiss in maintaining their Testimony against the Antichristian Yoke of Tithes, We think necessary to Repeat the advice given last year, - That Friends as they Shall See Occasion, in the Wisdom of God, would Admonish Such, & in a Spirit of Love and Meekness Endeavor to help & Strengthen them, and to Excite & Stir them up to faithfulness in that Branch of our Ancient Testimony.

1735

1735 And, Dear Friends, as it hath been the Concern

of this Meeting frequently to Advise, That Friends Should Stand faithful in their Testimony against, that Antichristian Yoke of Tithes, So We do now re=
=new Our Advice in that respect.

And, We earnestly Intreat at the faithful among you, to take all Suitable Oppertunities of Endeavor=
=ing to demonstrate to such as are weak & Unfaithful, the Importance of our Testimony against Receiving or Paying of Tithes, the natural tendency whereof is to obtain that Liberty which the purest Ages of Christianity Enjoyed, that is, a Liberty for any Per=
=son moved by the holy Spirit of God, to Preach the Doctrine of the Glorious Gospel of Our Lord & Savio^{ur} Jesus Christ, freely, and of which they were not deprived till Such time as great Corruptions of Doctrine & Practice were found amongst

the

375

Tithes

1735 the Professors of Christianity; and the Civil Powers were prevailed upon to Meddle with the Consciences of the Peo=
=ple, which of Right are to be Subjected to God only.

We cannot therefore but Bless the Lord from an Experimental Witnessing of the Comfort and Spiritual Advantage which Arises from Such a Liberty, that He was pleased to raise up our Worthy Elders, and give them a Testimony against that Antichristian Yoke make=
=ing them willing in this & other Nations to Suffer for that Testimony, thereby, shewing to the World what the Love of Christ is able to Do; — For We believe nothing Short of that Love could have enabled them to Suffer the Spoil of their Goods, & the Long Imprisonments of their Bodies, even unto Death, as Some of them did for their Conscientious Refusal to pay Tithes; And We have reason to believe that if all among Us had followed their Example, by abiding faithful in this Our Christian Testimony, We might before this time have been in a great mea=
=sure relieved from under that Oppression.

1736

1736 And, Dear Friends, as we have ever Since we were a People Maintained our Christian Testimony against Tithes, & forced Maintenance of Ministers, as Contrary to the Nature of the Gospel Dispensation.

We cannot but repeat Our earnest Exhortation, That Friends every where Stand fast in the Liberty wherewith Christ hath made them free; & beware of burthening their own Consciences, by a mean Submission to an Anti=
=christian Yoke of Bondage thro' fear of Suffering: A Meek & quiet Spirit under temporal Inconveniences for the Sake of our Christian Testimony is one of the

best proofs of our Sincerity therein, & may be a means
of Effectually recommending Us to the Compassion
of those whom God has placed in Authority over
Us

Book; Book of Discipline 2; pp 374, 375; DigitalDivide, V. Otieno 3/6/2020

Website Image; Block 7, PDF page 47

376

Tithes

1736 Us whose hands, He has Committed the Power
of giving us Relief, and from whom it becometh
us to Seek it with Humility and Patience.

1737

1737 This Meeting being informed that Friends
in Several Parts of this Nation are in the Prac=
=tice of Calling on their Members to bring in an
Account of their Sufferings for their Testimony
against that Antichristian Yoke of Tithes &c;
And to Enquire whether such as bring in no
account, Do Stand Clear in their Testimony; which
having had a good Effect, It's therefore recom^mend=
=ed that Friends thro' the Nation fall into the Said
^{xp. 373 & 374}Practise, And if they find any deficient, & persist
& ^{p. 173}in the Same, that Such Friends be Dealt with,
pursuant to the directions, & former Advice of
this Meeting, & particularly in 1735, ^xand those
recommended therein.

You have been often reminded of the
Importance of Our Ancient Testimony against
the Antichristian Yoke of Tithes, and as you are
Convinced in your Consciences of their Inconsistency
with the Nature of the Gospel Dispensation, 'tis
certainly your necessary Duty to Act agreeable
to such Convictions; And if Sufferings for your
Testimony shall be the Consequence of your Obe=
=dience therein 'twill become you, after the Exam=
=ple of the primitive Christians Chearfully to Submit,
& to take Joyfully the Spoiling of your Goods,
that so you may preserve a Conscience void of
Offence toward God, and at the same time by your
Christian Meekness & innocent Deportment, give rea=
=sonable Evidence of your Sincerity to Men.

