

Signified by y^e ring) then they let y^e know fly away, betokening the
 fortune of y^e new married couple, now after this y^e papists in new
 they took up & continued the heathenish customs of y^e ring in ma-
 rriage of y^e two priests (soe you may hear your original) & soe doe pro-
 ceed with y^e wife, who following y^e papists & trodding in their steps, they doe
 make use of y^e ring & priest but as Christ tells y^e Jewe Ambulatio non
 do: y^e is from y^e beginning it was not soe, & soe wee murrey note
 to gods ordinance, gods Joyning, & therefore saith Christ in y^e lth of
 Mathe: 19: 3
 Therefore gods hath Joynd together let no man put asunder: it is
 god, y^e brought y^e woman first to y^e man, & wee are but his will:
 & soe after y^e earth was replenished with people: then there was
 Witnesse recorded, as in y^e 1st of Boaz & Ruth: soe heere wee haue
 mention of all y^e children of god in y^e scriptures of truth: for our
 of marriage, & neither bishop nor priest: married or Joynd any
 together as wee see of in scripture.
 Object: But some may object: if they be not married according to y^e law
 of land & parsons of y^e Church of England then children are illegitimate
 y^e is bastards, & soe liable to lose their Estates
 Answer: These things being brought & tried before y^e Judges in England & allowed
 seeing y^e there was a promise of marrying & a contract & y^e man
 declared before y^e Assembly of friends, & a certificate produced in op-
 court of it, & soe I say wee haue had it tryed, & soe stand ouer
 all, ouer in y^e bishops Courts, where was produced, a copy of the
 Certificate of their marriage, & soe wee can stand one by another
 when things are thus truly & plainly & faithfully & clearly de-
 & performed according to y^e law of god, his ordinance & Joyning
 together, with y^e constant practice of y^e holy men of god

Now if a man should lie with a woman y^e is wife to another man
 had was to be put to death: by y^e law of god, & soe y^e wife with
 another mans husband, it was death, but if hee had no wife
 then by the law of England, hee goes to abide in y^e house of correction
 a year: & if a man did lie with a maid, hee was to marry her by
 law of god, soe if a white should lie with a black or with any
 hee should marry her, yea though she was a heathen: let them
 together to prevent seducing

Another thing is concerning Recording of Births & marriage
 There is much in this for if you should haue children born here & it be
 not recorded in a register booke, & they it may bee gone into Englan-
 & some other remote Countrey, & are able, at 14. about 20 years
 bee it more or less, & afterwards come back againe where they
 find their relations all dead & an Estate left them or falling to
 them or him, as y^e next of kin, & soe lay claim to it: now they
 doe report of it, may put you upon pretending y^e right & title to it:
 And soe not finding upon Inquary y^e his birth is recorded, hee
 come to suffer loss thereof, therefore I say be carefull y^e all things
 that bee particularly recorded in a booke, y^e time when & where they
 beare or married: & if it bee recorded soe, then you may take a rest
 of it, both of y^e time & Place where you were borne or married if

Object: But some may say: wee had some children that in Conscience
 could not sprinkle before such time as wee were determined of the
 truth, & among friends which are not recorded, what therefore
 shall bee done with them

Answer: Let them bee recorded in a distinct booke by themselves, y^e soe your
 children may not bee wronged, through want of recording: many of
 do write down their births in their almanackes which may bee lost, &
 therefore it is requisite, y^e you haue a booke purposely to record the thing
 but more of this at y^e next meeting, though in some places women
 sometimes doe it

And soe continue in y^e love of god among y^e solars, & in y^e power & life
 of truth of y^e lord, & y^e will help you & stit you & unite you together, &
 bee an Evidence, of y^e everlasting power which was before y^e deuil was
 & soe feel this, & who ouer would break y^e meetings or alter them: hee
 speaks still of y^e higher power in which men & women are gathered
 & power higher than y^e deuil, & soe feel you y^e gathering in this: & y^e
 Meeting in this, which will bring up y^e Image of god & into holiness,
 where all may bee serviceable to god, in their generations: & soe wee
 haue every one in this forum: will bee a most happy, mighteous & life
 & dominion, & soe this keeps y^e dominion & will unite & will be a really
 & true, & here will bee a really order of y^e gospell, y^e will stand all
 weather, & against satans baits what ouer, & heere by god will haue his
 praise, & glory & honour, y^e in due unto him about all in this, & be every
 one of y^e dawns & life, & soe to wit hold in y^e power of gods blessing,
 soe & Image, & acting here in this, you act in y^e which will bee your
 possession, when time shall come in word, in a word this keeps this
 dominion, & authority y^e heavenly authority & power, & writes y^e hearts
 of y^e dear people

As for thiney doing y^e practice of y^e gospell now in thiney doing gospell religion
 & god from whence it came, & doing his service, for when wee come into
 y^e power & practice of this, to doing this it to doing y^e truth, y^e power of
 gospell, I say, for in this wee come all to y^e practice of y^e gospell againe &
 soe come to sing y^e songs of Zion, y^e heavenly songs of Zion, & soe his
 presence will bee felt amongst you, & his righteousness & holiness will
 be in you, without w^{ch} no man can see god, vnholiness cannot, nor it
 holy & y^e righteous hee loves. David from experience said I haue been
 young & now am old, yet haue I not soon y^e righteousness forsaken, nor his
 soe begging bread, hee is a dear mercifull & kind, & his soe is blessed,
 god loves them & their soe, & with him & his flesh them in their basket
 in their store, in their going forth in their coming in, & soe y^e god of life
 & power, may be exalted & honoured by you here, & soe y^e blessing y^e turne
 upon Abraham will bee with you

And here let y^e all walk as becomes truth, in modesty, honesty & righteousness
 & to walke as y^e holy women of old, were to doe as y^e chaste & unmarried
 & downing, let it not bee y^e, of plaiting y^e hair, or wearing of gods, or of
 an of apparrell but let it bee y^e hidden man of y^e heart in y^e is noted
 table: ouer y^e ornament of amek & quiet spirit, & is in y^e sight of god,
 of great price, for after this manner in y^e old time, y^e holy women of

Mal: 37
 25: 26

1 pet 3
 7: 4