

take solid opportunities for advising and admonishing them against such procedure (at least two friends uniting in such service) after which if the party or parties so precautioned shall, notwithstanding, depart from our well known and established order, such step is to be considered by monthly meetings as a relinquishment of their right of membership with the society, and they are accordingly to be testified against. In all cases where the above religious care has not been previously extended, monthly meetings should deal with such, as in other cases of offence, and if not brought to acknowledge and condemn their misconduct, they are to be disowned.

And if any parents or guardians consent to, or promote the marriages of their children and those under their care, (members of society) contrary to our established order, if after brotherly labour has been extended to them, they cannot be brought to a due sense of their error, and to make a satisfactory acknowledgment for the same monthly meetings are authorised to issue testimonies of denial against them.

Meeting Houses.

Quarterly and monthly meetings are directed to make timely and careful inspection into the situation of the titles of meeting houses, and burial grounds; and other estates which have been vested in trustees, and by them held for the use and benefit of the society at large, or of any of those meetings, so that if it should appear needful, by the death of any such trustees, or otherwise, due and reasonable care may be taken to appoint some others to the trust; that future difficulties, and the risk of being deprived of such estates may be avoided. And it is further directed that monthly and quarterly meetings respectively, as the case may require, keep exact records, of all such trusts and conveyances, and also that a clear and regular account be kept by each respective meeting, of the place where, and the persons with whom, the papers, minutes, and records

belonging to our religious society, are from time to time deposited; wherein due care should be taken to lodge them with suitable friends.

Meeting for Sufferings.

In order that the yearly meeting, with its several branches, might be properly represented; during the recess thereof, a meeting was instituted in the year 1778, by the name of the "Meeting for Sufferings;" which by a subsequent regulation, is to consist of twenty friends, appointed by the yearly meeting, and four friends appointed by each of the quarterly meetings, who are to meet at Baltimore, on the seventh days preceding Baltimore quarterly meetings, at the third hour in the afternoon; but the said meeting is privileged to sit on its own adjournments, or to call a special meeting whenever four members shall judge it necessary; and is to be subject to the following rules.

- I. The said meeting shall keep fair minutes of all its proceedings, and annually lay them before the yearly meeting.
 - II. No less number than twelve of the members attending, shall constitute a meeting capable of transacting business.
 - III. On all occasions of uncommon importance, previous notice, thereof shall be given or sent to all the members, if practicable.
 - IV. In case the decease of any member or members, appointed either by the Yearly meeting, or Quarterly meetings, should not be immediately supplied — or of any declining or greatly neglecting their attendance, the Meeting for Sufferings, are to notify said meeting or meetings, of such death or delinquency, in order that the places of those may be supplied by new appointments.
 - V. The said meeting is not to meddle with any matter of faith or discipline, which has not been determined by the Yearly meeting.
- The further services confided to the said Meeting for Sufferings, are
1. In general to represent the Yearly meeting, and to appear on its behalf, in cases where the interest or reputation of our religious society may render it needful.