See Trading, page. 391

Tithes

1738

1738

We therefore tenderly Exhort all who Profess the Truth, to watchfulness and Zeal, that this Branch of Our Christian Testimony, be not laid wast by Connivance, or private agreement with Priests on Im=
=propriators; But that all abide Patient under that Testimony which the Lord hath called us to bear, not doubting but that the graduel prog^ress of real Christianity will at length Operate to the Removal of a Yoke, so directly Contrary to the Liberty where=
=with Christ hath made Us free.

1742

1742

- - - See Questions, page, 272.

1744

1744

- - - See Questions, page, 273.

1750

1750

Whereas it appears that the Method of taking the Priests' Demands, without Warrant, or due form of Law, prevails more in Some places than hereto=
=fore; Friends are therefore intreated to be as much upon their Guard, as possible, against the Introduc=
=tion of any practices that may tend to Encourage Un=
=faithfulness, or Collusion, a Disposition altogether Unbecoming the Nobility of Truth, and Inconsistent with the Uprightness it Requires.

Book; Book of Discipline 2; pp 376, 377; DigitalDivide, V. Otieno 3/6/2020

Website Image; Block 7, PDF page 48

386

[*blank page - follows page 377*]

387

Tombstones

N^o48^o Concerning Tombstones.

1717

1717 This Meeting being informed, That Friends, in Some places have gone into the Vain & Empty Custom of Erecting Monuments Over the Dead Body's of Friends, by Stones, Inscriptions, Tombstones, &c... And being very desirous Friends should keep a Commendable plainness & Simplicity in this as well as other respects; It's therefore the Advice of this Meeting, That all such Monuments as are already in being Over Dead Bodys of Friends, should be Remov=
=ed, as much as may be with Discretion, and Convenien=

=cy: And that none be any where made or set
up by or over the Dead Bodies of Friends, or Others
in Friends Burying Places for time to Come.

Book; Book of Discipline 2; pp 386, 387; DigitalDivide, V. Otieno 3/6/2020

Website Image; Block 7, PDF page 49

390

[*blank page - follows page 387*]

391

Trading

N^o49,

Concerning Trading.

1675

1675 Advised, That none Trade beyond their Ability, nor
Stretch beyond their Compass; And that they Use few
Words in Dealings, & keep their Words in all things,
lest they bring through their forwardness, Dishonour to
the precious Truth of God.

1688

1688 Advised, Not to Launch forth into Trading and
Worldly Business beyond what they can Manage
honourably, and with Reputation among the Sons
of Men, and so that they [^]may keep their Words with all men,
And that their yea may prove yea indeed, & their nay
may be nay indeed, for whatever is Otherwise cometh
of the Evil One: And Such who make themselves Guilty
by thus dishonouring God, and the holy Profession of his
Name & Truth, Such are for Judgment by the Truth, &
the Judgment of Truth ought to be set over them,
that the Truth & those that abide & walk in it may
be Clear of their Iniquities.

1692

1692 It is advised and earnestly desired, that the Pay=
=ment of Just Debts be not delayed by any professing
Truth, beyond the Time promised & agreed upon, nor
Occasion given of Complaint to those they Deal with;
by their backwardness of Payment where no Time is
limited, Nor any to overcharge themselves with too
much Trading & Commerce, beyond their Capacities to
discharge a Good Conscience towards all men; and
that all Friends Concerned be very Careful not to Con=
=tract Extravagant Debts to the Endangering the wrong=
=ing of Others, And their Famelies, which some have
Done to the grieving the hearts of ~~the hearts of~~
the Upright;

Nor

392

Trading

1692 Nor to break their Promises, Contracts, or Agree=
=ments in their Buying or Selling, or in any
Other Lawful Affairs, to the Injuring themselves
or Others; Occasioning, Strife Contention, & Rep=
=proach to Truth and Friends: And it is ad=
=vised, That all Friends that are Entering into
Trade, or that ^{are} in Trade, & have not Stock Suf=
=ficient of their Own to answer the Trade they
aim at, be very Cautious of Running themselvs
into Debts, without advising with Some of
their Ancient & Experienced Friends among
whom they Live & more especially such
Trading as hath its Dependance, on
Sea Adventures.

