

CANADA YEARLY MEETING OF FRIENDS HELD ITS TWELFTH SESSION AT PICKERING, ONTARIO, FROM THE 28TH OF SIXTH MONTH, TO THE 3RD OF SEVENTH MONTH, 1878.

SIXTH DAY, the 28th of 6th Month.

1st. Reports were received from Yonge Street and West Lake Quarterly Meetings. The following Friends are named therein as their representatives in this meeting, who being called are present except two :

PELHAM-(No report read ; see minutes 4 and 6.)

YONGE STREET--Benjamin Moore, James Kitely, Edward Cornell, Smith Clark, Seneca Doan, Joshua N. Richardson, Cyrus R. Sing, Wing Asa Rogers.

WEST LAKE-Allen M. Dorland, Esli Terrill, Stephen W. White, Anthony T. Haight, Levi Varney.

2nd. We have the company of Ministers and other dear Friends from London Yearly Meeting, and from six Yearly Meetings on this Continent, who have presented certificates of unity and concurrence from their respective Meetings, viz : Stanley Pumphrey Walter Morris, Sarah B. Satterthwaite (whose minute was read last year), and Sarah G. Pumphrey, who accompanies her husband, Stanley Pumphrey, from London Yearly Meeting; Freeman Andrews, George Richardson, Sarah M. Richardson, Isaac and Sarah V. Winslow, George Douglas, from New England; Thomas W. Ladd, Sarah A. Wood, Lydia M. Carey, S. Elizabeth Malleson, Stephen Taber, from New York ; Jacob Baker, Judith C. Johnson, Jane M. Kelly, Mary Ann Stanley, from Ohio; Hannah Arnett, Joseph O. Andrews, from Indiana ; Amos and Ann I. Doan, Jehu Newlin, from Western; and Louisa Painter, from Iowa. A warm welcome was extended to these and to other visitors without credentials, as brethren and sisters beloved in the Lord.

3rd. To prepare appropriate certificates relative to the attendance and services of these dear Friends, in connection with a like committee from the Women's Meeting, and to report as way opens for it, to a future sitting, we appoint Esli Terrill, Thomas Clark, Ira Clark, Levi Varney, Seneca Doan, Robert H. Saylor, Allen M. Dorland, Stephen White, Christopher Dale, Charles G. Bowerman and Levi Rogers.

4th. Two reports, signed by John R. Harris and Adam. Spencer, having been received, purporting to come from Pelham Quarterly Meeting, we therefore appoint the following committee, in connection with a like committee of women Friends, to take the subject under their careful investigation, and report their judgment thereon to a future sitting, viz : Thomas Clark, Levi Varney, Ira Clark, Robert H. Saylor, Seneca Doan, Levi Rogers, Joshua N. Richardson, George Rorke, Christopher Dale, Allen M. Dorland, Smith Clark, Stephen W. White and Benjamin Cody.

5th. Adjourned until 10 o'clock to-morrow.

SEVENTH DAY MORNING, 29th of 6th Month.

6th. The committee to whom was referred the two reports claiming to be from Pelham Quarterly Meeting, reported as below:

We, your committee on the matter of duplicate minutes from Pelham Quarterly Meeting, report that we have carefully examined the subject confided to us as far as we were able, and it is the prevailing judgment of the committee that the minutes signed by John Richard Harris be received. We would also suggest to the Yearly Meeting the propriety of appointing a committee to visit Norwich Monthly Meeting, to inquire into its past and present position, and tender such advice as they may be helped to offer under the circumstances.

On behalf of the committee,

THOMAS CLARK, RACHEL CRONKHITE.

It is the prevailing judgment of this meeting that the report of the committee be accepted and confirmed; but it is not considered advisable to appoint a committee as suggested in the report.

7th. The representatives from Pelham Quarterly Meeting being called were all present, viz: James F. Barker, Elisha C. Taylor, Andrew Hill, William P. Barker, Wm. Wetherald, Herbert Nicholson and Hiram Haight.

The caretakers also were present, viz : Michael Gillam, Charles Walker and Jacob G. Spencer.

8th. The general epistle of London Yearly Meeting for the current year has been received and read. We have again been edified and refreshed by the warm, earnest and fraternal regard of our Friends of another continent. We commend the instructive counsel which it contains to the consideration of our subordinate meetings and of Friends individually. We direct the printing committee to procure a reprint of 800 copies, as an appendix to the minutes of the meeting.

9th.—I. The representatives are requested to confer together and propose the name of a Friend for Clerk and one for Assistant.

II. Also to propose two Friends to serve as messengers to the Women's Meeting.

III. Also to audit the accounts of the Treasurer, to determine the amount needful to be raised the present year, and to offer the name of a suitable Friend as Treasurer of this meeting.

IV. Also to examine the books presented by Thos. W. Ladd, from the Murray and Mosher Fund of New York Yearly Meeting.

10th. Recess for one half hour.

11th. Wm. Wetherald, on behalf of the representatives, proposed William Spencer for Clerk and John Wright for Assistant. The nominations being approved by the meeting they are appointed to those stations for one year.

James Richardson and Henry Willson were proposed as messengers. The nominations being approved, they are appointed accordingly.

12th. Acceptable and interesting epistles addressed to us from our brethren of London, Dublin, New England, New York, Baltimore, North Carolina, Ohio, Indiana, Western, Iowa and Kansas Yearly Meetings, have been received and read. The reading of these tokens of our brotherhood in Christ brought us into close fellowship with our distant Friends. To draft essays of return epistles, the following committee is appointed, viz : Wm. Wetherald, Thomas Walker, Thomas Harris, Howard Nicholson, Samuel Rogers, Stephen W. White, George Rorke, Robert H. Saylor, Wing Asa Rogers, Justus Cohoe, Jacob G. Spencer, Geo. Lapp, Christopher Dale, Daniel Cohoe, Smith Clark, James F. Barker, Elihu Rogers, Herbert Nicholson, Allen Cody, Seneca Doan, Joshua N. Richardson, Allen M. Dorland, Leonard Barker and James Kitely.

