

1878

Minutes
of
Exercises
(continued)

We were reminded that in our efforts to do good we should not forget the members of our own household, but remember the precious children committed to our care. To guard them from pernicious literature, and to furnish their young and enquiring minds with such reading as will prove of advantage to them, should be one of our most pleasant labors.

We have had the company of several Friends from other Yearly Meetings, whose labors of love have been acceptable and edifying.

Then adjourned to 3 o'clock this afternoon

Fifth day afternoon

About the time adjourned to. Friends assembled

Essay
of
Epistles

An Essay of an Epistle to the Yearly Meetings with which we correspond, was produced by the Committee appointed at a former sitting, which was approved. The clerk was directed to transcribe it, sign it on behalf of this meeting, and forward a copy to the Yearly meetings of Philadelphia, New York, Genesee, Ohio, Indiana & Illinois, respectively.

Proposed
Changes
inDiscipline
recommended

Women's Meeting informs that the report of the Joint Committee on the proposed changes in our Discipline was not satisfactory to their meeting. On a reconsideration of the subject, the meeting receded from its action of this morning, and after a full and free interchange of sentiment considering the difficulties under which our Friends in Virginia labor, the meeting with great unanimity adopted the first paragraph proposed and forwarded by Fairfax Quarterly meeting last year, as a part of our Discipline, as follows:

After the 27th paragraph of the Book of Discipline, page 57, title "Marriage" add the following, to be paragraph 28. Viz.
"As there are many persons, not in membership with us, who manifest an interest in our Religious Society, it is concluded that when any such person feels it right to unite in marriage with one of our members, he or she shall be at liberty to

1878

Changes
in
Discipline

make application to the Men and Women overseers of the Monthly meeting to which the member belongs, when if the overseers are satisfied, the proposal of marriage may be laid before the Monthly meeting in the usual form; and the Monthly meeting shall have the same care and oversight of the marriage, and proceed in the same manner as prescribed by the Discipline when both parties are members of the Monthly meeting; but in no case shall these proceedings confer the right of membership upon such person or their offspring."

do.

The subjects looking to a change of Discipline, brought up from Nottingham Quarterly meeting were referred for consideration to our Meeting next year.

Women's Meeting forwarded to this a list of the names of their members appointed to serve on the Representative Committee.

Extracts

The Clerks were directed to have 2,500 copies of the Extracts from the proceedings of this meeting together with those of Women's meeting, and the Epistles received at this time from other Yearly Meetings, printed for distribution among our members. The Treasurer is directed to have them forwarded by mail or otherwise to the correspondents of each of our Monthly meetings.

Meeting
concludes

Having felt during the several sittings of this meeting, the overshadowing wing of Divine Goodness to be spread over us, uniting our hearts in brotherly affection, and enabling us to transact the important concerns that have come before us, in much harmony and condescension - for which favor our hearts are tendered in gratitude to the Great Head of the Church - We now conclude, to meet at the usual time next year, if so permitted.

Levi R. Brown
Clerk.