1697

1697 See plainness, pa. 223.

1702

1702 We earnestly desire that all professing the
blessed Truth with Us, be very Careful to keep
their Words & Promises, by paying their Just
Debts without unreasonable delay, & Do Justice
to all Men, for Righteousness Sake, & to prevent
the great Reproach & Scandal of Defrauding any
Persons by breaking in their Debts, or Otherwise
Injuring any.

1703

1703 Advised, That all Friends be weighty &
Circumspect in their Conduct & Managment of their
outward Affairs, & Careful to keep within Compass of
their own Substance, to prevent failures & Breaches.

1708

1708 To prevent the great Scandal & Reproach, which
any Professing Truth may bring on it, by Break=
=ing in Other Mens debts; We remind you to excercise
a Godly Care therein, as much as in you lies, by giv=
=ing timely Caution to any Such as either
Break their Promises,

or

393

Trading

1708 Or delay the Payment of their Just Debts, or otherwise
render themselves suspected.

1709

Truth leads all who faithfully follow it, to do Right
1709 & Justice to all, & not Defraud or wrong any in any way
way of Commerce, Trade, Trust, or Dealing, much less to
put any abuse upon the Government, & c.

See Kings & Governors, page, 129.

Also the advice in 1703, again recommended.

1710

1710 Considering the great Suffering that hath been
brought upon Truth & faithful Friends, by divers
professing Truth amongst Us, breaking their Words,
Promises & Obligations, to the great Iniury of Others, by
not paying their Just Debts in due Time, & the Sad Con=
=sequences thereof, & Reproaches brought thereby, notwith=
=standing our great Care, & many warnings given for
prevention thereof, which being too Many to recite here;
We refer you to the advice formerly given by Our An=
=cient Friend & Brother, G: T: to Shop keepers, Merchants,
Factors or any other Friends, which this Meeting hath
thought proper to Recommend unto you in Print, & advise
that it be read in Your Quarterly & Monthly Meetings, as
You may See Occasion, at Least once a Year.

1720

1720 Let all Promises & Obligations for payment of Just
Debts be truly kept and performed.

1724

1724 'Tis earnestly desired, that all Friends, every
where be very Careful to avoid all inordinate
pursuit after the things of this World, by Such Ways
& Means as depend too much on the Uncertain proba=
=bilities of hazardous Enterprizes, but rather
Labour to Content themselves with such a plain
way & Manner of Living as is most agreeable to
the Self denying, Principle of Truth;

which

Book; Book of Discipline 2; pp 392, 393; DigitalDivide, V. Otieno 3/6/2020

Website Image; Block 7, PDF page 51

394

Trading

1724 which we Profess, & which is most Conducive
to that Tranquility of Mind, that is requisite
to a religious Conduct through this Trouble=
=some World.---- And the Advice in 1710
Repeated.

1727

1727 'Tis earnestly desired that all Friends be
very Careful not to Run into Larger Trading
& Business than their Capacities & abilities can

well answer, and that they may frequently In=
=spect their Circumstances, & Do not Live at an Ex=
=pence beyond them: And if thro' Adverse Accidents
any should fail in Paying their Just Debts, and
should after his or her composition with his or
her creditors, be so far Blessed & prospered in their
affairs, as to be capable of paying their defecien=
=cies; It is the earnest Desire & Advice of this Meet=
=ing, that they do not Omit the Same, It being
agreeable to the Command of the Gospel; and
Common Justice among men.

See Negroes, page, 203.

1728

1728 For as much as repeated Occasion hath been
given of great Grief & affliction to Friends,
which hath caused the way of Truth to be
Evil Spoken of, by the Launching out of divers
under our Profession, too far into the Affairs of
this World, to their own hurt, the Reproach
of the Society, & Wronging other Persons of their
Just Properties: We recommend great care and
Circumspection to all Friends in this Respect,
& in particular do Refer to the Advices in
the Yearly Epistles, 1710, & 1724, & last year;
and

395

Trading

1728 And do Desire Friends at their Several Monthly
Meetings, to use their utmost Endeavors, by a watch=
=ful Eye, to prevent, as much as in them lies, all Such
unjust Practises and Scandals.

