

The minutes of the meeting for sufferings were read.

After consideration it was concluded to change the times of holding the stated meetings for sufferings to the usual hour on third day afternoon, before the time of holding Baltimore Quarterly meeting, in the 3^d and 9th months; and that there be but those two stated meetings of that body in the year.

A list of sufferings, forwarded through the meeting for sufferings to this, containing an account of property taken to the amount of 25 dollars for 12 dollars demanded, for militia fines, from Friends within the limits of Warrington Quarterly meeting, was received and read, and directed to be returned to that meeting to be recorded.

The meeting was informed that two vacancies had occurred in the meeting for sufferings, by the decease of Andrew Elliott and John Janney, who heretofore stood appointed members of that meeting on behalf of this: the following friends were appointed to confer and agree upon two suitable friends to succeed them, and report to a future sitting to wit: William Riley, Jesse Scott, Jacob Lapham, Jonathan Swick, Lewis Hargy, John Wright, John Griffith, Joshua Lupton, George Drinker, Thomas Furnace, Thomas Waring and John Chas Thomas.

Then adjourned to 3 o'clock this afternoon.

Pursuant to adjournment friends again met.

The committee appointed to prepare an essay of an epistle, from this meeting to the members of our Quarterly, Monthly and Preparative meetings, produced the following, which was approved, and 1500 copies directed to be printed and divided between our several Quarterly meetings, in the usual proportions.

To the members of the Quarterly, Monthly and Preparative meetings of friends belonging to the Yearly Meeting of Baltimore.

Dear Friends

Your brethren, assembled in the capacity of a Yearly Meeting, have again, as upon many former occasions, felt a fervent engagement of spirit for your present and everlasting welfare, and for your attainment and permanent enjoyment of the best things; under the influence of this concern it is believed, that the various obstacles to this truly desirable situation, ought to claim your serious and most earnest attention, as they have been the causes of an earnest solicitude of soul with us, on your account. It is much feared that many mistake the nature and extent of the love, which ought to fill the minds of those who compose the Church - It is not a mere natural affection - It is not simply the feeling which enables us to be on good terms with our neighbours - It is a condition of the heart which arises from the operation of God, and is inseparable from his spiritual government.

If true love abounded in our hearts, we should rejoice at the recurrence of the periods set apart for religious worship - we should find it painful to be deprived of the liberty of becoming united partakers of that precious feeling, which on such occasions, is experienced to flow from vessel - ^{we} we should place more value upon this privilege, than upon the possession of any worldly enjoyment or glory.

As the possession of genuine Christian love would lead us to join each other in the solemn duty of worship, so a neglect of the duty will cause this love gradually to depart from our minds - it will alienate us from the love of our heavenly Father, and fill us with jealousies against our brethren - we shall be offended with those who are desirous to be faithful,