

1858

Washington Quarterly Meeting informs that that meeting will be held in future at Menallen at the usual time in the 2^d and 8th months, and at Pipe Creek at the usual time in the 5th and 11th months.

Acceptable Epistles from our brethren of Philadelphia, New York, Ohio, Indiana and Genesee Yearly Meetings, were received and read to our encouragement and comfort, and the Clerk was directed to have them published in our Extracts, in order that all our members may partake of the benefits of the salutary instruction contained therein.

Samuel M. Ganney, Darlington Hoopes, Samuel Townsends, Chalkley Gillingham, William B. Steer, Robert F. Roberts, William C. Haviland, Israel J. Graham, Cyrus Griest, John Needles, Nathan Haines, Thomas Matthews, Thomas P. Staller, Benjamin P. Moore, Philip E. Thomas, Levi K. Brown, George Reese and John Russell were appointed to prepare Essays of Epistles as may open thereof, to the several Yearly Meetings with which we correspond, and report to a future sitting.

The representatives were requested to confer together at the close of this sitting, and bring forward to our next, the names of suitable Friends to serve this meeting as Clerk and assistant Clerk the present year.

Then adjourned to 3 o'clock in the afternoon.

On assembling in the afternoon William B. Steer, on behalf of the Representatives, reported that they had conferred together and were united in proposing Benjamin Hallowell for Clerk, and Samuel Townsends for assistant Clerk, which was approved by the meeting, and the Friends named were appointed Clerks to the meeting for the present year.

The Standing committee on Indian concerns produced the following interesting Report, which was read and approved. The Committee was continued, and encouraged to embark every night opening to continue their assistance to these interesting objects of our Christian solicitude and regard.

To the Yearly Meeting now sitting.

The Committee on Indian concerns report, That during the past year we have continued our care and attention to the service to which we are appointed. The Senecas have, on several occasions appealed to us for advice and assistance, which we have, as far as in our power, extended to them. Among other applications a communication was received from the President of the nation, dated the 20th of the 5th month 1858, from which the following is extracted:-

"Executive Department, Allegany Reservation

May 20th 1858

Esteemed Friends -

I make this communication to you, that whereas Councils of Warriors have been called from time to time by S. J. Strong, Peter Wilson, George Jamison and several others, for the purpose of agitating amongst us the Kansas land claim. As near as I can judge by their movements, their intention is to open the way for an emigration to Kansas, but the whole of their transactions are illegal - done in a corner, under a cloak. The Kansas land claim agitators, are about sending a delegation to Washington, contrary to the wishes and without the authority of the Seneca Nation, for which reason a strict watch is enjoined upon you, as our faithful protector, and may God reward you and bless you for the many kind favors you have already heretofore done to our people. When the Senecas make any movement and have any thing to do with the United States government, it should be by the power of the Seneca Nation; the President and council, so called; and I would inform you that it is not the wish or desire of a majority of the Senecas to agitate the above said claim."

Upon the receipt of this communication a delegation was sent to lay it before the commissioner of Indian Affairs at Washington, and to request that no aid might be given to any insidious attempts to promote the emigration of these Indians from their present homes, contrary to the wishes of their constituted authorities, and upon the case being stated and explained, the delegation was informed by the commissioner that the question of ^{claim} by these Indians for land in Kansas had heretofore been considered by the Secretary of the Interior, who is