

1868

Twenty eighth of the Month and fourth of the week,
Near the hour adjourned to the Meeting gathered

The Consideration of the State of Society as brought before us by the Answers to the Queries, was again resumed, and having proceeded some hours through the remainder of the Queries, the following Summary was adopted, as nearly representing the State of Society throughout our Yearly Meeting since last year, viz,

First Answer

All our Meetings for Worship and Discipline, have been held except two within the limits of Baltimore Quarterly Meeting, five within the limits of Nottingham Quarterly Meeting; The mid-week Meetings at Octoraro and Little Elk; within the limits of the same Quarterly Meeting, for the greater part of the past year, those held on First days, generally attended by most of our members; those held near the middle of the week, and for Discipline continue to be neglected by many. Unbecoming behavior therein, mostly avoided, and the hour of Meeting is nearly observed by most Friends. Two of the Reports state, that more punctuality in the hour of Meeting would be desirable; and Nottingham Quarterly Meeting informs that the mid-week Meetings at Little Elk have been resumed and are now regularly held.

Second Answer

Most Friends appear to maintain love towards each other becoming our Christian profession. Tale-bearing and detraction are generally discouraged, and care has been taken to end differences, when they have appeared.

Third Answer

Some Friends endeavor, by example and precept, to educate their children and those under their care, in plainness of speech, deportment and apparel; to guard them against pernicious reading, and from corrupt conversation, and to encourage the frequent reading of the Holy Scriptures. But it is acknowledged that more attention to the important particulars of this query, would be profitable.

Fourth Answer

Friends generally maintain our testimony against distilled spirituous liquors, agreeably to our Discipline and appear to avoid frequenting taverns unnecessarily. Mostly clear of attending places

of diversion, and Moderation and temperance are generally observed. Two of the reports make an abatement in regard to attending places of diversion.

Fifth Answer

The necessities of the poor are inspected, and relief afforded; they are advised and assisted in such employments as they appear to be capable of; and care is taken for the school education of their children.

Sixth Answer

As far as appears, Friends generally maintain a testimony against a hieling Ministry, oaths, Military services, clandestine trade, pig-gelding, and lotteries. Four of the Reports make exceptions with regard to military services, and hieling Ministry.

Seventh Answer

Friends appear to be careful to live within the bounds of their circumstances; and to avoid involving themselves in business beyond their ability to manage; are generally just in their dealings, and endeavor to be punctual in complying with their engagements.

Eighth Answer

Friends generally are careful to bear a testimony against slavery; those of the African race in Friends families, are suitably provided for, and some care is taken to instruct them in useful learning.

Ninth Answer

Care is mostly taken to deal with known offenders seasonably, and impartially, and to exhort to those who will not be reclaimed, the spirit of meekness and love before they are disowned; though one of the Reports acknowledges neglect with regard to some offences, and another that delays sometimes occur.

Tenth Answer

Edith M. Price, an Elder, and member of Gunpowder Particular and Monthly Meeting, departed this life the 28th day of the 9th Month 1867 in the 65th year of her age.

Robert Way, an Elder, and member of Centre Particular and Monthly Meeting, departed this life the 24th day of the 10th Month 1867 in the 79th year of his age.

Mary Gardner, an Elder, and member of Baltimore Particular for the Western District, and Baltimore Monthly Meeting, departed this life the 19th day of the 12th Month 1867 in the 76th year of her age.

Francis P. Smith, an Elder, and member of Octoraro Particular and Nottingham Monthly Meeting, departed this life the 25th day of the 1st Month 1868 in the 77th year of her age.