13th. Adjourned until Second day morning, 10 o'clock.

SECOND DAY, 1st of 7th Month.

14th. A certificate was read for our Friend Levi Knowles, a minister from New York Yearly Meeting, now present with us. Also a letter addressed to us from Edwin and Hannah Pumphrey, of London, and one from Esther C. Weeks, of New York Yearly Meeting. The Clerk is directed to acknowledge the receipt of these letters, and to inform our dear Friends they have been read to our comfort and edification.

15th. Howard Nicholson is appointed to assist the clerk in embodying the exercise of this meeting during an examination into the condition of the Church, and produce to the last sitting.

16th. In the report from Pelham Quarterly Meeting a suggestion is made to hold the Yearly Meeting occasionally at some other place than Pickering. The subject is referred to the Repre-

sentative Meeting, which is requested to enquire what legal obstacles (if any) stand in the way of adjournment to any other place within our limits.

17th. The meeting entered upon the consideration of the state of Society as presented by answers to the queries from the Quarterly Meetings.

The following is a summary of the answers :

I. All our meetings for worship and discipline are maintained. Friends are mostly careful to attend them on First days. Midweek meetings are to some extent neglected. The hour is nearly observed; not quite clear of unbecoming behaviour.

II. Friends are preserved in love one towards another, as far as appears. When differences arise, care is taken speedily to end them. Tale-bearing and detraction are discouraged, but not fully avoided.

III. We believe Friends endeavor to train up their children and those of other Friends under their care in the principles of the Christian religion as professed by us, and in the plainness and simplicity of dress, language and deportment which it enjoins, and are good examples in these respects themselves, with some exceptions. They strive to guard their children, and all others under their care, against corrupt conversation and the reading of pernicious books.

IV. With some exceptions Friends are diligent in reading the Holy Scriptures in their families collectively.

V. Clear in the several parts of this query, with four exceptions, most of which are under care.

VI. The circumstances of the poor and of those who appear likely to require assistance, claim our attention. When required, relief is seasonably afforded. All children under our care are being properly educated for the ordinary duties of life.

VII. Friends are clear of complying with military requisitions, and of paying any fine or tax instead thereof.

VIII. Friends appear to be just in their dealings, though one meeting makes exception to punctuality in fulfilling engagements, and are careful to conduct their business as becomes our religious profession. When any give occasion for fear on these accounts, they are seasonably labored with for their preservation and recovery.

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IX. Care is taken to deal with offenders in the spirit of meekness and agreeably to our discipline, though not at all times quite so seasonably as is queried after.

18th. The Statistical Report is not complete in consequence of no report from West Lake relative to Preparative Meetings. Report adopted as below :

SUMMARY OF STATISTICS.

Thirteen Preparative Meetings:—In Yonge street 8; in Pelham Quarterly Meeting 5; no report of this particular from West Lake.

Families	304
Parts of families	239
Members	1631
Children of school age mostly attending public	
schools	332
Births	29
Deaths	31
Received into membership	67
Resigned their membership	4
Disowned	47
No removals	

Reports of families who are in the practice of daily reading the Holy Scriptures inconplete.

There has been one Preparative Meeting established within the last year at Milldale, within the compass of Norwich Monthly Meeting, called Milldale Preparative Meeting.

19th. The Bible School Committee presented their annual report, which was adopted. They are allowed to draw upon our Treasurer to the amount of \$50, as asked for by the committee. HOWARD NICHOLSON, Sec. Bible School Committee

	~	OF THE	SOCIETY OF	FRIENDS. 9
other Bible Schools.	No, weeks school kept open No, of books in Library Is any waper taken No, books lent during year How many Friends teach	No. of Children on Roll. No. of Children on Roll. No. of Adults on Roll. Average Attendance. No. of Members on Roll. No. of children under 16 be-		To Canada Yaardy Meeting: The Bible School Committee in presenting their annual report to the Yearly Meeting, draw that some of our schools require assistance, and desire that an appropriation be made out funds for that purpose. We therefore recommend that the sum of fifty dollars be set aside for the mittee to apportion to schools requiring assistance in replenishing or forming libraries. We app our Treasurer, and instruct him, when application is made through members of the Bible School funds. The sum of \$10 having been raised by collection at our annual Conference, is apportioned to viz: \$5 to South Norwich and \$5 to Whitehurch Bible Schools. The Annual Report Blanks bein commend the Yearly Meeting to provide 200 annual blanks and 200 quarterly blanks. We wish to one school reporting, the committee state that owing to difference of scholars, and we would expre- one school reporting, the committee state that owing to difference of scholars, and we would expre- one they were unable to keep the school open for more than nine weeks out of the twelve months.
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20th. Adjourned until to-morrow at 10 o'clock, to meet in ^open session.

THIRD DAY, 2nd of 7th Month.

21st. The following minutes of the Representative Meeting for the past year were read, and the labors of that body approved by the meeting.

At a meeting of the Representatives of Canada Yearly Meeting of Friends, held at Pickering, 26th of 6th month, 1878.

Fourteen members present.

We have at this time the acceptable company of our dear Friend Jehn Newlin.

The Friends appointed to give attention to matters coming before the legislatures likely to affect the interest of Friends and the welfare of humanity, report they have had a watchful care in the matter, but that no way appeared to open for definite action.

This Meeting is united in requesting the Yearly Meeting to adopt a minute expressing its satisfaction with the efforts made by the Dominion and Ontario Legislatures to suppress the sale and use of intoxicating drinks.

The Friends appointed to confer with the Minister of Education, report the subject claimed some attention, but way did not open for action.

