If any in membership with us shall blaspheme, or speak prophanely of Almighty God, Christ Jesus, or the Holy Spirit, they ought to be timely and earnestly treated with for the convincement of their understandings, that they may experience repentance and forgiveness, but should any, notwithstanding such brotherly labour, persist in their error, or deny the divinity of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, the immediate revelation of the Holy Spirit, or the authenticity of the scriptures; as it will thereby be manifest that they are not one in faith with us, the monthly meetings, where they belong, ought, after the aforesaid earnest and religious endeavours without effect, to declare the same, and issue their testimony accordingly.

It is the earnest concern of the Yearly Meeting that in all our dealings and transactions among men, strict justice may be observed, and that no motives of pecuniary interest may induce any of our members to impose upon each other, or upon any with whom they may have commercial intercourse; and it is directed that Monthly Meetings be careful to extend suitable admonition against all deviations in these respects, for the help and recovery of delinquents; and as it is obvious that there can be no just pretensions to religious rectitude, without a conformity to moral justice, monthly meetings are authorised to disown those, who will not be reclaimed by their brotherly endeavours in these respects.

Convinced Persons.

It is directed that the following order be observed respecting persons who apply for admittance into membership. They are to apply to the overseers, or elders, who, when they are easy so to do, are to lay the case before the preparative meeting; and after that meeting is fully satisfied, by prayng a visit, or otherwise, they are to lay it before the Monthly Meeting; which meeting shall appoint some suitable friends to enquire into the lives and conversations of the applicants, and also to take solid opportunities of conference with them, in order the better to understand whether their motives for such request be sincere, and on the ground of

convincement; and report their sense thereof, with which if the meeting be satisfied, a minute should be made signifying the acceptance of such into membership, and appointing a friend or two to acquaint the persons thereof.

But in all cases, friends are exhorted to attend carefully to the advice of the apostle, "Lay hands suddenly on no man": The neglect of such caution having often been injurious both to the individuals and to society: to them by settling them in a false rest; and to society, by adding to its numbers, without increasing its joy; both of which being circumstances of acknowledged importance monthly meetings are desired to be weighty in their deliberations and results on all such occasions; and when united in believing that the applicants are clearly convinced of our religious principles, and in a good degree subject to the government of the divine witness in their own hearts, manifested by circumspection of life and conduct, the said meetings should receive such into membership.

Days and Times.

As we are persuaded that no religious act can be acceptable to God, unless produced by the influence and assistance of his holy spirit, it is our judgment that our members cannot consistently join with any, in the observance of public fasts, feasts, or what are termed holy-days, or such injunctions and forms as are devised by the will of man in regard thereto: for though exterior observances of a similar kind, were once authorised under the law, as shadows of things to come, yet they who come to Christ, will, we believe, assuredly find that in him all shadows end; and that "he hath obtained a better ministry, by how much also is he the mediator of a better covenant, and established upon better promises." Heb. VIII. and 6. "Let no man therefore, says the apostle, judge you in meat, or drink, or in respect of an holy-day, or of the new moon, or of the sabbath days, which are a shadow of things to come; but the body is of Christ." Col II – 16 and 17. The same apostle also thus expostulates with some, who it appears had fallen from