1729

Notwithstanding many are the good & wholesome
Advices, which in former years have been recommended
from this Meeting, Exhorting to faithfulness & Perse=
=verance in all Godliness & Honesty; Yet to Our Grief
We find there are fresh Instances of great Shortness
in coming up in the practice thereof, particularly
by some injurious defrauding their Creditors of their
Just Debts, & not performing their Word & Promise,
which have occasioned grievous Complaints; Where=
=fore We desire, & intreat, when any such occasion of
Reproach shall be, that whatsoever monthly Meeting
within the Compass whereof it may happen, they
do not fail Speedily to Set righteous Judgment on
the head of the Transgressor.

1730

1730 See Meetings for Discipline, page, 171.

1731

1731 See Conversation, page, 60.

1732

1732 We find it our Duty to remind our respective Members of the remarkable Uprightness & honesty of Our Friends in the beginning, in their Commerce & Converse; How Exact were they in performing their Words & Promises, without evasive Excuses, and insincere Dealings. How Careful not to Involve themselves in Business which they understood not, nor had Stock of their own to manage! How Circumspect not to Contract great^{er} debts than they were able to pay in due time;! which

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Website Image; Block 7, PDF page 52

396

Trading

1732 Which brought great Credit & Reputation to our Religious Society: But with Sorrow we Observe, that Contrary to their Example, & the repeated advices formerly given by this Meeting; particularly in the years. 1729 & 1731, against an inordinate pursuit after Riches, too many have Launched into Trade & Business above their Stocks and Capacities by which unjustifiable Proceedings, & high Living, they have involved themselves, & families in Trouble & Ruin, and brought Considerable Loss upon Others, to the great Reproach of our holy Profession. We therefore recommend to Friends in their respective Quarterly & Monthly Meetings, to have a watchful Eye over all their Members, and where they observe any Deficient in discharging their Contracts, & Just Debts in due time, so as to give reasonable Suspicion of weakness or Negligence, that Friends Do earnestly advise them to a Suitable Care, and necessary Inspection into their Circumstances in order that they may be helped: And if any proceed contrary to such Advice, & by their failure bring open Scandal & Reproach on the Society; that then Friends Justifiably may, & ought to Testify against such Offenders.

1735

1735 Again, Dear Friends, We esteem it our Duty to Renew our former Advices, That Friends every where, take diligent Care to prevent, as much as possible, Persons professing with us, defrauding their Creditors

of their Just Dues, to the great Scandal & Reproach of our holy Religion; by timely admonishing & Cautioning all those of our Society, who by delays in payment, & breaking their Words & Promises,
give

397

Trading

1735 give reasonable Cause of Suspicion that their Circumstances are desperate; Advising all such to Inspect their Accounts, & Give up their Effects in time, in order to make the best they can to their Creditors; which will most conduce to their own peace, & Credit, & Reputation of our Christian Society, – But if any thro' Ambition or desire of Grandeur in the World, shall reduce themselves too Insolvent after having been thus plainly Cautioned and dealt with according to the Nature of the Offence, & pursuant to the Advices of this Meeting in the years 1728, & 1732, to which We refer you, then the Society will Justly be Clear of Reproach arising from the Misconduct of Such. --A Care of this Nature, We earnestly recommend, not only to Monthly & Quarterly Meetings, but also that Friends in their private Capacity watch over, Advise and Caution, One another whenever they Observe any real Occasion for it.

1737

1737 As some Reproach and Scandal have been brought upon our Religious Society, by some bearing our Name falling short of answering their Just Debts, & others Professing with Us, being Unfaithful in bearing a Testimony against the Antichristian yoke of Tithes, Notwithstanding the several wholesome Advices given from this Meeting to the Contrary: We Declare it to be the Sense & Judgment of this Meeting, That no Person who shall fail as aforesaid, Ought to be admitted to act in meetings for Business, or Join with Friends in Collecting for the Poor & the Service of the Church, Untill they have made Satisfaction, to the Monthly Meeting they belong to & Done what is in their Power, to take of the Reproach they have by their imprudent Conduct brought on our Christian Principle. --- - - - -

See Conversation, page, 64.

1738

1738 See Conversation, page, 65.

407

Wills

N^o 50,, Concerning Wills.

