

32¹ The Epistle from our Friends of North Carolina Yearly Meeting, having come to hand since yesterday, was now read to our comfort and satisfaction, and referred to the Committee on Epistles.

The Meeting having been engaged in the consideration of the state of society as brought up in the answers to the queries, from which the following summary was adopted. —

First Answer. All our Meetings for worship and discipline have been held with the exception of two at Empower and of some of the small Meetings belonging to the Half year, Meeting of Virginia which frequently fail to be held. Those on first day morning are generally attended by most of our members, — other Meetings both for worship and discipline are neglected by many Friends. Unbecoming behaviour therein is mostly avoided, the hour of meeting nearly observed by most. —

Second Answer. — Friends appear generally to maintain love toward each other becoming our Christian profession. Tale bearing and detraction are discouraged and when differences arise, endeavours are mostly used to end them.

Third Answer. — Many Friends endeavour by example and precept to educate their children and those under their care in plainness of speech, deportment and apparel to guard them against reading pernicious books, and from the corrupt conversation of the world, and to encourage them to read the Holy Scriptures, yet it is believed that more faithfulness and circumspection in these respects would prove a blessing both to parents and children.

Fourth Answer. — Our testimony against distilled spirituous liquors appears to be maintained, the exceptions mentioned in one report are under care. Frequenting Taverns and attending places of diversion generally avoided and — moderation and temperance mostly observed.

Fifth Answer. — The necessities of the poor are inspected and relief afforded when required.

Sixth Answer. — Friends maintain our testimony against a hiring ministry, rather military service, clandestine trade, prize goods and lotteries, except that one of the reports imply a want of faithfulness on the part of some in relation to our testimony against a hiring Ministry.

Seventh Answer. — Friends appear to be careful to live within the bounds of their circumstances, to avoid involving themselves in business beyond their ability to manage, to be just in their dealings and generally punctual in complying with their engagements.

Eighth Answer. — Our testimony against slavery appears to be maintained, those of the African race in Friends family we believe are suitably provided for and some care is taken to instruct them in useful learning. —

Ninth Answer. — Endeavours are used to deal with offenders seasonably (with some exceptions in one of the reports) and impartially, and to evince to those who will not be reclaimed the spirit of meekness and love before they are disowned.

Tenth Answer. — Samuel Worthington an elder and member of Dear Creek Monthly and particular Meeting deceased the 22^d of 3^d Month, 1858 in the 69th year of his age.

Elizabeth Merrill a minister and member of Carolina particular Meeting and Cedar Creek Monthly Meeting departed this life on the 8th day of 1st Month 1858 in the 76th year of her age.

Eleventh Answer. — Friends appear careful as far as practicable to place their children for tuition under the charge of teachers in membership with us. The minds of Friends

Christian Jordan a minister and member of Black Creek particular meeting, and the lower Monthly meeting, departed this life on the 18th day of the 5th Month last.