

I-24 1906

At Baltimore Local Meeting on Ministry and Oversight, held First month 24 1906, 18 members were present.

The following report was received from the committee appointed at the last meeting to nominate clerks for this meeting.

To the Meeting on Ministry and Oversight-

The Committee to nominate clerks for Baltimore meeting on Ministry and Oversight are united in proposing A. Morris Carey for clerk and John A. Bary for Assistant clerk.

Clerks  
Appointed

By direction of the Committee  
Balto 1mo 24 - 1906 John Nicholson

These nominations being separately considered were approved by the meeting and the friends named were appointed to the respective positions.

The minutes of last meeting were read, and some slight correction directed to be made.

The Representatives to our late Quarterly meeting reported that they all attended.

A Minute of Advice from the Yearly Meeting on Ministry and Oversight was read.

"Gifts"

By appointment of our last meeting John Nicholson and Francis A. White presented some thoughts on the subject of gifts, and other members followed with a discussion, some of the views advanced being somewhat as follows-

Much has been said about "gifts" by Friends, some going so far as to hold that every member has been given some gift for the service of the meeting - The Discipline, however, is silent in respect to all gifts

except that of the Ministry. In Paul's epistles the gift of ministry seems to be different from preaching, or prophesying. The term "ministry of the word" is a scriptural one. A gift becomes a spiritual gift when it is used in spiritual service - A person may have a gift for teaching and when it is used to unfold spiritual truth it is then a spiritual gift. A gift in preaching - prophetic speaking is on a higher plane, it involves insight into truth and then speaking it forth, often speaking to conditions in the hearers.

The question was raised whether there are not gifts among us which could be fostered if not formally recognized. The appointment of Elders is a kind of recognition that they have a gift for the work. Certain persons may have pastoral gift who are not preachers, and they should be encouraged. A person may not realize that they have a gift which others may stir up by encouragement.

Reception  
members

The following plan for acting upon applications for membership with friends was proposed and approved.

That all applications be handed to the clerk of this meeting, if possible before the 15th of the month. The clerk and Assistant clerk shall then ask such persons to visit the applicant as they may think best, a report to be made to the next session of this meeting that it may go forward to the Monthly meeting if approved.

That the clerk may be in a position to know whether our members and attenders are all receiving pastoral attention the meeting agreed that all visits paid should be reported to the Assistant clerk for record only.