1691

1691 Advised, That Care be taken in each Monthly Meeting that Friends who have Estates to Dispose of by Will or Otherwise, be particularly advised to make their Wills, or Settle their Estates, in due Time, to prevent the Incon= veniences, Loss & Trouble that may follow upon their Relations and Friends, & Injury to the Poor, thro' their Dy= ing Intestate, Delays & Omissions in this Case having been very prejudicial in divers Respects.

1695

1695 The above repeated, with this Addition; Making Such Wills in due time, will Shorten No Man's Days; But the Omission or Delay thereof has proved very pernicious to many, and Injurious to Truth.

1696

1696 See poor, page - 235.

1703

1703 Knowing how quickly many are removed by Death 'tis weightily recommended, That all Friends in Time of Health, & Strength of Judgment, take Care firmly to make their Wills, & to dispose of their Substance, as in Justice and Wisdom may be agreeable to their Satis= =faction.

1705

1705 The advice in 1703 repeated.

1706

1706 See Orphans, page, 211.

1710

1710 This Meeting recommends the Visiting the Sick amongst Friends timely, and see that they make their Wills in due time.

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Website Image; Block 7, PDF page 54

408

Wills

1713

1713 Desired, That Friends will take care that none do unadvisedly bring themselves or Others into Sufferings, by undertaking Trusts or Executorships, where they cannot Legally

discharge that Trust.

1715

1715 Advised, That Trustees & Executors concerned in Wills and Settlements do take especial Care that they faithfully discharge their respective Trusts, according to the Intent of the Doners & Testators; And that all Charitable Gifts, Legacies, Bequeasts & Settlements of Estates by Will or Deed, intended & Given for the use of the Poor, the Aged, the Impotent, or Putting Poor Friends Children to Education, or Apprentiships, may not be appropriated, or Converted to any other Uses than such as the Doners and Testators have directed and Enjoined them by Legal Settlement, Will or Testament.

409

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Book; Book of Discipline 2; pp 408, 409; DigitalDivide, V. Otieno 3/6/2020

Website Image; Block 7, PDF page 55

410

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411

Yearly Meeting

Nº.,51., Concerning the Yearly Meeting.

1672

1672 Agreed, That One or Two of each County, that yearly are Concerned in the publick Service of the Truth in Meeting each respective County, do come up to this Meeting Constituted Once a year; to be Chosen or Elected by the Quarterly Meetings of each County respectively for that purpose.

And the publick Labourers to be here in the Same Week, on the Second Day at even at farthest.

That for the better Ordering, managing & Regulating of the publick affairs of Friends relating to the Truth, & the Service thereof; There be a General Meeting of Friends held at **London** Once a year, in the Week called Whitsun Week to Consist of Six Friends

Representatives for the City of **London**. – Three for the City of **Bristol**. -Two for the Town of **Colchester** & **Wales** One or Two from each County in **England** and **Wales**, to be Chosen at their respective Quarterly Meetings next preceding the Said Week called Whitsun Week, &

to be in **London** on the Second Day of that Week.

*ministers
to be there* As Many Friends that Labour in the Truth, as have
freedom thereunto may be present at the Said Meeting.

All Others except such as are Nominated by the
Quarterly Meetings, are desired to forbear Coming to the
said General Meeting, Except such Friends as they when
met together shall see meet to admit.

The said Yearly Meeting of Representatives to
Continue till further Order.

1673

1673 Agreed, That the General Meeting consisting of Two
Friends from each Quarterly Meeting about Pub=
=lick, Business, appointed the 29th of the Third Month
1672, till further Order.

be

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Website Image; Block 7, PDF page 56

412

Yearly Meeting

be discontinued till Friends in God's Wisdom

shall see further Occasion.

*1673
Meeting of
Representa:
=tives discon
=tinued* That the General Meeting of Friends who
Labour in the Work of the Ministry do Continue
as formerly appointed.

1677

1677 Then Agreed, That the Yearly Meeting of one
or two from each County, as formerly agreed upon
at a General Meeting in **London**, upon the 29th of the 3^d
Month 1672, appointed yearly to Meet about the
Revived publick Affairs of Friends, Sometime in the Week
called Whitsun Week, Until further Order, and
afterwards agreed to be Discontinued from the
21st of the Third Month 1673, till Friends in God's
Wisdom should See a further Occasion for it,
Be again Revived & begun this time twelve month,
and then Friends to Advise about the Continuance
thereof, as they in God's Counsel Shall see Occasion.

