

292
At a Stated Meeting for Sufferings held in Baltimore
18th of 12th month. 1866. Present 10 members.
also our friend Micajah C. Buford from Indiana
Yearly Meeting whose company is acceptable to us.
John Scott having requested to be released
from serving this meeting as Clerk. Dr. Carey, Mr. S.
Matthews & Francis S. King were appointed, to propose,
if way opens for it, to our next meeting a friend
to serve this meeting as clerk. This meeting
ratifies the proceedings of our last meeting which
was one short of a quorum. The following
minutes, was received from the Yearly Meeting &
the Consideration of the Documents therein attached
to is referred to our next meeting.

To the Meeting for Sufferings -

"A Memorial to the Legislature of Virginia" &
"Proceedings of a Meeting" - two printed Documents,
received by the Half-Yearly Meeting of Virginia were
received with its report - and referred to the Meeting
for Sufferings, with a copy of this minute.

Taken from the Minutes of Baltimore Yearly Meeting
Francis S. King, Clerk.

Then adjourned to the Stated Meeting in the 3rd

John Scott, Clerk.

293
At a Meeting for Sufferings held in Baltimore the
19th of 3rd month. 1867. Present 12 members.
The Committee appointed at our last meeting to
propose the name of a friend to serve this meeting
as Clerk, proposed the name of James C. Thomas,
which was united with by the Meeting & he was accordingly
appointed to the service.

The Committee on the Colored people presented
the proceedings of the Conference & reported attention
to the service. They are continued for further labor
as, way opens for it -

At a meeting of Committees from the Meetings for Sufferings and Represent-
ative Meetings, of New York, Baltimore, Ohio, Indiana, Western and Iowa Yearly
Meetings, held in Baltimore, on the 13th of 12th month, 1865, the following
Friends were present, viz:

From New York—Benjamin Tatham, Robert Lindley Murray, William B.
Collins.

From Baltimore—Richard M. Janney, Francis T. King, James Carey, James
Carey Thomas.

From Ohio—John Butler, William Cattell, Joseph Hill.

From Indiana—Charles F. Coffin, Micajah C. Buford.

From Western—Robert W. Hodson, Eleazar Bales.

From Iowa—Enoch Hoag.

The object of the Meeting, as stated in the several minutes of appointment, is
"to consider the interests of the Freedmen in connection with the action of the
U. S. Government, and of their rights and privileges in the re organization of the
State Governments lately in rebellion;" "and to take such action as may be open
for, in endeavoring to secure justice to the Freedmen, and the maintenance of their
rights."

After a time of solemn silence, followed by vocal prayer, the Conference or-
ganized by the appointment of Charles F. Coffin as Clerk.

Memorials to Congress which had been adopted by the Meetings for Sufferings
of Indiana and Western Yearly Meetings, were also presented and read, and the
views of those meetings fully explained. The Conference was also informed that
Iowa Meeting for Sufferings had adopted a similar memorial, but that it was not
yet present.

The Friends present then entered into a consideration of the subject, and after
a free interchange of sentiment, and a full report of facts in reference to the Freed-
men, it was also united judgment that the present is an important and interesting
period in the condition of the colored people in the United States, there being an
apparent disposition on the part of many, in the States recently in rebellion, to re-
gain their power with the evident intention of preventing the dissemination of edu-
cation and intelligence among those lately in slavery, and of not awarding to them
their natural rights and privileges, and, if possible, reducing them again to a con-
dition of partial bondage or apprenticeship. Congress not having yet accepted the
constitutions of the recently reorganized States, or admitted their members to a
seat, this Conference believes it especially desirable that our religious society should
be heard before Congress as soon as practicable in reference to the rights of the col-
ored population; and in order that Friends may unitedly speak the same language,
it is thought best to prepare a Memorial to Congress embracing our views.

The Conference unites in appointing Benjamin Tatham, Charles F. Coffin,
James C. Thomas, William Cattell, Eleazar Bales and Enoch Hoag to prepare
such Memorial if way opens for it, and report at a future sitting.

Then adjourned until to-morrow to 3 o'clock, P. M.

FIFTH DAY AFTERNOON, 12TH MO. 14TH.

The Conference met at the time adjourned to. All the members present.
The Committee appointed to prepare a Memorial to Congress produced one
which has been carefully read and considered, and, after sundry alterations and
amendment, united with, adopted and signed. [A copy accompanies these minutes.]

We appoint William B. Collins, Francis T. King, John Butler, Charles F.
Coffin, Eleazar Bales and Enoch Hoag to have the Memorial printed and attend to
the presentation thereof to Congress. to seek an interview with the appropri-
ate Committees, call upon the members individually as they may have oppor-
tunity, and extend such other care in furtherance of the concern as way may open for.
They are directed to report to their respective Meetings for Sufferings such
facts as may seem appropriate.

They are also directed to send a copy of the Memorial, and an account of our
proceedings to the Meetings for Sufferings in New England and North Carolina,
neither of which, we are informed, received notice of this Conference in season
to be convened and participate in it.

Thankful to our Heavenly Father for the unity, harmony and fellowship in the
Gospel, which has pervaded during our sittings, and with a feeling of love toward
each other, the Conference adjourned.

CHARLES F. COFFIN, Clerk.