John Wright reports he acted as directed in connection with the Friends appointed by Pickering Monthly Meeting, and authorized by the meeting two years ago to have necessary repairs made on the Yearly Meeting's meeting house. They had the east end repaired, and drew upon the treasurer for funds to defray the expenses, but were compelled to leave the west end undone in consequence of insufficiency of funds in the treasurer's hands.

John Wright is continued to act in conjunction with a committee of Pickering Monthly Meeting, who are directed to have the necessary repairs made on the west end of the meeting house, and draw upon the treasurer for funds to meet the expense.

The Friends appointed to get information as to the deficiencies in the libraries of Preparative and Monthly Meetings report attention, but being unprepared to report in full are continued to report next year.

The following report from the trustees of Yearly Meeting Property was received and adopted :

"The trustees of the Yearly Meeting Property have effected an insurance on the meeting house to the amount of three thousand dollars, as directed, in the Isolated Risk, a Farmer's company; Head Office in Toronto, at a premium of \$23.50, for three years.

On behalf of the trustees,

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JOSHUA N. RICHARDSON."

Also a report from Christopher Dale, librarian of the Yearly Meeting, which is also adopted.

"I have attended to the appointment as Yearly Meeting Librarian; have procured 100 printed catalogues as directed, of all the books originally placed in the library—about 700 volumes— 550 of these are now on the shelves. Of the 150 missing there appears to be no correct account, although many of them will probably bereturned. I have also had the books enclosed and a lock put on the door, the expense amounting to \$5.80.

CHRISTOPHER DALE, Librarian."

Thomas Walker's name is added to the committee appointed a year ago to procure information as to the want in the libraries of Preparative and Monthly Meetings of the standard writings of Friends. JOHN WRIGHT, Clerk.

22nd. The executive committee of the Book and Tract Association presented the following financial statement, which was approved. The meeting directs that \$50 (fifty dollars) be appropriated out of the funds of the yearly meeting for the purchase of tracts, under t. e-supervision of the committee.

V. Richardson in account with Book and Tra 7th month, 14th, 1876.	- "Di	·.
Cash on hand	74 9	4
Cash for books and tracts		
7th month, 5th, 1877.		
Cash for books, tracts, &c	11 8	9
	101 0	
	101 2	
7th month, 5th, 1876.	C	
Cash paid for books and tracts \$	42 1	.6
Express charges, &c	4 8	34
12th month, 8th, 1876.		
Cash for tracts	27 (00
5th month, 14th, 1878.		
Cash for books	12 (00
Cash on hand	15 9	26
Cash on hand		
\$	101 5	26
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23rd. The representatives submitted the following report, which was united with: John Wright is appointed Treasurer to this meeting; Joshua N. Richardson is appointed to sign drafts on the Treasurer.

Our subordinate meetings are directed to raise their respective proportions of five hundred and fifty dollars and forward to the Treasurer.

James Wetherald in account with Canada Yearly Meeting.

		comg.
1877	1	Dr.
7mo. 1st, Balance 1878	455	12
5mo. 22nd, Cash ree'd Yonge st. meeting	19	20
omo. 29th, West Lake proportion stock		00
omo, 29th, Pelham do do		00
6mo. 29th, Yonge st. do do		00
	\$774	32
1877		Cr.
7mo. 17th, Cash paid for advertis'g schools Printing and board for Friends at	8 7	80
Yearly Meeting	22	00
Railroad fare for ministers	5	00
Telegraphing and postage Team at station during Yearly	1	39
Meeting	17	00
8mo. 16th, Printing minutes, &c.		00
8mo. 16th, Printing minutes, &c 17th, do Women's minutes	29	
27th, do Epistle		00
9mo. 5th, Insurance on meeting house		50
27th, Repairs on meeting house 1878.	312	
6mo. 26th, Paid for taking care meeting		
house	50	00
uno. 20th, Gates, gate posts, oil &c. &c	23	45
Balance in Treasury	236	97
a second s	8774	32

The representatives have examined the Treasurer's accounts and found them correct, with a balance of \$236.96 on hand. We propose that the sum of \$550 be raised for the Yearly Meeting's use the coming year.

We are also united in proposing the name of John Wright for Treasurer.

On behalf of the representatives.

J. F. BARKER.

24th. William Wetherald is appointed to assist the Clerk in procuring the printing of 800 copies of the minutes of this meeting, also the reprint of 500 copies of the London General Epistle in addition to the number ordered in a former minute, to apportion and forward to the Monthly Meetings, and draw upon the Treasurer for funds to meet the expense.

25th. We appoint the following committee to receive documents for their respective meetings, viz: Alfred R. Spencer, Herbert Nicholson, Seneca Doan, Edmund Wright, Joseph Cody, Thomas J. Rorke, Stephen W. White, Jonathan P. Ward, Joseph Wiltsie and Esli Terrill.

26th. By reports from Pelham Quarterly Meeting, it appears Herbert Nicholson is appointed as correspondent to Nerwich Monthly Meeting in place of Jesse Stover, released. Address Norwich Ontario.

27th. The Representative Meeting in its minutes submits to this meeting the propriety of expressing to the Dominion and Local Legislatures our gratitude for the efforts made by them to suppress the liquor traffic. This suggestion being approved, we ap^{*} point Thomas Clark and Ira Clark to prepare a suitable minute and produce to next session.

28th. The Boarding School Committee presented their report, which was as follows: it was adopted unanimously.

REPORT OF THE BOARDING SCHOOL COMMITTEE.

Your committee after encountering many obstacles have made final arrangements for opening the Institution on 3rd day of ninth month next; under the manogement of Thomas H. Burgess, B.A., as Principal; Mary E. Burgess, B.A., and Lydia Bowerman, B.A., as Teachers. An engagement subject to a certain condition has been made with a lady well qualified to fill the position of Matron.

FINANCE.

