

Conference for its consideration.

The committee appointed to take into consideration the question of the method of receiving members has held 2 meetings at both of which all but two of its members were present, and the subject was gone into very fully.

In view of the proposed uniform Discipline a draft of which may soon be submitted to the Yearly Meetings by a committee of the Quinquennial Conference, we have not felt that we could unite at this time in proposing a change in our Discipline. But in order to bring this important subject before our members, and in the hope that the Quarterly Meeting may be willing to request the representative of our Yearly Meeting on the committee on the uniform Discipline, to lay these suggestions before its sub-committee for its consideration, we propose the following Suggestions.

(1) Any person professing faith in our Lord Jesus Christ, and desiring membership in our religious Society, should make application through the Overseers, who shall forward the same without unnecessary delay to the Monthly Meeting, with an expression of their judgment in the case.

(2) The Monthly Meeting, if satisfied to receive the applicant, shall receive him as an Associate Member of the Monthly Meeting. Such membership confers the right of attending our

meetings for Discipline, but does not constitute a person a member elsewhere than in his own Monthly Meeting.

(3) Monthly Meetings shall make special arrangements for the help & encouragement of Associate Members, either through the Preparative Meeting on Ministry & Oversight or by means of a standing committee appointed annually. Friends under this appointment shall take such measures as may seem necessary for the instruction of Associate Members in the doctrines of the Christian religion as <sup>held</sup> professed by us, & in our Discipline. When they are satisfied that the Associate Member accepts our teaching and is prepared to comply cheerfully with our form of church government and rules of Discipline, they shall recommend him to the Monthly Meeting for full membership in the Society of Friends. If not so satisfied, they may, if it seems best, recommend that his name be dropped from the list of Associate Members. The Monthly Meeting may call for a report upon any case at any time.

(4) When a person has been received into full membership in the Society of Friends, public recognition of the fact may be made in such manner as the Monthly Meeting may direct. The following method is suggested. At the close of a public meeting for worship, let the clerk of the Monthly Meeting read the minute receiving him into membership, and let the new member come forward as a public avowal of his