

12
That you are our Brethren united in the Bonds of Christian Fellowship, and we enjoin with you, over the desolation within your borders: but we also rejoice that there are those left amongst you who still maintain their integrity, to whom the precious doctrines of the Gospel are yet dear and whose faith is untravailing in the Eternal Divinity of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. His mediation and intercession for us as our Advocate with the Father and in that most precious sacrifice which he made of himself on the Cross without the Gates of Jerusalem whereby he became the propitiation for our Sins and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

And now beloved Friends be of good cheer, be not dismayed and may the Holy Head of the Church be your guide and support through every trial and enable you to experience for your portion "the oil of Joy for mourning, the garment of praise for the Spirit of heaviness."

Our meeting this year has been large and we have been favoured to transact the important concerns of Society in much unanimity and Brotherly condescension.

With the Salutation of Love

We are Your Friends.

Signed by direction and on behalf of said Meeting
Abraham Sherman Secy.
Clerk

From

Our Yearly Meeting of Friends held in New York by adjournments from the 25th to the 30th of the 5 month in closure 1839.

To the next Yearly Meeting of friends to be held in Baltimore

Dear Friends

We are again assembled: and in our review of the events of the past year as well as in the solemn covering wherewith the several sittings of this meeting have been unusually favoured, we have then renewed cause to renounce all confidence in our own ability to do the Lord's work: and reverently to trust in him, who hath hitherto helped us, and hath indeed wrought marvellously in our behalf: so that it hath been given to some of us, even under circumstances, which to the human eye may have appeared past hope to rejoice in hope and to bless God for the unmerited mercies vouchsafed us

12
through the great and excellent name of our once crucified, but now glorified Redeemer, as saith the Apostle: Blessed be God, even the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and the God of all comfort; who comforteth us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort them which are in any trouble, by the comfort wherewith we ourselves are comforted of God. For as the sufferings of Christ abound in us so our consolation also aboundeth by Christ.

Our Annual meeting this year, convened under circumstances of peculiar interest, both on account of our peaceful release from the opposition of those who through defection from the faith have long withstood the counsels of their religiously concerned Friends; and also on account of the reduced and tried situation of many of our particular meetings. These however have been nearly all sustained; a remnant being preserved in almost every place who adhered to the ancient principles of the Society, and whom the preaching of Speculative Doctrines has not turned away from the profession of the true Christian Divinity as asserted and defended by our worthy predecessors. And strong desires have been felt that these however situated may hold fast the beginning of their confidence and maintain their standing in the Truth; that the waste places may be again built up and the body may be enabled to edify itself in love.

This meeting has united with appointing a committee to assemble with Friends of the several yearly meetings in conference at Philadelphia on subjects pertaining to the interests of Society.

The reading of your acceptable Epistle of the 11th month last introduced this meeting into a feeling of deep Sympathy with you. Your trials have indeed been many and sore, but we are made to rejoice dear Brethren in the Belief that your reliance is on Him, who hath promised that he will never leave nor forsake those who put their trust in Him.

Many of our own subordinate meetings have been very much stripped and reduced, and those members to whom their name and cause of our Holy Redeemer remains to be precious have been compelled to abandon their meeting Houses; yet we are consoled in the assurance that these have been followed and that their little assemblies wherever held, have been graciously acknowledged by our Holy Head and High Priest.

We are therefore induced to encourage you Dear Friends to persevere in the good work, steadily keeping in view the