The Boarding School Fund has been all expended except about \$350 still lying in the Treasurer's hands. No money has yet been

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borrowed for the purpose of furnishing the building as authorized by the Yearly Meeting of last year, but the necessary steps have been taken to procure the amount, and a committee has been appointed with full power to have the building suitably furnished by way of tender in time for the opening of the Institution.

It is important in the interest of the Institution that the quotas ordered by the Yearly Meeting and all unpaid subscriptions to the Boarding School Fund be sent in to the Treasurer at as early a date as possible. The following circular has been issued.

All of which is repectfully submitted.

For the committee,

JOHN WRIGHT.

[CIRCULAR.]

PICKERING COLLEGE.

Staff of Teachers:

THOMAS H. BURGESS, B. A., Principal. MARY E. BURGESS, B. A., LYDIA N. BOWERMAN, B. A., Teachers.

This Institution, established by the Society of Friends for pupils of both sexes, will be opened for students on the 3rd of 9th month (Sept.) 1878, and will be conducted under the care of a Committee of Canada Yearly Meeting.

It is beautifully situated, in a healthy locality, commanding an extensive view of the surrounding country and Lake Ontario. It is easy of access from the different parts of the country, being located 22 miles east of the City of Toronto—at Duffins' Creek station, on the Grand Trunk Railway.

The building is four stories in height, 106 feet front, with wings extending back over 80 feet, in which are the students parlors and dormitories. The dining-room, school and class-rooms, Principal's rooms and infirmary occupy the centre portion of the building.

The object of the Institution is to secure for the students a thorough literary and commercial education, accompanied by moral influence and religious instruction, and to inculcate habits of punctuality and self-control. Such a system of government will be adopted as will best secure these results.

This institution, although termed a College, after the custom of the country, will partake more of the nature of a Collegiate Institute, and is designed to afford to the youth of our Society and others, all the advantages of those institutions, and at the same time to throw around them all the moral influence and guarded oversight of a well conducted home.

Students intending to follow the profession of teaching will be prepared for the various public examinations, and those desirous of entering upon any of the learned professions will be thoroughly prepared for Matriculation in the various Colleges—and for the Junior and Senior Matriculation in Toronto University.

Unless by special permission, no pupil of a lower standing than the Fourth Class in the Public Schools will be admitted, and for the present, the Senior Matriculation of Toronto University will be the highest limit of the course. The elements of Natural Science and Astronomy will, by the aid of suitable apparatus (including a telescope which cost \$1,000), be thoroughly and practically taught.

Three experienced and accomplished teachers, all possessing University Degrees, have been already engaged, and others of superior qualification will be added to the staff—as the requirements of the Institution may demand.

Instruction will be regularly given to all the Students in the -Truths of the Bible—the teaching of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ will be inculcated as the basis of all genuine advancement, in morals, science, and the duties of life.

Students whose parents desire it and whose conduct is orderly, will be allowed to attend their respective places of worship, if held in the day time, and not interfering with any of the regular exercises of the Institution-all others are expected to attend Friend's place of worship.

Application and Terms of Admission.

Each application should state age of the applicant, and whether a member of the Society of Friends or not, and must be accompanied by satisfactory evidence of good moral character.

The house will be open for reception of students on the day before the beginning of each term.

All students should be present on the first day of the term, at 9 o'clock a.m., when examinations commence ; a neglect of this regulation will subject the student, as well as the officers, to much inconvenience.

The Autumn term begins 9th mo. (Sept.) 3d, and continues 16 weeks. Board and Tuition \$60.

Winter Term begins 1st mo. (January) 7th, and continues 12 weeks. Charges \$50.

Spring Term begins 4th month (April) 4th, and continues 12 weeks. Charges \$40.

Day pupils will be charged \$1 per week. All fees payable in advance.

Early application should be made to

THOMAS H. BURGESS, B.A., Or to JOHN WRIGHT,

Pickering P.O., Ontario.

29th. The minute of advice, as follows, was read and approved:

During the examination into the state of the Church, as brought before us by reading and answering the queries, much pertinent counsel was given.

We were reminded that queries, like the law, are useful in pointing out deficiencies; but the power to overcome is found

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only in the Grace of God, freely offered through the atoning sacrifice of the Lord Jesus Christ.

If we expect our children and young people to attend our meetings we must do our part to set before them a good table. Although the Lord Jesus provided "A fire of coals and fishes laid thereon, and bread" for his hungry disciples, yet the command was, "Bring of the fish that *ye* have caught." Obedience was quickly followed by the invitation "Come and dine." Requirements of discipline are useless unless there is food for the flock, and the love of God in the soul, with powers consecrated to his service, is the one motive power which prompts regular attendance of meetings.

The principles of the Christian religion, as professed by us, are found in the New Testament. We cannot teach what we do not know. We must be in possession of Salvation as God's free gift before we can teach our children the way of life.

A testimony against pernicious books avails little, unless we supply our household with useful and attractive reading.

The sacred privilege and duty of daily gathering our households around the family altar, to spend a season in the reverential study of the Holy Scriptures, and in prayer praise and thanksgiving to our Heavenly Father for continued and special mercies, was lovingly brought to our attention, with the assurance that it is the privilege of every believer, and especially incumbent on parents, to so abide in Christ and He in them, as to always have the spirit of prayer and thanksgiving. We are enjoined to ask wisdom of God, and he has promised to give the Holy Spirit to them that ask Him. If we are filled with the Spirit we shall always be prepared to pray for and with our children.

30th. The Representatives to whom was referred the examination and distribution of the books from the Murray and Mosher funds of New York Yearly Meeting, report that they have given attention thereto, and found the books a valuable present, and have distributed the same as equally as practicable amongst the three Quarterly Meetings. We desire to express our grateful appreciation of this gift from New York Yearly Meeting. The report was adopted and the Clerk is instructed to make a suitable acknowledgment of the same.