1678

1678 It is the desire of this Meeting, That you
would Nominate One or Two Friends to come
Sufferings up the Next Year at the Usual Time, for the Service
*Information
& Assistance* of Truth, & that they bring with them the Total
of the Sufferings of the foregoing Year not before
Sent up; and Whatsoever else you desire Information
or Assistance in, Let it be writ & Subscribed by Some
*The end and
Intent of* of your Meeting in the Name of the Rest: The End of
this Meeting not being Limited to the Case of Sufferings;

the Meeting but Intended for the More general Service of the Truth
and Body of Friends, in all those things, wherein
We may be capable to Serve One Another in Love.

1679

413

Yearly Meeting

1679

1679 Agreed, That Friends be desired in their Quarterly
Meetings respectively to take Care to appoint Some faith=
=ful Friend or Friends to Attend this Meeting this time
twelve Month as formerly.

N.B. Since[^]this time it has annually Continued.

1681

1681 A Yearly Meeting in **Wales** agreed to be held
Wales about a Month before that of **London**. . .

1688 &c

1688} See Representatives, annis, 1688, 1690, 1691, p 301

1690} 1694

1691} Agreed, That the Friends of the West of **England** may
1694 have a Yearly Meeting for Worship at **Bristol**.

1695

1695 The Good and blessed Intent & End of This, &
Intent of all our Assemblies, is, with the Lord's Assistance, for
yearly His honour in promoting & Maintaining of our Chris=
meetings =tian Society & Religion in Life and Practice in all
&c the Parts and Branches thereof.

1696

1696 ... See Epistles, page, 113.

1697

1697 Ordered, That such faithful Women Friends as
Women have a publick Testimony, that are in the City at the
publick Time of the Yearly Meeting, may have their Liberty
friends. to Sit with their Ministring Brethren, at their
Second Day's Morning Yearly Meeting for Worship.

1698

Book; Book of Discipline 2; pp 412, 413; DigitalDivide, V. Otieno 3/6/2020

Website Image; Block 7, PDF page 57

414

Yearly Meeting

1698

1698 A Proposition that Friends may have
Northern Yearly Meeting for Worship Only, for their
Yearly Comfort, and to provoke one another to Love &

Meeting Good Works, for the Counties of **Cumberland, Westmorland, Lancashire, & Cheshire**, & any Other Neighbouring counties that are free to Join with them, Consented to, until this Meeting Shall Otherwise direct, and upon Condition That it may not Interfere with the Service & Power of this Meeting. 1699. See, pa: 419
1700.

1700 See Representatives, page, 301.
1706

1706 See Questions, page, 270
1707

1707 Agreed, That when this Meeting directs the Morning Meeting, or any other Meeting, to a Ser=
=vice That henceforth the said Meetings Should be provided to give an account to the next Yearly Meeting.

1709

1709 Representatives, not to go out of Town before the Meeting Ends. – See Representatives, p, 302 And See Meetings for Discipline, p, 167.

1710

1710 It is the Desire & Agreement of this Meeting, That *Orderly* the Business & Concerns thereof be Solidly, in the *Managing* Fear of God, managed & carried on without Contention *theor* Striving, & with as few Words & in as pertinant Ex=
Business =pressions to the Matter in hand as may be for Expedi=
=tion of the Affairs thereof without Loss of Time, or any ways disordering the Meeting: But one at a Time Speaking & Standing up; That all things may be done decently & in Good Order.

1718

415

Yearly Meeting

1718

1718 Friends, are reminded, That the Intent & holy *The Intent* Design of our Annual Assemblies; in their first Con=
&=stitution, was for a great & weighty Oversight and *Design of* Christian Care of the Affairs of the Churches, pertaining *Yearly* to our holy Profession & Christian Communion, That good *meetings* Order, True Love, Unity & Concord may be faithfully followed & maintained among all of Us, as a peculiar People Called & Chosen out of the World, & the Errors and Corruptions thereof; knowing also that Sincere Love & Union in general, will be a great Cause of Truth's prospe=
=rity among Ourselves, & of the prevalency thereof over the World & the Spirit of it. – All which Seriously Con=
=sidered; We Sincerely desire & humbly hope That God will graciously please more & more to put into the Hearts of Friends & Brethren to be zealously Concerned, that

Universal Love, true Union, Peace & Concord be followed and Maintained in all the Churches of Christ; And all the Contrary, as Enmity, division, Discord & Strife, watch=ed against & Shut out for Ever, that the Power & Peace of our God may prevail & Rule in all our hearts more & more, where unto we are Called in One Body, that the God of Love & Peace may be with Us for Ever, which is the Earnest Desire and Travel of the Souls of all the faithful.

