

1842 have equally the crowning glory of its consummation, and of the bright example they have thus set to all governments.

The facts connected with this arbitration and its results, are a lesson written as with a sun beam in the firmament, that all nations can read with practical instruction.

Prominent among the many beautiful features of the arbitration, is the one that was entirely spontaneous and voluntary, with both parties, the result of true patriotism and enlightened philanthropy.

For reasons to be gathered from the preceding remarks, the committee have taken no practical action on the subject committed to them, and they respectfully request to be released from its further consideration.

Signed on behalf of the committee

Saml. Kallowell
Saml. McJannet
Charles Gillingham

Baltimore 10th Month 26th 1842.

The same friends also offered to the consideration of the committee the following communication ^{of the abolitionists} upon the subject of Capital Punishment, which after the expression of much sympathy, was approved of and directed to be forwarded to the Yearly Meeting for its consideration, to wit:

Connected with war, the subject in relation to which the committee was appointed, there is another remnant of barbarous times still practiced that of the Death Penalty or Capital Punishment for crime, to which the committee feel desirous of drawing the attention of the meeting.

The old doctrine of retaliation and revenge - eye for eye - tooth for tooth - life for life - blood for blood - should no longer be supported by statute in an enlightened Christian country. It is decidedly behind the present individual sense of right, and hardening to the better feelings. The cry of life for life, or blood for blood, so according with the ungovernable heart, will override and smother the nobler instincts and pure sympathies of our nature. It fails to secure justice. A juror knowing the consequences of a verdict of "guilty" although he does not fix the penalty will not bring in such verdict when the penalty is death, if he can by any means avoid. The practical result is, that many of the greatest

criminals go wholly unpunished, and are turned loose upon society, at liberty to commit further acts of depredation and violence.

Many other reasons could be advanced, all combining to strengthen the demand for a change of the Death Penalty, to imprisonment at labor for a term of years, or during life.

Our yearly Meeting embraces members from Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia, Iowa, and the District of Columbia, under five legislative bodies. An appeal made to each of these bodies by a properly prepared memorial, presented and explained by a suitable committee, we have faith to believe, would, from its benevolent, just, and Christian object, find a response in the hearts of the legislators to the truth of the appeal, that at an early day would ripen into favorable action. If an advance is to be made in this question, which is so strongly demanding an amelioration of the laws in this respect, there must be a beginning, and it has appeared to the committee that the present time, when the Courts of Justice are so occupied with accumulated and increasing murder cases, is a suitable period to make a commencement.

Which is respectfully submitted on behalf of the committee.

Saml. Kallowell
Saml. McJannet
Charles Gillingham

Baltimore 10th Month 26th 1842.

The meeting directed five hundred additional copies of the foregoing Reports to be printed for its use, in connection with the Report on the Indian Concern.

The proceedings of the Representative Committee inform that they have been considering the propriety of collecting and publishing a Book of Memorials of Friends. This meeting approved of the proposition and encouraged them to proceed with the work as contemplated.