31st. A proposition was made in this meeting to appoint a committee to visit meetings and families within our limits, to the

upbuilding of the Truth, which resulted in appointing a joint committee to nominate suitable friends for said committee and produce to next session.

32nd. Adjourned until to-morrow afternoon, 3 o'clack.

FOURTH DAY, 3rd of 7th Month.

33rd. Henry Field, a member of the Butternutt's Quarterly Meeting, State of New York, presented the claims of Moore Street Industrial School at Richmond, Virginia, and gratefully acknowledged the receipt of \$141 from the members of this Yearly Meeting. We desire his encouragement in the work to which he believes himself called. The Clerk is directed to give him a copy of this minute.

34th. Returning minutes of acceptable attendance, were produced by the committee appointed for that purpose, for all our visitors from other Yearly Meetings who presented certified cre⁻ dentials. We are thankful for their fervency of spirit, unity of exercise and zeal in service. The Clerk is directed to sign the minutes on behalf of the meeting.

35th. A joint committee appointed at our last sitting presented the following report, which is approved and adopted :

We have taken the subject committed to us into prayerful consideration, and propose the following Friends, seven for each Quarterly Meeting, to constitute a Committee of the Yearly Meeting, to visit meetings and families, and to appoint meetings as they believe the Holy Spirit shall direct, viz :

WILLIAM WETHERALD, ALBERT C. STOVER, SARAH JANE BARKER, HERBERT NICHOLSON, MARTHA ROGERS, ALLEN CODY, ALEXANDER DERBYSHIRE, ESLI TERRILL, HARVEY Y. BRUNDAGE.

WILLIAM SPENCER, JAMES F. BARKER, ISABELLA STOVER, SENECA DOAN, MARY STARR, EMMA RICHARDSON, STEPHEN CRONKITE, ROBERT SAYLOR, ELIZA BREWER, LYDIA M. HAIGHT, BUNDACE

It is further recommended that no meetings be appointed under the authority of this committee, without the concurrence of five, and the presence of at least three of their number.

For the Committee,

THOMAS CLARK,

RACHAEL DOYLE.

36th. The committee appointed for the purpose specified in minute 27, presented the following, which were approved. The Clerk is directed to sign them on behalf of the meeting, and Thomas Clark is requested to forward them :

"The Society of Friends composing Canada Yearly Meeting, has watched with deep interest the course pursued by the Government. and Legislature of the Dominion in reference to the traffic in intoxicating drinks, and deem it right to record its gratitude, that after careful enquiry, by a committee of the House of Commons, and a Royal Commission, their laudable efforts have culminated in the passage of the Local Option Law. Our gratification is largely increased by the fact that members of the Legislature of both political parties endeavored to make the measure comprehensive and practical, and by the outspoken conviction of the Premier, that "Prohibition is the only real cure for intemperance," and that the Government is prepared to give legal effect to this conviction so soon as they have reason to believe they will be sustained by public opinion."

With reference to the action of the Local Legislature in passing a stringent License Law, the following minute was adopted:

The Society of Friends composing Canada Yearly Meeting cannot hope for the achievement of much good from the most guarded system of licensing a traffic totally inimical to the public welfare, it is our continued conviction that prohibition will ultimately be found to be the only permanent preventative of intemperance; yet believing the passage of a stringent license law, to be on the part of the Government a step in the right direction taken in good faith, and that its operation will tend to check a growing evil, we earnestly entreat that our own members and all Friends of this good cause to exercise vigilance in assisting the officers of the Government to enforce all its restrictive provisions. We are gratified by an expression of the Premier of Ontario, to the effect that the Government is prepared to assist and sustain the local authorities in enforcing the Dunkin Act, wherever that Act has been adopted."

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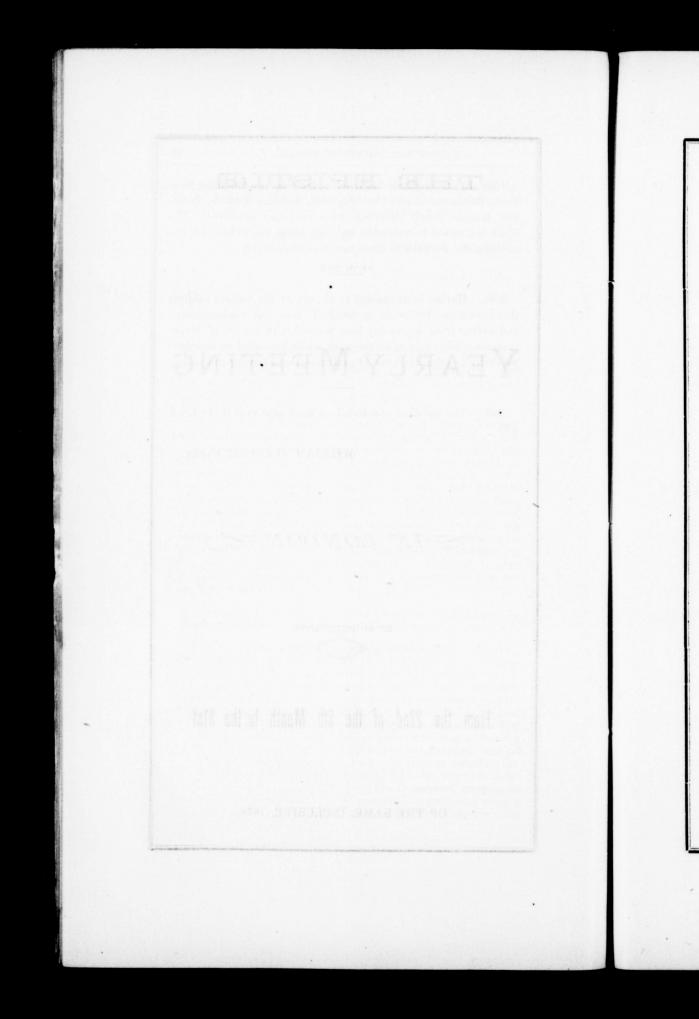
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e s. o n 37th. Epistles addressed to London, Dublin, New England, New York, Baltimore, North Carolina, Ohio, Indiana, Western, Iowa, and Kansas Yearly Meetings were read and approved. The Clerk is directed to transcribe and sign them on behalf of the meeting and forward to those meetings respectively.

