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myself of the request to submit in writing my
Verbal Statement relative to the exemption of
"Friends" from Military Services.

The Constitution of Maryland, Declaration of Rights
Art 36, declares, "That it is the duty of Every man
to worship God in such manner as he most acceptable
to Him, all persons are equally entitled to protection
in their religious liberty, wherefore no person ought
by any law to be molested in his person or estate,
on account of his religious persuasion or profession
or for his religious practice".

The views of Friends upon War, offensive and defensive,
have been a fundamental part of their religious "profession"
& "practice", since the origin of the Society, the world
over, and any violation of that testimony leads to the
disavowment of the Members.

The Laws of Maryland, Chap 414, Sec 1, under
the head of Military, exempts those "who are exempted
by the laws of the United States"—

Art 11, Sec 104. Laws of the United States. 38th Congress
declared Friends to be "Non Combatants"—

This age of religious toleration is marked by the
removal of disabilities from all religious bodies, and
I feel sure that Maryland which has an honorable
record in this line in the past, will not now take a
retrograde step — Signed

Thy friend,

Francis T. King.

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The Committee to prepare a Short tract on the Subject
of Worship for general distribution was continued.

The Committee to Co-operate
with Friends of Other Yearly Meetings in efforts on behalf
of the Indians, reported the Minutes of a Conference, which
assembled in Baltimore, 1/20. 1869 - which were decided
to be placed on our Minutes. The Committee was continued

Minutes of the Conference.

At a Conference of Representatives of Seven Yearly Meetings of the Society of Friends, held by appointment on the
20th of First month, 1869, to take into consideration our Christian duty in the present condition of Indian affairs, the following
Friends were present:

On behalf of

Ohio, Indiana, Western, and Iowa Yearly Meetings—

JOHN BUTLER,

ENOCH HOAG.

New England Yearly Meetings—

WILLIAM C. TADDER,

GEORGE HOWLAND, JR.

New York Yearly Meeting—

GILBERT CONDON.

Baltimore Yearly Meeting—

WILLIAM WOOD,

WILLIAM B. COLLINS,

AUGUSTUS TABER,

BENJAMIN TATHAM.

BENJAMIN TATHAM was appointed Clerk.

JOHN BUTLER and ENOCH HOAG informed the conference that they had received from Senator POMEROY, of Kansas, a copy
of the Bill presented by him to the Senate, and that he desired it should be examined by the members of the conference for such
suggestions as may appear to them desirable. The Bill was accordingly read, and referred to a Committee of six for examination
and report.

The attention of the conference was called to the Report of the Joint Special Committee of Congress and that of the Indian
Peace Commissioners and other documents relating to the condition and treatment of the Indians; and after discussing this subject,
it was decided to address a memorial to Congress to urge that sufficient provision be made to insure justice and protection to the
Indians, and for their civilization. A Committee of seven was accordingly appointed to draft an essay, and present it to a future
session. The conference then adjourned to 8 o'clock, P.M., at which time it met.

The Committee appointed to examine the bill of the Senator from Kansas to create a department of Indian affairs, reported
that its provisions were generally approved, but that some parts of it appeared to require modification. The several clauses were
then read, and the Committee was requested to inform Senator POMEROY of our views in accordance with his request.

The Committee on the memorial presented an essay, which was read and referred back for amendment. The conference
then adjourned to half-past 9 o'clock on the 21st instant.

1st mo., 21st. Conference assembled. The Committee presented a draft of memorial to Congress, which was read, and after
revision, adopted, and a committee was appointed to have 750 copies printed for presentation to Congress and for distribution in
our meetings.

It was then proposed, and after careful consideration, agreed, that an address to our fellow-citizens should be prepared,
setting forth the treatment and condition of the Indians, and our individual responsibility in reference to it, and to this service a
committee of six was appointed.

In order to allow time for members of the conference to proceed to Washington, to urge upon members of Congress this sub-
ject, it was decided to adjourn. The Friends who had been