1719

1719 Advised, that the Several Meetings do Commit the Epistles of the Yearly Meeting, whether Printed or written, to the Custody of Some Suitable and able Friend, to whom Friends may have recourse as Occasion requires, Or they may be Read in Meet=ings at Suitable oppertunities.

See Meetings for Discipline, p, 169

1720

Book; Book of Discipline 2; pp 414, 415; DigitalDivide, V. Otieno 3/6/2020

Website Image; Block 7, PDF page 58

416

Yearly Meeting

1720

1720

By a Proposal from the Yearly Meeting in

ABristol, held the 16th & 17th Days of the Third Month

*Circular*last, Sent by **Samuel Bownass & Joseph Dibble -**

*Yearly*Desiring Liberty from this Meeting, to set up a

*Meeting*Circular Yearly Meeting for Worship, in the Counties

*in the*of **Cornwall, Devon, Gloucester, Hereford, Somerset**

*Western***Wilts, Worchester, & Bristol**; The first Circular Meet=

*Counties*ing to begin the Second First day in the Seventh Month

next coming at **Bradford**,-----The Said Proposal

being taken into Consideration, It is agreed, That the Said Circular Meeting may be held Provided it

be with these Restrictions; First, that the Meeting

be for Worship only; & Secondly, That the Time of holding the Said Circular Yearly Meeting be in

the Seventh Month in every year.

1731

1731

See Conversation; page, 60

1732

1732

Papers to It is agreed, That all Papers to this Meeting, be signed from Half-Yearly, Quarterly, or Monthly Meetings ought to be Signed in Such Meetings.

It is Agreed, That for the future, the Meet=ing for Sufferings shall Nominate Six Friends

out of their own Members, to this Yearly Meet=
*Choosing*ing in Order for this Meeting to Choose three out of
*Cashiers*them instead of those who are to go out, to be Cashiers
for this Meetings Stock; And that the Persons so
Nominated be Such as are Members of the
Said Meeting.

1733

417

Yearly Meeting

1733

1733 Agreed, That in order to prevent Debate in the
*Method*Yearly Meeting, respecting the Choice of a Clerk,
*for*that the Several Meetings that are Members of this
*Choosing*Yearly Meeting, be divided into Five Districts,
Clerk^aas follows, viz^t.

North

**Yorkshire, Durham, Northumberland, Cumberland,
Westmorland, Lancashire, Cheshire, Scotland.**

South.

**London, Middlesex, Surry, Sussex, Kent,
Hampshire, Berkshire.**

East

**Essex, Colchester, Suffolk, Norfolk, Norwich,
Lincolnshire, Cambridgeshire, & Ely Hunting.**

West

**Cornwall , Devonshire, Dorsetshire, Somersetshire,
Bristol, Wiltshire, Gloucestershire, Herefordshire,
Worcestershire, North Wales, South Wales;**

Midland.

**Derbyshire, Leicestershire, Rutland, Warwickshire,
Northamptonshire, Oxfordshire, Buckinghamshire,
Bedfordshire, Hartfordshire, Nottinghamshire,
Staffordshire.**

And that a Clerk be Annually
Chosen by One of the said Districts, in the Course
and Order that they do now Stand.

And that as the Clerk for the present year
is of the Northern District, so next Year One to be
Chosen by the Friends of the Southern; and the
Year following by the East; and the next Suc[^]eeding
Year by the West, and the Year after that by
the Midland District; And so on in a
Continual Rotation,

until

Yearly Meeting

1733 Until the Same shall be altered by the year=
=ly Meeting.

And in Order that the Election of a Clerk as aforesaid, may be made in a convenient Manner, We think it will be proper, that the Meetings Composing the De=
=strict on whom the Election for that year doth fall, be first called over, & the Name's of the Representatives of Such Meetings, be first Entered; And that They then immediately Retire into the Chamber, in Order to a Nomina=
=tion of a proper Person to propose to the Meet=
=ing for their approbation as a Clerk, for that year.

