

for that purpose was examined, and to our surprise it was found to be in such an imperfect condition, that it was very difficult to get such information as we desired. The report was made however, the following week, with the suggestion that the record be revised, in order to put it in alphabetical form. Accordingly the writer was appointed to undertake that task; which has been a long and tedious one, but one which he does not regret, inasmuch as he has gained a great deal of information, and met with many friends, some of whom he had never before been acquainted with, and by their encouragement and support, in the way of giving him information, the work has been a pleasant one. This Record contains some interesting and valuable facts, concerning the first settlement of Friends in Baltimore, and the counties adjacent.

Attached to one of the fly leaves printed in pamphlet form will be found a Historical Sketch, giving names of some of the most prominent; the generation that came after them; and finally their last resting places, which in after years, as well as the present, will be found very interesting. It was therefore thought proper to place it in this Record, as a memento; where it would be best preserved.

It was not the intention; when this Record was commenced (in 1886) to go beyond Patuxent or Friends Cemetery on the Harford Road, but after collecting as many names as was possible from head stones, and the very meagre Record, commenced not until 1861, and kept very imperfectly by the sexton, the question arose, how to properly place them. The M^c. Mtg. Records were suggested as the best means of so doing, and through the kindness of the Custodian of all such documents and the great interest which many Friends have taken in giving information, the writer was enabled to trace names

and families as far back as 1651, and as the Record had to be examined for that purpose, the conclusion was that, it would be as well to embrace the entire membership of Baltimore M^c. Mtg. including deceased Friends as far back as possible, without regard to where they died, or when interred.

As there is no Record of interments to be found, dating beyond 1792, the supposition is they were either lost, or there was none kept, which is greatly to be regretted, particularly as Friends in those days, were opposed to having head stones, to mark the last resting place of the departed, which we of this day, claim to have been very unfortunate, and unwise, as that omission precludes the possibility of getting the names & dates, of many valuable and worthy Friends, who are supposed to be interred in our grounds.

There may be errors and omissions, some of which may be attributed to the want of proper care of Friends, in neglecting to notify the Recorder of such decease; so that it could be properly placed on Record.

The question has been asked, why make this Record? when we have one, True, we have a Record dating back many years, but none as remote as 1651. This not only dates to that time, giving the names of some of the first settlers of this country (in the time of Lord Baltimore and William Penn) but it is condensed, by collecting from six books the names of those known to be deceased, and recording them alphabetically in one, with the dates in uniform order, so that if a certain name be sought, and if here, it can be found without much research.

Although this work is far from being perfect, partly for reasons stated above; yet in future years, even in its crude state, it may be very valuable in tracing names and families, when all other means may have failed.

In conclusion, the writer would ask the seeker of information, when he refers to this Record, before passing judgment on its inaccuracies and incompleteness, to bear in mind, that he was a novice, working as it were in the dark, being very different from any like work he had ever undertaken.

Joseph W. Offley

Original committee appointed 11th M^c. Mtg. 1845, as taken from the minutes of Baltimore M^c. Mtg. for the Western District.

Cornuel Register
Thomas Matthews
Joseph Davenport
John Needles
Matthew Smyth
William F. Thomas
Edward H. Haller
Ezra Fell
David Foulke

The following are the present committee, in charge of the above said Cemetery 1st M^c. Mtg. 1888.

Joseph Matthews
John F. Cox
William Wood
Levick Brown
Henry Lanning
Joseph W. Offley