

Baltimore, 10th month, 22nd, 1853.

At a Meeting of the Committee of the Yearly Meetings of Friends of New York, Baltimore, North Carolina and Indiana* in conference at Baltimore, in the 5th month, 1853, the following report was adopted to be forwarded to each of the Yearly Meetings represented.

Dear Friends, -

Having been appointed under a lively concern, as we trust, to labor for the promotion of Truth, and for the restoration of harmony and unity in our beloved Society, our hearts have been bowed under a sense of our own weakness and unworthiness, and of our inability to do anything as of ourselves.

Earnest have been our desires, that we might be favored with best help, that we might be permitted to see clearly what was required of us, and how we might best fulfil the objects of our appointment.

On the review of the state of Society which has been brought before us at this time, and the course which has been taken by the Yearly Meetings represented in this Conference to remove the sorrowful condition of things which is acknowledged still to exist, we have been brought to the conclusion that they have endeavored faithfully to discharge their duty towards their Brethren of other Yearly Meetings who differ from them, and that no way opens for this Committee at the present time to recommend any further labor in that direction. Under the conviction that we have labored to do all that has been required of us, in the spirit of restoring love - let us be willing to leave the result in His hands who ordereth all things according to the counsel of His own will; while we continue to dwell under the concern, ready to embrace every right opening which may present to labor in so good a cause.

Seeing that these things are so, dear Friends let us turn our attention more carefully to ourselves and our own Meetings. Is there not a work for us to do at home? Do not our own

* The Committee appointed by New England Yearly Meeting informed us that they did not open for them to attend.

vineyards need to be cultivated? Are we stirring after that thorough change of heart, that entire dedication of soul which are so necessary to qualify us to labor availingly as "the repairer of the breach, the restorer of paths to dwell in." Do we love towards each other so abundantly that our examples as well as words, give evidence of it? Does a lively concern for one another's welfare in the Truth prevail? Are our Meetings the precious opportunities they are designed to be? And is the accuser of the brethren cast out? In all that we do, are we careful to keep the eye single? Are we striving so to watch over our own spirits as to guard ourselves and our Friends from the entrance of any wrong thing among us? Our sympathies have been awakened toward those of our dear Friends, within the limits of other Yearly Meetings who feel themselves burdened by the state of things around them. We desire for them, that they may dwell in patience, seeking to know what is the Lord's will concerning them, that nothing be done without solid reflection, and that they may always be found to be the friends of good order, and the supporters of our Christian doctrines and testimonies and discipline; willing to wait the Lord's time for their release, trusting that nothing shall be permitted to harm them, so long as they be followers of that which is good. Closely united as we have been favored to feel in the exercises and travail which have prevailed during the sittings of this Conference, our hearts have been drawn out in love towards our absent Friends, with fervent desires that grace, mercy, and peace may abound among them and us and be our portion.

Signed on behalf and by direction of the Conference
Hugh Balderson,

Baltimore, 5th Month 10th, 1853.

Clerk.

Then adjourned to 3 o'clock

tomorrow afternoon.

27th of the month and 5th of the next, according to adjournment, Friends assembled.

The Committee left apart at a previous sitting to prepare a suitable essay of endorsement to be placed on the certificates and Minutes of Brethren and Sisters in attendance at this Meeting produced one, which was approved, and the Clerk is directed to endorse them accordingly. The Committee