38th. Having been enabled to dispose of the various subjects that have come before us in brotherly love and condescension, and having from day to day been favored with a sense of divine presence while engaged in the work which has called us together, we desire to offer a tribute of gratitude, thanksgiving and praise.

39th. The meeting concluded, to meet next year if the Lord will.

WILLIAM SPENCER, CLERK.



THE	EPISTLE
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FROM THE

YEARLY MEETING

HELD



BY ADJOURNMENTS

From the 22nd of the 5th Month to the 31st

OF THE SAME, INCLUSIVE, 1878.

THE LONDON YEARLY MEETING

THE EPISTLE FROM THE YEARLY MEETING HELD IN LONDON, BY ADJOURNMENTS FROM THE 22ND OF THE FIFTH MONTH TO THE 31ST OF THE SAME, INCLUSIVE, 1878.

To the Quarterly and Monthly Meetings of Friends in Great Britain, Ireland and elsewhere :

DEAR FRIENDS,—In a thankful acknowledgment of the comfort and refreshment which we have enjoyed together from the presence of the Lord, we salute you in the words of the Apostle, "Grace be unto you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ."

Various important subjects have claimed our attention. The reports received of the religious condition of the Churches under our name in these islands have given cheering evidence of an increase of love and zeal. The state of our public schools and of the education of our children has been brought under review. Our correspondence with our Friends in Ireland and in America has strengthened the bond of sympathy and of fraternal love, and has enabled us more fully to enter into some of their peculiar difficulties, and to rejoice in their service for Christ.

We have been again reminded of the intimate connection between sound principle and sound practice. As faith without works is dead, being alone, so is man without God. To be a Christian without having been born again is impossible. The un-regenerate heart cannot cleanse itself. The light that shines into it, showing unto man his transgressions, is no natural light. It is none other than the Holv Spirit of God quickening and illuminating the conscience. But the convictions of the Spirit are not to be mistaken for His abiding presence. "The Comforter, who is the Holy Ghost," dwells not in an unrenewed heart. He pleads with the sinner, convincing him of sin, and leading him to repentance, pointing him to the "Lamb of Ged that taketh away the sin of the world." His blessed work is to speak not of himself, but to glorify Christ and to testify of Him. And it is they that accept in faith his testimony to Jesus, who "after they have believed are sealed with this Holy Spirit of promise." These can understand the words of the Apostle, "Ye have not received the Spirit of bondage again unto fear, but ye have received the Spirit of adoption whereby we cry, Abbs, Father: the Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit that we are the children of God." May this become a definite experience, a practical reality, to every one of us. The children serve willingly, in reverence and filial love; Christ dwells in their hearts by faith. The anointing which they received from Him abides in them. Their bodies are made temples of the Holy Ghost. They know that they are not their own ; and all the instincts of their renewed nature lead them, in an ever deepening consecration, to glorify God in their body and in their spirit, which are His.

Thus the whole walk of the Christian is to be a continued manifestation of the presence of Christ with him. He will not exclude from either his business or his recreation, or any of his outward engagements, the guidance and control of his Lord. In all bis duties and perplexities, amidst the weariness and anxieties of life's burdens and struggles, it is his support and consolation to ask counsel of his Father in Heaven, and to walk in the light of His wisdom and truth. How important is this guidance both in the choice and in the management of our business concerns. Whilst we trust that this may be felt by all thus engaged, we would in tenderness and love specially express our desire that our young men and others about to enter into business, may be upon their guard against incurring the responsibility of engaging in the manufacture or sale of intoxicating beverages, which have proved the ruin of so many.

The family is the cradle of society. The Christian father and Christian mother have their hallowed joys and their high responsibilities. Their children have been given them to train, not for carth only but for heaven. If the honouring of parents be one of the fundamental laws of the Creator, no less incumbent is it on the parent so to walk before his children as to be worthy of that honour. The daily family reading of the Scriptures has long been enjoined and practised among us. We desire that there may be no slackness or negligence in this duty. Where Christ presides in the heart, his influence must diffuse itself over the household, and the family gathering become a blessed occasion of worship, prayer and praise.

No less practical is the doctrine of Christ in His relation to the Church and to the work of the Church. The Church is the body of which Christ is the Head. In union with Him the various members are brought into fellowship with each other. Collectively they are one body ; individually they are members one of another in Him. How calming and consoling is the truth of His abiding presence in the Church ; guiding, restraining, and strengthening. They that are truly His are in the Spirit of the Lamb. He gives them to his patience, his meekness and gentleness. He teaches them how to bear and 'forbesr, to 'be subject one to another;' and when and how, in faithfulness to Him, their lowly and long-suffering Lord, they must make concessions to one another, and give up, if need be, something of their own individual freedom for the general good.

We have not failed to remember our friends in smaller meetings. . We rejoice to believe that in many, both of these and of our larger gatherings, there is an increased sense of responsibility and of united desire that the Lord may be glorified among them.

The mission work of various kinds, in which many of our members are engaged, has been brought before us by the reports

THE LONDON YEARLY MEETING

received from several Quarterly Meetings. We recognize its great importance in connection with that branch of the work of the Church which has reference to the propagation of the Gospel amongst the masses around us. Amidst the diversities of operaations by the one Spirit, it may well be expected that some of the methods found useful in this field of labour will not be identical with those employed for the edification of those persons brought up in the knowledge of the truth. The wise and prayerful worker will, under his Lord's teaching and guidance, distinguish between that which may excite the sensibilities, without feeding the soul, and that "sincere milk of the word " which is adapted to the newly awakened, " that they may grow thereby."

