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Charge of Teachers, who are members of our religious Society
but there appears a deficiency of Schools amongst us
taught by teachers in membership.

Then adjourned to 11 o'clock tomorrow morning

2nd of the Month & fourth of the week

Friends met according to adjournment

The following Epistle was received from our Brethren
of the Yearly Meeting of Friends held in London
on the subject of Slavery and after a time of weighty
deliberation thereon it was referred to the meeting
for Sufferings accompanied with desires that that
body may give the deeply interesting subject
the solemn consideration its importance demands.

The Clerk was directed to furnish that meeting with a
copy of the Epistle and of this Minute.

From our Yearly Meeting held in London by adjournments
from the 18th of the 5th month to the 28th of the same month 1836

To the Yearly Meeting of Friends for the Western Shore
of Maryland &c

Dear friends

This meeting has been introduced into a feeling of
deep sympathy with the victims of Slavery and of the Slave trade in your laws.
The faithfulness with which many of your ancestors bore their testimony against
this unrighteous system, not only by precept, but by an example involving great
personal sacrifices has been gratefully brought to our remembrance
and when we consider how fully you have washed your own hands
of this iniquity and how long you have continued to deplore the
existence of this enormous evil, we trust we may cordially
unite together in deeply commiserating the condition of more
than two millions of these unhappy victims of the laws of your
Country, who for no crime of their own are unjustly deprived of their
personal liberty - liable to the cruel degradation of the lowliest
line of nature & a large proportion of them sunk into the
depths of moral degradation.

The sufferings of these wretched outcasts
of Society are doubtless not unknown by him who died to save
them, and as we must look to him for the protection of mercy
towards ourselves, let us be careful to have no opportunity
of showing mercy to our fellow man by seeking to alleviate his
afflictions

We regret that the ultimate object of the Act ^{which lately} proposed by our
Legislature for the abolition of Slavery in all the Dependencies of the

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British Empire has been delayed by a storm of opposition which
is now proved to have been entirely unnecessary by the safety & soundness
with which innocent emancipation was effected in antiquated and the
Germans slave of our West India Colonies

It was under the Divine
blessing through the powerful influence of Christian principles
that this Act of Justice was at length accomplished and in humble
grateful recollections of the conspicuous part which our religious
body took in this great work we have abundant reason to believe
that we were made instrumental in awakening many of our
fellow Christians of other denominations to a sense of their
religious obligations on this deeply interesting subject.

The noble sacrifices which your forefathers made for the
support of that principle which you so consistently maintain
that man cannot hold property in his fellow man has placed you in a position more
advantageous than that of any other body of professing Christians for
holding up prominently to view this testimony on pure Christian
principles. We affectionately desire to strengthen your hands and multiply
yet holily advocating this cause of justice & humanity and in a steady perse-
verance in promoting it however discouraging your circumstances may
appear. Fully aware that you have greater difficulties to encounter
than we had in advocating the cause of the oppressed, we sincerely
sympathize with you, but earnestly desire that by the help of the
Lord you may be enabled firmly to advance in this labour of
Love in the full persuasion that the path of Duty will ^{our} be found
to be the Path of true safety.

It is with lively feelings of interest in the welfare &
prosperity of your country that we venture to suggest to your consideration
whether there are not indications of an approaching crisis in this Mem-
-ber question in which it will mainly depend under Divine
Providence on the faithful conduct of those who act in
Christian principles whether Slavery shall be abolished in your
Land by peaceful Legislation, or by confusion & violence. We desire
to unite with you in fervent prayer to the Father of Mercies that he
would be pleased to protect you in all your dangers, preserve your
Country in tranquillity & peace, & hasten the day of Universal freedom.

Living as we do in a land where slavery is unknown
we may not be able to make sufficient allowance for those prejudices
to which a closer connexion with this great evil insensibly leads.
But in remembering that God hath made of one blood all nations of men to
dwell on all the face of the Earth, may you be enabled to labour against the
influence of this baneful feeling which has inflicted upon a large portion of