

you is uery great bondage & cruelly & therefore consider: seriously of the
 & doe you for: and to them as you would willingly haue them or any
 doe unto you. were you in y^e like slavish condition, & bring them to know
 Jesus Christ & y^e light & grace of Christ, by w^{ch} they may come to know him
 y^e died for them, & y^e shed his precious blood for them & was buried &
 Arouse for their Justification: /

Truly friends, great troubles I underwent, about these things, you
 were my spirit troubled, when I came into y^e service of things. w^{ch} was our
 My life & burdened my life uery much to see y^e families were not brought
 into order, for y^e blunts are of y^e families & y^e many nations of them
 In y^e house: I had a sore burden, & much trouble, how y^e righteous
 might be brought through in y^e thing & Justice & mercy set up in our
 families & in every house, y^e see y^e might be honored in every family
 who is y^e creator of all, & with given his law to all, y^e is just, righteous, &
 good, & so I found these things to be serious consideration, & to y^e witness
 y^e spirit of god in you all, & in all y^e hearts, & to be obedient unto it, & so
 if it will not lead you into y^e selfe same thing for indeed when any
 marry in y^e families, before y^e master of y^e families & euery one of y^e fam
 then you may admonish them all of god & of Christ, & his truth & light
 given in their hearts, by w^{ch} they might all come to know god & Christ, &
 know true marriage, w^{ch} is honourable in all things, to beal down y^e curse
 & vile: for marriage is of god, & soe honoured by him: /

Concerning Marriage in the Indies before the Law.

Wee doe grant it was y^e practice, & after y^e law to keepe up their tribes & the
 Land by lett, if y^e deceased had noe children, then they were to raise up
 to their dead brother: but Christ is come who raised up y^e seed of his dead
 brethren who redeems out of y^e tribes & y^e earth, Jew & Gentile, are alle,
 without Christ & within, & by y^e law of god & of godd to marry y^e kindred
 was forbidden, for it was y^e custome of y^e heathen & of y^e manites and
 Egyptians, as you may read in Leviticus: 18. Chap. & therefore y^e Lord com
 mands, to keepe his statutes & Judgments, & law in them, for hee was the
 Lord, who orders & governs all his people, & remminds y^e they shall not
 Approch to any y^e are neer a kin to him, & y^e hee was not to marry y^e
 Sister, y^e daughter of y^e father, nor y^e daughter of y^e mother, whether
 they were born at home or abroad, nor y^e son daughter who is thy son
 Nor thy daughters daughter, who is thy cousin, nor were they to mar
 their fathers wives daughter, begotten of their father, for shee was his
 Sister, they were not to marry withall: for shee was, near kin to
 them, thou shalt not take to wife thy Aunt, thou shalt not marry thy daughter
 In law, nor thy brothers wife, thou shalt not marry a woman, & her daughter
 neither shalt thou marry nor sons daughter, or nor daughters daughter
 Therefore wee doe utterly deny all marriages to any kindred, to any cousin
 wee cannot give liberty to admit of such a thing. John Baptist reproveth
 for marrying his kinswoman, therefore friends live in y^e spirit, who haue seen
 Christ that reproveth these things, /

And further if any friend who intends to marry, a young woman or maid
 let him speake to her father & mother first, if in case hee goe to their house
 open such an account about marriage, & not to draw out y^e maids affections
 first, & then afterwards to speake to their father & mother, that y^e practice
 of y^e worst of men in y^e world, is not of y^e well men in y^e world: for if they
 goe upon such an account to marry a maid daughter they will goe & speake
 to y^e father & mother first, before they proceed in y^e thing with y^e daughter
 Abraham when hee sent to take a wife for his son Isaac, his servant Eliezer
 did deliuer his message, unto Bethuel her father, before hee would either
 Eate or drinke with them: concerning y^e marriage, & then they called the
 Maide & speake to her about it, & shee consented, & they said it was of y^e Lord
 & they could not gainsay it soe y^e if you should meddle with y^e young woman
 first, & draw her affections, & then afterwards speake to y^e father & mother
 this brings y^e father & mother into sorrow & trouble, & cannot many
 I must tell what I doe, fearing lest their daughter should be spoiled, &
 y^e brings confusion & vex for Judgment, & is y^e worst of mens practice &
 Doe say soe for reprobation /

Read this in your monthly &
 Quarterly meetings & others: /

J. F.

All friends who doe marry, whether they be men or women, if y^e they
 doe come out of another nation, or Land, or out of another country, then
 y^e said man or woman, or maid, doe bring a certificate from y^e mon
 meetings where they liue, to y^e meetings where you doe live, their wives
 or husbands, for y^e mens meetings being made up of y^e faithful, soe this
 will stop all bad & raw & loose spirits, from running up & down, & then when
 any comes a certificate, or letter of recommendation, from one men
 meeting to another, enuoyed by another, & then is their hands & hearts
 to y^e thing, and this will take away a great deals of trouble, & then if you
 cannot say to them, in y^e power of god, you may in way of admonition &
 instructing them, you are left to y^e power & spirit of god, & to let them know
 y^e duty of marriage, & who soe it is, w^{ch} it is, soe al y^e there may be an unity
 & harmony, in y^e spirit & power & light & wisdom of god, throughout all y^e men
 meetings in y^e whole world, in one in y^e life, & euery one to take a coppie of
 this, & send it to euery country, nation & Land, soe y^e all things may be
 kept pure, & holy & righteous, in unity & in peace, & god curse all may be
 blessed, among you his lott, his people & Inheritance, who are his de
 pons & daughters, & homes of his life, soe noo more but my lott in y^e
 changeoth not: /

J. F.

1st m: 17: 71 /