The critical circumstances in which our own and other countries of Europe have been placed, as respects the continuance of peace, have claimed our prayerful deliberation. It will be of the Lord's great mercy if the clouds disperse without the threatened storm. We have rejoiced that, during the past anxious months, so many of our fellow countrymen in all ranks of life have, by their influence in their several circles, and by representations to Parliament and the Government, urged the maintenance of peace, and the settlement of international differences by arbitra-We continue to uphold the testimony, which we believe that of Christ Himself, against all war. To be ashamed of tion. to be that of Christ Himself, against all war. this testimony would be, in our judgment, to be ashamed of our Lord. We do not believe that He has enjoined what is impracticable, nor that there is any release from the obligation to act out what He has enjoined. In this matter we feel bound to use great plainness of speech ; and, in the face of all past and present discouragements, to assert our belief that a time will surely come when the wars of our day shall be looked back upon as a barbarism lingering in the midst of assumed civilization and professed Christianity. Meanwhile we hold it to be true patriotism to do all that in us lies towards averting from our beloved country any share in the calamity and guilt of war, and we have thought it right to address an earnest appeal to our fellow Christians on this important subject.

One feature of our times is the spread of doubt, and even of extreme forms of unbelief. Many minds, eminent in literature and in the successful investigation of natural science, have, in the absorbing pursuit of lower forms of truth, overlooked, doubted, and even denied the existence of the higher. The popular reading of the day is more or less imbued with the views of men skilled in negation, some of whom are even zealous in the denial of the fundamental truths of the Christian religion. We earnestly desire that our dear friends may be kept from this evil. The consciousness of sin brought home to each heart should lead to the humble consideration and thankful acceptance of that divine message which brings to us the knowledge of the one remedy for sin ; and the only means for its removal, and for our reconcilia-

tion with God. This divine message is a continual invitation, "O taste, and see that the Lord is good." Without this tasting we can never see, never be satisfied. The experimental knowledge of Jesus Christ, and Him crucified, is the true safeguard against speculative unbelief. The man who could say, "Whereas I was blind, now I see," though not fully instructed, had a simple and well-grounded faith in Jesus, which all the cavils of learned unbelief could not shake.

Another prevailing danger, wide-spread and influential, exists at the opposite extreme of opinion and feeling. We allude to the substitution of ceremonial for spiritual worship; of the authority of a portion of the Church, assuming the name and functions of the whole, for that of Christ; of the offices and sacraments; administered by a human priesthood, for the work of Christ by His Spirit upon the heart, and for His only and all-sufficient intercession. Our blessed Lord Himself, when tempted by Satan in the wilderness, met each temptation by an appeal to Holy Scripture. Let us follow his example. There is no ritualism in the New Testament. Christ is there proclaimed as the one sacrifice for sin; the one way unto the Father ; the one door by whom, if any man enter in, he shall be saved. The invitation, "Come unto me," is free from all priestly or sacramental intervention.

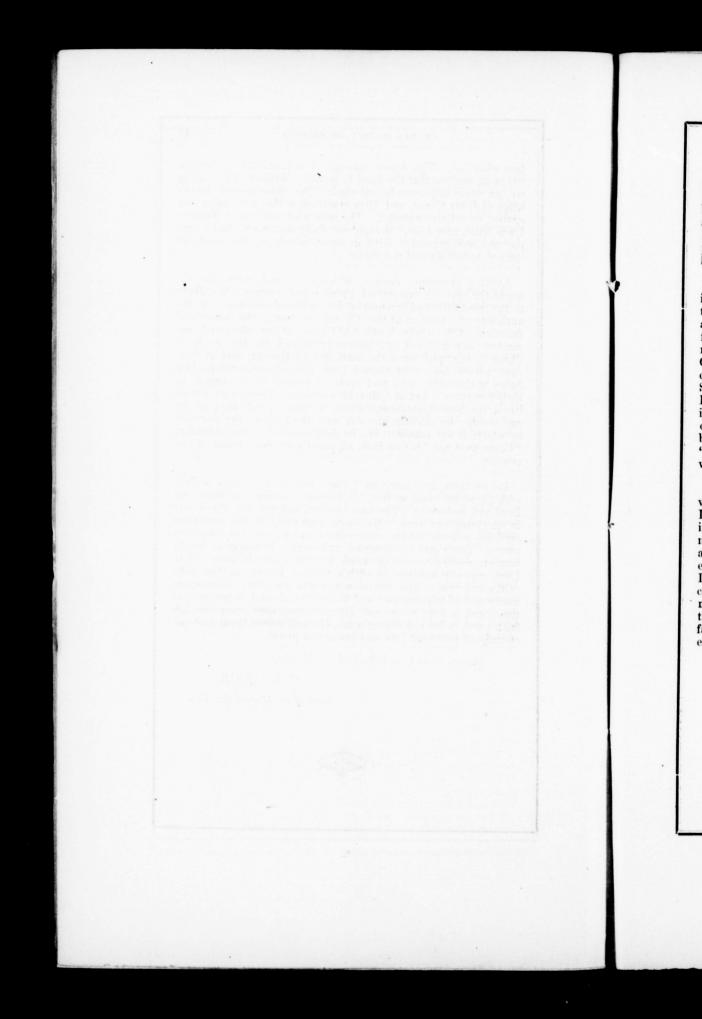
Let us, then, dear brethren, "stand fast in the liberty wherewith Christ has made us free," in loving subjection to Him our Lord and Redeemer. The time is short, and few are the hours in which any can work. May none linger idly on the outside as mere on-lookers, lest the sun go down upon them ere they are aware. Enter into the vineyard and work. Be dilligent and in earnest, pressing toward the mark for the heavenly prize. The Lord, who appoints the lot of his children, knows all their difficulties and trials. His purposes towards them are purposes of mercy and of faithfulness; and as they watch, and serve in patience and in hope to the end, He gives them the victory through faith ; and, in his redeeming grace, He will crown them with an eternity of perfected love and peace and praise.

