

for the Lords work, was shown to be one of undiminished importance, and it was felt to be a matter affecting the highest interests of society, that those that minister to the people amongst us, do not attempt to sustain themselves, or to feed their hearers on the manna of yesterday; but that they depend upon that renewed qualification which is the immediate descendings from the inexhaustible source of light and life. By thus maintaining a lively testimony to the efficacy and efficiency of a free Gospel Ministry, and holding our meetings in that solemnity which would be the result of this watchful dependence upon the immediate incomes from the Divine Fountain, - silent when there is nothing given to communicate, we should more frequently experience the Temple of the Lord to be so filled with His Glory as to leave no room for the Priest and Levite.

A concern was also feelingly expressed that our testimony against war should be faithfully maintained. The time we live in loudly calls on us as a religious Society, not only to abstain from every thing tending to encourage the desolating spirit of war, but with renewed energy to raise and exalt the blessed standard of the "Prince of Peace". The sword has been unsheathed in our land and is already bathed in blood. - Many have been ~~and~~ made widows and orphans - innocent women and children have been mangled & slain - and thousands of our fellow men, both of our own and a neighboring nation, have been suddenly transferred from the field of battle, into the immediate and awful presence of the righteous Judge of Heaven and Earth."

"It may be truly said that "the abomination which maketh desolate" is passing through our land; and among the various associations for religious purposes, how few appear disposed to oppose its progress? Under these circumstances, this Yearly Meeting has been feelingly and deeply exercised that our members, every where, may be renewedly concerned to maintain and extend our ancient testimonies against war; believing that as Friends are faithful to the openings of Truth, they will be engaged, not to hide their light under a bed or under a bushel, but to set it on the candlestick, that it may give light, to all that are in the house.

The language of the Divine Master to all His followers is, "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and Glorify our Father who is in Heaven."

Under an undoubted belief that the Discipline of our religious Society had its origin in the openings of Divine Light, the meeting has been deeply concerned that this Discipline may be faithfully maintained in all its parts. Experience has abundantly proved, that, as it is exercised in the authority of Truth, its tendency is to promote the highest welfare of society, to preserve us in harmony and love, and to bind us together as a united body, in promoting the blessed cause of righteousness in the earth. - On the other hand, where its requisitions are disregarded, or, through a mistaken plea of charity, or from any other pretext, its order is violated; discord and confusion ensue, and the great purposes of our religious association are, measurably, frustrated."