

Near the time adjourned to friends assembled.

The Com^{tee} appointed to prepare an essay of endorsement to be placed on the certificates & minutes of brethren & sisters in attendance from other Yearly Meetings, produced one, which was approved & the Clerk was directed to endorse them accordingly.

The Com^{tee} to nominate a friend to represent this meeting in the meeting for sufferings in place of our friend George Wilson (who is released on account of age & bodily infirmity) proposed the name of Amos Tannoy, which was united with & he appointed to the service. The Clerk is directed to furnish that meeting with a copy of this minute.

And then adjourned to 3 o'clock tomorrow afternoon.

26th of the Month & 5th of the week.

According to adjournment friends again assembled.

Women friends having suggested a change in the wording of the essay of endorsement for the Certificates & minutes of friends attending this meeting from other Yearly Meetings as adopted by us at a former sitting, the proposed change was united with & our Clerks are directed to act accordingly.

The following Minute of Advice to our subordinate meetings was produced, read & approved.

Whilst the state of Society as brought up in the answers to the Queries in the reports from our subordinate meetings was under consideration, this meeting was introduced into an earnest travail & exercise of spirit on account of the deficiencies, which are acknowledged to exist among us, in the attendance of our religious meetings, in the maintenance of that love towards each other which becomes our Christian profession; in consistency of dress & address; & in the adherence to our testimony against a paid & stated ministry. Friends were exhorted to bring these things to the test of self-examination. If we are in the practice of absenting ourselves habitually, or for any trifling excuse, the very reflection that it is so with us, ought to arouse us to a sense of our danger. "The heart is not right in the sight of God." If it were so; we would love him & the assemblies of his people, we would rejoice in every opportunity that was afforded us for uniting with our brethren in waiting upon him for a renewal of spiritual strength. We would be willing to make the sacrifices which a diligent attendance upon our week day

meetings might seem to involve. Yes, dear friends, if we had faith we would attend to our duties in this respect, & leave the event to him who feeds the sparrows & clothes the lilies of the field. "Seek ye first the Kingdom of God & his righteousness & all these things shall be added unto you." The love of the brethren was felt to be very precious & the want of it lamented as an evidence of an unrenewed heart. By nature, we are selfish & self-seeking, "hateful & hating one another", & it is only when we come to realize the love, wherein Christ has loved us & become renewed in the spirit of our minds, that we are prepared to love as brethren. If we feel anything of a contrary spirit towards a brother let the enquiry be put home, "If a man love not a brother whom he hath seen, how can he love God whom he hath not seen?"

And we would exhort those, whose manners & appearance do not accord with the simplicity becoming our Christian profession, to ask themselves the question "why wilt thou not appear as a friend?", & we believe that if they would allow the unflattering witness for God, in their own hearts to speak, they would find that the refusal has a deeper origin than many are disposed to acknowledge. Even in an unwillingness to take up the cross & confess him before men who hath said "Whosoever therefore shall confess me before men, him will I confess also before my Father which is in heaven. But whosoever will deny me before men, him will I also deny before my Father which is in heaven." And whilst we trust, as regards our brethren of other denominations, we can adopt the language "Grace be with all those who love our Lord Jesus Christ in sincerity," & can rejoice in the success of their efforts to do good; we were exhorted in our intercourse with them to be faithful in the maintenance of our Christian testimonies & among these (not the least in importance) our testimony to a free Gospel Ministry, which is not to be exercised in manifold time, measure, or way, but only at the bidding & the immediate pulchery forth of him, who openeth & no man shutteth & who shutteth & no man openeth.

Be exhorted then, dear friends, to faithfulness to this precious testimony. Be not seduced into a violation of it by the promptings of curiosity or the seductions of eloquence that the day may be hastened, when the obligation of the Blessed Master's injunction may be more generally