Advice Concerning deputing proper Persons to attend the Yearly Meeting,
See Representatives, page, - 303.

1735

1735 This Meeting desires that all Propositions
Propositions from any Monthly Quarterly, Half Yearly, or
to be in Yearly Meetings to this Meeting, be delivered
writing in Writeing & Signed by Order of Such Meetings.

Ordered, That the Second Days Morning
2nd Days Meeting, which precedes every Yearly Meeting
morning do only Consist of Publick Friends, & Such ^{frds} as
Yearly are, or shall be pursuant to the Minute of 1727,
Meeting appointed to Sit in the Morning Meeting of **London**
or any Other Meeting of Ministring Friends.

It is agreed, that immediately after the
Conclusion Finishing of the Business of this Meeting, there
of the Meeting be a seasonable Oppertunity for the Ministring
Friends, & other Members, in the Wisdom of Truth,
to Speak what may be upon their Minds to
Mutual Comfort and Edification,

and

Yearly Meeting

1735 And it is Ordered, That at Such times, no Persons be permitted to Stay in the Meeting, Except Publick Friends, Representatives & Correspondents: -----
After which it is agreed that a publick parting Meeting be held.

1736

1736 Ordered, That all Letters directed to the Yearly Meet=
Letters =ing, except from Such Meetings as regularly Correspond therewith, be perused by a Committee, who are to Con=
=sider & Report whether the Same be proper to be read in the Meeting of not.

1742 1742
See Questions, page, 272.

1745 1745
See Appeals, page, 4.
1746

1746 See Representatives, page, 303
1750

1750 This Meeting observing with great Concern a
Deficiency in divers Counties in not duly attending
this Meeting; Some being Represented but by One
^xSee Friend, & one without any, cannot but Strongly re=
Representa=commend an Observance of the Minute in 1728,^x Which
=tives directs that ^not less than Four Friends Should be appointed
page 302. for each County, that in Case of Sickness or Other Accident,
There may be a Sufficient Number to answer the Service
of the Meeting, by the want of which the Business is
too often Obstructed.

1699. Omitted in pa, 414.

1699 Declared, That it was & is Intent of this Meet=
=ing, That those Meetings which are or shall be
held Yearly in any of the Counties or Places in
England, distinct from this Meeting, be only for
Worship; Also that they Continue Only from year
to year, intirely Subject to the advice,
of this Meeting.

1760

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Website Image; Block 7, PDF page 60

420

Yearly Meeting

1760 1760
At the Yearly Meeting held in **Newport**
on **Rhode Island** it was agreed, & Concluded
that the following Method for Constituting
Meetings of Ministers & Elders should be
here added.

method of 1st - That in Each Monthly Meeting, some
Constituting Solid Friends of Either or both Sexes be ap=
Meetings of pointed for each particular Meeting, as Elders
Ministers to have the Oversight of the Ministry, and to
& Elders Advise & Counsel both the Ministers at home
and Such who Travel amongst them, as they in
the Wisdom of Truth may see Necessary.
2.^d - That the Ministers in Unity and Elders
So appointed within the Compass of Each Month=
=ly Meeting, Meet by themselves, once in three Mo=
=nths, & wait to feel their Minds seasoned with

the Virtue of Truth, & then Read the Queries, & Make diligent enquiry into the state of their Members, & form Such Answers thereto, as appears Agreeable to their States: The Said answers to be Signed by the Clerk & Some Friends appointed to Attend the Quarterly Meeting of Ministers, and Elders therewith, where the Queries are again to be read & Answered, & at the Quarterly Meeting preceeding the Yearly Meeting, that general Answers in Writing be drawn up & Transmitted from thence to the Yearly Meeting of Ministers & Elders, by Friends appointed to attend the same, & that that the Ministers in Unity & Elders Appointed, as above Directed shall be only Deemed proper Members of said Meetings.

3^{dlv}

421

Yearly Meeting

1760^{3d} - That where any Friends come forth by way of Publick Ministry, that the Elders and those of Experience have a tender Care over them & after a Suitable time of tryal; if their Conversations be clean and blameless & friends are Convinced that the Lord hath Called them to that Weighty Work That then the Monthly Meeting to which they belong; Do recommend them to the Quarterly Meeting of Ministers: (by a Minute Signed by the Clerk) and that they then may Set in the Meeting of Ministers and Elders.

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