

Second. Do Friends maintain love towards each other becoming our christian profession? Are tale-hearing and detraction discouraged? And when differences arise, are endeavours used speedily to end them?

Third. Do Friends endeavour, by example and precept, to educate their children, and those under their care, in plainness of speech, deportment and apparel? Do they guard them against reading pernicious books, and from the corrupt conversation of the world? And are they encouraged frequently to read the Holy Scriptures?

Fourth. Is our testimony against distilled spirituous liquors maintained agreeably to our Discipline? Do Friends avoid frequenting taverns or attending places of diversion? And do they observe moderation and temperance on all occasions?

Fifth. Are the necessities of the poor, and the circumstances of those who may appear likely to require aid, inspected and relieved? Are they advised and assisted in such employments as they are capable of? And is due care taken to provide for the school education of their children?

Sixth. Do Friends maintain a faithful testimony against a hireling ministry, oaths, military services, clandestine trade, prize-goods and lotteries?

Seventh. Are Friends careful to live within the bounds of their circumstances, and to avoid involving themselves in business beyond their ability to manage? Are they just in their dealings and punctual in complying with their engagements? And where any give reasonable grounds for fear in these respects, is due care extended to them?

Eighth. Are Friends careful to bear a testimony against slavery? Are those of the African

GENERAL ADVICES.

race under their direction suitably provided for, and are they instructed in useful learning?

Ninth. Is care taken to deal with offenders seasonably and impartially, and to evince to those who will not be reclaimed the spirit of meekness and love, before they are disowned?

Tenth. What ministers and elders deceased, and when?

Eleventh. What new meetings have been settled?

Twelfth. Are Friends careful as far as practicable to place their children for tuition under the charge of suitable teachers in membership with us?

GENERAL ADVICES.

It is further desired, that, in the Preparative and Monthly Meetings, in which all the foregoing queries shall be read and answered, the following advices may also be read, with a suitable pause between each of them, in order that those present may be excited to a consideration, whether there is any occasion for an extension of care in these respects, in relation either to themselves or others.

Friends are Advised,

To observe due moderation in the furniture of their houses, and to avoid superfluity in their manner of living.

To attend to the limitations of truth in their temporal business.

To be careful to place their children amongst Friends, preferring those whose care and example

will be most likely to conduce to their preservation.

To inspect the state of their temporal affairs once in the year, and to make their wills whilst in health.

To apply for certificates when about to remove, and to pay proper attention to those coming from other places, who appear as Friends, without producing certificates.

It is further recommended, that when occasions of uneasiness appear in any, such may be treated with, in privacy, and with tenderness before the matter be communicated to another, thus the hands of those concerned in the further exercise of the discipline will not be weakened, by a consciousness on their part, of a departure from the true order of the gospel.

Also that Friends endeavour to manage the affairs of our meetings in meekness and wisdom, with decency, forbearance and love to each other, labouring to maintain the "unity of the spirit in the bond of peace."

QUERIES

FOR MEETINGS OF MINISTERS AND ELDERS.

It is directed that of the following four queries, formed for the use of the meetings of ministers and elders, the first three be read and distinctly answered in writing, three times in the year, by each Preparative Meeting of that kind, to its respective Quarterly Meeting; and that all the said four queries be in like manner read and answered by the Preparative to their Quarterly Meetings next preceding the Yearly Meeting of ministers and elders; in order that the Quarterly Meetings

may be enabled to transmit a clear and distinct statement of those answers to that meeting.

QUERIES FOR MINISTERS AND ELDERS.

I. ARE ministers and elders diligent in the attendance of meetings for worship and discipline; and do they encourage their families to that religious duty?

II. Are ministers in the exercise of their gifts careful to wait for divine ability?

III. Are ministers and elders in unity one with another, and with the meetings to which they belong? Manifesting a religious concern for the advancement of truth, and the support of our discipline?

IV. Are ministers and elders good examples, in uprightness, temperance and moderation, and careful to educate their families in plainness of dress, and simplicity of manners, becoming our religious profession?

Advices to Ministers and Elders.

It is also desired, that the following advices be deliberately read in each subordinate select meeting, at least once in each year.

Let all in their testimonies be cautious of using unnecessary preambles, and of asserting too positively a divine impulse, the baptising power of truth accompanying their words, being the true evidence.

Let all read the holy scriptures frequently; and be careful neither to misquote, nor misapply them.

Let ministers be careful how they enter upon

disputed points in their testimonies, or of making such objections as they do not clearly answer.

Let all be cautious of interrupting the solemnity of meetings by unnecessary additions towards the conclusion.

