

17. The following communication was received from North Carolina Yearly Meeting as a postscript to their epistle. The reading of it introduced us into much feeling and sympathy with our brethren of that Yearly Meeting, and a general desire was expressed to aid them in their efforts "to educate, enlighten and evangelize the ignorant and demoralized portion of their population at the South." The "Baltimore Association of Friends," which acted with so much efficiency after the late war, being still engaged in some educational work in North Carolina, was requested to act in behalf of this meeting in extending pecuniary and other aid, and report to this meeting, and our members were encouraged to be liberal in their subscriptions and forward their subscriptions to Jesse Tyson, Treasurer of that Association.

Excerpt to epistle from North Carolina Yearly Meeting for 1876.

We have at this time been brought under a deep sense of our great responsibility in view of our peculiar position and circumstances. Our limits include some of the Southern States that suffered most from the debasing and demoralizing influence of slavery and the devastations of the late civil war, and among which ignorance prevails in a greater degree in proportion to the population, than in any other part of our beloved country. Many thousands of the people being, according to the latest returns, still unable to read or write. In the presence of the multitudes around us who are looking to us for education, enlightenment and evangelization, we painfully feel our utter inability, with pecuniary or other ways to occupy this vast field of Christian labor in a manner adequate to the pressing needs, and we feel called upon

in the name of our great Redeemer, solemnly to invite our brethren of other Yearly Meetings earnestly to unite with us in the work thus opened before us in such manner, whether by pecuniary assistance or by active personal co-operation, or in both those ways as may appear to them best calculated to promote the glowing glow and to satisfy the full claims of these hitherto-neglected and ignorant classes, upon the Christian sympathy of their fellow countrymen.

18. Then adjourned to 10 o'clock to-morrow morning.

Third day of the week and 15th of the month.

19. The meeting convened according to adjournment.

20. The Minutes and the answers to them from the Quarterly Meetings and the Half Yearly Meeting of Virginia, are read, and the following summary was adopted to represent the present state of this meeting:

1st Answer—All our meetings for worship and discipline have been held. Those on First-day mornings are attended by our members generally. Those in the evening and middle of the week are small. Unbecoming behavior is mostly avoided, and most friends are punctual in their attendance.

2nd Answer—We believe Friends maintain love towards each other, bearing one another's Christian profession. Tale-bearing and detraction are discouraged. No dissensions known among us.

3rd Answer—We believe that most Friends endeavor by example and precept to bring up their children and those under their care in the meekness and admonition of the Lord, and in that plainness and simplicity of life which the gospel enjoins. They endeavor to guard them against reading pernicious books and from the unwise conversation of the world, and encourage them to read the Holy Scriptures.

4th Answer—We believe our testimony to a free gospel ministry is generally maintained.