Signed in and on behalf of the Meeting.

G. S. GIBSON,

Clerk of the Meeting this Year.





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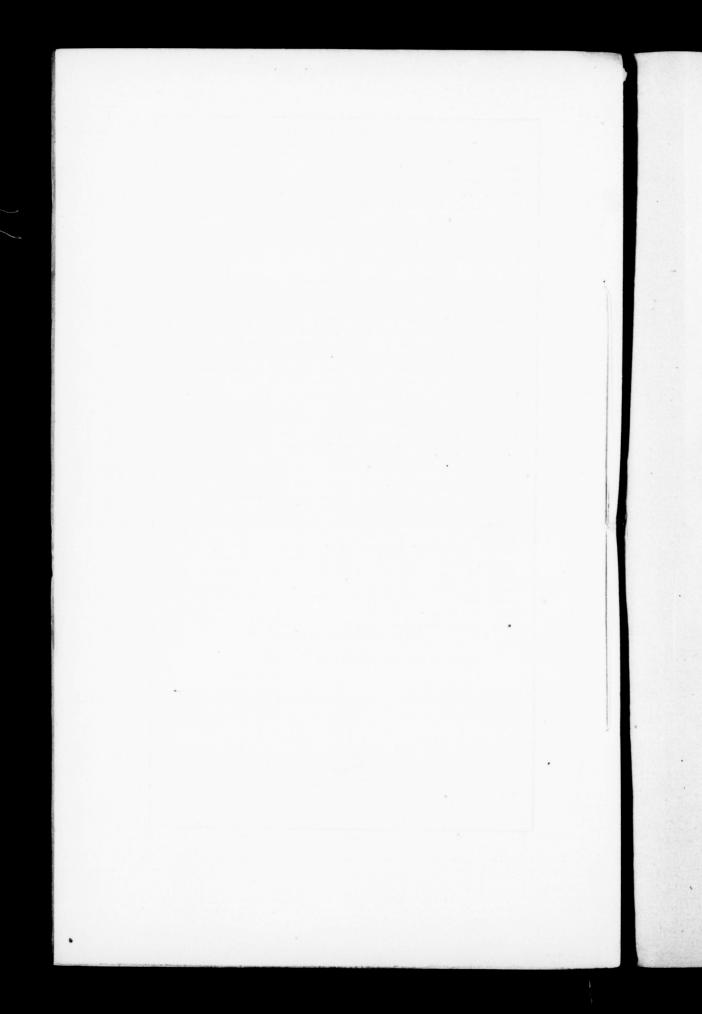
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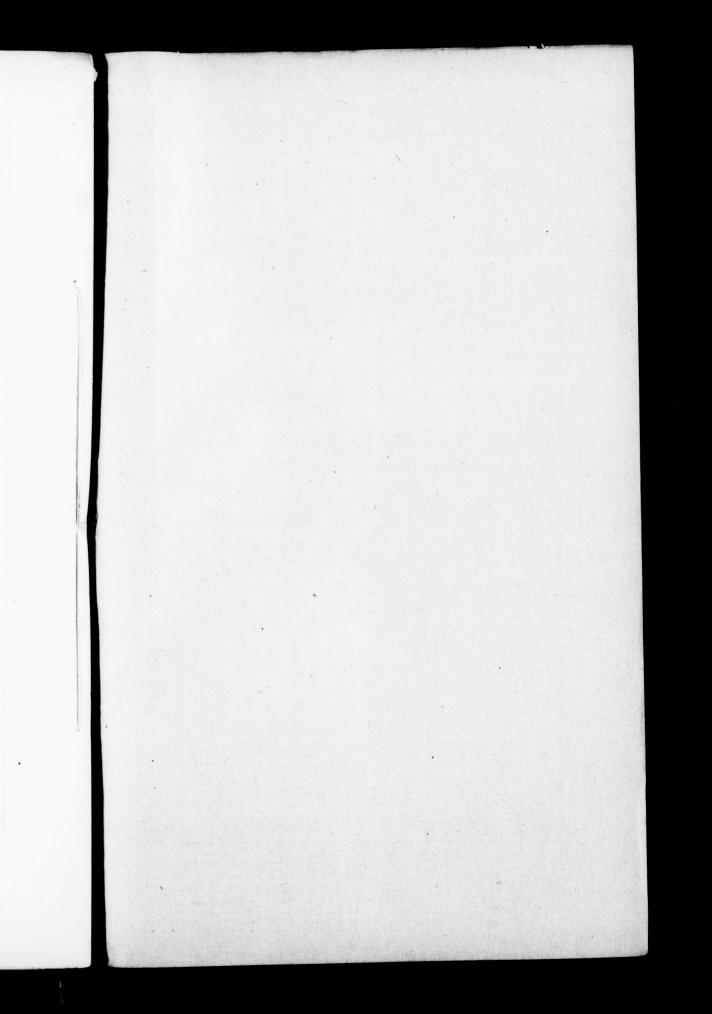
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G. S. GIBSON.

Clerk of the Meeting this Year.







Representative Meeting, Meeting of Ministers and Elders, Yearly Meeting for Divine Worship, Yearly Meeting for Divine Worship, Yearly Meeting for Discipline, Yearly Meeting for Divine Worship, Yearly Meeting for Divine Worship, Book and Tract Association, First Day School Committee, ARE HELD AS FOLLOWS, IN CONNECTION WITH THE YEARLY MEETING: MEETINGS 4th day of the week, at 3 o'clock, P. M. oth 6th 5 1 1 1 10 0 10 Ξ -

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