Let all be careful not to hurt their service by tones, avoiding all affectation and those gestures which do not comport with christian gravity.

And lastly, let all dwell in that which gives ability to labour successfully in the church of Christ, adorning the doctrine they deliver to others. Being examples of the believers in word, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith and in purity.

SCHOOLS.

Advices
thereon.

THE very important subject of the education of our youth, in piety and virtue, and giving them useful learning, under the tuition of religious prudent persons, having for many years engaged the attention of the Yearly Meeting, and advices having, from time to time, been issued thereon, to the several subordinate meetings: it is renewedly desired that Quarterly, Monthly and Preparative Meetings may be excited to proper exertions, for the establishment and support of schools; there being but little doubt, that as Friends unite and cherish a disposition of liberality, for the assistance of each other, in this interesting work, they will be enabled to make such provision, as would encourage well qualified persons to engage in this arduous employment: for want of which, it has been observed, that children have been committed to the care of transient persons, of doubtful character, and sometimes of corrupt minds; by whose

example and influence they have been betrayed into principles and habits, which have had an injurious effect on them through life. It is, therefore, indispensably incumbent on us, to guard against this danger, and procure tutors of our own religious persuasion; who are not only capable of instructing them in useful learning, to fit them for business, in relation to temporal concerns; but to train them up in the knowledge of their duty to God, and one towards another.

SCRIPTURES,

OF THE OLD AND NEW TESTAMENTS.

THE Holy Scriptures being the external means of preserving and conveying to us, an account of the things most surely to be believed concerning the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, in the flesh; and the fulfilling of the promises relating thereto; it is the earnest concern of the Yearly Meeting, to press upon Friends, a diligent acquaintance with the sacred records; and that parents and heads of families would both by example and advice, impress upon the susceptible and retentive minds of the youth, a reverent esteem for the doctrines and precepts of the Christian religion, contained therein; inducing them to believe, that the same experience of the work of sanctification, through the operation of the spirit of God, to which the holy scriptures abundantly bear testimony, has been, and is to be witnessed by believers in all generations. Our dear youth, thus educated in the belief of these important truths, may be prepared to receive the spiritual appearance of God in their hearts, according to our holy profession.

STOCK.

A STOCK having by experience been found useful for the occasions of the society, it is desired by the Yearly Meeting, that the same be occasionally renewed, by a collection from each Quarter, in the proportions which may, from time to time, be determined by the Yearly Meeting; and that it be continued in the hands of the treasurer appointed by the meeting, and be subject to be drawn out by its direction, or by the Meeting for Sufferings, as the exigencies of society may require.

Quarterly and Monthly Meetings are also directed, to raise, and keep up a stock to be used for such purposes as their respective occasions may render necessary.

Women's meetings are also to raise and keep up a stock of their own, for purposes which may properly claim their attention.

TAVERNS.

It is the concern of the Yearly Meeting to caution all our members, to avoid the unnecessary frequenting of taverns, and other places of public resort, in order that they may not be exposed to evil company, and unprofitable conversation; or be betrayed into the use of strong liquors, by which many have been corrupted, both in principle and practice, to the ruin of themselves and their families. And if any be in danger on these accounts, it is desired that they may be timely and tenderly treated with, in order to convince them thereof.

Considering the snares and temptations to which those are exposed, who keep houses of en-

Cautions in
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On friends
keeping tav-
erns.

tainment, and the corrupting influence of many who resort to them, it is desired, that our members may avoid engaging in such employments for a livelihood.

Friends are also earnestly desired, not to promote, in any manner, the establishment, or further increase of taverns.

TESTIMONIES,

OF DENIAL AND ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

It is the judgment of the Yearly Meeting, that Acknowledgments from those under dealing, and who may be under dealing or disowned, should be made from those under dealing.

And who incline to acknowledge and condemn their offences, shall do the same in writing, which ought to be shown, if under dealing, to the committee appointed in their case; or if disowned to the overseers. And if the purport be judged suitable to the occasion, it may be forwarded to the Monthly Meeting, which is to consider the case, and appoint two or more Friends to inform the party of the result.

In all cases, those who are under dealing for offences, and who offer acknowledgments to Monthly Meetings, ought to particularize in such offerings, the matter or matters charged upon them.

And in relation to acknowledgments from those who have been disowned, the ground upon which they ought to be accepted, being a belief on the part of Monthly Meetings, of their sincerity and contrition; when these are apparent, it is not expedient to oblige such to recite the particular misconduct, with which they have been charged, and which has been specified in testimonies of denial against them.

Or disowned